

Press Office

PressRelease

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Kosovo to uphold the law on names of towns and villages

PRISTINA – In a message to the Civil Administration field network, Francesco Bastagli, DSRSG for Civil Administration, stressed the need to uphold the applicable laws on official names of towns and villages.

“We have conveyed to the Ministry of Public Services UNMIK’s concern that existing legal provisions on names of places in Kosovo might be ignored or even violated at central and local level”, declared the Head of Civil Administration.

Renaming towns and villages is not within the authority of the municipal assemblies, as UNMIK Regulation 2000/45 limits their powers to the naming of roads, streets and other public places. The provisions of UNMIK Regulation 2000/43, the legal instrument officially setting out the names and boundaries of the thirty municipalities in the official languages, are therefore confirmed. The spelling of place names contained in all the official documents must be in conformity with this Regulation.

Official documents that will not comply with these requirements will not be valid. In this connection, Municipal Civil Registration Officers have been instructed not to accept place names that are not contained in the Regulation, for habitual resident registration operations.