



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF UZBEKISTAN TO THE OSCE

**check against delivery**

**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan  
at the 1261<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council  
(March 5, 2020)**

*«Strategic vision of the President of the  
Republic of Uzbekistan on ensuring regional  
security and tackling afghan problems»*

Mr. Chairperson,

On February 29, 2020 the bilateral negotiations between the United States and the Taliban Movement ended with signing of the long-awaited «peace agreement» which can set start to intra-Afghan nationwide reconciliation. For the first time in forty years, a good opportunity has been presented to achieve peace in Afghanistan. At the same time, a significant contribution of Uzbekistan to this process should be noted.

Uzbekistan took an active part with the initiatives of the President of Uzbekistan in bringing peace and stability in Afghanistan and reaching a historic agreement in Doha.

Tashkent considers Afghanistan as an unalienable part of the region. Therefore, the efforts on establishing peace in this country are very important. The steady development of Central Asia directly depends on stabilization of the situation in Afghanistan. As the President of Uzbekistan has numerously underscored, «it is impossible to speak about peaceful and prospering Central Asia without resolving the Afghan problem».

Decisive contribution by Uzbekistan to stirring up the Afghan peace process became the High-level International conference on Afghanistan which took place on the initiative of Uzbekistan's Leader in March 2018 in Tashkent. The Presidents of Uzbekistan and Afghanistan, representatives of all states – the permanent members of the UN Security Council, leading countries of the region and high-profile international organizations participated at the event.

It should be noted that Tashkent Conference accelerated the process of establishing peace in Afghanistan. Speaking at the Tashkent Conference President of Uzbekistan demonstrated a clear-cut strategic vision of the ways to tackle conflict in Afghanistan and defined main priorities of the «Afghan policy

of Tashkent», which became a «cornerstone» of stirring up international efforts on peaceful settlement in Afghanistan.

First is development of basic principles of a peaceful settlement and the achievement of a broad international consensus on them;

Second is development of a mechanism for launching negotiations between the Afghan government and the armed opposition;

Third is the adoption of a roadmap for the international community to assist in the process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

and finally, the resolute and unanimous appeal of all interested external forces to the armed opposition with a call to sit at the negotiating table with the Afghan government and put an end to confrontation and violence will be invaluable.

A key outcome of the forum became the unanimous adoption of the Tashkent Declaration which has stipulated full consensus on the regional and global levels in terms of major principles of establishing long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan.

I would like to underscore that all of its actions in this direction Tashkent coordinated with official Kabul. We remain committed to a fundamental principle – the political process on establishing durable peace must be carried out only by Afghans and under the leadership of the people of Afghanistan.

Mr. Chairperson,

Our country and Afghanistan share practical interests. Construction of new roads, establishment of trade and economic ties, the export of Uzbekistan products through Afghanistan to South Asian countries such as India, Pakistan and Iran, are among them.

We will consistently continue our cooperation with the international community on Afghanistan, make every effort to implement the initiatives of the President of Uzbekistan to establish peace in Afghanistan and ensure security in the region.

Thank you.