

KGZBI/KGZ/

22 March 2016

Dear Ms. Jakupova,

The Representation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Kyrgyz Republic was informed that a group of deputies of Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic has prepared a draft Law on Amendments to Certain Legal Acts of the Kyrgyz Republic in the area of international terrorism and extremism. The draft law suggests to amend the Law “On Citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic,” by introducing provisions that may deprive citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic in case of Kyrgyz citizen’s participation in an armed conflict or military operation on the territory of a foreign State, or his training abroad aimed at acquiring skills and abilities related to terrorist or extremist activities.

In this connection, UNHCR would like to propose to your attention our observations relating to the draft Law. Our observations are based on international standards on prevention of statelessness and have been coordinated with UNHCR Headquarters and Regional Office in Almaty.

UNHCR acknowledges and supports Kyrgyz government’s legitimate efforts to further strengthen the national security of the State. UNHCR is of the opinion that enhancement of security measures can be achieved in a manner, in line with international standards and best practices, by safeguarding national interests and providing better safety to the population in general while at the same time protecting the rights of every citizen of the State.

UNHCR stands ready to support you with further discussions over the suggested recommendations and looks forward to continued cooperation.

Annex: 6 pages.

Sincerely yours,

Maki Shinohara
Representative

MP Cholpon Jakupova
Deputy of Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic