

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICES
OF ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN AND GEORGIA**

On the invitation of the State Department for Statistics of Georgia, a meeting of the Heads of the Statistical Services of the three South Caucasian countries:

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| - Mr. Agaron Chilingarian | First deputy minister of Statistics, State Register and Analysis of the Republic of Armenia |
| - Mr. Arif Veliev | Chairman of State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan Republic |
| - Mr. Teimuraz Beridze | Chairman of State Department for Statistics of Georgia |

took place in Tbilisi on September 30 - October 2, 1998.

The meeting was organized within the framework of the TACIS Programme of the European Union represented by Mr. Willem de Vries, the Deputy Director-General of the Statistical Service of the Netherlands, high level adviser of the Statistical Office of the European Commission (Eurostat), and Mr. Hans-Ulrich Saretzki, Eurostat coordinator for statistical assistance to the South Caucasian Republics.

Representatives of the three South Caucasian countries agreed on:

- exchange of information on social and economic development in their countries,
- exchange of information on the process of reforming statistics,
- usefulness of technical assistance to be provided by Eurostat/EU member countries in the years to come.

The parties agreed on the following:

1. to exchange statistical information published in the English and/or Russian languages on a regular basis,

2. to exchange statistical data on foreign trade between the countries on a regular basis and try to harmonize this data,
3. to co-ordinate the implementation of certain joint projects within the TACIS Programme,
4. to exchange information and documentation on various projects implemented by separate countries if necessary, including methodological material and software,
5. to discuss possibilities of joint statistical publications.

The representatives of the three countries decided to make the result of this meeting public in their countries and to consider the issue of organizing annual high-level meetings.

02.10.1998
Tbilisi


Mr. A. Chilingarian
First deputy minister of Statistics, State Register and
Analysis of the Republic of Armenia


Mr. A. Veliev
Chairman of State Statistical Committee
of Azerbaijan Republic


Mr. T. Beridze
Chairman of State Department
for Statistics of Georgia