

External Discussion Forum

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The External Discussion Forum

Expressing deep appreciations to the South Caucasian States for beginning a new and exciting chapter in their long history,

Welcoming the decision of Armenia and Azerbaijan to solve the conflict about Nagorno-Karabakh through the declaration of independence of the sovereign state of Nagorno-Karabakh,

Noting with satisfaction the right for Azeri refugees to return to Nagorno-Karabakh,

Acknowledging the work of external actors engaged as mediators in the conflict-resolution processes in the South Caucasus,

Admitting that the conflicts in Abkhazia and South-Ossetia remain unsolved for the time being,

Bearing in mind that international organizations do not act to solve but to help solving conflicts,

Noting that only sustained economic development can safeguard the effectiveness of the achieved solution and guarantee long-term stability in the region,

- 1. *Proposes* the creation of a South Caucasus Cooperation Council (SCCC):
- in which representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia regularly meet to discuss matters of co-operation in the security and stability sector
- to which a representative of Nagorno-Karabakh will be admitted after its independence has been internationally recognized
- with the option of inviting observers if agreed upon by all regular members
- which further discusses the possible creation of a Caucasian Regional Security Pact (CRSP);
- 2. Recommends that the SCCC assumes the following tasks such as border control, the prevention of human and drug trafficking and joint anti-terrorist operations within the region, ensuring the security of oil pipelines and other infrastructure vital to the economies of the region;
- 3. *Notes* that NATO engagement in the region is not considered to be necessary because there are already international organisations involved in the conflict management within the South Caucasus;

- 4. *Strongly recommends* that the United Nations and other international organizations monitor the peaceful repatriation of refugees and IDPs to Nagorno-Karabakh;
- 5. *Advises* the international community to supervise the adherence to human rights as specified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- 6. *Encourages* the establishment of a Caucasus Security College (CSC) in Kazakhstan in co-operation of NATO and GUUAM to promote security training for Caucasian security officers and to create a foundation for a common South Caucasian perspective and identity;
- 7. Determined of the needs of international organizations to pursue further efforts in the conflict resolutions between Abkhazia and Georgia and South Ossetia and Georgia;
 - 8. *Expresses* its continued commitment to stability in the region.