

UNECE Projects to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular tailings management facilities (TMFs), in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond in Central Asia

Subregional Workshop on strengthening mine tailings safety in Central Asia

Almaty, Kazakhstan
Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction
20-21 November 2019

Objectives of the event:

- Strengthen tailings management facilities (TMF) safety in Central Asia
- Foster awareness of persisting disaster risks, including related to accidental water pollution, and ways to address them
- Share information and experiences on mine tailings safety in Central Asia: achievements, lessons learned, challenges and countries' needs
- Provide a forum for national authorities in Central Asia to improve institutional coordination and cooperation on mining/TMF safety: among themselves, with operators and relevant stakeholders, and across borders
- Present the final and interim results of two UNECE projects to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular tailings management facilities (TMFs), in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond in Central Asia
- Share information on UNECE guidelines and tools, further to those of partner organizations, and experiences in their application
- Foster implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, both serviced by UNECE
- Improve awareness of linkages with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, its Sustainable Development Goals, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Working language: English and Russian, with simultaneous interpretation

Participants:

- Representatives of national authorities from Central Asia and other UNECE countries
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
- Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR)
- Representatives of international and regional organizations (UNECE, CAREC, EU, OECD, OSCE, UNEP, UNDP, etc.)
- Industry representatives and other stakeholders, including academia and NGOs

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Agenda – Day 1 (November 20, 2019)**Subregional Workshop on mine tailings safety for Central Asia:****– Tools, experiences and lessons learned –**

OPENING

Session Chair: Mr. Ardak Zebeshev, Chair of the Water Convention, serviced by UNECE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan

09:00 – 09:30 Arrival and registration of participants

09:30 – 09:45 Opening and welcoming statements

1. *Mr. Ardak Zebeshev, Chair of the Water Convention, serviced by UNECE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan*
2. *Ms. Martine Rohn-Bossard, Deputy Head of International Affairs Division, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, President of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine*
3. *Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, UNECE Regional Adviser for the Environment*
4. *Mr. Zhyrgalbek Ukashev, Director, Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR)*
5. *Mr. Rati Japaridze, Head, Environmental and Economic Dimension, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Programme Office in Nur-Sultan*

09:45 – 10:10 Tour de Table

Moderated by Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, UNECE Regional Adviser for the Environment

10:10 – 10:20 Objectives of the workshop and expected results

Ms. Franziska Hirsch, Secretary, UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

SESSION 1 – Setting the scene: International developments in the area of mine tailings safety and their impact on Central Asia

Session Chair: Mr. Ardak Zebeshev, Chair of the Water Convention, serviced by UNECE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan

10:20 – 10:35 2019 Global Tailings Review to establish an international standard by the International Council on Mining and Metals, UNEP and PRI, and the outcome of the preceding regional consultation in Kazakhstan

Mr. Bruno Oberle, Chair of the Global Tailings Review, Vice-president of the World Resources Forum Association

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	Q&A
10:40 – 10:55	UNECE's perspectives on mine tailings safety and preventing accidental water pollution – key developments, relevance and links with SDGs <i>Ms. Claudia Kamke, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention</i>
	Q&A
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 11:50	UNECE Safety Guidelines and Good Practices for Tailings Management Facilities and lessons learned from past tailings accidents in the UNECE region, including in view of NaTech risks <i>Mr. Pavel Danihelka, Technical University of Ostrava, Member of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents, Czechia</i>
	Q&A
11:55 – 12:10	Fostering the safety of mining operations incl. tailings through the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) <i>Mr. Georgiy Freiman, General Manager, GeoMineProject LLP, Chairman of the Public Society of Independent Experts of the Subsurface Resources (PONEN), Kazakhstan</i>
12:10 – 12:25	Activities by the International Water Assessment Centre related to dam safety in Central Asia <i>Mr. Serik Akhmetov, Director, International Water Assessment Centre</i>
	Q&A
12:30 – 12:45	Group picture
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch

SESSION 2 – UNECE guidance and methodologies for improving tailings safety within and beyond the UNECE region: experiences and lessons learned from their application in Central Asia

Session Chair: Ms. Oleksandra Lohunova, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

14:00 – 14:15	TMF methodology: Tailings Hazard Index, TMF checklist and application experience <i>Mr. Dmitry Rudakov, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention</i>
	Q&A

