Monitoring and Early Warning in Tajikistan

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2014
GENERAL TRENDS

NATURAL HAZARDS
In October, the probability of weather emergencies is low. Rain is possible at lower elevations, snow is possible in the mountains, and frost is possible at higher elevations and foothill areas.

WEATHER
Temperatures in October will be 1°C above the long-term average in Khatlon Province and at lower elevations in the DRD; within the norm in Sughd Province and higher elevations in the DRD; and 1-2°C above the long-term average in GBAO. Monthly precipitation is expected to be above normal at higher elevations in the DRD and the western regions of GBAO, lower than normal in Khatlon and Sughd Provinces and in the eastern regions of GBAO.

ENERGY SECURITY
Electricity generation in September decreased by 8.3 percent compared to August 2014. The water level in the Nurek reservoir in September was 0.13 meters lower than in August 2014. In September 2014, the Sangtuda–1 and Sangtuda–2 hydropower plants supplied 175.5 million kWh of electricity to Afghanistan, which is 36.3 million kWh more than in the same period of last year.

FOOD SECURITY
Local wheat and wheat flour prices will remain stable or decline in October as the local harvest and regional imports continue to flow into markets of Tajikistan. According to forecasts in the fourth quarter, prices of petroleum products, oil and lubricants will increase by 20 percent in the country.

HEALTH
With the beginning of the autumn season, and due to access of school-age children to poor-quality water in open reservoirs, the risk of acute intestinal infections and water-borne diseases, particularly viral hepatitis, increases.

MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES
Indicators of overall migration levels in September 2014 were lower compared to the same period of the last year. In January-September 2014, the number of migrant workers was 17.1 percent less than in the same period of 2013.

ECONOMY
The GDP totalled 26,861.2 million TJS (5,513.8 million USD) for January-August 2014. Industrial production increased by 5.0 percent compared to the same period in 2013. Consumer price inflation was 5.4 percent compared to December 2013. The total balance of bank credits was 8.9 billion TJS (1,827.5 million USD) for January-August. The volume of loans granted by banks amounted to 7.3 billion TJS (1,499.0 million USD). In January-August 2014 foreign trade turnover was equal to 3,808.1 million USD, 11.3 percent more than in the same period in 2013. Exports totaled 697.2 million USD, and imports totaled 3,110.9 million USD.
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1. NATURAL HAZARDS

1.1. Possible natural disasters in October 2014

According to the Information Management and Analytical Center (IMAC) of the Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CoES and CD), and according to long-term observations, the probability of an emergency caused by weather conditions is low in October 2014. Rain is possible at lower elevations, as well as snow in the mountains and frost at higher elevations and foothill areas.

Table 1. Historical data on Natural disasters in October 2000-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earthquake</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Flooding</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mudflow</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Avalanche</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowfall, frost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2 Natural disasters in September 2014
IMAC/CoES reported that in September 2014 there was two natural disasters due to earthquakes. For more detailed and recent information on the review of natural disasters in September 2014 contact the MEWS Center Working Group at: earlywarning.tj@gmail.com.

2. WEATHER CONDITIONS¹
2.1. Forecast for October 2014
According to the forecasts of the Tajik Hydrometeorology Center the average monthly temperature in October 2014 will be:
- 1°C above the long term average in Khatlon Province and at lower elevations of the Direct Ruled Districts (DRD);
- Within the norm in Sughd Province and higher elevations of DRD;
- 1-2°C above the long term average in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO.)

Monthly precipitation is expected to be more than normal in the higher elevations of DRD and western areas of GBAO, less than the norm in Khatlon and Sughd Provinces and in eastern areas of GBAO (See Annex A for a more detailed forecast for October 2014.)

2.2. Weather summary for September 2014
September in the Republic was characterized by moderately hot weather with little precipitation at higher elevations and in the mountains. The average monthly temperature was 1-2°C above the norm everywhere, and was:
- At lower elevations and in the foothills, from 19°C to 25°C;
- At higher elevations, from 15°C to 20°C (in Dehavz 20°C, Darvoz 25°C); and
- At higher elevations of GBAO, from 6°C to 8°C.

During the month, the prevailing air temperature was: at night in the valleys, 10 to 15°C; on some days in the South and Sughd Province, up to 17 to 18°C; in the afternoon, 30 to 34°C; on some days in the DRD and Khatlon Province, 35 to 37°C.

