



## *The Human Rights Advisory Panel*

UNMIK HQ, East Wing, 10000 Pristina, KOSOVO

HRAP/PR/10  
22 September 2008

### **HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL**

The Human Rights Advisory Panel (the Panel) held its ninth session in Pristine/Pristina from 15 to 19 September 2008.

The Panel continued with its examination of complaints, declaring that two complaints were inadmissible and deciding to adjourn deliberations on another complaint relating to undue delay in proceedings before a court, whilst declaring admissible the remainder of the complaint.

The Panel also communicated two (2) complaints to Mr. Lamberto Zannier, Special Representative of the Secretary General, (SRSG) for observations on admissibility and merits in accordance with section 11.3 of UNMIK Regulation No. 2006/12.

In this regard, responses have been received from the SRSG in relation to eight (8) of the cases which were communicated to him in accordance with section 11.3 of the Regulation. The Panel also sent two (2) complaints back to complainants with requests for further information and clarification. The workload of the Panel now stands at 53 cases.

Mr. Marek Nowicki, Presiding Member met with the SRSG on 17 September to discuss ongoing difficulties in relation to UNMIK's responses to Panel communications on complaints submitted to him for observations on admissibility and merits in accordance with section 11.3 of the Regulation. The SRSG will revert on the issues raised by Mr. Nowicki, having consulted with his advisory staff.

At the request of the Panel, the Executive Officer of the Secretariat met with representatives of the Belgian, Austrian, Swedish, Finnish, Swiss and Norwegian diplomatic liaison offices in Pristine/Pristina in early August. The purpose of the meetings was to request the secondment of some human rights technical experts to assist the Panel in dealing with its rapidly increasing caseload.

Members of the Panel Secretariat briefed three officials representing a newly established legal aid programme in Kosovo on the Panel's mandate and operations on 11 September. This programme is funded by the Danish Refugee Council and a meeting with the Panel has been scheduled during the next session in October.

The Panel also held meetings with Mr. Paul Miller, Head of Office, Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights, (OHCHR) Pristine/Pristina, on 17 September and with Ms. Sirpa Rautio, Human Rights Advisor, EULEX on 18 September.

As part of the Panel's ongoing public information campaign, a brief on the mandate and operations of the Panel was presented by the Panel legal officer to staff of the Legal Aid Commission of Kosovo as part of a Human Rights Training seminar which was organized by the OHCHR in Pec/Peja on 19 September.

The next session of the Advisory Panel is scheduled for the period from 15 to 18 October, 2008.

Complaints for the Advisory Panel should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Room 13, Container D, UNMIK Administrative HQ, (TSS), Pristine/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](http://www.unmikonline.org/human_rights/index.htm).**