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BMT GLOBAL KONVENSIYALARI BO‘YICHA MAJBURIYATLARNI AMALGA OSHIRISH KONTEKSTIDA O‘ZBEKISTONNING EKOLOGIK FAOLIYATI: TARIX VA ZAMONAVIYLIK

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Annotatsiya

Mazkur maqolada O‘zbekiston Respublikasining mustaqillik yillarida ekologik siyosatining xalqaro munosabatlarga integratsiyalashuvi jarayonlari, mamlakatning atrof-muhitni muhofaza qilish sohasidagi global konvensiyalarda ishtiroki misolida tahlil qilinadi. O‘zbekiston Respublikasi mintaqaviy va xalqaro tabiatni muhofaza qilish jarayonlarida faol ishtirok etayotgani, hamkorlik global ekologik konvensiyalar — ko‘p tomonlama tabiatni muhofaza qilish bitimlari, shuningdek ikki va ko‘p tomonlama kelishuvlar hamda memorandumlar orqali amalga oshirilayotgani ko‘rsatib o‘tiladi. Shu bilan birga, iqlim o‘zgarishini oldini olish, cho‘llanish va yer degradatsiyasiga qarshi kurashish, biologik xilma-xillikni saqlash, chiqindilar muammosini hal etish va boshqa ekologik yo‘nalishlardagi xalqaro-huquqiy hujjatlarda O‘zbekiston ishtiroki masalalari tahlil qilinadi. Xususan, Iqlim o‘zgarishi bo‘yicha konvensiya, Cho‘llanishga qarshi kurashish konvensiyasi, Biologik xilma-xillik to‘g‘risidagi konvensiya, Ramsar konvensiyasi va boshqa hujjatlar doirasida majburiyatlarni amalga oshirish jarayonlari yoritiladi.

Kalit so‘zlar: O‘zbekiston, global iqlim o‘zgarishi, toza rivojlanish mexanizmi, cho‘llanish, yer degradatsiyasi, integratsiya, konvensiya, strategiya, huquqiy hujjat, loyihalar

ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТЬ УЗБЕКИСТАНА В КОНТЕКСТЕ ВЫПОЛНЕНИЯ ОБЯЗАТЕЛЬСТВ ПО ГЛОБАЛЬНЫМ КОНВЕНЦИЯМ ООН: ИСТОРИЯ И СОВРЕМЕННОСТЬ

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Аннотация

В данной статье анализируются процессы интеграции экологической политики Республики Узбекистан в международные отношения за годы независимости на примере участия страны в глобальных конвенциях в области охраны окружающей среды. Отмечается, что Республика Узбекистан является активным участником региональных и международных природоохранных процессов, а сотрудничество осуществляется посредством реализации глобальных экологических конвенций — многосторонних природоохранных соглашений, а также двусторонних и многосторонних соглашений и меморандумов. В этой связи рассматриваются вопросы участия Узбекистана в международно-правовых документах в области предотвращения изменения климата, борьбы с опустыниванием и деградацией земель, сохранения биологического разнообразия, решения проблем отходов и других экологических направлений. В частности, освещены процессы реализации обязательств по Рамочной конвенции ООН об изменении климата, Конвенции по борьбе с опустыниванием, Конвенции о биологическом разнообразии, Рамсарской конвенции и другим.

Ключевые слова: Узбекистан, глобальное изменение климата, механизм чистого развития, опустынивание, деградация земель, интеграция, конвенция, стратегия, правовой документ, проекты

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES OF UZBEKISTAN IN THE CONTEXT OF

IMPLEMENTATION OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UN GLOBAL CONVENTIONS: HISTORY AND MODERNITY

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Abstract

This article analyzes the processes of integrating the environmental policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan into international relations during the years of independence, using the country's participation in global environmental conventions as an example. It highlights that Uzbekistan is an active participant in regional and international environmental protection processes, with cooperation carried out through the implementation of global environmental conventions—multilateral environmental agreements—as well as bilateral and multilateral agreements and memoranda. In this context, the study examines Uzbekistan's participation in international legal instruments aimed at preventing climate change, combating desertification and land degradation, conserving biodiversity, addressing waste management issues, and other environmental challenges. In particular, it covers the implementation of obligations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ramsar Convention, and others.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, global climate change, clean development mechanism, desertification, land degradation, integration, convention, strategy, legal document, projects

Central Asia, which occupies a special place in the history of world civilizations and is rich in natural and labor resources, is considered one of the important regions of our planet. By the last decade of the twentieth century, when the republics of Central Asia gained state independence, they had the opportunity to choose their own destiny and path of development. At the same time, in the second half of the twentieth century, a range of environmental problems in this region required the strengthening of regional integration.

