

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the Coordinating Committee on Hydrometeorology
and Pollution Monitoring of the Caspian Sea
and the Framework Convention
for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea

Recognizing the uniqueness and integrity of the Caspian Sea, its significant natural resource and economic potential, whose rational use is of paramount importance for the sustainable development of Caspian littoral states;

Noting the common interest in development of the Caspian Sea monitoring for preservation of its environment;

Emphasizing the importance of providing the end-users with reliable hydrometeorological data and information on the state of the environment, to assist them in their activities, as well as in solving social, economic and environmental problems of the Caspian Sea;

Acknowledging the assistance from the international organizations, foundations, and donors towards solution of the economic and environmental problems of the Caspian Sea;

Relying on commitments of the Caspian littoral states to render support to activities towards the sustainable development of the Caspian Sea region

the Coordinating Committee on Hydrometeorology and Pollution Monitoring of the Caspian Sea (CASPCOM) and the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran, 2003), hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", have agreed as follows:

- The Parties will provide effective contributions to implementation of the objectives under the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, as well as the objectives under the Integrated Programme on Hydrometeorology and Pollution Monitoring of the Caspian Sea (CASPAS);
- The Parties will cooperate in the field of hydrometeorology and pollution monitoring of the Caspian Sea. To this end, CASPCOM will avail the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea of data and information obtained by CASPCOM that are pertinent to solution of the social, economic, and environmental problems of the Caspian Sea, provided that such transfer of information will be executed in accordance with the agreed legal standards required for this procedure.

For its part, the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea will refer to CASPCOM as an authoritative source of data and information pertaining to the hydrometeorology and monitoring of environmental pollution of the Caspian Sea;

- The Parties will undertake concrete steps to provide practical assistance to the Caspian states for rehabilitation and development of an integrated regional observation system and exchange of hydrometeorological data and information on the state and pollution of the Caspian Sea;
- The Parties will provide consultations and keep each other informed on the ongoing and scheduled activities and initiatives of mutual interest;
- The Parties will undertake appropriate administrative measures to ensure their participation in the sessions and meetings of mutual interest;
- The Parties will appoint their authorized focal points for keeping contacts on the issues of mutual interest.

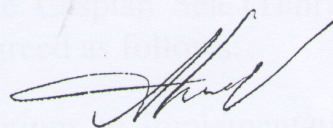
Signed in the city of Ashgabat on the twenty-eighth day of November of 2013 in two English copies.

**For
the Coordinating Committee
on Hydrometeorology
and Pollution Monitoring
of the Caspian Sea**



**Batyr Hallyyev
Chairman of the Coordinating
Committee on Hydrometeorology
and Pollution Monitoring
of the Caspian Sea**

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



**Mahir Aliyev
Regional Coordinator
UNEP Regional Office
for Europe**