

**COOPERATION BETWEEN UZBEKISTAN AND THE UN IN THE FIELD OF
SCIENCE: SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

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Abstract: This article highlights the cooperation of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the United Nations in the field of science and technology. In particular, it analyzes the application of scientific research results, support for innovative projects, technology transfer, and the development of human resource potential. It also reviews the UN's scientific and technical programs in Uzbekistan and their outcomes.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, UN, science, technology transfer, innovation, cooperation, sustainable development.

Introduction

In the context of globalization, the competitiveness of every country primarily depends on its scientific and technological potential. Since gaining independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan has carried out a series of reforms aimed at developing scientific research, introducing modern innovations, and applying advanced foreign experience. In this process, cooperation with the United Nations holds a special place. This article analyzes the main areas of this cooperation, the programs, and their results. It has been 31 years since our country became a member of the United Nations. On March 2, 1992, Uzbekistan was admitted as a full-fledged member of this prestigious international organization.

Uzbekistan attaches great importance to cooperation with the United Nations, which it has identified as one of the priority directions of its foreign policy. Our state has remained committed to the goals and principles enshrined in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other major international treaties, strictly fulfilling its obligations.

As an equal and full member of the UN, Uzbekistan consistently demonstrates adherence to the principles of equality, cooperation, multilateralism, and the protection of the international political system. In recent years, it has actively promoted ideas such as resolving international conflicts through peaceful means, preventing new global armed confrontations, fostering cooperation between countries, promoting global dialogue and joint actions, and protecting human rights worldwide.

Our country actively participates in the work of the UN and its specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and other international organizations.

Uzbekistan has permanent missions to the UN offices in New York (USA) and Geneva (Switzerland), as well as to other international organizations in Vienna (Austria).

At these prestigious forums, the head of our state has announced Uzbekistan's initiatives in strengthening international and regional security, education, spirituality, ecology, tourism development, human rights protection, and other areas. As a result of the intense reforms implemented within the framework of the 2017–2021 Action Strategy, the level of our cooperation with the UN has significantly deepened.

The international recognition of Uzbekistan's recent efforts is reflected in the adoption of several special resolutions by the UN General Assembly. In a short period, resolutions such as "Strengthening Regional and International Cooperation to Ensure Peace, Stability and

Sustainable Development in Central Asia,” “Education and Religious Tolerance,” “Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Development in Central Asia,” and “Declaring the Aral Sea Region as a Zone of Environmental Innovations and Technologies” have been adopted, which clearly confirm our viewpoint.

It should be emphasized that in the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy for 2022–2026, human rights occupy a central place in the ongoing reforms aimed at the political-legal and socio-economic modernization of the country. Accordingly, Uzbekistan supports the UN’s “Call to Action for Human Rights.”

In Uzbekistan, the protection of human rights is regarded as one of the priority areas of cooperation with the UN. Today, our country has established a stable political system that meets modern democratic and human rights standards. Legislative, executive, and judicial bodies at all levels are functioning effectively.

Most importantly, the sense of respect for the Constitution and national laws is growing within our society. Even more notable is that the priority principle of “For Human Dignity and Honor” is finding real confirmation in life.

In the elections held during the session of the UN General Assembly on October 13, 2020, Uzbekistan, for the first time in the history of its statehood, was elected as a member of the UN Human Rights Council for a three-year term – 2021–2023. Since January 1, 2021, our country has been fulfilling this mandate.

When speaking about Uzbekistan’s activities within the framework of its obligations as a member of the UN Human Rights Council, it is particularly noteworthy that in 2021 the country ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Furthermore, in December 2022, under the auspices of the “Dialogue of Leading Women of Central Asian Countries,” and with the participation of women’s civil society organizations and UN Women, a regional forum was held.

Main Part

Scientific Research and Cooperation Programs

Uzbekistan actively cooperates with several UN specialized agencies such as UNESCO, UNDP, UNECE, and UNIDO. Within UNESCO, programs exist to support scientific research, academic exchange initiatives, and grants for young scientists. UNDP provides financial and organizational support for innovative projects aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. On Uzbekistan’s initiative, the UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on the protection of youth rights during the pandemic. In August of last year, the World Conference on Youth Rights was held in Tashkent under the theme “Engaging Youth in Global Action.”

Currently, our national delegation is participating in the High-Level Segment of the 52nd Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. The international community was presented with essential information regarding the priority directions within the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy, aimed at deepening democratic reforms in the future.

It was emphasized that Uzbekistan seeks to further expand mutually beneficial cooperation with the UN and its specialized institutions. In this regard, preparations are underway for the visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, E. Edwards, to Uzbekistan this year. Moreover, consistent efforts are being made to promote the establishment of a regional human rights mechanism in Asia in the future.

All these developments are not accidental. Indeed, in today’s complex circumstances, with unprecedented armed conflicts and increasing threats to international peace and stability, the role and responsibility of the UN as a universal international body aimed at uniting member states’ efforts to ensure peace, security, human rights, and sustainable development are steadily growing.

Technology Transfer and Innovation

Within the framework of UN programs, Uzbekistan focuses on the introduction of modern technologies in industry, energy, agriculture, and environmental protection. For instance, through UNIDO projects, clean energy sources, renewable energy technologies, and waste recycling systems are being introduced.

Capacity Building

Training and education in the field of science is another important direction of cooperation. Through UN education programs, young Uzbek scientists are gaining international experience and access to advanced knowledge.

Discussion

Uzbekistan's cooperation with the UN in the field of science encompasses mutual benefits. On the one hand, Uzbekistan enhances its scientific capacity and accelerates technological development. On the other hand, the UN gains opportunities to implement sustainable development strategies more broadly in the Central Asian region through Uzbekistan's experience.

Results. Several innovative projects have been introduced in Uzbekistan through UN programs; Transfer of modern technologies in energy, ecology, and agriculture has been carried out; International grants and scholarships have been created for young scientists and researchers.

Methods

The article employs analytical and comparative methods. In particular, official UN reports, national programs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and statistical data were examined, with scientific-analytical comparisons conducted.

Conclusion

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and the UN in the field of science plays an essential role in fostering innovative development, enhancing scientific capacity, and introducing modern technologies in the republic. This cooperation corresponds to the country's sustainable development strategy and is expected to expand further in the future, contributing significantly to scientific and technological progress.

In the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy, the readiness of our country to cooperate with all nations of the world on a mutually beneficial basis, and to maintain practical dialogue with the UN and its institutions, has once again been confirmed. On this basis, Uzbekistan, during its membership in the UN Human Rights Council, is sincerely striving to demonstrate its commitment to the highest standards in the field of human rights.

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