



Press Statement

**Sean McCormack, Spokesman**

Washington, DC

July 16, 2007

## **UN Report on Attack in Georgia's Upper Kodori Valley**

We commend the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) for its efforts investigating and reporting on the March 11 attack on a Georgian administration building and nearby villages in the upper Kodori valley in the Abkhazia region. We condemn this violent attack on Georgian sovereign territory. The report demonstrates the need for concrete measures to prevent similar attacks in the future.

We also commend Georgia for continuing restraint during the attack and its aftermath and for its full cooperation with UNOMIG during the subsequent investigation. We call on the sides in the conflict to move forward as soon as possible with the recommendations made by the UN Friends of the Secretary General for Georgia for confidence and security-building measures, including the resumption of direct dialogue at the highest levels. We hope those measures will lead to a peaceful resolution of the conflict within Georgia's internationally-recognized borders respecting Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

**2007/590**

Released on July 16, 2007

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Published by the U.S. Department of State Website at <http://www.state.gov> maintained by the Bureau of Public Affairs.