I have the honour to transmit the text of an appeal of the Parliament of Georgia to the international community (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 16, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Irakli Alasania
Permanent Representative
Annex to the identical letters dated 15 August 2008 from the
Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council

The whole world, with deep concern, is closely watching how Russia is
carrying out a full-scale occupation of Georgia. Encroachment of the sovereignty of
an independent State and its military occupation represents a direct challenge to the
security of Europe and the whole democratic community.

Land-based operations and bombardments are being carried out on the whole
territory of Georgia. Russian armed forces barbarically bombed not only military
and industrial facilities, but also peaceful population in different Georgian cities and
villages, including the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi, as well as the cities Kutaisi, Gori,
Kaspi, Kareli, Marneuli, Bolnisi, Zugdidi, Poti, Oni, Khelvachauri, Khashuri,
Senaki and Dedoplistskaro. In addition, hospitals were bombed resulting in killing
of wounded people and medical personnel there.

The Russian aviation and artillery have also ruined Tskinvali and nearby
villages, as a result of which many Georgian and Ossetian peaceful people have
been killed.

In the course of several days the Russian artillery and aviation have been
bombing upper Abkhazia, and in the aftermath the Russian airborne forces launched
an air, sea and land-based attack. Russian armed forces along with illegal formations
of separatists occupied upper Abkhazia in violation of the United Nations Security
Council’s resolutions and other international agreements.

Currently, a substantial part of the territory of Georgia is occupied by Russian
military units. The occupants seized the central highway connecting eastern and
western Georgia, disrupted economic links between different regions, blockaded the
port of Poti and the capital of Georgia, which may result in a humanitarian
catastrophe.

Open terror and marauding are being carried out in the occupied territories and
the peaceful Georgian population is being subjected to ethnic cleansing. The upper
Abkhazia and Tskinvali regions have been emptied of population. Part of the
population is under arrest and is subjected to cruel and inhumane treatment.

The international community must stand up to the aggression, brutality and
full-scale ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the Russian Federation.

This aggression against Georgia constitutes a threat not only for Georgia but
for the whole world.

The Russian Federation’s aggression against a neighbouring State has
demonstrated once again that Russia is not and cannot be a mediator or peacekeeper
in the conflict regions of Georgia, because the so-called peacekeeping forces of
Russia have turned into occupation forces. They must be replaced immediately by
international peace contingents.

The Georgian authorities and Georgian people will not reconcile themselves
with the presence, in any possible form, of occupation forces of an aggressor State
on the territory of Georgia.
The Parliament of Georgia declares those territories occupied by Russian armed forces as occupied territories and calls upon the international community to do its utmost to make sure that military units of the aggressor State immediately leave the territory of Georgia, including the Tskinvali region and Abkhazia.

The Parliament of Georgia calls upon interparliamentary organizations and the parliamentary assemblies of international organizations to terminate the mandate of the parliamentary delegations of Russia, as representatives of an aggressor State.