¹ Information in Sections 2.1, 2.2 and Annex A is based on the reports of the State Hydrometeorology Agency of Tajikistan.
A short-term decline in the maximum temperature was observed during September 27-28, when the daytime temperature did not exceed 28 to 29°C. In Sughd province, a drop in the temperature was observed in the second half of the month from 28 to 23°C.

During the month in most parts of the Republic, there was no precipitation. There were slight rains in some higher elevations and mountains only on September 2-3, 20, 24-25, and 27-28. At night the temperature varied in the valleys from 16-21°C to 12-17°C, and at higher elevations from 5-10°C to 10-15°C.

Monthly precipitation at higher elevations and in the mountains of the Republic was negligible. Precipitation was above the norm only in Navobod (GBAO) - 294 percent (see Table 3.)

On some days wind speeds up to 13-18 m/sec. were registered. A haze was registered in Khatlon Province and DRD at September 18-20.

### 3. ENERGY

#### 3.1. Electricity Generation

According to the information of OJHC “Barqi Tojik,” total electricity generation in September 2014 was 1,356 million kilowatt-hours (kW/h), or 45.2 million kW/h per day. Electricity generation in September decreased by 8.3 percent (49.3 million kW/h) compared to August 2014. For more detailed information on electricity generation contact the MEWS Center at earlywarning.tj@gmail.com.

Electricity generation in September 2014 was 12.6 million kW/h less than in the same period of the last year (see Section 3.5 below). This is due to a reduction of electricity consumption by the Tajik Aluminum Company (TALCO).

#### Table 3. Monthly Precipitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regions</th>
<th>Less than norm %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sughd Province</td>
<td>9-134%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khatlon Province</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRD</td>
<td>15-86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western GBAO</td>
<td>42-48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern GBAO</td>
<td>20-66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Electricity Generation – April 2010 – September 2014 (million kW/h)**

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2 Data on electricity generation and consumption is provided by the Monitoring and Early Warning System (MEWS) Expert from Barqi Tojik.
3.2. Electricity Consumption

The following table shows the average daily electricity consumption by major regions of Tajikistan and by the Tajik Aluminum Company (TALCO), the largest commercial consumer. Total electricity consumption in September 2014 reached 1,129 million kW/h, 12.3 percent less than in August 2014. In September 2014 electricity consumption was 96 million kW/h less than in September 2013 (1,225 million kW/h). In September 2014 the 220 kW and 110 kW networks from Sangtuda-1 and Sangtuda-2 hydroelectric plants transmitted 175.5 million kW/h of electricity to Afghanistan, 36.3 million kW/h more than in the same period of the previous year and 12.9 percent of the total amount of electricity generated in Tajikistan. For more detailed information on electricity consumption contact the MEWS Center at: earlywarning.tj@gmail.com.

**Total Average daily Electricity Consumption, April 2010-September 2014 (million kW/h)**

3.3. Natural and liquefied gas

The supply of natural gas to the Republic of Tajikistan was suspended in connection with the completion of the contract with the Republic of Uzbekistan in December 2012.

Tajikistan also receives deliveries of liquefied gas by road and rail. According to the operational data of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, from January to September 2014 enterprises registered with the Ministry imported 168,082 tons of liquefied gas, mostly from the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, which is 14,151 tons more than during the same period of 2013. In September 2014 liquefied gas imports were 21,536 tons, which is 4,060 tons more than in September of the previous year.

More than 49 percent of the country's motor vehicles use liquefied gas as fuel because of the high price of gasoline.

3.4. Coal

According to the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, 136,771 tons of coal were produced in September 2014, which is 33,618 tons more than in August 2014. For January-September 2014, 589,509.6 tons of coal were produced in Tajikistan—236,007.2 tons or 166.8 percent more than in the same period of the previous year. Coal production has increased due to the commissioning of the first unit of the “Dushanbe-2” thermal power
plant and a shift of the country’s industrial enterprises from more expensive natural gas and electricity to more economical coal for heating and other needs (e.g., for processing coal into gas for TALCO activities).

3.5. Water Level in the Nurek Hydropower Plant Reservoir

The Water Volume – Nurek HPP chart below shows the volume of the water in the Nurek Hydropower Plant (HPP) reservoir at the end of September 2014 compared to the average volume over the last nine years (2004 to 2013). At the end of September 2014, the water level in the Nurek HPP reservoir was 910.41 meters above sea level, which is 0.13 meters lower than in August 2014, 0.20 meters lower than the same period in the previous year, and 53.41 meters above the “dead level” (inactive storage) (857 meters).

