

TALKING POINTS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
U.S.-Georgia Charter Security Working Group Remarks

U.S.-Georgia Charter and U.S. Policy: (U)

- Welcome you to the launch of the first working group under the auspices of the U.S.-Georgia Charter.
- I am both pleased and honored to Co-Chair this working group with my Georgian colleagues, which is the first of four working groups intended to maximize the potential of the U.S.-Georgia charter.
- The United States views the U.S.-Georgia Charter as a vehicle for strengthening our strategic partnership and discussing areas of mutual cooperation and concern.
- We have a strong legacy of bilateral security and defense cooperation which we intend to continue and deepen in the months and years ahead.
- As the Charter notes, a strong, independent, sovereign and democratic Georgia, capable of responsible self-defense, contributes to the security and prosperity not only of all Georgians, but of a Europe whole, free and at peace.
- Deepening Georgia's integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions is a mutual priority, and we plan to undertake a program of enhanced security cooperation intended to increase Georgian capabilities and strengthen its NATO aspirations.
- I am here to reassure Georgia of the strong USG commitment to Georgia's political sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic prosperity.
- We understand the challenges you face and want to assure you of our commitment to support your reform efforts and independence.

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

Georgia is but a part of U.S.
commitments to global and regional security.

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

Afghanistan

- I would like to acknowledge and express U.S. and NATO appreciation for Georgia's significant ISAF contributions. Your soldiers are doing well in training and we look forward to their joining ISAF in a vital mission.
- We have laid out a detailed six month training program for Georgia's 31st battalion. We plan to train 3 successive Georgian battalions for follow-on deployments in a two year period. The U.S. will stay deeply engaged in supporting these efforts.
- ISAF efforts in Afghanistan are a vital contribution to supporting international security and we appreciate your strong efforts to support this mission.
- Premature to review additional contributions at the current time. Georgia should focus on preparing its current battalion for deployment. Not no, but not now.

Defense Reform and U.S. Assistance

- I would like to congratulate the MoD on positive reform progress, yet stress that much more work needs to be done. Continued and lasting success in defense reform is the only way to improve your NATO aspirations and build a stronger, democratic and independent Georgia.
- 2010 should be seen as the year of reform for Georgia. Use 2010 to show NATO Allies your commitment and ability to meet ANP requirements.
- Since the August conflict, the U.S. has been deeply engaged in supporting your defense sector reform, starting with the lengthy and costly Armed Forces Assessment - which spent 10 weeks in Georgia reviewing the your Armed Forces. Applaud your transparency and willingness to take on board the recommendations of the AFAT team.
- This assessment showed our ability to work as partners and emerge with a mutual understanding on how to work together on defense cooperation.
- The U.S. will continue to support Georgia's defense efforts, NATO aspirations and expeditionary capabilities. Building the "brains before brawn" will bring lasting institutional success to the GAF.
- Note the strong 2009-2010 assistance plan developed by DoD with your Ministry of Defense, which provides us a phased approach on robust areas of cooperation.

- The U.S. and Georgia have a strong 2009-2010 assistance plan developed between DoD and MoD, which includes dozens of activities to support Georgia's defense transformation. (b)(3):10 USC §130c

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

- Georgia should focus its efforts at institutional reform and urge you to move quickly at the interagency level to craft the National Security review.
- Need to meet established ANP benchmarks and take PARP teams recommendations and implement them.
- There is a dire need to reform the acquisition/procurement process. This needs immediate action.
- Focus on doctrine development and come up with a concrete plan on where you require external assistance.
- Need to also have clear delineation between Ministry of Defense and Interior activity, functions, and responsibilities.
- Would like to mention our strong CTR activities in Georgia, which is the Department of Defense's highest monetary program in Georgia.
- We would appreciate if Georgia can extend the CTR Umbrella agreement as soon as possible, or all CTR efforts must cease on November 10.

Exercise Immediate Response:

- Thank Georgia for hosting Exercise Immediate Response 10, which will take place proceed as planned; exercise will be used to further support your Afghan contribution.

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

Conclusion

- Appreciate your hosting of the Bilateral Defense Consultations in November where we will review progress and look ahead to plan for 2010 areas of cooperation.
- Thank you for your participation and we look forward to your brief.

TALKING POINTS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
Meeting with Minister of Defense Akhalaia

U.S. Policy

- Congratulations on your appointment.
- I am here to reassure Georgia of the strong USG commitment to Georgia's political sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic prosperity.

(b)(1), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (d)

- Express continued support for Georgia's NATO aspirations.
- Stress the U.S. commitment to making the U.S.-Georgia charter a vibrant part of the U.S.-Georgia bilateral relations.

Afghanistan

- I would like to acknowledge and express U.S. and NATO appreciation for Georgia's significant ISAF contributions. Your soldiers are doing well in training and we look forward to their joining ISAF in a vital mission.
- Premature to review additional contributions at the current time, Georgia should focus on preparing its current battalion for deployment. Not no, but not now.

Defense Reform and U.S. Assistance

- What is your vision for Defense Ministry reform? What are your priorities in the next six months and how do you intend to fulfill them?
- I would like to congratulate MoD positive reform progress, yet stress that more work needs to be done. Continued and lasting success in defense reform is the only way to improve your NATO aspirations.
- Note the strong 2009-2010 assistance plan, which includes dozens of activities per month to support Georgia's defense transformation.

