
Roundtable in memory of Prof. V.A. Dukhovniy on “Continuing the Work of Professor V.A. Dukhovniy”

Videoconference Report, 16 August 2022

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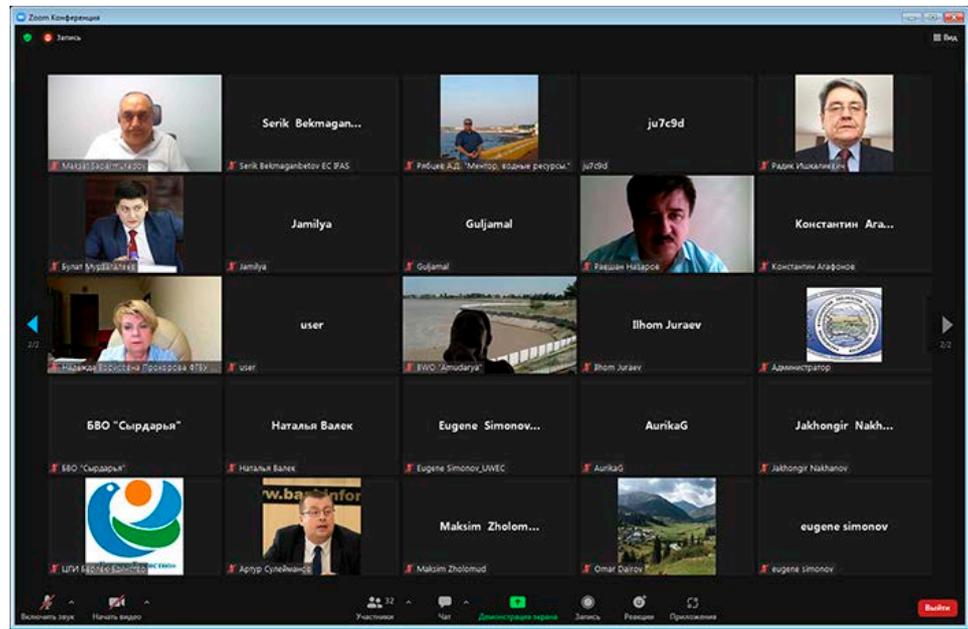
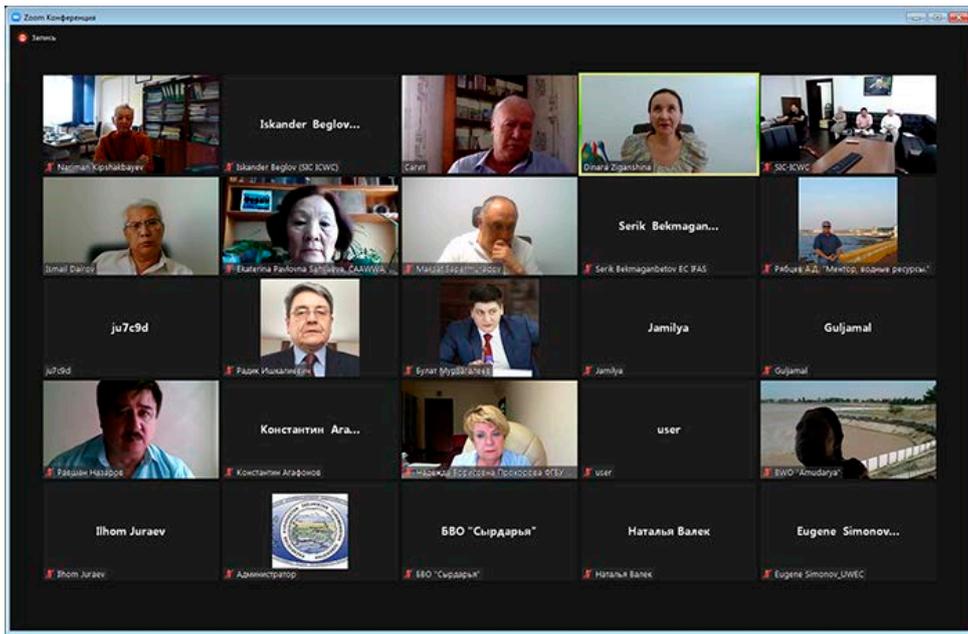
Scientific Information Center, ICWC

