



United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement in Response to the Secretary General's Update on the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan

As delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
January 20, 2011

Thank you Mr. Secretary General. We appreciate your briefing on the progress being made in Kyrgyzstan through the Community Security Initiative. We are pleased to hear your assessment that the project is proceeding well and that Team Leaders and police experts have been effectively deployed to Kyrgyzstan and are, or will soon be, in both Osh and Jalalabad.

We concur with your remarks, Mr. Secretary General, that as fellow participating States begin to make nominations for the next tranche of officers, well qualified female candidates should be given every consideration. The United States is proud that already two of our seconded officers are women.

On the funding issue, we appreciate that budgets are tight and we must — as the OSCE and as participating States — practice fiscal discipline while looking for ways to streamline our operations. That said, we concur that we cannot let this project fail for lack of finances. Each of us needs to do what we can at this crucial moment to aid Kyrgyzstan. As you are aware, the U.S. already provided one million dollars to the PAG/CSI and we now urge our fellow participating States to come forward in the same spirit of generosity that has for so long marked our successful relations in the OSCE.

We are also gratified to hear that the CSI is working towards developing a set of benchmarks that will be needed to evaluate the progress and the outcomes of the project.