



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

S t a t e m e n t

of the Delegation of Georgia

at the 898th session of the OSCE Permanent Council

Vienna, January 19, 2012

Mr. Chairperson,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We take note of the information on shooting incident of 1 January 2012 that resulted in the death of Moldovan citizen with great concern. We hope for a thorough and objective investigation of this case and believe that all relevant parties, including the Joint Military Command of the peacekeeping forces must fully cooperate with the investigation.

We share concern of the Moldovan authorities that existing militarized peacekeeping arrangement in transdnistrian region of Moldova is outdated and inefficient. Georgia has a bitter experience of dealing with Russian Peacekeeping forces for almost two decades. The incident of January 1st 2012 is similar to thousands of crimes committed by the Russian so-called peacekeepers on the Georgian soil which took dozens of innocent lives. The recent history of our region clearly showed that monopolization of the peacekeeping operation by the Russian Federation is dangerous and does not produce any peace or stability.

Therefore, we fully support the call of The Moldovan Government for transformation of the current operation into a multinational civilian mission under a relevant international mandate.

Thank You.