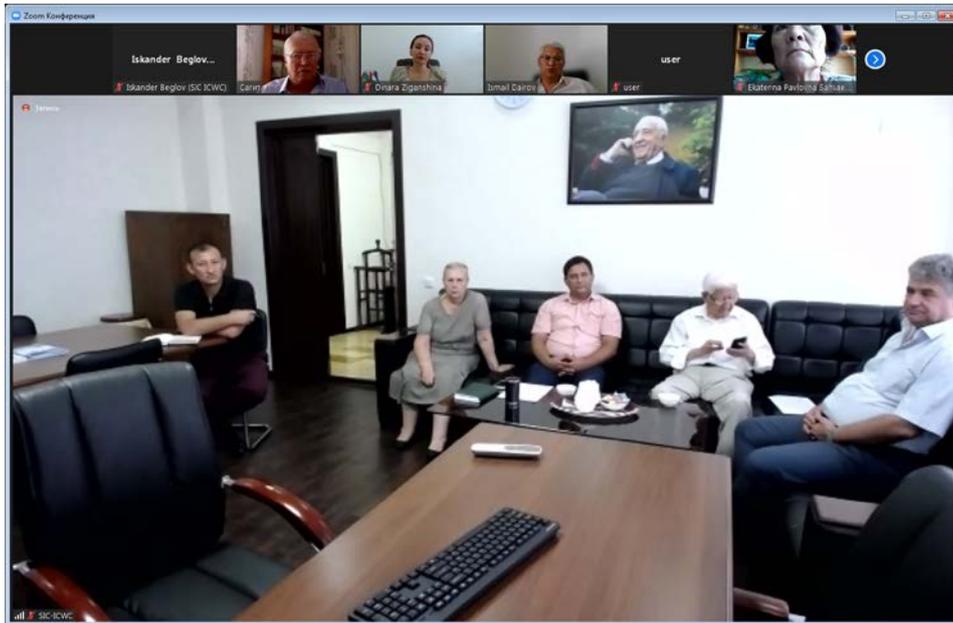
Roundtable organizers



“We shall finish what’s left unfinished”
V.A. Dukhovniy, 8 June 2021

A roundtable “Continuing the work of Professor V. A. Dukhovniy” was held in the format of a videoconference on 16 August 2022. Thirty-five participants attended this roundtable – water experts and practitioners, scientists, university professors, NGO representatives, employees of regional organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Russia. Speakers honored the memory of Professor V. A. Dukhovniy who was a great scientist, organizer of land reclamation and water engineering. Participants stressed the importance of putting his thoughts and ideas into practice, digitalizing and disseminating his scientific heritage. They also noted the significance of this event and necessity for conducting it on a regular basis. V.A. Dukhovniy has continuously emphasized the importance of addressing the issues which were raised in these reports: sustainable use of water resources and water saving, development of transboundary water cooperation with consideration of economic sectors nexus, the need for up to-date training programs for specialists in water sector, provision of opportunities for staff development on a regular basis, the climate change impact on water resources of CA, including issues of transferring part of Siberian rivers flow to Central Asia.





Cooperation with Prof. V.A. Dukhovniy in the field of transboundary water use and protection

N. Kipshakbayev, Prof., Director of SIC ICWC Kazakhstan branch, Almaty

The history of initiation, establishment and development of transboundary water cooperation in Central Asia was presented; the importance of strengthening and improving it through the development of a collaborative regional, systematic approach was emphasized during the presentation.

In this regard the need for resuming and conducting regional meetings on a regular basis was underlined. As V.A. Dukhovniy was an active organizer of these meetings. Particular attention was given to human capacity development in water sector. The work of SIC ICWC on digitization of the scientific heritage of Prof. Dukhovniy has been supported.



