

**Opinion of Republic of Uzbekistan
on possible items for consideration as part of the research dialogue during
SBSTA 38
and
information of Republic of Uzbekistan on the technical and scientific aspects
of emissions by sources, removals by sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases
including emissions and removals from terrestrial ecosystems such as steppe,
savannah, tundra and peatlands with a view to identifying and quantifying the
impact of human activities, for consideration as a theme for the next research
dialogue during SBSTA 38**

Assessment of emissions and absorption of GHG by the surface ecosystems and qualitative assessment of anthropogenic effect on ecosystems is one of the timely directions of studies for Uzbekistan. Steppes are one of the ecosystems very extensively spread on the territory of Uzbekistan. Depending on the degree of watering of territory the steppes are widely used in irrigated land farming mainly for growing of cotton. The major part of steppes is occupied by the desert-and-steppe vegetation. Territories of steppes are also used as pastures – mainly, for grazing of astrakhan sheep.

Such institutions in the Republic of Uzbekistan as Institute of Soil studies and Institute of general and non-organic chemistry conduct studies of definition of organic carbon content. These studies are performed on irregular basis in the framework of Government science-and-technological program of applied and fundamental studies planned for 3 or 5 years.

Uzbekistan as developing country with the economy in transition and Non-Annex I Party to UN FCCC considers that it is necessary to develop studies in the field of scientific studies in the context of item 2 of SBSTA (FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.25, paragraph 17) and gives the priority to the following objectives:

- 1) To work out and approve the government Program for making up the carbon balance for the whole territory of the country.
- 2) To define the priority reservoirs of CO₂ sinks, sources of CO₂ emissions on the whole territory including also the ecosystems of steppes typical for the country.
- 3) To calculate the carbon reserves in the soils of Uzbekistan on the base of international classification of soils and corrected surface areas.
- 4) To reveal the main types of anthropogenic impact (including the erosion processes) on the steppe ecosystems causing the losses of the soil carbon. To develop alleviation measures.
- 5) To develop and improve system of monitoring of changing carbon reserves regarding the present demands.
- 6) To continue the measures on greening the steppe territories in the framework of government programs on permanent basis.