The first meeting of the new State Commission on Climate Change was held

On July 23, 2020, the first meeting (video conference) of the new Commission was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Commission on Climate Change Ali Ahmadov. The meeting discussed the work done to implement the commitments made by the Republic of Azerbaijan in accordance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change approved by the Republic of Azerbaijan. The meeting also discussed the action plan of the Working Group established by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 1920 dated March 11, 2020 to determine the activities of the State Commission on Climate Change and ensure the activities of the State Commission. Chairman of the State Commission Ali Ahmadov gave instructions on the preparation of relevant reports, action plans, proposals for the establishment of a monitoring, reporting and inspection system in priority areas related to the necessary activities, as well as the need to attract domestic and foreign funding and increase awareness in this area. He informed the members of the commission.

https://cabmin.gov.az/az/article/950/
Whoever has a relative in office, his field is watered,” the President said.

“There is a great need to irrigate crops on the basis of modern technologies. Especially considering that now we need to save water. Therefore, we must involve foreign experts in this work. Now the commission should deal with this issue, and at the same time, we should encourage entrepreneurs. In other words, encouraging steps should be taken for entrepreneurs to be more closely involved in these modern technologies. The statement came from President Ilham Aliyev during a video conference on the state of the water sector on July 23, Unikal.org reported. “Maybe through soft loans, or through some privileges that the state alone does not take over. We will already solve the necessary infrastructure issues. But it should also motivate entrepreneurs to use modern technologies. “Of course, there should be awareness-raising, presentations, entrepreneurs should see what the benefits of the state will be if they use this technology, and, consequently, how much productivity will increase,” he said. The President of Azerbaijan noted that the issue of assessing groundwater and surface water resources has been resolved. The lack of funds should be allocated as soon as possible, and foreign experts should be involved in the inspection of hydraulic structures.” The process of applying schedules for irrigating arable lands has begun. I think this should be a very comprehensive process. Schedules must be applied everywhere in the country and there must be very strict control. In resolving this issue, of course, it must be coordinated with the “Electronic Agriculture” information system, and farmers must be involved. Because the distribution of water must be fair. Some letters from places also show that in some cases this principle of justice is violated. Who has the opportunity, who has the influence, who has a relative somewhere in a high position, his field is watered, but another farmer is left without water. Therefore, the schedules must be fair and the general public must be involved. Of course, there must be a control mechanism. Let the central and local executive bodies deal with this work together.
President Ilham Aliyev: In some cases, water losses reach 50 percent, which is unbearable

Water resources have a great impact on the ecological balance and the development of agriculture. We must develop our agriculture in an intensive way, and to achieve this we must have enough water resources, and we have this reserve. Simply, if these losses were not so terrible, we could be fully self-sufficient in available water resources. The statement came from President Ilham Aliyev at a meeting on the state of water resources. The President said that the issue is currently being investigated, in some cases the losses are 40 percent and reach 50 percent, which is intolerable: “We are losing water. Thus, water does not reach the fields, people’s homes, on the contrary, and this damages the soil. Our most labor-intensive fields now are grain and cotton. Cotton growing cannot develop without water. About 200,000-300,000 people work in cotton growing and provide for their families. We get about 70-80 quintals of wheat per hectare in grain farms with modern technologies, including modern irrigation systems. This is at the level of developed countries. That is, it is the highest level in the world, there is no higher level. If there is no water, can we achieve this?”

Transboundary Surface and Groundwater Management Working Group meeting held online

The 5th meeting of the Working Group on “Transboundary Surface and Groundwater Management” was organized by the UN-GEF Kura II Project in a video conference on July 17.

The event was attended by experts representing various organizations in the water sector of Azerbaijan and Georgia, as well as the International Coordinator of the Kura II project Mary Matthews and International Expert Ahmed Elseoud. The meeting participants analyzed the situation with water shortages in Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Speakers stressed the importance of water conservation, given the seriousness of the problem. Farda Imanov, Deputy Director of Sukanal Research Institute, spoke on “Main directions of activities in case of water shortage” and informed about the measures taken by Azersu OJSC in this regard.

Urgent measures being taken to solve the problem of drinking water in Neftchala

For some time now, as a result of the reduction of water quantity in the Kura River, as well as the backflow of the Caspian Sea into the river, there has been a problem with drinking water in the Neftchala region. For the first time, as a result of this natural disaster, the population of the region is facing a number of difficulties with water supply. In villages and settlements, including the district center, people’s need for drinking water has also made it difficult to irrigate crops and livestock. Neftchala District authorities are taking urgent measures to address the situation. For this purpose, Operational Headquarters has been established in the region. Taking into account that the provision of the population with drinking water is the most important issue, the employees of Azersu OJSC were sent to Neftchala. Two large water trucks (35 tons each) bring drinking water from the neighboring Salyan region several times a day. Water is distributed to settlements and villages by small-capacity trucks (5-10 tons). Large tanks have been installed in each of the buildings in the center of the district, as well as in the neighborhoods. Drinking water is supplied to these tanks by water trucks in turn, for the population’s use. Due to the high demand in the summer months, artesian wells are being drilled after geological exploration work, wherever possible, and the process is currently underway. Drinking water has been brought to the region several times by various organizations, parliamentarians and water companies, mostly to the elderly, the disabled and others. District volunteers are also closely involved in this work. The most important issue in solving the problem is the construction of a water line to the region. By the relevant order of President Ilham Aliyev, 5 million manat has been allocated for this purpose. A new 44-kilometer line is being laid from the reservoir in the Salyan region. All necessary measures are being taken to speed up the work.
Samad Seyidov: "The most common problems of citizens are related to irrigation"

"My colleagues and I have repeatedly raised the issue of water in the regions we represent," APA reports, citing a statement by MP Samad Seyidov during the discussion of current issues at today's meeting of the Parliament.

MPs Ganira Pashayeva, Ramil Hasan, Jala Aliyeva also spoke about the irrigation problem in the regions they represent: "There is this problem in the Gazakh region, which I represent. The most common problems of citizens are related to irrigation. I call on the relevant authorities to resolve this issue. We have already appealed to Azersu."

Speaker Sahiba Gafarova said that the water problem is a problem of all regions: "It is also in Shamkir region, which I represent. We will work on it."


Firuza Vahid