RSE "Institute of Zoology" of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan
RSI "Aksu-Zhabagly State Nature Reserve" of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
RSE "Institute of Botany and Phytointroduction" of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Kazakhstan National Committee of the UNESCO "Man and the Biosphere (MAB)" Programme

CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN THE WESTERN TIEN SHAN

November 11–13, 2026
Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

SECOND INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Colleagues,

In response to numerous requests, the deadline for registration to participate in the conference has been extended to **30 June 2026**.

Deadline for submission of conference papers: **16 August 2026**.

The Conference, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Aksu-Zhabagly Nature Reserve, will provide a forum for presentations and discussion of fundamental and applied issues concerning the current state of and prospects for biodiversity conservation in the Western Tien Shan, the conservation of its ecosystem and species diversity, and the role of protected areas in biodiversity conservation at regional and global levels.

Conference details

Dates: 11–13 November 2026

Venue: Institute of Zoology, 93 Al-Farabi Avenue, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

Working languages: Kazakh, Russian and English

Format: Hybrid (in-person and online)

Ways to participate:

- Plenary presentation (20 minutes);
- Oral presentation in a thematic session (10 minutes);

- Poster presentation;
- Participation with publication only.

Main conference themes

- Current status and prospects for the conservation of the fauna of the Western Tien Shan;
- Current issues in the study and conservation of the flora of the Western Tien Shan;
- Conservation of species and ecosystem diversity in protected areas.

Round-table discussions

1. Biodiversity monitoring in protected areas;
2. The impact of anthropogenic factors on biodiversity;
3. Current challenges in biodiversity conservation in Aksu-Zhabagly Nature Reserve;
4. UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Central Eurasia.

Registration

You can register using the online form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZm_dOrS43mAoMDP5XT_GpZY7PS49Tmarluwx8ypM07mdGRQ/viewform

Alternatively, you may complete and submit the registration table below:

Full name (surname, first name, patronymic, if applicable)	
Institution / place of employment	
Position, academic degree and academic title	
Presentation title	
Conference section	
Participation in a round-table discussion	
E-mail address	
Telephone number	
Preferred format of participation	

Publication of conference materials

A conference proceedings volume is planned for publication by the time of the conference. The guidelines for preparing manuscripts are provided below.

Please send registration forms and conference materials to: **science@zool.kz**

The Zoom link will be sent in the next announcement to all participants who have **registered**.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- By **1 June** – submission of proposals for plenary presentations, symposia and round-table discussions;
- By **30 June** – submission of conference registration forms;
- By **16 August** – submission of conference papers.

We would appreciate it if you could share information about the conference with your colleagues!

Conference Organising Committee

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF CONFERENCE PAPERS

1. The length of a paper, including figures, tables (if any) and references, must not exceed 8 pages. Use Times New Roman, 12 pt, with single line spacing. Page margins: top – 2 cm; bottom – 2 cm; right – 1.5 cm; left – 3 cm.

2. The title of the paper should be in bold, 14 pt type. The author(s)' initials and surname(s) should appear below the title in 12 pt type. If there is more than one author, their names should be separated by commas. Each author's institutional affiliation should be indicated by a superscript number after the surname. On the next line, list the institution, city, country and e-mail address for each affiliation, in the same order, in 12 pt type.

3. Use standard abbreviations for commonly accepted geographical and metric terms. All abbreviations must be spelled out at first mention.

4. Provide the Latin name of each species at its first mention in the text, alongside its common name. Latin genus and species names must be italicised.

5. Please ensure that geographical names conform to the latest officially adopted changes in the Republic of Kazakhstan and in the country from which the paper is submitted.

6. Authors are encouraged to avoid figures and tables and to present the information in text form wherever possible. Figures and tables should be included only when they substantially reduce the length of the paper. All figures and tables must have titles, separate sequential numbering and corresponding in-text references.

Figures must be submitted as separate files in JPG, PNG or TIFF format. Indicate the preferred placement of each figure in the text. Figure captions should follow this format: "Fig. 1. Figure title".

Tables must be submitted as separate Microsoft Word files, using the Table function (not as drawn objects). Place the table title centred above the table, for example: "Table 1. Table title". Indicate the preferred placement of each table in the text.

7. Do not use spaces to align words or lines. Word division at line breaks (hyphenation) is not permitted. Use a full stop as the decimal separator (e.g. 1.9), not a comma (1,9). In papers written in Russian or Kazakh, the number sign (№) must not be replaced with the Latin letter N.

8. Citations in the text should be given in parentheses, using the author's surname and year of publication in the original language, and arranged chronologically. For works by more than three authors, use "et al." In the reference list, entries should be arranged alphabetically and chronologically. Multiple works by the same author(s) published in the same year should be distinguished by letters (a, b, c).

Reference list: formatting example

References

Shammakov S.M., Ataev K.A. New records of the secret toadhead agama in Northern Turkmenistan. Problems of Desert Development. 2007. No. 1. P. 54–55.

Brushko Z.K. Lizards of the Deserts of Kazakhstan. Almaty: Konzhyk, 1995. 232 pp.