- Appreciate your hosting of the Bilateral Defense Consultations in November.

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

- Need to accelerate momentum on doctrine development, interagency progress on National Security review, crackdown on corruption at all levels, and fixing acquisition system.
- Clearly necessary for Georgia to focus on territorial defense and NATO integration in the years ahead,

(b)(3):10 USC §130c

- Before making major acquisitions, Georgia should reform its strategy, doctrine, management systems, and fix its procurement process.

(b)(1),1.4(d)

- Recognize your request for a U.S. defense advisor and we will review how best to continue to support your defense assistance needs with personnel. You have a great team at DAO, ODC and U.S. contractors - continue to rely on them.
- Georgia has come too far to go back to the days of the Soviet Union and the politicization of military units. Need to also have clear delineation between Ministry of Defense and Interior activity, functions, and responsibilities.
- Need Georgia to extend the CTR Umbrella agreement as soon as possible, or all CTR efforts must cease on November 10.

(b)(1),1.4 (d)

Exercise Immediate Response:

- Will proceed as planned; exercise will be used to further support your Afghan contribution.

(b)(1),(b)(5), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (d)

Conclusion:

- I understand you are also heading to the Southeast Europe Defense Ministerial. Georgia should consider joining SEDM as a full time member.

Missile Defense:

(b)(1), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (d)

- [About the Gabala radar] -- We are discussing a spectrum of cooperative opportunities for cooperation with Russia, starting with joint threat assessment discussions. If Russia is willing, these talks to encompass other potential cooperative areas, including data sharing, radar cooperation, and cooperative R&D.

TALKING POINTS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
President Saakashvili Meeting

U.S. Policy:

- This is my first visit to Georgia since the days of the Soviet Union, and it is a pleasure to come to a free and independent Georgia. I see a country that has changed greatly and is seeking its rightful place as a democratic part of the Euro-Atlantic community.
- I am here to reassure Georgia of the strong USG commitment to Georgia's political sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic prosperity.

(b)(1),1.4 (b),1.4 (d)

[Redacted]

(b)(1),1.4 (b),1.4 (d)

[Redacted] Georgia is but a part of U.S. commitments to global and regional security.

(b)(1),1.4 (b),1.4 (d)

[Redacted]

- Express continued support for Georgia's NATO aspirations.
- Stress the U.S. commitment to making the U.S.-Georgia charter a vibrant part of the U.S.-Georgia bilateral relations.
- Constitutional, judicial, and electoral reforms, and the cultivation of independent media, political pluralism, and civil society, would help solidify Georgia's democratic ideals and aspirations into strong democratic institutions and processes. This would fulfill the promise of the Rose Revolution, create the conditions for the first democratic electoral transfer of power in Georgia's history, and pave the way for Georgia's Euro-Atlantic integration.
- I appreciate any assistance you can provide in ensuring the timely renewal of the CTR Umbrella agreement, to allow our bilateral efforts on construction and staffing of the Joint Georgia-U.S. Biosurveillance and Research Center in Tbilisi to continue.



Afghanistan

- I would like to acknowledge and express U.S. and NATO appreciation for Georgia's significant ISAF contributions. Your soldiers are doing well in training and we look forward to their joining ISAF in a vital mission.
- Premature to review additional Georgian troop contributions at the current time. Georgia should focus on preparing its current battalion for deployment. Not no, but not now.

Defense Reform and U.S. Assistance

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC §130c,1.4 (d)



- We are committed to supporting your defense reform and improving your defense capabilities. Ensure MoD shares our reform vision and understands need for reform.

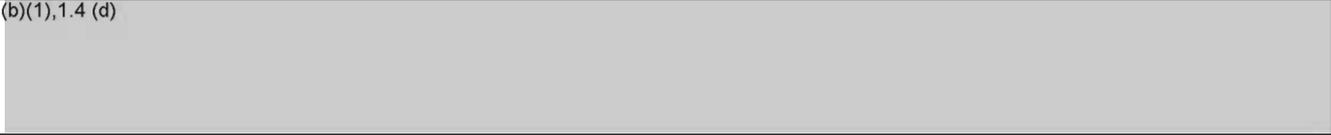


(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC §130c,1.4(d)



- Need to accelerate momentum on doctrine development, interagency progress on National Security review, crackdown on corruption at all levels, and fixing acquisition system.

(b)(1),1.4 (d)



- Before making major acquisitions, Georgia should reform its strategy, doctrine, management systems, and fix its procurement process.
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- Georgia has come too far to go back to the days of the Soviet Union and the politicization of military units. Need to also have clear delineation between Ministry of Defense and Interior activity, functions, and responsibilities.

Ship Seizures: Applaud your de-escalation regarding ship searches and seizures and caution you to refrain from any actions in the Black Sea that may undermine security and create unintended consequences.

We'll urge other sides to stop in Ge.

Exercise Immediate Response: Will proceed as planned; exercise will be used to further support your Afghan contribution

(b)(1), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (d)

(b)(5)

Ship Visits: Will conduct regular ship visits to Georgia.

Missile Defense:

(b)(1), 1.4 (b), 1.4 (d)

- [About the Gabala radar] -- We are discussing a spectrum of cooperative opportunities for cooperation with Russia, starting with joint threat assessment discussions. If Russia is willing, these talks to encompass other potential cooperative areas, including data sharing, radar cooperation, and cooperative R&D.