

НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ
ҶУМҲУРИИ ТОҶИКИСТОН
ДАР НАЗДИ САҲА



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
TO THE OSCE

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Statement
by the Head of Delegation of Tajikistan
Ambassador Nuriddin Shamsov at the 870th OSCE
Permanent Council Meeting
(Vienna, 23 June, 2011)

In response to the statement of US Delegation on the Draft Law of Tajikistan “on Parental Responsibility for Children’s Upbringing”

Mr. Chairperson,

We took note the statement of the United States Delegation on the Tajik draft law “on Parental Responsibility for Children’s Upbringing” and should like to state the following:

The draft law of Tajikistan “on Parental Responsibility for Children’s Upbringing” has been submitted for nationwide discussion after the President Emomali Rahmon first proposed it in December 13, 2010. The draft has been elaborated and put on public discussion with the view to intensify relations of family with schools and enhancement of the responsibility of parents in training and educating children. The Lower House of Tajik Parliament has passed it on Wednesday 15 June 2011, while the Upper House has yet to pass.

The draft law “on parental responsibility for education and upbringing of children” specifies the duties and responsibilities of parents and other responsible adults in raising children and consequences in failing to meet these standards. A law determining the degree of parental responsibility would lead to enhanced control over the process of children’s upbringing. Draft Law is aiming at increasing responsibility of parents, government agencies, organizations and other relevant agencies in upbringing and training of the growing generation.

An implementation of this law shall not only oblige parents, however it instructs the management of educational institutions, schools, teachers, society and state bodies to attach a particular attention to the training and upbringing of children. It also has to play an importance role in promotion of ethics and communication, respect to national and universal values, as well upbringing of schoolchildren and students.

The Tajik Ministry of Education has received more than 4,000 messages of support with suggestions and additions to the draft. More than 30,000 comments on the new Law from all the state agencies, organizations, religious communities and the wider public have been received by law makers. The results of public discussion show that major portion of the population supports the law.

Here we should stress once more that Tajikistan being neighboring with most unrest area along its southern borders, still face serious security challenges, including terrorism, extremism and radicalism. Addressing violent extremism and radicalization, the Government of Tajikistan makes efforts to combat such dangerous trend, to ensure eligible conditions for youth and secular values. That's why the proposed law, by setting a minimum age for attending the mosque, can effectively protect children from the growing religious pressure to which they have been subjected during the past few years. The law allows children and teenagers who study at religious schools to attend mosques and be members of religious associations, as well provides the same to all teenagers during religious holidays and funerals.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate that Government of Tajikistan remains committed to its national and international obligations in the field of human rights and freedoms, including the freedom of religion. Tajikistan stands ready to continue constructive and effective dialogue on the matter with the OSCE and its Participating states.

I thank You Mr. Chairperson,