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

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Climate Change and Environment

The Executive Secretary of the Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought visited Samarkand 10/10/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- UN Deputy Secretary-General, Executive Secretary of the Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought Ibrahim Tiav visited the Silk Road Samarkand tourist center.

The distinguished guest, together with the Minister of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change Aziz Abdukhakimov, toured the Congress Hall in the tourist center. The parties discussed preparations for the 21st meeting of the Committee for the Implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification (CRIC-21).

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A milestone moment: Uzbekistan and UNCCD team up to tackle land crisis 11/10/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) entered into a landmark agreement with the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Host Country Agreement marks the culminating chapter in the preparations for the upcoming 21st session of the UNCCD Committee on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC21), to be held from 13-17 November 2023 in Samarkand.

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PREPARATIONS FOR UNFCCC COP28: NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON A REGIONAL STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF NGOS AND YOUTH OF CENTRAL ASIA FINISHED 12/10/2023

A regional meeting to discuss the statement on behalf of civil society and youth of Central Asian countries at UNFCCC COP28 was held on October 5, 2023. Before this, from September 15 to September 30 of this year, national consultations proceeded and gathered over 150 people from Central Asian countries.

Each national consultation meeting comprised an overview of the current situation and the formulation of specific recommendations. Most of the consultation meetings were online. However, the Climate Network of Tajikistan organized a workshop, and after that, its participants voiced their proposals online. It is worth noting the high youth activity at

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several meetings. For example, in Turkmenistan, most of the participants in the consultation were young environmental leaders who voiced the aspirations and hopes of young people and demonstrated their interest and readiness to be involved in climate processes.

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RECATH: REGIONAL WORKSHOPS ON CLIMATE ACTION TRANSPARENCY IN CENTRAL ASIA 12/10/2023

Ashgabat – Turkmenistan – On October 9-12, 2023, a practical regional training brought together experts from Central Asian countries dealing with the issues of measurement, reporting and verification (IOI), measures taken to reduce environmental impact, monitoring and evaluation of adaptation measures, tracking of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in Central Asian countries.

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The World Bank gives Uzbekistan $46 million for the world's first project to reduce emissions through payments 14/10/2023

An agreement has been signed on the implementation of the world's first project with the assistance of the World Bank, which finances climate change policy measures. It will also be the first international transaction in Central Asia carried out within the framework of the mechanisms provided for by the Paris Agreement.

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Water resources

Kazakh Water Resources and Irrigation Ministry names new chief of staff 09/10/2023

Dauren Kazantayev has been appointed to the post of the chief of staff of the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kazakhstan, Kazinform Agency cites the press service of the Kazakh government.

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All settlements of Kazakhstan to be provided with drinking water by 2025 11/10/2023

All the settlements of Kazakhstan will be fully provided with drinking water by 2025, Deputy

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Prime Minister Tamara Duissenova said at the plenary session of the Majilis today, Kazinform Agency reports.

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New vice minister of water resources and irrigation of Kazakhstan named 11/10/2023

Kazakhstan has appointed Yrbolat Ibraikhanov as the new vice minister of water resources and irrigation, Kazinform Agency cites the press service of the Kazakh government.

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UNDP discusses water management priorities and cooperation with Kazakh Water Resources Minister 13/10/2023

UNDP Resident Representative in Kazakhstan, Katarzyna Wawiernia, held a meeting with Nurzhan Nurzhigitov, the newly appointed Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The meeting aimed to introduce the UNDP's priorities for the country's development and discuss potential areas of cooperation, Kazinform Agency cites UNDP Kazakhstan official website.

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Energy sector

Pakistani Energy Minister to travel to Turkmenistan in October - Prime Minister 09/10/2023

Acting Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar said that the government of Pakistan, which is experiencing energy shortages and uses very expensive sources, is actively cooperating with Turkmenistan on import of gas.

“The potential of gas in Turkmenistan is very huge, and I hope that by the end of the term of the interim government we will come to a practical conclusion in this regard,” the prime minister said in an interview with media platform Talk Shock on Sunday evening, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported. (APP).

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Tajikistan awaits a blackout 13/10/2023

A statement released by Barqi Tojik (Tajikistan's power utility company) on September 28 notes that 90 percent of electricity in Tajikistan is generated by hydropower plants and generation volume is closely related to river water flow.

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Issues of digital energy development discussed in Uzbekistan 14/10/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 13 October, a seminar was held in Tashkent on the topic of digital energy development, considering the possibilities of developing the sector from the perspective of introducing innovative energy-saving technologies into the ICT sector and taking into account the use of renewable solar energy sources.

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Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Over 2,000 dead, some 9,000 injured in western Afghanistan's powerful earthquake 09/10/2023

Over 2,000 people dead and more than 9,000 were injured in a devastating earthquake and following aftershocks in western Afghanistan, Reuters news agency reported on Sunday citing an official with the local emergencies service.

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Uzbekistan sent 100 tons of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan 10/10/2023

Uzbekistan has sent approximately 100 tons of humanitarian aid to the people affected by the earthquake in neighboring Afghanistan, Podrobno.uz reports.

