

Paris, 16 August 2008

COMMUNIQUÉ

The Presidency of the Republic, for the sake of transparency, wishes to make public the letter that establishes in detail the arrangements for the implementation of point 5 of the six-point ceasefire agreement, such as these points emerged from the meeting on 12 August between the President of the Republic, Nicolas Sarkozy, and President Dimitry Medvedev. This letter was sent to President Mikhail Saakashvili on 14 August.

== beginning of quote ==

Mr. President,

With respect to point 5 of the six-point agreement to which you gave your agreement on 12 August—after that of President Medvedev—at our meeting in Tbilissi, which stipulates that “Russian military forces will have to withdraw to the lines held prior to the outbreak of hostilities” and that “pending an international mechanism, Russian peace-keeping forces will implement additional security measures,” I wish to inform you of the following details:

- As I stated at our joint press conference in Tbilissi, these “additional security measures” may only be implemented in the immediate vicinity of South Ossetia, to the exclusion of any other portion of the Georgian territory;
 - Specifically, these “measures” may only be implemented within a zone a few kilometres deep, starting from the administrative boundary between South Ossetia and the rest of Georgia, such that no major urban centre is included in this zone—I am thinking particularly of the city of Gori—; special arrangements will have to be defined to guarantee freedom of movement and circulation along Georgian roads and railways;
 - These “additional security measures” shall consist of patrols carried out exclusively by Russian peacekeeping forces at the levels authorized by the existing arrangements, the other Russian forces withdrawing to their positions prior to 7 August in compliance with the agreement;
 - These “measures” shall be provisional, pending the establishment as soon as possible of the “international mechanism” whose nature and mandate are already under discussion in various international bodies, in particular the OSCE, the European Union and the United Nations.

Based on this information, I kindly request that you confirm the agreement that you gave me and that you announced publicly in Tbilissi by signing at the bottom of the six-point protocol agreement that I myself signed as a witness and guarantor on behalf of the European Union. Yesterday, President Medvedev assured me that your signature would lead to the withdrawal of Russian forces in compliance with the concluded agreement.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurance of my very high consideration.

Signed: Nicolas Sarkozy

== end of quote ==

The Presidency of the Republic wishes to add the following 3 points:

- In the letter accompanying the document relating to the ceasefire, the territory referred to is to be understood as the immediate vicinity to the conflict zone, such as it is specified in prior arrangements, to the exclusion of all other parts of the Georgian territory. The measures defined in this document can only be implemented within a zone a few kilometres deep, around Tskhinvali in the conflict zone.
- In no way can the measures mentioned in the letter limit or jeopardize freedom of movement and circulation along Georgian roads and railways.
- Other aspects of the conflict resolution process shall be discussed subsequently.