Scientific work of Prof. V.A. Dukhovniy in the field of water training

S. Ibatullin, Dr. of technical science, Prof., Director of International Training Center for the Safety of Hydrotechnical Facilities

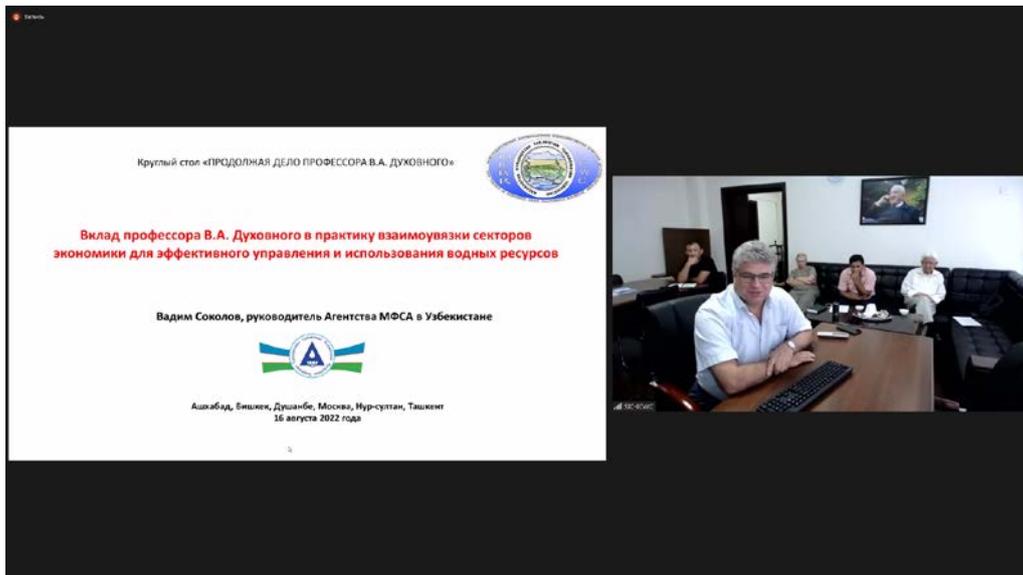
“**Education through life but not for entire life**” was the core message of the presentation. The report raised issues concerning the need of education quality improvement; the invaluable experience of SIC ICWC in the field of advanced training of water specialists was highlighted. The formation process of training for water industry specialists in Central Asia, based on the Bologna system of education was demonstrated during the roundtable. It was proposed to prepare practical training manuals on various water disciplines on the basis of the V.A. Dukhovniy’s works.



Contribution of Prof. V.A. Dukhovniy to nexus practices for efficient water management and use

V. Sokolov, PhD, Head of IFAS Project Implementation Agency

The role of V.A. Dukhovniy in creation of the Expert Platform of prospective interdisciplinary research in the field of water security and sustainable development in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and adjacent regions was shown. The results of this platform's research were presented – Diagnostic Report on Water Resources Management in Central Asia as of 2019. According to the Diagnostic Report, the interaction (nexus) is a tool for building links (institutional and technical) as well as practical interaction of all economic sectors that manage water resources or use; the speakers presented a tool for assessing sectors’ interdependence based on string analysis of factors and indicators towards achieving sustainable development goals.

