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**STATEMENT BY  
AMBASSADOR LYDIA IMANALIEVA OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC  
AT THE 947th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

11 April 2013

**In response to the report by Ambassador Patricia Flor,  
European Union Special Representative for Central Asia**

Distinguished participants,  
Distinguished Madam Ambassador,

I should first of all like to welcome you personally, Madam Ambassador, to the OSCE and to express my gratitude for the support provided for the undertakings of the European Union-Kyrgyzstan tandem. I should also like to express our gratitude to the EU for the assistance and donor support that it is making available to Kyrgyzstan and, in particular, for its humanitarian aid and assistance in carrying out reconstruction activities in the south of the country.

We are constantly aware of the multifaceted assistance we have received from the European Union since the first days of Kyrgyz independence. The Kyrgyz Republic attaches great importance to the development of relations with the EU in both a bilateral and regional context.

Success has been achieved in ensuring the effectiveness of such projects and programmes undertaken by the European Union in Kyrgyzstan as the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA) and the Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP), which are making a valuable contribution towards ensuring border security and combating the trade in narcotic drugs in the region.

At the same time, considering the new realities in Central Asia associated with the withdrawal of the International Security Assistance Force from Afghanistan scheduled for 2014, we should like to propose to the European Union that it pay careful attention to issues having to do with the strengthening of border security and the combating of drug trafficking, transborder crime and terrorism, and that in that same connection it consider the possibility of providing assistance to Kyrgyzstan's law enforcement agencies in their fight against terrorism.

Finding itself on the difficult path of establishing a parliamentary system of governance and as the only country in the Central Asian region today with a parliamentary

form of government, the Kyrgyz Republic shares the democratic achievements of the European Union and expresses the hope for the further expansion and strengthening of co-operation between itself and the EU.

Distinguished Madam Ambassador,

Permit me to thank you personally and the European Union for the understanding and support shown to Kyrgyzstan in carrying out the projects so necessary for the development of our country, including the support for the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan. The very decision to establish the post of European Union Special Representative for Central Asia attests to the fact that the EU countries are interested in co-operation with the States of that region.

In turn, Kyrgyzstan, as one of the States of the Central Asian region, values highly its co-operation with the European Union and expresses its gratitude to it both in the person of Ambassador Flor and through the permanent delegation of the European Union to the OSCE for the attention paid by the EU to the countries of the Central Asian region and, in particular, to Kyrgyzstan.

I should like to take this opportunity to wish Ambassador Flor further success in her important work.

Thank you for your attention.