Water Volume – Nurek HPP (million m$^3$)

The Water Inflow – Nurek HPP Reservoir chart below shows water inflow into the Nurek HPP. At the end of September 2014, the water inflow was 525 m$^3$/sec, which is 60.3 m$^3$/sec below the average of 585.3 m$^3$/sec for 2004-2013.

Water Inflow – Nurek HPP Reservoir (m$^3$/sec)

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3 Data obtained from OJHC “Barqi Tojik”
As indicated in the **Water Outflow – Nurek HPP Reservoir** chart below, the average water discharge from the Nurek HPP reservoir at the end of September 2014 amounted to 546 m³/s, which is lower than the 9-year-old average of 1093.8 m³/s.

**Water Outflow – Nurek HPP Reservoir (m³/sec)**

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### 4. FOOD SECURITY

#### 4.1. Food Security Reports

According to the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of RT, the most important imported food products are grain and flour. During January-August 2014, 434.7 thousand tons of grain at an average price of 299 USD per ton and 113.9 thousand tons of flour at an average price of 411 USD per ton were imported into the Republic, which is 11.8 percent more grain and 9.7 percent less flour compared to the same period of the previous year.

In September 2014 the prices of wheat flour increased insignificantly in the markets of the country in comparison with August 2014. As of October 3, 2014, the average price of one 50-kilogram bag of domestically-produced first grade flour was 141.75 TJS (28.4 USD) in Dushanbe, and the price of first grade flour produced in Kazakhstan was 145.75 TJS (29.3 USD).

In January-August 2014, the average price of imported oil products was 844 USD per ton, a fall of 19.8 percent compared to January-August of the previous year. During this period 395.5 thousand tons of oil products were imported into the Republic, 147.1 thousand tons more than last year. Those imports included 168.8 thousand tons of diesel fuel imported at an average price of 839 USD per ton and 176.6 thousand tons of gasoline at an average price of 745 USD per ton. For more detailed information please contact the MEWS Working Group at: [Earlywarning.TJ@gmail.com](mailto:Earlywarning.TJ@gmail.com).

According to the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan, this year grain was sown on 309,738 hectares (ha) of land. As of October 5, 2014, 277,234 ha of land (89.5
percent of the forecast area) had been harvested. The grain harvest was 735,735 tons, 22,655 tons less compared to the same period of the previous year. The average yield per hectare was 2.7 tons, 0.04 tons more than for the same period of the previous year. The wheat sown area this year was 214,881 ha. The harvest of wheat was 608,718 tons, which is 35,974 tons less compared to the same period of the previous year. The average yield per hectare was 2.9 tons, 0.9 tons more than for the same period of the previous year. For more detailed information please contact the MEWS Working Group at: earlywarning.TJ@gmail.com.

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network for September (FEWS NET) PRICE WATCH: Food Commodity Prices for August reported:
Regional food availability was generally good in August. Wheat flour export prices in Kazakhstan, the region’s largest producer and exporter, have been stable since June, ahead of harvests in mid-August. Export prices remain lower than their respective 2013 levels, but 10 percent above the five-year average. In Pakistan, another important regional supplier, wheat grain and flour prices were generally stable across major markets and remain comparable to their respective 2013 levels due to adequate supplies during the post-harvest period. Wheat grain prices in Afghanistan were stable between July and August following average to above-average local wheat harvest. In Tajikistan, both wheat grain and flour prices remained stable in July.

Tajikistan: In August, wheat harvests were complete in the country’s lowlands and ongoing in higher-elevation areas. With average to above-average harvest, wheat grain prices remained stable in August, but remain similar to their respective 2013 levels. Imported wheat flour prices (mostly from Kazakhstan) were stable in August and comparable to their respective five-year average levels. Potato prices declined further in August due to increased availability from recent and ongoing local harvests, as well as those in other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries. Prices are 13 percent higher respective to 2013 and five-year average levels in Tajikistan, due to the lingering effects of regional potato production shortfalls last year.