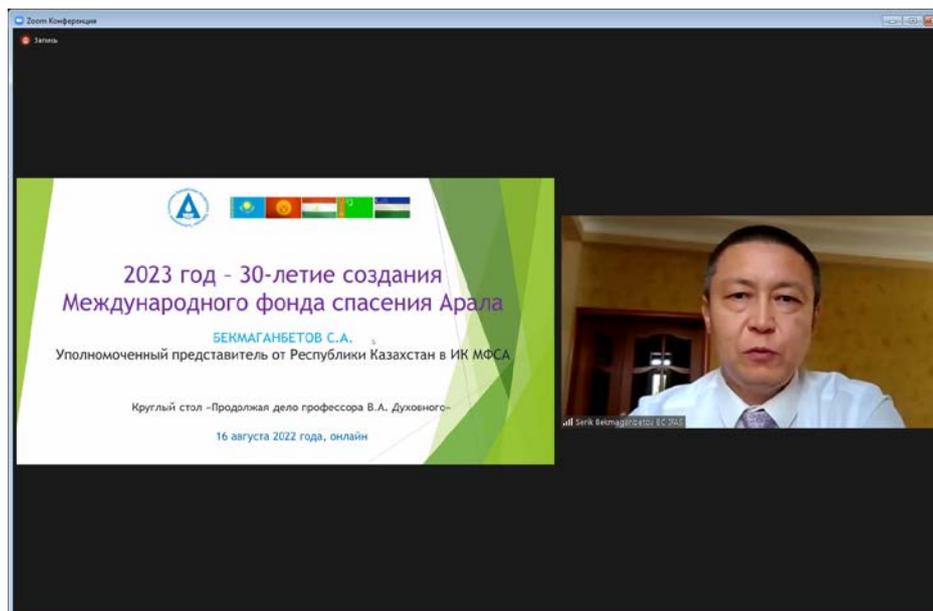


2023 – 30th anniversary of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

S. Bekmaganbetov, EC IFAS, Authorized representative from the Republic of Kazakhstan, Dushanbe

“The one who at the age of 30 could not defeat the Horde, that one won’t take a fortress at the age of 40”.

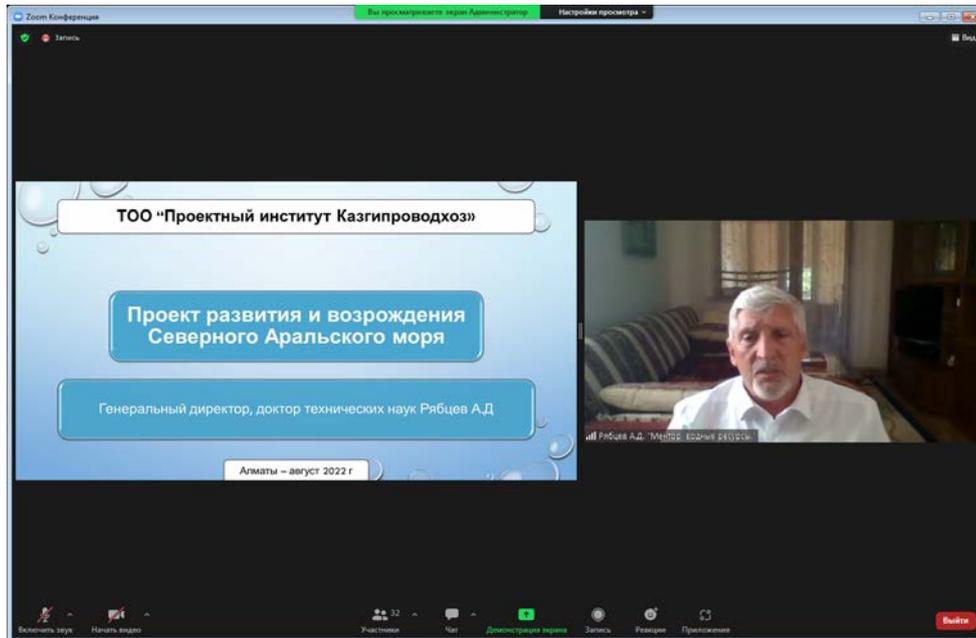
IFAS is a brand, a hallmark of Central Asia. The main stages, facts and a brief history of IFAS, which would celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2023, were presented in the report. The preparation for the anniversary events and the regular Summit of Heads of States has begun. Currently, the process of improving the organizational structure and contractual legal framework of IFAS has been launched.



A new vision for solving the problems of the Small Aral Sea

A. Ryabtsev, General Director of LLP “Design Institute Kazgiprovodkhoz”; Acting Executive Secretary of the EECCA Network of Water-Management Organizations, Almaty

The results of the project "Syr Darya Control and Northern Aral Sea" Phase 1 (SYNAS-1, 1998-2010) were presented. The issues of feasibility study development of the project "Syr Darya Control and Northern Aral Sea", Phase 2 (SYNAS-2, 2007-2013) were addressed. The advantages and disadvantages of the proposed solutions are under consideration: the one-level option with water supply through the Saryshyganak Bay and the Syrdarya River (48.00 mBS); the two-level options of NAS: NAS – 42.00 mBS and the Saryshyganak Bay – 50.00 mBS.



