A UNDP project to strengthen Kazakhstan's parliamentary democracy

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APPLICATION FOR THE PROJECT

1. Name of the Project: Preparation and holding of the seminar on Mechanisms of Implementation of International Conventions in Field of Environment ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan

2. Coordinators of the project:
   
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3. **Duration of the project:** 90 days

4. **Duration of the seminar:** 3 days

5. **Place for the implementation:** Almaty

6. **Name of the project:** Preparation and holding of the seminar on Mechanisms of Implementation of International Conventions in Field of Environment ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan

7. **Objective:** Through the dialogue between Government Bodies and NGOs to develop possible effective mechanisms for implementation of norms, contained in international conventions ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

8. **Goals of the project:**

   • To assist the Government to establish mechanisms which could ensure conformity of norms contained in Kazakhstan legislation with international conventions in the field of environmental protection which have been ratified by the RK;

   • To Cooperatively elaborate mechanisms to fulfill obligations, undertaken by the RK, on implementation and compliance with ratified international conventions in the field of environmental protection;

   • To ensure operation of the created mechanisms to fulfill obligations undertaken by the RK on implementation and compliance with ratified international conventions in the field of environmental protection;

   • To create mechanisms of NGO involvement in the process of monitoring of implementation and compliance with ratified international conventions in the field of environmental protection;
• To attract NGOs and to establish environment for social partnership in the sphere of implementation of ratified international conventions in the field of environmental protection;
• To develop mechanisms of NGO participation in the process of adoption of normative acts in the field of environmental protection;
• To create mechanisms of public access to ecological information;
• To ensure liability of officials for violation of provisions contained in the ratified international conventions in the field of environmental protection;
• To assist the Government in mechanisms' development to coordinate efforts of various ministries, bodies and state entities in the sphere of conventions' application as well as reporting and publishing of ecological information;

To elaborate mechanisms for partnership activity of international organizations, NGOs and State Bodies of the RK.

9. Rationale: New geopolitical situation and democratic changes taking place in Kazakhstan urge us to realize the role and place of the country in the world community and to establish the sense of responsibility for the sustainable development of the country in the future. Actions in the field of global and regional conventions contribute to it to a great extent.

Kazakhstan takes an active part in the process of international treaties and other agreements in the field of the environment, preparations are being made to join Republic of Kazakhstan to a number of priority conventions. Performance of the obligations for many global and international agreements has begun, as well as work on Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol Concerning Ozone Display Substances, Conventions on Biodiversity and Desertification.

New international ecological conventions are considered with the prospective of their future ratification, per se are the UN EEC convention on transboundary watercourses, the Basle and the Ramsar conventions and others are among them. Cooperation between the countries and international organizations became more intensive. Nevertheless, access and public awareness to the ecological information, particularly, about the actions directed to implementation of ecological conventions is not sufficient.

Such actions are closely connected with active participation of legal and executive authorities in the course of development, adoption and execution of the laws. These laws regulate achievement of the objectives and implementation of conventions' tasks because newly adopted laws should correspond to the international environmental law. The existing ones should be in accordance with the international legal norms.

The OSCE Centre in Almaty while conducting its seminar has observed that implementation and harmonisation of legislation has been patchy and unsystematic.

The seminar will appeal to the new elected members of the Parliament, who are going to begin their legislative activity, and also to the representatives of the executive authorities. The information acquired in the course of the seminar will help to understand in details the specificity of the law-making procedure in the field of environmental protection.
The seminar experience will be absolutely useful for all participants in their future practical activity. Representatives of the international organizations (UNEP, UNDP), secretariats of the international conventions, representatives of the countries, which are actively working and supervising specific directions of implementation of conventions obligations, will be invited to take part in the seminar.

The following questions will be discussed:

• What do the international ecological conventions mean: their essence and place in the environmental matter, the way they are performed at the international, regional and national levels, financial opportunities of the conventions secretariats, perspective directions for future work, benefits and obligations of government's participation in the convention;
• International ecological conventions ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the detailed consideration of the most important of them;
• Structure of the International Ecological Conventions Committee of the National Environmental Center under Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
• Types of work carried out while adhering to conventions in the Republic of Kazakhstan and New Independent States;
• What does "Synergy of Conventions" mean?
• How is activity on conventions monitoring performed?
• Perspective directions of performance in the field of environmental Conventions in the Republic of Kazakhstan.
• The role of the Parliament members played in the performance of international ecological conventions.

The concrete results of the project implementation are:

• Appraisal of the legal culture;
• Appraisal of the legal protection of population;
  • Simplifying public access to the relevant normative documentation;
  • Public participation in decision-making;
  • Analysis of the RK legislation within the frameworks of Conventions;
  • Ensuring public access to information;
  • Encouraging compliance with norms and provisions of international conventions.

Budget and Working plan

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Estimated cost (US dollars)</th>
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| 1  | - Establishment of an Organizing Committee and its work on the seminar preparation  
- Coordination of the seminar program with the secretariats of conventions and international environmental organizations (UNDP, UNEP).  
- Preparation of the seminar material for demonstration.  
- Stationary, including seminar participants  
- Developing the seminar program.                                                                                                      | 1 000                       |
2. Transport for participants 6 500
3. Accommodation for participants 4 200
4. Rent of the seminar hall 1 000
5. Banquet for 70 persons (+media, donors) 1500
6. Services of interpreters and rent of simultaneous translation equipment 3000
7. Translation of the materials into English and State languages 300
8. Copying of the seminar materials 300
9. Transportation costs to Almaty 200
10. Communication costs (phone, fax) 200

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<th>Total amount of expenses:</th>
<th>USD 18 200</th>
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1) Expenses on Conventions Secretariats representatives and international organizations (10 persons – not more) are approximately evaluated by us – $US 18 200. They are not included in the total estimate of expenses.

9. Number of participants - 50
Out of them - 10 are representatives of Conventions Secretariats and international organizations, 30 - regional representatives, including 10 state servants, 10 representatives of NGOs in Almaty.

10. Project duration: 90 days.

11. Seminar duration: 3 days.

12. Place of the seminar: Almaty, sanatorium "Alatau"

13. Total amount without expenses on participants from other states:
   $US 18 200

14. Total amount including expenses on participants from other countries:
   $US 30,000.
Projected costs for participants

**Round trip travel expenses for participants:**

1. Astana - 242$, 11 participants, out of this 7 government officials
2. Karaganda - 264$, 3 participants
3. Atyrau - 276$, 1 participant
4. Aktau - 280$, 1 participant
5. Chinkent - 160$, 1 participant
6. Kustanai - 219$, 1 participant
7. Petropavlovsk - 219 $, 1 participant
8. Pavlodar - 142$, 1 participant
9. Ust-Kamenogorsk - 142$, 2 participants
10. Dzhezkazgan - 142$, 2 participants
11. Kokchetav - 142$, 6 participants, out of this 5 government officials
12. Aktubinsk - 276$, 1 participant

**Accommodation and meals:**

For 40 participants with estimate of 35$ per day, during 3 days