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НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ ЧУМХУРИИ ТОЧИКИСТОН ДАР НАЗДИ САХА



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE OSCE

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Statement

by the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the OSCE Ambassador Nuriddin Shamsov at the 907th Permanent Council Meeting (Vienna, 29 March 2012)

The 5th Regional Economic Conference on Afghanistan, Dushanbe, 26-27 March, 2012

Mr.Chairman,

On 26-27 March, 2012 Tajikistan hosted 5th Regional Economic Cooperation on Afghanistan (RECCA V) attended by the President of Tajikistan Mr. Emomali Rahmon, the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Mr. Hamid Karzai, the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Mr. Mahmud Ahmadinejad and the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr/ Asif Ali Zardari. As well, local and foreign delegations, including representatives from international and regional organizations and financial institutions took part in two-day Conference.

The event dedicated to further regional and international support to the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan through its rehabilitation and economic growth, improvement of infrastructure, coordination of joint actions to strengthen peace and stability, as well to develop human resources, education, investment and entrepreneurship. The Dushanbe Conference discussed also various ideas and proposals to boost regional cooperation with direct involvement of Afghanistan. This important event has been contributed to the regional economic integration in Central and South Asia and paved the way for more involvement of Afghanistan in the regional cooperation.

Inaugurating the Conference Tajik President Mr. Emomali Rahmon emphasized that (quote): "the Afghan people and the Government play a pivotal role in addressing challenges in Afghanistan. Tajikistan strongly advocates initiatives and commitments aimed at achieving reconciliation and establishing lasting peace and stability in the country. There is no doubt that at the current stage the international community should play more vigorous role to help the situation." (end of quote). He proposed that the establishment of multi-vocational training center in Tajikistan under the international auspice could be a real contribution in this direction.

The Dushanbe Final Declaration adopted at the end of the Conference has fixed the common principles and commitments by interested parties to further acknowledging Afghanistan's central role as a thoroughfare of trade, transit, transport, investment and culture in the Heart of Asia, and expressing unflinching support to the people and government of Afghanistan to achieve peace, stability and socio-economic progress.

Preceding the Conference, RECCA's Business Forum and an Exhibition has been organized with a broad participation of regional business and investment circles. At the sidelines of the Conference, the Symposium of Regional Scientific Symposium discussed the important topic entitled "Afghanistan and the Prospective of Future Regional Economic Cooperation." On 25 March, 2012 the tripartite and quadrilateral meetings between four Presidents has been held in Dushanbe. The issues of regional cooperation in the field of security strengthening and combating transnational threats, as well enhancement the socio-economic, investment and other relations have been discussed under the chairmanship of the President of Tajikistan. The Heads of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan supported the initiative launched by the President of Tajikistan to establish the Economic, Cultural and Security Forum of Four Countries.

Giving tribute to the ancient tradition of Central Asia, Middle East and other nations to celebrate Nawruz as a world-wide cultural heritage, four Presidents and other high-ranking guests attended the opening ceremony of the International Nawruz-2012 festivities organized this year by Tajikistan.

I Thank You Mr. Chairman,