

**Framework Convention
for the Protection of the Marine
Environment of the Caspian Sea**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Sixth Meeting

6-8 November 2019, Baku, Azerbaijan

Ratification Status of the Ancillary Protocols to the Tehran Convention

The Islamic Republic of Iran, acting in its capacity as the Depository of the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention) and its Protocols notifies the following:

- **The Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-Operation In Combating Oil Pollution Incidents To The Tehran Convention (Aktau Protocol)** was adopted at the third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP3) in Aktau, Kazakhstan on August 12, 2011 as the first protocol to the Tehran Convention. It was also signed by Azerbaijan, I. R. Iran, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation on the same date of adoption. According to the Article 17, paragraph 2, the Protocol was open to signature for six months and therefore it was signed by Turkmenistan on November 3, 2011. All certified translations of the Aktau Protocol in Azeri, English, Farsi, Kazakh, Russian and Turkmen texts are available within Depository.

The Aktau Protocol was ratified by all the Contracting Parties – Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan - and entered into force on 25 July 2016.

- **The Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (Moscow Protocol)** was adopted at the fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP4) in Moscow, Russian Federation on December 12, 2012. It was also signed by I. R. Iran and Turkmenistan on the same date. In accordance with the Article 22, paragraph 2 of the Protocol, it was signed by Russian Federation on May 2, 2013 and by Kazakhstan on May 5, 2013.

To this date, the Protocol has been ratified by I. R. Iran and Turkmenistan. Azerbaijan acceded to the Protocol in line with the Article 22, paragraph 3 of the Protocol. The entry into force of the Moscow Protocol is subject to its ratification by Kazakhstan and Russian Federation at national level. The Depository has already received the authentic texts of the Protocol in Azeri, English, Farsi, Kazakh, Russian and Turkmen.

- **The Protocol for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (Ashgabat Protocol)** was adopted at the fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP5) in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 30 May 2014. At the same date, it was signed by I. R. Iran, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan.

Up to now, only Turkmenistan has ratified the Protocol at national level and its entry into force depends on its ratification by other 4 Contracting Parties. The authentic texts of the Protocol in English, Farsi, Russian and Turkmen are already placed at Depository.

Upon the request by Kazakhstan to receive all the certified versions of translation of the Protocol; the Convention Depository sent all the translations except for Azeri to Kazakhstan through diplomatic Channel.

- **The Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in the Transboundary Context** was adopted and signed by all the Contracting Parties at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention in Moscow on 20 July 2018. The Depository has already received the

authentic texts of the Protocol in Azeri, English, Russian and Turkmen. To this date, the Protocol has been ratified by Azerbaijan.

The entry into force of the Protocol is subject to ratification of all five Contracting Parties at national level that will soon occurs as it was emphasized by the fifth Caspian Summit on August 12, 2018:

"The leaders paid close attention to the state of the environment in the Caspian. It was stated that the most important outcome of the efforts of the Caspian States in this direction was the signing on July 20, 2018 in Moscow of the Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in the Transboundary Context to the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea of November 4, 2003. It was instructed to finalize the internal procedures for the entry into force of its adopted protocols, as well as the process of locating the Secretariat of the Convention in the territory of the Caspian States on a rotation basis."