



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretariat

**Department for
Chairman-in-Office Support**

**Seminar on
Promoting Sustainable Environmental Development in the Aral Sea
Region**

*Tashkent
30 - 31 October 1996*

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY



**Seminar on Promoting
sustainable environmental
development in the
Aral Sea region**

TASHKENT
30 October - 1 November 1996

LIST OF CONTENTS

I.	Agenda and Organizational Modalities	3
II.	Summaries by Session Rapporteurs	7
	<i>Opening Statements. International co-operation in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Implementation of international environmental conventions. Role of regional advisory services. Environmentally sound investment priorities</i>	<i>7</i>
	<i>International and regional co-operation. Role of international programmes in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Role of regional co-operation in protecting the environment. Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA). Regional co-operation with Central Asian countries in environmental matters</i>	<i>9</i>
	<i>Conflict prevention and disputes management. Measures and mechanisms to promote conflict prevention and the settlement of transboundary environmental disputes. Implementation of the Nukus Declaration. Problems of managing the environment</i>	<i>11</i>
	<i>Public opinion and the economic and legal framework. Role of NGOs in promoting environmentally sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin. Social and environmental aspects of public health issues and ways of resolving them. Role of the private sector in implementing environmental projects. Economic and legal framework for environmentally sustainable development: draft convention on sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin</i>	<i>14</i>
III.	List of participants	16
IV.	List of documents distributed during the Seminar	20

I. AGENDA (with Moderators, Rapporteurs and Keynote Speakers) AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES

Day One
Wednesday, 30 October 1996

First Session: Opening Statements

International co-operation in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Implementation of international environmental conventions. Role of regional advisory services. Environmentally sound investment priorities

Chair: **Mr. Izmail Dzhurabekov**, First Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan

Rapporteur: **Ms. Jolanda Brunetti**, Ambassador of Italy to Uzbekistan

Opening statement by **Mr. Izmail Dzhurabekov**, First Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan

Message of President **Islam Karimov** of Uzbekistan

International Co-operation and the OSCE Contribution to Promoting Environmentally Sound Sustainable Development - Message of
Mr. Giancarlo Aragona, OSCE Secretary General

Presentations:

- * UN/ECE - **Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic**, Regional Adviser on Environment
- * UNEP - **Ms. Francoise Belmont**, Deputy Director, Regional Office for Europe
- * The World Bank - **Mr. Hasso Molineus**, Chief of the Resident Mission in Tashkent
- * UNDP - **Mr. Khalid Malik**, UN Regional Co-ordinator and Representative in Uzbekistan
- * For the host country - **Mr. Askhat Khabibullayev**, Chairman of Goskompriroda

Second Session: International and regional co-operation

Role of international programmes in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Role of regional co-operation in protecting the environment. Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA). Regional co-operation with Central Asian countries in environmental matters

Moderator: **Mr. Askhat Khabibullayev**, Chairman, Goskompriroda, Uzbekistan

Rapporteur: **Ms. Beatrice Holm**, Danish Embassy in Moscow

- * *Role of international programmes in promoting environmentally sustainable development* - Statement by **Ms. Francoise Belmont**, Deputy Director, Regional Office for Europe, UNEP
- * *Role of regional co-operation in protecting the environment* - Statement by **Mr. Yuri Bobko**, First Deputy Chairman, Executive Committee of the Interstate Council for Aral Sea Problems, Uzbekistan
- * *Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA)* - Statement by **Mr. Ekrem Birerdinc**, UNICEF Regional Representative for the Central Asian Republics and Kazakstan
- * *Regional co-operation with Central Asian countries in environmental matters* - Statement by **Ms. Ayse Temiz**, Chief of Section, Ministry of Environment, Turkey

- Presentations:*
- * USA - **Ms. Marilyn Pifer**, State Department, Regional Policy Initiatives, **Ms. Barbara Britton**, Regional Water Policy Advisor, USAID
 - * Central Asian States - **Mr. Bokhodir Maksurov**, Chief Expert, Interstate Council of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakstan and Uzbekistan
 - * UNDP - **Mr. Momir Vranes**, Team Leader, Environment and Resources Management

Discussion

Day Two
Thursday, 31 October 1996

Third Session: Conflict prevention and disputes management

Measures and mechanisms to promote conflict prevention and the settlement of transboundary environmental disputes. Implementation of the Nukus Declaration. Problems of managing the environment