Knowledge in the history of water science

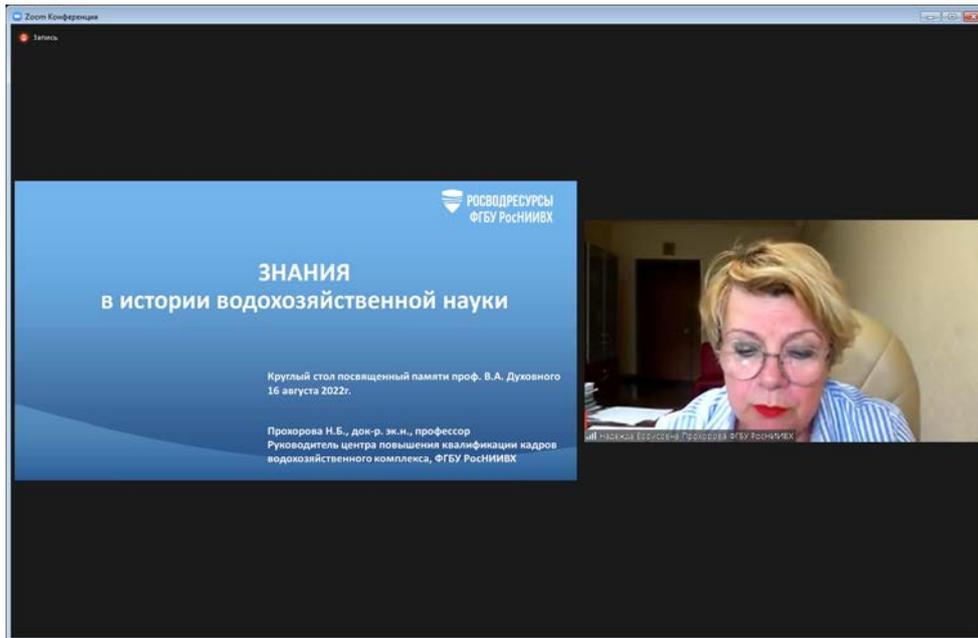
N. Prokhorova, Dr. of Economics, Prof., Head of the Water Professional Development Center at FGUP RosNIVH, Yekaterinburg

For the purpose of implementation of the Presidential Decree of the Russian Federation of April 25, 2022 No. 231 "On Declaring a Decade of Science and Technology in the Russian Federation", the work of Russian Research Institute for Integrated Water Management and Protection (RosNIVH) and its subdivisions - the "Water Museum" and Center for professional development was presented. The objectives of main activities included:

1. Attracting young people to the field of research and development;
2. Facilitating the involvement of researchers and developers in solving the most important tasks of society and country development;
3. Increasing the availability of information about the achievements and prospects of Russian science to citizens.

The Information and Analytical Platform has been opened for water specialists who are striving to enhance their professional competencies.

The whole "history of water management" was found in scientific works of V.A. Dukhovniy. In this regard, the importance of ongoing work on digitization of scientific heritage of V.A. Dukhovniy for increasing awareness of theorists and practitioners was emphasized.



Adaptation to climate change and reduction of water-related disaster risks and relevant measures taken by Uzbekistan

I. Djurayev, EC IFAS, Authorized representative from the Republic of Uzbekistan, Dushanbe

The measures taken by Uzbekistan in solving problems related to climate change and natural disasters were highlighted in the report. The necessity to intensify works on water saving and importance of scientific heritage of V.A. Dukhovniy on these issues was emphasized.



