



The Human Rights Advisory Panel

UNMIK HQ, East Wing, 10000 Pristina, KOSOVO

HRAP/PR/16
19 January 2009

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL

The Human Rights Advisory Panel (the Panel) held its thirteenth (13th) session in Pristine/Pristina from 12th to 17th January, 2009.

The Panel continued with its examination of complaints and decided to strike out complaints in three cases in accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure. In these instances, the documents filed by the complainants failed to allege that they are or had been the victims of human rights violations by UNMIK. The said complainants twice failed to respond to requests from the Panel for clarification on these issues and under these circumstances, the Panel concluded that the complainants did not intend to pursue their applications.

The Panel also directed the Secretariat to communicate three 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 context, three responses were received from the SRSG in relation to cases communicated earlier to him in accordance with section 11.3 of the Regulation. The Panel also directed the Secretariat to send five communications to complainants with requests for further information and clarification. The total workload of the Panel now stands at one hundred and five (105) cases.

The members of the Panel designated Mr. Marek Nowicki to continue in his role as Presiding Member of the Panel in accordance with Section 4.2 of UNMIK Regulation 2006/12 of 23rd March, 2006 on the Establishment of the Human Rights Advisory Panel during the session. The Annual Report of the Panel was also finalized during this session and is being prepared for distribution.

The public hearing in the Mon Balaj et al case, Case No. 04/07 which was scheduled to be held in the District Court, Pristina on 15th January, 2009 was adjourned last November at the request of the legal representatives of the Complainants and has been rescheduled for 19th March, 2009.

The next session of the Advisory Panel is scheduled from 23rd to 27th February, 2009.

Complaints for the Panel should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Room 13, Container D, UNMIK Admin HQ, (TSS), Prishtinë/Priština, 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