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



Distr.: General September 2022 Original: English

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES Sixth Meeting 19-21 October 2022, Baku, Azerbaijan

UNIFIED REPORTING FORMAT FOR THE TEHRAN CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS

Note by the interim Secretariat

Introduction

- 1. The Regular reporting by the Contracting Parties is envisaged by the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention), in accordance to which: 1) each National Authority shall submit "reports on measures adopted for the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and its Protocols in format and at intervals to be determined by the Conference of the Parties" (Article 27); 2) the Contracting Parties shall "co-operate in the development of procedures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Convention or its Protocols" (Article 28) and "exchange on a regular basis information, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention";3) the Contracting Parties "shall endeavour to ensure public access to environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea, measures taken or planned to be taken to prevent, control and reduce pollution of the Caspian Sea in accordance with their national legislation" (Article 21).
- 2. The development of a standard format for national reporting of the Contracting Parties of the Tehran Convention was undertaken upon their request, and in line with the provisions of the Convention. The unified reporting format was adopted at the COP3, Aktau, Kazakhstan 10-12 August 2011, as the guiding framework for reporting by the Caspian States on the implementation of the Tehran Convention.
- 3. At its 4th Meeting the PrepCom to COP6, November 2016, Geneva, agreed to the proposal of the Russian Federation and requested the interim Secretariat to ensure updating the Unified Reporting Format. At the meetings in Iran (Bandar Anzali, 16-20 April 2017) the updated Unified Reporting Format was initially reviewed:
- 4. At its 5th Meeting the PrepCom to COP6, November 2017, Geneva, the Parties reviewed and agreed on the Updated Unified Reporting Format which COP6 would be requested to adopt as a guidance for future reporting.

Suggested action

The Conference may wish to

Adopt the updated Unified Reporting Format as contained in Annex I.

Annex I

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CASPIAN SEA

REPORTING FORMAT

Moscow 2017

General Information

1.	Reporting	Partv
• •	reporting	,

Contracting Party	
Reporting period	
National Focal Point	
Full name of the institution	
Name of the National Focal Point	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	
Contact point for the national report	
Full name of the institution	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	
Signature of the NFP	
Date of submission	

2. Please list the documents used for the preparation of the national report.

3. It is assumed that the volume of the national report should not exceed 50 pages, including possible addenda/annexes.

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CONTENT OF THE UNIFORM FORMAT FOR REPORTING UNDER THE TEHRAN CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TEHRAN CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS PROVISIONS			
The URF-2017 items which are relevant to the provisions of the Tehran Convention and its protocols.	The relevant articles of the Tehran Convention and its protocols	Completing the Contracting Parties	
1	2	3	
	INTRODUCTION		
Information on the country implementation of decisions of the Conferences of the Parties to the Tehran Convention as of the reporting period.			
	GENERAL PROVISIONS		
a) The country legislative mechanisms of the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its protocols articles, and their changes as of the reporting period.			
b) Changes in the institutional framework of the national environmental policy related to the protection of the Caspian Sea marine and coastal environment as of the reporting period.			
c) Information on the national economic mechanisms which are applied in the country at implementing the Tehran Convention and its protocols provisions as of the reporting period.			

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1	2	3
d) Information on the activities to protect the Caspian Sea marine and coastal environment contained in various plans and programs as of the reporting period.		
e) Information on the country implementation of the Caspian littoral states multilateral agreements in the field of biodiversity conservation, hydrometeorology and others under the Tehran Convention and its protocols during as of the reporting period.		
f) Information on cooperation of the country with the CASPCOM and the Commission on Aquatic Bioresources as of the reporting period.		
g) Information on the country activity in the framework of bilateral agreements of the Caspian littoral countries, which is correlated with the activity under the Tehran Convention and its protocols as of the reporting period.		
h) Information on the country implementation of international agreements (CBD, UNCCD and the ESPOO Convention), which is correlated with the activity under the Tehran Convention and its protocols as of the reporting period.		

