Press Release

President of Kazakhstan Meets with WMO President to Discuss Climate Cooperation, Water Security, and UAE–Kazakhstan Cloud Seeding Project

Astana / Turkistan – Kazakhstan

His Excellency President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, met with His Excellency Dr. Abdulla Ahmed Al Mandous, President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Director General of the UAE National Center of Meteorology (NCM), in the capital Astana on May 15, to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation in climate monitoring, early warning systems, modernization of meteorological infrastructure, water security, and to review the progress of the UAE–Kazakhstan cloud seeding project currently being implemented in the Turkistan region.

During the meeting, President Tokayev emphasized the pivotal role played by the World Meteorological Organization, as a specialized United Nations agency, in supporting international cooperation in climate, weather, water resources, and disaster risk reduction. He noted that accelerating climate change requires stronger international coordination and the development of scientific and technological solutions capable of helping countries address environmental and water-related challenges.

The meeting also addressed several climate-related issues of strategic importance to Kazakhstan, particularly the development of early warning systems, modernization of meteorological observation networks and stations, and the enhancement of scientific and climate data exchange with international institutions and specialized organizations. President Tokayev affirmed Kazakhstan's readiness to strengthen cooperation with the UAE National Center of Meteorology and benefit from the UAE's advanced expertise in meteorology, cloud seeding, and climate artificial intelligence applications.

Both sides stressed the importance of addressing water security and water resource management issues at both regional and global levels, especially amid increasing challenges related to water scarcity, drought, and rising temperatures.

The discussions also covered the UAE–Kazakhstan cloud seeding project currently underway in the Turkistan region, which aims to enhance rainfall opportunities, increase water reserves, and support water supplies for agricultural areas, reflecting Kazakhstan's direction toward adopting innovative climate solutions to address water security challenges.

President Tokayev affirmed that the project represents an important strategic step toward strengthening water security and enhancing Kazakhstan's preparedness to confront the impacts of climate change, praising the cooperation with the United Arab Emirates and its leading expertise in cloud seeding and weather modification technologies. He also highlighted the importance of leveraging modern technology and scientific innovation to ensure the sustainability of water resources and support economic and agricultural development.

For his part, H.E. Dr. Abdulla Ahmed Al Mandous, President of the World Meteorological Organization and Director General of the UAE National Center of Meteorology, stated that the UAE–Kazakhstan cloud seeding project represents an advanced model of international cooperation in addressing climate challenges and strengthening water security. He noted that the UAE possesses globally recognized expertise in cloud seeding research and weather modification technologies, developed through many years of scientific research and operational experience.

He added that the National Center of Meteorology is committed to knowledge transfer, capacity building, and the exchange of expertise with international partners, contributing to the development of innovative and sustainable solutions to support water resources. He emphasized that the project extends beyond operational implementation to include training and qualification programs for Kazakh national personnel in the technical and scientific fields related to cloud seeding technologies.

As part of the project implementation, the UAE cloud seeding operations team arrived in the Turkistan region accompanied by a specialized aircraft to conduct cloud seeding operations aimed at enhancing rainfall opportunities and supporting water resources in the area. A reconnaissance flight was also conducted to verify the aircraft's readiness and the efficiency of the technical systems prior to the commencement of full-scale operations.

A high-level meeting was also held with representatives from various government entities alongside the specialized scientific and technical team, during which the technical and organizational aspects of the project were discussed and clear mechanisms for coordination and integration among all concerned parties were established to ensure the highest levels of efficiency and operational readiness.

During the meetings, the UAE team showcased the country's pioneering experience in cloud seeding, including the latest advanced technologies and operational expertise that have been successfully developed and implemented, while emphasizing the importance of exchanging scientific knowledge and expertise to support the sustainability of water resources and strengthen water security in the region.

The project reflects the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President of the UAE, Deputy Prime Minister, and Chairman of the Presidential Court, aimed at reinforcing the UAE's position as an active international partner in supporting global climate

efforts and developing innovative solutions to enhance water security and environmental sustainability. It also reflects the UAE's commitment to strengthening strategic partnerships with friendly nations through scientific research, advanced technology, and innovation to address climate change and water scarcity challenges and support sustainable development at both regional and international levels.

The project also falls within the framework of the growing strategic partnership between the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Kazakhstan, which was reinforced through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the UAE National Center of Meteorology and Kazakhstan's "Kazhydromet" to cooperate in cloud seeding and weather modification technologies, supporting the exchange of expertise and the development of innovative climate solutions for water security and sustainable development.

The project is scheduled to witness the full launch of its operational phase on May 16, 2026, as Kazakhstan seeks through this initiative to become a regional model in utilizing modern climate technologies to serve sustainable development and enhance resilience to climate change.

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