Climate change and water resources in Central Asia

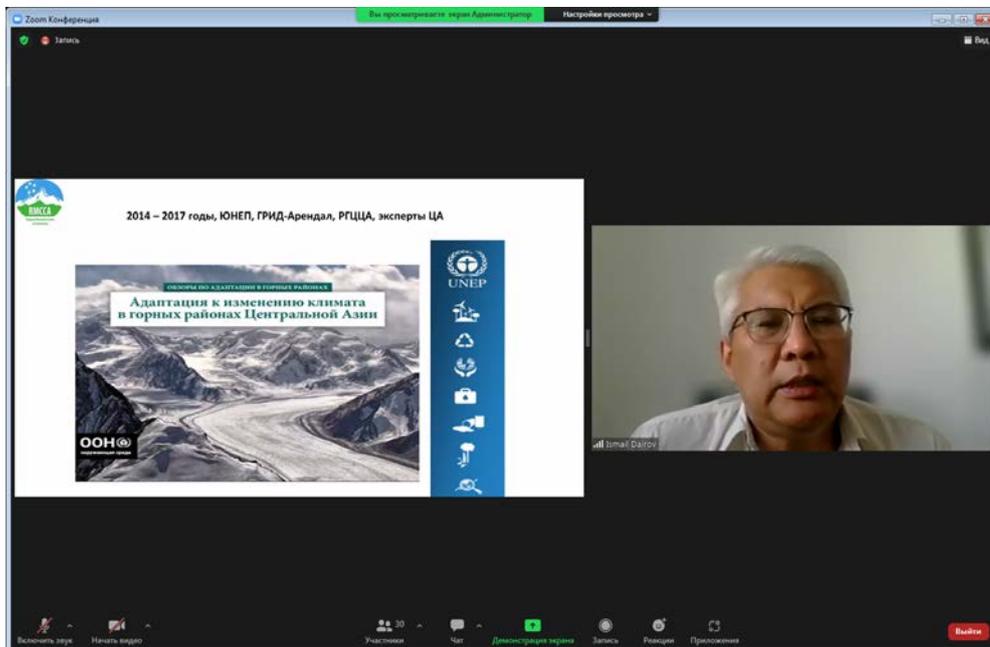
I. Dairov, Director of the Central Asian Regional Mountain Center, Bishkek

"A drop of water is worth more than gold."

The results of the study on the impact of climate change to water resources in Central Asia were presented during videoconference. The main problems related to climate change have been identified and classified according to four directions: Scientific; Institutional and Political; Regulatory and legal; Financial.

Eight priority areas for action to strengthen regional cooperation have been identified. They represent the sectors or intersectoral areas that are most significant for Central Asia.

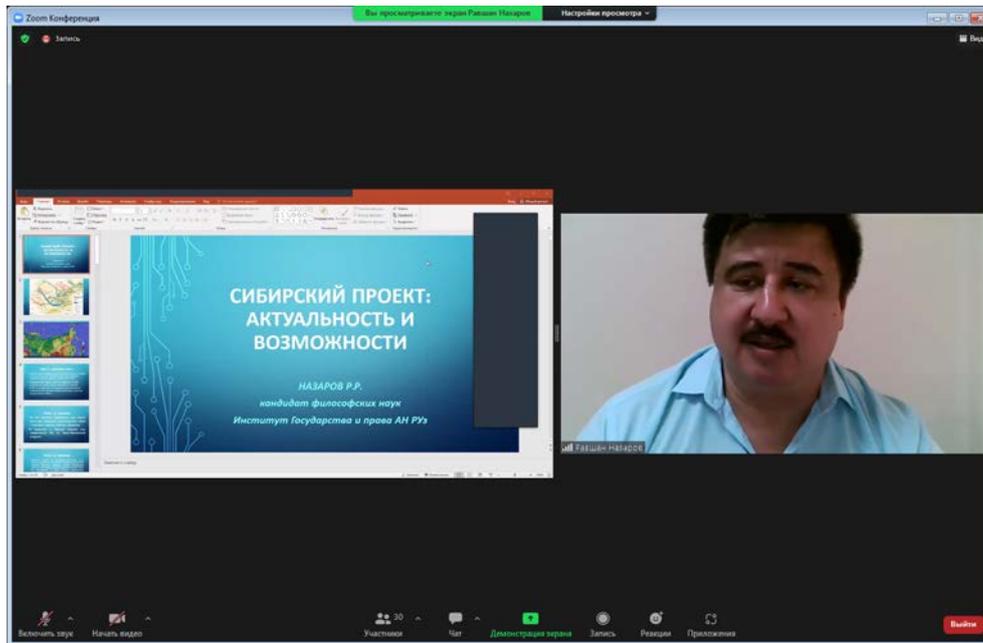
The need for a systematic and comprehensive approach to climate change issues, a clear understanding, for example, of quantitative changes in the flow of the Syr Darya and Amu Darya Rivers by 2030 and development of adaptation options were outlined in the report, accordingly.



