

## **GWP CACENA in April 2005**

Chairman of the GWP CACENA RTAC Vadim Sokolov took participation in the CSD-13 meeting in the New York City, USA on 12 – 16 April with presentation of the progress in development of the National IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan for Kazakhstan. The presentation was based on the “Concept Note” prepared by the Project team under supervision of the UNDP and Country Water Partnership – Kazakhstan. The Project funded by the grant from Government of Norway. It was shown in the presentation that “National Plan...” is a document of the Committee of Water Resources of Kazakhstan for:

- Ecosystems and institutions who look after them and care for environment;
- General public who reasonably and rightly expect to have clean, healthy water available;
- Industries and agriculture which will continue drive economic growth.

The Plan should include in time scale:

- Commitment to Johannesburg Directive
- Responsibility of the Government for finance of water management
- Improvement of water governance via implementation of Water Code (2003)
- Strengthening of River Basin Institutions
- Public involvement and Capacity building.

The presentation of the Project progress was accepted by the CSD-13 meeting participants as a good example of the real actions towards MDGs achievement.

During 27-30 April there was organized by ICWC (Interstate Commission for Water Coordination) the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Water Conference in Almaty, Kazakhstan. GWP CACENA took active participation in organization and funding of the special session on IWRM of this event. Also within the Conference agenda there was held a seminar of the Project National IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan for Kazakhstan, where actual project progress and some already achieved outputs were widely and openly discussed, and further steps agreed among the principal project stakeholders.

Using opportunity to attend the above mentioned Conference members of the GWP CACENA RTAC conduct their working meeting, which was held on 28 April in the office of the Regional Ecological Center for Central Asia (one of the principal GWP partner). The all 13 RTAC members from 8 countries took participation in this meeting. The key issues discussed were the following:

- Progress of GWP CACENA work program 2005 in the countries (National workshops, Gender observation, preparation of the status report on ecosystems and others);
- Preparations for two seminars on ToolBox jointly with GWP CEE, which are planned for July in Baku, Azerbaijan and for September in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan;
- Preparations for 2d Dushanbe Water Forum, Tajikistan (end of May 2005);
- And other working issues of the GWP CACENA network.

Representatives of the countries reported to the RTAC meeting the progress of started in March 2005 public awareness campaign towards IWRM principles – in order to ensure the complete comprehension of the IWRM concept in context of the achievement of MDGs by civil society in all CACENA countries.