



The Human Rights Advisory Panel

UNMIK HQ, East Wing, 10000 Pristina, KOSOVO

HRAP/PR/7
Thursday 17 July, 2008

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL

The Human Rights Advisory Panel (the Panel) held its eighth session in Pristine/Pristina from 9 to 16 July, 2008.

The Panel continued with its examination of complaints, requesting further evidence from complainants in five cases and communicating two cases to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) giving him the opportunity to provide comments on the admissibility and merits of the complaints prior to decisions on admissibility.

The Panel declared that four complaints were admissible (one partially admissible) and is referring these cases to the SRSG for his response in accordance with section 11.3 of UNMIK Regulation No. 2006/12. Upon consultations with the SRSG and the Acting Legal Adviser, the Panel agreed to a second extension of the deadline for submission of responses to nine admissible complaints that had been previously communicated to the SRSG and anticipates receiving these responses by the beginning of its next session.

The Panel declared two complaints inadmissible, on the basis that they were not submitted within the six month time limit.

Ms. Magda Mierzevska, human rights expert from the European Court of Human Rights completed her two month secondment with the Panel on 11 July, 2008. She made an outstanding contribution to the operations of the Panel in terms of research, analysis and drafting.

Mr. Marek Nowicki, Presiding Member, accompanied by members of the Secretariat met with Mr. Bryan Hopkinson, Strategy Coordinator on 9 July to discuss UNMIK reconfiguration and its impact on the operations of the Panel. The Panel also held meetings with Mr. Paul Miller, Head of Office, (OHCHR) Pristina, on 11 July and 16 July as well as meetings with Mr. Lamberto Zannier, SRSG and Mr. Ernst Tschoepke, Acting Legal Adviser on 15 July.

As part of the Panel's continuing public information campaign, Mr. Nowicki conducted a radio interview with Kontakt Plus in North Mitrovica on 10 July and an interview with UNMIK TV on 11 July as well as an interview with TV Most in Zvecan on 14 July.

The workload of the Panel has increased significantly in recent weeks with the case load now standing at 47 cases.

The next session of the Advisory Panel is scheduled to take place from 15 to 19 September, 2008.

Complaints for the Advisory Panel should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Room 19, Second Floor, UNMIK Main HQ, East Wing, Pristina, Kosovo.

For further information, please contact Mr. John J. Ryan, Executive Officer of the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Tel: + 381 (0) 38 504 604 Ext 5847, Email: ryanj@un.org. Interested persons are also referred to the website of the Advisory Panel, at http://www.unmikonline.org/human_rights/index.htm.