



This project is funded by
The European Union

**Environmental Protection of
International River Basins Project**
Contract No. 2011/279-666



A project implemented by a Consortium
led by Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG

Deliverable 4: Preparation of draft National Water Strategy for Azerbaijan and organisation of a second National workshop



Prepared by PERIOD Consulting

Baku 2016

Contents

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations3

Introduction 4

Summary of Second National Workshop on development of National Water Strategy for Azerbaijan....4

Annex 1. Agenda of Second National Workshop.....9

Annex 2. LoP of Second National Workshop.....10

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations:

1. ADB-Asian Development Bank
2. Azersu- Azerbaijan Drinking Water Supply Joint Stock Company
3. BSU-Baku State University
4. EC – European Commission
5. EPIRBP – Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project
6. EU – European Union
7. GIS – Geographic Information Systems
8. IWRM- Integrated Water Resources Management Plan
9. JSC-Joint Stock Company
10. LOP-List of Participants
11. MENR- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
12. MES- Ministry of Emergency Situations
13. MOH- Ministry of Health
14. NAS- National Academy of Science
15. NGO- Non Governmental Organization
16. OSCE- Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe
17. ToR- Terms of Reference
18. UNECE- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
19. WFD – Water Framework Directive
20. NWS- National Water Strategy

Introduction

The deliverable 4 report has been prepared according to the contract made on February 8, 2016 between: Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG (“Client”) and PERIOD Consulting (“Contractor”), to assist relevant beneficiary organizations to develop and finalise the National Water Strategy(NWS) of the Republic of Azerbaijan as defined by Contract for the needs of the EU project “Environmental Protection of the International River Basins”(SC № 2011/279-666, Europe Aid/131360/C/SER/Multi).

According to contract, PERIOD LLC is responsible for preparation of the report for Deliverable 4: Preparation of draft water strategy and organization of a second national workshop at which to discuss the proposed draft NWS documents (prepared on the basis of 2 draft NWS documents developed with support of UNECE and ADB), and to propose comments and recommendations for its finalization and submission to relevant state organizations for adoption.

The two documents approach the problems from different perspectives. The draft document prepared with support of UNECE gives more attention to water resources quality and quantity and their environmental protection, linked to the EU legislative in particular the Water Framework Directive. The draft strategy developed by support of ADB focuses on the need for institutional reform and increased technical capacity, paying more attention to the quantity than quality and water demand and supply. Thus the two strategies are complimentary but need to be combined into a coherent document which provides future operational plan in order to achieve agreed objectives.

By support of EU funded EPIRB project final draft water strategy document was prepared by group of experts from different state agencies and other water related organizations(Ministry Of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR), Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES), Ministry of Health (MOH), Amelioration JSC, Azersu JSC, National Academy of Science (NAS), BSU, NGOs, and others) by the end of June 2016 is based on 2 draft WS documents developed by support of UNECE and ADB and was submitted to the National Workshop held on 12 July 2016.

Part of Deliverable 4 report was conducting of National workshop on development of NWS. Summary of the Second National Workshop on National Water Strategy of Azerbaijan held on 12 July 2016 at the meeting venue of Ganjali Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan is given below .

Summary of Second National Workshop on development of National Water Strategy for Azerbaijan

Main objectives of Second National Workshop on National Water Strategy of Azerbaijan

Main objective of the Second National Workshop was:

- To discuss final draft Water Strategy Document for Azerbaijan(prepared on the basis of 2 draft NWS documents developed with support of UNECE and ADB) and provide comments and suggestion on needed further improvements
- To provide recommendations on finalization of the water strategy document and submission to government for adoption
- To identify further steps needed for implementation of the water strategy

Agenda

Agenda of the Second National Workshop on development of NWS is given in Annex 1.

Participants

List of Participants in the meeting is given in Annex 2

Opening and presentations

The meeting was opened by Mr Mutallim Abdulhasanov (Head of Division, Environmental Protection Policy Department of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources) and Mr. Mammad Asadov (Head of Department of Amelioration JSC).



