

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Folder Title:

Kosovo - UNSCR [United Nations Security Council Resolutions], CG [Contact Group], etc.
[2]

Staff Office-Individual:

Kosovo Office-Schulte, Gregory

Original OA/ID Number:

1708

Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:	Stack:
39	1	7	1	V

International Requirements

- cease all action by security forces affecting the civil population and order the withdrawal of security forces used for civilian repression
- enable effective and continuous monitoring by international monitors
- facilitate, in agreement with UNHCR and ICRC, the safe return of DPRES and allow unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations and supplies
- make rapid progress, to a clear timetable, without preconditions and with international involvement, in a meaningful dialogue with the Kosovar Albanians toward a political solution
- cooperate fully with the ICTY
- bring to justice those security force members involved in mistreatment of civilians and deliberate destruction of property

Sources: UNSCR 1199 (September 23); Bonn CG (July 8); UNSCR 1160 (March 31); London CG (March 9)

Belgrade's Response

On Sept. 28, PM Marjanovic announced:

- establishment of temporary executive council for Kosovo;
- creation of local police forces.

In meeting with Amb. Hill on Sept. 29, Milutinovic claimed that:

- a serious withdrawal of MUP forces was now underway;
- this would help create conditions for DPRES returns;
- MUP officers who had "overstepped the bounds" had been disciplined and in some cases dismissed.

Belgrade has yet to give written comments on the draft political settlement. Milutinovic objected to concepts of Kosovar "president" and separate police and courts.

KDOM reported additional shelling today (September 30).



Document

Contact Group Meeting

Statement on Kosovo

London, 09 March 1998

1. We the Foreign Ministers of Contact Group countries, together with representatives of the European Commission and the Office of the High Representative, met in London on 9 March to discuss the increasingly tense situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), and the unacceptable use of force over recent days. The Balkans region has seen too much bloodshed in recent years for the international community to stand aside.
2. We recalled that when we met in New York on 24 September 1997, we voiced deep concern over developments in Kosovo and called on the authorities in Belgrade and the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community to join in a peaceful dialogue. We are dismayed that in the period since September, rather than taking steps to reduce tensions or to enter without preconditions into dialogue toward a political solution, the Belgrade authorities have applied repressive measures in Kosovo. We note with particular concern the recent violence in Kosovo resulting in at least 80 fatalities and condemn the use of excessive force by Serbian police against civilians, and against peaceful demonstrators in Pristina on 2 March.
3. Our condemnation of the actions of the Serbian police should not in any way be mistaken for an endorsement of terrorism. Our position on this is clear. We wholly condemn terrorist actions by the Kosovo Liberation Army or any other group or individual. Those in the Kosovar Albanian community who speak for the different political constituencies should make it clear that they, too, abhor terrorism. We insist likewise that those outside the FRY who are supplying finance, arms or training for terrorist activity in Kosovo should immediately cease doing so.
4. We condemn the large-scale police actions of the last 10 days that further inflamed an already volatile situation. The violent repression of non-violent expression of political views is completely indefensible. We call upon the authorities in Belgrade to invite independent forensic experts to investigate the very serious allegations of extrajudicial killings. If these accusations are borne out, we expect the FRY authorities to prosecute and punish those responsible.
5. Our commitment to human rights values means that we cannot ignore such disproportionate methods of control. Government authorities have a special responsibility to protect the human and civil rights of all citizens and to ensure that public security forces act judiciously and with restraint.

6. In the light of the deplorable violence in Kosovo, we feel compelled to take steps to demonstrate to the authorities in Belgrade that they cannot defy international standards without facing severe consequences. The Contact Group has decided to take a broad range of action to address the current situation on an urgent basis. The Contact Group welcomes the continuation of consultations in the United Nations Security Council, in view of the implications of the situation in Kosovo for regional security. Against that background, the Contact Group:

