The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

ENGLISH only



OSCE Permanent Council 1390

Statement by the Delegation of Tajikistan in response to the statement made by Delegation of Kyrgyz Republic on "On the pre-planned act of military aggression of the Republic of Tajikistan against the Kyrgyz Republic".

(23 September 2022)

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

First of all, I would like to thank those delegations for expressing condolences to the families of the victims of the recent incidents at the Tajik-Kyrgyz border.

There is an old Tajik-Persian saying: "Забони гару дузд дароз acm" – to put it in English – "A guilty conscience gives itself away" or "A guilty mind is never at ease".

All accusations by the Delegation of Kyrgyz Republic in relation to my country, portraying Tajikistan as an aggressor state – are baseless, unfounded, unsubstantiated.

In order to make the picture clear, I will just highlight the chronology of events that took place at the border area between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan starting from September 14 to September 18.

- 1. On September 14, at 7:15 am, military units of the Border Troops of the State Committee for National Security of the Kyrgyz Republic, without any reason, began shelling the Kekh border post of the Border Troops of the State Committee for National Security of the Republic of Tajikistan in the Vorukh Jamoat of Isfara Town, Tajikistan. During this unprovoked act of aggression, the Kyrgyz side used mortars, machineguns and other small arms. As a result of the shelling, two servicemen of the Armed Forces of Tajikistan were killed. At the same time, the Kyrgyz side carried out the transfer of additional forces and heavy equipment to the border areas. The Tajik side was forced to return fire.
- 2. On the same day, approximately at 2:10 pm, immediately after the announcement of

the ceasefire, the Kyrgyz military personnel using group weapons attacked the settlements of Langar and Sari Bozor, as well as the building of the secondary school in Chorkuh, as a result of which students and teachers of the school were wounded.

- 3. Despite the agreement on the de-escalation of the situation and the withdrawal of additional forces, on September 16 at 4:50 am, the Kyrgyz military personnel began shelling the 'Dushanbe' frontier post using heavy weapons. At the same time, they carried out an armed attack on the settlements of Khojai Alo, Kummazor, Surkh, Somoniyon and Kulkand of Isfara disctrict, as well as the settlements Khistevarz and Ovchikal'acha of Bobojon Gafurov district. In the course of massive shelling of residential areas of the village of Chorkishlok in the of Isfara, the Kyrgyz side used such heavy equipment as infantry fighting vehicles (IFV) and armored personnel carriers.
- 4. On the same day, at about 6:30 am, the personnel of the special forces of Kyrgyzstan invaded the village of Bogdori in Isfara district and burned down 16 houses of local residents, and committed acts of depredation and looting. It should be emphasized that during this invasion, the Kyrgyz military entered the house of a Tajik citizen, an elderly woman Munavvarakhon Makhmudova and killed her with severe cruelty.
- 5. During this period, again violating the declared ceasefire, the Kyrgyz military began shelling the village of Khojai Alo from the territory of the Golovnaya water distribution station. During the shelling, they attacked civilian infrastructure facilities and damaged the Shurob power line and the bridge in the village of Chorkishlok. In addition, as part of this aggression, the Kyrgyz military massively set fire to the houses of civilians in the settlements of Boghiston and Lakon of Isfara disctrict. They opened fire and killed five members of the same family, including a 6-year-old girl, a 5-year-old boy and a woman in her eighth month of pregnancy in Chorkuh.
- 6. Just in an hour, at 07:30 am, the Kyrgyz military units opened fire along the entire line of the Tajik-Kyrgyz border. During the massive shelling of the territory of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz military applied 20 units of heavy armored vehicles, including tanks, armored personnel carriers and armored reconnaissance and patrol vehicles. As a result of this massive shelling, they destroyed the building of the secondary school and 8 houses in the village of Boghiston in the city of Isfara, as well as houses in the village of Somoniyon. It should be noted that as a result of mortar shelling, the Kyrgyz side killed two elderly women citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan in the settlement of Khistevarz of Bobojon Gafurov district.
- 7. Despite the ceasefire agreement that was reached at various levels of the military and civilian authorities of the two countries, as well as contrary to the assurances of

the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Sadyr Japarov, given by him during a meeting with the President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon on the sidelines of the SCO Summit, on September 16, at 7:10 pm, the Kyrgyz military opened fire and completely destroyed the buildings of the secondary schools No. 225 and No. 64 of Chorkuh in Isfara district.

