

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND GEORGIA

The Russian Federation and Georgia,

Being guided by articles of 14.2.3 and 14.2.7 of the Decision of the Joint Consultative Group on adaptation of Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) of March 30 1999,

Reaffirming their intention to fully implement provisions stipulated in the adapted Treaty on CFE,

Seeking to promote the process of development and strengthening of cooperative relations between the Russian Federation and Georgia,

Reached an agreement on the following:

1. The Russian Federation commits itself to reduce, no later than December 31, 2000, the level of its conventional forces, deployed on the territory of Georgia, so that total number of armaments shall not exceed 153 tanks, 241 combat infantry vehicles (CIV), and 140 artillery systems.

2. No later than December 31, 2000 the Russian Federation shall withdraw its military equipment and weaponry from the Russian military bases deployed in Vaziani, Gudauta and repair utilities located in Tbilisi.

The Russian military bases located in Gudauta and Vaziani shall be disbanded and withdrawn from the territory of Georgia no later than July 1, 2001.

Within the same time-framework, an issue related to utilization, including joint utilization of the remained military objects and infrastructure of disbanded military bases shall be resolved.

3. The Georgian Side undertakes to grant the Russian Side a right of temporary deployment of its military equipment in the military bases in Batumi and Akhalkalaki.

4. The Georgian Side shall promote the process of creation of necessary conditions for reduction and withdrawal of Russian armed forces. In this regard, the Parties express the readiness of OSCE member-States to render financial support to that process.

5. Within 2000, the Parties shall complete the negotiation process on time-terms of withdrawal and pattern of functioning of military bases located in Batumi and Akhalkalaki and other military utilities on the territory of Georgia.

Istanbul, 17 November 1999

(Abkhaz Issue in Official Documents, Legislative and Executive organs of Georgia, International Organizations, 1989-1999, part II, 1995-1999; authors: Vakhtang Kholbaia, Teimuraz Chakhrakia, Rafiel Gelantia, David Latsuzbaia, Tb., 2000, p. 332 /in Georgian)

Source: http://www.rrc.ge/law/stat_1999_11_17_e.htm