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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**

24 June 2010

Mr. Chairperson,

First of all, we should like to express our gratitude for the prompt drafting of the Concept Paper on enhancing OSCE activities to address the situation in southern Kyrgyzstan, which has been analysed quite attentively by our Government.

We should like to point out that, having examined the document in question, the Interim Government has expressed its approval of the Concept Paper's Action 2 concerning the activities of a Police Task Force. Kyrgyzstan has agreed to the activities of an OSCE police mission.

In this context, we regard the prompt dispatch of an advance party for the purpose of conducting a preliminary assessment of the capabilities on the ground as reflecting the implementation of a set of OSCE measures on Kyrgyzstan and as a timely response on the part of the OSCE Secretary General and the Kazakh Chairmanship to the appeal by Kyrgyzstan.

We should also like to stress the importance of such a step, especially in the run-up to the forthcoming referendum. This initiative is also in line with the sovereign right of an OSCE participating State to receive the necessary consultative and expert assistance in the resolution of a conflict situation and in its monitoring.

Kyrgyzstan intends to co-operate in this matter on the basis of trust, mutual understanding and full collaboration. We regard the mission as a form of assistance in restoring law and order and building confidence.

The events in southern Kyrgyzstan have shown us all how fragile peace is, how much society itself depends on the aspirations of the ethnic groups making up the people of a country, and the extent to which we can respond to the threats and challenges to security and work together to deal with them. This is a great test of the potential of our Organization and of how stable and effective it is.

We are grateful to all the countries that have assisted and are continuing to assist Kyrgyzstan in meeting the primary and immediate needs of the country or are ready to do so. Humanitarian, financial and military-technical aid is being provided day and night.

It is very important now that we co-ordinate our co-operation to resolve humanitarian and other questions of assistance in southern Kyrgyzstan. We shall of course welcome such steps.

Thanks to the measures taken by the Interim Government, the situation is stabilizing. Life is returning to normal and the population is gradually beginning to attend to its everyday concerns. People are returning home, but fear and anxiety persist and people are still frightened by the recent events. Given these circumstances, their social and psychological rehabilitation is extremely important; these processes have begun and are gathering momentum.

Kyrgyzstan is in dire need of experienced specialists in post-conflict rehabilitation and the restoration of inter-ethnic harmony. The OSCE already has the relevant experience in this area and we would be grateful if the Organization would share this experience with us.

In addition, the forthcoming visit to Kyrgyzstan by Mr. Knut Vollebaek, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, is in our view the next step in the process of a settlement and the strengthening of confidence in the southern part of our country. Kyrgyzstan is ready to offer all possible assistance needed to help make his visit a success.

I should like to mention one further important aspect. For almost two weeks now, southern Kyrgyzstan has been the focus of the world community's attention. Today, as never before, we need an objective and impartial assessment of the situation in and around Kyrgyzstan and the development of dialogue between the different ethnic groups and of a constructive process.

We should like to express our concern at the fact that the reporting on the situation in southern Kyrgyzstan has since the first days of the tragedy frequently been characterized by subjective interpretations, with a tendency to aggravate the inter-ethnic intolerance between the Kyrgyz and Uzbek peoples.

The Kyrgyz Republic considers it unacceptable to exploit particular incidents that occurred during the June events in the interests of one people or the other and to disseminate them via the global information network.

We are convinced that the centuries-old historical and cultural ties and the good-neighbourly relations between two kindred communities cannot be undermined by an information-based attack on the part of forces that want Kyrgyzstan to be seen as disconnected, unstable and a weak link in the system of international relations.

Only objective and impartial information can help to promote friendly and good-neighbourly relations between the countries of the Central Asian region and the surrounding world.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.