

MC.DEL/47/12  
7 December 2012

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

**STATEMENT BY MR. ERLAN ABDYLDAEV,  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC,  
AT THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE  
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Dublin, 6 and 7 December 2012

Mr. Chairperson,  
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Distinguished colleagues,

I should like to join others in thanking the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland, Mr. Eamon Gilmore, and his team, and also the staff of the OSCE Secretariat for the outstanding organization of our end-of-year Ministerial Council meeting.

All of us have witnessed with you the historical event when Mongolia became the 57th fully fledged participating State in our Organization. The Kyrgyz Republic wholeheartedly welcomes and supports this decision and is positive that Mongolia will introduce new ideas and initiatives to the OSCE that will promote the Organization's goals, tasks, principles and values.

Mongolia's desire to become an OSCE participating State and its willingness to take on new commitments within the framework of the Organization bear witness to the growing role of the OSCE in unifying the various States in the Eurasian region. We can say with certainty that the OSCE map now has a substantively new shape and reality.

Mr. Chairperson,

For the Kyrgyz Republic this last year has been a period of adjustment to a new and changed political system, that of parliamentary government. Today the multi-party parliament can consider a variety of political and economic viewpoints of population groups and their interests and ensure a balance between the main political forces in the country. It reflects the existing situation and makes it possible for legislative decisions to be taken on the basis of the principles of transparency and freedom.

The recent local elections in Kyrgyzstan provided clear confirmation of this and once again demonstrate the country's intention of pursuing a democratic development path.

The events of the last two years have shown that the system of checks and balances created within the existing legal framework is capable of providing solutions to social conflicts that arise.

Painstaking work is currently being carried out for the adoption of the Concept for Ethnic Policy and Consolidation of Society. The document is approaching completion and is intended as a road map for strengthening inter-ethnic harmony and national unity in the country and for developing inter-ethnic co-operation in Kyrgyzstan.

A fundamental reform of the judicial system is taking place, a judicial reform concept has been adopted, and the entire judicial framework is being updated.

Legislation on the observance of human rights is being improved. In particular, the Law on a National Preventive Mechanism has been adopted, the provisions on the use of torture in the Criminal Code have been tightened, and a plan of action to combat torture has been confirmed.

A public council of experts has been created by the President to deal with inter-ethnic and interconfessional development, which is designed to reconcile the various ethnic groups. Its members include authoritative experts and human rights advocates.

In the context of post-conflict rehabilitation, we highly appreciate the level of co-operation between the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE and the assistance provided by the Organization after the events with which you will be familiar.

In this connection, I should also like to mention the OSCE Community Security Initiative, which has improved the potential of internal affairs agencies and built up confidence between law enforcement authorities and the population.

The work of this Initiative is closely linked with the long-term programme for reforming Kyrgyzstan's internal affairs agencies. Kyrgyzstan is also willing to continue this project in 2013.

The past year has also been significant for Kyrgyzstan as it chaired the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation for the first time. We attempted to give impetus and new direction to the discussions within this major political forum to find ways of improving military security and confidence in the OSCE area.

Distinguished colleagues,

The politico-military situation in Afghanistan and the associated threats and challenges to the security of the countries of the region continue to give rise to great concern within the international community. It is not long until 2014 when the International Security Assistance Force contingents will be gradually withdrawn from Afghanistan. In this connection, we believe that the OSCE should pay greater attention to strengthening the security of the borders, assisting in the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and carefully studying the possible consequences of the growth of terrorist and extremist religious manifestations on the territory of countries immediately adjacent to Afghanistan.

Kyrgyzstan is interested in having more active involvement in the reconstruction of Afghanistan. We have positive experience of co-operation on this question, an example of which is the successful training under the aegis of the OSCE of Afghan customs officials in Kyrgyzstan and the provision of accessible and high-quality training for citizens of Afghanistan at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. We are also willing to continue to provide a training facility for officials with narrow and wide specializations from Afghanistan in the future.

In this regard we consider it important and vital for an Afghan studies centre to be established in Bishkek as an independent analysis facility for regional and international experts with a view to promoting confidence-building measures in the countries of the region.

The Kyrgyz Republic also attaches great importance to the OSCE's economic and environmental activities and to increasing the practical output by it in this area. The OSCE economic dimension today should be regarded not only from the point of view of safeguarding security but also as a means of dialogue on the entire range of questions relating to economic co-operation. The Organization should focus attention in this basket on environmental degradation, the accelerating and increasingly widespread melting of glaciers, the worsening water pollution, hydropower problems and the question of disposing of radioactive waste, since together they have a substantial negative influence on the health, well-being, stability and security of the populations of our countries.

Obviously, these problems call for a comprehensive solution based on well co-ordinated and effective action both by all of the OSCE participating States and in partnership with relevant international organizations and financial institutions.

The principle of the rule of law, tolerance, confidence-building in society, protection of the rights of national minorities, non-discrimination and respect for human rights will be priorities in our co-operation with the OSCE.

We hope that Ukraine, as the future Chairmanship of the OSCE, will continue the work of Ireland and previous Chairmanships and will present new initiatives to strengthen the potential of our Organization. We will actively support Ukraine to make the OSCE's activities become more targeted and more in line with the basic principles laid down in the Helsinki Final Act and other fundamental OSCE documents.

In conclusion, I should like to give my assurance that the Kyrgyz Republic will actively assist in strengthening and extending the generally accepted principles of equitable co-operation within the OSCE and is willing to play a full and active role in addressing the tasks that confront us in all three dimensions.

Thank you for your attention.