Outlook
The current USDA wheat harvest outlook in Kazakhstan is estimated at 13.5 to 14 million metric tons (MMT) for the 2014/2015 marketing year. Despite some concerns about rainfall levels and distribution earlier in the production season, normal wheat harvests are expected in the northern major wheat-producing areas starting mid to late August. However, cold and rains during summer did not allow grain to mature fully in some localized areas, resulting in delayed harvests in some areas. However, these localized dynamics are not expected to have a great deal of influence on national or regional wheat supplies this marketing year. Indeed, average to near-average wheat harvest in Kazakhstan will contribute to stable food availability and prices in regional markets.
Locally-produced wheat grain prices will remain stable or decline further in September in both Afghanistan and Tajikistan as local harvests and regional imports continue to arrive.
onto markets. The full FEWS NET report is available at:
http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/MONTHLY_PRICE_WATCH_AND_ANNEX_SEPTEMBER2014_0.pdf

The FAO’s Global Information and Early Warning System on food and agriculture (GIEWS) Update for September 16, 2014 reports:

Aggregate cereal production in 2014 is estimated to decrease. Harvesting of winter crops (mainly wheat and barley) was completed by mid-August, while that of spring crops (mainly maize and rice) is well underway and is expected to continue until the end of September. FAO’s latest estimate puts the 2014 wheat production at 740,000 tonnes, 5 percent below last year’s near-average level. The decrease is the result of slightly lower yields, following shortages of irrigation water during the growing season and a small contraction in area planted. The 2014 barley, maize and rice production are anticipated to remain close to last year’s good level. The 2014 aggregate cereal output is estimated at 1.06 million tonnes, 5 percent down from last year’s good level and close to the five-year average.

Planting of winter cereal crops started in mid-August under generally favorable weather conditions and will continue until mid-November. Wheat imports in the 2014/15 marketing year are forecast to increase slightly. The country depends heavily on cereal imports, mainly wheat, which accounts for almost 90 percent of total cereal import requirements. Wheat imports in the 2014/15 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 1.06 million tonnes, 4 percent above last year’s near-average level. Wheat and barley are mainly imported from Kazakhstan, while rice is largely sourced from the Russian Federation. Prices of wheat flour were stable in August and close to their year-earlier levels. Despite improved availabilities from the recently-concluded harvest, prices were supported by increased transport costs. Prices of potatoes, another key staple, recorded sharp seasonal declines for the third consecutive month in August, but still remained considerably higher than their year-earlier levels.

According to official reports, approximately 35 percent of the population was estimated to live under the poverty line in 2013. The ratio of households’ budget allocated to food remained high and was estimated at around 56 percent in early 2014.

The full FAO report is available at:
4.2. Wheat Flour Prices

First Grade Wheat Flour

The chart below shows prices for first grade wheat flour in Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurgan-Tyube markets from January 2008 to late September 2014. In September 2014 an increase in wheat flour prices was observed in the Dushanbe market in comparison with August but prices remained unchanged in Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube markets.

First Grade Wheat Flour Prices in three main markets for January 2008 – September 2014 (TJS/kg)

![Chart showing wheat flour prices in Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurgan-Tyube markets from January 2008 to late September 2014. In September 2014, wheat flour prices in Dushanbe increased compared to August, while prices remained unchanged in Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube markets.]

The chart below provides prices for first grade wheat flour in two large regional markets in Gharm and Khorog and the average prices for Dushanbe, Khujand and Kurgan-Tyube. In September 2014, wheat flour prices in Khorog remained the same. In Gharm, prices increased slightly.

First Grade Wheat Flour Prices in Gharm, Khorog, and the average in three main markets for January 2008 – September 2014 (TJS/kg)

![Chart showing wheat flour prices in Gharm and Khorog and the average for Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurgan-Tyube markets from January 2008 to late September 2014. In September 2014, wheat flour prices in Khorog remained unchanged. In Gharm, prices increased slightly.]

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4 Food and fuel prices are from UN WFP Food Security Weekly Market Monitoring, Tajikistan
http://untj.org/country_context/coordination_mechanisms/agriculture&food_security/fsms/
4.3. Fuel Prices

In September 2014 petrol and diesel prices increased in all markets of Dushanbe and Khujand. Prices decreased slightly in Kurgan-Tyube. According to the analysis carried out and the received information, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade predicts an increase in the prices of petroleum products, oil and lubricants on the commodity exchanges in Russia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, leading to a 20 percent increase in the prices of petroleum products, oil and lubricants in the fourth quarter.

