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Delegation of Kyrgyzstan

STATEMENT BY MS. LYDIA IMANALIEVA, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC TO THE OSCE, AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

8 July 2010

Mr. Chairperson,

As you are aware, post-conflict rehabilitation measures have begun in Kyrgyzstan. They involve a wide range of activities, some the most important of which include the organization of the work of an OSCE Police Advisory Group.

In this connection, we wanted to confirm once again, and I repeat, confirm the political consent and decision of the Kyrgyz authorities as regards the deployment of an OSCE Police Advisory Group in the south of the country.

We should like to stress the importance of such a step, especially in the light of the forthcoming parliamentary elections. This initiative is in keeping with the sovereign right of Kyrgyzstan to receive the necessary consultative and expert assistance in resolving and monitoring the conflict situation.

Kyrgyzstan intends to co-operate on this matter on the basis of trust, mutual understanding and full collaboration. We regard an OSCE Police Advisory Group as an instrument of assistance in restoring law and order and building confidence.

Since yesterday, timely consultations have been under way here in Vienna, with the involvement of Kyrgyz specialists. The consultations are intensive and at times difficult but also fruitful and, from our point of view, positive. This is evidence that the parties are approaching this question in an extremely responsible and competent manner.

Mutual understanding has been reached on many issues as has an agreement on the need to dispatch a second assessment mission next week, with the direct participation of the office of the OSCE Chairmanship.

In preparation for the mission's arrival we believe joint efforts are important and necessary to prepare, on the basis of the existing draft Concept Paper on enhancing OSCE activities to address the situation in southern Kyrgyzstan, a Memorandum between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE outlining the precise rights and obligations of the parties, questions regarding the privileges and immunities of the OSCE personnel, the mandate, the date of arrival and duration of stay, the exact number of police experts and their territorial distribution.

We propose the setting up of an Interdepartmental Working Group involving the parties concerned to draw up the text of the Memorandum. We are also ready to examine possible proposals by the OSCE Secretariat on a draft Memorandum and to work to that end.

The signing of a Memorandum will be a graphic indicator of the level of co-operation and will also make it possible to quickly approve a budget for the group's work and the OSCE's collaboration with Kyrgyzstan. It is especially important for Kyrgyzstan that this initiative of the OSCE Secretary General and the Kazakh Chairmanship should produce tangible and concrete results.

As we prepare for the forthcoming visit of the assessment mission to Kyrgyzstan, we should like to inform you that on the orders of the Minister of the Interior a civil body has been set up to monitor the work of the police. Offices will be opened in the cities of Osh and Jalal-Abad. This body will include representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society. It is expected that their locations will be made known very soon.

In conclusion, I should like to assure you that fundamental changes are taking place in our political system and that strategic guidelines are now being set by Kyrgyzstan in the light of new threats and challenges. Careful flexible work by an OSCE Police Advisory Group should undoubtedly lead to the successful implementation of its mission as an extremely important component of post-conflict rehabilitation in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.