That is why the ideas of sustainable development, which envisage appropriate economic, environmental, and social development to improve the quality of life of current and future generations, have gained broad understanding and support in the countries of the region. In the region, actions and initiatives supported by such regional organizations as the Executive Committee of the International Fund to Save the Aral Sea, the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development, the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination, and the Central Asian Regional Environmental Center are being implemented.

During the years of independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan became a party to and ratified a number of international conventions in the field of environmental protection, as well as relevant protocols for their implementation. On this basis, important environmental protection measures have been implemented in the country.

Currently, the country is implementing the **Environmental Protection Concept of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030**, which includes approval of the “Yo‘l xaritasi” (Roadmap) for solving global environmental problems, developing international cooperation, and fulfilling the obligations assumed by the republic; development and adoption of the National Action Plan for implementation of the Paris Agreement; expansion of the contractual and legal basis of cooperation with interested countries in the field of environmental protection; and study of the expediency of the country's accession to a number of conventions, protocols, and other international agreements, among other tasks.

Literature Review

In the historiography of the subject, the research results of foreign experts such as K. Griffin, F. Micklin, M. Spur, and D. Candiotti play an important role. They have covered the main

aspects of the environmental situation in the Central Asian region, efforts to ensure regional environmental security, and tasks related to strengthening environmental cooperation. In the literature on international environmental relations, the state policy aimed at ensuring environmental stability in Uzbekistan, especially issues of international cooperation in this direction, is also reflected.

In particular, Abdullaeva G. (*Ekologicheskaya politika Respubliki Uzbekistan v usloviyakh po etapnoy integratsii v mirovoe soobshchestvo*. Autoref. diss. k.p.n. – T., 2001), Alikhanov B. (*Ekologicheskaya bezopasnost v Tsentralnoy Azii i katastrofa Aral'skogo morya // Ekologicheskiiy vestnik*. 2008. No. 9. Pp. 10–14), Ikramova N.I. (*Mezhdunarodnaya integratsiya – put resheniya problem Arala // Obshchestvennyye nauki v Uzbekistane*. 2003. No. 1–2. Pp. 36–39), Tillyaev T.S. (*Annotirovanny perechen mezhdunarodnykh dogovorov Respubliki Uzbekistan i natsionalnykh aktov v oblasti okhrany i ratsionalnogo ispolzovaniya biologicheskogo raznoobraziya // Bioraznoobraziye Uzbekistana – monitoring i ispolzovanie*. T., 2007. Pp. 92–98), Tursunova R.Yu. (*Vklad Uzbekistana v obespechenie ekologicheskoy bezopasnosti (na primere Aral'skoy problemy) // Scientific Almanac*. 2015. No. 7. Pp. 1175–1181), and Davletov S.R. (*Ecological Situation in Uzbekistan and Its Social Problems (Second Half of the 20th Century – Beginning of the 21st Century)*. Tashkent, 2012) also reflect issues related to the implementation of global environmental conventions in their scientific works.

Analysis and Methodology

The application of the principle of objectivity in research makes it possible to minimize the influence of subjective views on the interpretation and evaluation of evidence. From this point of view, the principles of historicity, scientificity, and objectivity, which constitute the dialectical foundations of scientific knowledge, serve as the theoretical and methodological basis of this research. Historical-comparative, systematization, problem-chronological, interdisciplinary, and statistical research methods were used in the study.

