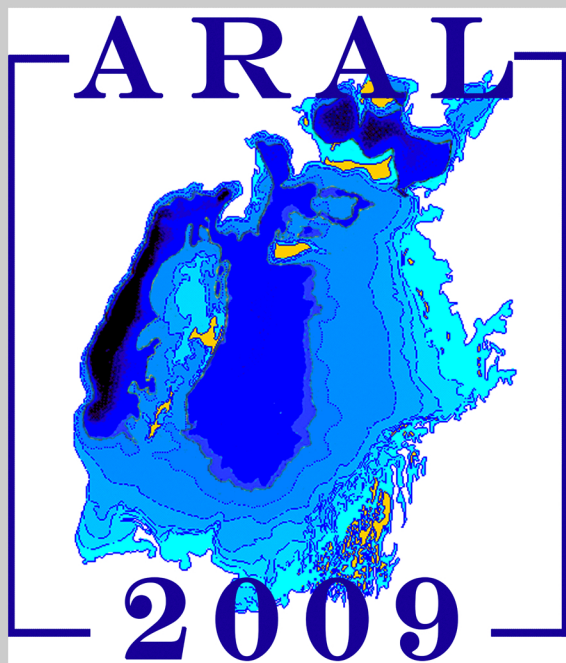


**Russian Academy of Sciences
Saint Petersburg Scientific Centre
Zoological Institute RAS
Russian Foundation for Basic Research**



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ARAL: PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE
TWO CENTURIES
OF THE ARAL SEA INVESTIGATIONS**

**12-15 October 2009
Saint Petersburg, Universitetskaya emb., 5**

First International Conference

Aral: Past, Present and Future - Two Centuries of the Aral Sea Investigations

12-15 October 2009

Saint Petersburg Scientific Centre of Russian Academy of Science

Saint Petersburg, Russia

The Aral '09 Conference is devoted to:

- 160 years since the expedition of A.I. Butakov,
- the 100th anniversary of publication of the book "Aral Sea" by Leo S. Berg,
- the 70th anniversary of organization of Barsakelmes State Nature Reserve
- 45 years since the Aral Sea Expedition of Russian State Pedagogical University,
- 20 years since organization of Brackish Water Laboratory of Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg
- 15 years since setting up the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS)

The **Aral '09 International Conference** will bring together an exceptional array of speakers and participants to highlight the achievements in the Aral Basin investigations today and to discuss strategies for their future.

This conference presents a unique opportunity for a wide range of professionals, researchers, and students to come together to help plan the future of the field.

The **objectives** of the **Conference** are:

- To present and discuss scientific results of recent research in the Aral Sea Basin and adjacent territories
- To present general results of recent research in the Aral Sea Basin to a wider audience, and to discuss them in the light of other regional research and educational and political activities

- To link up with scientists in the region, in Europe and in other parts of the world, reviewing the status of the Aral Basin research in a global context
- To identify opportunities and priorities for future research, management and education
- To identify opportunities and priorities in transferring scientific research results to applied fields, such as renewable resources management and conservation

Organizing Committee:

Co-Chairmans:

A.F. Alimov (RAS Academician, Professor, Russia)
O.N. Pugachev (RAS Corresponding member, Russia)
S.R. Ibatullin (EC Chairman, IFAS, Kazakhstan)

Committee Members:

- N.V. Aladin, Zoological Institute
- N.B. Ananieva, Zoological Institute
- N.G. Bogutskaya, Zoological Institute (**General Secretary**)
- D.O. Eliseyev, Russian State Pedagogical University
- T.M. Florinskaya, SPb Research Center RAS
- V.V. Khlebovich, Zoological Institute
- L.A. Kuznetsov, Leningrad Province Institute for Development of Education
- A.M. Naseka, Zoological Institute
- M.I. Orlova, Zoological Institute (**Scientific Secretary**)

Honorary International Scientific Committee:

- N. Boroffka, Germany
- Z. Alimbetova, Kazakhstan
- U. Buranov, Uzbekistan
- J.-F. Cretaux, France
- M. Glantz, USA
- U. Gattenlöhner, Germany
- R.V. Jashenko, Kazakhstan

