

PROTOCOL
on intentions regarding the establishment of a regional early warning system for
hydrological disasters and mechanisms for information exchange on hazardous
hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the
territory of other countries

The National Hydrometeorological Services of the Central Asian countries (NHMSs),
hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

guided by the Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the Field of Hydrometeorology dated 17 June 1999, Bishkek (Kyrgyz Republic), as well as by bilateral Agreements between the Governments of the Central Asian countries and international treaties in the field of hydrometeorology,

taking into account the interdependence of hydrometeorological processes in the region and the possibility of hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena of a transboundary nature, the prediction of which requires coordinated actions,

wishing to expand the ongoing regional cooperation to include the provision of necessary assistance in obtaining timely hydrometeorological information in case of hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries,

noting that the development of hazardous hydrometeorological processes, exacerbated by the adverse consequences of climate change, knows no state borders, and that the proper interpretation of hydrometeorological data requires the use of information covering large territories that do not coincide with administrative or other divisions,

striving for coordinated actions among the NHMSs of the Central Asian countries in the field of information exchange on the occurrence of hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries,

recognizing the need to establish and ensure the sustainable functioning of a Regional Early Warning and Mutual Information System on the threat and occurrence of hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries,

convinced of the necessity to create an information environment that enables the rapid acquisition of all necessary and reliable data regarding hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries,

within the framework of the regional project "Climate Risk Management in Central Asia" implemented by GIZ on behalf of the Government of Germany,

strictly within the powers, functions, and competences assigned to the NHMSs of the Central Asian countries, and based on the principles of compliance with national legislation and international treaties, voluntariness, equality, and mutual respect, without prejudice to the rights and interests of any of the Parties,

for the purpose of establishing a regional early warning system for hydrological disasters and mechanisms for information exchange among the NHMSs of the Central Asian countries on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries,

have expressed their intentions as follows:

Article 1

The Parties intend to take measures to establish a regional early warning system for hydrological disasters, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries, based on the implementation of:

the Concept for the Establishment of a Regional Early Warning System for Hydrological Disasters, the Impact Factors of Which May Extend to the Territory of Other Countries;

the Roadmap for the Establishment of a Regional Early Warning System for Hydrological Disasters, the Impact Factors of Which May Extend to the Territory of Other Countries.

Article 2

The Parties intend to take measures to establish a system for intergovernmental mutual exchange of hydrometeorological information on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries.

Article 3

The Parties, upon receiving data on a threat or the occurrence of hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries, intend to carry out an immediate mutual exchange of emergency hydrometeorological information.

Article 4

The Parties, when additional hydrometeorological data are required, intend to request from other Parties information on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries.

Article 5

The Parties, upon receiving a request for information on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries, intend to provide the requested hydrometeorological information to the requesting Parties as soon as possible.

Article 6

The Parties, when exchanging information on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena, the impact factors of which may extend to the territory of other countries, intend to apply the standard form "Emergency Information on Hazardous Hydrometeorological Phenomena (Storm Warnings), the Impact Factors of Which May Extend to the Territory of Other Countries."

Article 7

The Parties have agreed that this Protocol does not constitute an international treaty and does not create any rights or obligations for the Parties or their States governed by international law.

Article 8

The Parties proceed from the understanding that no actions undertaken within the framework of this Protocol shall prejudice the rights, powers, and interests of any of the Parties.

Article 9

The Parties have agreed that:

a) this Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signing by the respective heads of the delegations of the Parties, in a single authentic copy in the Russian language;

b) the authentic copy of the Memorandum shall be kept at the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction — the Secretariat of the Regional Forum–Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of the Central Asian Countries, which shall send a certified copy thereof to the Parties.

**For the Republican State Enterprise "Kazhydromet" of the
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic
of Kazakhstan**

**For the Agency of Hydrometeorology under the Ministry of
Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic**

**For the Agency of Hydrometeorology of the Committee for
Environmental Protection under the Government of the
Republic of Tajikistan**

**For the Hydrometeorological Service of the Ministry of
Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan**

**For the Agency of the Hydrometeorological Service of the
Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and
Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan**