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FAX NO. :

Jun. 10 2005 09:11AM P1



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA
CHAIRPERSON
01/1855

Forsvarsudvalget
FOU alm. del - Bilag 138
Offentligt

April 13, 2006

To: H.E. Christian Mejdahl
Speaker of the Parliament of Denmark

Excellency,

On behalf of the Parliament of Georgia, allow me to express my highest appreciation and deep respect to the people of Denmark and the Parliament of Denmark.

As you know, In July 2001 UN Conference on 'Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects' resulted in adoption of the 'Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects' ('Program of Action'). The 'Program of Action' remains the main document to be focused on for the Member States, NGOs and civil society engaged in the problem of illegal trade of 'small arms and light weapons' as these issues are usually linked with political instability in different countries. Illicit proliferation of arms and weapons and the 'syndrome of impunity' that frequently characterizes so called 'frozen conflicts', is a key ground for the serious violation of human rights and is a crucial challenge for democratic advantages in the region and in the world.

Let me emphasize my true pleasure having an opportunity to invite you and members of the Parliament of the Denmark to the Parliamentary Seminar on 'Small Arms and Light Weapons' organized by the Parliament of Georgia in cooperation with international organization - 'Parliamentarians for Global Action' (PGA).

The main objective of the conference, held on 10-11 June, in Tbilisi, is to raise the awareness of parliamentarians all over the world in improving controls on 'small arms' transfers, importance of solving the so called 'frozen conflicts' in order to safeguard the future generations from the scourge of war and ensure the peace, security and stability.

I am looking forward meeting representatives of the Parliament of Denmark in Tbilisi, in the Parliament of Georgia.

From Georgian side, the coordinators of the project - Mrs. Nana Chkoidze (Head of International Department) and Mrs. Lali Papiashvili (MP, Deputy chair of the Committee on Human Rights of the Parliament of Georgia) will be at your disposal for further coordination.

Please accept, Mr. Mejdahl, the assurance of my highest estimation and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nino Burjanadze