



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### Response to the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General in Georgia

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Bruce Connuck  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
February 12, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to join in welcoming Ambassador Tagliavini back to the Permanent Council. We appreciate her taking the time to come to Vienna and keeping us apprised of her work on Abkhazia, Georgia. Ambassador Tagliavini's presence here is a testament to the excellent cooperation between the United Nations and the OSCE on this complex and difficult issue.

Ambassador Tagliavini is to be commended for her commitment and dedication toward resolving the problem of Abkhazia. The United States remains committed to a cooperative and fully transparent international approach, in partnership with Georgia, to achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Abkhazia that fully respects Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Once again, we express our deep concern over the treatment of ethnic Georgian residents of the Gali district. We reiterate our desire to see the OSCE open a human rights office there as soon as possible.

We wish Ambassador Tagliavini well in her continuing endeavors.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.