



# **Information on ICSD, IFAS.**

**(Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development  
of the International Fund on saving Aral Sea)**

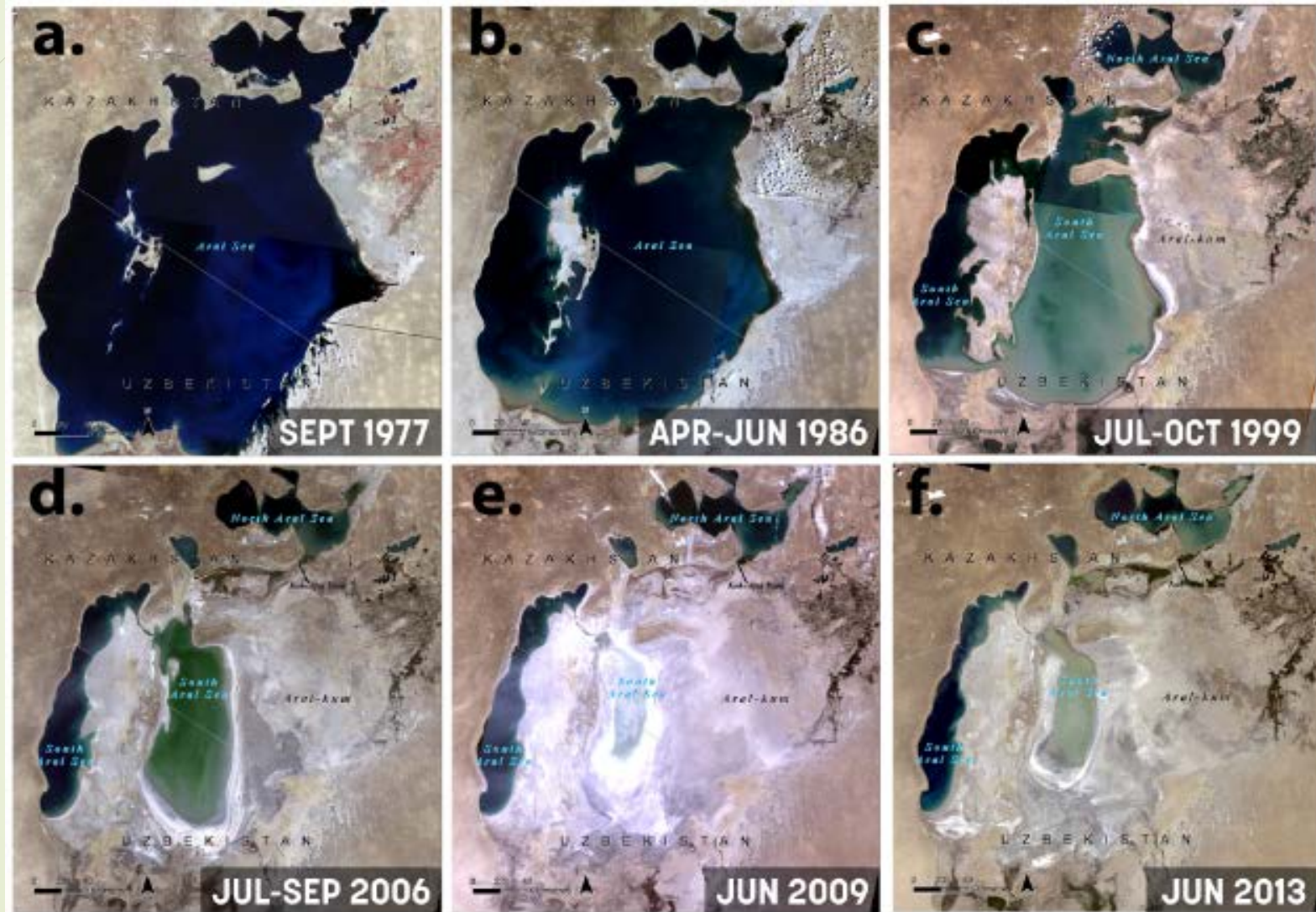
## **Climate Change Regional Policy Dialogue: Learning from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**18-19 June 2020**

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# Aral Sea by years

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# Establishment of the IFAS and its bodies.