Moderator: **Mr. Yusuf Shadimetov**, Chairman, International Ecology and Health Fund (ECOSAN), Uzbekistan

Rapporteur: **Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic**, Regional Adviser on Environment, UN/ECE

- * *Measures and mechanisms to promote conflict prevention and the settlement of transboundary environmental disputes* - Statement by **Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic**, Regional Adviser on Environment, UN/ECE
- * *Implementation of the Nukus Declaration* - Statements by
 - **Mr. K. Noruzbaev**, Head of State Inspection Unit, Ministry for Environmental Protection, Kyrgyzstan
 - **Mr. K. Baishev**, First Deputy Minister of Ecology and Bioresources, Kazakstan
 - **Mr. N. Safarov**, First Deputy Minister for Nature Conservation, Tajikistan

- **Mr. B. Bekturdyev**, First Deputy Chairman of Council of Ministers, Republic of Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan
- * *Problems of managing the environment* - Statement by **Mr. V. Konyukhov**, First Deputy Chairman, Goskompriroda, Uzbekistan

Discussion

Fourth Session: Public opinion and the economic and legal framework

Role of NGOs in promoting environmentally sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin. Social and environmental aspects of public health issues and ways of resolving them. Role of the private sector in implementing environmental projects. Economic and legal framework for environmentally sustainable development: draft convention on sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin

Moderator: **Ms. Monica Hale**, Director, London Environmental Centre, United Kingdom

Rapporteur: **Ms. Francoise Belmont**, Deputy Director, Regional Office for Europe, UNEP

- * *Role of NGOs in promoting environmentally sustainable development in the Aral Sea region* - Statement by **Mr. Yusuf Shadimetov**, Chairman, International Ecology and Health Fund (ECOSAN), Uzbekistan
- * *Social and environmental aspects of public health issues and ways of resolving them* - Statement by **Mr. K. Reypnazarov**, Director, Karakalpakstan Department of ECOSAN, Uzbekistan
- * *Role of the private sector in implementing environmental projects* - Statement by **Mr. Kerim Volkovskii**, Frista Engineering S.A., Eastern Europe Department of ECOSAN, Switzerland
- * *Economic and legal framework for environmentally sustainable development: draft convention on sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin* - Statements by
 - **Mr. H. Mukhitdinov**, First Deputy Chairman of State Committee for Forecasting and Statistics, Uzbekistan
 - **Mr. K. Salikov**, Head of Department for Caspian and Aral Sea Problems, Committee on Water Resources, Kazakstan
 - **Mr. K. Noruzbaev**, Head of State Inspection Unit, Ministry for Environmental Protection, Kyrgyzstan
 - **Mr. N. Safarov**, First Deputy Minister for Nature Conservation, Tajikistan

Discussion

Round-up Summary by the Session Rapporteurs
 Concluding remarks by **Mr. Izmail Dzhurabekov**, First Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan

Timetable and Organizational Modalities

- The seminar will be conducted in four working sessions from the morning of Wednesday, 30 October 1996 to the afternoon of Thursday, 31 October 1996.
- The sessions will be chaired by representatives of the host State and of OSCE delegations.
- Participants will have at their disposal a conference room with equipment for simultaneous interpretation and a room for informal meetings.
- Secretariat services will be provided for participants.
- Working languages: Russian and English.
- Arrangements will be made for press coverage.

Participation

- Participants from each Central Asian participating State.
- Representatives of other participating States.
- The following international organizations will be invited to attend and make contributions: UN/ECE, UNEP, UNDP, the World Bank, EBRD, CIS, ICERC, IVC, REC, ECOSAN, OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.
- OSCE Partners for Co-operation may be invited to participate and to make contributions.
- NGO representatives may attend and participate in accordance with OSCE rules (advance notification required).
- Delegations are encouraged to invite the participation of private sector representatives.
- OSCE Secretariat.

Transportation, Board and Lodging

- Participants will be accommodated in the hotel "Uzbekistan" in Tashkent.
- Local transportation will be arranged by the host country.
- Central Asian representatives may apply for financial assistance from the OSCE Fund for Fostering the Integration of Recently Admitted Participating States. Those wishing to apply for such assistance should approach the OSCE Liaison Office in Tashkent or other OSCE institutions.

