Green Central Asia - Weekly Press Review featuring the Central Asian Republics and Afghanistan

Period:	02/04/2023-09/04/2023

Content:

Climate Change and Environment……2

Seeds in Space: 'Cosmic crops' for food security and climate change adaptation;

Africa has highest compliance rate with Paris Climate Agreement: UNEP;

Zulfiya Suleimenova to remain Ecology Minister of Kazakhstan;

Representatives of the Turkmen media are invited to a training on climate change;

Air in Uzbek capital becomes one of cleanest in world;

President chairs meeting to discuss environmental protection tasks;

Uzbekistan takes environment problems seriously;

Innovative approaches to integrated waste management discussed;

Water Resources……..4

Uzbekistan, Sweden discuss issues of cooperation on water resources management;

Volume of water in Central Asia's two main rivers expected to shrink by 20% in the coming irrigation season;

Participation of representatives of EC IFAS and Central Asian countries at the International Conference of the 4th Summit of the Mekong River Commission;

Irrigation canal being built by the Taliban may worsen already poor water management in Central Asia;

Meeting of the Working Group on improving the organizational structure and legal framework of IFAS;

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Energy Sector……5

New Energy Minister named in Kazakhstan;

Clean energy for Uzbekistan on a $150 mln loan from World Bank;

WB allocates $143 mln to Uzbekistan for installation of solar panels;

Renovation of At-Bashy HPP completed;

Kyrgyzstan starts construction of solar power plant;

Vice Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan relieved of his duties;

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries…6

Tajik-Russian military exercises began on border with Afghanistan;

Afghanistan became the topic of an online meeting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan and the UK;

Cooperation between Central Asian countries……7

Round table dedicated to 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan held in Bishkek;

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan continue to resolve border issues;

Climate Change and Environment

Seeds in Space: 'Cosmic crops' for food security and climate change adaptation 03/04/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) held an event in Vienna to mark the imminent return to Earth of seeds that were sent into space four months ago.

Read more: here

Africa has highest compliance rate with Paris Climate Agreement: UNEP 03/04/2023

NAIROBI. KAZINFORM - The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said on Monday that Africa has the highest compliance rate with the Paris Agreement on climate

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

change, Kazinform cites Xinhua.

Read more: here

Zulfiya Suleimenova to remain Ecology Minister of Kazakhstan 04/04/2023

ASTANA. KAZINFORM – Zulfiya Suleimenova was appointed the Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan as per the corresponding decree signed by the Head of State, Kazinform has learned from the Akorda press service.

Read more: here

Representatives of the Turkmen media are invited to a training on climate change 05/04/2023

Media representatives from Turkmenistan and other Central Asian countries are invited to participate in the training "Media and Climate Change: Theory and practice", which will be held within the framework of the Fifth Central Asian Conference on Climate Change (CACCC-2023).

The training is aimed at promoting the professional growth of media representatives in the region in the preparation of high-quality materials for a wide audience on topics related to water, energy, food and environmental aspects in the context of climate change.

Read more: here

Air in Uzbek capital becomes one of cleanest in world 06/04/2023

The air in Tashkent has become one of the cleanest in the world, according to the IQAir service, Centralasianlight.org reported.

Read more: here

President chairs meeting to discuss environmental protection tasks 06/04/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 6 April, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev got acquainted with the presentation on environmental protection activities.

Read more: here

Uzbekistan takes environment problems seriously 07/04/2023

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

As part of the ongoing administrative reform in Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been organized. It faces a lot of problems related to environmental protection.

Read more: here

Innovative approaches to integrated waste management discussed 07/04/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- At the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with the assistance of the Embassy of Uzbekistan in the UAE, a video meeting was held with Beeah Group, a leading company in the UAE and the Middle East.

Read more: here

Water resources

Uzbekistan, Sweden discuss issues of cooperation on water resources management 03/04/2023

The Embassy of our country in Stockholm organized an online meeting between the Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan and the Swedish Marine and Water Management Agency.

Read more: here

Volume of water in Central Asia's two main rivers expected to shrink by 20% in the coming irrigation season 05/04/2023

Eurasianet says Uzbekistan expects the volume of water in the region's two main rivers to shrink by 20 percent in the coming irrigation season as compared to a recent multi-year average.

