



For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

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SRSR ATTENDS OCHAMCHIRA BRIDGE OPENING CEREMONY

On Friday, 22 September 2000, Mr. Dieter Boden, Special Representative of the Secretary General for Georgia, along with the de facto Abkhaz Prime-Minister, Mr. Viatcheslav Tsugba; UNOMIG's Chief Military Observer, Maj. General Anis Ahmed Bajwa; and other high UNOMIG and local officials, took part in the opening ceremony of a bridge over the Okhurei river in the Ochamchira region.

The 24-meter long bridge, which had been totally destroyed during hostilities in the area, was reconstructed by UNOMIG, using a local construction company, as part of the Mission's continuing efforts to improve the infrastructure in its area of responsibility – an activity, which not only contributes to the more efficient performance of UNOMIG's functions, but also plays an important role in the overall economic rehabilitation of the area to the benefit of all its inhabitants. UNOMIG has already successfully completed a number of projects related mainly to the reconstruction and repair of roads and bridges on both sides of the cease -fire line; and several similar projects are currently underway.

Mr. Boden's participation in the bridge-opening ceremony is part of the programme of his current visit to Sukhumi undertaken in the context of his sustained efforts aimed at the activation of the ongoing peace process.

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