



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF UZBEKISTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the
meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
26th of May, 2011**

*In response to the Statement by the Delegation of
the United States of America*

Mr. Chairperson,

We took note of the statement made by the distinguished delegation of the United States of America. The content of the statement will be duly submitted to our authorities.

Meanwhile, the delegation of Uzbekistan would like to inform the Permanent Council about the measures undertaken in recent years and aimed at promoting and ensuring the freedom of media.

The legal framework consisting of more than 10 acts of legislation, ensuring the effective functioning of the information space, dynamic and free development of the mass media, including electronic were adopted. Those include Laws "On the principles and guarantees of freedom of information", the edited versions of the laws "On mass media", "On telecommunications" and "On copyright and adjacent rights".

Several public organizations have been established in order to support non-state mass media. The largest one is the National association of electronic mass-media, which now includes more than 100 state and non-state electronic media.

Currently, we are witnessing a rapid growth of Internet users in Uzbekistan, the number of which recently reached 7 million.

The Republic of Uzbekistan remains committed to develop the information technologies along with ensuring cyber security and preventing the hostile use of information and telecommunications.

We would like to conclude our intervention by quoting the President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov, who had stated during the presentation of the "Concept of further deepening the democratic reforms and formation of civil society": "Ensuring freedom and rights of citizens in the information space, which includes such components as freedom and realization of the rights to obtain, disseminate information and own ideas, stands as a cornerstone of building democratic society in Uzbekistan".

Thank you for your attention.