

September 11, 2009



STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT EDUARD KOKOITY ON RECOGNITION OF SOUTH OSSETIA BY VENEZUELA

The people of the Republic of South Ossetia are grateful to the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its recognition of our nation as an independent state. South Ossetians want our nation to prosper and grow without fear of being attacked by our neighbors. Venezuela's recognition will help us achieve that goal because it acknowledges a simple but profound truth; that South Ossetia is not part of Georgia and never will be. My government has already begun working with Venezuela to build political and economic relationships that will benefit both countries. I urge other nations to consider recognizing South Ossetia's independence so that we can work together to restore stability to our region and build a more prosperous future for everyone. I extend an invitation to President Chavez to come to South Ossetia so that he can experience personally the passion, the dedication, and the desire of our people to join others in contributing to the global progress of the entire international community.

--Eduard Kokoity, President, Republic of South Ossetia

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