5. HEALTH

As of October 7, 2014, according to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of RT, the epidemiological situation and trends on major notifiable infectious diseases are relatively good, and compared to the same period of 2013 are:
a comparative decline in the number of cases of intestinal infections and water-borne diseases, including acute intestinal infections;

a comparative reduction in the number of cases of Typhoid fever;

a reduction in the number viral hepatitis cases;

a reduction in the number of cases of acute respiratory viral infections;

a comparative increase in the number of cases of Brucellosis;

a comparative increase in the number of cases of Pertussis;

a comparative increase in cases of bites by wild and domestic animals;

a comparative increase in the number of cases of Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF).

With the beginning of the autumn season, and due to access of school-age children to poor-quality water of open reservoirs, the risk of acute intestinal infections and water-borne diseases, particularly viral hepatitis, increases.

At all major international airports and border crossings when entering the territory of Tajikistan, special quarantine rooms have been prepared and decisions are taken in order to prevent the possible spread of the Ebola virus. Those citizens, for whom there are suspicions of viral infection, will be isolated in such quarantine premises before being evacuated by ambulance staff in specialized vehicles.

For other infectious diseases the epidemiological situation is assessed as auspicious.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name of disease</th>
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<th>2014</th>
<th>Change (), ()</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Typhoid Fever</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Acute intestinal infections</td>
<td>42,459</td>
<td>35,083</td>
<td>-7376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dysentery</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>-141</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brucellosis</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pertussis</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Anthrax</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>-7</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Bites and Saliva Contact</td>
<td>10,972</td>
<td>11,081</td>
<td>109</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Acute respiratory infections</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Flu</td>
<td>12,657</td>
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<td>-8640</td>
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</table>

Table 5. Expected risks in October 2014 and recommended appropriate measures

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected risks</th>
<th>Recommended appropriate measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The risk of rising incidence of acute intestinal infections is possible and remains high due to the onset of the harvest. Also, the favorable climatic conditions of the autumn season can contribute to this.</td>
<td>Maintenance of normal quality of drinking water requires the use of physical methods of treatment, adequate sanitation and disinfection of water in all open reservoirs in order to reduce the risk of infectious and non-infectious diseases. Currently, the main methods of ensuring a proper level of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. ECONOMIC TRENDS

6.1. General trends

Development of the national economy remained stable and economic growth continued to increase over the first eight months of 2014. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Republic increased by 7.0 percent compared to the same period of 2013 and amounted to 26,861.2 million TJS (5,513.8 million USD). The rate of growth of GDP compared to the corresponding period of 2013 decreased by 0.5 percent. The deflator index of prices totaled 109 percent. GDP per capita increased from the same period of 2013 by 400.4 TJS (82.2 USD), or 11.4 percent, and totaled 3,257.2 TJS (668.6 USD).

Components of the Gross Domestic Product of the Republic increased during the first eight months of 2014 by: industry, 105 percent; agriculture, 106.0 percent; investments in fixed capital, 128.3 percent; freight transport, 102.3 percent; retail commodity turnover, 106.4 percent; and paid services, 102.7 percent.

During the first eight months of 2014, industrial enterprises produced goods worth 6,110.9 million TJS (1,254.4 million USD), 5.0 percent more than in the same period of 2013. Growth in industrial production in January-August 2014, compared with the same period of 2013, is due to the significant growth in: mining industries – 20.1 percent, manufacturing – 1.7 percent, and the production and distribution of electricity, gas, and
water – 4.3 percent. The mining industry’s share of industrial output was 14.5 percent, the manufacturing sector’s share (food, textile, petrochemical, and metallurgical industries) was 62.4 percent, and the share of the production and distribution of electricity, gas and water supply remained 23.1 percent.

The volume of gross agricultural output (in all types of farms) in January-August of 2014 increased by 6.0 percent compared to the same period last year. 94.0 percent of agricultural output is in the private sector. Gross agricultural product in the reporting period amounted to 10,454.6 million TJS (2,146.0 million USD), including crop production—7,334.7 million TJS (1,505.6 million USD) or 4.0 percent more, and livestock—3,119.9 million TJS (640.4 million USD) or 10.1 percent more.

