



**HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION
“WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”,
2018-2028**

***PROMOTING ACTION AND POLICY DIALOGUE ON
WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

**20-22 June 2018
Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

***SECOND
ANNOUNCEMENT***

ORGANIZERS



The Conference is organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with the United Nations and its entities, particularly UNDESA, and other partners. The Government of Tajikistan has established a National Organizing Committee under the leadership of the Prime-Minister.



To facilitate preparation to the Conference, as well as to develop a comprehensive program and outcome documents of the Conference with participation of all categories of water users and decision-makers, an International Steering Committee (ISC) was established, comprising representatives of UN agencies, partner countries, international and regional organizations, financial institutions, river basin organizations, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders.

WELCOME MESSAGE



Dear friends,

With great pleasure, I would like to invite you to participate in the High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development», 2018-2028, to be held in Dushanbe on 20-22 June 2018.

The new decade «Water for Sustainable Development», 2018-2028, reaffirms that in the current global agenda the water issue is still the most urgent. Consequently, in order to achieve significant progress in the implementation of internationally agreed water goals, there is a need for greater integration of the efforts of all stakeholders.

In this regard, I am convinced that forthcoming conference, organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan jointly with the United Nations, to promote the implementation of the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development», 2018-2028, endorsed by UN General Assembly Resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016 will make a significant contribution to the decision-making process regarding Sustainable Development Goals for water.

As underscored in this resolution, the goals of the International Decade for Action are increased attention to sustainable development and integrated water resources management for achieving socio-economic and environmental objectives, to the implementation and promotion of relevant programs and projects, and to enhancing cooperation and partnerships at all levels to support the implementation of internationally agreed goals and targets related to water resources.

In this regard, I hope that representatives of governments, international and regional organizations, scientific and educational institutions, NGOs, river basin organizations, including lakes, women, children and youth organizations will actively participate in the discussion and development of concrete recommendations for the implementation of the goals and objectives of sustainable development in the field of water resources.

I am confident that your active participation in the plenary sessions, thematic and interactive action panels, side events, women's and children's forums will contribute to the success of this conference and will make a valuable contribution to the promotion of joint efforts to achieve sustainable development and use of water resources for the benefit of future generations.

Sincerely,

Kohir Rasulzoda

Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan

Chairman of the National Organizing Committee

WELCOME MESSAGE



Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028.

Water and sanitation are critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger. Access to safe water and sanitation and sound management of freshwater ecosystems are essential to human health and to environmental sustainability and economic prosperity.

However, our communities are confronted with mounting water-related challenges, including limited access to safe water and sanitation, increasing pressure on water resources and ecosystems, as well as increased frequency and severity of droughts and floods. Failing to respond effectively to these challenges will have devastating effects on the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, especially the poor and vulnerable groups.

The Water Action Decade provides a unique framework to support efforts to overcome these challenges by energizing the implementation and promotion of programmes and projects on integrated and sustainable management of water and sanitation. It further provides an exceptional opportunity to strengthen cooperation and partnership at all levels to help achieve sustainable development goal 6 (SDG 6) and other water-related goals and targets.

The Conference represents the first opportunity for all stakeholders to engage in this historic endeavor since the launch of the Water Action Decade on World Water Day, 22 March 2018. The Conference will also provide a timely and effective opportunity for the international community to contribute to the review of SDG 6 and related goals and targets at the 2018 session of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, where, among other issues, SDG 6 for water and sanitation will be discussed in depth in July 2018.

The United Nations is honored to support Tajikistan in the organization of the conference, and stands ready to support countries and stakeholders in the implementation of water-related SDGs and targets, within the framework of the Water Action Decade.

I look forward to welcoming you in Dushanbe and wish all a fruitful conference.

Liu Zhenmin
Under-Secretary-General of the
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs



BACKGROUND

Today, lack of access to a safe drinking water source, basic sanitation and sound hygiene alongside with water scarcity and water pollution constitute one of the major challenges for the international community, in particular for the developing countries. Increasing water-related disasters, climate change, urbanization, population growth, desertification, and drought with the lack of capacity to ensure integrated water resource management further exacerbate this situation.