14:20 – 14:35 TMF mapping in Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in the spotlight
Ms. Oleksandra Lohunova, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

14:35 – 14:55 The application of the TMF methodology in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan – background, milestones and key achievements
Joint presentation by:

- *Mr. Daulet Seilchanov, Head of the Department for Intersectoral Supervision, Control in the Field of Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency Improvement, Department of the Committee for Industrial Development and Industrial Safety of the Ministry of Industry and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Kostanay Region*
- *Mr. Attor Kosumbekov, Leading Specialist, Inspection for Supervision of the Turnover of Explosive Materials of the State Oversight Service for the Safe Operation of Industry and Mining Supervision under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan*

Q&A

15:00 – 15:30 **Round-table discussion on the application of existing guidance and methodologies on tailings safety in Central Asia and beyond: lessons learned and next steps**
Moderated by Mr. Dmitry Rudakov, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

1. *Mr. Daulet Seilchanov, Head of the Department for Intersectoral Supervision, Control in the Field of Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency Improvement, Department of the Committee for Industrial Development and Industrial Safety of the Ministry of Industry and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Kostanay Region*
2. *Mr. Attor Kosumbekov, Leading Specialist, Inspection for Supervision of the Turnover of Explosive Materials of the State Oversight Service for the Safe Operation of Industry and Mining Supervision under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan*
3. *Ms. Chinara Sadabayeva, Chief Specialist of the Industrial Safety Regulation Department, State Committee for Industry, Energy and Subsoil Use of Kyrgyzstan*
4. *Ms. Kristine Sahakyan, NGO “Eco Peace”, Armenia*

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

SESSION 3 – International efforts on improving mine tailings safety in Central Asia and beyond

Session Chair: Ms. Martine Rohn-Bossard, Deputy Head of International Affairs Division, Swiss Federal Office for the environment, President of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine

16:00 – 16:15	UNECE Assistance and Cooperation Programme supporting Central Asia, incl. in strengthening the safety of mining operations <i>Ms. Claudia Kamke, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention</i>
	Q&A
16:20 – 16:35	OECD report on mining, the environment, and green growth in the EECCA region – addressing key needs <i>Mr. Guy Halpern, Policy Analyst, Green Growth and Global Relations Division, OECD</i>
	Q&A
16:40 – 16:55	Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Legacy Remediation in Central Asia (Phase II), implemented by UNDP and OSCE <i>Mr. Stanislav Kim, Programme Specialist, Recovery, Early Warning Systems and Response, Crisis Bureau, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub</i>
	Q&A
17:00 – 17:15	Exercising federal state supervision of hydraulic structures at tailing ponds of industrial enterprises <i>Mr. Vladimir Pimenov, Head of the Hydro-Electric Power Stations and Hydraulic Structures Supervision Division of the Department of State Energy Supervision, Rostekhnadzor</i>
	Q&A
17:20 – 17:45	Wrap-up of the session and the first workshop day <i>Session Chair, supported by the secretariat</i>
19:00	Informal dinner in the Grand Voyage Hotel

Agenda – Day 2 (November 21, 2019)

Subregional Workshop on mine tailings safety for Central Asia:

– *UNECE Projects to strengthen mine tailings safety in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond: results, needs and challenges in Central Asia* –

SESSION 4 – Results from the projects to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular TMFs, in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond in Central Asia

Session Chair: Mr. Majnun Jumazoda, Focal Point of the Industrial Accidents Convention; Service for State Supervision of Safe Work in Industry and Mining under the Government of Tajikistan

09:30 – 09:45 Objectives, key achievements and benefits of the tailings project implemented by Kazakhstan 2018-2019
Ms. Elvira Isinieva, Chief specialist, Department of State Supervision of Mining, Exploration, Drilling and Blasting Operations of the Department of the Committee for Industrial Development and Industrial Safety of the Ministry of East Kazakhstan Region

Q&A

09:50 – 10:10 TMF inventory, hazard ranking and mapping in Kazakhstan – findings, conclusions and next steps
Joint presentation by:

- *Mr. Yerkin Duisenbayev, Project Coordinator; Chief Specialist, Industrial Development and Industrial Safety Committee of the Ministry for Industry and Infrastructural Development of Kazakhstan*
- *Mr. Dmitry Rudakov, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention*
- *Ms. Oleksandra Lohunova, Consultant to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention*

