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29 August 2014

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 85<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Kyrgyzstan, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the timely submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 5, 6 and 9 of the concluding observations (<u>CERD/C/KGZ/CO/5-7</u>), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> periodic report during its 82<sup>nd</sup> session in February 2013.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues to be included in its 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> periodic report to be submitted in a single document on 4 October 2016.

**Paragraph 5 of the concluding observations:** The Committee thanks the State party for its response and its willingness to comprehensively address the issues contained in the recommendation. The Committee commends the State party for its efforts to address ethnic inequalities, including the adoption of Presidential Decree No. 74, the adoption of a National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013 - 2017, and the establishment of the Inter-Ethnic Public Advisory Council. The Committee requests further information to be included in the next report on: (a) how the legislation on interethnic relations has been brought into line with the 2010 Constitution and Kyrgyzstan's treaty obligations; (b) the goals and timelines established under the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013 – 2017 as well as any results achieved; and (c) the special measures referred to in paragraph 6, and statistics on the political participation of ethnic minorities. While noting the efforts made by the State party to collect weapons held by the public by using the media to inform the public about the weapons amnesty, the Committee reiterates its recommendation that the State party redouble its efforts, and requests that the State party provide information on any additional measures taken in this regard.

Her Excellency Ms. Gulnara Iskakova Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations Office and other International organizations at Geneva Email: kyrgyzmission@bluewin.ch



Paragraph 6 of the concluding observations: The Committee thanks the State party for its response. While noting the policy clarification issued by the Supreme Court, the Committee remains concerned at the lack of accountability and oversight to ensure that all law enforcement actions and judicial proceedings related to the 2010 conflict are fair, unbiased, and guarantees the rights of those involved. The Committee reiterates its recommendation that the State party set up a mechanism to review all cases of persons condemned in connection with the June 2010 events. The Committee also requests further information on the State party's efforts to investigate, prosecute, and condemn all persons responsible for human rights violations during the June 2010 events, and reiterates its recommendation that all those responsible for the violations are prosecuted, regardless of their ethnicity. The Committee also remains concerned at the lack of compensation provided for victims of miscarriages of justice, and requests further information on the number of individuals who have been given compensation, as well the amount of compensation provided. While commending the State party for its efforts to reform the Ministry of Internal Affairs through the adoption of Government Decision No. 220, it requests further information on the specifics of those reforms and their impact to be included in the next periodic report. The Committee also notes the Supreme Court review of the Askharov case, but remains concerned about access to fair trials for human rights defenders.

**Paragraph 9 of the concluding observations:** The Committee welcomes the detailed response of the State party and its efforts to increase the representation of ethnic minorities in political and public affairs. The Committee commends the State party for its efforts to increase the representation of ethnic minorities through the adoption of Government Decree No. 220, but remains concerned at the low level of representation of minority ethnic groups in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other political and public agencies. The Committee requests further information on the plans to implement the goals of the Government Decree listed in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the State party's response. The Committee welcomes the State party's plans to analyse ethnic representation in law enforcement and local government, and requests that such information be included in the next State party report, as well as information on the representation of minority ethnic groups in the national Government.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Kyrgyzstan, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

José Francisco Calí Tzay Chair Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination