



The tenth meeting of representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asian countries

December 3-4, 2023

**Venue: Central Asia Pavilion, Pavilion of the Republic of Tajikistan
28th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP28), Dubai, UAE**

Register in advance to participate in the conference:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEldOGppjopGdFL7R8en1RbHusAMPSFdS_8

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

CONCEPT

BACKGROUND

A dialogue between representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and parliamentarians of the Central Asian (CA) countries to discuss pressing issues related to environmental management in the region was initiated by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in 2016 with the support of the European Union (EU). In turn, national and international development partners have expressed interest in participating in regular dialogue to raise awareness and strengthen regional cooperation.

Climate change issues and strengthening cross-sectoral cooperation were included as a permanent issue on the agenda of the dialogue platform in 2019 within the framework of the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program in the Aral Sea Basin (CAMP4ASB) with the support of the World Bank.

In August 2019, in Almaty (Republic of Kazakhstan), CAREC organized the first meeting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asian countries with the participation of a high-level delegation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which officially visited Central Asia for the first time.

As a result of this meeting, in February 2020, at the 52nd session of the IPCC, CAREC received the status of an IPCC observer organization, which allows it to directly nominate representatives from the Central Asian region to participate in the preparation of global assessment reports of the IPCC.



Regular meetings (twice a year) of the regional platform of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asia have become a forum for a productive parliamentary exchange of views on climate change and related issues in the region.

At the previous nine meetings in the period 2019-2023 Parliamentary representatives discussed measures and actions taken by countries in recent years to combat climate change. All 5 parliaments of the Central Asian countries presented information on the work done at the national level on climate change issues, including measures and actions taken following the meetings of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Central Asian parliamentarians.

At the Sixth Meeting of Representatives of Foreign Ministries and Parliamentarians of Central Asia (Astana, April 2022), Dr. Milow, Manager of Program of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ GmbH) «Green Central Asia - Transboundary Dialogue on Climate, Environment and Security in Central Asia and Afghanistan», and announced the readiness of GIZ to further support the work of the platform of MFA and members of parliaments in 2022 and 2023. Further support for the regional platform from the Program of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ GmbH) «Green Central Asia» will help stakeholders increase their ability to raise awareness and make decisions about climate change in the region.

National parliaments are becoming increasingly important in implementing countries' commitments under the Paris Agreement globally due to their powers to pass laws, draw up budgets and monitor government actions. In recent years, CAREC has actively involved national parliaments and foreign ministries in this process through regular annual conferences on climate change issues, such as the Central Asian Climate Change Conference (CACCC) and the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP).

Direct participation in the work of the Fourth CACCC (Dushanbe 2021), COP-26 UNFCCC (Glasgow, November 2021) and COP-27 UNFCCC (Sharm el-Sheikh, November 2022), holding meetings of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the sidelines of conferences and parliamentarians of Central Asia gave the meeting participants the opportunity to discuss various aspects of the impact of climate change on sustainable development. These meetings have had a fruitful impact on our parliamentarians in the context of adopting laws and legislative models that support climate change mitigation and adaptation and the transition to a green economy, and strengthen the implementation of commitments and promises under the Paris Agreement.

In order to expand both regional and international cooperation and exchange of experience between representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asian countries on issues of adaptation and mitigation of climate change, it is proposed to use the platform to discuss issues of preparation, participation and outcomes of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, as well as new initiatives and projects in the Central Asian region.

Countries are expected to demonstrate actions, capabilities, and approaches in revising their climate plans and work programs, recognizing that climate change mitigation is an important effort to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions. Mitigation may mean using new technologies and renewable energy sources, improving the energy efficiency of old equipment, or changing management practices or consumer behavior.



The Coalition for Capacity for Climate Action (C3A) program was launched at the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action (CFMCA) ministerial meeting at the 2023 IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington. The World Bank-supported C3A program covers the full range of climate-related economic and financial policies (fiscal risks, financial regulation, impact modeling, just transition institutions, etc.), following a “whole-of-government approach,” involving ministries of finance and their ecosystems (including various line ministries, public administrations and government agencies, as well as universities and think tanks) to develop integrated, shared solutions for climate-smart development strategies.

The next, tenth meeting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and members of parliaments will take place on December 3-4, 2023 at the Central Asia Pavilion and Pavilion of the Republic of Tajikistan, in Dubai, UAE, within the framework of the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC.

Participants of the meeting: representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asian countries, coordinators of the UNFCCC in Central Asia, members of national delegations, speakers, regional and national experts. Representatives of international organizations and other interested participants will also be invited to the meeting.