- requests a mission to Kosovo by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,
- urges the office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY to begin gathering information related to the violence in Kosovo that may fall within its jurisdiction. The FRY authorities have an obligation to cooperate with the ICTY. Contact Group countries will make available to the ICTY substantiated relevant information in their possession,
- supports the proposal for a new mission by Felipe Gonzalez as the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for the FRY that would include a new and specific mandate for addressing the problems in Kosovo,
- supports the return of the OSCE long-term missions to Kosovo, the Sandzak and Vojvodina,
- recommends that the Special Session of the OSCE Permanent Council meeting on 11 March arrange for Embassies in Belgrade, of OSCE participating states to intensify their visits to Kosovo so as to provide for a continuous presence,
- will continue vigorously to support Sant'Egidio's efforts to secure implementation of the Education Agreement, and identify resources to assist a fair and acceptable arrangement,
- proposes the establishment of an international consortium including non-Governmental Organisations that would promote civil-society building in Kosovo and the distribution of humanitarian assistance,
- recognising that neighbouring countries of the FRY have legitimate security concerns stemming from violence and unrest in Kosovo, will arrange an urgent meeting of the Contact Group with representatives of governments in the region to discuss the grave consequences of an inter-ethnic conflict and its possible spillover to other parts of the region. We expect them to do all in their power to prevent support for terrorism. The meeting will in particular address:
 - the possible despatch of a short-term OSCE monitoring group to enhance the ability of the Albania mission's Shkodra field office to monitor the FRY (Kosovo) border,
 - the possible strengthening of the present OSCE mission in Skopje
- recommends that consideration be given to adapting the current UNPREDEP mandate, and would support the maintenance of an international military presence on the ground in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia when the current mandate of UNPREDEP expires,

- will monitor the situation in Kosovo by frequent joint visits to Pristina by Contact Group and other representatives.
7. At the same time, it is not enough for the killing to stop; too much damage has already been done to human life and to the FRY's credibility. Because of the gravity of the situation, we endorse the following measures to be pursued immediately:
1. UN Security Council consideration of a comprehensive arms embargo against the FRY, including Kosovo;
 2. Refusal to supply equipment to the FRY which might be used for internal repression, or for terrorism;
 3. Denial of visas for senior FRY and Serbian representatives responsible for repressive action by FRY security forces in Kosovo;
 4. A moratorium on government financed export credit support for trade and investment, including government financing for privatisations, in Serbia.

The Contact Group notes that the Russian Federation cannot support measures c) and d) above for immediate imposition. But if there is no progress towards the steps called for by the Contact Group, the Russian Federation will then be willing to discuss all the above measures.

We call upon President Milosevic to take rapid and effective steps to stop the violence and engage in a commitment to find a political solution to the issue of Kosovo through dialogue. Specifically, he should within 10 days:

- withdraw the special police units and cease action by the security forces affecting the civilian population.
- Allow access to Kosovo for the ICRC and other humanitarian organisations as well as by representatives of the Contact Group and other Embassies.
- Commit himself publicly to begin a process of dialogue, along the lines in paragraph 10, with the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community.
- Cooperate in a constructive manner with the Contact Group in the implementation of the actions specified in paragraph 6 above which require action by the FRY government.

If President Milosevic takes these steps, we will immediately reconsider the measures we have now adopted. If he fails to take these steps, and repression continues in Kosovo, the Contact Group will move to further international measures, and specifically to pursue a freeze on the funds held abroad by the FRY and Serbian governments.

The Contact Group has decided to meet again on 25 March to assess the response of the government of the FRY.

8. Belgrade's own actions have seriously set back the process of normalisation of the FRY's relations with the international community. Unless the FRY takes steps to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo, there is no prospect of any improvement in its international standing. On the other hand, concrete progress to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo will improve the international position of the FRY and prospects for normalisation of its international relationships and full rehabilitation in international institutions.

9. No one should misunderstand our position on the core issue involved. We support neither independence nor the maintenance of the status quo. As we have set out clearly, the principles for a solution of the Kosovo problem should be based on the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and be in accordance with OSCE standards, Helsinki principles, and the UN Charter. Such a solution also must take into account the rights of the Kosovo Albanians and all those who live in Kosovo. We support an enhanced status for Kosovo within the FRY which a substantially greater degree of autonomy would bring and recognise that this must include meaningful self-determination.
10. The way to defeat terrorism in Kosovo is for Belgrade to offer the Kosovar Albanian community a genuine political process. The authorities in Belgrade and the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community must assume their responsibility to enter without preconditions into a meaningful dialogue on political status issues. The Contact Group stands ready to facilitate such a dialogue.

Office of the High Representative



Document

Contact Group Meeting

Statement on Kosovo

Moscow, 25 February 1998

At its Moscow meeting on February 25, 1998, the Contact Group confirmed its position on Kosovo, FRY, expressed in the New York Declaration of Foreign Ministers of September 24, 1997, as well as in the Washington Contact Group Declaration of January 8, 1998. It noted that since that time, despite repeated calls for dialogue to resolve the problems in Kosovo, there had been little progress on this vitally important issue. It also shared the valid expressions of concern by those in the region about the implication of the situation in Kosovo for regional security.

