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Delegation of Uzbekistan

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

9 June 2011

In response to the statement by Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, President of the Provisional Government of Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Chairperson,

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan we welcome Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, the President of the Provisional Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, to this special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council.

We should like to note that Uzbekistan has always favoured and continues to favour the stable and successful development of its neighbouring countries, including Kyrgyzstan, with which Uzbekistan is bound by century-old ties of friendship and good-neighbourly relations.

As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, stated at the plenary meeting of the United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2010: "Uzbeks and Kyrgyz have lived together side by side on this land for many centuries, and their children and decedents will continue to live here for long centuries to come".

We should like to express the hope that the Government of Kyrgyzstan will succeed in solving all the problems facing that country at the present time, among them the task of ensuring the security of all citizens and the observance of their rights regardless of their ethnic affiliation, including the security and rights of the large Uzbek community, which historically has for many centuries lived side by side with the Kyrgyz people.

In conclusion, allow me to express the hope that interethnic accord and reconciliation will soon be achieved in the interests of the welfare of all the people of Kyrgyzstan.

Thank you for your attention.