Ratification of and accession to international legal documents in the field of environmental protection and development are important factors enabling Uzbekistan to fulfill its obligations to the international community. The development of international cooperation in this field, in addition to bringing political and economic benefits to the country, helps improve international relations in solving transboundary problems. Participation of the Republic of Uzbekistan in international environmental conventions contributes, on the one hand, to the country's integration into the global environmental process and, on the other hand, to Uzbekistan's becoming an equal member of the world community, gaining the right to receive technical and financial assistance from developed countries, apply new modern technologies in production, and develop non-traditional energy sources. Financial support includes grants from convention secretariats, conservation projects under the conventions and international organizations, as well as bilateral and scientific assistance.

Many laws, presidential decrees, government resolutions, and institutional reforms have been adopted in Uzbekistan in order to ensure fulfillment of international convention obligations. The legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of environmental protection includes more than 100 laws and decisions governing the use of natural resources and the impact of economic activities on the environment.

The Central Asian region, located in the center of the continent, experiences acute water scarcity. To a certain extent, this situation is also felt in the territory of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan is a country with a dry continental climate. The leadership of this densely populated and rapidly developing country has always paid close attention to the issue of ensuring environmental safety.

The **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change**, adopted at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, is an international document that provides for the management of climate change risks [1]. This convention is considered a means of international cooperation to mitigate the negative consequences of climate change and reduce the anthropogenic load on the Earth's

atmosphere. It defined the general directions of the world community's actions against global climate change. Continuous global warming poses a serious threat to human health and the economic development of countries.

Recognizing the need to take effective measures to eliminate the problem of climate change and mitigate its consequences, Uzbekistan has assumed certain obligations before the world community. Since 1993, Uzbekistan has been a member of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change [2].

The **Kyoto Protocol**, adopted in Kyoto in 1997 under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, was an important result of ongoing work on environmental protection. The Kyoto Protocol was the first global document based on an economic management mechanism for environmental protection among countries. The first official meeting of its member states was held in Montreal in 2005, the second in Nairobi, and the third in Bali. New agreements on climate change were adopted at all of these meetings [3]. The Kyoto Protocol was signed in 1998, and by a decision of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1999, the **Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** was ratified [4].

The introduction of renewable and alternative energy sources is an important factor contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. In this regard, a number of projects have been implemented on the basis of international cooperation, including the introduction of water-saving technologies, forest restoration, the use of renewable energy sources within the framework of the GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP's "**Management of Climate Risks in Uzbekistan**" project in Kashkadarya region, and the GEF and WHO project "**Adaptation of the Health System to Climate Change**", among others.

According to the Decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 6, 2006, "**On Measures to Implement Investment Projects within the Framework of the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol**" [5], projects under the Clean Development Mechanism were implemented in the regions in order to achieve the Convention's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. As a result of modernization and renewal processes carried out at a number of chemical, energy, oil, and gas enterprises in Tashkent, Fergana, and Kashkadarya regions, greenhouse gas emissions were reduced to a certain extent [6].

In total, 15 projects under the Clean Development Mechanism were implemented in the country until 2016. Uzbekistan ranked first among CIS and Eastern European countries in terms of Clean Development Mechanism projects and took 15th place in the world ranking for emission reductions [7].

From November 29 to December 12, 2015, the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change was held in Paris. It was attended by representatives of 195 countries, and strict measures were determined for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, eliminating global warming, and rapidly shifting to large-scale use of renewable energy sources instead of carbon-based sources. This document envisages measures to avoid overburdening the climate system and eliminate the consequences of global warming by setting standards for greenhouse gas emissions after 2020 [8]. The Paris Agreement was ratified by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 2, 2018 [9].

Taking into account the task of halving the energy intensity of the gross domestic product by 2030 compared to 2016, there is a need to establish specific target parameters for reducing the energy consumption of enterprises and organizations. Decision No. PQ-3012, "**On the Program of Measures to Further Develop Renewable Energy, Increase Energy Efficiency in Economic Sectors and the Social Sphere in 2017–2021**", was adopted [10]. This decision was aimed at further reducing the energy intensity of GDP in 2017–2021, lowering production costs, and expanding the use of energy from renewable sources.

It is known that in 1994 the **UN Convention to Combat Desertification** was developed and entered into force. According to the convention, the "temporary or permanent reduction of

soil fertility under the influence of various factors, including climate change and human activities” is considered one of the global problems.

