

PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ
OF THE CO-CHAIRS OF GENEVA DISCUSSIONS

11.10.2012

The participants of the Geneva International Discussions have held their twenty-first round.

In Working Group I, the participants reviewed the security situation on the ground and welcomed the relative stability maintained since the last round of Geneva Discussions despite some concerns around military exercises held in the region in September. All participants reiterated the need to resume the Gali Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) meetings. They welcomed the increased use of the IPRM hotline and respect of other agreed measures.

The participants also discussed the issue of Non-Use of Force and International Security Arrangements, including concrete proposals by participants as well as Co-Chairs' draft joint statement; deliberations will be continued in the next round. As part of discussions on Confidence Building Measures and Best Practices, the issue of freedom of movement was once again revisited. The Co-Chairs welcomed the constructive attitude of all participants, including their commitment to the continuity of common efforts, building on achievements and understanding reached during previous rounds.

In Working Group II, the participants reviewed the humanitarian situation, focusing on the needs and challenges of displaced persons and vulnerable populations. The participants discussed several issues related to the fate of the victims of the conflicts and the provision of assistance to those in need. The participants were informed of the progress of water-related projects implemented by the OSCE and financed by the EU.

In addition, the participants took part in an information session on issues related to the search for missing persons and found the session very useful.

The participants agreed to hold their next session on 12th December 2012.