



UNMIK/PR/1080

Wednesday, 10 December 2003

**DSRSG Jean-Christian Cady Signs Statement on ‘Commitments on Victim/Witness Protection and Child Trafficking’**

PRISTINA - In Sofia today, the DSRSG for Police and Justice Jean-Christian Cady signed a statement on ‘Commitments on Victim/Witness Protection and Child Trafficking’ whereby all countries of South Eastern Europe affirmed their commitment to take specific measures directed at protecting the rights and human dignity of victims and witnesses of human and child trafficking. The signing took place on the occasion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Ministerial Forum of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings convened in Sofia (Bulgaria) on 10 December 2003.

In a statement on the occasion, DSRSG for Police and Justice Jean-Christian Cady said, “Contrary to what is sometimes said, Kosovo is not a safe haven for organized crime and terrorism. The efforts of the United Nations supported by KFOR, the creation and leading role of the multi-ethnic Kosovo Police Service working along human rights standards, the development of a multi-ethnic judiciary have borne fruit. Not only has the overall crime level decreased by 70% in the last two years, but it is now consistent with crime levels in many Western countries.”

“The fight against organized crime is never completed. We are very much relying on a coordinated approach with our neighbours to be more efficient, and we are working along those lines with the police cooperation agreements we signed,” he added.