

Conclusions from visit of German Foreign minister Guido Westerwelle and French Foreign minister Bernard Kouchner to Osh and Bishkek on July 16th:

While public order has been restored, the situation in Osh and Southern Kyrgystan remains fragile. The remnants of violence and destruction are overwhelming. Distrust between Kyrgyz and Uzbek communities is tangible. In all our conversations with the local population, their personal sense of vulnerability and insecurity was a strong recurring theme. The narratives on the roots of violence were widely contradictory, sometimes mutually exclusive.

This confirmed our sense of urgency that support and assistance is needed and that the OSCE as an inclusive organisation with a mission on the ground is best placed to take over responsibility.

President Otunbajeva and the Provisional Government have already taken courageous decisions to restore law, order and democracy. We support their efforts.

An OSCE Police Advisory Group should assist and mentor the local law enforcement structures in order to create an environment in which confidence can return, thus setting the conditions for long-term reconciliation. We have been assured of the consent and determination to cooperate by the host country.

Rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected areas of Kyrgystan will be key for which the upcoming donor conference will be a good starting point. All relevant stakeholders should increase their efforts in the fields of education and health care.

In addition, the OSCE should join international efforts to determine what triggered the violence and how the incidents evolved. National reconciliation demands that truth be established. We have been assured that an international commission would be granted free access and full cooperation, alongside with the national investigation set up by the Kyrgyz government with which it should closely coordinate.

The OSCE should, with the help of ODIHR, provide full-fledged support to the provisional government's efforts to establish democratic governance, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Regional and international cooperation is crucial for the stabilisation of Kyrgystan. The efforts of the Chairmanship in office, the UN special envoy and the EU special envoy for Central Asia should continue constant and steadfast assistance to Kyrgystan.

In order to remain seized of the developments in Southern Kyrgystan, the OSCE field presence in the country, especially in the South, must be re-enforced. Permanent Representatives should be requested to monitor the situation closely and report.

We suggest that Ministers give political guidance to the Chairmanship in office to draw conclusions for OSCE action on these lines.