



ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ
ЕҚЫҰ ЖАНЫНДАҒЫ ТҰРАҚТЫ ӨКІЛДІГІ

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement at the 719th Permanent Council meeting
3 July 2008
Current issues: legislation improvement in Kazakhstan**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Delegation of Kazakhstan would like to inform participating States on a number of important steps to be undertaken in Kazakhstan in improving our national legislation in the course of further political modernization of the country.

In the address at the opening of the 17th session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Astana President of Kazakhstan N.Nazarbayev has set out a number of initiatives aimed at further enhancement of democracy, transparency and openness of Kazakhstan's society. Among them are the following.

First – to create a legal mechanism to form a parliament comprising of at least two political parties.

Second – to provide better favorable conditions for registration of political parties.

Third – to further improve election procedures.

Fourth – to remove excessive bureaucratic barriers in regulation of the media activity.

Announced proposals testify strong commitment and determination of Kazakhstan to continue political reforms stipulated by the logic of its internal development. They are conducted on the basis of preserving stability of society with taking into account national and cultural peculiarities of the country but not as a result of external pressure in implementing our commitments.

Statement of the President and detailed information on the legislation improvement was circulated among delegations. Let me briefly outline several elements of presented reference.

With regard to the issue of improving the electoral legislation a particular amendments will be incorporated into the draft law “On introducing amendments and additions to the Constitutional Law “On elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan”. These amendments became a result of the series of “round table” meetings held with participation of ODIHR, political parties and NGO's. They, in particular, encompass such issues as the elimination of certain restrictions at registration of candidates, more effective regulation of electoral commissions’

activities, pre-electoral agitation, counting, summing up and publication of results of votes counting and others. This draft law is expected to be passed on to the Parliament of Kazakhstan till the end of the current year.

Also excessive bureaucratic obstacles regulating activities of the media will be removed by the end of this year.

Besides, a separate draft law on mitigation of the punishment for defamation was elaborated. We expect the draft be presented to the Parliament this autumn.

Thus, Kazakhstan practically implements thesis on liberal vector of its internal transformations. On the eve of taking the leadership in the OSCE Kazakhstan confirms its strong adherence to pursue further democratic development and political modernization.

Thank you.