

PC.DEL/1052/10
5 November 2010

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of Uzbekistan

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN AT THE
MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

4 November 2010

**In response to the statement by the representative of the
Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kyrgyzstan**

Mr. Chairperson,

We have listened attentively to the statement by the representative of Kyrgyzstan. We should like once again to note that, more than any other country, Uzbekistan is interested in a stable and peaceful Kyrgyzstan, where, together with Kyrgyz people, representatives of different nationalities, including a very large Uzbek diaspora, have lived and will continue to live side by side.

We cannot, however, fail to note that the tragic events that took place in the south of Kyrgyzstan in June of 2010 posed a serious threat to the stability of the situation throughout the entire region.

The overthrow in April of this year of the discredited presidential administration, the tension and confrontation that then arose, and the vacuum that replaced legitimate power in the country provided a pretext for the provocation in the south of Kyrgyzstan of cruel and bloody events based on ethnic divisions, as a result of which hundreds of persons perished and thousands of innocent citizens suffered.

Today we have every reason to claim that what happened in June in the south of Kyrgyzstan was a carefully plotted and well-orchestrated action on the part of third forces. The aim of that action was to involve Uzbekistan in this cruel slaughter and, ultimately, to escalate an inter-ethnic conflict into an inter-State confrontation between two neighbouring countries – Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Only the understanding of the simple truth that for many centuries Uzbeks and Kyrgyz have lived side by side on this land and that their children and descendants will continue to live here for many centuries to come gave the people of Uzbekistan the strength to prevent this tragedy from becoming a new full-scale hotbed of confrontation in Central Asia.

There is no question but that today Kyrgyzstan requires humanitarian assistance and support from its neighbours and from the world community. A no less important task, however, is that of conducting an independent international investigation of the pogroms, killings and violence that took place from 11 to 14 June of this year in the south of Kyrgyzstan in order that all those who ordered, organized and carried out those bloody atrocities may be brought to justice. We are convinced that the timely conduct of an objective and independent international inquiry excluding any bias or unilateralism in its approach, along with a firm position of principle on the part of the international community, can open the way for reconciliation and concord between the Kyrgyz people and the Uzbek minority in the south of Kyrgyzstan. In that connection, we are entitled to expect of the OSCE all possible assistance in conducting an independent international inquiry into those tragic events so as to avert a possible deterioration of the situation in neighbouring Kyrgyzstan.

Thank you for your attention.