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11th Anniversary of National Accord in Tajikistan

Next Friday, 27 June 2008 Tajikistan will mark the 11th anniversary of the General Agreement on Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan which was signed in Moscow.

The President of Tajikistan H.E. Emomali Rahmon in his Appeal on the occasion of signing that historical document emphasized its crucial role in further development of Tajik nation, noting: “Efforts and hopes of the last 5-6 years for preserving of Tajik National State were realized exactly on this happy day. We can reaffirm today that the present generation of Tajik nation stumbled at the beginning but today is the winner. Because this generation could throw away the evil temptation, which had place in the mind of our people, supposed evil serpents, which killed hundreds of our young sons... The common sense and long-sighted wisdom has won. The happy day which we were looking forward in all towns, districts, remote villages and all families has come.”

The Tajik unique peace experience and peace-building has not only national but also recognized world significance and should be used worldwide as lessons to learn, to find necessary solutions in hot spots. Bringing back one million refugees home, arranging of their civil and social protection are appreciated as a model by regional and global international organizations such as the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

It should be noted practical assistance and positive contribution made by the Russian Federation, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan as the guarantee countries during the Inter-Tajik peace process.

Public Council of Tajikistan and other political and social instruments created later have strengthened common sense of people for future rehabilitation and development. Public Agreement signed on March 9, 1996 by more than 30

political parties, movements and non- governmental organizations with involvement of the President of Tajikistan and Chairman of the Republic of Tajikistan have increased the progress and deepen dialogue within the Tajik society.

Now the Public Council of Tajikistan is a real and powerful political mean unifying all political parties and movements, non-governmental organizations, professional and public associations of the country. Today the pluralism and activity of 8 political parties, including Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan, more than 30 media and press sources, 22 TV and broadcast companies and about 15 news agencies are the sign of strengthening of civil society and the proof of right way selected 11 years ago by the leadership and the people of Tajikistan.

During his last visit to Tajikistan on June 3, 2008 the OSCE CiO, Finnish Foreign Minister Alexander Stubb welcomed the positive outcome of Tajikistan's active participation in the OSCE. He stressed that "as an OSCE participating state Tajikistan plays a pivotal role in strengthening regional cooperation, and I am confident that we will continue to deepen the dialogue that we began here".

Implementation of internationally recognized "opened-door" foreign policy based on protection of national interests with respect to regional and global cooperation enabled Tajikistan to occupy its worthy and independent place among the World nations. Tajikistan continues to make solid steps towards strengthening of it own identity, transparency and effective international cooperation.