- B. Karimov, Uzbekistan
- F.V. Karmazinov, Russia
- D. Keyser, Germany
- R. Letolle, France
- Ph. Micklin, USA
- M. Nakamura, Japan
- A. Nurushev, Kazakhstan
- I.S. Zonn, Russia
- S. Rahimov, Tajikistan

Technical support group:

- O.G. Manylov (Russia)
- T.N. Platonova (Russia)
- G.F. Plotnikova (Russia)
- A.V. Shoshin (Russia)
- L.I. Zhakova (Russia)

Contacts:

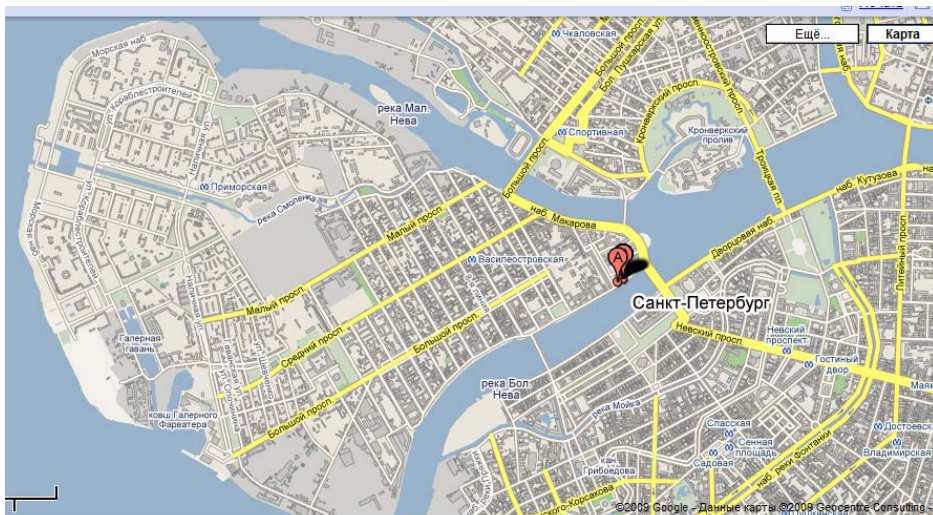
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E-mail: aral2009spb@rambler.ru

Conference website:

<http://www.zin.ru/conferences/Aral2009/index.html>

Meeting Venue

The conference will be hosted by the St. Petersburg Scientific Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya Embankment, 5, at the Split of Vasilievskiy Island (Strelka Vasilievskogo Ostrova).



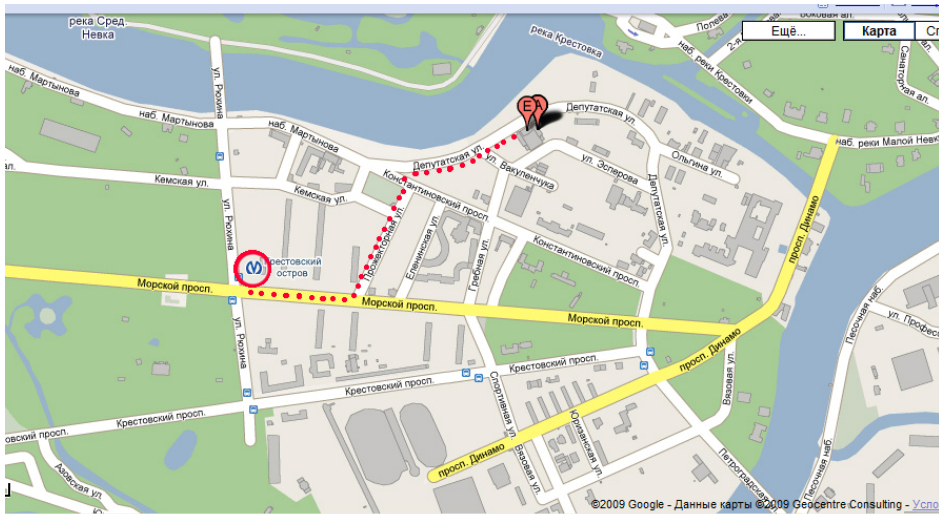
Addresses:

St. Petersburg Scientific Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences,
Universitetskaya Embankment, 5

Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences,
Universitetskaya Embankment, 1

Accommodation Information

Hotel “Krestovskiy Ostrov” <http://www.hotelkrestov.ru/> is located at “Krestovskiy Ostrov” metro station, Deputatskaya Str. 34.



12 October
14.00-15.00 **Registration**
15.00-18.00 **Guided City Tour**

13 October
10.00-13.30 **Registration**

10.00-10.15 Opening Address by **Oleg N. Pugachev**, Director,
Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Science
10.15-10.30 A DOCUMENTARY FILM ON THE PRESENT-DAY
ARAL by **Zuyev Yu., Eliseyev D. and Aladin I.**

10.30-11.00 Plenary Lecture: **Karlikhanov T., Ospanov K.**
Monitoring as the basis of ecological regulation of
water quality.

11.00-11.30 Plenary Lecture: **Mironenkov A., Sarsembekov T.,**
Sarsembekov V. Social, economic and political
consequences of the Aral ecological crisis.

11.30-11.50 **Van Stappen G., Marden B., Mirabdullayev I.,**
Zholdasova I., Vyverman W., Bosteels Th.,
Sorgeloos P. Economic and ecological benefits from
sustainable use of the Aral Sea *Artemia* resources:
results and experiences from a field sampling
campaign conducted in the Uzbek part of the Aral Sea
(2005-2007).

11.50-12.10 **Karlsson I., Björklund G.** Sustainable cotton – an
achievable goal in the Aral Sea area?

12.10-12.30 **Coffee Break**

12.30-12.50 **Krivosnogov S., Kuznim Ya., Burr G., Gusskov S.,**
Khazin L., Zhakov E., Nurgizarinov A.,
Kurmanbayev R., Kenshinbay T. New data on the
Aral Sea level changes in the Holocene and Pre-
Holocene times.

12.50-13.10 **Gophen M.** Water level decline in lakes: the
difference between disaster and welfare.

13.10-13.30 **Ibrahimov Sh.** The forecast of parasitological
situation in the Aral Sea in compliance with possible
options of future environmental condition of this water
body.

- 13.30-15.00** *Lunch*
- 15.00-15.30** Plenary Lecture: **Micklin Ph.** The future Aral Sea: is the glass half full or half empty?
- 15.30-16.00** Plenary Lecture: **Aladin N.** The Aral Sea: already dead, dying, or alive?
- 16.00-16.20** **Ibatullin S.** The Aral basin: the time of trial and activity.
- 16.20-16.40** *Coffee Break*
- 16.40-17.00** **Aldyakova O.** Geoinformational mapping and landscape-ecological monitoring support in the southern Aral Sea region.
- 17.00-17.20** **Shabanova L.V., Dzhusupov A.E.** Saving biodiversity, surface system of Kazakhstan part of the Aral Sea.
- 17.20-17.40** **Kuznetsov L.** Lessons and outlooks (about the Program of Studies in the Barsakelmes Reserve).
- 17.40-18.00** **Barlykbayev E., Alimbetova Z.** Peculiarities of biodiversity monitoring in Nature Reserve Barsakelmes in conditions of ecological crisis.

