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**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE SITUATION
IN ABKHAZIA, GEORGIA**Addendum

1. As foreseen in paragraphs 4 and 44 of my report of 18 July 1997 (S/1997/558), a high-level meeting took place at Geneva from 23 to 25 July 1997 under the chairmanship of my Special Representative for Georgia. The meeting was held with the participation of the two parties to the conflict and was attended by the Russian Federation as facilitator, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the representatives of the States belonging to the group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Georgia.
2. At the opening meeting, my Special Representative read out my message in which I stated that the goals of the talks were to map out areas where concrete political progress could be made, in particular on practical issues, and to re-establish a process of continuing work towards achieving the final goal of a comprehensive political settlement.
3. The meeting worked towards the goals I had identified and, following informal consultations and several formal sessions, the Chairman made a statement on the final day, in which he reported that the parties had welcomed the proposals of the Secretary-General to strengthen the involvement of the United Nations in the peacemaking process aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement. The parties had reaffirmed their commitment to the non-use of force or threat of the use of force against each other as expressed in their communiqué of 13 January 1994. The Chairman stated that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Georgia, the representatives of OSCE and States members of the group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Georgia had called upon the Russian Federation and the parties to strive for agreement on continuing the peacekeeping operation of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in order to secure favourable and peaceful conditions for the continuation of negotiations to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the conflict. The Chairman stated that he would reconvene the meeting in September at a date to be announced.
4. In the formal sessions, statements were made by the Georgian and Abkhaz sides, as well as by the representatives of the Russian Federation, France (on

behalf of the Friends of the Secretary-General on Georgia), OSCE, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat. The Abkhaz delegation submitted its statement to my Special Representative with attachments, which are available for information in the Secretariat. Before the formal opening of the meeting on 23 July, a written statement was submitted by the Friends of the Secretary-General on Georgia.

5. I shall keep the members of the Security Council informed of further developments, including the meeting scheduled for September, as appropriate.