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## **January 4, 1993. - Meeting of heads of States of Central Asia in Tashkent.**

The first meeting of the Heads held to discuss on further strengthening equal and mutually beneficial economic and humanitarian relations between these sovereign States.

## **March 26, 1993. - Agreement on joint activities.**

Concluded by the heads of Central Asian states to solve the Aral Sea and Aral region problem, improve the environment and social and economic development of the Aral region.

At the same meeting, *the Interstate Council for the Aral Sea (ICAS)* was established, consisting of 25 members - five from each state.

## **April 9, 1993 - Establishment of IFAS.**

The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea was established by the decision of the heads of Central Asian states made in Tashkent in 1993. At the meeting of Presidents of Central Asian states, the Regulations on the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) were approved.

## **February 1997. – Changes and new principal scheme of management of IFAS**

The heads of state made changes and approved the new principal scheme of management of IFAS, according to which the Interstate Council and the Executive Directorate of the Fund were transformed into the Executive Committee of IFAS, which is located on a rotational basis in the country presiding over IFAS. The founding countries take turns chairing the Fund, and the heads of Central Asian states take turns electing the IFAS President for a 3-year term.

# ICSD

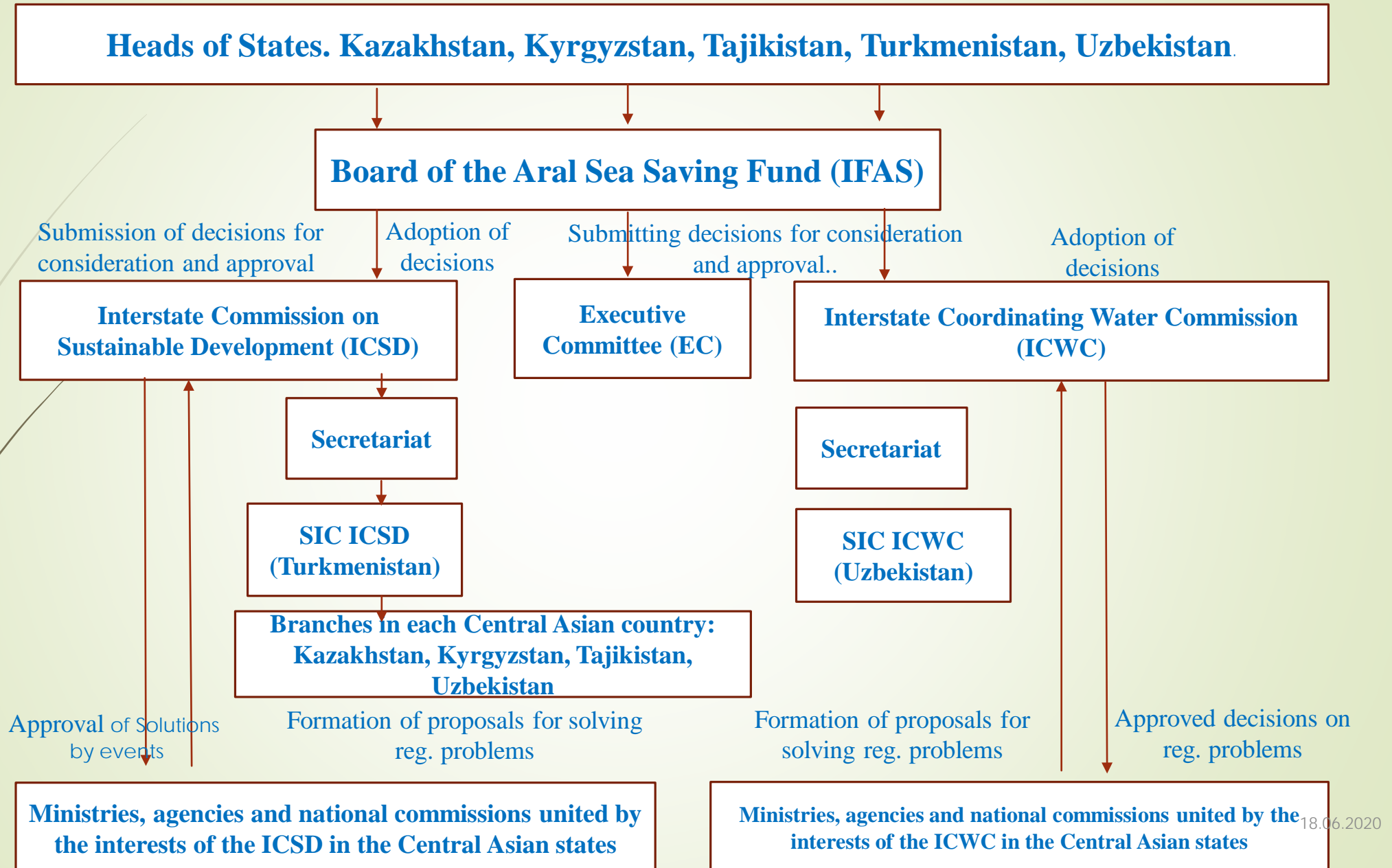
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## (Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development)

