

TASHKENT STATEMENT OF HEADS OF STATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Heads of State having discussed topical issues of the regional development and international policy,

basing on traditional relations of friendship and good neighboring, historical and cultural community of the peoples of Central Asia,

coming out existing practice political dialogue and achieved level of the regional collaboration,

noting meaning of mutually beneficial relations of the states for strengthening stability in the region and international security,

taking into account dynamically changing situation in the region and around it,

expressing preoccupation by threats from international terrorism, political and religious extremism, drug invasion, transboundary organized criminal for the regional and international security,

recognizing importance of rational and mutually beneficial utilization of water-power resources, transport communications and existing economic potential in the region,

paying special attention to further deepening collaboration between the states of the region based on mutual understanding and benefit in political, humanitarian and other spheres, state the following:

1. Heads of State confirmed, that mutually beneficial collaboration in political, economic, scientific-technical, cultural and other areas as well as close interaction on international scene meets national interests of all countries of the region and plays important role in peace and stability keeping at the regional and global level.

Heads of State noted that, in line with the world tendencies, multilateral relations would benefit all peoples.

Heads of State underline, the main priority in interrelations should be mutually beneficial economic collaboration.

2. Heads of State, noting necessity of further development of economic relations, commissioned their governments to make interactions at all levels more active for:

-practical realization of unused potential of economic collaboration and new impulse of its development;

-development of effective forms and mechanisms of achieved bilateral and multilateral agreements realization in sphere of economy and trade.

3. Heads of State are convinced, that coordinated and agreed actions in rational and mutually beneficial water structures, water-power resources and water bodies use in Central Asia based

on commonly recognized principles and norms of international water right will serve a base for effective use of existing agricultural and power potential for benefit of all peoples.

Heads of State commissioned their governments to speed up work on mechanism of interstate use of transboundary water resources.

4. Heads of State noted, that interaction in common transport and power infrastructure creation is one of the most important directions of multilateral collaboration.

Heads of State noted necessity to follow previous agreements in transportation and defined ways of further collaboration in “Europe-Caucasus-Asia” communication system efficiency increase.

Heads of State recognized importance of agreed tariff policy in all kinds of transport within framework of Euro-Asian transport network TRACEKA.

5. Heads of State underlined importance of juridical arrangement of frontier crossing between states based on norms and principles of international right. Borders between countries of the region should be borders of friendship, peace and good neighborhood.

6. Heads of State positively assessing beginning of Afghan problem solution process supported provisional government of Afghanistan led by Hamid Karzai, UN and world community efforts directed to country restoration.

Taking into account traditional relations between peoples of Central Asia and Afghanistan, their historical and cultural community, Heads of State express readiness to help Afghan people in new democratic state building living in peace with all neighbors and integrated in the world community.

7. Heads of State are concerned with tension between India and Pakistan. They condemn terrorist act in the parliament of India, Heads of State apply to leaders of India and Pakistan to regulate existing problems by political means. Heads of State express hope for establishing good relations between India and Pakistan that would meet the regional stability and security.

8. Heads of State having as priority the regional stability and security, will undertake all necessary joint efforts within framework of Agreement on fight with terrorism, political and religious extremism, transnational and organized criminality of April 21, 2000.

Heads of State greet the world community’s efforts in contraction to terrorism, political and religious extremism, transnational and organized criminality.

9. Heads of state note necessity of interaction in cultural and humanitarian sphere as an important factor of collaboration and good neighborhood strengthening.

10. For further political dialogue promotion, regional economic integration forms and mechanisms perfecting, mutual understanding in security, peace and stability keeping, Heads of State supported idea about multifold collaboration within the region and Central-Asian Economic Community transformation in Central-Asian Collaboration.

11. Heads of State commission their governments to consider all questions connected with this transformation including juridical status of this organization, statutory documents, legal base inventory and submit relevant proposals for consideration by the Heads of State.

12. Heads of State underline that negotiations in atmosphere of openness and mutual understanding significantly contributed to further development of collaboration of Central-Asian states.

Heads of State agreed to continue meetings in given format and expressed gratitude for hospitality to the Republic of Uzbekistan President I.Karimov.

President
of the Republic
of Kazakhstan
N.Nazarbayev

President
of the Kyrgyz
Republic
A.Akayev

President
of the Republic
of Tajikistan
E.Rahmonov

President
of the Republic
of Uzbekistan
I.Karimov

Tashkent, December 28, 2001