To address these interlinked challenges, on 21 December 2016 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution 71/222 to declare 2018-2028 as an International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”. The objectives of the Decade, specified in paragraph 4, include greater focus on: (1) sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives; (2) the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects; and (3) the furtherance of cooperation and partnerships at all levels in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It will also highlight the importance of promoting the efficiency of water usage at all levels, taking into account the water, food, energy, environment nexus, including the implementation of national development programmes.

To mobilize efforts of the governments, UN institutions, international and non-governmental organizations, as well as other stakeholders at all levels for effective implementation of the water-related SDGs as well as goals and objectives of the International Water Decade it is planned to hold a High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028” in Dushanbe. This Conference is the first of a series of conferences that the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan plans to host on a biannual basis to support the implementation process of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade.



OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the Conference are to discuss the ways in which the Member States, the United Nations and its entities, other international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, the private sector, as well as civil society and other stakeholders, can contribute to the Decade in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Conference is intended to continue and enrich discussions of the High Level Launch Event of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, held on 22 March 2018 in New York.

The Conference also provides a timely and necessary platform for elaborating recommendations in the run up of the next session of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development where, among other issues, the SDG 6 will be discussed. It aims at building on the outcomes of the High Level Panel on Water, the 8th World Water Forum and other major water events, as well as at contributing to their implementation. It also gives an opportunity to discuss the role of Dushanbe Conferences in the implementation of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade.

It will also allow for discussion on the importance of specific means of implementation, including monitoring, financing, capacity development, innovation, technology, knowledge, information, data, best-practices, as well as promoting advocacy, networking and encouraging partnerships for action.



EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Conference will deepen the understanding of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, promote integrated water resources management and galvanize action in support of the implementation of the water-related SDGs. Specifically, the Conference aims to:

- Mobilize efforts of governments, the United Nations, international organizations, civil society organizations, as well as other parties at all levels for the implementation of the Action Plan of the Decade to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Increase attention to the water-related SDGs and targets at all levels, as well as to the interlinkages between different goals and targets;
- Strengthen cooperation and partnership at all levels to achieve water-related SDGs;
- Better understand how water contributes to achieve sustainability and how the lack of sustainability impacts water resources;
- Provide recommendations on the way forward with the implementation of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade and particularly the water-related Sustainable Development Goals;
- Discuss the role of the Dushanbe Conferences for the implementation of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade;
- Contribute to the establishment of a framework to regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade, including a mapping of existing partnerships.



PLANNED OUTPUTS

The Dushanbe Conference is expected to produce two outcome documents, which will be produced by the Conference Secretariat with the support of the International Steering Committee and in consultation with official delegations:

1. A declaration of the participants containing the main recommendations that emerged from the Conference for the implementation of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade and other relevant issues;
2. A call for action listing the initiatives and partnerships that the participants proposed during the Conference for the implementation of the Decade and other relevant issues.

Moreover, the proceedings of the Dushanbe Conference will be collected in a final publication, containing the outcome documents, speeches from the opening ceremony and reports from all sessions. The proceedings will be produced by the Conference Secretariat.

POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of the governments of United Nations member states, the United Nations, international organizations, regional organizations, international financial institutions, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, civil society, as well as scientists and experts, are invited to participate in the Conference. Representatives of relevant international conventions, such as UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, etc., and frameworks, such as the Sendai Framework, are also encouraged to participate. Invitations to United Nations member countries, international organizations, regional organizations and other partners will be sent on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and of the National Organizing Committee established and chaired by the Prime Minister of Tajikistan.



DATE AND VENUE

The Conference will be held from 20 to 21 June 2018 at Kokhi Somon, Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Pre-conference events and Side-events will be held on 19 June 2018 at the National Library of Tajikistan and State complex "Kokhi Navruz", Dushanbe, Tajikistan. It will perhaps be possible to organize side events on 19 June at the National Library of Tajikistan and during the lunch break of the Conference.

Participants will be invited to a tour/field trip on 22 June 2018 to witness integrated and sustainable water resources management in action.

REGISTRATION

Registration is free of charge. Online registration is available on the website of the conference: www.wsdconf2018.org

The registration deadline is 31 May 2018.

LANGUAGE

The working languages of the Conference are Tajik, English and Russian (simultaneous translation will be provided).

