

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**of the 6 (26) Session of Coordination Committee on Hydrometeorology**  
**of the Caspian Sea**

The 6 (26) Session of Coordination Committee on Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea (CASPCOM) was held through videoconference on 1 March 2023.

The Session was attended by representatives of the National Hydrometeorological Organizations (NMHSs) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, and Turkmenistan.

The main activities of the Coordination Committee on Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea in 2021-2022 were as follows:

- progress in the elaboration of CASPCOM organizational documents required to implement Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea;
- the updated CASPCOM data catalogues (sea level, air temperature, water temperature and salinity, regional atmospheric circulation and surface runoff to the Caspian Sea);
- CASPCOM bulletins on the state of the Caspian Sea level containing the assessment of actual and expected seasonal changes of the sea level;
- first version of the CASPCOM climate bulletin;
- national achievements in the field of hydrometeorology and monitoring of the Caspian Sea, which create a framework for expanding of NMHS's co-operation and increasing its efficiency.

**1. Implementation of Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea**

At the 6 (26) CASPCOM Session, the Parties have considered the implementation of the Agreement on Co-operation in the Field of Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea and elaboration of Intergovernmental Integrated Programme on Hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea. Having reviewed the draft of the CASPCOM Rules of Procedure,

*the Session recommends as follows:*

- CASPAS Coordinator is to forward the CASPCOM Rules of Procedure with the modifications agreed at the 6 (26) Session to the NMHSs within 2 month after the completion of this Session;
- NMHSs are to prepare comments on and proposals to the draft CASPCOM Rules of Procedure and to forward them to CASPAS Coordinator not later than 3 months before the next, 7 (27) CASPCOM Session. In case of no observations by this deadline, the document will be considered as a preliminarily agreed and will be submitted as it is to the next Session for a further consideration;
- CASPAS Coordinator is to forward a draft document revised in line with the received comments and proposals to the NMHSs one month prior to the 7 (27) CASPCOM Session.

## **2. CASPCOM activities and national activities in the field of hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea**

Having appreciated the CASPCOM' and the national activities in the field of hydrometeorology of the Caspian Sea in 2021 - 2022, expressing its intention to deepen cooperation in the field of climate and agreeing to establish the Working Group on climate for these purposes,

*the Session recommends as follows:*

- NMHSs are to prepare proposals on the composition of the Working Group, which would include 2 experts from each country – 1 meteorologist and 1 hydrologist. Proposals should be sent to the CASPAS Coordinator no later than 3 months before the 7(27) CASPCOM Session. The CASPAS Coordinator is to prepare the draft Terms of Reference of the Working Group and to send them to NMHSs for approval 1 month before the 7 (27) CASPCOM Session;
- CASPCOM is to approve the layout of the annual climate bulletin, to express gratitude to Kazhydromet and Roshydromet for the national chapters of the bulletin for 2021 prepared to the 6 (26) Session;
- The Coordinator of CASPAS is to combine the national chapters prepared by Kazhydromet and Roshydromet into a single climate bulletin for 2021 no later than 3 months after the end of the Session, and after approval to publish it on the CASPCOM website;
- NMHSs are to prepare their national chapters of the climate bulletin for 2022 and send them to the CASPAS Coordinator no later than 2 months before the start of the next 7 (27) CASPCOM Session. The CASPAS Coordinator is to summarize all the NMHS proposals and present them at the next 7(27) CASPCOM Session.

On the issues of the current work of CASPCOM, *the Session recommends as follows:*

- NMHSs, which have gaps in the earlier submitted data for the CASPCOM catalogues, are to submit the missing data within 2 months after the completion of the 6 (26) Session;
- CASPAS Coordinator is to provide the CASPCOM members with the updated versions of the Catalogues by e-mail after completing the data sets;
- NMHSs are to provide data for CASPCOM Catalogues in time, no later than 2 months before the next CASPCOM session;
- CASPAS Coordinator is to continue annual updates of CASPCOM Catalogues with the newly submitted data (on sea level, air and water temperature, surface runoff and regional atmospheric circulation, seawater salinity) and to post the updated catalogues on CASPCOM web-site once in two years;
- CASPAS Coordinator is to continue issuing CASPCOM information bulletins on the state of the Caspian Sea level in 2023;
- CASPAS Coordinator is to prepare an annotated Agenda for the next Session and to forward it to the NMHSs no less than a month prior to the Session.

## **3. CASPCOM cooperation with international organizations**

Having taken note of the information on the progress of cooperation between CASPCOM and the Tehran Convention, expressed in the participation of a representative of CASPCOM and specialists of NMHSs in the development of a new version of the Caspian Sea Environmental Monitoring Program, including climate change monitoring, as well as the research project "Urbanization and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caspian Sea region", providing, in particular, assessment of climate change and the hydrological regime of the Caspian Sea, and expressing readiness to continue cooperation with the Convention,

*the Session recommends as follows:*

- CASPCOM is to expand and strengthen operating contacts with the Tehran Convention on the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between them in 2013, primarily by participating in the development of relevant sections of the Caspian Sea Environmental Monitoring Program and the project "Urbanization and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caspian Sea region" initiated by the Convention;
- CASPCOM is to include into the Terms of Reference of the CASPCOM Climate Working Group the possibility of contributing to the implementation of climate projects initiated by the Tehran Convention.

#### **4. Date and venue of the next CASPCOM Session**

The Session has requested Kazhydromet to consider holding the next, 7 (27), Session of CASPCOM in Republic of Kazakhstan in 2023, and to inform NMHSs in 2 months after the completion of the 6(26) Session. If agreed, Kazhydromet shall inform NMHSs and CASPAS Coordinator on the actual date and venue of the Session not later than three months before it.

#### **5. Adoption of recommendations of the 6 (26) CASPCOM Session**

The Parties decided to adopt these recommendations in due course within 1 month after the end of the 6 (26) Session.

The CASPAS Coordinator is to send the NMHSs draft recommendations of the 6 (26) Session no later than 3 weeks after its end.