

HEAD OF THE CENTRE:

Mr. Petko Draganov (Bulgaria) is currently the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of UNRCCA. He makes regular visits to regional capitals and offers his good offices when necessary. The SRSG reports twice a year to the UN Security Council on the Center's activities and developments in the region.



UNRCCA

THE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE
FOR PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY FOR CENTRAL ASIA
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"Preventive diplomacy has been an enduring idea at the United Nations for many decades. Since Dag Hammarskjöld first articulated the concept over half a century ago, it has continued to evolve in response to new challenges. An integral part of broader conflict prevention efforts, preventive diplomacy refers specifically to diplomatic action taken, at the earliest possible stage, "to prevent disputes from arising between parties, to prevent existing disputes from escalating into conflicts and to limit the spread of the latter when they occur". Preventive diplomacy remains highly relevant along the entire conflict spectrum"

"Preventive Diplomacy: Delivering Results"
report of the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

ABOUT THE CENTRE:

The United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) is a special political mission of the United Nations Organization established in 2007 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, upon the initiative of the five Central Asian states. The role of the Centre is to identify and address existing and potential threats to regional stability. In addition, the Centre facilitates partnerships between the governments of Central Asia in cooperation with regional and international organizations.



ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE:

The Centre develops common initiatives to address regional challenges to peace, security and development.

UNRCCA seeks to advance regional platforms and relevant programmatic activities. One such activity is the annual Meeting of Central Asian Foreign Ministers or their Deputies. These meetings serve as a tool to advance regional cooperation, review past activities of the Centre and explore future endeavors.

UNRCCA promotes dialogue among Central Asian states on trans-boundary water management in the region. By doing so, the Centre seeks to help address environmental and resource management problems affecting the Aral Sea Basin. UNRCCA interacts with International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and other partners to provide support to the governments in building capacity in water

diplomacy and modernizing the regional legal framework on the management of trans-boundary water resources.

To strengthen regional counter-terrorism cooperation the UNRCCA has been conducting since 2010 a project to assist Central Asian states in implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. A Joint Plan of Action was adopted in 2011, and within this project, recent activities include events on the role of the media, on the role of religious leaders, on the role that borders play in countering terrorism, as well as on the threat of radicalization.

In the context of current risks and proliferated threats to security from Afghanistan, the Centre shares information and maintains regular contact with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) to monitor cross-border aspects of the situation that may affect Central Asian countries. The Centre participates in regional formats, such as the Istanbul Process, SPECA, Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan, among others, aimed at stronger engagement of Afghanistan in political and economic cooperation with its Central Asian neighbors.



Seminars organized since 2009 within the framework of the Centre's Strategic Dialogue Series are yet another annual activity. The main purpose of the seminars is to analyze security related developments and to produce recommendations on possible preventive measures.

UNRCCA maintains a close partnership with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in the framework of a preventive diplomacy training programme delivered jointly in Central Asia.

The Centre mainstreams human rights in all its preventive efforts and programmatic activities, in implementing the Human Rights Up Front Initiative (HRuF).

The Regional Center attaches special importance as well to gender mainstreaming in implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. The Centre interacts with UN Women to ensure active participation of women in its initiatives.