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1. PREVE	NTION, REDUCTION AND CONTROL	OF POLLUTION
1.1 Pollution from Land-Based Sources		
1	2	3
a) Activities, which are envisaged by the country NCAP and other national plans and programs and are aimed at the reduction or elimination of pollution from land-based sources as of the reporting period.	p. 2 art. 7 Moscow Protocol; section «B» Annex I Moscow Protocol;	
(Name of plans and programs, including related activities).	section «B» Annex II Moscow Protocol;	
b) The country legislation in the field of the prevention of the Caspian Sea pollution from land-based sources, and changes to it as of the reporting period. (Brief description of the legislation and changes to it).	p. 1 art. 7 Tehran Convention; pp. «f», p. 2, art. 4 Moscow Protocol;	
c) Data and information on availability in the country of warehouses, landfills, dumps, solid domestic wastes and oil extraction waste sites, that do not meet environmental requirements, as well as about conservation and elimination of land-based sources of pollution as of the reporting period. (Wherever possible provide data on dynamics as of the preceding period)	pp. «h» p. 2 art. 7 Tehran Convention; p. 3 section «A» Annex I Moscow Protocol;	
d) Changes in the country system/procedure of obtaining licenses/permits for wastewater discharges to prevent, reduce and control pollution from land-based sources as of the reporting period.	pp. «b» p. 2 art. 7 Tehran Convention; Preamble, Annex IV Moscow Protocol;	
e) Information on volumes of untreated (polluted) wastewater discharge, and trends in changing of volumes of polluted wastewater discharges in the country in comparison with the previous reporting period.	pp. «e» p. 2 art. 7 Tehran Convention; p. 3, section «A» Annex I Moscow Protocol;	

f) Information of the availability of treatment facilities and a brief description of the wastewater discharges control system in the country as of the reporting period. (Provide information on specific wastewater treatment enterprises and a brief characteristic of the production control, no more than 1.5 pages).	pp. «e» p. 2 art. 7 Tehran Convention	
g) Information and data on emissions of pollutants from scattered sources in the country as of the reporting period. (Specify point sources and provide, if possible, data and the dynamics of the pollutant emissions into the atmospheric air).	pp. «a» art. 3 Moscow Protocol; p. 1, 3 art. 7 Moscow Protocol; p. 1, art. 8 Moscow Protocol; p. 1, section «B» Annex II Moscow Protocol;	
h) Changes in the regular inspection and supervision system that regulates emissions into the environment in the country as of the reporting period. (Characterize in brief the control/supervisory and permitting activities, no more than 1-2 pages)	p. 4 art. 7 Moscow Protocol;	
i) Information on the application of best available technologies to reduce emissions and discharges of pollutants in the country as of the reporting period. (Briefly describe the legal and institutional mechanisms for the use of BAT, no more than 1 page).	pp. «a», p.2 art. 7 Tehran Convention; pp. «c», p.2 art. 5 Moscow Protocol; Pleamble, Annex V Moscow Protocol;	
1.2 Pollution from Seabed Activities		
1	2	3

a) Information on the country legislation governing activity on the Caspian seabed to prevent, reduce and control the Sea pollution (Brief description of the legislation, no more than 1 page).	art. 8 Tehran Convention;	
b) Information on the measures, which are taken by the country, to ensure safety of the activity on the Caspian seabed (the laying of pipelines, underwater excavation activity, the dismantling of various installations, construction and exploitation of artificial islands, etc.). (Provide, wherever possible, examples of the relevant activities and a list of measures related to ecological safety of this activity)	art. 8 Tehran Convention;	
	1.3 Pollution from Vessels	
1	2	3
a) The legislative instruments adopted in the country by analogy with international agreements, and respective amendments thereto to prevent, reduce and control pollution from vessels as of the reporting period. (List of legislative acts).	art. 9 Tehran Convention;	
b) Information on measures, which are undertaken in the country to mitigate pollution related to the shipping and shipping routes.	art. 9 Tehran Convention;	