Objectives of the event:

- Discuss progress in improving legislation, institutional frameworks and implementation of climate policy in Central Asian countries.
- Discuss progress in fulfilling obligations under the NDC, the main achievements of the Central Asian countries on the path to carbon neutrality and climate adaptation.
- Present a regional statement of Central Asian countries on combating climate change.
- Present finance ministers' climate change initiatives.

The event will consist of two parts and will take place:

December 03, 2023 | 9:30 – 11:00 | CAREC - Central Asia Pavilion (MA19G3), Blue Zone, Expo Center Dubai, Dubai, UAE.

The format of the event is hybrid. Participants who cannot attend in person will also be able to join via [video conference](#) (registration required).

Languages: Russian and English (with simultaneous translation).

December 04, 2023 | 13:30 – 15:00 | Pavilion of the Republic of Tajikistan (MA13G4), Blue Zone, Expo Center Dubai, Dubai, UAE.

The format of the event is face-to-face.

Language: Russian.

Preliminary agenda (Part 1)

Moderator: Ikrom Nazarov, CAREC consultant

Venue: Central Asia Pavilion

Date: December 3, 2023

Time: 9:30 – 11:00

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| 9:30 – 9:40 | <p>Opening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Representative of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</i> - <i>Mr. Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director of CAREC</i> |
| 9:40 – 10:10 | <p>Improving legislation, institutional frameworks and implementation of climate policy in Central Asian countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan (5 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (5 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan (5 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of Turkmenistan (5 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan (5 minutes). <p><i>Discussion (5 minutes)</i></p> <p><i>Questions for speakers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>About improving climate legislation and institutional frameworks in your country?</i> 2. <i>What measures are countries taking to ensure favorable conditions for the implementation of climate policies at the national and regional levels?</i> |
| 10:10 – 10:20 | <p>"Climate Action Capacity Coalition Presentation - Prospects for the Central Asia C3A Hub"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Etienne Espagne, Senior Climate Economist, World Bank <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <p><i>Questions for speakers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Prospects for including representatives of the Ministries of Finance in the platform of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians?</i> |

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| <p>10:20 – 10:50</p> | <p>Review of country progress on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Kazakhstan (5 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Kyrgyz Republic (5 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Tajikistan (5 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Representative of Turkmenistan (5 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Uzbekistan (5 minutes). <p><i>Discussion (5 minutes)</i></p> <p><i>Question for speakers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>How are the updated NDCs reflected in the already adopted national strategic documents?</i> |
| <p>10:50 – 10:55</p> | <p>Presentation of the Central Asian Regional Statement for the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change “Voice of Central Asia”</p> <p>- Moderator: Ikrom Nazarov, CAREC consultant</p> |
| <p>10:55 – 11:00</p> | <p>Summing up the first part of the meeting</p> <p>- Moderator: Ikrom Nazarov, CAREC consultant</p> |

Preliminary agenda (Part 2)

Moderator: Ikrom Nazarov, CAREC consultant

Venue: Pavilion of the Republic of Tajikistan

Date: December 4, 2023

Time: 13:30 – 15:00

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| 13:30 – 13:40 | <p>Opening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan</i> - <i>Mr. Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director of CAREC</i> |
| 13:40 – 14:20 | <p>Policies for achieving carbon neutrality in Central Asian countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Kazakhstan (7 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Kyrgyz Republic (7 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Tajikistan (7 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Representative of Turkmenistan (7 minutes); - UNFCCC Focal Point, Republic of Uzbekistan (7 minutes). <p><i>Discussion (7 minutes)</i></p> <p><i>Questions for speakers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>What are the three most important achievements your country has on its path to carbon neutrality and climate adaptation, within the framework of its NDC commitments?</i> 2. <i>Countries' plans to achieve carbon neutrality and the need for support.</i> 3. <i>Creation of a special program to support adaptation actions for the countries of Central Asia.</i> |
| 14:20 – 14:30 | <p>Presentation of the Central Asian Civil Society and Youth Statement to the UNFCCC COP28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PhD Svetlana Mogilyuk, Regional Coordinator of the Civil Society Climate Network of Central Asia |
| 14:30 – 14:50 | <p>Summing up the results of the platform of the MFA's and parliamentarians for the period 2019-2023, and priority issues for consideration at the 11th meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan (3 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (3 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan (3 minutes); |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of Turkmenistan (3 minutes); - Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan (3 minutes). <p><i>Discussion (5 minutes)</i></p> <p><i>Questions for speakers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Lessons learned and best practices from the meetings of the MFA platform and parliamentarians for the period 2019-2023;</i> 2. <i>Priority issues for inclusion on the agenda of the 11th meeting of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of Central Asian countries on climate change</i> |
| <p>14:50 – 15:00</p> | <p>Closing and summing up the 10th meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moderator: Ikrom Nazarov, CAREC consultant |