- 8. In the evening of the same day, in violation of the norms of international humanitarian law, the Kyrgyz military personnel fired from armored vehicles at an ambulance transporting wounded civilians. As a result of this inhuman attack, five citizens of Tajikistan an ambulance paramedic and members of a family, including 6 and 5-year-old children were killed.
- 9. On September 16, the co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Commission reached an agreement on ceasefire from 4:00 pm, mentioned in the Protocol No. 41 signed on the September 19. Nevertheless, the Kyrgyz side used combat helicopters and Bayraktar unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) to bombard the territory of Tajikistan. As a result of the UAV strike on the building of the secondary school in Ovchi Kal'acha Village of Bobojon Gafurov district, 6 civilians were killed. During the UAV strike on the mosque in the same village 12 civilians were killed and more than 20 people, including a seven-year-old child were wounded. (The Kyrgyz side proudly posted in the social media videos of the UAV strikes on civilian facilities).
- 10. In early morning of September 17, the Kyrgyz military personnel once again violated the ceasefire regime and carried out mortar shelling of the Chorkuh Village and a section of the Chorkishlok road in the in Isfara district.
- 11. At 11:10 am, servicemen of military unit 707 of the Interior Ministry of Kyrgyzstan opened fire from all types of weapons at the "Dushanbe" border outpost of the Isfara Border Detachment. The special unit troops of Kyrgyzstan fired the village of Somoniyon in Isfara district.
- 12. At 11:50 am, the Kyrgyz side using multiple launch rocket system (MLRS), attacked the village of Tojvaron in Lakhsh district. As a result, several civilians were injured, including women and children, and 3 residential buildings were destroyed. It should be emphasized that no conflict cases were recorded in this area. Taking into account the complexity of the terrain, deployment of forces and means by the Kyrgyz side in this area would, at least, take more than one week. During the day, Kyrgyz military personnel fired three times at settlements in the border zone of Lakhsh district using multiple launch rocket system (MLRS). They attacked the Secondary School in the village of Tojvaron, as a result of which 3 students were injured.
- 13. On September 18, having repeatedly violated the ceasefire agreement, at 7:00 pm,

the Kyrgyz Armed Forces units fired by sniper the border outpost "Kurgoncha" of the Border Troops of the State Committee for National Security of Tajikistan, located in the village of Karavulteppa of Jabbor Rasulov district.

14. From the evening of September 18 to the morning of September 19, the Tajik side recorded numerous cases of violation of the airspace of Tajikistan by the UAVs flying from the territory of Kyrgyzstan. The UAVs were observed in the Murgab and Lakhsh districts at 8:00 pm on September 18 over the Karokul border post, at 8:16 pm over the Margansu border post and at 9:00 pm over the Kizil-Art border post.

Furthermore, on September 21, from 7:14 pm to 10:46 pm, Kyrgyz UAVs were observed flying over the cities of Isfara, Kanibadam, and Devashtich, Jabbor Rasulov, Bobojon Gaffurov, Lakhsh, Rasht and Murghab districts. The UAVs have also been spotted over the Tajik frontier posts of Rosrovut, Muryak and Nurobod.

We regard such provocative actions as a serious violation of all agreements and encroachment on the territory of a sovereign state.

The Tajik side demands to immediately stop violating the airspace of the country. Otherwise, we will regard the situation as preparation for the next aggression by Kyrgyzstan, the responsibility for which will lie entirely with the Kyrgyz side.

Mr. Chair,

I will stop here and will inform the Permanent Council on the continued provocative and aggressive military actions by the Kyrgyz Republic against the Tajikistan under the next "Current Issue" item.

Thank you!