c) Availability in the country of port waste management plans and of enterprises for receiving and processing wastes from vessels in the Caspian Sea.	art. 9 Tehran Convention;	
(Name of plans and programs, including the relevant activities).		
	1.4 Pollution Caused by Dumpi	ng
1	2	3
a) The country legislation governing the ban on dumping of wastes or other matter from vessels in the Caspian Sea as of the reporting period. (Brief description of the legislation).	p. 1 art. 10 Tehran Convention;	
b) Information on the country rules regulating prevention of pollution caused by dumping at vessels operating.	p. 1 art. 10 Tehran Convention;	
	1.5 Pollution caused by oil	
a) Information on the current activities of oil companies in the country, including these related to suspended wells, environmental safety of off-shore exploration, production, refining and transportation of hydrocarbons in the Caspian Sea. (no more than 1.5-2 pages)	section «A» and «B» Annex I Moscow Protocol;	

b) The country legislation as of the reporting period, regulating the oil companies' activities, the petroleum and chemical enterprises activities on the coastal-marine territories to prevent, control and reduce the level of the Caspian Sea oil pollution.	p. 2 art. 9 Moscow Protocol;	
(Brief description of the legislation).		
d) Availability of the country special environmental fishery requirements related to the development and production of hydrocarbons. (Provide brief clarifications for this issue).	p. «b» art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;	
,		
b) Measures, taken by the country as of the reporting period, to eliminate pollution of the marine environment and the coastal areas from oil contaminated lands that may be affected by flooding.	p. 2 art. 9 Moscow Protocol;	
e) Activities on the control of oil pollution sources that have a	p. «j» art. 5 Ashgabat Protocol;	
negative impact on biodiversity, including habitats and		
species, which is carried out by the country as of the reporting period.	p. «b» art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;	
(Provide a list of activities).		
f) Information on the availability of modern scientific research in the country, including ichthyological and toxicological studies, related to the impact of oil field	Preamble, art. 20 Tehran Convention;	
development and pipeline transportation on biodiversity and marine bioresources status, and on the accumulation of hydrocarbons in the tissues and organs of fish-indicators of the Caspian habitat status.	p. 1 art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;	
(Provide data about the specific research in the said areas).		

1.6 Pollution from Other Human Activities			
1	2	3	
a) The current legislative basis of and experience gained from measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution caused by the effects of the Sea level fluctuations, land reclamation and associated coastal dredging and construction of dams.	art. 11 Tehran Convention;		
(Brief description of the legislation)			
6) Information on the country programs that envisage measures to reduce pollution caused by the land reclamation, and agricultural programs, which include measures to minimize pollution of the coastal and marine areas of the Caspian Sea. (Name of programs/plans which envisage the mentioned measures and their brief description).	p. 1 art. 11 Tehran Convention; p. 2 art. 8 Moscow Protocol;		
1.7 Prevention of i	ntroduction, control and combating	of invasive alien species	
a) The country legislative regulation of alien species introduction into the Caspian Sea, including prevention/control of introduction of alien species with ballast waters and/or via other ways.	art. 12 Tehran Convention; p. «a» art. 7 Ashgabat Protocol;		
b) Availability of the country institutions exercising control of alien species introduction with ballast water. (A list of organizations which perform this control and the relevant explanation).			

