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Delegation of Kyrgyzstan

**STATEMENT BY MS. LYDIA IMANALIEVA,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC  
TO THE OSCE, AT THE MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 February 2010

Mr. Chairman,

We should like to inform the Permanent Council that on 11 February 2010 the plenary session of the Kyrgyz Parliament passed a law on the accession of Kyrgyzstan to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

This document calls for the complete renunciation of the death penalty in the country, which will make for a further humanization of criminal law in the Kyrgyz Republic.

We would recall that the Kyrgyz Republic ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in 1994, thereby making the country's criminal code more humane and leading to the abolition of the death penalty.

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights, a moratorium on the death penalty was introduced in Kyrgyzstan in 1998. The moratorium remained in force until 2007, after which amendments were made to the law of the country replacing the death penalty by life imprisonment.

The new version of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic of 30 December 2006 abolished the death penalty. Article 14 paragraph 1 states: "Every person in the Kyrgyz Republic has the inalienable right to life. No one may be deprived of life."

This article was retained in the subsequent revision of the Constitution in 2007.

Thus, Mr. Chairman, the accession of Kyrgyzstan to the Second Optional Protocol was the concluding act in connection with the abolition of the death penalty on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.