Visas

- Consular offices of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad will issue visas to Seminar participants. Visas may also be obtained upon arrival at Tashkent airport and at consular offices of other CIS countries abroad.

II. SUMMARIES BY SESSION RAPPORTEURS

First Session

Opening Statements

International co-operation in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Implementation of international environmental conventions. Role of regional advisory services. Environmentally sound investment priorities

Rapporteur: Ms. Jolanda Brunetti

1. The first session included the opening of the Seminar by the First Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, Mr. Dzhurabekov. In a message delivered by Mr. Dzhurabekov, President Karimov of Uzbekistan pointed to the international community's growing awareness of the Aral Sea disaster and to the closer co-operation taking place among the five Central Asian Republics in the face of humanitarian problems, pursuant to the Nukus Declaration.
2. The message of OSCE Secretary General Aragona stressed that the environment was an important issue for the OSCE, which provided a framework for fostering solidarity among countries and working out schemes for co-operation. It also stressed that the countries of Central Asia, which had committed themselves to making a significant effort to resolve the human and environmental consequences of the Aral Sea crisis, needed tangible support from the international community.
3. The Ambassador of Switzerland, representing the OSCE Chairmanship, said that the OSCE would concentrate on issues of economic relevance and that environmental protection was fundamental to security and sustainable development in the Aral Sea region.
4. The representative of UN/ECE, Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic, stressed the importance of the work which his organization had already done as regards co-operation in dealing with transboundary water problems. He said that UN/ECE had put at the disposal of the States around the Aral Sea Basin its experience in the field of institutional and legal framework formulation and was prepared to help in organizing regional environmental assessments directed towards sustainable development.
5. Ms. Francoise Belmont of UNEP, recalling the origins of the Aral Sea disaster, said that the rehabilitation process should involve a combination of environmental, financial, economic and social measures and that there should be a firm commitment on the part both of central governments and of local administrations and also strong public participation.
6. Mr. Hasso Molineus of the World Bank emphasized the importance which the people living in the affected areas attached to the achievement of tangible results; they were concerned about the fact that the lengthy studies conducted so far had not yet led to any improvements in their living conditions. He recommended that a searching performance review be carried out of the activities already initiated and that immediate measures be taken to alleviate the problems of children and families in the affected areas.
7. Mr. Khalid Malik, Permanent Representative of UNDP and UN Regional Co-ordinator, associated himself with the position of the World Bank representative. Admitting

that the message coming from the affected areas was one of dissatisfaction, he said that on the other hand UNDP had responded to the call for practical action by working out projects with WHO, UNICEF and relevant NGOs. It had created "micro credit" schemes designed to create jobs, including jobs in dealing with the environmental degradation.

8. The UNICEF Regional Representative underlined the importance now attached by UNICEF to improving the overall quality of life of children once they had been helped to survive hardship. In order to ameliorate their living conditions, it was necessary to establish a better exchange of information on problems encountered and results achieved.

9. Mr. Khabibullayev, Chairman of Uzbekistan's Goskompriroda, pointed to the strain on the environment and on natural resources caused by rapid population growth. Emphasizing Uzbekistan's interest in environmental protection, he said that Uzbekistan had ratified all environmental protection conventions of the United Nations. As regards the Aral Sea situation, he recommended a unified methodological approach to the solution of common problems. Confirming the importance of information exchange, he described some of the initiatives taken by Uzbekistan in the field of environmental protection, such as reducing the use of chemical pesticides.

10. During the First Session, emphasis was placed in particular on:

- the OSCE approach to security, which takes into account not only the political and economic but also the environmental threats to peace;
- the importance of proper water management, the potential for transboundary water conflicts being a major challenge of our time; and
- the urgent need to produce tangible results in the Aral Sea region in response to the expectations of the local population.