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION “WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 2018-2028”

Chairman of the Organizing Committee	
1	Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan
Deputy Chairman of the Organizing Committee	
2	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
Organizing Committee Secretary	
3	Chief of Agriculture and Environment Protection Department, Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
Members of the Organizing Committee	
4	Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
5	Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan
6	Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan
7	Minister of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan
8	Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan
9	Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan
10	Minister of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan
11	Minister of Industry and New Technologies of the Republic of Tajikistan
12	Minister of Transport of the Republic of Tajikistan
13	Minister of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan
14	Chairman of the National Bank of Tajikistan
15	Chairman of the State Committee on Investment and Management of State Property of the Republic of Tajikistan
16	Chairman of Committee on Radio and Television under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
17	Chairman of Committee on Environment Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
18	Chairman of Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
19	Chairman of Committee on Youth Affairs and Sport under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
20	Head of Communication Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
21	Director of Tajik National Informational Agency “Khovar”
22	Director of Melioration and Irrigation Agency under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
23	Director of SUE “Housing and Utility”
24	Chairman of OJSHC “Barqi Tojik”
25	President of Academy of Science of the Republic of Tajikistan
26	First Deputy Head of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
27	Head of International Relations Department of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
28	Head of Department on Management of Authorities Affairs of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
29	Head of Department on Infrastructure Development of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
30	Head of Legal Department of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
31	Head of Office Work and Control of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
32	Head of Office Work and Control of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
33	First Deputy Chairman of Dushanbe City
34	Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the UN

THE INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION “WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”, 2018-2028

Co-chairs of the International Steering Committee	
1	Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
2	Ms. Jennifer Sara, Water Global Practices, the World Bank
Members of the International Steering Committee	
3	Mr. Khairullo Ibodzoda, Chair, Committee on Environment Protection under the Government of Tajikistan
4	Mr. Mauro Vieira, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations
5	Mr. Mohamed Edrees, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations
6	Mr. E. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations
7	Mr. Sergey Kononuchenko, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
8	Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations
9	Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations
10	Mr. Tekeda Alemu, Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations
11	Mr. Marc-André Blanchard, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations
12	Mr. Mahmamin Mahmaminov, Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations
13	Mr. Kenzo Hiroki, Councilor, Cabinet Secretariat of Japan; and Director, Water Planning Division, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
14	Mr. Fernando Gonzalez Canez, General Coordinator of Special Projects for Supply and Sanitation, National Water Commission of Mexico
15	Mr. Henk WJ Ovink, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs, Kingdom of The Netherlands Sherpa to the UN/WB High Level Panel on Water
16	Mr. Michel Mordasini, Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia, Swiss Development Cooperation Agency, Switzerland
17	Ms. Nchedi Sophia Maphokga-Moripe, Chief Director, Global Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships, South African Department of Water and Sanitation
18	Ms. Mercedes Castro, Director General, Agualimpia Peru
19	Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren, Chair of Global Water Partnership
20	Dr. Jerome Delli Priscoli, Member of the Board of Governors of World Water Council (WWC)
21	Mr. Olcay Unver, Deputy Director, Land and Water Division, FAO
22	Dr. Blanca Jimenez-Cisneros, Director of the Division of Water Sciences Secretary of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), UNESCO
23	Dr. Themba Gumbo, Director of the UNDP Cap-Net program
24	Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera, Chief, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Associated Director, Programmes, UNICEF
25	Mr. Adeel Zafar, Executive Director, Pacific Water Research Centre, Canada
26	Ms. Maggie White, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)
27	Dr. Claudia Sadoff, Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
28	Ms. Diana Iskrevia, Thresure Women for Water Partnership Earth Forever, Executive Director, Bulgaria
29	Ms. Josefina Maestu, General Manager-Director, Environmental Management Company of Navarra, Spain
30	Dr. Alice Bouman-Dentener, Honorary a founding President of Women for Water Partnership, Director DiploriA Sustainable Development Solutions

**HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION
“WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”, 2018-2028
20-22 June 2018, Dushanbe, Tajikistan**