- ICSD is a body of the International Fund of the Aral Sea, established by the Presidents of Central Asian countries (CA) in accordance with the "Agreement on Joint Actions to Solve the Aral Sea Problems, Environmental Rehabilitation, Social and Economic Development of the Aral Region", signed by the CA Heads of State in Kyzyl-Orda in March 1993.

# Scheme and structure of the IFAS organization

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# The main functions of the ICSD

- Organization and coordination of regional sustainable development and environment protection strategy;
- Management of regional environment and sustainable development programs, action plans, projects;
- Arranging expertise and project development;
- Coordination of activities related to fulfillment of CA countries' obligations on environmental conventions of transboundary nature;
- Support to harmonization of legislative and methodology bases in environmental area;
- Support the regional information exchange and establishing regional information database on environment and sustainable development.



# Bodies of the ICSD

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The ICSD consists of 15 members - 3 representatives from each country (Ministers of Environment, Deputy Ministers of Economy, representatives of scientific agencies and other sectors), appointed by the respective governments. The ICSD is chaired by Ministers of the Environment on a 2-year rotation. Working bodies of ICSD:

- The **Secretariat** provides technical and financial support to the activities of ICSD;
- **Research and Information Centre** with headquarters in Turkmenistan and branches in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan;
- An **Advisory Board**, comprising experts from the ERM network, NGOs and donors;
- It also has a **Mountain Centre** in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) and a **Renewable Energy Centre** in Tashkent (Uzbekistan).

The working bodies of the ICSD are governed by its Statutes and decisions approved by the ICSD. The described mandate of ICSD, as well as the high level of commitment of national governments of Central Asian states makes it also a critical partner for other significant contributions from development partners, such as UNEP, UNECE, GIZ as well as the World Bank.

# Regional Environmental Action Plan. (REAP)

- The ICSD acts as the coordinating body for the Regional Environmental Action Plan (REAP) process. For practical implementation of the REAP, an Authorized Persons Management Committee (AIC) was established, which includes responsible commissioners (AIC). Expert and technical support to the REAP and the preparation of the Plan was provided by the Scientific Information Centre (SIC) of ICSD. REAP considers the following priorities: Translated with [www.DeepL.com/Translator](http://www.DeepL.com/Translator) (free version).
- Active coordination with national environmental strategies and plans has become an important aspect of the establishment of the REAP. REAP was officially initiated at the Conference of Ministers of Central Asia in September 2001 and approved by ICSD. In 2003, REAP was approved by the Board of the International Aral Sea Fund as a general sub-regional environmental program. At the same time, ICSD is initiating a process to review and update the REAP in order to respond to current global challenges such as climate change and sustainable development goals.