Second Session

International and regional co-operation

Role of international programmes in promoting environmentally sustainable development. Role of regional co-operation in protecting the environment. Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA). Regional co-operation with Central Asian countries in environmental matters

Rapporteur: Ms. Beatrice Holm

1. The statements made during the Second Session all emphasized the need for international and regional co-operation in environmental matters. It was stressed that environmental problems could not be regarded as purely domestic problems, that the environment should be an integral part of foreign policy and that some transboundary environmental problems called for a different approach in the field of diplomacy. In this connection, attention was drawn to the Environmental Initiative announced in April 1995 by the US Secretary of State and bringing environmental issues into the mainstream of US foreign policy.
2. It was emphasized that the provision of financial resources for national rehabilitation programmes was not enough; problems could not be resolved without leadership and a feeling of ownership. It was also emphasized that greater attention should be paid to the international protection and the conservation of the Aral Sea. In addition, it was emphasized that the environmental issues called for both short-term and long-term solutions.
3. Reference was made to the international conference held in Nukus, Uzbekistan, in 1995 on the sustainable development of the Aral Sea region and to the Nukus Declaration, in which the need for an international convention on the sustainable development of the Aral Sea Basin had been stressed. It was noted that UNDP was willing to assist in the drafting of such a convention.
4. Reference was also made to a conference of Ministers of the Environment from Central Asian and Balkan countries held in Istanbul in July 1994, at which it had been decided to set up an "observation committee". Turkey's Ministry of the Environment, which is providing secretariat services for the committee, has submitted to the relevant countries for discussion a draft of "a regional Agenda 21" that will be open for signature in November-December 1996 during the second conference of Ministers of the Environment from Central Asian and Balkan countries.
5. The Seminar participants were informed that Turkey's Ministry of the Environment and the Turkish International Co-operation Agency (TICA) were planning to establish a regional environmental centre to serve Caucasian and Central Asian countries through the promotion of systematic co-operation between the countries in question and voluntary organizations.
6. It was announced that at certain of its embassies the United States would be establishing "regional environmental hubs" which would focus on regional environmental problems such as the Aral Sea problem and that the "regional environmental hub" at the US Embassy in Tashkent was expected to be in operation by the summer of 1997. It was also

announced that an expert in water issues, Mr. Philip Micklin, had been selected to be a USAID advisor on environmental management in Tashkent.

7. The causes and effects of the Aral Sea crisis were highlighted, special attention being paid to the increase in the incidence of typhus and hepatitis and to the problem of salt dust covering large parts of the Aral Sea region. It was concluded that the demographic situation and living conditions of the affected population must be improved and that an inter-State agreement on the use and protection of water, earth and biological resources in the Aral Sea region was needed. As regards water sharing, it was concluded that there was a need for an inter-State agreement on water quality and the amounts of water to be used for different purposes and for one on water quality and the amounts of water to be led into the Aral Sea.

8. The key role of the United Nations system, of various other international organizations and of various funding agencies in supporting and supplementing efforts to rehabilitate the environment was stressed. In 1995, for instance, a UNDP initiative gave rise to the Nukus Declaration on the sustainable development of the Aral Sea Basin and various other UN bodies organized regional conferences and other meetings on environmental issues. Several regional programmes are being implemented - for example, a USAID regional co-operation programme, a TACIS programme on water management and an immediate-relief programme financed by the World Bank.

9. Reference was made to Phase I of an Aral Sea Programme formulated by the Executive Committee of the Interstate Council for Aral Sea Problems. The Seminar participants were informed about UNEP's involvement in several of the Aral Sea Programme projects. A memorandum of understanding between UNEP, the World Bank and UNDP provides for the co-ordination of international efforts and sets out each agency's responsibilities *vis-à-vis* the Aral Sea programme.

10. Reference was also made to a project on pollution monitoring and prevention strategies for the Caspian Sea and the Aras and Kura Rivers, and it was suggested that similar strategies be adopted in the case of the Aral Sea.

11. The Seminar participants were informed about UNDP's approach to the Aral Sea Programme: UNDP aims to promote high-level dialogue, the formulation of sustainable development objectives and strategies, capacity-building, employment and income generation in response to the most urgent human needs. UNDP has offered assistance in formulating sustainable development objectives and strategies.

12. The attention of participants was drawn to UNESCO's Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA), which is aimed at providing relief to the population by maintaining basic health and educational services. The role of ECOSAN in this connection was emphasized, as was the importance of involving more NGOs. Participation of the public in environmental decision-making was recognized as important for promoting sustainable development, and it was stressed that information exchange and information sharing were essential in this connection.