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c) Availability in the country of a system of quarantine measures for economically significant invasive species, including these for fisheries. (Provide clarification).	p. «a» art. 7 Ashgabat Protocol;	
d) Activities (meetings, conferences) held in the country to study alien species introduced into the Caspian Sea, the risks posed by them and the invasion ways as of the reporting period.	art. 12 Tehran Convention; p. «b» art. 7 Ashgabat Protocol;	
1	2	3
e) Proposals of the country on the development and implementation of the Regional Caspian Sea Action Plan for the species which are identified as invasive.	p. «b» art. 7 Ashgabat Protocol;	
	1.8 Environmental Emergencie	es
a) Availability of the country legislative instruments as of the reporting period regarding the protection of people and the Caspian Sea marine environment from natural and anthropogenic disasters.	p. 1 art. 13 Tehran Convention;	
(A list of legislative acts and changes to them as of the reporting period).		
b) Information on the country system of operational response to oil pollution and the relevant national authorities dealing with the protection of people and the Caspian Sea marine environment from consequences of natural disasters or accidents as of the reporting period.	p. 1 art. 5 and p. 1 art. 8 Aktau Protocol;	
(Changes as of the reporting period).		

c) Information on technologies, which are applied in the country, to minimizing damage from emergencies in the coastal and marine environment of the Caspian Sea.	p. «b» art. 6 Aktau Protocol;	
d) Availability of the country legislative and other instruments which regulate an early warning system for industrial accidents and environmental emergencies as of the reporting period. (Brief description of early warning systems).	p. 3 art. 13 Tehran Convention; p. «c» art. 17 Ashgabat Protocol;	
e). Availability of a unified system of the training of the population and exercises in the field of emergencies related to oil spill. (Brief information about the system).	p. 4 art. 13 Tehran Convention; p. 4 art. 5 Aktau Protocol;	
f) Availability of national contingency plans for combating oil pollution of the Caspian Sea, including maps of vulnerable resources and environmentally sensitive areas, as well as activity to minimize damage to protected areas in the country as of the reporting period. (Brief information on the environmentally sensitive areas integration into the national plans).	p. 2 art. 5 Aktau Protocol; art. 9 Aktau Protocol; p. «h» art. 5 Ashgabat Protocol;	
g) A list of incidents that took place in the country during the reporting period for which response measures were taken.	p. 1 art. 4 and p. «c» art. 6 Aktau Protocol;	

2. PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT		
2.1 Protection, Preservation, Restoration and Rational Use of Biological Resources		
1	2	3
 a) The country information, as of the reporting period on the scientific organizations, which are occupied with study and assessment of the Caspian Sea biological resources status. (A list of scientific organizations). 	p. 1 art. 14 Tehran Convention;p. «a» art. 17 Ashgabat Protocol;p. 2 art. 16 Ashgabat Protocol;	
b) The country information on the Caspian Sea biological resources status, including major commercial species and the key species-indicators of the ecosystem status, and their status trends in comparison with the previous period. (Wherever possible provide data on dynamics as of the preceding period.)	pp. «a», p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention; Preamble art. 2 Ashgabat Protocol;	
c) Data on amounts of fry release into the Caspian Sea by the fishery enterprises of the country as of the reporting period. (Wherever possible provide the relevant data and the dynamics of changes as of the reporting period).	pp. «b», p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention;	
d) Information of the relevant scientific studies related to the methodology and risks of artificial reproduction of sturgeons and other Caspian species as of the reporting period.	pp. «b», p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention;	

e) Information on measures which are proposed by the country to maintain and restore the commercially valuable species.	pp. «c», p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention; p. «f», art. 6, Ashgabat Protocol pp. «f», p.1 art. 10 Ashgabat Protocol;		
f) Legal and administrative measures, implemented in the country as of the reporting period, to establish the allowable catches amounts, catchments control, as well as to prevent and counteract the illegal catchment of the Caspian Sea biological resources.	pp. «a» and pp. «c» p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention; p. «e» art. 5 Ashgabat Protocol; pp. «f» p.1 art. 10 Ashgabat Protocol;		
g) Measures undertaken by the country to conserve the Caspian sturgeons natural spawning grounds, including characteristics of spawning areas, and the effectiveness of these measures.	pp. «b» p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention; pp. «f» p.2 art. 4 Moscow Protocol;		
h) The country legislative and other mechanisms of the application of selective methods and fishing techniques that minimize losses at catching commercial species as of the reporting period.	pp. «d» p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention;		
2.2.Conservation of biodiversity and protection, preservation and restoration of endemic, rare and endangered biological species			
1	2	3	
a) Information about the country activities on the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for 2011-2020 and Aichi Targets in regard to in the context of the Tehran convention and the Ashgabat protocol provisions.	Preamble Ashgabat Protocol;		

