

AGREEMENT

Between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the Area of Environment and Rational Nature Use

The Governments of the participating countries of the Agreement hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Guided by the Treaty on Eternal Friendship between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan, signed in Bishkek, January 10, 1997;

Attaching great significance to environmental protection and rational use of the natural resources and desiring to obtain practical results in this field by means of effective cooperation;

Realistically estimating potentialities of ecological dangers in the context of unfavorable natural climatic and hydrometeorological conditions, and acknowledging these problems as the common tasks;

Recognizing the great importance of protection and improvement of the environmental situation, prudent and zealous use of natural resources for effectuation of economic and social development with due regard to the interests of the living and future generations;

Expressing confidence that cooperation while solving common problems in the environmental protection in each of the countries meets their mutual advantage; and

Desiring thereafter to promote the international efforts through this cooperation, aimed at protection and improvement of the environment and rational use of natural resources as the basis of the sound development on the global and regional levels;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

The Parties shall develop cooperation in the area of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources on the basis of equality of rights, mutual benefit pursuant to the Laws of the respective Countries.

Article 2

The Parties shall cooperate:

- a to harmonize the ecological laws, interstate normative and legal regulations in the area of environmental protection and use of natural resources providing the mechanism for compensation of the damages and losses incurred by one Party to the other Party;

- b to develop and implement joint purpose-oriented programs and projects on environmental protection;
- c to improve economic mechanisms for the management of nature protection and use;
- d to set specially protected natural territories and maintain the biological diversity including those in the adjacent boundary zones;
- e to provide soils conservation and rational use of land resources;
- f to provide subsoil conservation and rational use of the mineral raw material resources;
- g in air protection against transboundary pollution;
- h in the coordinating of activities for the construction of new projects in the boundary zone and of the projects that can cause the transboundary adverse effect irrespective of their geographical location;
- i in protection, rational use and prevention against pollution of the transboundary water resources;
- j in the neutralization, safe destruction and burial of toxic and radioactive wastes, and in the process of making them harmless;
- k in joint ecological expert examinations of the projects that have or may have adverse transboundary effects;
- l to develop and implement environmental noncontaminating and resource-saving technologies, with securing the mutual access in this area;
- m to develop production and introduce facilities for recovery and neutralization of domestic garbage and industrial wastes;
- n to manufacture facilities and devices for the environment pollution control;
- o to produce and apply facilities, equipment and structures for cleaning the effluents and contaminants, disposals to the environment;
- p to create an information network in the field of nature protection and use , and also a warning system as to the extraordinary situations on the boundary territories;

q to perform joint research work and exchange of the research and technical development results.

Later other forms of cooperation may be coordinated.

Article 3

The Parties shall notify without delay about dangerous environmental situations on their territories, which may have ill effects on the adjacent countries, and to inform about the measures to liquidate these consequences, as well as about the results of investigations, aimed at estimating their influence on the environment.

Article 4

The Parties shall empower the respective nature protection departments and other management bodies of their countries to prepare and put forth the proposals concerning the package of measures within the Agreement, in order to implement thereof.

Article 5

The Parties intend to cooperate for improved government administration regarding the environmental protection and nature management, government monitoring, and also perform exchange of experience and the training of the specialists.

Article 6

The Parties shall attach priority importance to provide environmental protection acting in conformity with the bilateral and multilateral agreements in this area.

Article 7

All disputes arising under execution and interpretation of the Provisions of the Agreement shall be settled by means of negotiations.

Article 8

The Provisions of the Agreement shall not affect the obligations, undertaken by the Parties in conformity with other international agreements.

Article 9

On mutual consent of the Parties the Agreement may be amended and added, and that shall be formalized by a Protocol. The Protocol shall be an integral part of the Agreement.

Article 10

The Agreement shall enter into force from the date it is signed and shall be valid during a period of five years. The term of the Agreement shall be extended automatically for further five-year periods, except when the Parties come to another decision.

Each Party may terminate the Agreement, with the delivery of the appropriate written notice to the Depository. The Agreement is considered terminated for the Party after 6 months reckoned from the date of the aforesaid written notice is received by the Depository. The Depository shall inform the other Parties about the termination within a month after receiving the written notice.

Done in one original copy in Russian, in Bishkek on this seventeenth day of March, 1998. The original copy is kept in the Executive Committee of the Interstate Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Executive Committee shall forward the authorized copies thereof to each participating country.

For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan	For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic	For the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan
N. BALGIMBAEV	A. DZHUMAGULOV	U. SULTANOV