Third Session

Conflict prevention and disputes management

Measures and mechanisms to promote conflict prevention and the settlement of transboundary environmental disputes. Implementation of the Nukus Declaration. Problems of managing the environment

Rapporteur: Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic

1. The existence of an overlap between environmental concerns and political conflicts calls for conflict prevention and disputes management at the global, regional and bilateral levels. Recommendations relevant for regional environmental security prepared by UN/ECE and based on the provisions of chapter 38 of UNCED's Agenda 21 may be applicable in the Aral Sea region. These recommendations concern: the transboundary aspects of changing production and consumption patterns; the integration of environmental policy into decision-making; protection of the atmosphere and the quality of freshwater resources; the safe management of toxic chemicals; the sound management of waste; and the protection of coastal areas. A regional approach to the protection of transboundary waters would promote environmental security through: the prevention and resolution of conflicts and disputes among States; the harmonization of regulatory objectives and standards; the prevention and control of transboundary water pollution; avoidance of the inequitable imposition of costs and distortions in competition and trading patterns; reductions in the pollution of the near-shore environment by land-based sources; mutual assistance in reducing water pollution; and the dissemination of information to the public.

2. In the protection and management of transboundary waters, there are still unresolved issues relating to:

- policies and practices for ensuring the equitable and rational use of water;
- environmentally sound hydraulic engineering works and water regulation techniques;
- the physical and financial assessment of damage resulting from transboundary impact;
- a region-wide acceptable concept of responsibility and liability for transboundary water pollution.

3. These issues need to receive special attention in regional sustainable development programmes and agreements. There are several sub-regions of Eurasia where environmental issues may cause political conflict, or where political or military conflict has resulted in environmental damage. The Aral Sea region is an extremely sensitive area where political and serious environmental issues overlap. Among the existing legal instruments, the UN/ECE regional environmental conventions are advanced examples of how conflict prevention and dispute settlement are integrated with environmental objectives. The International Conference on the Aral Sea held in Nukus, Uzbekistan, in September 1995 resulted in the Nukus Declaration, which was signed by the Presidents of the five Central Asian Republics and which emphasized the need for an international convention on sustainable development of the Aral Sea Basin. In the preparation of such a convention use could be made of the experience gained with regional environmental conventions.

4. Progress in implementing the Nukus Declaration has been reported by country representatives, but problems have been encountered which will require more effort on the part of the Central Asian Republics and the international community. The reports are summarized below.

Relief to individuals and groups

5. Many individuals and groups badly hit by environmental degradation urgently need relief; this is especially so in rural areas, where there are serious problems of sanitation. World Bank pilot projects with grants from Japan and Germany have taken off.

Natural resources management

6. Natural resources management needs to become ecosystem management conducted in accordance with modern principles. Although some countries have started to introduce modern costing and pricing for water, the charges for water resources are still not adequate and water for irrigation is still free of charge. The pricing of water should promote the introduction of water-saving technologies like dripping irrigation.

Monitoring and assessment

7. Monitoring and assessment at both the national and the transboundary level require a strategy and equipment. Also, the existing systems involve much duplication and parallelism. In the transboundary context, there is a need for an effective system of information exchange between States and for controlling transboundary water flows and pollution.

Legislation, enforcement, organization

8. The laws and regulations of the former Soviet Union are still formally in place, but they are often violated because of a lack of economic justification and enforcement. What is needed is better co-operation and less fragmentation within national administrations and a policy of transboundary environmental quality management - for example, by joint bodies responsible for water basin management. Capacity-building and the training of experts and decision-makers are of key importance in this regard. National advisory bodies on environmental quality control would be useful.

Economic incentives

9. The impact of major investment projects needs to be assessed properly, and there needs to be a modern system of licensing and fines. However, economic incentives for the introduction of clean production techniques are what is most needed in order to reduce pollution.

Toxic waste and soil contamination

10. Toxic waste and soil contamination are important regional problems. A trilateral agreement on heavily contaminated soils has been established as a first step towards solving them.

Novel environmental risks

11. Mining is being vigorously developed in some areas, and this calls for stricter environmental controls. A novel environmental risk is posed by landslides of mining tailings, which may have transboundary effects.

Land protection, land allocation, land codes

12. Land protection and land allocation need to be modernized with a view to the establishment of national parks (including inter-State parks) for the protection of flora and fauna. This would also require the establishment of State structures with responsibility for tourism. Some countries are introducing a new land code, giving priority to environmentally friendly farming.

