

RC.DEL/77/10
6 October 2010

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of Tajikistan

**STATEMENT BY MR. ZARIF ALIZODA,
HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN OF TAJIKISTAN, AT THE
2010 OSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Warsaw, 5 October 2010

**Working session 6: Humanitarian issues and other commitments,
including: refugees and displaced persons; treatment of citizens of other
participating States; human rights education**

Ladies and gentlemen,

One of the important aspects in the work of the Human Rights Ombudsman in our country has to do with the legal education of the citizenry in the area of human rights and freedoms and the forms and methods used in their protection.

Under the conditions of our country, where a process is under way involving a transition to a new democratic society and State based on the rule of law, the foundation of which consists of new values and principles, the education of the citizen as regards the law, particularly with respect to human rights and freedoms and their protection, is of very great importance. Other areas involved in the defence and promotion of human rights also largely depend on this.

The building of a democratic society based on law requires the formation and education of a new person – a man or woman who is independent, active, and able to defend his or her position, rights and freedoms. All of this requires intensive, daily and systematic work, particularly by the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman.

This subject is connected with one of the important aspects in our country's policy as regards law. In the president's daily addresses particular attention is given to these issues, and ways and means are devised for dealing with the related problems. Among other things, for example, the country has drawn up and is carrying out a programme to increase the legal knowledge and legal education of the citizens over the period 2009–2019 as well as a programme envisaging a State-sponsored system of education in the area of human rights, which was approved in 2001.

The period between 2001 and 2010 has shown that the programme for the State-sponsored system of education in the area of human rights is extremely necessary if those rights are to be protected and promoted. For this reason, the Office of the Ombudsman together with the Ministry of Education and the public fund "Nota Bena", a non-governmental organization, are, with the support of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan,

monitoring the implementation of this programme with the aim of further improving it or, what is more likely, adopting a new programme for a State-supported system of education in the area of human rights.

In addition a chair for human rights has been established at the national university, a textbook on human rights has been prepared and published along with a multi-volume collection of international and national documents on human rights, textbooks and training materials for general education schools have been prepared and issued, etc.

The Office of the Ombudsman is also deeply involved in an active programme of work in this direction. It has prepared and published the necessary brochures and booklets on the institution of the Ombudsman together with the Office for Human Rights and the Observance of Legality, a non-governmental organization, with the support of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee. In addition, a series of articles on the Ombudsman has been published and State television has begun to broadcast a special programme entitled "Your Right".

Our office intends to continue to work actively in this direction and is confident that this will provide a reliable and necessary basis for the protection and promotion of human rights in our country.

Thank you for your attention.