



EMBASSY OF GEORGIA TO THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
PERMANENT MISSION OF GEORGIA TO THE OSCE AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

Statement of the Delegation of Georgia

In response to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon's address to the Permanent Council

8 April, 2010

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to welcome the Secretary-General of the United Nations H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon to the Permanent Council and thank him for his thought provoking statement. Let me also thank the Kazakh chairmanship for organizing this meeting.

Mr. Secretary General,

Your presence here today is an important event which underlines the need for further coordinated focus on the fundamental issues of peace, security and development.

Protracted conflicts still remain to be the most acute problem in the OSCE area. On behalf of my country let me welcome the UN involvement in the process of the peaceful settlement of the conflict in Georgia. We regret that there is no UN mission on the ground anymore, which is an effective instrument for providing security and maintaining stability.

Despite the absence of the UN mission on the territory of Georgia, the engagement of the UN and its humanitarian agencies in Georgia should be further enhanced and not diminished. An important area of its involvement could be the participation of the UN, together with the OSCE in the process of the implementation of the Georgian "State strategy on the occupied territories of Georgia: engagement through cooperation". We hope that such cooperation will evolve in the upcoming months, when the Action Plan to the Engagement Strategy is elaborated.

Close co-operation between the UN and other international

organizations, is of utmost importance. We welcome the involvement of both the UN and the OSCE in the process of peaceful settlement of the conflict between Russia and Georgia. The interplay between the EU, UN and OSCE and their joint input in Geneva Discussions is highly appreciated. Yet, while major tangible outcomes in the Geneva Talks remain to be achieved, even more active engagement of international organizations and their close co-operation is needed. Particular attention goes to the cooperation in the field of protection of human rights. In this context we would like to underline the importance of the upcoming report on the protection of human rights of the IDPs and Refugees to be released by the UN Secretary General pursuant to the UN GA Resolution on “the Status of Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia” of 9 September, 2009 and its valuable contribution to the Working Group II of the Geneva Talks.

Mr. Secretary General,

I would like to use this opportunity and welcome the appointment of Ambassador Anti Turunen as the UN special representative to Geneva Talks and wish him every success in his activities in the frames of the Geneva Talks and the IPRMs. We believe it is of paramount importance that the UN and OSCE jointly participate in IPRMs both with regard to Abkhazia, Georgia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia.

Thank you