



COUNCIL OF EUROPE      CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC  
ON THE NATIONWIDE DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS TO  
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC  
WORKED OUT ON THE BASIS OF SUGGESTIONS  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The active involvement of the Constitutional Assembly members in the discussion of problems of the current development of Kyrgyzstan, in determining ways and methods to modernize the state-building process and to improve interaction of state institutes with civil society structures has allowed to work out a number of major recommendations regarding a further constitutional reform; all of them being reflected in the Final Document of the Constitutional Assembly.

Views and opinions of those representatives of deputy factions and groups, of political parties, non-governmental organizations, and state structures who participated in the work of the Constitutional Assembly in many aspects reflect an aggregate spectrum of the public opinion regarding the current status of democratic processes and regarding necessary changes in the state structure and in public relationships.

Whereas suggestions and recommendations worked out by the Constitutional Assembly (established by the Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Measures for Development of the Constitutional Reform in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated 26 August 2002) pertain to the most important aspects of the state and public life in our country, and whereas it is necessary to fully take into account opinions of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic regarding the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, and following Articles 23 and 42 of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic,

**Hereby I decree as follows:**

1. To approve suggestions and recommendations worked out by the Constitutional Assembly as a draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic *On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic* submitted to the nationwide discussion (attached).

To carry out the nationwide discussion of the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic *On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic* from October 18 until November 18, 2002.

2. As a mandatory condition for the proposed change of the Parliament structure and for the introduction in the Kyrgyz Republic of a unicameral Zhogorku Kenesh, to observe the following most important principles presented in the Final Document of the Constitutional Assembly:

- elections to a unicameral Zhogorku Kenesh shall be held only upon the expiry of the term of the deputies of the currently acting Legislative Assembly and Assembly of People's Representatives of the Zhogorku Kenesh;
- prior to forming a new Parliament, its functions will be performed by the currently acting Legislative Assembly and Assembly of People's Representatives of the Zhogorku Kenesh; additional functions to be distributed among the chambers by appurtenance of issues and pursuant to functional powers of each of the chambers.

3. For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- to arrange for the national and local newspapers to promulgate the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic *On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic* and of the

text of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic with the proposed changes submitted to the nationwide discussion;

- to arrange for central and local bodies of the state power to undertake the orderly and overall elucidation of provisions of the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic to citizens at public meetings in communities and at workplaces;
- jointly with the Congress of Local Communities to provide for the necessary organizational facilitation and methodical help to local state bodies and bodies of local self-government in order for them to organize the discussion of the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic" in local communities, to summarize opinions expressed by citizens, and to present information on results of such discussions to the Secretariat of the Constitutional Assembly;
- to undertake measures aimed at facilitating a comprehensive and objective coverage of the process of the nationwide discussion of the constitutional amendments by state mass media.

4. For heads of state administrations of oblasts and rayons, mayors of cities, and heads of local self-administration bodies of villages, settlements, and towns:

- to render a strenuous help to citizens in their communities so that they could understand purposes and goals of the forthcoming constitutional reform and the meaning of the provisions of the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- to arrange for the timely redirecting of letter from citizens to the Secretariat of the Constitutional Assembly and for the sending of summarized information regarding suggestions and comments on the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic verbalized by citizens.

5. For the Secretariat of the Constitutional Assembly (D.I. Narymbayev), to provide for the legal analysis and summary of suggestions, comments, recommendations, and opinions brought out by citizens and their groups, non-governmental organizations, political parties, and state bodies in respect of the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic On Amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic.

***President of the Kyrgyz Republic  
Askar Akayev  
the Government House, Bishkek  
17 October 2002***