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Industry Update

Kyrgyz Government approves National Environmental Report for 2006-2011

State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency under the Kyrgyz Government jointly with National Statistics Committee and other concerned ministries and agencies with support of the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative, have developed the draft Kyrgyz National Environmental Report based on the environmental indices as well as international standards and requirements.

The national report is developed to provide access to objective and accurate analytical information about the environment for the government authorities and the general public. The Kyrgyz national environmental report for 2006-2011 is approved by Kyrgyz Government Resolution of 7 August 2012 №553.

By order of the Kyrgyz Government, State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency under the Kyrgyz Government must submit the Kyrgyz national environmental report to the Kyrgyz Government by July 1 of the year following the reporting year every three years.

Kyrgyzstan participates in Rio+20 Summit

On 21 June 2012, Vice Prime Minister Joomart Otorbaev, as the head of the Kyrgyz delegation to the Rio+20 Summit, made presentations on Central Asia Green Economy Initiatives. The presentation addressed the following major challenges facing Kyrgyzstan with respect to green economy:

Legal Update

Kyrgyz Law of 10 August 2012 N 165 «On protecting soil fertility of agricultural land»

The adoption of this law was necessitated by the requirement to regulate soil fertility and quality maintenance and protection from degradation and other negative impacts associated with possession, use and disposal of agricultural land.

The law introduces new terms such as: (a) soil quality standards, which mean indicators characterizing soil structure and qualities helping it preserve its fertility; (b) acceptable impact on soil, (c) limits of acceptable anthropogenic impact on soil and other.

The law defines the Government's competence in the area of soil protection and provides for the establishment of the public authority responsible for soil protection. It also defines the competence of the local self-government authorities and land owners. Thus, the Government is competent to:

- 1) pursue a uniform national soil policy;
- 2) define the public authority for soil protection;
- 3) execute international treaties and agreements for pursuing the national soil policy;
- 4) implement development strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic and soil protection programs;
- 5) approve the procedure for monitoring soil fertility while keeping the land cadaster;
- 6) approve the procedure for withdrawal (redemption) of the land plot upon degradation

- Mountain ecosystems;
- Reduction of areas of natural ecosystems;
- Agriculture;
- Water resources and hydroelectric power.

As Otorbaev noted, mountain ecosystems occupy more than half of our country's territory and are essential for the economic development and water supply in the region. The recent researches demonstrate that given the current climate change trends, we might lose about 20% of glaciers' areas. He also noted that Kyrgyzstan's ecosystems (mountain forests, pastures) are exposed to anthropogenic impact. According to various indicators, more than 30% of pastures are exposed to degradation.

Also, it was pointed out that Kyrgyzstan has enormous potential for developing ecologically clean products, which necessitates new technologies, particularly, in respect of processing and storing agricultural products. It should be noted that at the UN's biggest conference over the recent 20 years, Kyrgyzstan proposed the following initiatives:

- Mountain Initiative aimed at the recognition and support of the developing mountain countries.
- Applying to financial institutions for significant reduction or writing off of multilateral debts of developing mountain countries in exchange for green growth and sustainable development initiatives.

Organizing and holding in Kyrgyzstan an international conference on climate change adaptation in mountain regions.

New plans of UNDP environment program in Kyrgyzstan

The UN Development Program is one of the international organizations cooperating with the Kyrgyz Government on the environmental matters on an ongoing basis. This cooperation started in 2004, with 17 projects being completed over this period, 8 projects being completed this year, and 3 projects being planned for the future. Total sum allocated to environmental projects is USD 23,435,822. All sums were provided as grants and are not meant to be a burden for the national budget.

In 2011, the Kyrgyz Government and UN signed the Framework Development Support Agreement for 2012-2016 with the environmental protection being its primary objective. UNDP considers the State Environmental Protection and Forestry

or decrease of soil fertility, etc.