By the decision of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on August 31, 1995, the **UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa** was ratified [11].

In 1999, the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification was developed in order to effectively implement the obligations of the Convention [12]. The program identified the main priorities for implementation of the convention and a number of measures aimed at curbing desertification, erosion, and drought.

In 2006, implementation of a large-scale regional project on land resources management, initiated by the Central Asian countries with support from ADB/GEF and other donors, began [13]. In this way, by studying desertification processes and their impact on the environment, experts have been working within the framework of grants and international projects.

A number of measures are being implemented in the republic to prevent desertification, restore forests, and increase forest cover. At the same time, 31.4 million hectares consist of arid and semi-arid areas affected by natural salinity, sand movement, dust storms, and the spread of harmful processes. As a result of the Aral Sea tragedy, the **Orolqum Desert** with an area of more than 5.5 million hectares was formed.

In order to increase the effectiveness of work on combating desertification, restoring degraded lands, and ensuring effective fulfillment of the international obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted, on February 22, 2019, the decision **“On Measures to Improve the Effectiveness of Work on Combating Desertification and Drought in the Republic of Uzbekistan”** [14].

Desertification and general land degradation remain major problems in Uzbekistan today. For the Republic of Uzbekistan, where 80% of the territory consists of deserts and semi-deserts, combating desertification and drought is one of the urgent issues in ensuring sustainable development. On this basis, Uzbekistan has set a number of tasks to reduce desertification and land degradation and restore land quality and productivity until 2030 [15].

On October 6, 2020, the Decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan approved the **“Concept for the Development of the Forestry System until 2030.”** With this decision, beginning from January 1, 2020, a system of leasing non-forested land from the forest fund for a period of 49 years was established. A number of new forms of support for forest fund land users were introduced in order to improve the efficiency of forest land use [16].

Five main types of natural ecosystems are distinguished in the territory of Uzbekistan. These are: desert and semi-desert; foothill and low-mountain areas; mountain ecosystems; riverine and riparian ecosystems; and wetland ecosystems. The diversity of flora and fauna is directly related to the state of ecosystems. Currently, 91 species of fauna are included in the International Red List, while 324 species of flora and 184 species of fauna are included in the Red Book of Uzbekistan [17].

In 1995, Uzbekistan acceded to the **Convention on Biological Diversity** [18]. In 1998, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan approved the **“National Strategy and Action Plan for the Conservation of Biodiversity of the Republic of Uzbekistan”** [19].

Thanks to these documents, many biodiversity conservation projects have been supported by the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Wildlife Fund, and other international organizations. In particular, the TACIS pilot countries project on biodiversity conservation began in 2001; in 2000–2006, the GEF/UNDP project **“Establishment of the Nurota-Kyzylkum Biosphere Reserve”** was implemented as a model for biodiversity conservation in Uzbekistan.

Within the framework of the first strategy, biodiversity conservation issues were included in a number of national and local environmental protection programs and plans, and about 40

international projects in the field of biodiversity conservation were implemented. As a result, this contributed to slowing land degradation, reducing desertification processes, and decreasing other negative consequences of unsustainable use of natural resources.

The State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan (now the Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection) paid special attention to the development of international relations, expansion of cooperation with foreign countries, and attraction of grant funds to the sector. In 2015, the committee began implementing 14 regional programs on environmental protection, rational use of natural and biological resources, and their restoration [20].

In order to continue the effective protection of biodiversity components, it is necessary to apply a systematic approach and develop comprehensive measures for the protection of both animals themselves and their habitats. For this purpose, by the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers on June 11, 2019, the “**Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Republic of Uzbekistan for the Period 2019–2028**” was approved [21].

The Convention on Biological Diversity recommends that parties to the convention increase the share of terrestrial protected natural areas to 17% of the total territory of the country. In Uzbekistan, this figure is about 5%.

The Republic of Uzbekistan joined the **Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals** in 1998 [22]. Within the framework of the Bonn Convention, the main obligations of Uzbekistan are to ensure the protection of migratory species of wild animals in the country’s territory. In this regard, cooperation has been established with a number of international organizations. In particular, in cooperation with UNEP, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the World Wide Fund for Nature, the International Crane Foundation, and several foreign countries, work is being carried out to preserve more than 10 rare animal species, including the Bukhara deer, gazelle, snow leopard, and white crane.