DRAFT PROGRAM

		19 June 2018	20 June 2018			21 June 2018			22 June 2018		
Morning	08:30-09:00	Pre-Conference Events*	Registration						Field Visits (to be organized by the Government of Tajikistan)		
	09:00-09:30		Opening Ceremony			Action Panel on Water, Food, Energy and Environment Nexus	Action Panel on Climate Change and DRR	Action Panel on Water Sustainability in Cities and Human Settlements			
	09:30-10:00										
	10:00-10:30		Coffee & Networking Break			Coffee & Networking Break					
	10:30-11:00		Plenary Session “Mobilizing Actions for Sustainable Water Development”			Plenary Session (continuation) “Mobilizing Actions for Sustainable Water Development”					
	11:00-11:30										
	11:30-12:00										
	12:00-12:30										
12:30-13:00	Lunch			Lunch							
Afternoon	13:00-14:30	Lunch	Lunch			Lunch					
	14:30-15:00	Pre-Conference Events*	Action Panel on Drinking Water and Sanitation (SDG6.1+6.2)	Action Panel on IWRM, Water Efficiency and Productivity (SDG6.5+6.4)	Action Panel on Water Quality and Ecosystems (SDG6.3+6.6)	Action Panel on Financing, Investment and Resilient Infrastructure	Action Panel on Transboundary Cooperation and Water Diplomacy	Action Panel on Water for Vulnerable People, including Refugees and Migrants			
	15:00-15:30		Coffee & Networking Break			Coffee & Networking Break					
	15:30-16:00		Coffee & Networking Break			Coffee & Networking Break					
	16:00-16:30		Action Panel on Capacity Building including Improving Knowledge and Education			Action Panel on Water-related Communication, Advocacy and Networking			Closing Plenary Session		
	16:30-17:00		Action Panel on Water-related Partnerships for Action								
	17:00-17:30		Break			Press Conference					
	17:30-18:00		Break			Press Conference					
	18:00-18:30		Break			Press Conference					
	18:30-19:00		Break			Press Conference					
19:00-21:00	Reception by the Government of Tajikistan			Reception by the Government of Tajikistan							
Whole day		International Exhibition “Water for Sustainable Development”			International Exhibition “Water for Sustainable Development”						

* **Pre-Conference Events** include different events in parallel like Children/Youth Water Forum, Women Water Forum, Science/Scholars Water Forum, Water and Climate Forum, Side Events, etc.

ACTION PANELS

Twelve Action Panels are expected to be held and organized during the High Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, to be held on 20-22 June 2018 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The Action Panels will focus on SDG6, other water related goals, the goals of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade and the areas on means of implementation and cover the following issues:

OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE

The objective of the Action Panels is to focus discussions and propose solutions on specific issues that play an important role for the achievement of the goals of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade, SDG6, other water related goals and their means of implementation. Particular attention should be paid to interlinkages among SDG6 and other SDGs. The Action Panels will host focused and balanced discussions on actions and partnerships to fast-track implementation of water-related SDGs and targets. They also aim at building on the outcomes of previous events, including the recommendations of the High Level Panel on Water and the 8th World Water Forum.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

All Action Panels are invited to take into consideration the objectives of the Water for Sustainable Development Decade, such as enhanced coordination and inclusiveness, access to and adequacy of knowledge, water use efficiency across the SDGs, establishment and promotion of partnerships and full participation of all stakeholders. They are also invited to consider a number of cross-cutting issues, including:

- Human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;
- Valuing water;
- Water-related data, technology and innovation;
- Water governance, cooperation and public participation;
- Water and gender.

KEY MESSAGES AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

Up to five key messages and at least one or two follow-up actions are expected to emerge from each Action Panel. A summary of the outcomes of the Action Panel will be presented at the Closing Ceremony of the Conference. A document with the full outcomes will be prepared by the organizers of the Action Panels to be subsequently compiled in the final report of the Conference, made available on its website and circulated widely.

PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

BACKGROUND

The High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, to be held on 20-22 June 2018 in Dushanbe seeks to involve a wider range of stakeholders, communities and major groups in the process of discussing the ways of achieving SDG 6 and other water-related goals, awareness-raising on the Water Decade, gathering ideas and best practices, pursuing advocacy, networking and promoting partnerships and action on implementation of solutions to water-related issues.

For this purpose, four Pre-conference events (PCEs) will be organized within the Conference:

1. Children's Water Forum;
2. Women Water Forum: Bridging Voices to Actions;
3. Forum “SMART WATERS – Education, New Technology and Innovations for better future”;
4. Water and Climate Dialogue.

THEMES, OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

The objective of the PCEs is to create an additional platform for broader discussion of water-related issues under specific themes with a focus on response to the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028.

