

Statement
by the Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic
Mr. Muktar Djumaliev at the Helsinki Commission,
USA Congress

Mr. Chairman,

I thank you very much for convening us this meeting today.

The interethnic conflicts in 1990th and repeated in 2010 in Kyrgyzstan is most painful facts in our history.

Kyrgyzstan passed through most difficult challenges on its way for the democratic development. We faced many obstacles, corruption, authoritarian governance, repressions by clan regime, and still are in a very fragile situation. Interethnic conflict provoked in the country between two friendly countries became inhuman tool to prevent new changes and reforms.

Authoritarian methods of government and deep corruption were accompanied by a sharp deterioration in living conditions, and naturally led to the April People's Revolution and the fall of the anti-people regime.

2010 was the year for Kyrgyzstan's radical democratic change, and at the same time a serious challenge and test of the strength of statehood and unity of the nation.

Our own experience shows that without checks and balances of powers, there is a risk of a return to authoritarian regime. Therefore, for the first time in Central Asia, we have embarked on the construction of a parliamentary republic.

In June 2010 we held a referendum on adoption of a new constitution and election of the head of state. In October, managed to have an open and transparent parliamentary election. In December, parliament formed a coalition government.

And this year we are going to establish a precedent of democratic transfer of power of the President.

These efforts faced with resistance from the revenge-seekers and organized crime, which become a real force in society for the during the period of the ousted regime.

It is with their filing in June 2010 that representatives of the Kyrgyz and Uzbek ethnic groups, who lived for centuries peacefully alongside each other, were “dragged” into the violent clashes.

Unfortunately, during these tragic events hundreds of our citizens were killed.

In difficult conditions, with the joint efforts of citizens of Kyrgyzstan and support of international organizations and governments of several countries, Kyrgyzstan has managed to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe in the south.

Mr. Chairman, for Kyrgyzstan it was the first time experiencing to conduct an international investigation. Such precedent never happened in the Post soviet countries.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic recognises the importance and value of the work done by the IIC and thanks its reputable members for the efforts and contribution devoted to investigate the tragic events that occurred in Kyrgyzstan.

The Government agrees with number of the conclusions and criticisms contained in the IIC Report. It does not absolve the responsibility for what happened. The Provisional Government honestly and openly acknowledged its guilt and responsibility in its address on June 16, 2010 to the people of Kyrgyzstan and the International Community.

Kyrgyzstan’s Government is taking and will continue to take all necessary measures to eliminate or minimize the consequences of the tragic conflict and to prevent the repetition of similar events in the future. Many of the recommendations contained in the IIC Report have had being implemented by the Government from the day the conflict was localized.

Kyrgyzstan’s Government will establish the Special Commission to implement and monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the IIC Report and other reports and researches related to the tragic events of 2010 in the Southern Kyrgyzstan.

However, the Kyrgyz Government believes that the IIC Report does not contain a sufficient evidence to conclude that there have been made certain acts that can be qualified as the crime against humanity during the June events in the city of Osh.

Kyrgyzstan's Government considers as unacceptable the visible tendency in the IIC report to take into account to a greater extent the crimes committed only by the members of one ethnic group while ignoring the deaths and casualties suffered by the same group and depicting another group as the single suffered and defenseless party.

It is also important to take into account the fact that during the conflict there were no sufficient political, financial, and law-enforcement resources at the disposal of the Provisional Government to counter the large-scaled provocations of interethnic clashes. However, even under such conditions, the People and the authorities of Kyrgyzstan independently and without outside intervention managed to stop the violence and localize the conflict within a few days.

Kyrgyzstan's Government took great efforts to reconcile the parties of the conflict, to overcome the consequences of the conflict and it still proceeds with it. However, there is still tangible tension and a number of unresolved socio-economic problems in the conflict zone. In the conditions of the started presidential campaign, some of the ICC conclusions can be used by the opponents of the democratic reforms to destabilize the situation and strengthen the position of the internal revanchist forces.

Kyrgyzstan's Government hopes that necessary conclusions from the events of 2010 will be made by the international community as well, including the organizations that pursue the aim of preventing, neutralizing and eliminating consequences of such conflicts.

We have also started work on developing and implementing the concept of ethnic development and consolidation of the people of Kyrgyzstan.

We are doing everything possible to punish all those responsible. All trials are held in conditions of unprecedented openness.

But the situation remains difficult, in particular, with concerns about the emotional nature of the trials of resonant crimes.

The new government declared its uncompromising war against criminals and is determined to stop the merging criminal gangs with the authorities.

The government has taken urgent measures to normalize the functioning of law

enforcement and security agencies. The Defense Council was established as a coordinating and supervisory body.

In order to effectively combat drug trafficking, the drug control agency abolished by the previous government has been restored.

We intend to do everything possible to create conditions to strengthen the rule of law, a culture of political dialogue, and an open and equitable society.

Within a short period of time we have achieved qualitative improvements. Independent media is functioning. The opposition has not only ample opportunity to criticize the head of state and the ruling parliamentary coalition, but actually participates in governing the country, by leading three key parliamentary committees - on budget and finance, law enforcement and the rule of law, human rights and public organizations.

There are Supervisory Boards established in the ministries to ensure transparency and accountability of government to the people.

We are reforming the judicial system to make it truly independent and introduced a mechanism to ensure quality selection of judges through the Council, whose composition is formed with the participation of opposition representatives.

Mr. Chairman,

Responding to the question addressed on Kyrgyzstan's Parliament decision with regards to the Killjunen's report and PNG I would mention, after the report was released, the situation in the country became even more tense. The people of Kyrgyzstan were expecting that the report will be objective, balanced and contribute for the reconciliation and we still believe on it.

In such a situation, while Parliament agrees with the Comments of the Government, it decided to pass an order to take a decision on Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen entry to the Kyrgyz Republic. In this regard, the specialised agencies will review and decide on this matter.

At the same time, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic called Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic to reconsider its decision. The President called the parliament to pay more attention on adopting and implementations of the recommendation. Some of the parliamentarians even invited Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen to the Parliament in order to organise him a public hearings.

Today, is a most important to consolidate our efforts in order to avoid repetition of the conflicts in the future and we count on the support of all the friends and partners.

Thank you Mr. Chairman