

Press Office

Press Release

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SRSB Harri Holkeri Announces Agreement to Restart Privatisation

PRISTINA - SRSB Harri Holkeri, upon his arrival in Pristina today told the media at the airport that in his meetings in New York with Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs Hans Corell and their advisers, agreement was reached to restart the privatization programme in Kosovo on the "firm legal basis of the existing regulations".

Mr. Holkeri said that this will require the KTA to make changes to the KTA's operating policies and procedures and conduct a case-by-case review of enterprises.

Mr. Holkeri said that the meetings confirmed that the KTA should review all enterprises identified for privatization on a case-by-case basis for Waves 1 and 2 and also for Tender 3. Changes to the KTA regulations, including on the applicable law, are not necessary. The KTA is scheduling a board meeting on 21 November 2003 to brief board members.

Responding to a question, regarding the KTA, SRSB Holkeri said an agreement was reached on the way forward, clarifications and guidance were provided on all issues of concern and that the KTA Chairman, together with the his Legal Advisor, will brief the KTA board members about the outcome of the meetings in New York.

Mr. Holkeri also spoke about his visit to Paris and Brussels. He said that in Paris he met with the French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin, the Defence Minister Michele Alliot-Marie and other officials.

In Brussels, SRSB Holkeri said he met the EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana. On the issue of Kosovo, the international community is united and fully supports the policy of Standards before Status, he added.