

## **Decree of the President of the Russian Federation**

... With the aim of maximizing the effort of federal organs of power and the organs of state power of the Chechen Republic, and to make best use of the forces and resources gathered to help overcome the challenges of the final stage of the resolution of the Chechen crisis, and in accordance with Article 80 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, I resolve:

1. To establish that, in accordance with the Program for resolving the crisis in the Chechen Republic, which has been approved by the Security Council of the Russian Federation and upheld by the President of the Russian Federation, the main directions for realizing this are:
  - (a) The cessation of military operation in the territory of the Chechen Republic after 24:00 on 31 March 1996;
  - (b) The gradual removal of federal forces currently in the Chechen Republic back into their administrative area, in accordance with the plan for the relocation of the troops;
  - (c) A broadening of the zone of accord, security, and peace, the conducting of disarmament negotiations, the signing of protocols for peace and accord by representative of the Chechen Republic Government, by leaders of the temporary joint forces of the Russian Federation, and the administration of the region and settled areas of the Chechen Republic;
  - (d) The convocation of a peaceful political forum composed of representatives from the Chechen Republic, with the participation of federal and local organs of state power.
  - (e) The preparation and conducting of free democratic election for the legislative (representative) organ of state power in the Chechen Republic;
  - (f) Negotiations on the particularities of the status of the Chechen Republic among plenipotentiary representatives of federal organs of state power and the Chechen Republic;
  - (g) The drafting and signing of a Treaty on the demarcation of the boundaries of jurisdiction and authority between the organs of state power of the Russian Federation and those of the Chechen Republic.
2. To recommend to the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation to make an urgent decree of amnesty for the participants of armed conflicts in the Chechen Republic not guilty of grave crime.
3. To form a State Commission of the Russian Federation on the resolution of the crisis in the Chechen Republic (henceforth called the Commission), with the aim of coordinating effort by the Federal government to normalize the situation in the Chechen Republic, and of supervising the carrying out of the Program for resolving the crisis in the Chechen Republic.

To name Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation V. S. Chernomyrdin as chair of the Commission.

To propose that representatives from the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation join the Commission.

To report to the chair of the Commission within three days on the membership of the Commission.

4. To the government of the Russian Federation:

... to frame and present within ten days a draft of the Decree by the President of the Russian Federation on the allocation of financial resources destined for the Chechen Republic, and on means of supervision to prevent the abuse of those resources.

5. To present to the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, the Federal Border Control of the Russian Federation, and the Federal security officers of the Russian Federation a plan of action, within five days, for the prevention of terrorist activity at the concluding stages of the resolution of the crisis in the Chechen Republic...

President of the Russian Federation      B. YELTSIN

Moscow, the Kremlin

31 March 1996

**Source:** Nezavisimaya Gazeta: Online Edition, no. 61, 04/02/96