



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
30 August 2019

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 35

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

Security Council
Seventy-fourth year

Identical letters dated 30 August 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission 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 a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the so-called presidential elections in the occupied Abkhazia region, dated 25 August 2019 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elene Agladze
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the identical letters dated 30 August 2019 from the
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the
President of the Security Council**

**Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the
so-called presidential elections in the occupied Abkhazia region**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia refers to the conduct of the so-called presidential elections in occupied Abkhazia region, as another illegal act directed against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.

While hundreds of thousands of internally displaced persons and refugees are expelled from Abkhazia region as a result of ethnic cleansing, and the occupying power fully controls the situation on the ground, it is obvious that in such circumstances the so-called elections cannot have any legal effect, as they fully contradict the fundamental norms and principles of international law.

It is evident that the so-called presidential elections represent yet another futile attempt to legitimize the ethnic cleansing, the ongoing illegal occupation and steps towards factual annexation of Abkhazia region. The international community will never accept the attempt of forceful change of sovereign borders of Georgia, as well as other illegal steps of Russia in terms of erection of barbed wire fences along the occupation line, military build-up and grave violations of fundamental human rights on the ground.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls on the Russian Federation to respect the undertaken international obligations, fulfil the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement, and reverse its illegal decision on recognition of so-called independence of the occupied regions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia also appeals to the international community to give a due assessment and take effective measures to counter the illegal processes taking place in the occupied territories.

August 25, 2019