In an emergency presidential decree on economizing water that came into effect on April 3, a 10-15 percent reduction of the volume of the Syr Darya is forecast, while the amount of water in the Amu Darya is seen contracting by an even more dramatic 15-20 percent. Both rivers once flowed into the Aral Sea, 90 percent of which has vanished since 1960.

Read more: here

Participation of representatives of EC IFAS and Central Asian countries at the International Conference of the 4th Summit of the Mekong River Commission 06/04/2023

The International Conference of the 4th Summit of the Mekong River Commission was

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

held on 2-3 April 2023 in Vientiane, Laos.

This conference was attended by representatives of the countries of Central Asia and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea under the leadership of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of IFAS, Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda.

Read more: here

Irrigation canal being built by the Taliban may worsen already poor water management in Central Asia 06/04/2023

After returning to power in Afghanistan in 2021, the Taliban began building an irrigation canal to convert 550,000 hectares of desert in northern Afghanistan into farmland. The Taliban has reportedly made a controversial Qosh Tepa Canal a priority project.

Construction of the canal is believed to have begun in March last year. According to some sources, the second of three stages of the project is expected to begin in the coming months, with more than 100 kilometers already dug.

Read more: here

Meeting of the Working Group on improving the organizational structure and legal framework of IFAS 05/04/2023

On 5-6 April 2023, the tenth meeting of the Working Group on improving the organizational structure and legal framework of IFAS was held. The meeting was held in Vientiane of the Lao People's Democratic Republic as part of a study tour to the Mekong River Basin Commission with the financial support of the World Bank.

Read more: here

Energy sector

New Energy Minister named in Kazakhstan 04/04/2023

ASTANA. KAZINFORM – Almasadam Satkaliyev was named as the new Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kazinform has learned from the Akorda press service.

Read more: here

Clean energy for Uzbekistan on a $150 mln loan from World Bank 04/04/2023

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The World Bank will take part in the implementation of the Clean Energy for Buildings in Uzbekistan project, Nova24.uz reports with reference to the Norma portal.

Read more: here

WB allocates $143 mln to Uzbekistan for installation of solar panels 05/04/2023

The International Development Association, a member of the World Bank Group, has allocated $143 million to Uzbekistan, the News of Uzbekistan portal reported.

Read more: here

Renovation of At-Bashy HPP completed 05/04/2023

Bishkek, April 5, 2023. / Kabar/. Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Akylbek Zhaparov and Ambassador of Switzerland to the Kyrgyz Republic Olivier Bangerter today inaugurated the At-Bashy Hydropower Plant renovated with a Swiss grant contribution of USD 20 million, the Embassy of Switzerland in the Kyrgyz Republic said.

Read more: here

Kyrgyzstan starts construction of solar power plant 06/04/2023

Bishkek, April 6, 2023. / Kabar/. Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Akylbek Zhaparov took part in laying a capsule for the construction of a 300 MW solar power plant in the village of Toru-Aigyr, Issyk-Kul region.

Read more: here

Vice Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan relieved of his duties 07/04/2023

ASTANA. KAZINFORM The Government decreed to relieve Asset Magauov of his duties as the Vice Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan, Kazinform refers to the primeminister.kz.

Read more: here

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Tajik-Russian military exercises began on border with Afghanistan 03/04/2023

The military contingents of Russia and Tajikistan have begun joint exercises at the Tajik Harb-Maidon training ground, 20 km from the border with Afghanistan. The development

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

of practical actions will last until April 7, the press service of the Central Military District (CVO) reported, TASS reports.

Read more: here

Afghanistan became the topic of an online meeting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan and the UK 04/04/2023

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Vepa Hajiyev and Director of the Department for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Special Representative for Afghanistan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commonwealth and Development of Great Britain Andrew MccUbrey discussed a wide range of issues of cooperation on Afghan issues.

Read more: here

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Round table dedicated to 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan held in Bishkek 05/04/2023

Bishkek, April 5, 2023. / Kabar/. A round table dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan was held today at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Read more: here

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan continue to resolve border issues 07/04/2023

Issues on demarcation and delimitation of disputed sections of the joint border were discussed by the working groups of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in Bishkek, the press service of the Government of Kyrgyzstan reported.

Read more: here

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.