The Contact Group reaffirmed its commitment to uphold human rights values, and their condemnation of both violent repression of non-violent expressions of political views, including peaceful demonstrations, as well as terrorist actions, including those of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army.

The Contact Group agreed that both sides should be reasonable and flexible and focus on immediate steps to reduce tensions - bearing in mind the overriding need to avoid conflict and violence. It expressed continuing support for full and rapid implementation of the Education Agreement, recognizing its importance as a step for the promotion of stability in the region. It called on the authorities in Belgrade and leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community to enter without preconditions into a full and constructive dialogue to deal with the underlying social, economic and status problems.

The Contact Group reiterated that it supported neither independence nor the maintenance of the status quo. The principles of the solution of the Kosovo problem should be based on the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, taking into account the rights of the Kosovo Albanians and all those who live in Kosovo in accordance with OSCE standards, Helsinki principles and the UN Charter. The Contact Group supports an enhanced status for Kosovo within the FRY and recognizes that this must include meaningful self-administration.

The Contact Group reiterated their view that the FRY needs to address this question urgently, and that making progress to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo is critical for Belgrade to improve its international position and relations with the international community. The Contact Group expressed its readiness to facilitate dialogue.

The Contact Group reaffirmed its intention to continue to pay close attention to the problem of Kosovo.

Office of the High Representative



Document

Contact Group

Statement on Kosovo

Bonn, 25 March 1998

1. We the Foreign Ministers of Contact Group countries, together with the Deputy Chairman in Office of the OSCE, the Chairman-in-Office's personal representative for the FRY and EU Special Representative, the High Representative and the representatives of the European Commission, met in Bonn on March 25 to review developments in Kosovo and to follow-up decisions reached at our March 9 London meeting.
2. In London, we called on President Milosevic to take rapid and effective steps to end the violence in Kosovo and commit himself to a political solution through unconditional dialogue. We adopted an action plan to advance these goals, decided on a series of concrete measures, and agreed to reconsider these measures if President Milosevic took the steps required by the Contact Group.
3. We insist that an urgent start be made to the process of unconditional dialogue with the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community, involving federal and republic levels of government. Neither party should attempt to predetermine the outcome. We expect President Milosevic to implement the process of unconditional dialogue and take political responsibility for ensuring that Belgrade engages in serious negotiations on Kosovo's status.
4. Today we have reviewed the situation in Kosovo, including the degree of compliance by President Milosevic, FRY and Serbian authorities with the London statement's requirements.
5. Since our meeting in London, there has been progress in some areas of concern, notably some movement in Belgrade's position on dialogue on a range of issues including the autonomy of Kosovo and the conclusion of the long-overdue agreement on implementation of the education accord.
6. Our overall assessment is that further progress by Belgrade on certain points in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the London statement requiring action by the FRY and Serbian governments is necessary. Therefore we have agreed to maintain and implement the measures announced on March 9, including seeking adoption by March 31 of the arms embargo resolution currently under consideration in the United Nations Security Council. We call upon President Milosevic again to implement fully all the relevant steps in the London Statement.
7. We demand that authoritative delegations from both sides convene rapidly in

order to agree a framework for a substantive negotiation process and agree to the participation in the negotiating process of an outside representative or representatives. We will accept no pretext for delaying such a process. We reaffirm the willingness of the Contact Group to facilitate talks, recognizing that international engagement in support of dialogue is essential to the achievement of a political solution.

