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

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Climate Change and Environment

Kyrgyzstan declares readiness to supply environmentally friendly products to Germany 17/07/2023

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Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Akylbek Zhaparov announced the readiness of Kyrgyzstan to develop bilateral cooperation with Germany in the field of agriculture, energy and renewable energy sources, information technology, innovation, mining, and education.

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Kazakh Forestry Committee Chairman steps down 17/07/2023

ASTANA. KAZINFORM – Chairman of the Forestry and Wildlife Committee of the Ministry of Ecology Nurlan Kylyshbayev has stepped down from his post, Kazinform reports.

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ZAFAR MAKHMUDOV: CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES NEED TO DEMONSTRATE THE INVESTMENT ATTRACTIVENESS OF EACH COUNTRY AS A SINGLE REGION AT COP28 18/07/2023

Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek – July 14, 2023 – the Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), **Zafar Makhmudov**, held a meeting with **Kumyushai Suyumbayeva**, Advisor to the Department of Water and Environmental Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic and **Meder Kanybek uulu**, 3rd Secretary of the Department of Water and Environmental Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.The CAREC's top specialists and experts also participated in the meeting.

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WHAT DOES LINK SNOW COVER AND FOOD SECURITY IN CENTRAL ASIA? WHAT WILL PROTECT GRAIN YIELDS IN KAZAKHSTAN? 19/07/2023

Wheat has been and remains a strategically important food product worldwide. Kazakhstan is the major supplier of wheat in Central Asia. Accordingly, the wheat yield in Kazakhstan ensures the food security of the entire Central Asian region.

Owing to climatic features, Kazakhstan mainly grows spring grain crops for which good soil moisture is crucial since they are not irrigated. Soil moisture in the first half of the

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growing season occurs due to snow cover melting. Snow cover, as an accumulator of winter precipitation, is also essential for pasture cattle breeding.

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Prospects for the development of cooperation between Uzbekistan in the field of climate change discussed at the OSCE conference 19/07/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Minister of Ecology, Environment Protection and Climate Change Aziz Abdukhakimov took part in the high-level conference on climate change of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which was held on 7 July 2023 in Vienna (Austria), the press service of the ministry reports.

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Water resources

Experience of Central Asia in Transboundary Water Resources Management Reviewed in Washington 17/07/2023

DUSHANBE, 17.07.2023 (NIAT Khovar) – The experience of Central Asia in the management of transboundary water resources through the basin organization – the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) was reviewed during the Global Forum "Transboundary Water Cooperation for Climate and Development" in Washington.

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UN Water Conference inspires global community 19/07/2023

The 2023 UN Water Conference inspired the global community, governments, financial institutions, international organizations and other stakeholders to take urgent action to address global water challenges.

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Ways to Remove Barriers to Investment in Water Resources Discussed in New York 20/07/2023

DUSHANBE, 20.07.2023 (NIAT Khovar) – A parallel event entitled "The business aspect for taking action: the private sector in the Water Agenda of the UN Water Conference 2023" was held at the UN headquarters in New York, reports the Tajik secretariat of the

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UN Conference on Water Resources.

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Projects and issues of rational use of water in the Aral Sea region were discussed with the heads of UN institutions 20/07/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Meetings of the delegation headed by the Minister of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sherzod Kudbiev with partners continued in New York. Members of the delegation met with the heads of the institutions of the organization in the framework of the high-level political forum of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

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Uzbekistan - Israel: issues of introducing innovations and technologies aimed at saving water resources in Uzbekistan were discussed 20/07/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Director of the Agency for Innovative Development Olimjon Toychiev met with the Ambassador of Israel to Uzbekistan Zehavit Ben-Hillel and representatives of the Netafim.

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Energy sector

Kyrgyzstan to launch 11 HPPs next year 20/07/2023

Bishkek, July 20, 2023. /Kabar/. 11 hydroelectric power plants will be launched in Kyrgyzstan in 2024, Minister of Energy of the republic Taalaibek Ibraev said Thursday at a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on the results of the first half of 2023.