Mr Abdulhasanov welcomed participants and thanked them for their participation in the meeting. He briefly informed them about the importance of development of National Water Strategy (NWS) for Azerbaijan, which considers a variety of actions in the sphere of harmonisation of national water resource monitoring, assessment and management practices with internationally accepted practices. In particular, he stressed the NWS's significant contribution in the sphere of strengthening of the capacities of national water management institutions and application of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles based on the river basin approach in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).



Mr Arif Akhundov (Head of Department, State Agency for Water Resources, Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES)) welcomed participants of the meeting and expressed the high importance of the national policy dialogue for integration of water management practices. He mentioned that adoption and implementation of NWS can play important role in improvement of water management in Azerbaijan. He informed regarding the discussions he held with experts with regard to the water strategy document, and indicated that he has no major comments on the document.

Then the brief information on the status of the development of the NWS was presented by Mutallim Abdulhasanov (Head of Division, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)), Arif Akhundov (Head of Department, State Agency for Water Resources, MES), Rafiq Verdiyev (CWME, EPIRB project) and Farda Imanov and Vafadar Ismayilov (Experts of PERIOD LLC).

Discussions and comments

After presenting the main principles of water strategy Mr. Shamil Huseynov (Head of Division in National Assembly (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan), Mr. Mamed Asadov (Head of Department in Amelioration JSC) and Arif Akhundov (Head of Department, State Agency for Water Resources, Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES)) and other participants thanked group of experts for developed draft water strategy document presented their comments on different aspects of the situation, problems and needs in this field.

Main comments related to Water Strategy and responses to them are as below :

Comment 1, by Mr Teymur Osmanov, Senior Expert, Amelioration JSC.

- How can the Water Strategy be implemented in the future?

Response by Mr Arif Akhundov, Head of Department, State Agency for Water Resources, Ministry of Emergency Situations:

-Adoption of Water Strategy should consider the development of its implementation action plan. In this regard, after development of the action plan the Water Strategy can be considered as a State Program On National Water. Actions will be implemented in 3 periods: short (for the period of first 6 years), medium (for 12 years), and long (for 18 years) term.

Comment 2, by Mr. Asif Verdiyev, senior hydrologist, National Hydrometeorology Department, MENR

-Who will adopt and own the strategy?

Response by Mr. Shamil Huseyinov, Head of Division, National Assembly (Parliament)

-First it needs to be agreed by organizations and then approved as an official document. In relation to ownership he noted that as the strategy contains different items to be implemented by various organizations it should be document of national importance and all organizations should own it and carry responsibility for its implementation.

Comment 3 by - Mammad Asadov, Head of Department, Amelioration JSC

- Capacity of water reservoirs does not include areas of new water reservoirs (Shamkirchay and Tovuzchay) in draft Strategy.

Response by- Mr Rafiq Verdiyev, CWME, EPIRB project

Information on reservoirs is related to 2010. Therefore these two reservoirs are not included, however PERIOD LLC will update that information during finalisation of the document.

Comment 4 by -Doctor Farda Imanov, Dean of Baku State University

Who will develop strategy action plan?

Response by- Mr. Mutallim Abdulhasanov, Head of Division under Environmental Policy Department, MENR

This issue is being discussed by government and different donor projects and he expressed his hope that soon there will be funding allocated for its development

Comment 5 by Ms Rana Qashqay from National Academy of Science

Will the strategy consider assessment of water resources in the future?

Response by- Mutallim Abdulhasanov

Strategy action plan will consider assessment of water resources in first six year period of its implementation

Comment 6 by Mr Sahib Hasanzade , Head of Division , State Agency for Water Resources, Ministry of Emergency Situations:

Will the water strategy pass through EIA process?

Response by- Mutallim Abdulhasanov:

Those activities in the strategy action plan that may have environmental and social impacts will pass through an environmental and social impact assessment process.

Summary of Discussions

Mr. Abdulhasanov thanked the EU EPIRB project for its support to finalise the water strategy and mentioned that it is necessary to adopt the NWS and to implement it. Accordingly, the remaining tasks are to:

- Finalise the NWS and submit to government for adoption in coming months
- Develop the NWS action plan.

Key stakeholders participating the Second National Workshop agreed to finalize the draft State Water Strategy based on the draft document proposed by the expert group and to submit the final document to government for approval.