Each PCE should preferably consist of three main parts focusing on: (i) deepening understanding of the Water Decade and galvanizing action in support of the implementation of the water-related SDGs; (ii) and deliberation on the ways of achieving the water-related SDGs and the goals of new Water Decade; (iii) creating partnerships and actions to address water-related issues.

The results of the PCEs will be presented during the Plenary Sessions of the Conference and consolidated in the final report of the Conference, made available on its website and circulated widely.

Some 50 to 100 participants are expected to attend each PCE.

TIMEFRAME

The PCEs are to take place on 19 June 2018 for either the entire day starting from 09:00 until 17:00 or on half day starting at 09:00 until 12:00 or at 14:00 until 17:00.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION «WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT»

MAIN PROVISIONS

The international exhibition "Water for Sustainable Development " will be organized in the days of the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development".

Dates: 20-21 June 2018

Venue: State complex "Kokhi Somon"

Exhibition theme: "Water for sustainable development"

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the exhibition is to promote awareness of the effective implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028", by demonstrating the measures planned for the decade, best practices and scientific achievements in the field of water resources. The exhibition is also aimed at further strengthening and developing cooperation between interested parties, introducing innovative methods, techniques and technologies for sustainable water resources management. In addition, the exhibition is aimed at establishing close business ties between various stakeholders.

THEME OF THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition will be held under the general theme "Water for sustainable development". It will focus on the implementation of the Plan of Action of the International Decade for Action, 2018-2028, sustainable development and integrated water resources management for achieving social, economic and environmental objectives, cooperation in the water sector at the local, regional and international levels, rational use of water resources, reduction of water-related disaster risks, the impact of climate change on water resources, etc.

PROSPECTIVE OF PROVISION OF EXHIBITION STANDS

Participants in the exhibition can be international and regional organizations, national ministries and departments, public organizations, private companies, academic and research institutions.

TERMS OF PROVISION OF EXHIBITION STANDS

Each applicant is provided with one booth for free. In case of necessity, additional space or exhibition stands can be provided on a fee basis. The cost and procedure of provision of additional space will be negotiated. More information about the exhibition is available on the conference website www.wsdconf2018.org

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VISA SUPPORT

To travel to Tajikistan, all participants need to obtain an entry visa, except for the citizens of those countries, which are allowed to enter Tajikistan without a visa on the basis of bilateral or multilateral agreements(1).

If an entry visa is needed, the Conference Secretariat will issue a Visa Support Letter upon request. Participants will then need to fill the application form on the website www.visa.gov.tj. The citizens of certain countries are allowed to obtain their visa upon arrival at the Dushanbe International Airport(2). The citizens of all other countries need to obtain their visa before departure at an Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Tajikistan abroad. The visa for participants in the Conference is free of charge.

It is also possible for participants from most countries to obtain an e-visa before departure. Participants will then need to fill the application form on the website www.evisa.tj. The cost of e-visa is of 50 USD.

AIRLINES

Regular international flights operate to the Dushanbe International Airport from the following large cities: Almaty, Bishkek, Dubai, Frankfurt, Istanbul, Kabul, Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Tehran, Urumqi, Tashkent etc. Detailed information about flights is available on the website of the Dushanbe International Airport: <http://airport.tj/into/en/>.

ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT

Upon arrival at Dushanbe International Airport, pick up of participants (a shuttle car) from the airport to the hotels will be arranged by the Conference Secretariat.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are responsible for the booking of hotel rooms (official delegations will be accommodated at the Government Guest House). Expenses related to hotel accommodation should be covered by participants, unless otherwise specified. Information on the hotels in Dushanbe is available online.

Information on accommodation of the official delegations will be forwarded to them additionally upon receiving confirmation on participation and composition of the delegation.

(1) These countries are listed on the following webpage: <https://www.consular.tj/visa-system-with-foreign-countries.aspx>.

(2) The lists of countries whose citizens can obtain visa upon arrival (simplified procedure) can be found here: <https://www.consular.tj/visa-system-with-foreign-countries.aspx>.

SECURITY ISSUES

All participants, exhibitors and media representatives must register and get badges in order to have access to the Conference venue. Registration and issuance of badges will take place on 18-19 June 2018 from 08:00 till 20:00 hours at the National Library of Tajikistan located at 5 Tehron str.

