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Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Note verbale dated 18 September 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council

The Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council, and has the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the illegal activities of the Russian occupation troops along the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region.

The Permanent Mission kindly requests the secretariat to duly circulate the present note verbale and the above-mentioned statement* annexed thereto as documents of the twenty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council, under the agenda item 4.

* Reproduced in the annex as received, in the language of submission only.

Annex

[English only]

Statement of the Georgian Foreign Ministry on the Russian occupation troops' illegal activities along the Tskhinvali region's occupation line

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its deep concern over the continuous illegal activities of Russian occupation forces across the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region. Despite numerous calls of the international community, the Russian Federation continues blatant violations of the fundamental principles of international law and commitments undertaken under the 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement. Since the 17th of September 2013, the occupation troops have resumed the installation of barbed wire fences and embankments across the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region, in particular, the village of Ditsi, Gori district.

The Georgian Government strictly condemns Russia's illegal actions, which have a negative impact on the humanitarian situation of the local population and significantly restrict their internationally recognized rights, including the right to free movement, education in native language and other economic, cultural and social rights. Unfortunately, the local population has been deprived of the possibility to carry out agricultural works as well as of the access to the cemeteries and emergency medical services.

Critical situation in Georgia's occupied regions and adjacent areas once again underlines the necessity of the establishment of international security and human rights monitoring mechanisms.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the international community to adequately assess the current situation in Georgia's occupied territories and undertake take effective measures to avert Russia's illegal activities.
