

Delegation of Belarus

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALYAKSANDR SYCHOV,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
TO THE OSCE, AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

9 June 2011

In response to the statement by the President of Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, to today's meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council. We thank her for her vivid and informative statement.

Your statement today to the Permanent Council, distinguished Madam President, provides confirmation of the importance that Kyrgyzstan attaches to collaboration within the OSCE, to the effort to ensure security in the Eurasian region and to the development of co-operation with all participating States.

In its recent history Kyrgyzstan has had to pass through a difficult period. Political upheavals, socio-economic challenges, a difficult inter-ethnic situation and, finally, the events of the summer of 2010 shook the country and the entire region as a whole. In this context, it is important that within a relatively brief period it proved possible to overcome these signs of crisis, to stabilize the situation and to return the life of the country to normalcy. We must also not fail to mention a number of significant and progressive reforms that have recently been carried out in Kyrgyzstan.

Without question, an important aspect in overcoming the crisis of 2010 was the inquiry into the tragic June events in the south of the country. In that connection, Kyrgyzstan took an unprecedented decision and invited a special international mission to the country.

Regrettably, as it would seem, the work of that mission and its final report have once again vividly exposed a large number of problem areas connected with the activities of international rapporteurs of that kind, primarily having to do with their independence, objectivity, and selectivity in the way they collect and analyse information. We are firmly convinced that any international assistance, including in the form of a fact-finding mission, must above all provide a complete and objective picture, helping in this way to stabilize the situation in the country. Efforts to selectively stress certain facts and to touch up others, to

interpret events in a biased manner and to fit one's assessments to a preconceived mould will lead to nothing and, more than that, may provoke a new wave of tension.

In the autumn of this year Kyrgyzstan will hold presidential elections on which the future development of the country will depend to a large degree. We hope that Kyrgyzstan will pass through this next stage in a successful and painless manner. The main thing is that in the final analysis the winners should be the ordinary citizens, for whom what is most important is to be able to lead a life of dignity and tranquillity.

Not long ago, we had a discussion in the Permanent Council of the activities of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the work of the OSCE Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan, under which that country is being provided with assistance in a broad range of areas. It is important that in its work in Kyrgyzstan the OSCE should continue to be guided by the long-term interests of the host country. We assume that in the future as well OSCE activities in Kyrgyzstan will be carried out with the consent and at the request of the Kyrgyz authorities.

Belarus is a long-time friend and partner of Kyrgyzstan. We share a common history, friendship between our peoples, close economic ties and much else, including partnership within the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Eurasian Economic Community and the Commonwealth of Independent States. This explains the similarity in the positions taken by our countries with regard to co-operation in the OSCE format and also with regard to the future development and enhancement of the Organization's activities.

In conclusion, allow me to wish you, Madam President, and the entire Kyrgyz people every success in the future along with well-being and prosperity. Permit me also to express the hope that there will be a continuation of the active collaboration between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan within the international organizations and at the bilateral level.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.