Annex 1. AGENDA

Second National Workshop on National Water Strategy of Azerbaijan

12 July 2016, Baku, Azerbaijan

The meeting took place at the meeting venue of Ganjali Hotel in Baku

09.30-10.00	Registration and coffee
10.00-10.30	Opening. Adoption of the agenda. Opening: Mr <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Mutallim Abdulhasanov, Head of Subdivision in Environmental Protection Policy Unit of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources• Mr Mammad Asadov, Head of Department in Amelioration JSC
10.30-12.00	Status of Development of National Water Strategy presented <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mutallim Abduljasanov, Head of Division, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR), ,• Arif Akhundov , Head of Department, Water Resources State Agency, Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES),• Farda Imanov , Vafadar Ismayilof, PERIOD LLC .• Rafiq Verdiyev, CWME, EPIRB project Current and future challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arif Akhundov , Head of Department, Water Resources State Agency, Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES),• Mr Mammad Asadov, Head of Department in Amelioration JSC
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 – 12.45	DISCUSSION OF THE NEXT STEPS OF THE NPD IN AZERBAIJAN <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalization of Water Strategy and submission of it to government for approval• Further steps towards development of Water Strategy action plan
12.45 – 13.00	Closing of workshop

ANNEX 2.List of participants

Name	Organization	Position/Department	Type/Level	Contacts	
				Tel	E-mail
1 . Mamamd Asadov	Amelioration JSC (SRMI)	Head of Department,	National Stakeholder	+994502926488	safsu@mail.ru
2. Shamil Huseynov	NationalParliament	Head of sector	National Authority	+994503742142	shh_azinas@yahoo.com
3.Mutallim Abdulhasanov	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)	Head of Division, Environmental Policy Department	National Authority	+994503154153	mabdulhasanov@gmail.com
4.Matanat Avazova	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)	Deputy Head of National Environmental Monitoring Department	National Authority	+994557465162	mavazova@mail.ru
5.Asif Verdiyev	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)	Chief Hydrologist National Hydrometeorology Department	National Authority	+994503941223	asifverdiyev@mail.ru
6.Sahib Hasanzade	Water Agency of Ministry of Emergency Situations	Head of Unit	National Authority	+94 50 3521883	sahib540@mail.ru
7.Arif Akhundov	Water Agency of Ministry of Emergency Situations	Head of Unit	National Authority	+94 50 6345705	arif-axundov@mail.ru
8.Rena Gashgay	National Academy of Science	Scientific Researcher	Science	+994124382900	doktor_rq@mail.ru
9.Shamil Huseynov	National Parliament	Head of Division	National Parliament	+994503742142	shh_azinas@yahoo.com
10.Farda Imanov	IHPA (Association on International Hydrological Programme)	Head	NGO	+99450-3462686	farda.imanov@kura-aras.org
11.Rafiq Verdiyev	CWME AZ - EPIRB and IHPA (International HCH and Pesticides Association)	CWME /Deputy Head	NGO	+994503495884	rafiq2000@mail.ru

12.Vafadar Ismayilov	Period LTD	Head	Stakeholder -National	+994125680261	is_vafadar@mail.ru
13.Farid Garayev	Sadig Consulting Company	GIS Specialist	Stakeholder -National	+994557335511	faridgarayev@mail.ru
14.Sabit Mustafayev	Arhus center	Head	NGO	+994125680261	togrul02@gmail.com
15. Ramil Ibrahimov	Period LTD	Head	Stakeholder - National	+994125680261	ibrahimov_ramil@inbox.ru
16.Asger Bayramov	Saig LTD	Head	Stakeholder national	+994505267731	sadig-llc@mail.ru
17. Teymur Osmanov	Amelioration JSC (SRMI)	Senior Expert,	National authority		Ahliman.verdiyev@mail.ru
18. Elman Ruffullayev	Amelioration JSC (SRMI)	Senior Expert,	National authority		Ahliman.verdiyev@mail.ru
19.Bariz Mehdiyev	REC Caucasus , Baku, NGO	Head	NGO	+994502100766	issa.aliyev@rec-caucasus.org
20.Shovkat BAKIROV	MENR	Head of Division	National Authority	+994125381521	shovket.bekirov@gmail.com