14 October

- 10.00-10.30** Plenary Lecture: **Kubota J.** Historical interaction between human and the environment in arid regions of Central Eurasia – a multi-disciplinary research project.
- 10.30-11.00** Plenary Lecture: **Boroffka N.** Archaeology and its relevance to the history of climate and hydrology.
- 11.00-11.20** **Sorokin A.** Modelling of the possible inflow to the Aral Sea.
- 11.20-11.40** **Navratil P.** Multi-sensoral remote sensing of land cover and wetland habitats on the desiccated Aral Sea bed in southern Priaralye.
- 11.40-12.00** **Yasinskiy V., Mironenkov A., Sarsembekov V.** Regional features of modern environmental problems in Central Asia.
- 12.00-12.30** *Coffee Break*

- 12.30-12.50** **Abatzopoulos Th., Baxevanis A., Maniatsi S.**
Genetic identification of Aral Artemia populations.
- 12.50-13.10** **Shabanova L.V., Akshalova A.A.** GIS of cadastres of forestry and especially saving territories, objects of animal world and fish cadastre.
- 13.10-13.30** **Karlikhanov T., Seytzhanova Sh.** Collector-drainage waters in the Aral Sea basin and possibilities of their repeated use.
- 13.30-15.00** **Lunch**
- 15.00-15.30** Plenary Lecture: **Cretaux J.-F.** Aral Sea level variability.
- 15.30-16.00** Plenary Lecture: **Van Baalen M.** Adding insult to Injury: climate change exacerbates adverse effects of irrigation practices in the Aral Sea basin.
- 16.00-16.20** **Eliseyev D.** Research of vertebrates in the Barsakelmes Nature Reserve by the expedition of the Russian State pedagogical University.
- 16.20-16.40** **Coffee Break**
- 16.40-17.00** **Zhakova L.V.** Water flora composition and distribution of macrophytes in the Aral Lake: comparison for the present and the past.
- 17.00-17.20** **Pankratova I.** Changes of energetic expenditures during transpiration in psammophylous phytocenoses.
- 17.20-17.40** **Plotnikov I.** Dynamics of free-living invertebrate fauna of the Aral Sea.
- 17.40-18.00** **Ermakhanov Z.K.** Changes in the Aral Sea fish communities and fishery in the period of ecological crisis.

15 October

- 10.00-10.30** Plenary Lecture: **Babaev A.G., Razakov R.M., Tashmuhamedov B.A., Umarov N.M., Toderich K., Safarov K., Rahmonov B.A., Kosnazarov K.A., Savitsky A.G., Veselov V.V.** Rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems using innovative technologies for sustainable economic development and stabilization of ecological situation in Priaralye.

- 10.30-11.00** Plenary Lecture: **Oren A.** The dying Dead Sea: comparative community genomics of microbial communities in an increasingly extreme environment.
- 11.00-11.20** **Sokolov S.** Aral: the blue unknown sea.
- 11.20-11.40** **Kashkarov R., Mitropolskiy O., Ten A., Matekova G., Atakhodjaev A.** Current status and problems of conservation of avifauna of Southern Priaralye.
- 11.40-12.00** **Kashkarov O.** Development of student initiatives and ecological education aimed at protection of avifauna in Karakalpakstan.
- 12.00-12.30** **Coffee Break**
- 12.30-12.50** **Novikova N.** Scientific and practical problems of the organization of landscape-ecological monitoring in Southern Priaralye.
- 12.50-13.10** **Ogai O.** Results of Socio-economic monitoring project "The Sudochie Lake Wetland Restoration".
- 13.10-13.30** **Kuzmina Zh., Treshkin S.** Influence of change of climate and soils at artificial formation of halophytes vegetation in Aral Sea region.
- 13.30-15.00** **Lunch**
- 15.00-15.20** **Smurov A., Fokin S., Aladin N.** The effect of oceanic and Aral Sea water salinity tolerance of *Paramecia* ssp. (Ciliata).
- 15.20-15.40** **Buranov U.** The Aral Sea yesterday and today, and appropriate measures for stabilization of the ecological situation in the region.
- 15.40-16.00** **Nurmaganbetov D.** Risk assessment and uncertainty of ecosystem functioning.
- 16.00-16.20** **Durtschi P.** The Aral Sea issue in the mass media.
- 16.20-16.40** **Coffee Break**
- 16.40-18.00** **ROUND TABLE AND DISCUSSIONS on future scientific cooperation**
DISCUSSION OF THE DOCUMENTARY FILM ON THE PRESENT-DAY ARAL