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Energy project of Tajikistan supported by UAE in New York 21/07/2023

On July 21, 2023, a meeting took place between the Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan and the Director-General of the Abu Dhabi Development Fund, as well as the Deputy Minister of Cabinet Affairs for Competitiveness and Knowledge Exchange of the United Arab Emirates, within the framework of the UN Headquarters in New York during the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The meeting was reported by "Khovar" with reference to the Ministry of Economic

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Development and Trade of Tajikistan.

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Uzbekistan and Saudi Arabia consistently strengthen cooperation in the energy sector 21/07/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A significant event this week in the foreign policy activities of Uzbekistan was the visit of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Jeddah to participate in the first summit of heads of states in the format "Central Asia - Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf".

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Uzbekistan to build five new hydroelectric power plants based on PPP 21/07/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Uzbekhydroenergo announced a tender for the construction of five new hydroelectric power plants. This is the first major project based on public-private partnership in the field of hydropower.

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Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Kazakhstan asks Uzbekistan for tariff preferences for transit of goods to Afghanistan 17/07/2023

Astana hosted a regular meeting of the working group of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan at the level of deputy heads of government.

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Negotiations on Trans-Afghan Railway reached final stage 18/07/2023

Uzbekistan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan have began the final stage of negotiations for the construction of the Trans-Afghan Railway line "Termez-Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar," as reported by the press service of "Uzbekiston Temir Yullari" company.

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AKF signs partnership agreement with EU to support marginalized communities in Afghanistan 18/07/2023

The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) has signed a €12m partnership agreement with the

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European Union in Afghanistan, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN).reported on July 17.

This will support vulnerable people to meet their basic needs and build resilience by safeguarding vulnerable livelihoods and improving economic opportunities.

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Pakistan, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan intend to build Trans-Afghan Railway 19/07/2023

Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan are aiming at the construction of the Trans-Afghan railway. The relevant document was signed following the meeting of the working group of the three countries.

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Agreements worth $45 million were signed at the International Industrial Exhibition in Kabul 23/07/2023

The Chamber of Commerce and Investment of Afghanistan said that agreements worth $ 45 million were signed at the international **trade fair** that ended on Sunday in Kabul, in which, in addition to local industrialists, trading companies from Iran, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Pakistan took part, TOLOnews reports.

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Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Tajikistan and Turkmenistan to increase bilateral trade 17/07/2023

Tajik Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Muhriddin held talks in Turkmenistan with President Serdar Berdimuhamedov and Foreign Minister Meredov, Khovar reports.

At the meetings, it was noted that the Tajik-Turkmen cooperation is steadily developing and this year has reached a new level of "in-depth strategic partnership."

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Leaders of Central Asian countries to gather in Saudi Arabia for summit 18/07/2023

Saudi Arabia is set to host the inaugural "Central Asia - Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Persian Gulf" summit on July 18-19. President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev has accepted the invitation from Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al

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Saud to make an official visit to the country, Nova24.uz reports.

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Turkmenistan proposes to hold medical Congress of countries of Central Asia and Gulf 20/07/2023

The Medical Congress of Central Asian Countries and the Cooperation Council of Arab States of the Gulf proposed to be held in Ashgabat in 2025, as suggested by President Serdar Berdimuhamedov. He made this announcement while speaking at the first summit of Central Asian and Persian Gulf states held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as reported by the State News Agency of Turkmenistan.

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Countries of Central Asia and Persian Gulf to strengthen economic ties 20/07/2023

The countries of the Persian Gulf and Central Asia have agreed to strengthen cooperation in the sphere of economy and investments. This was stated in a declaration adopted at the summit of the Cooperation Council of Arab States of the Persian Gulf (CCASG) and Central Asian countries in Jeddah, as reported by TASS.

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GCC-Central Asia summit issues joint statement 21/07/2023

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Central Asia Summit yesterday issued the joint statement that affirmed the significance of strengthening political and strategic relations between the GCC countries and Central Asia, stressing the importance of dialogue and partnership towards new horizons in various fields.

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Investments in Central Asia go more to Kazakhstan 21/07/2023

In 2022, Kazakhstan attracted a record $28 billion in foreign investments, as stated by Almas Aidarov, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, during a press conference at the Central Communications Center. He emphasized that Kazakhstan accounted for 61% of all net investments among Central Asian countries, and in recent years, the country consistently attracted over $20 billion annually.

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