SUM.DEL/17/10 1 December 2010

ENGLISH Original: RUSSIAN

## **ADDRESS**

## by the Head of the delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the OSCE Summit

Dear Mr. Chairman! Your Excellencies, heads of states and governments! Ladies and Gentlemen!

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to dwell on the principally two most outstanding issues, which are immediately related to providing stability and security in the region. The point is about the Afghan problem and the state of affairs in Kyrgyzstan.

Taking into account the historical experience, Uzbekistan builds and shall build its relations with its close neighbor – Afghanistan only on the bilateral basis, proceeding from mutual national interests, and does not consider it possible for itself to participate in implementation of the programs and projects adopted on the collective or bloc basis.

When we speak about the transit of cargos to Afghanistan through the territory of Uzbekistan, we mean only the non-military goods.

I would like to underscore that Uzbekistan's participation in rendering assistance to Afghanistan remains to be rather substantial.

Today practically the city of Kabul and its suburbs are fully provided with electricity at the expense of supplies from Uzbekistan.

At the expense of our country's funds the tens of bridges, roads and social facilities have also been built.

In October this year Uzbekistan completed the construction of the railroad line from the bordering town Khairaton to Mazari-Shareef, which is one of the largest regional centers of Afghanistan. It becomes more obvious the particular fact that there is no military solution of the Afghan problem and the chosen strategy of the coalition forces to bring peace to Afghanistan does not bear the expected results.

In the current situation it becomes utterly important to search the alternative ways of achieving peace and stability in Afghanistan. Among them, as we believe, creation of the Contact Group "6+3" under the United Nations auspices, which was proposed by Uzbekistan in 2008 in Bucharest at the NATO Summit and again enunciated by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov at the Millennium Development Goals Summit in September 2010 in New York, could play a significant role.

The essence and substance of the Uzbek initiative are based on the need to recognize that the problems of their own country must be resolved by Afghans themselves along with the assistance of the countries, which proceeding from their security objectives, are interested in ending the war and a stable future of Afghanistan.

The negotiations, in our opinion, must be held with all major confronting forces.

Along with this, the first and foremost attention in the Program must be paid to rendering the economic aid, implementing the social, infrastructural and humanitarian projects, tackling the problems of unemployment, urgent tasks to eliminate poverty, misery and violation of rights. It is necessary to show a full respect to the centuries-old traditions, customs and values of the religion of Islam adhered by the people of Afghanistan.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

The serious threat of destabilization of situation in Central Asia did emerge due to the tragic events that took place in June 2010 in Kyrgyzstan.

The last April overthrow of the presidential power which had discredited itself, the followed tension and confrontation, as well as the unfolding state of affairs with political forces, served as a prologue to provoke in the south of this country the cruel and bloody events on interethnic basis. The hundreds of people were killed and thousands of peaceful citizens suffered.

In this complex and explosive situation the task to prevent the escalation of development of events became a serious trial for Uzbekistan. It cost us profound efforts and resources to receive in our territory more than one hundred thousand refugees with women and children among them, give shelter, accommodate and provide them with all the necessary, not to allow the violence to expand, manage to preserve tranquility in the bordering territory, exclude any surge of emotions, passions and extremism which could lead to unpredictable consequences.

It is important to elaborate the precise rules and mechanisms of protecting the interests of national minorities with an aim to effectively and promptly address the emerging problems, as well as not to allow the certain forces to exploit such situations in political interests.

Certainly, today Kyrgyzstan needs humanitarian assistance and support on the part of neighbors and the world community. But it is equally important to undertake independent International investigation of pogroms, murders and violence committed on June 11-14 in the south of Kyrgyzstan in order to bring to trial all who have ordered, organized and executed those bloody crimes.

It should be recognized that, unfortunately, the OSCE and its structures practically didn't play any positive role in preventing and neutralizing the bloody events in June this year in the south of Kyrgyzstan.

Speaking about the International independent commission on investigating the events in the south of Kyrgyzstan led by K.Kiljunen, I would like to note that practically this group in fact doesn't have any powers either from the United Nations or the OSCE. The question emerges: who and at what level will consider the results of this group. So far we don't have an answer to this question. I would like to once again remind from this rostrum that unless there is not going to be put a full stop and the concrete perpetrators of the June tragedy in the south of Kyrgyzstan are not found, it is difficult to assert that this tragedy will not take place again.

The timely objective independent international investigation, which would exclude bias and one-sided approach, firm principle position of the world community may pave the way towards reconciliation and accord between Kyrgyzs and the Uzbek diaspora of Kyrgyzstan.

Without this we don't have grounds to assert that the tragic events of June this year will not take place again.

Thank you for your attention.