



**Georgian delegation's response to the NGO "Georgian Institute
for State Modernization"
2015 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting
Working Session 9, Democratic Institutions
Warsaw, September 25, 2015**

Thank you Madame Moderator.

- I would like to use the right of reply and respond to the statement made by the representative from the NGO "Georgian Institute for State Modernization".
- The Government of Georgia continues to fulfill its promises offering the public a plan on the parliamentary electoral system reform, which will provide the conduct of the next, as well as its subsequent parliamentary elections in full compliance with democratic electoral principles.
- The country's Next Parliamentary Elections would be held in the autumn of 2016 under the current election mixed system but some important changes will be introduced, which would create a more competitive and equal election environment in the country.
 - The Government plans to reform the existing majoritarian system, which over-represents voters from small election districts by giving districts with greatly differing populations one Member of Parliament (MP) each. The imbalance between district voters would be corrected before the 2016 elections, by merging some election districts that have smaller numbers of voters or splitting those with larger voter numbers.
 - The Government also plans also to impose 50 percent barrier instead of 30 percent for the Majoritarian election. It will increase the legitimacy of elected MPs.
- All of these constitutional and legislative decisions for reforming the election system are planned to be made by the end of the year.
- In the long term, by proposing the constitutional changes, the Government is ready to discard the majoritarian system and move to the proportional electoral system for parliamentary elections following the 2016 elections.

Thank you.