

НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ
ҶУМҲУРИИ ТОҶИКИСТОН
ДАР НАЗДИ САҲА



PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
TO THE OSCE

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Statement

by the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan, Ambassador
Nuriddin Shamsov at the 884th Plenary Permanent Council Meeting
(Vienna, 20 October 2011)

*In response to Poland/EU, USA and Belarus
Statements on Freedom of Media in Tajikistan*

Mr. Chairman,

We have closely listened to the statements of Poland/EU, the United States and Belarus delegations and will convey the content to our capital.

My Delegation confirms that recently both journalists Mr. Urunboy Usmonov and

Mr. Mahmadyusuf Ismoilov have been released from custody by the decision of Tajik judiciary authorities. Mr. Urunboy Usmonov sentenced to three years of imprisonment for linkage to an extremist Hizbut Tahrir Party and amnestied immediately by the court. Mr. Mahmadyusuf Ismoilov has been charged before with incitement of racial, ethnic and religious hatred, as well extortion and blackmail. However, he sentenced by the court to pay a fine of 35000 Somoni instead of call of prosecutor for 16 years of jail.

In this regard, we state that the Government of Tajikistan once again clearly demonstrated its adherence to the OSCE commitments, as well to continue political reforms, improvement of human rights and media freedoms. Tajikistan recognizes that the free independent media is important to ensure democratic civil society. However, the media is responsible for the political and social consequences of its performance. It must meet high professional and ethical standards and respect the rules and norms of the law. Journalists have the same equal rights as others. They are not privileged part of citizens and not exempted from fair and transparent justice.

We welcome incoming visit of Ms. Dunja Mijatovic, the OSCE Representative for Freedom of Media to Tajikistan in early November 2011 and hope that it could contribute to further continuing the constrictive dialogue between the OSCE and the Government of Tajikistan on freedom of media issues. In this occasion, Tajikistan reiterates its invitation to the OSCE Office of Representative for Freedom of Media to take more practical steps toward organizing trainings and seminars for Tajik journalist on best international practices and improvement their professional and legal skills.

In conclusion, we reaffirm that Tajikistan is open for continuing effective and constructive cooperation with the OSCE in the field of freedom of media.

I Thank You Mr. Chairman,