

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Permanent Council

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DECISION No. 8

The Permanent Council, expressing its appreciation for the report by the Secretary General on his recent trip to Tajikistan,

Reaffirms its full support for the work of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan;

Encourages the Mission, closely co-operating with the ODIHR, to continue and enhance its role concerning the development of democratic institutions in Tajikistan;

Welcomes the support extended by the authorities of Tajikistan to the Mission;

Underlines the crucial importance of free and fair parliamentary elections for the mutually reinforcing processes of democratization and national reconciliation;

Urges the competent Tajik authorities to improve further and adjust the electoral law and the electoral process in such a way as to allow the election of a truly representative Parliament; and

Welcomes the intention of the Government of Tajikistan to consider postponing the parliamentary elections, so that democratic elections can be organized with broad participation and can be monitored by international organizations and OSCE participating States, and stresses the importance of the open, free and fair participation of the opposition parties in these elections;

Welcomes the close co-operation established between the Mission and other international organizations present in Tajikistan, in particular UNMOT and UNHCR;

Condemns violations of the border and specifically condemns the atrocities perpetrated against members of the border guards;

Stresses the positive impact that humanitarian and other aid would have on the efforts of the OSCE to contribute to the democratization and national reconciliation process and encourages the participating States to provide such support.