# Scientific Information Center of the ICSD.

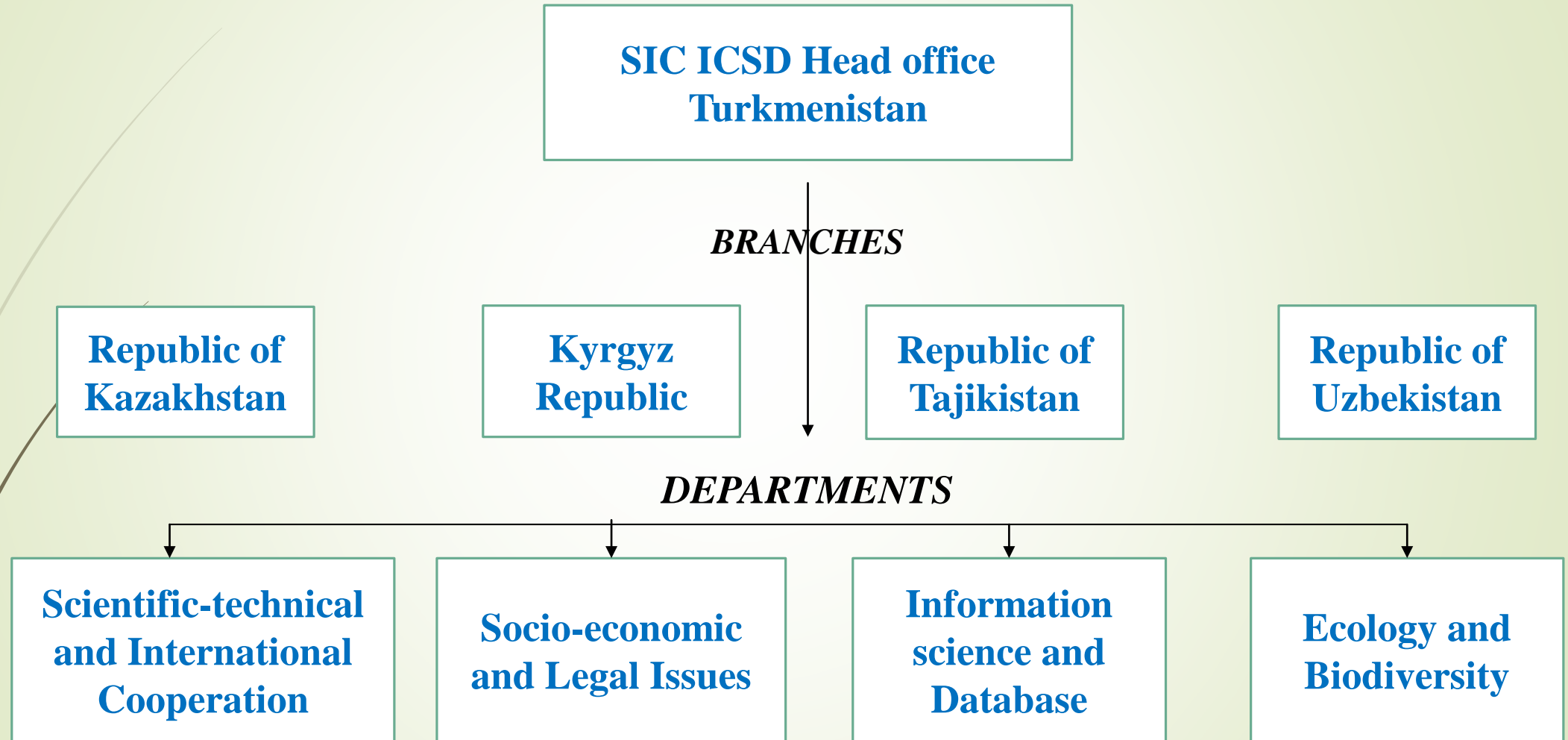
## SIC ICSD

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- The Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development was established in 1995 under the auspices of the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna of the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources of Turkmenistan to provide information and expert support to the ICSD.
- SIC ICSD has received the status of an international regional organization. The company's head office is in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. In each of the CA countries, SIC ICSD has four branches, which have been established under national agencies for sustainable development or environmental protection. SIC consists of four divisions: Scientific, Technical and International Cooperation; Socio-economic and Legal Affairs; Informatics and Database; and Ecology and Biodiversity
- The overall goal of the SIC ICSD is to create an integrated information database for regional and national decision-making and for the preparation of data on scientific, socio-economic and environmental standards for sustainable development.
- The main task of the SIC is to collect, process and present data to officials for decision-making and planning, as well as to other interested organizations.

# Structure of the Central Asian SIC ICSD

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# Thank you for your attention !

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