

Text of Russian-Chechen Agreement

23 Nov 1996

On the basis of the necessity of reinforcing the peace process, for the purpose of determining the principles of cooperation until the elections of a new parliament and president of the Chechen Republic, the parties have agreed the following:

1. In the economic sector
 - 1.1. An agreement is to be concluded on the principles of special economic mutual relations between the parties after the election of a new president and parliament of the Chechen Republic;
 - 1.2. In the sphere of economic mutual relations between the parties in the period up to the conclusion of the above mentioned agreement the legislation of the Chechen Republic and the Russian Federation is to be employed;
 - 1.3. The unimpeded movement of citizens, officials, and freight is to be guaranteed, for the purpose of which: The activity of the civil airport in the city of Groznyy, as well as railway and road traffic, are to be resumed by 1 December 1996; - a regulation is to be jointly drawn up and approved by 1 December 1996 on procedures for the customs handling of goods travelling in the Chechen Republic and into the Chechen Republic; - an agreement is to be concluded by 1 December 1996 on the issues of the production, processing, and transportation of oil, refined oil products, and gas on the territory of the Chechen Republic. The Chechen side guarantees the safety of pipeline transportation and of petroleum and gas extraction and processing facilities;
 - 1.4. Social and humanitarian issues will be addressed as a matter of immediacy, for which purpose:
 - Measures will be implemented to restore life-supporting facilities in populated areas of the Chechen Republic, after the payment of pensions and wages has been provided for;
 - Measures will be implemented to pay compensation to persons who suffered during combat;
2. It will be established that ministries and departments of the Russian Federation and ministries and departments of the Chechen Republic on the territory of the Chechen Republic will be guided by this agreement. [sentence as heard] Separate agreements may be concluded on specific issues arising from the present agreement.
3. It will be recognized as necessary to agree actions in the defense sector, in which respect the parties take upon themselves the obligation not to undertake any actions that threaten their security.
4. The present agreement will be valid until the election of a new parliament and president of the Chechen Republic.

Signed by Russian Federation Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and Aslan Maskhadov, Prime Minister of the Coalition Government of Chechnya.

Source: ITAR-TASS World Service, November 23, 1996, by ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov

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