

**INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION  
“WATER FOR LIFE”, 2005-2015**



***HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
DECADE FOR ACTION “WATER FOR LIFE”, 2005-2015***

***FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT***

***9-11 JUNE 2015, DUSHANBE***

## ORGANIZERS



The Conference is organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with the “UN-Water” and other UN institutions, international and regional organizations and partners.



To convene the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015 the Government has established an Organizing Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime-minister of the country H.E. Mr. Kohir Rasulzoda.

An International Steering Committee consisting of the representatives of the partner countries, international and regional institutions, river basin organizations, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders will be established to develop a comprehensive Programme of the Conference with the participation of all categories of water users and decision-makers.

## SECRETARIAT

The Conference Secretariat address and contacts are the following:

**Address:** 33 Sheroz str., Dushanbe 734001, Republic of Tajikistan

**Tel:** (+992 37) 227-68-43

**Fax:** (+992 37) 227-68-44

**E-mail:** [secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org),  
[info@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:info@waterforlifeconf2015.org)



## BACKGROUND



On 23 December 2003 at its 58th session the UNGA adopted the resolution A/RES/58/217 initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan. According to the resolution the period 2005 – 2015 was declared as the “International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”.

Since the International Decade for Action “Water for Life” ends in 2015, a comprehensive assessment of the activities carried out during this period, identification of the difficulties and problems in the implementation of the Decade goals, as well as planning of the further activities for

the post 2015 period are of crucial importance.

To that end on 19 December 2014 the UNGA has adopted a resolution (A/RES/69/215) entitled “International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources” calling upon member countries, UN system institutions, including the “UN-Water” and other organizations to comprehensively evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the Decade and continue taking steps for achieving internationally agreed water-related goals, including those indicated in the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference, entitled “The future we want”.

The Resolution also includes convening the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015.



## GOALS AND TASKS OF THE CONFERENCE



The primary goal of the Conference is a comprehensive discussion of the issues of implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015, which will later play a crucial role in conducting comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade with bringing its results to the notice of the wider international community.

The conference also provides an opportunity to discuss the challenges and gaps in the implementation of the International Decade, and on this basis recommendations for further actions after 2015, including contribution to the development of the Sustainable Development Goals related to water resources will be elaborated.



## Date and VENUE

The Conference will be held on 9-11 June 2015 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

## LANGUAGE

The working languages of the Conference are English and Russian (simultaneous translation will be provided). The translation into other UN official languages will be provided to the possible extent.



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

- a) Conference's opening and closing ceremonies;
- b) High level plenary sessions;
- c) Round tables on the following themes:
  - Mainstreaming water and sanitation in national development strategies
  - Water - Energy – Food – Climate Nexus;
  - Addressing water scarcity and quality, waste water treatment and recycling;
  - Promoting sustainable water consumption and use;
  - Water beyond 2015: SDGs on water;
  - Global challenges and water perspective;
  - Water cooperation at international, regional, national and local levels for the achievement of the goals on water and sanitation;
- d) Side events on the different aspects of the water issues organized by the stakeholders;
- e) Thematic exhibitions and presentations;
- f) Other events upon the request of the stakeholders.

The themes and structure of the conference program will be discussed and specified by the International Steering Committee.





## PARTICIPANTS



The representatives of the UN member countries' governments, UN institutions, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, business communities, non-governmental organizations, civil society, as well as scientists and experts are invited to participate in the conference.

Invitations to the UN member countries, international and regional organizations and other partners will be sent on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the National Organizing Committee.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

It is expected that the conference participants will elaborate recommendations and proposals aimed at further strengthening of measures taken at the national, regional and international levels to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals, including the sustainable development goals based on the comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015.

The Conference will promote the awareness of the international community on the water sector trends and mobilizing efforts of the governments, UN institutions, international and non-governmental organizations, as well as other parties at all levels involved in the water problems solution.

The outcomes of the Conference will be submitted at the 70th session of the UNGA in 2015.





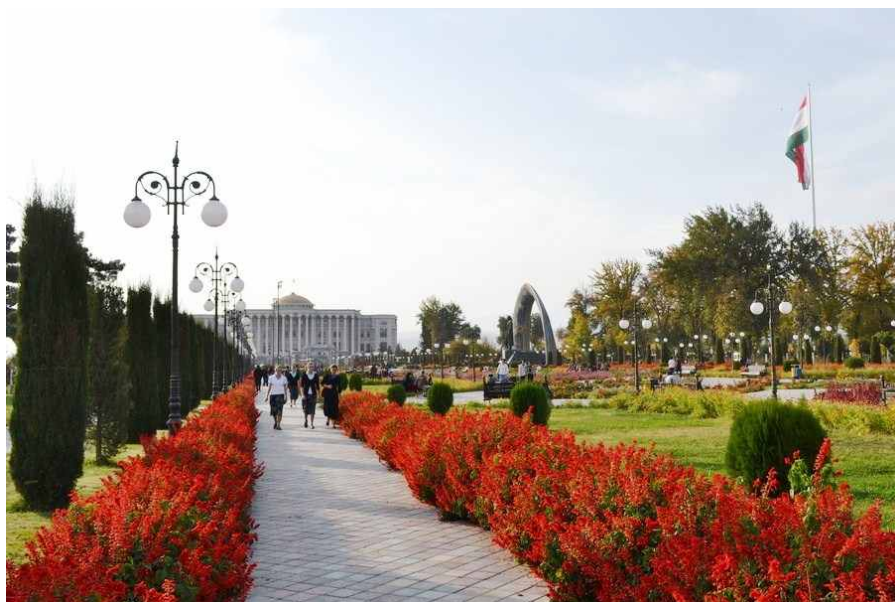
## REGISTRATION

Registration is free of charge. Online registration is available on the website of the conference: [www.waterforlifeconf2015.org](http://www.waterforlifeconf2015.org)

Alternatively, you can fill out the Registration Form available on the website of the conference in the Word format and send it to the Secretariat by e-mail: [secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org)

or by Fax (+992 37) 227-68-44

The registration deadline is 10 May 2015





## ORGANIZATION OF SIDE-EVENTS

The High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015 is open for the organization of side-events during the conference.

Side-events may be organized by all interested parties including international, national government and non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, finance institutions, academia, as well as civil society organizations and private sector.

Interested parties that wish to organize a side-event during the conference should contact the Conference Secretariat.

**Subject:** Subject of the side-events to be organized by interested parties should comply with the priority themes of the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015.







## BRIEFLY ABOUT TAJIKISTAN



Tajikistan is a mountainous country located in the south-east of Central Asia. Its territory is 142.6 thousand km<sup>2</sup>. The country borders with Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan in the west and north, Afghanistan in the south and China in the east.



As of January 1, 2014, the population of Tajikistan is estimated at 8.16 million people.



By its relief, Tajikistan is a typical mountainous country with the absolute altitudes from 300 to 7,495 m. 93% of its territory is occupied by the mountains representing the highest mountain ranges in Central Asia, such as the Tian-Shan and Pamir Ranges.



The climate of Tajikistan is continental with considerable daily and seasonal fluctuations in air temperature, low rainfall, dry air and low clouds.

Tajikistan ranks the first in Central Asia in terms of water resources. In a country is formed up to 64 km<sup>3</sup> of water per year, or 55.4% of the water resources of the basin of the Aral Sea.



## WATER RESOURCES OF TAJIKISTAN



For reserves of water resources, Tajikistan ranks one of the leading positions not only in Central Asia region, but also throughout the world.



Vast reserves of snowfields and glaciers are accumulated in the country. Number of glaciers in the country reaches to 14509 with a total area of glaciations 11146 km<sup>2</sup>. The total stock of the ice in glaciers is about 845 km<sup>3</sup>, which is 13 times more than the annual flow of all rivers of the country.



947 rivers flow through territory of the country whose total length exceeds 28500 km.

Over 80% of the Amudarya River flow and 1% of the Sirdarya River flow are formed in Tajikistan. In general, it is 64 km<sup>3</sup> of the river flow per year, which amounts to 55.4% of the total drainage of the Aral Sea basin.

The country has about 1300 lakes with total area of 705 km<sup>2</sup>. Lakes of Tajikistan contain more than 46.3 km<sup>3</sup> of water, including 20 km<sup>3</sup> of fresh water.

As of today, 9 reservoirs are exploited in Tajikistan with total area of 664 km<sup>2</sup> of water surface. Total volume of the reservoirs is 15.344 km<sup>3</sup>, which is 13% of the average annual flow of rivers of the Aral Sea basin. Useful capacity of reservoirs of the country totals 7.63 km<sup>3</sup>.

Potential groundwater reserve of Tajikistan is 6,9 km<sup>3</sup>/year. Actual exploitation groundwater reserves are estimated at 2,5 km<sup>3</sup>/year.

# GLOBAL WATER INITIATIVES OF TAJIKISTAN

The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the following important resolutions initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan:



Water Year 2003



WATER FOR LIFE  
2005 - 2015



International Year of  
Water Cooperation

- The proclamation of 2003 the International Year of Fresh water (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 20, 2000, 55/196, 55th session);

- The declaration of 2005-2015 the International Decade for Action “Water for Life” (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 23, 2003, 58/217, 58th session);

- Declaration of 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 20, 2010, 65/154, 65th session).

As an initiator of the water resolutions of UN General Assembly the Republic of Tajikistan actively promotes the water related issues in the global agenda. In this context the Government of Tajikistan in cooperation with the UN and other international organizations organized the following important international water events:

- International Forum on Fresh Water on 29 August - 1 September 2003, Dushanbe;
- International Conference on Regional Cooperation in Trans-Boundary River Basins on 30 May – 1 June 2005, Dushanbe;
- International Conference on Water Related Disasters Reduction on 27 - 29 June 2008, Dushanbe;
- High-Level International Conference on midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015 on 8 - 10 June 2010, Dushanbe;
- High Level International Conference on Water Cooperation on 20 - 21 August 2013, Dushanbe.

## CONTACTS

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