

**SPEECH**  
**OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

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**DOHA FORUM**

**MAY 9, 2011**



**Mr. Chairman,  
Dear participants,**

Let me at the outset to express my appreciation to organizers of the Forum and the State of Qatar for invitation. I hope the meeting will make a worthy contribution to exchange of views and preparation of recommendations on the relevant issues.

**Mr. Chairman,  
Dear participants,**

We can observe today that critical geopolitical shifts are bringing the modern world into a new stage of its development. Significant changes in socio-political lives of the global society have made global development be focused on fundamentally new directions.

It is notable that trends that are underway led to numerous positive things as well. Globalization and accessibility of technical and scientific achievements are among such advances. At the same time, the modern world is facing some other phenomena that are not acceptable for our societies. New challenges to peace and stability, political instabilities, economic and financial crises and undesirable environmental behavior could be given as examples among them.

It is obvious that serious measures are to be taken to ensure sustainable development in the society and prevent negative factors. Ensuring freedom and strengthening democracy are among key development pillars. It is also notable that "democracy" is an elastic notion that covers ensuring personal freedoms in political, economic and social aspects. Therefore, economic development, free trade and democracy are interrelated. There is no doubt that ensuring democratic system and protecting human rights provide favorable conditions for economic development. However, globalization in its turn as well as free trade also provides favorable environment for implementation of political reforms.

With this mind and to ensure personal freedoms in the country efforts are begin constantly taken by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. It is sustainable development of the country that is reached at through providing favorable conditions for economic activity of the people can lead to bringing up cultured and tolerant members of the society. Therefore, Tajikistan is focused on implementing continued economic reforms giving consideration to the interests of all social strata.

Latest developments in Maghreb and Middle East prove the fact that poverty and absence of social justice may lead to political instability. And ensuring suitable socio-economic conditions could be considered as a way to overcome the challenge. Therefore, the Republic of Tajikistan takes every continued effort aimed at implementing economic reforms. I would like to make special emphasize of the fact that Tajik measures aimed at joining the WTO are key ones among measures being taken by the Government. At the same time, we have also certain relevant talks herein and it is notable that major part of issues in this regard has been already tackled. We believe that participation of the Republic of Tajikistan as a full WTO member-state will have its own



contribution to strengthening democratic trends and further economic development in the country. At the same time, Tajikistan takes constant efforts to strengthen its economic relations with its neighboring countries as well as with other ones in the world. Herein, we are focused on taking advantages of cooperation within international and regional organizations.

Along with implementing respective measures aimed at ensuring sustainable development Tajikistan also attaches great and continued importance to overcoming the communication deadlock. I would like to stress that taking into account the lack of direct ways from Central Asia to sea ports construction of roads in Tajikistan will constructively promote strengthening economic relations among regional countries.

It is natural that without having new highways and ensuring cargoes there is no sense to speak about free trade. Tajikistan used to face with gaps in terms of suitable communication infrastructure since the very beginning of the independence period. Therefore, construction of roads, bridges and tunnels has been launched under the guideline provided by the President of Tajikistan and now we have favorable conditions for free trade. As a result, regional trade now is being developed as well as economic ties are being further strengthened among our neighboring countries. It is notable that development of communication infrastructure in Tajikistan has also contributed to economic development in neighboring Afghanistan. Thus we can say our country has contributed to strengthening peace and stability in Afghanistan.

**Dear Mr. Chairman,**

**Distinguished participants,**

With regards to strengthening of democracy and economic growth I would like draw your attention to the one more important point.

A development process of international economy as well as international community's demands, increase gradual necessity for natural resources. In this regard, accessibility to the water resources became a vital issue for the international community. The Republic of Tajikistan as one of the rich countries for water resources adhere a clear position about it. We think that aiming to provide a sustainable future to the international community, water should be valued at least at the same level as oil, gas, coal, as well as other fuels and energy sources. That is why, upon the initiative of the President of Tajikistan H.E. Emomali Rahmon, the 55<sup>th</sup> UN GA has announced Years 2005-2015 as an International Decade of Action "Water for Life".

At the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium the Earth has a population of more than 6 billion. Due to unequal distribution of fresh water resources 1 billion people in Asia, 350 million in Africa, and more than 100 million in the Latin America suffer from lack of drinking water. That is why Tajikistan, possessing huge water resources has put a question of fresh water in the world as global problem with international importance,



and reaffirmed that Tajikistan being an inseparable part of the international community cannot stay aside of challenges and threats of the globalization era. We witness ourselves that the climate change has bad consequences for the human beings. In this connection, Tajikistan with aim to decrease carbon dioxide emission intends to launch electricity producing in hydropower stations.

Indeed, Tajikistan is the richest country for hydro and energy resources in the Central Asian region. However, only small part of these resources is used through the several hydro power stations constructed generally upon Vakhsh river. Having regard to this potential, the Republic of Tajikistan has decided to establish its economic growth based on the field of hydroenergy. It is worth to say that development of the field will serve for the benefit of not only Tajikistan. It will provide the Central Asian countries as well as Afghanistan and Pakistan with electricity, and meet the requirements of the downstream Central Asian countries in water resources. For these purposes, Tajikistan runs construction of small, medium and big hydropower stations, and transmission lines in the country. In this respect, the Strategic plan for development of hydropower field of the country aimed at benefits of both Tajikistan and the entire Asian states.

**Mr. Chairman,**  
**Dear participants,**

Modern challenges in the modern world urge us all to take coordinated efforts. In this regard, there is a need for a joint focus on the source of the modern challenges. Poverty, poor living conditions, lack of social justice may cause conflicts in societies. At the same time, we have take into account that poor social conditions provide ground for extremist elements in implementing their criminal goals. Thus, we are all expected to be focused on strengthening democracy, protecting human rights and economic development. I am confident that today Qatari initiative, I mean hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the Doha Forum will have a worthy contribution to strengthening our joint forces aimed at achieving the aforementioned goals.

Once again I would like to thank you all for your attention.