



ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ
ЕҚЫҰ ЖАНЫНДАҒЫ ТҰРАҚТЫ ӨКІЛДІГІ

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan
to the OSCE, Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov
at the Permanent Council
31 March 2011**

**In response to the address by
Tajikistan's Foreign Minister H.Zarifi**

Mr. Chairman,

We warmly welcome Tajikistan's Foreign Minister His Excellency Mr. Hamrokhon Zarifi and thank him for his statement, which has clearly highlighted strategic priorities of co-operation between the Republic of Tajikistan and OSCE. We highly appreciate partnership, friendship and fruitful co-operation here in Vienna with Ambassador Nuriddin Shamsov and his very able, albeit small in size, team.

We support the Tajikistan's adherence to the OSCE commitments and its preparedness to contribute to the strengthening of security and peace in the whole region. Indeed such strengthening should be implemented through balanced development of all the three dimensions. We also share the view of distinguish Mr. Minister that granting the OSCE legal status would contribute to this process as well.

The extremely important role of Tajikistan, which directly borders Afghanistan, in international efforts to bring peace and stability to Afghan people cannot be overestimated. We highly appreciate assistance rendered by Tajikistan to the Northern provinces of Afghanistan and fully subscribe to the notion that purely military measures will not succeed in the country and we need to apply international economic and financial instruments to restore it. At the bilateral level Kazakhstan, for example, has pledged 50 million US dollars to train thousands of Afghan citizens in Kazakhstan secondary specialized and higher education institutions.

The problem of drug trafficking remain crucial for the entire OSCE region and for the global security. Consolidated cooperation between all states, civil society and international organizations with the UN's coordinating role is needed to encounter the challenge and to create multilateral system of fight against this evil. One of such measures should be creating

barriers on the way of narcotics through the territory of Central Asia and further to CIS, Europe and beyond. We would like to reiterate our support to the efforts by Tajikistan to stop the inflow of drugs and call on the OSCE community to render necessary assistance to Tajikistan standing at the edge of our joint struggle. We also support the Lithuanian Chairmanship on this issue, in particular, on holding the Conference on Combating Drug Trafficking and Enhancing Border Security and Management in the OSCE Area, in Vienna this June.

We also thankful to Tajik Government for hosting Dushanbe Border Management Staff College and for political support lent to its effective functioning. We are ready to consider providing its further funding and hope that the College and the Operating Service/Border Team will take into thorough consideration the Kazakhstan border experts' proposals on curriculum of the College. We believe these proposals correspond to the real needs of Central Asian border guards and would contribute to the capacity building in relevant spheres.

Mr. Chairman,

Indeed, water management and energy security issues remain of a paramount importance for the whole OSCE region and for Central Asia in particular. And we fully share understanding that tackling these issues should not pertain exclusively to any country of the region, but to all stakeholders involved into the problem settlement.

We agree with what Mr. Minister said, that the OSCE has to play substantial role in mobilizing efforts of participating states in promoting constructive political dialogue on the issues within water-energy nexus. But we have to realize that only political will would pave the way for the OSCE towards such a dialogue. Without this political will all efforts will be spent in vain.

We have very good example of how our Organization could contribute to the solution of the joint utilisation of water resources through its mechanisms and political cooperation and understanding. This is example of the Chu-Talas rivers transboundary management project between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan mediated by the OSCE.

We fully aware of crucial situation with water and energy security in brotherly Tajikistan and understand efforts undertaken by the Tajik Government to overcome these problems. We also fully realize the existence of the same kind of shortcomings in other countries of Central Asia. These problems were depicted by a member of European Parliament Struan Stevenson, whose report was based on a research during number of years. Here I would like to draw attention of the Permanent Council that this report was produced not as a part of

2010 OSCE Chairmanship activity but it encompasses a broader activity by distinguish Mr. Stevenson in his personal and professional capacity.

Kazakhstan, being an integral part of water-energy activities in Central Asia is keenly interested in preserving strategic national interests of all countries of the region in balanced and mutually acceptable manner. This is why we call on all states of the region to broaden political dialogue and cooperation to overcome problems we face. We advocate the notion that any existing problem should not be politicized but to be addressed with full consideration of needs and concerns of all stakeholders of the region.

Central Asian states are the members of the landlocked countries club and that is why we need support in strengthening our transit and transport potential through extended cooperation among each other and with other countries of the OSCE region in the sphere of development of transport and capacity building.

With this I would like to thank once more His Excellency Mr. Minister Zarifi for being with us here today and wish him every success in his future endeavours and his dedicated team in Dushanbe and Vienna.

Thank you for your attention.