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## НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ ЧУМХУРИИ ТОЧИКИСТОН ДАР НАЗДИ САХА, СММ ВА ДИГАР СОЗМОНХОИ БАЙНАЛМИЛАЛЙ ДАР ВЕНА



## STÄNDIGE VERTRETUNG DER REPUBLIK TADSCHIKISTAN BEI DER OSZE, UNO UND ANDEREN INTERNATIONALEN ORGANISATIONEN IN WIEN

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Vienna, 11 April 2013
Tajikistan Response to the
Address by the EU Special Representative for the Central Asia
Ambassador Patricia Flor
As delivered by Permanent Representative of Tajikistan Ismatullo Nasredinov to the Permanent Council

Delegation of Tajikistan warmly welcomes EU Special Representative for Central Asia Ambassador Patricia Flor to the Permanent Council and thanks for comprehensive presentations.

Tajikistan highly values its close relations with the European Union. President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon's visit to Brussels just two days ago and his meeting with High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission Catherine Ashton, President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz, President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso and other officials is clearly demonstrates that both parties have constructive approach to further strengthening relations and cooperation.

Our cooperation based on the implementation of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, EU assistance programmes and other initiatives taken by the EU to support Tajikistan. European Union supports our efforts to built peaceful, democratic and economically prosperous country.

The main instrument which serves as an overall framework for the EU policies in the region of Central Asia is the Strategy for new partnership, through which EU actively cooperates with the Central

Asian States and contributes to safeguarding peace and prosperity in neighboring countries.

Nevertheless of achievements we have in our joint efforts there are still many challenges ahead, which warrant a common response. Security questions and regional economic development require close cooperation of the EU with each Central Asian state, taking into account their geographical location, in particular with respect to Afghanistan. This applies to developments in the areas of border management, migration, the fight against organized crime and international terrorism, as well as human, drugs, and arms trafficking

Countries of Central Asia and Tajikistan in particular need EU's support in dealing with regional security challenges including those linked to Afghanistan. European Union's commitment to long-term engagement with Central Asia and Afghanistan on security issues beyond 2014 alongside with contribution to border management, counter-narcotics, commercial opportunities and disaster risk management efforts are of crucial subjects.

Energy and water issues also should be included as priority items to our agenda, taking into account Tajikistan's critical energy needs. Tajikistan is implementing energy sector reforms with a focus on solutions discussed with its international partners, notably European Union and the World Bank.

In this regard I'd like to call upon European Union to take more active approach towards finding sustainable solution of Central Asia water and energy issues.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that we rely on close collaboration with European Union on bilateral and regional level, as well as in OSCE framework.

Taking this opportunity I would like to wish to Ambassador Patricia Flor all the best in her future activity and Delegation of Tajikistan reiterates its readiness to continue constructive work with EU delegation to OSCE.

Thank you.