

GEORGIA II: PROJECT STARTED

September 2008



From Left to Right: Mr. Batu Kutelia, First Deputy Defence Minister of Georgia, Mr. Linas Linkevičius, Ambassador of Lithuania to NATO, and Mr. Karl-Heinz Münzner, General Manager of NAMS A

September 15, 2008 – A ceremony took place in Tbilisi, Georgia to celebrate the opening of a new NATO Partnership for Peace (PfP) Trust Fund project in Georgia. The project is led by the three Baltic countries, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, supported by additional 12 contributors: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Georgia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

At the ceremony, which was part of a North Atlantic Council visit to Georgia, Mr. Batu Kutelia, First Deputy Minister of Defence of Georgia, Mr. Linas Linkevičius, Ambassador of Lithuania to NATO, and Mr. Karl-Heinz Münzner, General Manager of NAMS A, emphasized the importance of the project in the framework of NATO-Georgia relations.

The opening ceremony was attended by Ambassadors to NATO, representatives of NAMS A, OSCE, Georgian government officials as well as international and local print and broadcast media.

This project follows a successful NATO PfP Trust Fund project completed in March 2006 that destroyed a large quantity of Surface-to-Air guided missiles. Under the management of the State Scientific and Technical Center Delta, this second project will use the facilities established under the previous project at Ponichala and will strengthen Georgian demilitarization capability. It aims at destroying 1,080 Air-to-Surface S-8 missiles, 5,724 Alazan and 1,976 Kristall anti-hail rockets. NAMS A is the executing agent of the project.