

PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE

ENGLISH only

Statement by Ambassador Naci Sarıbaş on the report by the HCNM (OSCE Permanent Council No. 808 - 06 May 2010)

Mr. Chairman,

We likewise welcome High Commissioner on National Minorities to the Permanent Council and thank for his presentation.

Today's meeting gives us another opportunity to reiterate our support for a prompt restoration of public order and peace in Kyrgyzstan. Stabilization of Kyrgyzstan, including an early return to democratic and constitutional order and the rule of law, in line with Kyrgyzstan's international commitments should be a priority.

During and after the events on 6-7 April 2010, we have been in close contact with the relevant Kyrgyz authorities. Recently, Mr. Atambaev, First Deputy Head of the Provisional Government paid a visit to Turkey. Our Minister of Foreign Affairs, H. E. Prof. Dr. Ahmet Davutoğlu is expected to visit Kyrgyzstan soon.

In the meanwhile, Turkey has already dispatched a sizable humanitarian aid and planning to release financial aid as well.

We also attach high importance to establishing peaceful ethnic and communal relations in Kyrgyzstan. In this context, promoting dialogue and harmony among ethnic communities as well as upholding their rights is a necessity.

The recent attacks which seem to be ethnically motivated and targeted against, among others, Meskhetian Turks, should be addressed with due care. Turkey closely follows the developments in this regards and encourages Kyrgyz authorities to take all necessary steps to avoid the repetition of such unfortunate incidents.

We also invite the OSCE Center in Bishkek to put further focus on the projects which are aimed at defusing tensions and preventing escalation of inter-ethnic clashes. The emergency support package approved by the Permanent Council on 29 April contains necessary provisions to that effect.

Turkey will continue to encourage Kyrgyz authorities for effective cooperation and coordination with the international community.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.