



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF UZBEKISTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the
meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
23rd of June, 2011**

In response to the statement by Ms.Dunja Mijatović
the OSCE the Representative on Freedom of the Media

Mr.Chairperson,

We welcome Ms.Dunja Mijatović, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, to today's meeting of the Permanent Council and thank for her report.

During the meeting in the MFA of Uzbekistan in Tashkent in April this year, you have received thorough information and had constructive discussion on the "Concept of further deepening the democratic reforms and formation of civil society" proposed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Islam Karimov.

The President of Uzbekistan had stated that ensuring freedom and rights of citizens in the information space, which includes such components as freedom and realization of the rights to obtain, disseminate information and own ideas, stands as a cornerstone of building democratic society in Uzbekistan.

Let us note that over the past years, the large-scale set of organizational and legal measures was implemented in the country to ensure the freedom of speech and liberalize the mass media. The legal framework consisting of more than 10 acts of legislation, ensuring the effective functioning of the information space, dynamic and free development of the mass media, including electronic were adopted. Those include Laws "On the principles and guarantees of freedom of information", the edited versions of the laws "On mass media", "On telecommunications" and "On copyright and adjacent rights". Several media-related law drafts, namely "On the openness of public authorities and administration," "On the economic foundations of the media", "On guarantees of state support for the media", "On Broadcasting", "On Telecommunications" will soon be discussed in Parliament.

A number of public organizations have been established to support non-state mass media. The largest one is the National association of electronic mass-media, which now includes more than 100 state and non-state electronic media.

We welcome participation of the representative of your Office at the conference organized by the National Association of Electronic Mass Media of Uzbekistan on financial sustainability and the role of media in Samarkand on 24-25 June of this year.

In conclusion, allow us to wish you and your team every success in your activity.