

[Extract]

United Nations

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Security Council

Sixty-third year

5969th meeting

Thursday, 28 August 2008, 3:00 p.m.

New York

[...]

The situation in Georgia

Mr. Ambassador Alfredo Suescum

Alternate Representative of Panama to the United Nations

Mr. Suescum (Panama) (*spoke in Spanish*): First of all, I would like to express my thanks for the briefings we have heard from the Secretariat today and for the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Georgia.

Throughout its history, Panama has lent its support to peoples striving for self-determination, but that should not be understood as support for any action designed to destroy or undermine the territorial integrity of States. We firmly believe that international peace and security, including the credibility of the United Nations, rests to a large extent upon respect for that fundamental principle.

It is on the basis of those considerations that Panama is taking this opportunity to reaffirm its support for the territorial integrity of Georgia. We appeal to all parties directly or indirectly involved to do their utmost and to carry out all negotiations necessary to ensure that that principle is respected.