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*AMERICA-GEORGIA BUSINESS COUNCIL*

*8th ANNUAL CONFERENCE*

*Georgia: Potential for Growth*

October 20-21, 2005

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*The Palmer House Hilton  
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# Georgia: Potential for Growth

## **Conference Program October 20, 2005**

- 08 : 30 - 09 : 00            Registration
- 09 : 0 - 09 : 05           Welcoming Remarks:        **S. Enders Wimbush**, AGBC/Hudson Institute
- 9 : 10 - 10:45            **FIRST PANEL: United States, Georgia and International Political Context**
- Panel Chair:            **Richard Friedman, President**, National Strategy Forum
- Speakers:               Georgia in the Context of United States Policy in Black Sea/Caspian Sea Area  
**Matthew Bryza**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
- The United States and Georgia: Strategic Partnership  
**Amb. Levan Mikeladze**, Ambassador of Georgia to US, Canada and Mexico
- Military and Security Reform in Georgia  
**Amb. David Smith**, Senior Fellow, Potomac Institute
- 10 :45 - 11 :00            Break
- 11 :00 – 11:15            **MCA Georgia Compact and Implications for Positive Economic, Social and Investment opportunities**  
**Address by Stephen Groff**, Managing Director for Europe, Asia and the Pacific Region, MCC
- 11 : 15 – 12:25            **SECOND PANEL: Overview of Growth Potential of Georgia**
- Panel Chair:            **Ross Harrison**, Georgetown University/AGBC
- Speakers:               Role of Business and Public/Private Partnership in Development  
**Badri Japaridze**, Deputy Chairman, TBC Bank
- Business Environment and Reforms in Georgia: Doing Business 2005  
**Lisa Kaestner**, Economist, International Finance Corporation
- 12: 30 - 2:00            **LUNCH**
- 2 : 15 - 4:00            **THIRD PANEL: Development of Energy, Transportation and Communication Infrastructure in Georgia**
- Moderator:            **Zeyno Baran**, Director, Energy and Security Program, Nixon Center
- Speakers:               **Vano Nakaidze**, Director General, JSC National Oil Company Saknavtobi  
**Wref Digings**, Head, BP Georgia  
**Mark Hauf**, CEO, Metromedia International Group
- 4:00 – 4:25            **Address By Zurab Nogaideli, Prime Minister of Georgia**
- 4:30 - 6:00            **FORTH PANEL: New Investment and Business Development Opportunities in Georgia**
- Moderator:            **Ted Jonas**, Office Managing Partner, DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary

Speakers: **Virginia Wolf**, Program Leader of the USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service  
**Zaza Kikvadze**, General Director, Georgian Branch of Georgian Glass & Mineral Water Company (Borjomi Holding)  
**Irakli Ushveridze**, General Director, Healthy Water Company  
**Maia Tsintsadze**, Manager, Real Estate Development, GMT Group

6:30 - 8:00

**GEORGIAN WINE RECEPTION**

## **October 21, 2005**

10:00 -12:00

**Discussion: Security, Politics, and Economics in Georgia and in the Black Sea-Caspian Sea Region**

Moderator: **Mamuka Tsereteli**, Executive Director, AGBC  
Discussants: **Amb. Rezo Adamia**, Permanent Representative of Georgia at UN  
**David Glandinning**, BP Georgia  
**Dan Stein**, US Trade and Development Agency  
**Eduardo Hernandez**, MIGA  
**Paul Henze**, Historian

12:00 - 2:00

**LUNCH**

2:00

Closing Remarks: **S. Enders Wimbush**



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