b) Information about the country application of the CBD scientific criteria on identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection.	Preamble Ashgabat Protocol;	
(Brief characteristics of the marine protected natural areas).		
c) Information on national strategies, plans and programmes in the field of conservation of the Caspian Sea biological diversity and specially protected natural areas/aquatoria in the Caspian Sea region as of reporting period.	p. «e» art. 5, art. 12 Ashgabat Protocol;	
(Names of the relevant plans and programs).		
d) Information on the country measures to ensure preservation of the Caspian Sea rare and endangered species habitat.	pp. «e» p.1 art. 14 Tehran Convention; pp. «a» art. 5 Ashgabat Protocol;	
e) Availability in the country of legal protection for the Caspian key endangered species as well as for the key endangered species ex-situ and in-situ as of the reporting period.	pp. «i» art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;	

3. Coastal Zone Management		
1	2	3
a) Information on the availability in the country, as of the reporting period, of strategies, plans and programs for socio-economic development that include the integrated management of land affected by proximity to the Sea, with the aim to use the natural resources rationally, to conserve the protected areas, including wetlands connected with the Caspian Sea. (Provide information about the inclusion in relevant plans and programs of integrated management).	art. 12 Ashgabat Protocol; p.1 art. 10 Moscow Protocol;	
b) Availability of the country national plans and programs aimed at reforestation and combating desertification.	p. 2 art. 10 Moscow Protocol;	
c) Information about the country measures on application of the integrated approach for sustainable development of coastal zones, for reducing and suspending deforestation and land degradation.	pp. «g», p. 2 art. 4 Moscow Protocol; pp. «i» art. 5 Ashgabat Protocol; p. 2 art. 10 Moscow Protocol;	
d) Availability of modern scientific researches which are carried out in the country to form the Caspian Sea medium and long-term level regime prediction.	art. 16 Tehran Convention;	
e) Information about the account of the coastal areas vulnerability and of the coastal ecosystems natural dynamics, which depend upon the Sea level fluctuation, in national programs of countries, as well as at territorial planning and managing the coastal areas.	p. «c» art. 12 Ashgabat Protocol;	
4. PROCEDURES		

4.1 Environmental Impact Assessment			
1	2	3	
a) Availability of necessary legislative, administrative instruments in the country, as of the reporting period, to perform procedures for assessing the impact on the marine environment of the Caspian Sea (EIA).	p. 1 art. 4 draft Protocol EIA;		
b) Information about projects in the country, as of the reporting period, that may have a significant negative impact on the Caspian Sea marine and coastal environment.	p. 1 art. 17 Tehran Convention;		
c) Information about availability of national guidelines on EIA for land-based activities.	p. 1 art. 12 Moscow Protocol;		
d) Information on application of the EIA procedure in the country, as of the reporting period, for planned activities, carried out on land within the country, that may have a negative impact on the marine environment and coastal areas.	p. 2 art. 12 Moscow Protocol;		
e) Information on application of the EIA procedure in the country, as of the reporting period, as an instrument to prevent and minimize negative impact on biodiversity in the Caspian Sea marine environment.	art. 13 Ashgabat Protocol; pp. «d» section «B» Annex II Ashgabat Protocol;		
4.2 Monitoring			
a) The country legislation on monitoring of the Caspian Sea marine environment status and amendments to it as of the reporting period.			
b) Availability of national programs for monitoring of the marine environment status as of the reporting period.	p. 1 art. 19 Tehran Convention;		