The aid, consisting of food, tents, and medicines, was delivered by a Boeing 747 cargo plane. Mavlavi Sharofiddin Muslim, a representative of the receiving side, emphasized that the Afghan people will never forget the assistance provided by Uzbekistan in these difficult times.

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Turkmenistan has sent humanitarian aid to victims of the earthquake in

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Afghanistan 11/10/2023

The President of Turkmenistan signed an order on sending humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. In accordance with the document, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Textile Industry and the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of the country will donate medicines and medical supplies, food and textile products to the Afghan side as humanitarian aid.

Read more: here

Kazakhstan's jet with humanitarian aid lands in Afghanistan 11/10/2023

The jet carrying the first batch of humanitarian aid from the people of Kazakhstan to quake-hit Afghanistan has landed at an airport in the Afghan city of Herat, Kazinform Agency reports.

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Integrating Afghanistan into economic ties will help prevent terrorist threats 11/10/2023

Integrating Afghanistan into international regional economic relations will help prevent the threat of the spread of terrorism and violent crime. This position of Turkmenistan regarding the improvement of the situation in Afghanistan was expressed by the Turkmen delegation participating in the expert conference within the framework of the Early Warning Network in the field of counter-terrorism for Central Asia.

The meeting, which takes place from October 9 to 13 in Tbilisi, Georgia, aims to strengthen regional counter-terrorism mechanisms, build capacity and develop effective counter-terrorism strategies and measures to adequately respond to emerging security challenges and threats emanating from Afghanistan.

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EU and UNDP extend collaboration to expand opportunities for Afghan citizen's livelihoods in Termez 12/10/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- The European Union and UNDP extend collaboration to expand opportunities for Afghan citizen's livelihoods in Termez Surkhandarya, Uzbekistan. The EU and UNDP official visit to Termez, Uzbekistan is aimed at launching the second phase of the funded by the European Union Project on "Enhancing the capacities of Surkhandarya Region to educate and train Afghan citizens",

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which is implemented by UNDP and at reviewing the progress in the area.

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Work on the second phase of Qosh Tepa Canal starts in Afghanistan 13/10/2023

Afghanistan's media reports say that following the completion of the work of the first phase of the Qosh Tepa Canal, work on its second phase began on October 11.

TOLOnews reports that senior officials of the Islamic Emirate who went to Balkh province to participate in the opening ceremony of the second phase of the Qosh Tepa Canal, said that Afghanistan will reach self-sufficiency in growing its own grains.

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Kabul says it is ready to pay for the Afghan section of the TAPI gas pipeline construction 14/10/2023

A spokesman for the Ministry of Mining and Oil, Homayun Afgan, said that "security has now been ensured in the country, and that the Islamic Emirate has also decided to acquire land for the TAPI project."

He noted Turkmenistan's contribution to the promotion of this project in Afghanistan and confirmed his readiness to begin work on its practical implementation. "And if no alternative is found, we are ready to support ourselves," TOLOnews quotes the representative of the department.

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A new strong earthquake has occurred in Afghanistan 15/10/2023

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Several strong aftershocks were recorded 30 km from the city of Herat. Just last week, an earthquake in the same area killed more than two thousand people, DW reports.

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Cooperation between Central Asian countries

IMF says Uzbekistan is ahead of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan in terms of economic growth 11/10/2023

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The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has published its next report on the development prospects of the world economy, Kun.uz reported.

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Summit of CIS heads of state ended with Japarov's statement to Press 13/10/2023

The latest meeting of the CIS heads of state has concluded in Bishkek, and following the meeting, the official statement to the press was made by the President of Kyrgyzstan, Sadyr Japarov, who chaired the summit.

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Turkmenistan invited CIS countries to first Security Meeting in Central Asia 13/10/2023

The international events of recent times clearly demonstrate that the preservation of peace, strengthening security, and stability will be the main priorities of global politics, said President of Turkmenistan, Serdar Berdymukhamedov, at the CIS Heads of State Summit in Bishkek, Orient.tm reports.

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The President of Turkmenistan met with the President of Kyrgyzstan in Bishkek 13/10/2023

President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, during a working visit to Bishkek, met with President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov.

The parties discussed the development of Turkmen-Kyrgyz interaction in the political, diplomatic, trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian spheres. One of the topics of the negotiations was the development of partnership within the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Also, the heads of Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan exchanged views on issues of global and regional politics of mutual interest.

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Heads of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan again discussed border coordination issues 13/10/2023

The Presidents, Sadyr Japarov and Emomali Rahmon, discussed border delimitation and

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demarcation issues between the two countries in Bishkek.

They also "discussed current issues of Kyrgyz-Tajik bilateral cooperation, a wide range of topics, including issues related to the delimitation and demarcation of the Kyrgyz-Tajik state border," the press service of the President of Kyrgyzstan reports.

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Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan strengthen trade relations 13/10/2023

Bishkek, Oct. 13, 2023. /Kabar/. A meeting of representatives of the Trade Representation (CCI) under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of Kyrgyzstan and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan took place in Tashkent. This meeting was a good opportunity to discuss and strengthen trade and economic ties between the two countries, the press service of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic reported.

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