



HIGHLIGHTS

of XXII International Coastal Conference «Problems of Management and Sustained Development of Sea Coastal Zone». Gelendzhik, Russia – 16-20 May 2007.

The Conference was organized by the “Sea Coast” Working Group of RAS Council on the World Ocean issues together with Southern Branch of Oceanology Institute named by P.P. Shirshov.

More than 100 people participated in the Conference; they were employees of several Academy of Sciences Institutes and its branches (Siberian and Far Eastern ones), Moscow State University named by M.V. Lomonosov and other higher education establishments of the country (8 universities) and a number of scientific institutions (total 9 with RAS institutes) and scientific – industrial (8) organizations of Russia. They represented 13 Russian cities – from Kaliningrad till Vladivostok and Yuzhno – Sakhalinsk and from St. Petersburg till Gelendzhik. In the Conference there were also participating (in presence or by correspondence) foreign researchers (about 20 people) from Lithuania, Ukraine, Georgia, Abkhazia, Poland, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Holland, USA, Turkey, Switzerland, Sweden, Greece and Vietnam.

Conference participants have considered the new and traditional ideas in hydro -, litho- and morpho-dynamics of sea coastal zone, environmental issues and coastal media protection problems, paleogeographic conditions and factors of sea coastal zone sustained development. In four sections there were made 30 verbal reports and discussed 65 poster presentations. Besides, Conference participants got acquainted with natural environment of Black Sea coastal territory from Gelendzhik up to Taman’ (including one of the mud volcano examples) and have briefly visually inspected coast protection and beach supporting structures in Taman’ and regenerated part of Tuzla bar. The digest of Conference («

2007, 376 .) contains in total abstracts of 154 reports.

In the course of submitted reports discussions there was noted the increasing role of the coastal zone in economical and recreational development of the regions, in solving the issues having social significance, in increasing the reserves of mineral, biological and energetic resources, in successful solving problems of hydrotechnic and any other types of construction near the sea, and enhancement of navigational and environmental safety system of sea ports.

At the same time the Conference has noted the increasing careen in the last few years towards the solving of application problems what is partly related with

the selective funding the pure practical issues as often as not to the prejudice of fundamental problems. Again, there was raised up the issue about the absence of legal status of the coastal zone which deprives users of its resources the juridical bases. As often as not the solution of complex coastal problems is handed back to low qualified, non-professional groups whose crude and heedless interference in coastal processes violates their natural balance and leads to the irremediable negative consequences. However, in the absence of appropriate legislative documents it is very difficult even to lay damages at guilty. It was entirely forgotten the practice of developing the general layouts of coast protection measures, so the construction in the coastal zone is carried out haphazardly with the violation of construction and sanitary rules and regulations. The coast protection is mainly performed at emergency areas or by separate users acting at their own risk and peril without any scientific substantiations. The lend-lease of coastal areas having also the recreational value to the commercial entities leads to their actual subtraction from common use what contradicts to RF fundamental law.

The participants of the conference have noted that the Declaration of following the requirements of “Concept of Sustained Ecological and Economical Development” which Russia has signed in 1992 foresees the minimization of negative impact on the environment including the use of environmentally sound technologies and conducting the environment protecting measures. However, the current situation of many maritime towns development in Russia contradicts to the concept of sustained development and this is restricting the opportunities of social and economic evolution of the resort regions. The new nature protection legislation developed taking into account the concept of sustained development principles is needed.

Conference has indicated also very unfavorable condition of sea shore in several regions of the country, for instance, in Sakhalin where now the negative impact of anthropogenic factor is higher than permissible threshold (especially in the regions of oil production for “Sakhalin – 1” and “Sakhalin – 2” projects). Many other important issues of sea coast zone management have been raised up.

Based on the material presented in reports and its discussion Conference recommends the following:

- 1) Enhance the efforts of coastal zone researchers for the solution of fundamental problems for it is impossible to provide the further progress of coastal science without this;

- 2) The Work Group “Sea Coasts” should initiate again for the authorized agencies the issue of necessity to enact the law about sea coastal zone regulating any actions in its’ limits;

- 3) Consider it to be expedient creating in the field the unified net of organizations (a sort of “coast protecting” ones) responsible for the coastal zone condition, having the state funding and controlling functions. It is necessary also to develop the all-Russian and territorial rules for facilities design and construction at sea coastal zone;

- 4) Emphasize the necessity of developing and implementing the new nature protecting legislation based on principles of sustained development because

otherwise the further development of number of towns will become impossible due to the environmental reasons;

5) Promulgate the wide communication with community about the construction being prepared to or any other interference in the limits of coastal zone based on foreign experience, explaining the measures of struggle with possible negative consequences to obtain the support of local community instead of its resistance;

6) Bring the attention of higher education institutions managers to the timely character of preparing experts in the field of sea coast dynamics and geomorphology, effective nature use and eco-geology;

7) Approve the efforts of Sakhalin Oblast Nature Resources and Environmental Protection Committee aimed particularly on the developing the regionally oriented strategy of coasts use, creating the models of coastal regions evolution in XXI century, developing coast protection structural arrangements;

8) Consider to be expedient the creating of IFAS (“Informational – Forecasting Automated System”) of Kaliningrad Oblast coastal zone as an example of successful interaction of regional managing structures with scientific teams having the goal to develop the economic managing tool in Baltic Sea coastal zone;

9) Welcome the expansion of international contacts and the more active inclusion of our experts in the operation of international coastal programs such as ENCORA program;

10) Approve the activity of the RG “Sea Coasts” of RAS Council on World Ocean problems on regular organization of international conferences and recommend to return back to the practice of organizing small regional seminars;

11) Devote the next (XXIII) coastal conference to the centenary of the birth of national coastal science classic V.P. Zenkovich and conduct it in Moscow (supposedly) because all coastal activity of V.P. Zenkovich, especially in the period of its flush, was closely related with RAS Institute of Oceanology.

Conference Co-Chairmen: Prof. Kosyan R.D.

Professor L. Zhindarev,