

REPORT

Of Mr. Nurakhmet Bizhanov, of the First Vice-minister
on emergency situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan
on the Asian Conference on disasters reduction

“Disasters risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional
basis for implementation”

(Seoul, Korea, March 15-17, 2006)

Dear mister the Chairman!
Dear participants of a Conference,
The ladies and sirs!

Let on behalf of the Ministry for emergency situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan intimately to welcome the participants of the given Asian Conference, which should mark a new stage in the further development of the strategic approaches to the decision of problems of disasters reduction at global, regional and national levels.

The questions of safe ability to live recently become aggravated. To threats of XXI century with the complete basis can be related the large-scale disasters, which have become frequent in the world, failures and accidents, accompanying with a plenty of human victims, bringing significant damage of ecological and economic safety of the states.

Because of variety of natural and geological conditions, the territory of Kazakhstan also is subject to the majority of disasters, known for mankind, among them high waters, flows, snow avalanches, landslips and landslides, droughts and sharp downturn of temperature of air, blizzards and hurricanes, wood and steppe fires. Last years for republic were characterized by a number of large spontaneous natural disasters, connected to high waters, plentiful snow and rainy deposits.

The protection of national interests of Kazakhstan against negative consequences of disasters is on the special control of the President of Kazakhstan Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, also is one of the main priorities of long-term Strategy of development of our country.

Accepted on the second UN World Conference on disasters reduction in the Japanese city Kobe Hyogo Declaration was by the program document, determining the main directions on a safety of the citizens, prevention and liquidation of emergencies. Its basic rules to the full correspond to principles of state politics of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the given sphere.

In this responsible direction we do significant job.

First of all, the job on the analysis of a condition of dangerous sites both engineering protection of the population and objects is continued. Therefore, are established of 5 650 centers potentially dangerous on occurrence of flows, 106 landslips dangerous sites, about 800 centers of educations of avalanches. The passports with the instruc-

tion of their characteristics, objects occupied items and living population in zones of their possible negative influence are generated. The posts of supervision and linear routes are involved.

A number of glacier lakes - sources increased of danger of flows is liquidated, the levels many are considerably lowered.

On a number dangerous water sources of republic 65 protective hydraulic engineering structures of high complexity, including known in the scales against flows structure in gorge "Medeo" and on the river "Talgar" in Almatinskaya oblast are constructed.

On a constant basis the engineering protection and strengthening of the slopes, subject to large landslips, of mountains, first of all, near of the largest megalopolis of the country – Almaty city is spent.

The preventive descents of snow avalanches with use of energy of explosions are spent, the construction of against avalanches snow detaining structures is carried out.

In all regions of the country the complex of measures on engineering protection of the population, objects and territories from high waters, including construction and strengthening of protective dams, bottom-deepen and channel to straighten job on the rivers is carried out. So, in republic only in 2005 is constructed and 640 kms of bulk dams are repaired more than. In the current year the realization of the large-scale project of protection of new capital of the Republic of Kazakhstan – Astana city, from flooding by freshet waters of the river "Esil" began, where the erection of a dam of length more than 30 kms, budget cost more than 80 mln. US dollars is planned.

With the purposes of regulation of safe mode of operations transboundary water economic objects and large water-flow the performance working and signing of the new interstate agreements and protocols with the appropriate state bodies of frontiers countries is provided: Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan, China and Russian Federation.

In the nearest prospect is planned within the framework of the Central Asia cooperation the creation of the International water-power consortium, the draft agreement about which is developed by the World Bank.

Between that, most urgent and priority for republic are the problems of seismic safety of the population, as 650 thousand km² of its territory is under constant threat of destructive large-scale earthquakes.

These problems became a subject of the special attention of the President of Republic of Kazakhstan. He puts tasks the coming years to decide questions of the further forward development of fundamental and applied researches in the field of seismology, development of new methods of the forecast of strong earthquakes, creation of the specialized maps of an estimation of risk of seismic danger, more complete use of an opportunity of remote sounding of the Earth from space.

The practical measures on cardinal modernization of republican system of seismological supervision, its technical development and program-software, creation on all country of a wide network of seismological stations are planned for intermediate term prospect.

The president of the country focuses state bodies on the further development of the international cooperation in the field of seismology, wide exchange of experience

with the specialized foreign organizations on creation of methods of the short-term forecast of earthquakes, close contacts to the conducting world manufacturers of the modern equipment, digital equipment and communication facility. We invite the interested parties to constructive dialogue.

In these purposes, the close cooperation of scientific Kazakhstan with seismology experts from China and Russia is already adjusted in the field of development of methods of the short-term forecast of earthquakes. Effective interaction and information interchange with forecast services of Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan and their authorized state bodies in sphere of the prevention and liquidation of emergencies also is organized.

In 2005 of Kazakhstan became a place of realization of a number of the international representative forums. Among them, organized on 24-26 May, 2005 in Almaty the Second Advisory Meeting of the Central Asia countries on disasters reduction, and also Regional seminar of the Central Asia countries and Russia on strengthening of preparedness of the population to disaster, first of all, to the destructive earthquakes which have been carried out in Astana 2-4 November, 2005 at support of the UNDP and ADRC.

The agreement on interaction at rendering support in liquidation of disasters, signed on 26 October, 2005 in Moscow within the framework of the Shanghai organization of cooperation, creates an additional pulse to active actions of the states in the Asian region.

The further integration of the Asian countries in the field of the prevention and liquidation of disasters is one of ways to safety and stability in region. Thus the main task consists in association of efforts, material and intellectual resources for duly response on disasters, in acceptance of a complex preventive measures on reduction of their extremely negative influence on social and economic spheres, and also ecological balance.

The given responsible process to the full will be promoted by realization of the initiative of the Kazakhstan party already sounded on the second UN World Conference in Kobe in 2005, on creation in our country of the Central Asia coordination centre on disasters prevention and response.

Thus by the basic tasks of the above named this Centre see:

- Maintenance of the integrated approach in prevention of disasters;
- Mitigation of risk factors of disasters, identification, estimation, monitoring of danger of disasters and their forecasting;
- Creation of system of the early notification and the mutual notice about risk of disasters;
- Coordination of joint efforts, strengthening of readiness for effective and duly response on disasters;
- Regular operative mutual exchange by the information.

The Kazakhstan party develops the projects of a substantiation and circuit of functioning of the considered Centre, which are on the coordination in Central Asia countries.

In turn, Kazakhstan for these purposes is ready to give resources of the Republican Crisis Centre, equipped with the modern equipment. The similar Crisis centre would be necessary for creating and in other states of Central Asia.

In view of available problems in realization of the given project the Kazakhstan party considers, that the attraction of resources of the foreign states and international organizations could considerably speed up creation of the considered Central Asia Coordination Centre.

In these conditions would consider possible to lead the next year the Asian Conference in Kazakhstan, that will allow its participants closer to familiarize with problems of disasters in our republic, to carry out an exchange of positive experience of job in the given responsible direction, to undertake a number of the next practical steps to achievement of a general purposes - guaranteed civil protection in Asia.

Dear ladies and sirs!

Let in summary sincerely to thank the organizers of this Conference for the invitation to participate in the given international measure and rendered support.

It would be desirable to emphasize, that the Ministry on emergency situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan is open for all and is ready to business cooperation. Fruitful interaction and the warm friendly relations will allow effectively to realize all measures, directed on the prevention, response and liquidation of consequences of disasters and emergencies.

I wish successes and well-being to all participants present at this Conference.

Thanks for attention!
