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**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND AT THE
914th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

31 May 2012

**In response to report by Ambassador Markus Mueller,
Head of the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan**

Mr. Chairperson,

I am speaking also on behalf of Norway.

We should like to welcome Ambassador Markus Mueller, who is honouring us with his presence today for a final time before he leaves his post at the end of June. We thank him for his report and wish to congratulate him on his commitment as the Head of the Community Security Initiative (CSI).

We are convinced that this Initiative is continuing to make a substantial contribution to reducing the insecurity that prevailed in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic following the events of June 2010.

We are particularly pleased to note the important role played by the Initiative in strengthening trust between the police and the population. We should like to pay tribute in this regard to the contribution by members of the Community Security Initiative team to the development of the capacities of the Kyrgyz police.

As for the progress made with respect to the protection of human rights, we are pleased to note the establishment of a civilian oversight unit in the north of the country and the emergence of ad hoc initiatives in the south, such as the installation of surveillance cameras in detention centres.

We also welcome the decision to deploy a CSI adviser within the Ministry of the Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic. This presence will help to establish a regular dialogue with the police on respect for human rights and promote a favourable policy towards the inclusion of ethnic minorities in the police.

We regret, however, that a mechanism to monitor respect for human rights at the national level has still not been established. The establishment of ethical rules for the police would also be desirable. We also regret that a unit responsible for investigating human rights violations has still not been set up within the Ministry of the Interior.

In this context, greater involvement on the part of civil society in the process of monitoring respect for human rights would be desirable. Projects like the one jointly implemented by the OSCE, the Ombudsperson and civil society allowing places of detention to be monitored without prior notification should be continued.

Without underestimating the importance of the progress made, we reiterate our belief that the creation of a multi-ethnic police force that respects human rights is essential for the country's stability. We encourage the Kyrgyz authorities to introduce the necessary policies and mechanisms and to consider the possibility of integrating the Community Security Initiative into a more extensive reform of the police.

In short, we regard the OSCE's continued commitment in this area as essential. Like the Kyrgyz authorities and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, we are of the opinion that the continuation of this Initiative after this year is desirable. It would contribute to the achievement of lasting results and the effective development of local capacities. It is for this reason that tomorrow, during the discussions in the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance regarding the 2013 Programme Outline, we shall express our support for the financing of the Initiative in the OSCE Unified Budget. This does not rule out the possible renewal of extrabudgetary contributions, which remain desirable with a view to being able to plan CSI operations beyond the OSCE's annual budgetary cycle.

We wish Ambassador Mueller every success in his future personal and professional endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.