For participants arriving in the early morning of 20 June, registration will be organized at “Kokhi Somon” Government Residence located at 122 Rudaki Avenue.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Public transport in Dushanbe includes buses, trolley-buses, mini-buses and taxi. Taxi is widely available in the city and relatively low cost.

Transportation of the participants from the hotels “Tajikistan”, “Hyatt Regency Dushanbe”, Serena” and “Sheraton” to the Conference venue and back will be arranged within the fixed timetable.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Official currency in Tajikistan is Somoni (TJS). Information about rates is available on the website of the National Bank of Tajikistan (www.nbt.tj). Exchange rate at 01.04.2018:
1 US\$ – 8,81 TJS; 1 Euro – 10,87 TJS.

Currency exchange offices are available in banks, hotels and at the airport. ATMs are available in most banks, hotels and shopping centers.

WEATHER

The climate in Dushanbe is continental subtropical, with dry and hot summers. In June, the air can heat up to 35-39 °C in daytime.

LOCAL TIME

Dushanbe is located on the time zone GMT+5.

TELEPHONE CALLING

To make an international telephone call from Dushanbe, it is necessary to dial international access code, then code of the called country, code of the city and phone number of a called person.

To make an international call to Dushanbe, it is necessary to dial international access code, then code of Tajikistan (992), code of Dushanbe (37) or code of the mobile operator (e.g. 918. 90. 91, 93, etc.) and phone number of a called person. For example: (+992 37) 236 – 06 – 79.

ELECTRICITY

Electrical circuit voltage in Tajikistan 220 V with frequency 50 Hz. Plugs of your electrical equipment, charger may not match the power outlet, therefore, an adaptor will be needed.



ABOUT TAJIKISTAN

Tajikistan is a country in Central Asia which borders on the west and north with Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, on the south with Afghanistan, and on the east with China. Total area of the territory of the Republic is 142,600 km².

Tajikistan is a typical mountainous country with absolute heights from 300 to 7,495 m. 93% of its territory is occupied by mountains. The majority of the population and economic activities of Tajikistan are concentrated on 7% of its territory, in the valleys.

By 1 January 2017, the population of Tajikistan estimated 8.742 million people, 26.4% of which live in cities and 73.6% in rural areas. The average annual population growth is about 2.5% per year.

Tajikistan ranks the first in Central Asia in terms of water resources. More than 80% of the runoff of the Amudarya and 1% of the Syr Darya River is formed in Tajikistan. In general, it provides 64 km³ per year or 55.4% of the water resources of the Aral Sea basin. The total volume of glaciers of the country is more than 845 km³, underground waters reach 18.7 km³ per year, and lake waters reach 46.3 km³.

With very little oil and gas reserves, difficulties for industrial development of coal fields, Tajikistan possesses vast inexhaustible reserves of hydropower resources. By estimations of experts, these reserves are approximately 527 billion kWh of electricity per year. The potential exceeds three times the existing electricity consumption of the whole of Central Asia. With the efficient use of this potential, the region can be provided with cheap and environmentally clean electricity.



ABOUT DUSHANBE

Dushanbe is the capital of Tajikistan, city of Republican significance, the largest scientific-cultural, political, economic, industrial and administrative center of the country.

In 2001, Dushanbe was proclaimed the «City of Peace» and, in 2009, the capital of the Center of Islamic culture, by the United Nations.

The population of the city by the 1st of January 2016 was 808.2 thousand people.

Dushanbe is a beautiful and very green city, almost manmade in a foothill zone. While you are stepping into the city, you will be immediately imbued with the atmosphere of warmth, hospitality, friendliness, and truly oriental flavor.

Dushanbe is an ancient and young city. According to the archeologists it has a millennial history. However, the first writings mention of the village of Dushanbe was found at the end of the 1676. The village Dushanbe arose at the crossroads. On Mondays big Bazaar's would be organized, which is where the village inherited its name «Dushanbe», meaning «Monday». On 14th of July 1922, the city was declared the capital of the Tajik Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, which in 1929 was transformed into the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic.

In 1924-1929 the city was officially called Dushanbe -in Russian. On 16th of October 1929, it was renamed Stalinabad in honor of I.S. Stalin. In 1961 the historical name of Dushanbe was returned.

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