

НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ
ҶУМҲУРИИ ТОҶИКИСТОН
ДАР НАЗДИ САҲА



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
TO THE OSCE

**Statement by the Head of Delegation of Tajikistan Ambassador
Nuriddin Shamsov at th 802th OSCE Permanent Council Meeting
(Vienna, 8 April 2010)**

*In response to the address of
H.E. UNSG, Mr. Ban Ki-moon*

Chairman,

Delegation of Tajikistan warmly welcomes H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary General of the United Nation at the OSCE Permanent Council Meeting and thanks him for detailed address.

We recognize the leading role of the United Nations in promotion of international cooperation and addressing major global and regional issues, as well as global challenges.

Excellency, we appreciate your recent visit to Tajikistan and note fruitful negotiations and sharing conducted in Dushanbe with the President Emomali Rahmon and other high-ranked Tajik officials.

We note that Tajikistan remains the credible partner of United Nations interested in integration and further promotion of regional cooperation in Central Asia, including in the field of management of natural resources. The leadership of Tajikistan on water and power management has been recognized at the regional and global levels. Incoming High-Level UN Conference on midterm comprehensive review of implementation of UNGA Water Decade Resolution “Water for life” 2005-2015 8-10 June, 2010 in Dushanbe is a good evidence of those efforts.

We emphasize that water and power issues affect the security in the region and the stability could be archived only through cooperation. Recently Government of Tajikistan has signed the Memorandum of Understanding with World Bank on technical and ecological examination of Roghun HPP. Noting the fundamental right of nations to sustainable development declared by United Nations, Tajikistan rejects strongly all groundless speculations that Country's national hydropower projects pose a threat to the region. We reiterate that implementation of those prioritized projects on internal rivers will be worked out in full respect with the interests of the region.

We reject any attempts to politicize this issue and declare that it helps Tajikistan to obtain energy independence and save the lives of 8 million population facing aftermath of devastating energy scarcity over 15 years. It will provide the region with cheap and environment friendly power as well as improve access to irrigation and drinking water, since hydropower facilities will make it possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which is in full compliance with the Copenhagen Process.

With regard to Aral See problem we stress that over the last 50 years the booming growth of population in Central Asia has increased rapidly up to 63 mln., water consumption per capita in the region exceeded average global figures three-fold and, at the same time from 30% to 60% of water used in agriculture is being lost.

We recall the UN once again to hold a serious international expert examination of all Central Asian irrigation system, including numerous reservoirs has been constructed in the region and its impact on environmental situation.

Tajikistan supports the striving of international community to achieve comprehensive prohibition of anti-personnel mines. Over the period of independence we experienced deadly aftermath of mining. According to Tajik Demining Centre statistics, 358 civilians have been killed and 449 others have been wounded by mine explosions since 1992. Tajikistan has to clear 243 minefields on 11 mln. square meters, including 57 minefields along our northern borders. We are convinced that Central Asia must be free from mining threat and we call upon the UN and the OSCE

strengthening joint efforts to reach this noble goal, as well as soonest inauguration of Regional Demining Centre in Dushanbe in 2010.

Tajikistan envisages more effective and productive cooperation between the UN and the OSCE on promotion of freedom of movement, rail and road transport, communication, unimpeded delivery of goods, capital and labour forces across all Central Asian borders. Tajikistan states serious concern on unjustified blockade without any reasonable motivation of totally 1500 rail freight cars loaded with fuel, goods, food etc. bound for agricultural purposes of southern regions of Tajikistan in the territory of neighboring Uzbekistan since 10th February 2010.

We deem the issue of further strengthening of early warning mechanisms and confidence building measures in the region should be in the focus of upcoming synergy of UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy and the OSCE. Strengthening of a climate of mutual trust in Central Asia should be on the top of Agenda of both organizations.

With regard to Afghanistan, we continue to extend our support to every constructive regional and global initiative to be in favor of restoration of peace, stability and economic growth of this country.

Tajikistan stands ready to continue fruitful cooperation and constructive dialogue on wide-range scope of regional and global issues with UN and its specialized bodies.

Thank You Chairman,