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Interfaith International

Non-Governmental Organization with special consultative status with ECOSOC

Human Rights Council, 14th session

UPR debate regarding Kazakhstan

Joint Intervention together with Al-Hakim Foundation and RADDHO

(Rencontre Africaine de Défense pour les droits de l'homme)

Speaker : Charles Graves

Mr. Chairman,

Kazakhstan is a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural cosmopolitan society characterised by a cohabitation between various religions and beliefs. Before its election to the post of President of OSCE in January 2010 the Kazakh authorities had been engaged in promoting human rights and economic and social development as high priority. Kazakhstan today is the first Muslim, post-Soviet Asian state to preside over OCSE (Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe).

We have cooperated with the Kazakhstan delegation here since the creation of the Human Rights Council in order to promote intercultural dialogue as elements for promoting peace and tolerance. This policy of Kazakhstan demonstrates that its authorities are believe in a democracy founded upon diversity of opinion, respect for differences of outlook, tolerance and coexistence.

We congratulate Kazakhstan for taking into account the recommendations arising out of the Universal Periodic Review process as well as progress accomplished vis à vis the Millenium Development Goals. We note also the cooperation with mandate holders related to special procedures, its cooperation with the Treaty bodies as well as Kazakhstan's efforts to implement the right of education and health by modernised infrastructures and also its progress in integrating the Central Asian economy.

We conclude, Mr. Chairman, by encouraging Kazakhstan to establish a National Commission for Human Rights in accord with the Principles of Paris. Moreover, that Kazakhstan create a better climate for the independance of judges and the media.

Thank you.

London office

19 A Chelmsford Square, London NW10 3AP, UK
wabil@interfaithonline.org
Phone. +44 20 8459 8475
Fax. +44 20 8451 7059

www.interfaithonline.org

Geneva office

c.p 32, 1246 Corsier, Switzerland
charlesgraves@vtx.ch
Phone. + 41 22 751 23 45
Fax. +41 22 751 23 48