

## **PRESS-RELEASE**

## "European Union and the Government of Tajikistan: Partnership in Public Finance Management Reform"

**Dushanbe, October 17 2012** – Today the Delegation of the European Union to Tajikistan organized a Conference on "European Union and the Government of Tajikistan: Partnership in Public Finance Management Reform" at the Hyatt Regency Hotel as part of the Public Finance Management program. The conference invited us to reflect on the results achieved by EU projects and their contribution to PFM reforms in Tajikistan, but also allowed us to discuss the effectiveness of some completed and ongoing projects in order to formulate the recommendations for the future.

The Conference demonstrated that cooperation between the EU and the Government of Tajikistan has led to important improvements in the area of the public finance management in the country.

The Conference brought together members of the EU projects from government agencies and other groups to discuss various aspects of the implementation of PFM reforms. Among the 100 participants were representatives of EU projects in the area of public financial management (PFM), heads of the main departments of the Ministry of Finance of RT, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Department of Civil Service of Tajikistan, National Bank of Tajikistan, Agency of Statistics under the President of RT, members of the Parliament, University professors, representatives of research centers and the National Academy of Science, journalists specializing in economic issues, international project experts, as well as visitors from foreign missions and international organizations.

The Conference included reports from the State Adviser on Economic policy to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan H.E. Negmatdzhon H. Buriev, welcoming address by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Tajikistan, Mr. Istvan Nyitrai, and addresses by the Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr. Shavkat K. Sohibov and Emeritus Professor Paul Hare, Heriot-Watt University, United Kingdom, as well as presentations by project participants.

Among the topics of the presentations: "PFM reforms in Tajikistan – goals and major achievements", "Role of the Public Finance Management system as a tool in National Development and Poverty Reduction in Tajikistan", "Public Finance Management Reform: challenges for the transition economy of Tajikistan and directions for the EU PFM Programme", "Medium Term Expenditure Framework at work in the budget process of the Republic of Tajikistan", "Implementation of the new Information Technology system in the management of public finance in Republic of Tajikistan", as well as coverage of the main results of the EU programme projects.

There were also discussions on the importance of developing professional financial education and research in the field of public financial management in Tajikistan.

## Conference was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

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The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their knowhow, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance.