

**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the UN
Ambassador Sirodjidin Aslov at the Preparatory Committee for the
United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

(8 March 2011)

Madam Chair,

I have the honor to thank the organizers of this high-level side event for invitation and giving me opportunity to share my thoughts on how the green economy depends on water.

First of all, I think, the theme of the RIO-20 Conference and issues to be considered there are very timely for evaluation of today's challenges on pursuing green economy, sustainable development and eradication of poverty, as well as for development of concrete steps for achieving those goals.

The issues of water supply and water management in today's world is closely related with ensuring green economy as well as sustainable development and poverty eradication. The Republic of Tajikistan as a sponsor of the UN Water Resolution is committed to cooperate with all interested parties in this regard.

I fully agree with the distinguished speakers that rational use of water resources is very important for sustainable development and poverty eradication along with environmental protection, providing healthcare and welfare for people, and reaching Millennium Development Goals.

As a contribution towards our common objectives, our Mission in cooperation with UN bodies and other missions to the UN will organize two water events in forthcoming months:

The first one is a Side Event on water challenges and problems for cities, which will be held on 22 March – on the World Water Day.

The second one is a Side Event on “Water Issues in the Least Developed Countries” which will be held within the framework of the LDC Summit on May 9-13 in Istanbul.

I hope, through these events we once again could draw the attention of member states, international organizations, other partners to the importance and urgency of water problems with the aim of achievement of sustainable development goals.

We believe that relevant water resources management is one of the main important successful realization of which will positively influence every aspects of society and economy in developing and least developed countries, in particular health, food security, domestic water supply and sanitation, energy, industry, and improvement of ecosystems. Without improved water resources management, the progress towards poverty reduction and achievement of Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable development is hardly possible.

Thank you.