For the first eight months of 2014, investments in fixed capital from all sources of finance were 4,046.2 million TJS or 830.6 million USD, 28.3 percent more than in the same period of the previous year. From January to August of 2014, investments amounting to 2,090.8 million TJS (429.3 million USD) (or 51.7 percent) were made in production facilities. Investments amounting to 1,955.4 million TJS (401.5 million USD), or 48.3 percent of total investment in the country, were made in non-production facilities. Most investments, 46 percent, were made in the public sector. The private sector accounted for 28.3 percent, joint ventures accounted for 7.7 percent, and foreign ownership accounted for 18 percent.

In the construction of energy facilities, investment amounted to 702.7 million TJS (144.2 million USD), 31.6 percent more compared with the same period of the previous year.

For the first eight months of the current year, the inflation rate in the consumer sector amounted to 5.4 percent in comparison with December 2013. The main contributors to inflation were food products comprising 6.3 percent, paid services—10.9 percent, and non-food products—1.1 percent.

According to the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan, for the first eight months of 2014 the total State budget amounted to 8,008.9 million TJS (1,644.0 million USD), or 29.8 percent of GDP.

The total volume of credit balances for January – August of 2014 amounted to 8.9 billion TJS (1,827.5 million USD). Compared with the same time of the previous year, it increased by 29.9 percent. The positive trend of lending is due mainly to increasing balances of loans in national currency by 37.7 percent. The volume of loans to economic sectors for this period amounted to 7.3 billion TJS (1,499.0 million USD), increasing by 27.9 percent in comparison with the same period of 2013. The volume of repaid loans reached 5.8 billion TJS (1,190.9 million USD), which is 70.4 percent of the total issued credits for this period.

The development of microcredit throughout the country, especially in remote mountainous regions, continues to be a priority. The country’s banking system is doing everything possible to implement this national priority. During the first eight months of 2014, microloans totaled 4.0 billion TJS (821.4 million USD), increasing by 37.5 percent in comparison with the same period of 2013. In distant high elevations of the country
microloans of 745.8 million TJS (153.1 million USD) were made, 24.1 percent more than in the same period of 2013.

For January-August 2014, foreign trade turnover amounted to 3,808.1 million USD. Compared with the same period of 2013, it increased by 13.3 percent. Goods exports amounted to 697.2 million USD and imports were 3,110.9 million USD. Negative balance of foreign trade turnover totaled 2,413.7 million USD.

6.2. Labor Migration of Population

According to the Migration Service of the Ministry of Labor, Migration, and Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan, in January-September 2014, a total of 676,302 persons left Tajikistan, 17.1 percent less than in the same period of 2013. 397,675 persons returned to the country.

The reduction in labor migration as compared to 2013 is due to amendments in the existing Russian Federation legislation on the activities of labor migrants from foreign countries.

The Monthly Labor Migration Outside of Tajikistan for 2009 - 2014 chart below provides a year-to-year summary of annual out-migration numbers from 2009 to 2014.
The Total Labor Migration for 2009-2014 chart below indicates that the total level of labor migration in 2014 is below the level of labor migration in the same period of 2013.

6.3. Employment

According to the Agency of Labor and Employment Department of the Ministry of Labor, Migration, and Employment of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan, 90,729 citizens applied to the Agency for help in the first nine months of 2014. Of this total, 58,078 individuals were registered as job seekers, and 40,724 individuals were recognized as officially unemployed. For the first nine months of this year, with the assistance of the employment services, 32,238 people were provided with jobs, which is 35.5 percent of the total number of all citizens who applied. The main reasons for providing a limited number of people with jobs were that the majority of the unemployed did not have the necessary technical training or had lost skills due to prolonged unemployment, as well as the low level of wages offered by employers.

During January-September 2014, unemployment benefits totalling 2,466 thousand TJS (496.2 thousand USD) were paid to 6,110 people. Including those persons remaining from 2013, on October 1, 2014, a total of 84,777 persons were registered with the Agency as looking for work, including 57,007 registered as unemployed. During the first nine months of 2014, 14,644 people were sent to vocational training, 4,028 people were provided with social-paid jobs, and 3,065 people were provided with soft loans to start their own businesses.

According to the State Agency for Social Protection, Employment, and Migration of RT, during the first nine months of 2014, 172,619 new jobs were created, which is 1.0 percent less than in the same period of the previous year (174,304).

