



**National Security Bureau**

*Batumi, 14th January 2010*

Secretary of the State, Head of the Bureau

*Aleksander Szczygło*

*Dear Prime Minister,*

*Dear Ministers,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We have come to Batumi to talk about issues that are important for our economies. Because in today's world energy resources are essential for proper and undisturbed economic development and the emerging gas and oil crisis as well as fluctuations in price and carbohydrates demand have become one of the main subjects of public debate in the Euro-Atlantic area.

Also in Poland the problem of energy security has been widely commented by media, politicians and citizens who became interested in that issue. Not having rich oil and gas deposits, our country is depending on the external supplies, coming mainly from the territory of the Russian Federation. This puts Poland in difficult position – in case of any problem with supplies from the east (such as e.g. in January 2009), Polish economy is exposed to energy shortage and following that - severe financial losses.

Thereby, it is necessary that we undertake consistent actions for further diversification of energy resources. President of the Republic of Poland, Mr. Lech Kaczynski is a great adherent and supports building new carbohydrates transport routes to Poland and the European Union. In May 2007 upon the initiative of the President, Poland has organised Energy Security Summit in Krakow, later called the Krakow Initiative, with participation of the Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine and representative of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. This summit has given rise to a project that is important for our countries – Euro-Asian Oil Transportation Corridor (EAOTC), part of which is a pipeline Odessa-Brody-Plock-Gdansk, which will provide direct oil supplies from the territory of the Caspian Sea to Poland and Europe.

Consistent activities and considerable engagement of all countries involved in this project during the follow-up events in Vilnius, Kiev and Baku, resulted in establishing the company Sarmatia LLC and preparing feasibility study of the project, which will start in Baku and, in the nearest future, through Supsa, Odessa, Brody, Plock and Gdansk will transport significant amounts of the Caspian oil to Central European and Scandinavian markets. Presently we are on the eve of increasing Sarmatia's share capital, which was agreed by all participating governments.

This decision will allow the company to further implement the project, including signing the agreement with the European Commission. Our determination has been proven by the fact that the gathering in Batumi is another meeting initiated by the Krakow Initiative. This means that consistent accomplishment of the policy aimed at diversification energy supplies can bring notable benefits.

We have met in Georgia, a key country for the diversification because of its transit significance. We have been joined by the representatives of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan, representing countries that are the main suppliers. Without those three countries supplies from the Caspian Sea territory to Europe could not be completed through the routes alternative to the ones used at the moment.

Poland is interested in active participation of the States and oil companies from the Caspian Sea region in the Euro-Asian Oil Transportation Corridor project. This project combines both the aims of our countries connected with the increase of the oil export to the European markets, and the interests of Poland, Ukraine and Baltic States that concern acquiring oil supplies from the Caspian Sea region.

Poland also supports other projects that can offer the European Union diversification of energy supplies. I am speaking about the project of building Nabucco gas pipeline, from which we have initially declared to receive gas supplies, but also the pipeline from the North Sea and White Stream pipeline, which will provide European countries with more diverse energy suppliers.

Presidents and governments of our countries have been consistently declaring the will to continue the cooperation in diversifying supplies of energy resources. Additionally, the project of Eastern Partnership initiated by Poland and Sweden, with one of the priorities concerning energy cooperation, perfectly depicts in the projects we have been discussing today. They all may lead to rapprochement between the EU countries and the countries representing the Eastern Partnership and strengthen their stability and economic development. Completion of the Euro-Asian Oil Transportation Corridor or Nabucco gas pipeline can become an example that the EU countries and countries included in the Eastern Partnership program can effectively cooperate in implementing specific projects.

Future implementation of projects aiming at diversifying energy supplies, so important for the best interest of our countries and citizens requires not only thorough analyses and researches but also brave, permanent and consistent support on the international forum as well as in bilateral and multilateral relations. Therefore, we are meeting today also in order to send a signal about our consistent support for the activities aiming at further diversification of energy supplies.