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Agenda item 33

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 8 December 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, dated 6 December 2014, in reaction to the Russian army field exercises in Georgia's occupied Tskhinvali region (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33.

> (Signed) Kaha Imnadze Ambassador Permanent Representative





Annex to the identical letters dated 8 December 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia in reaction to Russian army field exercises in Georgia's occupied Tskhinvali region

On 5 December 2014, the Russian army began to hold simultaneous field exercises on six firing ranges in the Russian Federation's southern military district and in Georgia's Russian-occupied region of Tskhinvali.

The officers and servicemen of Russia's 58th army are carrying out large-scale exercises, using various artillery and advanced radio location systems. These exercises notably involve advanced offensive military equipment such as self-propelled howitzers (MSTA-S), multiple launch rocket systems (Tornado-G) and radar vehicles (Zoopark-1) equipped with Global Navigation Satellite Systems. Over 1,000 men and 200 units of military equipment are taking part in these field exercises.

These actions of the Russian Federation are a further infringement on Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They constitute a gross violation of the Constitution of Georgia, of the norms and principles of international law and of Russia's international commitments, including those Russia undertook under the Ceasefire Agreement of 12 August 2008, and pose a threat to peace and stability in the region.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia is extremely concerned by this matter and demands that the Russian Government comply with the commitments it has undertaken, withdraw its armed forces from the territory of Georgia and de-occupy Georgia's regions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the international community to duly react to this further destructive step that Russia has taken and to prevent another action aimed at undermining Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Tbilisi, 6 December 2014

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