

JAPANESE DELEGATION

14 July 2005

**Statement on the Presidential Elections in Kyrgyzstan  
(Permanent Council, 14 July 2005)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Japan notes with satisfaction the preliminary conclusions of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission, in which three Japanese officials as short-term observer have participated, that the presidential elections on July 10 in Kyrgyzstan marked tangible progress by the Kyrgyz Republic towards meeting OSCE commitments as well as other international standards for democratic elections, although there were some problems especially during the counting of votes. Based on the preliminary conclusions and the report from the Japanese Embassy in Bishkek, we consider that there was progress in terms of free and fair elections in comparison with the previous ones.

Japan has been supporting the state building of Kyrgyzstan through its democratization and promotion of a market economy, and expects that Kyrgyzstan, under a newly-elected president, will continue its efforts towards this end in the future.

The Government of Japan intends to assist such reform efforts by the Kyrgyz Republic from the point of view that it attaches great importance to the stability and prosperity of Central Asia.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.