

H.E. Ban- Ki Moon
Secretary General
United Nations
New York

Tbilisi, August 21, 2008

Mr. Secretary General,

Since their invasion of Georgia on August 8, 2008, Russian forces have committed all kinds of despicable crimes against Georgian civilians including but not limited to cold-blood killings, rapes, pillaging, ethnic cleansing, and massive displacement of population.

Despite a cease-fire agreed on August 12th under the auspices of French President Nicolas Sarkozy and signed by both President Medvedev and President Saakashvili, up till this moment, Russian troops are still consolidating their presence in Georgia and expanding their geographical spread on Georgian territory.

Russian troops have taken control of the only road connecting the Georgian Black Sea ports to the capital Tbilisi cutting off any movement of goods with the clear goal of isolating and starving the Georgian capital.

The collective punishment of civilians is strictly prohibited by the Geneva Convention and is clearly defined as crime against humanity.

We are officially informing you of this fact as it is the fundamental responsibility of the United Nations to protect Georgian citizens against criminal acts carried out by one of its permanent members.

We urge you to deploy all necessary efforts compelling the Russian Federation to open with no further delay Georgia's only supply road in order to avoid a new humanitarian catastrophe.

Respectfully yours,

Fady Asly
Chairman
ICC-Georgia