c) Availability of the country national programs for biodiversity monitoring, including assessment of habitats, dynamics of populations and endangered species as of the reporting period.	pp. «b», p. 2 art. 10, pp. «g», art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;		
d) Availability of the country national programs for monitoring of invasive alien species, and organizations which perform such monitoring.	p. «a» art. 7 Ashgabat Protocol;		
e) Availability of the country List of pollutants under the control, and methods (criteria) for assessing the Caspian Sea marine environment quality.	pp. «d», p. 1 art. 13, section «B» Annex I Moscow Protocol;		
1	2	3	
f) Availability of laboratories or chemical analytical services in the country which are involved in the intercalibrations of analytical methods in the field of analytical chemistry of environmental objects in cooperation with the leading research organizations.	pp. «d», p. 1 art. 13, section «B» Annex I Moscow Protocol;		
g) Assessment of the Caspian Sea marine environment status as of the reporting period. Availability in the country of a periodical in which the assessment of the Caspian Sea	p. 3 art. 19 Tehran Convention; pp. «c», p. 1 art. 13 Moscow		
marine environment status is published.	Protocol;		
4.3 Cooperation among the Contracting Parties			
a) The country information on the development of cooperation with international organizations as of the reporting period.	p. 4 art. 16 Moscow Protocol;		
(Brief information on participation in international forums, meetings, conferences).			

b) The country proposals on the development of scientific and technical cooperation on the elaboration and harmonization of rules, standards and procedures to reduce and control the Caspian Sea marine and coastal environment pollution from land-based sources, as well as on the implementation of regional monitoring programs and compatible national monitoring programs which envisage analytical control of data quality, storage and sharing.	 p. 1 art. 18 Tehran Convention; p. 2 art. 13 Moscow Protocol; p. 1 art. 16 Moscow Protocol; p. 2 art. 16 Moscow Protocol; 		
c) Proposals of the country on the development of transboundary cooperation related to discharge from watercourses, flowing through the territory of two or more Parties or forming a boundary between them, in order to minimize pollution from land-based sources.	p. 2 art. 11 Moscow Protocol;		
d) The country proposals on the development of cooperation in the field of protection and conservation of endangered species and the species habitat restoration.	pp. «j» art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol; p. 1, art. 16, Ashgabat Protocol		
5. Public and other stakeholders participation in the implementation of the Tehran convention and the information exchange			
1	2	3	
a) Information on activities undertaken by the country, as of the reporting period, to involve local communities and the public into the events aimed at the protection of the marine environment and coastal areas against pollution from land-based sources, into the activities on the control and establishment of protected areas as well as public participation in the EIA procedure of the planned activity. (Information on the events held under the Tehran Convention; thematic).	pp. «c», p. 2 art. 10 Ashgabat Protocol; p. 1 art. 15 Moscow Protocol; p. 4 and p. 5 art. 4 draft Protocol EIA;		

b) Information about the country system of exchange of information, <i>inter alia</i> for public organizations, on the Caspian	p. «h» art. 6 Ashgabat Protocol;	
Sea marine environment and coastal areas status, on	art. 17 Ashgabat Protocol;	
biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of biological resources, preservation of endangered species populations,	art. 14 Moscow Protocol;	
as of the reporting period.	art. 14 Moscow Protocol,	
37	p. 2 art. 15 Moscow Protocol;	
c) Information about availability in the country of educational	pp. «a», p. 3 art. 16 Moscow	
and public awareness programs in the field of biological diversity conservation, sustainable and rational use of	Protocol;	
biological resources, prevention, reduction and elimination of	p. «d» art. 18 Ashgabat Protocol;	
the marine and coastal environment of the Caspian Sea pollution.		
poliution.		
	GENERAL CONCLUSIONS	
	SENERAL SONSESSIONS	
1	2	3
General assessment of the Tehran Convention		
implementation in the country, as of the reporting period, and proposals on raising effectiveness of its activity on the		
Caspian Sea marine environment protection from pollution,		
biodiversity conservation, sustainable and rational use of its		
biological resources.		