The Siberian project: relevance and opportunities

R. Nazarov, PhD, Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent

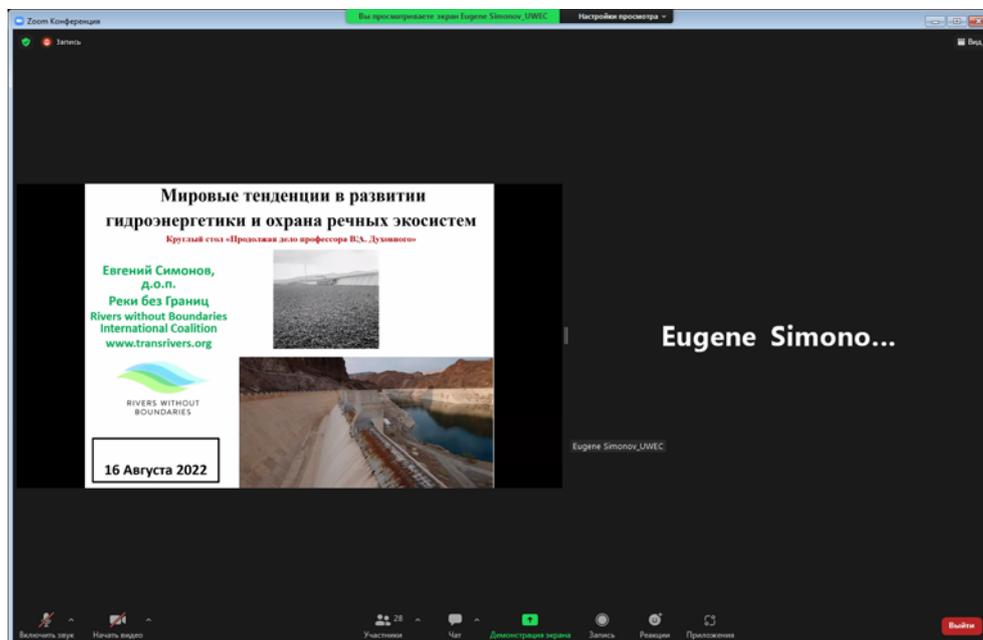
The author presented the idea of transferring Siberian Rivers to Central Asia in a historical context.



Global trends in hydropower development and protection of river ecosystems

E. Simonov, “Rivers without Boundaries” International Coalition

Global trends in hydropower development were presented during the videoconference. The author's report was published in the SIC ICWC Yearbook 2020 "Water in Central Asia and the World" and updated data was submitted there.



Proposals and presentations

D. Bayalimov proposed to convene a conference with participation of water veterans from Central Asian countries.

E. Sakhvaeva noted achievements of V. A. Dukhovniy in water specialists' education and his great services in building up and developing interstate transboundary water relations. It was necessary to continue the work with the efforts of all countries, including IFAS, SIC ICWC, in preserving the values of "unity and family" of water professionals, which were so dear to V.A. Dukhovniy. E. Sakhvaeva supported the idea of digitization of Dukhovniy's works and the proposal of D. Bayalimov.

N. Shulepina raised the issue of water treatment in cities and the reuse of already clean water, mainly because of the insufficient degree of purification.

V. Sokolov proposed to promote the monograph "Restoration of ecological system in the delta of the Syr Darya and the northern part of the Aral Sea". - Almaty: "Evero", 2010, prepared under the supervision of N. Kipshakbaev and with the participation of V.A. Dukhovniy for the State Prize of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

G. Kadyriy supported the idea of renewal professional development courses in water sector for mid-level water management organizations.

F. Irmatov raised the issue of IWRM and water-saving technologies' implementation.

Y. Pulatov thanked the speakers of the conference and highlighted the importance of considering Central Asian conditions when assessing global trends in hydropower development.

I. Dairov proposed to focus more on water saving, development and economic mechanisms' implementation for water use.