FOREIGN EXPERIENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY SPHERE

It is impossible to solve environmental problems of the Republic of Kazakhstan without taking into account the global environmental safety trends. Data analysis and summary of foreign developments on the environmental security issues allow you to quickly make better management decisions. Including there search programs formation to create the means for environmental safety ensuring and sustainable development of the Republic of Kazakhstan as one of the most important areas of practical work in recent years.

If we turn to the experience of the global superpower the United States, one of the most important components of the national security concept is the task for ecological safety ensuring of the territory and population, as well as conservation of natural resources [1].

At the present stage, this problem is considered by the US administration as one of the priority directions of its activity, which has a national significance. Also, there is a more serious attitude to the problems of ecological safety in the countries of the European Union, Japan, Canada, and Australia. The agenda of the XXI century includes «environmental» conflicts between states for the best land, clean water, natural resources, etc.

However, in spite of the available federal programs on environmental sanitation, only 12% of highly contaminated areas in the US have been cleared within the period of 1980 and 1992 years. 62 million people lived in areas where drinking water was not in compliance with the American standards of cleanliness and its suitability for consumption. 150 million people lived in regions of strong atmospheric pollution. Many US national parks were threatened by the harmful effects of adverse manmade factors. In this regard, the Clinton's administration made a serious turn towards measures to ensure environmental safety under all federal agencies. The budgetary allocations for priority federal mandatory programs have been increased, which are provided not only to clean soil, water and atmosphere, but also the infrastructure improvement in order to prevent pollution and safeguard and improve the environment, especially natural systems that make up the US national treasure [2].

During the period from 1993 to 2001 the budgetary allocations for mandatory federal comprehensive programs on the environmental safety, conservation of natural resources and infrastructure improvement have increased by 36%. At the same time, under such agencies as the Ministry of Internal Affairs, they increased by 42%; as the National Agency for Oceanographic and Atmospheric research – by 142%; The US Department of Defense – by 12%; the Environmental Protection Agency – by 13%; the Department of Energy – by 4%. [3]

In addition, during the period in connection with the US military-strategic concepts revision, due to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the disappearance of a direct military threat to the
United States, active measures were carried out to reduce US forces and the closure of military bases. The latter measures were undertaken in the framework of a special program of BRAC (Base Realignment and Close), the implementation of which for obvious reasons has caused the actualization of the issue on measures to eliminate the caused damage to the environment as a result of military activity. In this regard, Ministry of Defense, along with other federal agencies, started to implement the environmental security project more intensively [4].

As a part of the modern American administration’s policy on environmental safety and conservation of natural resources, the United States identified the following two main areas of environmental management: the maintenance and conservation of land resources and their management, as well as control for the environment and its restoration.

In the area of maintenance and conservation of land resources and management thereof these long-term measures are stipulated:

1. Improving of the legal inheritance issues on land, water, forest and other resources, the land acquisition processes control, national parks development, water resources protection, as well as cleaning work in the river basins and along the coast. To provide a wide range of environmental protection measures on the basis of the law to increase the budgetary allocation dated October 2000 (Budget Enforcement Act) an increase in the period of 2002–2006 is provided for annual 2 billion USD the funds contribution to a special fund dedicated to support the financial capacity of state governments and local governments for the environmental programs implementation.

2. The planning system modernization of the local development and park management according to modern standards.

3. Reform performance of financial support system by the federal government of states and local areas in their activities to ensure environmental safety. Particular attention is paid to provide regulation of environmental activities of federal agencies on public lands, and the states territories.

4. The protection of individual natural areas and prevention of the road construction on them, the consequences of which could be harmful to the maintenance of ecological balance.

5. Preservation of agricultural land surplus in order to create a reserve for their possible use for its intended purpose if the conditions of the economic or political situation will require increasing the economic potential of the United States. The implementation purpose of this administration’s policy direction is to maintain agricultural land in a suitable condition, to control and prevent from soil erosion, to conserve the flora and fauna, as well as to help farmers through specific ecological measures performance, should the results used will bring economic benefits to farmers. The main federal agency, entrusted with the implementation of measures to ensure environmental safety in the US agricultural states is the Ministry of Agriculture. It is a leading developer (in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency) of a special comprehensive program for protection and conservation of land (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program – CREP), calculated, at least for the next 10–12 years [5].

6. Monitoring of territories subject to water logging, preventing the proliferation of wetlands and activities to restore the previous wetlands.

7. Control of wetlands and the provision of technical and financial support to state and local governments in the activities carrying out to preserve water balance, to avoid unnecessary drainage of the land and unauthorized use for agricultural purposes. At the same time strict regulation of these lands sales-and-purchase should be provided for industrial purposes in order to prevent their loss, as the object of an agricultural purpose.
8. Saving of the national parks referred to the category of the national wealth objects.
9. Improvement of the prevention practice and the fight against forest fires, causing serious economic and ecological damage.
10. Control and regulation of the mineral recovery practice by open pit on federally owned land.
11. Monitoring of estuaries and coastal zones status, as well as river and marine reserves.
12. Recovery of biological resources of the ocean.
13. Standing Scientific support measures to ensure environmental security by providing the federal and states’ governments with timely and reliably substantiated information concerning the condition of ecosystems, minerals, water, forests and other resources, as well as the availability of real threats to these resources with recommendations for such environmental threats countering.

Continuous monitoring of soil pollution condition, water and the atmosphere and the clean-up measures is regulated with a particular focus on identifying and reduction of toxic substances level in them. At the same time these activities should be carried out in accordance with standard operating administration plans, the main of which are:

– air pollution reduction of (the plan «clean air» adopted by a special law).
– water quality improving (the plan «pure water», known as the Clinton’s plan CWAP (Clean Water Action Plan).
– Protection and technological renovation of drinking water supply facilities.
– Reforming of the security system and the quality of food preparation.
– Industrial enterprises control that admit emissions of harmful substances into the environment in the production process (environment).

-Management of hazardous waste utility.
-Efforts increase to clean up contaminated sites and areas.
-Climate change control.
– Development of infrastructure for the activities within the frames of the environmental safety programs.
– Financial support for rural regions [5]. It should be noted that the implementation of these conceptual directions to ensure the US Environmental Safety the US administration attaches special importance to the activities of the Ministry of Defense (MoD), which has a sufficiently large technical and technological capabilities in the field of practical implementation both of general federal environmental programs, and its own programs in accordance with the characteristics of its concept on environmental security.

The environmental component has become one of the most important components of the military-economic (production) and financial activities of the MoD, which is reputed to be the third land owner and user in the US, that possesses a land area of 10 million hectares, the cost of which is estimated more than 500 billion USD. In this regard, Ministry of Defense is responsible to Congress for the observance of the legislation on the reduction, recovery and restoration of the environment. The Defense Ministry is prescribed by law to report annually to Congress on the implementation of not only federal ecological safety program, but on the economic aspects of new weapons and military equipment and ammunition systems development and use. In addition, the Minister must report to Congress on the measures taken by the military department to preserve the health of military and civilian MoD staff, and also not to damage the environment and the local population in the area of the facilities location to store weapons and
military equipment, ammunition and other military equipment, to inspect and test the weapons, equipment and a variety of weapons.

The American Environmental Safety concept evolves from the rationale for military infrastructure treatment to development of the main areas to prevent the environment contamination, its improvement and restoration. [6].

Among the objectives stated by the European Community (EC) to ensure increasingly close ties between the EU members-states for the protection and realization of their ideals and principles, the promotion of Europe to become a democratic and safe environment, to protect and promote the human rights, to develop and strengthen a European self-awareness for the formation of European cultural. The Council of Europe covers almost all aspects of European society except for defense issues, namely, human rights, legal co-operation, social and economic issues, youth, health, sports, education, culture, historical architectural monuments, environmental protection, media, the activities of local and regional structures.

At first special attention is paid to environmental safety. The harmonization of environmental safety legislation requires consistency between the basic terms and concepts in this area. The process purpose of the legislative harmonization in the field of environmental protection is to bring into full compliance of national environmental legislation with the EU legislation. The legislation harmonization is a requirement for EU membership. This means that those countries which aspire in the future to join the EU must harmonize their national laws, regulations and procedures.

The new program of environmental actions, in general, is aimed at providing the three modalities of Community environmental measures:

1. Integration of environmental needs in various areas of EU activities and the implementation of the environment conditionality principle of the Community’s activities, set out in Art. 6 of the EC Treaty;
2. Continuation of activities aimed at sustainable development;
3. Environmental activities carrying out with the expectation of current and future enlargement of the European Union, i.e. accession of the new states.

The program focuses on four priority areas for Community action in the coming years, these include:

– the climate changing;
– Nature and biodiversity;
– Environment, health and quality of life;
– Natural resources and wastes.

The implementation of the Convention provisions on Biological Diversity 1992 plays not the least important role in the EU program; in particular the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to it, the participation of the EU in it has been made by the Board decision in June 2002. In addition, in the field of the environment, health and quality of life the program provides for the need to integrate hazard evaluation of chemicals in all areas of legislation, the implementation of such instruments as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent organic Pollutants, the Rotterdam Convention for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides and change in connection with it the Council Regulation on the export and import of certain hazardous chemicals. Attention is also paid to improve the application of the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and the Directive on bathing water quality, promoting the efficiency of international negotiations on the implementation of the Montreal Protocol on ozone-depleting substances to the Ozone Layer Protection Convention 1985.
References

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