Q&A

10:15 – 10:25 Interinstitutional working group on tailings safety and water management
Mr. Yerkin Duisenbayev, Project Coordinator; Chief Specialist, Industrial Development and Industrial Safety Committee of the Ministry for Industry and Infrastructural Development of Kazakhstan incl. Q&A

10:25 – 10:40 Update on progress made in the tailings project, being implemented by Tajikistan in 2019-2020, including needs and challenges in Tajikistan

Mr. Majnun Jumazoda, Focal Point of the Industrial Accidents Convention, Service for State Supervision of Safe Work in Industry and Mining under the Government of Tajikistan

Q&A

10:40 – 11:00 Discussion on next steps and remaining needs

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

SESSION 5 – Tailings needs and challenges in Central Asia: experiences from authorities and operators, and how to scale up joint efforts in view of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Session Chair: Mr. Aybol Akhparov, Chief Expert of the Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR)

11:30 – 11:45 Tailings safety and related needs and challenges in Kyrgyzstan

Joint presentation by:

- *Ms. Gulfiya Shabayeva, Focal Point under the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, Chief Specialist of the Industrial Safety Regulation Department, State Committee for Industry, Energy and Subsoil Use of Kyrgyzstan*
- *Mr. Almaz Asanov, Head of the Population and Territory Protection Department, Colonel, Ministry of Emergency Situations of Kyrgyzstan*

Q&A

11:50 – 12:05 Tailings safety and related needs and challenges in Turkmenistan

Mr. Kakamyrat Annaberdiyev, Head of Ahal Province Civil Defence and Rescue Operations Directorate, Ministry of Defence of Turkmenistan

Q&A

12:10 – 12:25 Tailings safety and related needs and challenges in Uzbekistan

Mr. Bekzod Tolipov, Head of branch of radiation and nuclear safety department, State Committee on Industrial Safety, Uzbekistan

Q&A

12:30 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 15:00 Needs and challenges in managing tailings by operators in Central Asia
Statements or presentations by TMF operators from Central Asia, including Q&A

Kazakhstan

1. *Mr. Trent Collins, Head of Dams and Tailings Storage Facilities, KAZ Minerals Management LLP (5-7 min)*
2. *Mr. Esenkul Asankulov, Regional Director of the Holding Altyn Arna for Central Asia and Kazakhstan (5-7 min)*

Kyrgyzstan

3. Mr. Azamat Umtulov, Chief Engineer of the Kyrgyz Chemical and Metallurgical Plant (5-7 min)
4. Mr. Melis Turdukeev, Senior Hydraulic Engineer, Kumtor Gold Company (5-7 min)

Tajikistan

5. Mr. Bobokhon Bobokhonov, Technical Advisor to the General Director of the LLC Zarafshon Joint Venture (5-7 min)
6. Mr. Manzur Zulolov, Head of the Production and Technical Department of the TA LLC Anzob Joint Venture (5-7 min)

Uzbekistan

7. Mr. Abdirashit Tukhtaev, Head of the Tailings Management Department, Mining Division of GMZ-1, Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combinat (5-7 min)
8. Ms. Svetlana Li, JSC "Almalyk MMC" (5-7 min)

15:00 – 15:30 Discussion with authorities and operators of Central Asia: challenges, needs and next steps
Moderated by the session chair

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:15 **Roundtable discussion on scaling up joint efforts to improve mine tailings safety in view of Agenda 2030**
Moderated by Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, UNECE Regional Adviser for the Environment

1. Mr. Guy Bonvin, Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia, Ambassador, Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) (presentation)
2. Ms. Snejana Popova, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan (statement)
3. Ms. Aidai Kurmanova, Head of the Subregional Office for Central Asia, United Nations Environment (presentation)
4. Mr. Vladimir Pimenov, Head of the Hydro-Electric Power Stations and Hydraulic Structures Supervision Division of the Department of State Energy Supervision, Rostekhnadzor, Russian Federation (statement)
5. Ms. Franziska Hirsch, Secretary, UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention (statement)

17:15 – 17:30 **Wrap up and conclusions**
Ms. Franziska Hirsch, Secretary, UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

18:00 Official farewell dinner