In this regard, ornithological sanctuaries were established at Tuzkon Lake in Jizzakh Region, Dengizkul and Karakir lakes in Bukhara Region, and Okushpa Lake in the Republic of Karakalpakstan. In addition, a reserve was established in the desert areas of Samarkand, Kashkadarya, and Navoi regions for the protection of nesting and migration sites. In order to protect migratory saiga herds, a reserve was established on the Ustyurt Plateau. In this way, conditions were created for the migration, reproduction, and wintering of waterfowl and other birds and animals.

In this direction, Uzbekistan signed four memorandums of understanding in 1995 (Slender-billed Curlew), 1998 (Siberian Crane), 2002 (Bukhara Deer), and 2006 (Saiga) [23]. Reports on implementation of the Convention and these memorandums are regularly submitted to the Convention Secretariat.

The **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat** also plays an important role in biodiversity protection. Adopted in Ramsar, Iran, on February 2, 1971, and entered into force in 1975, this convention focuses on the protection of wetlands [24]. Today, 171 countries are parties to the Ramsar Convention. The total area of wetlands of international importance is 255 million hectares, including 2,414 wetland complexes.

In 2001, the Republic of Uzbekistan joined the Ramsar Convention based on the decision of the national parliament dated August 30, 2001 [25]. According to analyses, more than 4 million waterfowl migrate annually through the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the country’s open water bodies serve as wintering sites for more than 100 bird species. There are about 10 water bodies in the country [26] that are of great importance for local waterfowl [27].

Three wetland areas of Uzbekistan with a total area of 590,400 hectares are included in the Ramsar List. Lake Dengizkul, with an area of 31,300 hectares, was included in the Ramsar List on October 8, 2001, as site No. 1108; on October 20, 2008, the Aydar-Arnasay lake system, with an area of 527,100 hectares, was included as site No. 1841. On August 19, 2020, the Tudakul

and Kuyimozor reservoirs, with an area of 32,000 hectares, were included in the Ramsar List as site No. 2433, becoming the third wetland of international importance in Uzbekistan [28].

It is known that by the 1980s, as a result of excessive use of ozone-depleting substances, especially chlorofluorocarbons, “ozone holes” appeared due to depletion of the ozone layer. In 1985, the **Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer** was adopted [29].

On May 18, 1993, the Republic of Uzbekistan confirmed its rights and obligations regarding participation in the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol [30]. At the **Uzhydromet** center, the total ozone content has been continuously measured since 1994 [31].

In order to fulfill the obligations of the Convention and regulate the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances, Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 20 of January 24, 2000 approved the **“National Program to Phase Out the Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances”** [32].

On September 7, 2006, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed the Law **“On Ratification of Amendments to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer”** [33]. Uzbekistan fully joined ozone protection efforts by signing the Montreal and Beijing amendments in 2006, which entered into force in 2007 [34].

In 2013–2018, Uzbekistan, together with Belarus, Tajikistan, and Ukraine, participated in a project to accelerate the phase-out of HCFCs, supported by GEF and UNDP. Work was carried out to enhance the capacity of customs authorities and refrigeration industry employees, as well as to attract investments.

In accordance with Batumi obligations in the struggle for clean air, the Cabinet of Ministers decision of January 9, 2018, **“On Measures to Further Improve the Regulation of the Import into the Republic of Uzbekistan of Ozone-Depleting Substances and Products Containing Them,”** approved the types of ozone-depleting substances prohibited for import into the Republic of Uzbekistan [35].

In order to complete the phase-out of HCFCs by 2030, in 2019 the UNDP/GEF joint project **“Complete Phase-Out of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons by Introducing Energy-Efficient Technologies with Low Global Warming Potential and Zero Ozone-Depleting Capacity in Uzbekistan”** was launched [36]. The project consists of interrelated and mutually reinforcing components specifically designed to improve prospects for sustainable development without the future use of HCFCs [37].

Another important convention is the **Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**. This convention regulates control over the transboundary transportation of hazardous waste between countries [38]. By 1999, the number of member states had reached 132 [39].

Currently, the annual amount of household waste in the world is 440 million tons, 80% of which is disposed of in landfills. In Uzbekistan, the average daily amount of waste per urban resident is 1.2 kg, and the annual amount is 453 kg [40]. According to statistics, in 2017, 114.7 million tons of production and consumption waste were generated, including 41.6 million tons (36.2%) of non-recyclable toxic waste and 42.8 million tons (37.3%) of recyclable toxic waste.

There are 296 places for waste burial and disposal in the country, including facilities for solid household waste (221), industrial waste (16), construction waste (4), sludge collection (21), waste storage facilities (15), special landfills (19), as well as 23 hazardous waste disposal sites [15].

Uzbekistan joined the Basel Convention based on the decision of the Oliy Majlis on December 22, 1995, and it entered into force for the Republic of Uzbekistan on May 7, 1996 [42].

The legal basis for implementation of this convention in Uzbekistan was determined by the Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers **“On Regulation of the Import and Export of Environmentally Hazardous Products and Waste to and from the Republic of Uzbekistan.”**

On April 5, 2002, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan **“On Waste”** was adopted [43]. As a result, a separate legal framework for regulation of waste-related problems, which pollute the

natural environment and have serious negative impacts on it, was established in the republic [44].

In 2001–2005, the project **“Implementation of Cleaner Production and Development of a Sustainable Cleaner Production Program in Uzbekistan”** was carried out. In 2004–2005, a national strategy and action plan for waste management were developed in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In recent years, especially in our country, a consistent and large-scale policy has been implemented in the field of environmental protection, use of natural resources, and improvement of sanitary and ecological conditions in the regions. In particular, in 2014–2016, in addition to 41 organizations specializing in sanitary cleaning in cities, 157 household waste disposal sites were established in district improvement departments, and 1,427 units of special equipment, including 990 household waste transportation vehicles, were purchased.

In 2017–2018, large-scale work was carried out to improve the infrastructure of the system for solid household waste management. Thirteen sanitary state unitary enterprises, 172 of their branches in districts and cities, as well as 9 clusters related to household waste management, were established. These measures made it possible to provide sanitary cleaning services to almost half of the population.

At the same time, insufficient collection and transportation services for municipal solid waste in rural settlements, as well as the unsatisfactory condition of infrastructure in this field and non-compliance of existing landfills with environmental standards, have been observed. In order to eliminate these problems, by the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 17, 2019, the **“Strategy for the Implementation of Work Related to Solid Household Waste in the Republic of Uzbekistan for the Period 2019–2028”** was approved [45].

Until 2030, the Environmental Protection Concept of the Republic of Uzbekistan sets a number of tasks in the field of reducing industrial waste generation and preventing the negative impact of hazardous waste on public health and the environment [15].

In 2019, adoption of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan **“On Ratification of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Stockholm, May 22, 2001)”** became another step in environmental protection. This convention was adopted in Stockholm on May 22, 2001, and entered into force in 2004. Currently, 182 countries are parties to the convention. According to experts, accession of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Stockholm Convention will not have a negative impact on the development of the chemical industry and agriculture, because its provisions apply to substances that are not used in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Conclusion

During the years of independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan became a party to and ratified a number of international conventions in the field of environmental protection, as well as relevant protocols for their implementation. On this basis, important environmental protection measures were implemented in the country.

It should be noted that, in order to ensure sustainable socio-economic development, deep reforms have been carried out in recent years in our country in the field of environmental protection and ecology as an important direction of state policy. These reforms are aimed at creating decent living conditions for the population, protecting public health, and stabilizing ecological balance.

The Republic of Uzbekistan is an active participant in regional and international processes of nature protection. Cooperation is carried out through the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, global environmental conventions, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and memoranda.

According to experts, full compliance with the requirements for protection of biological resources, effective measures against desertification and drought, increased efficiency in combating wind and water erosion, and strengthened cooperation between state bodies and non-governmental organizations in environmental protection will have a positive effect. It is through

sustainable management of land and water resources that it is possible to preserve biodiversity, ensure food security, and adapt to the adverse consequences of climate change.

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