



CIO.GAL/169/06

11 October 2006

ENGLISH only

ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (4 to 11 October 2006)

OSCE Chairman urged Georgia and Russia to resume dialogue, restore normal relations

BRUSSELS, 4 October 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, strongly urged Georgia and Russia to tone down rhetoric, abstain from further provocations and resume dialogue.

Minister De Gucht called on the Georgian and Russian leaders to take up the momentum created by the resolution of the crisis around the Russian officers and start a dialogue in the spirit of the Helsinki process, which was precisely designed to overcome divisions.

OSCE Chairman-in-Office welcomed first meeting of Steering Committee on economic rehabilitation in Georgian-Ossetian conflict zone

BRUSSELS, 6 October 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, said he was pleased that the first meeting of the Steering Committee on the international programme of economic rehabilitation within the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict had taken place in Tskhinvali.

The Chairman also expressed hope that the implementation of the projects will help build confidence between the parties and bring a settlement of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict closer, for the benefit of the people and stability in the region.

OSCE Chairman-in-Office shocked by murder of Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya

BRUSSELS, 7 October 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, expressed profound shock about the news of the murder of prominent Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya. Minister de Gucht called upon the Russian authorities to track down those responsible as quickly as possible.

OSCE Chairman-in-Office warned North Korean nuclear arms test threatens security in OSCE area.

BRUSSELS, 9 October 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, said he was deeply concerned about global security following the nuclear weapons test declared by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.