



PERMANENT MISSION OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

228 East 45th Str., New York, N.Y. 10017; tel: (212) 207-3315; fax: (212) 207-3855

INTERVENTION
by
AMBASSADOR JONIBEK HIKMAT

2023 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

“Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”

Tuesday, 31 January 2023

Mr/Madam Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegation of Cuba on behalf of the G77 and China.

We wish to express our gratitude to the President of ECOSOC H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva, for convening this important meeting and bringing together the Member States and all other key stakeholders to seize the opportunity a mobilize partnerships in support of the 2030 Agenda and its sustainable development goals.

Today the world faces the multidimensional challenges, including recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, fighting poverty and hunger, combating climate change, biodiversity loss, financing of the SDGs, economic and financial crises, growing debt distress, and current geopolitical tensions, in particular, the impact of the ongoing conflicts and climate change have highlighted the vulnerabilities of the countries, and aggravated the food, fertilizer and energy crises, particularly in developing countries.

The emerging debt challenges and vulnerabilities have intensified across developing countries in recent years and are fiscally constrained in generating resources needed for implementation of the 2030 agenda due to their debt burdens. In this context, the risks of a potential renewed cycle of debt crises and economic disruption pose a severe challenge to achieving the SDGs.

Unfortunately, the mentioned global challenges creating the big obstacles for timely implementation of the agenda 2030 and to achieve its Sustainable Development Goals.

To this end, we need immediate actions to enable the world to recover from current multiple crises and achieve the SDGs in remaining 8 years in order to leave no one behind. We need joint action-oriented and inclusive measures to enable the implementations of our ambitious goals.

Tajikistan is constantly taking the necessary steps to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

The National Development Strategy of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030 is aimed at raising living standards in line with the SDGs, ensuring energy independence and energy efficiency, breaking the communication deadlock and

transforming the country into a transit state, ensuring food security and access to quality food, as well as the country's rapid industrialization.

In this regard, Tajikistan is interested in strengthening the regulatory framework of multimodal transportation activities, establishing and developing a regional logistics center, and introducing digital technology, that can break the country's communication deadlock.

Mr/ Madam Chair

The climate change related issues are one of the priorities areas in our Agenda. The Impact of this global challenge created the serious obstacles to achieving SDGs in various countries, including my country. In this regards, we reiterate our call for a transformative action to implement Paris Agreement and to focus on the need of developing countries, who most affected by climate change. The pledge by developed countries to obilize 100 billion USD in support of developing countries should be fully and faithfully implemented in accordance with the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. We welcome the convening of COP27th in Sharm el-Sheikh and urge the full implementation of its decisions, including the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan.

Mr/ Madam Chair

Tajikistan is concerned about changes in the hydrological cycle leading to severe floods and droughts, which negatively impact water, energy, and food security. We pay special attention to the adverse effects of climate change, especially its impacts on glaciers.

It should be recalled, that in March 2021, during the first meeting of the Water and Climate Coalitions Leaders, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, talked about the rapid melting of glaciers along with the increase in water consumption, which is with the population growth and economic development, can have serious and negative consequences. To this end, the President of Tajikistan in order to raise awareness of this important issue at the international level proposed to declare 2025 as the International Year of Glacier Preservation, to determine the International Day of Glacier Preservation, and to establish and a special International Fund for Glacier Preservation.

It is a matter of pride that, on December 14, 2022 the UN General Assembly, in its 77th session, unanimously adopted the draft resolution entitled “International Year for Glaciers’ Preservation, 2025”. The big number of cosponsors of the resolution is once again a testimony that the international community has full trust for the initiatives and contributions of Tajikistan in tackling global climate challenges. On this occasion. We would like to thank all Member States for their support and contribution in advancing this important issue.

Tajikistan is convinced that this initiative would give impetus to a new global movement to take necessary collective action and to protect glaciers from intense melting and will fit into the mainstream of the measures currently taken by the world community within the framework of the Paris Agreement.

Mr/ Madam Chair

Tajikistan, as a country with abundant water resources, attaches great importance to the promotion of the global water agenda. We are the authors of a series of water-related resolutions at the UN, of which the resolutions proclaiming the period of 2018-2028 as an “International Decade for Action ‘Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028” and a Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028 are the latest ones.

Tajikistan and the Netherlands, as co-hosts of this milestone event and UNDESA serving as the Secretariat, supported by UN-Water, will work together within the mandate emanating from the December 2020 Modalities resolution to better organize the Conference through inclusive, cross-sectoral, and action-oriented preparatory processes.

It’s important to note that according to the GA resolution 75/212 and to further advance the objectives of the Water Action Decade within the Dushanbe Process, the Government of Tajikistan, in cooperation with the United Nations, convened the Second International High-Level Conference on International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028 in Dushanbe on June 6-9, 2022. The Dushanbe Water Conference became a key event in the preparatory process of the U.N. 2023 Water Conference since it brought together all the messages from other preparatory meetings and adopted a balanced outcome document.

We look forward to continuing the close cooperation with all member states, U.N. entities, international organizations, financial institutions, and other stakeholders in fulfilling the mandate of the resolution to make the UN Water Conference 2023 a success and encourage all Member States to fully utilize the opportunity offered by the Water Action Decade to promote the timely implementation of SDG 6 and other water-related goals and targets.

I thank you for your attention!