6.4. Exchange Rate

The chart below shows both the official National Bank of Tajikistan (NBT) exchange rate and unofficial (market) exchange rate monitored weekly by the UN WFP. The NBT rate for October 1, 2014, increased and was 4.9985 Tajik Somoni per one USD. The UN WFP
reported an average market exchange rate of 5.08 TJS per one USD for the five main markets in Tajikistan on October 1, 2014.

Exchange Rate of Tajik Somoni against US Dollar, June 2007 – September 2014
Annex A - Weather forecast for October 2014

Khatlon Province and Lower Elevations of Direct Rule Districts (DRD)

The average monthly air temperature is expected to be 1°C above the norm and will be 13 to 17°C at lower elevations and 10 to 13°C in the foothills. During the first part of the month, the prevailing air temperature is expected to be 11 to 16°C at night, 29 to 34°C in the afternoon. In the second and third parts of the month, the temperature is expected to fall: from 9-14°C to 4-9°C at night, from 22-27°C to 18-23°C in the afternoon.

In the first half of the month, the weather will be dry. In the second half of the month, unstable weather is expected (rain, haze). Monthly precipitation is expected to be less than normal in the foothills and above the norm in some areas (norm: 28-35 mm, 10-28mm on South, 40-54 mm in the foothills).

Sughd Province

The monthly average temperature is expected to be within the normal range and will be from 13 to 14°C at lower elevations and 5 to 17°C at higher elevations. During the first part of the month, the temperature is expected to be 8 to 13°C at night. In the afternoon the temperature will be from 22 to 27°C, possibly falling to 18 to 23°C. Later in the month, the temperature at night is expected to fall from 3-8°C to -1-4°C, in the afternoon from 21-26°C to 13 - 18°C.

Varying intensity of precipitation is most likely in the second half of the month. Monthly precipitation is expected to be below the norm (norm: at lower elevations, 17 to 33 mm; at higher elevations, 23 to 28 mm).

Higher Elevations of DRD and Western Regions of GBAO

The monthly average temperature is expected to be within the normal range at higher elevations in DRDs, 1°C above the norm at Western regions of GBAO and will be: 9-13°C at higher elevations in DRDs, 10-15°C in Western regions of GBAO. During the month, the predominant air temperature is expected to be 4 to 9°C at night and 19 to 24°C in the afternoon. Later in the month, air temperature is expected to fall from 1 - 6°C to 2 - 3°C at night, and from 12 - 17°C to 7 - 12°C in the afternoon.

Precipitation (rain, sleet) is expected later in the month. Monthly precipitation is expected to be above the norm (norm: 50 to 68mm, In the Western regions of GBAO 7 to 27mm).

In the first half of the month, winds are expected to increase up to 15-20m/s.

Eastern Regions of GBAO

Monthly average temperature is expected to be 2°C above the norm (norm: -1 to -3°C). In the first part of the month, the temperature will be: -3 to -8°C at night, 9 to 14°C in the afternoon. Later in the month, the temperature is expected to fall from -4 to -9°C at night to -10 to -15°C in the afternoon.

Monthly precipitation is expected to be less than the norm (norm: 3-7 mm; near the Fedchenko glacier, 105 mm).
The aim of the Tajikistan monthly Monitoring and Early Warning (MEW) Reports is to provide regular information and succinct analysis on the evolution of natural, economic, food, energy and other risk factors in Tajikistan. Data and information in this report are provided by different sources and compiled by Group of Experts of Government organizations and institutions of the MEW Center (MEWS) under the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) of RT with the support of UNDP and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Tajikistan. MEWS at MEDT was created in conjunction with the United Nations Development Program in Tajikistan in 2010. The members of the MEWS Working group include the following organizations and institutions:

- Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, RT
- Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, RT
- Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, RT
- Ministry of Labor, Migration and Employment of Population, RT
- Ministry of Health and Social protection of population, RT
- Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Agency on statistics under President of RT
- Main Department of Geology under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- National Bank of Tajikistan
- Migration service of the Ministry of Labor, Migration and population employment of RT
- OJHC «Barqi Tojik»
- OJSC «Tajiktransgaz»
- Hydrometeorology Government institution
- Agency of Labor and Employment
- Institute of Geology, Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan

The Monitoring and Early Warning Center at the MERT is not responsible for the quality and accuracy of data provided by external sources or analysis based on these data.

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Report is available on the website:

http://www.medt.tj/en/index/index/pageld/791/

and