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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY RUDENKO,  
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OSCE, AT THE 923rd MEETING  
OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

6 September 2012

**Regarding the events in Tajikistan**

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the question regarding Tajikistan raised by the delegations of Cyprus (on behalf of the European Union) and the United States of America, we should like to note that the Russian Government is continuing to closely monitor the efforts being made by the leadership of that fraternal republic to normalize the situation in the Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region. We note that the situation in that area has for the most part been stabilized. We are convinced that the authorities in Tajikistan are capable of dealing with the crisis that has arisen on their own, acting in accordance with the laws and international commitments of their country.

At the same time, we take the position that the international community must be prepared to make available to Dushanbe all necessary assistance, if so requested. Russia is prepared to provide assistance to our Tajik partners on both a bilateral basis and within the framework of the Collective Security Treaty Organization.

The resolution of the situation in Gorno-Badakhshan and the restoration of control over the border is in the interests of stability and security not only of Tajikistan and Central Asia but of the entire OSCE region and will help to solve the task of creating a reliable barrier to smuggling, especially of narcotic drugs, from Afghanistan.

Thank you for your attention.