The public authority for soil protection is also competent to:

- 1) develop and implement a development strategy, target programs of the Kyrgyz Republic in the area of subsoil protection;
- 3) use science and scientific researches on subsoil protection subject to mountain crop and livestock husbandry risks;
- 4) develop drafts of legal and regulatory acts in the area of soil fertility protection;
- 5) develop and control the implementation of the republican and regional programs, as well as village programs for rational use and increase of soil fertility, soil resources protection;
- 6) develop the procedure for monitoring soil fertility, keeping land cadaster;
- 7) arrange control over soil use and protection;
- 8) develop and approve the procedure for withdrawal (redemption) of the land plot upon degradation or decrease of the soil fertility etc.

The law also provides for state control over soil protection performed as part of the state environmental control. It also provides for public control.

Regulations on State Environmental Protection and Safety Center of the State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency under the Kyrgyz Government approved by the Kyrgyz Government Resolution of 2 August 2012 N 536

According to these Regulations, the State Environmental Protection and Safety Center is the departmental subdivision of the State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency under the Kyrgyz Government and has the following responsibilities:

- participates in developing the drafts of legal and regulatory acts on environmental protection, rational use of natural resources, development of forestry and hunting;
- performs state regulation in the area of environmental protection and safety, including

Agency as the main partner in mobilizing funds for the settlement of environmental problems in Kyrgyzstan.

The UNDP environmental program is aimed at enhancing the country's capacity in three directions:

1. Sustainable development and climate change;
2. Low-carbon green development;
3. Sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation.

The UNDP's nearest plan is to support three important and significant for the country events:

1. Regional Conference on Sustainable Energy for All;
2. Conference on outcomes of Kyrgyzstan's participation in Rio;
3. Conference on climate change adaptation in mountain regions. However, the latter event needs additional consultations.

Discussion on technical regulations for safe treatment of PCB containing equipment and waste

A roundtable discussion on technical regulations for safe treatment of PCB containing equipment and waste took place on 11 September 2012 at the office of UNDP environmental program. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the State Sanitary and Epidemiology Supervisory Department, Ministry of Health Care, Ministry of Emergency Situations, State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency, State Sanitary, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Safety Inspectorate and other Kyrgyz agencies.

After hearing the presentation, the participants split into smaller groups to discuss the provisions of the Technical Regulations and made their recommendations and proposals for further refinement the drafters of the document.

To remind, the Technical Regulations for safe treatment of PCB containing equipment and waste were developed by the UNDP/GEF Project: «Management and placement of PCBs in Kyrgyzstan» at the initiative of the Ministry of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic. The independent experts and specialists of the chemical safety supervisory authorities were involved in drafting the Technical Regulations.

chemical, biological and radiation safety;

- takes part in the development, adoption and implementation of national and regional programs of environmental safety (including chemical, biological and radiation safety);

- participates in international cooperation in ensuring chemical, biological and radiation safety and performance of obligations under international agreements, etc.

Regulations on Forestry and Hunting Management Department under the State Environmental Protection and Forestry Agency under the Kyrgyz Government, approved by the Government Resolution

The Forestry and Hunting Management Department is the departmental subdivision of the State Environmental Protection and Forestry Department under the Kyrgyz Government. The tasks of this Department are:

- keeping the record and making evaluation of the forest and hunting resources;

- making inventory of resources of forest ecosystems, hunting farms, and planning their sustainable development events;

- supplying project documentation on rational handling of events to develop forest ecosystems, use of forest fund, efficient reproduction, protection of forest.

According to the Regulations, the Department is competent to:

- pursue national inventORIZATION of forests, management of forests and hunting resources;

- keep the record of the forest cadaster, monitoring of forest, author's supervision over implementation of forest and hunting resources management projects, carrying out of planned events within forest and hunting resources management projects in accordance with Kyrgyz legislation;

- participate in establishing in the manner defined by legislation, hunting time, limits and quotas for taking the fauna and flora objects;

- participate in preparing feasibility study for fitting forests into protection categories, withdrawal of land of forestry fund, transfer of

land into non-forest land, transformation of forestry fund lands into lands of other categories;

- participate in state environmental expert appraisal on the matters of forest land and land resources, etc.



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