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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE OSCE

Statement by the Head of Delegation of Tajikistan Ambassador Nuriddin Shamsov at the 800th OSCE Permanent Council Meeting (Vienna, 25 March, 2010)

on World Water Day

Chairman,

Delegation of Tajikistan welcomes Declaration by the High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on behalf of the EU to commemorate the World Water Day and notes the continued efforts of the Government of Tajikistan to promote since last Decade water initiatives on the regional and global level. Incoming High-Level UN Conference on midterm comprehensive review of implementation of UNGA Water Decade Resolution "Water for Life" 2005-2015 which will take place on 8-10 June 2010 in Dushanbe is a good evidence for those efforts.

Accepting a Millennium Development Goals Award this year on World Water Day in New-York on behalf of the President Emomali Rahmon, who was honored for his dedication and commitment to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal for drinking water, Prime-Minister Mr. Oqilov emphasized Tajikistan believed that the Goals were achievable and, to that end, the international community needed to consolidate and enhance its efforts, with the United Nations and other international organizations, including the OSCE, acting as the central and regional bodies in those efforts.

It is imperative to work out a complex approach towards addressing the issues of eliminating poverty; improving the existing methods of financing for development; ensuring predictability and stability of the official assistance for development; resolving demographic problems; mitigating the climate change impact; and reducing natural disaster risk. Assistance in the implementation of national development strategies needed to be made a major priority when rendering assistance and support to the developing countries.

The leadership of Tajikistan on water and power resource management had been recognized at the international level. My country thankful to the South-South initiative for its worthy contribution to the achievement of the MDGs and use of information and communication technology as a means towards development.

Tajikistan was one of the first to have developed, in cooperation with United Nations agencies. Its own national development strategy based on the Goals, thus making Tajikistan a pilot country for

achieving the Goals. Implementation of the strategic document that set out the State's development priorities remained a key issue that topped the Government's agenda.

No single country, not even the most advanced among participated countries can prosper individually and thus achieve both its growth and developmental targets. We are confident that the only growing political and economic cooperation between participating countries should be critical, as the OSCE had assumed commitments in handling regional security issues, including economic cooperation, transport facilitation, freedom of movement, energy security, climate change etc.

We strongly believe that regional cooperation and integration proved to be a fast-track development tool through which the OSCE participating countries could strengthen their security.

Thank You Chairman,