Erosion

13. Erosion is a serious problem not only in countries of the region. Reforestation is urgently needed in order to protect soil and water resources, especially in mountain regions.

Accession to environmental conventions

14. Almost all countries of the region are completing or have completed their constitutional processes for accession to the Biodiversity Convention, the Climate Convention and the Convention on Desertification Control. Decisions on accession to the regional UN/ECE conventions still need to be taken. The Interstate Council for Aral Sea Problems is expanding its activities.

Strategy

15. Some countries have started to work on national environmental action plans which should form the strategic backbone for sustainable development at the national level. A regional environmental action plan is still lacking.

Training and public information

16. Many organizations are now dealing with environmental issues, training the specialists, informing the public and sometimes co-operating across borders.

Fourth Session

Public opinion and the economic and legal framework

Role of NGOs in promoting environmentally sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin. Social and environmental aspects of public health issues and ways of resolving them. Economic and legal framework for environmentally sustainable development: draft convention on sustainable development in the Aral Sea Basin

Rapporteur: Ms. Francoise Belmont

1. Introducing the session, the Moderator emphasized the importance of the recommendations of the 1992 Earth Summit (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro. She drew the seminar participants' attention to the main areas of Agenda 21, the Plan of Action adopted in Rio de Janeiro, where increased government action was needed.

The role of NGOs in promoting sustainable environmental development in the Aral Sea region.

2. The Chairman of ECOSAN briefed participants on the role and activities of ECOSAN, which is now operating in 25 countries and promoting sustainable development in the Aral Sea region. He emphasized the need for urgent immediate assistance at the local level in order to improve living conditions and prevent a further deterioration of human health and the quality of life in the region. An example of the type of action needed is the Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance (ASPERA), which ECOSAN is carrying out jointly with UNICEF and other organizations and through which mobile medical assistance is being provided.

3. The idea was put forward of "ecological tours" designed to increase the ecological awareness of decision-makers. Greater UNEP involvement in Central Asia was suggested, particularly with regard to waste management, and the OSCE and UNEP were requested to develop a programme on the recycling of waste. It was proposed that the media play a greater role in spreading awareness about the need for action - for example, on the occasion of World Environment Day.

Economic and legal framework for environmentally sustainable development: draft convention on sustainable development in the Aral Sea region.

4. The First Deputy Chairman of Uzbekistan's State Committee for Forecasting and Statistics described some of the measures being taken by his Government to improve the situation in the Aral Sea Basin, especially reductions in the use of chemical pesticides and other changes in cotton cultivation procedures.

5. A lively discussion took place on the draft convention circulated to participants as a follow-up to the 1995 Nukus Conference. Participants expressed support for the idea of a convention and called for the involvement of international organizations in its development. It was concluded that collaboration among the States of the region and a better co-ordination of efforts were crucial. Securing domestic and international funding for implementation of the convention was recognized as a key factor for the future.

6. It was recommended that the convention be action-oriented, be designed to help promote sustainable development and address socio-economic problems.
7. Some participants expressed the wish that the decisions taken in April 1996 by the Executive Committee of the Interstate Council for Aral Sea Problems on the composition of the working group set up to prepare the convention be fully implemented through a consultative process.
8. The importance of improving environmental monitoring and data systems and of addressing the economic implications of water and land use before finalization of the convention was emphasized.
9. In his concluding remarks, Mr. I. Dzhurabekov, the First Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, expressed satisfaction with the positive result of the Seminar and with the innovative ideas voiced in the course of discussions. He highlighted the need for sound monitoring in the management of natural resources and for greater attention to be paid to social problems such as drinking water supplies, the provision of natural gas, sanitation and health care. The efforts being made to replace the use of chemical pesticides by biological control methods and to bring safe drinking water to remote areas are producing good results, demonstrating the high priority given by the Government of Uzbekistan to the Aral Sea region.

Social and environmental aspects of public health issues and ways of resolving them

10. The Director of the Karakalpakstan Department of ECOSAN described the major factors which had contributed to the deterioration of the environment in the Aral Sea region. In view of the fact that the highest rate of infant disease in the world is found in this region and that the health of the population - particularly women - is also badly affected, assistance programmes need to be carried out as a matter of utmost urgency. The involvement of a Swiss firm in ECOSAN has played an important role in raising funds and attracting international attention to the Aral Sea region.

III. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Germany

Mr. Henning ZIMAN Head of Economic Section, Embassy of Germany

United States of America

Mr. Stanley ESCUDERO Ambassador
Ms. Marilyn PIFER, Dr. Head of Delegation, State Department, Regional
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Mr. Alois REZNIK Ambassador, Head of Office
Ms. Bess Ann BROWN Human Dimension Officer
Ms. Elena TELNAYA Secretary

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Mr. Khalid MALIK UN Regional Co-ordinator and UNDP Representative in Uzbekistan
Mr. Abdu-Kadyr ERGASHEV Sustainable Development Adviser
Mr. Momir VRANES Programme Manager

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Ms. Françoise BELMONT Deputy Director, Regional Office for Europe

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Mr. Ekrem BIRERDINC Area Representative for Central Asian Republics and Kazakstan

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Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

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Senior Executive in the Ministerial Cabinet

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First Deputy Chairman of Goskomles (State
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Mr. Aleksandr MUZAROV

Mr. Sergey OSIPOV

IV. LIST OF DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED DURING THE SEMINAR

No.	Author/Delegation	Title	Language
1	International Fund Ecology and Health "ECOSAN"	<i>A project of "Children of Aral"</i>	English
2	Moderator of 4th Session Ms. Monica Hale, UK	<i>"Scene Setting" Remarks</i>	English
3	Swiss Delegation/ OSCE Chairmanship	<i>Opening Address</i>	English
4	United States Agency for International Development	<i>Aral Sea Program Regional Cooperation Activities</i>	English
5	UN/ECE Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic	<i>Environmental Security: A Regional Perspective for Countries in Transition</i>	English
6	UNDP Mr. Momir Vranes	<i>UNDP and Environmental Action in the Aral Sea Region</i>	English
7	UNEP Ms. Françoise Belmont	<i>The Role of International Programmes in Promoting Environmentally Sustainable Development</i>	English
8	US Department of State Ms. Marilyn Pifer	<i>Regional Environmental Diplomacy</i>	English
9	USAID Regional Mission for Central Asia in Almaty, Kazakstan	<i>US Aral Sea Program Overview - Briefing Paper</i>	English
10	Turkish International Co-operation Agency (TICA), Tashkent	<i>Regional and Bilateral Cooperation in the Field of Environment with Central Asian and Caucasian Republics</i>	English
11	OSCE Secretariat Mr. Ivan Majercin	<i>Message of Ambassador Giancarlo Aragona, Secretary General</i>	English/ Russian
12	Uzbek Delegation	<i>The International Convention on Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Basin - Draft Text</i>	English/ Russian
13	Delegation of Kazakstan Mr. K. Salikov	<i>Comments on the Draft International Convention on Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Basin</i>	Russian
14	Delegation of Uzbekistan	<i>Guiding Principles to Ensure Access to the Environmental Information and the Participation of Public in the Decision-making Process in the Environment - Adopted by the Third Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (Sofia, 23-25 October 1995)</i>	Russian
15	Delegation of Kyrgyzstan	<i>Implementation of the Nukus Declaration</i>	Russian

OSCE Seminar on Promoting Sustainable Environmental Development in the Aral Sea Region,
Tashkent, 30-31 October 1996

No.	Author/Delegation	Title	Language
16	Delegation of Tajikistan Mr. N. Safarov	<i>Implementation of the Nukus Declaration</i>	Russian
17	Karakalpakstan Department of ECOSAN, Uzbekistan Mr. K. Reypnazarov	<i>Social-economic Issues of Public Health: Ways of Resolving Them</i>	Russian
18	International Ecology and Health Fund (ECOSAN), Uzbekistan Mr. Y. Shadimetov	<i>Role of NGOs in Promoting Environmentally Sustainable Development in the Aral Sea Basin</i>	Russian
19	Delegation of Uzbekistan Mr. V. Konyukhov	<i>Problems of Managing the Environment</i>	Russian
20	Interstate Council for Aral Sea Problems, Uzbekistan Mr. Y. Bobko	<i>Role of Regional Co-operation in Protecting the Environment</i>	Russian
21	Goskompriroda, Uzbekistan Mr. A. Khabibullayev	<i>Opening Statement</i>	Russian