

## ISRS: “Samarkand Spirit” – driver of regional cooperation



On October 27, ISRS hosted a meeting with Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Central Asia and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) Natalia Gherman.

The parties discussed issues of regional cooperation, interaction of Uzbekistan and Central Asian countries with UN structures. Special attention was paid to organizing interaction with UNRCCA on practical implementation of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev’s initiatives forwarded at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly.

ISRS Director **Eldor Aripov** informed the guest about the measures taken to implement the proposals made by the President of Uzbekistan at the UN General Assembly. Particular attention was paid to the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to hold an international conference in 2021 dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the joint implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia.

ISRS, together with a number of ministries, agencies and research centers, is carrying out preparation for this important high-level event in Uzbekistan.

It is planned to gather representatives of the Central Asian countries, international structures – the UN, OSCE, SCO, CIS, etc. The conference will make it possible to assist in the search for collective responses to threats and challenges posed by international terrorism. It is planned to generate new ideas and approaches to increase the effectiveness of regional cooperation in ensuring security and stability in Central Asia, eradicate the conditions and causes that give rise to terrorism.

UNRCCA Head **Natalia Gherman** emphasized that the initiatives of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, voiced at the UN General Assembly, once again confirmed Uzbekistan’s firm commitment to strengthening good-neighborliness and ensuring sustainable development in the Central Asian region.

According to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, they fully reflect the “Samarkand

Spirit” formed following the historic meeting of the leaders of the Central Asian countries in Samarkand in 2017, give an even greater impetus to intensify interaction in the region, contribute to formation of new formats of cooperation in Central Asia.

Natalia Gherman expressed UNRCCA’s readiness to assist in holding the international conference in Uzbekistan and act as its co-organizer on behalf of the UN.

Following the meeting, the parties agreed on joint actions for consistently implementing the proposals of the President of Uzbekistan, aimed at strengthening regional cooperation, stability and security in Central Asia.



**Source**