



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF UZBEKISTAN TO THE OSCE

**Statement by Ambassador Abat Fayzullaev,
Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the OSCE
at the 1299th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
January 21, 2021**

*Any other business: «On the address of
the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to
the Parliament on the most priority goals of
Uzbekistan's development in 2021»*

Madam Chair,

On December 29, 2020, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev delivered an annual address to the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The speech determined main priority areas of domestic and foreign policy of Uzbekistan in 2021.

In this regard, I would like to bring to the attention of my distinguished colleagues the main topics of the address. The full text of the address will be distributed right after today's PC meeting.

In his speech, President Mirziyoyev gave a new impetus to the large-scale reforms implemented in our country, including further reforming education system, strengthening the health care, developing science and creating even more favorable conditions for economic development.

In order to continue efforts in Uzbekistan in the last years to support young generation, education and enlightenment, science and innovation, promote healthy lifestyle, especially among youth, members of Parliament supported the proposal of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to declare 2021 the Year of Supporting Youth and Health Promotion.

The President assigned the Cabinet of Ministers to develop a number of programs and action plans in order to achieve these goals. In particular, it is planned to approve the State Program for 2021 and the Post-pandemic Development Program of Uzbekistan.

The initiatives voiced by the President for the implementation of the Year of Support for Youth and Strengthening the Health of the Population will help support young people in mobilizing their own abilities, fulfilling their existing potential, and increasing self-confidence.

President Mirziyoyev also touched upon the priority areas of the foreign policy of Uzbekistan in 2021, as well as issues of international cooperation.

It was noted that Uzbekistan will continue to reinforce its open, pragmatic and constructive foreign policy that meets national interests.

In this regard, I would like to draw your attention to the following main priorities.

First, Uzbekistan will pay special attention to cementing the centuries-old friendship, good-neighborly relations, strategic partnership and mutual trust with Central Asian states. This is the priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy.

Second, Uzbekistan will continue to expand the multidimensional and mutually advantageous relations with its main partners – Russia, the United States, China, Turkey, Germany, France, Great Britain, South Korea, Japan, India, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates and other countries.

Third, Uzbekistan is firmly convinced that the long-awaited peace will come into the neighboring Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan will continue to provide all possible assistance in this noble cause.

Fourth, the development of close cooperation with the UN and other prominent international and regional organizations, including the OSCE, will always be in the heart of attention of Uzbekistan.

Fifth, Uzbekistan will consistently bolster its achievements in the field of human rights, freedom of speech and religion in cooperation with leading international organizations.

Next year, under the auspices of the United Nations, Uzbekistan will host an international forum on Human Rights Education, a World Youth Conference on Youth Rights and a regional conference on religious freedom.

Sixth, Uzbekistan will be paying much more attention to improve the atmosphere of interethnic harmony and tolerance in the society.

Seventh, Uzbekistan is seriously concerned about the deterioration of the environmental situation in the region and around the world.

Together with neighboring countries and the international community, Uzbekistan will resolutely continue the work to mitigate the consequences of the environmental disaster caused by the tragedy of the Aral Sea.

Madam Chair,

The Republic of Uzbekistan stands ready to continue activities aimed at strengthening the independence of our country, further democratization of our society, developing trade and economic relations and investment cooperation, ensuring peace and stability in the region.

Therefore, we will count on the OSCE's and participating states' continuous support in achieving the goals set by the Leadership of Uzbekistan.

I thank you.