



**UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMIES OF CENTRAL  
ASIA (SPECA)**

25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on Water, Energy and Environment

15 November 2022, 10:00 to 13:00

in the framework of the 2nd Almaty Energy Forum” Innovating and Modernizing Energy  
Infrastructure in Central Asia”

**Hybrid meeting:**

The Independence Hall, Kazakh-British Technical University, Tole bi St. 59, Almaty

**Programme**

<b>Time</b>	9:00 - Tashkent; 11:00 - Bangkok; 5:00 - Geneva; 8:00 - Baku; 10:00 – Astana; 10:00 - Bishkek; 9:00 – Ashgabat; 9:00 – Dushanbe
<b>15 min</b>	Opening and introduction to the session – Kazakhstan (Chair) - Akzan Shiranov, Director of the Department for Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources  Keynote speech - Water, energy, food and environmental security in Central Asia: benefits of intersectoral solutions – Dinara Ziganshina, Director, SIC ICWC (online)
<b>30 min</b>	<b>1. Promoting regional and intersectoral cooperation in the framework of the SPECA Working Group on Water, Energy, and Environment</b>  <i>Brief introduction on the WEE WG and its role to facilitate advancements in sustainable energy and water systems in the SPECA region.</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of the SPECA WEE WG Program for 2022-2023 and UNECE activities –Tamara Kutonova, Manager National Policy Dialogue Programme, Environment Division, UNECE</li> <li>- “Regional mechanisms for the low-carbon, climate-resilient transformation of the energy-water-land Nexus in Central Asia” – Matthew Griffiths, Senior Programme Manager, OECD and Tamara Kutonova, Manager National Policy Dialogue Programme, Environment Division, UNECE</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of ESCAP activities – Sergey Tulinov, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division, ESCAP</li> <li>- UNECE work on urban economic resilience building and promoting recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, natural and man-made disasters - Gulnara Roll, Regional Advisor, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE</li> </ul>
<p><b>40 min</b></p>	<p><b>2. Relevant initiatives on water, energy and environment in the region</b></p> <p><i>Interventions of 5 minutes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Team Europe Initiative "Water, energy and climate change in Central Asia" – Johannes Baur, Head of Cooperation EU Delegation Kazakhstan (online)</li> <li>- Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Water Pillar - Kazuhiro Yoshida, Senior Water Resources Specialist, ADB</li> <li>- Green Central Asia: Enhancing regional dialogue on climate, environment and security - Caroline Milow, Programme Manager, Green Central Asia, GIZ (online)</li> <li>- WEFE nexus related activities - Gulzada Azhetova, USAID/Central Asia Regional Water and Environment Specialist</li> <li>- EC-IFAS reform to promote regional integration of water and energy development - Murat Bekniyazov, Member of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving Aral Sea (EC IFAS) from the Republic of Kazakhstan</li> <li>- Outcome of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Nicosia, 5-7 October) – Zaal Lomtadze, Senior Environmental Officer, Environment Division, UNECE (online)</li> <li>- “Towards to low-carbon and socially oriented economy: Effects of alternative “green” projects in energy, agriculture and water sectors”, Janna Fattakhova, UNDP National Expert</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>50 min</b></p>	<p><b>3. SPECA countries perspectives on national and regional work on water, energy and environment</b></p> <p>Interventions from SPECA WEE WG members and other experts on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National developments on water, energy and environment</li> <li>2. Needs at national and regional level and potential support provided under the SPECA framework, in particular from the policy point of view: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Farida Alakbarova, Head of sub-division of the Water Resources Management Division, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan</li> <li>- Daniyar Sagadiev, Head of Tranboundary Rivers Section, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Geology of the Republic of Kazakhstan</li> <li>- Gulmira Satymkulova, Lead Expert of the Board for Water Resources Management, State Water Service of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>- Shukhrat Khaydarov, Head of the Information, Analytical and Resource Center Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan</li> <li>- Tajikistan</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><i>(5 minutes per intervention)</i></p>

	Q&A
<b>30 min</b>	<p><b>4. Optimizing resources for sustainability through regional cooperation, trade and innovation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trade, water management and food security in the SPECA region (study for the SPECA WG on Trade) – Bo Libert, UNECE Consultant (online)</li> <li>- Enhancing dam safety at the regional and national level - Talaibek Makeev, Economic Affairs Officer, Environment Division, UNECE</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
<b>15 min</b>	<p><b>5. Conclusions and inputs to the SPECA Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Messages and draft decisions on water, energy and environment to be submitted to the SPECA Forum – Chair</li> </ul>