



DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
TO THE OSCE

PC.DEL/723/18
11 June 2018
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ENGLISH only

Statement by Delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna at the 1188th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in response to the report by the High Commissioner on National Minorities Ambassador Lamberto Zannier (7 June, 2018)

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE Ambassador Zannier to the Permanent Council and thank him for his comprehensive report.

Kazakhstan enjoys productive cooperation with the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities to ensure inter-ethnic harmony and stability in the OSCE area.

We appreciate Ambassador Zannier's contribution in strengthening inter-ethnic relations in Central Asia. In this regard, we welcome fruitful visits to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan in April and high-level meetings there.

Last December the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Office of HCNM signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Multilingual and Multicultural education, so realizing the third phase of The Central Asia Education Programme (CAEP). The same MoU was signed during the last visit of High Commissioner to Kyrgyzstan. We believe that continuing the third phase of the CAEP under the Memorandum will upgrade regional co-operation on multilingual and multicultural education.

Kazakhstan has created all necessary conditions for the development of culture, language and traditions of all ethnic groups that live in the country. We will continue this work further. In this regard, we find useful the events on different important issues, which HCNM Office provides.

Dear High Commissioner,

We commend holding the conference on 20th anniversary of the Oslo Recommendations regarding the Linguistic Rights of National Minorities held on 31 May, where Kazakhstan was represented by the member of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan. We positively note providing livestream video of the opening plenary of the event.

Representatives of Kazakhstan will take part at 10th anniversary of the HCNM Bolzano/Bozen recommendations on National Minorities on 15-16 July in Udine, Italy.

We support the new breath You brought to the work of the institution. Online conversations organized on 22 March and 15 May "#askHCNM hour" on Twitter show the intention to keep up with new realities of impact that social media have. Noting the importance of undertaking concrete joint steps in addressing tensions between national minorities in cyberspace, that can lead to interethnic conflicts, we welcome the development of thematic "Guidelines on 'National Minorities and the Media in the Digital Age'".

Dear Chairperson,

The idea initiated by the President Nursultan Nazarbayev “Kazakhstan is our common home” and mixture of representatives of different ethnic groups living together contributes to the formation of a unique Kazakhstan mentality with an atmosphere of peace, friendship and inter-ethnic dialogue. Kazakhstan is a place where diversities unite the people. The Assembly of People of Kazakhstan became a custodian of peace and harmony.

On 28 April 26th annual session of the Assembly gathered over 1500 people from all regions of the country, including chairs of regional ethno cultural associations, members of the Parliament, heads of central executive structures, representatives of religious associations, NGOs, diplomatic missions accredited in Kazakhstan, representatives of academia, art and media.

I would like to inform about the new multimedia portal of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan, which was presented on 1st March. The project, called the Historical map of the People of Kazakhstan, covers the history of the country’s multi-ethnic population from ancient times to the present day. It will also be used as a platform for ethnic media, which are entering media space of the country at a new level, becoming more accessible to young people and also continuing to publish paper versions for the older generation. Assembly discussed the ways of maximising all opportunities of the portal with the Ethnic Media Journalists Club. Very soon the team of the new multimedia portal will start working in full swing.

Due to the huge amount of novelties, President signed amendments to the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan” aimed to improve the activities of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan.

Dear High Commissioner,

In one of your answers during the “#askHCNM hour” you told, that real diplomat should “Learn to listen, be patient and don't be discouraged, don't take things personally and think creatively. Be honest and keep smiling.” We wish you stay patient and find creative ways to contribute in addressing sensitive issue of national minorities. We stand for the progressive development of our cooperation in all relevant issues. We wish you success in all your future endeavors.

I thank you.