

Chavez to Visit Tskhinvali

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The presidents of Venezuela and Nicaragua, countries that have recognized the independence of Georgia's breakaway South Ossetia, will visit its capital, Tskhinvali, this fall, South Ossetian leader Eduard Kokoity said Thursday.

Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega will attend celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of South Ossetia's declaration of independence on Sept. 20, Kokoity said, Interfax reported.

Parliamentary elections in Venezuela, scheduled for Sept. 23, may delay the visit of President Hugo Chavez, but he has promised to travel to South Ossetia in the near future, Kokoity said.

Kokoity also said the Sept. 20 celebrations would be attended by former football player Diego Maradona. ☒

(MT)