8. We agree that the Contact Group will meet again in four weeks time to reassess the situation. Our assessment and subsequent decision will take account of a report on compliance to be submitted to the Contact Group by the Troika of the OSCE, if they agree to our request to prepare such a report. If President Milosevic takes the steps specified in London, we will reconsider existing measures including action in the Security Council to terminate the arms embargo. If Belgrade fails to meet the London benchmarks, and if the dialogue does not get underway within the next four weeks because of the position of the FRY or Serbian authorities, we shall take steps to apply further measures as announced in London.
9. Unless the FRY takes steps to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo, there is no prospect of any improvement in its international standing. On the other hand, concrete progress to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo will improve the international position of the FRY and prospects for normalization of its international relationships and full rehabilitation in international institutions. We urge President Milosevic to cooperate fully with the mission of Mr. Felipe Gonzalez as personal representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and EU Special Representative. Once the Gonzalez mission is underway, it will certainly be possible to address the potential for FRY participation in the work of the OSCE.
10. We take this opportunity to reaffirm our strong opposition to all terrorist actions. Violence does not contribute to the search for a solution in Kosovo. This applies equally to Serbian police and Kosovar Albanian extremists. We will use all appropriate elements of pressure and influence with both sides to ensure that violence does not escalate and that the serious dispute over Kosovo's status between Belgrade and the Kosovar Albanian community is resolved strictly through peaceful means. We urge those outside the FRY who are supplying financial support, arms or training for terrorist activity in Kosovo to cease doing so immediately.
11. We welcome Dr. Rugova's clear commitment to non-violence and urge others in the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community to make their opposition to violence and terrorism both clear and public. Belgrade authorities cannot, however, justify their repression and violence in Kosovo in the name of anti-terrorist activities. We repeat that the way to combat terrorism is for Belgrade to offer the Kosovar Albanian community a genuine political process.
12. We applaud the work of Sant'Egidio and of the 3+3 commission in reaching agreement on measures to implement the 1996 Education agreement. We call on all sides to ensure that implementation proceeds smoothly and without delay, according to the agreed timetable. We are considering what assistance we can provide to facilitate implementation. We will also consider measures if either party blocks implementation. We urge all sides to cooperate with Sant'Egidio on efforts to reduce tensions in other social sectors as well.
13. The fundamental position of the Contact Group remains the same. We

support neither independence nor the maintenance of the Status Quo as the end-result of negotiations between the Belgrade authorities and the Kosovo Albanian leadership on the status of Kosovo. Without prejudging what that result may be we base the principles for a solution to the Kosovo problem on the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and on OSCE standards, Helsinki principles, and the UN Charter. Such a solution must also take into account the rights of the Kosovar Albanians and all those who live in Kosovo. We support a substantially greater degree of autonomy for Kosovo which must include meaningful self-administration.

Office of the High Representative



**United
Nations**

S/RES/1199 (1998)

23 September 1998

RESOLUTION 1199 (1998)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 3930th meeting on 23 September 1998

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General pursuant to that resolution, and in particular his report of 4 September 1998 (S/1998/834 and Add.1),

Noting with appreciation the statement of the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Italy, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (the Contact Group) of 12 June 1998 at the conclusion of the Contact Group's meeting with the Foreign Ministers of Canada and Japan (S/1998/567, annex), and the further statement of the Contact Group made in Bonn on 8 July 1998 (S/1998/657),

Noting also with appreciation the joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of 16 June 1998 (S/1998/526),

Noting further the communication by the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to the Contact Group on 7 July 1998, expressing the view that the situation in Kosovo represents an armed conflict within the terms of the mandate of the Tribunal,

Gravely concerned at the recent intense fighting in Kosovo and in particular the excessive and indiscriminate use of force by Serbian security forces and the Yugoslav Army which have resulted in numerous civilian casualties and, according to the estimate of the Secretary-General, the displacement of over 230,000 persons from their homes,

Deeply concerned by the flow of refugees into northern Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and other European countries as a result of the use of force in Kosovo, as well as by the increasing numbers of displaced persons within Kosovo, and other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, up to 50,000 of whom the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has estimated are without shelter and other basic necessities,

Reaffirming the right of all refugees and displaced persons to return to their homes in safety, and underlining the responsibility of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for creating the conditions which allow them to do so,

Condemning all acts of violence by any party, as well as terrorism in pursuit of political goals by any group or individual, and all external support for such activities in Kosovo, including the supply of arms and training for terrorist activities in Kosovo and expressing concern at the reports of continuing violations of the prohibitions imposed by resolution 1160 (1998),

Deeply concerned by the rapid deterioration in the humanitarian situation throughout Kosovo, alarmed at the impending humanitarian catastrophe as described in the report of the Secretary-General, and emphasizing the need to prevent this from happening,

Deeply concerned also by reports of increasing violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, and emphasizing the need to

ensure that the rights of all inhabitants of Kosovo are respected,

Reaffirming the objectives of resolution 1160 (1998), in which the Council expressed support for a peaceful resolution of the Kosovo problem which would include an enhanced status for Kosovo, a substantially greater degree of autonomy, and meaningful self-administration,

Reaffirming also the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Affirming that the deterioration of the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Demands that all parties, groups and individuals immediately cease hostilities and maintain a ceasefire in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which would enhance the prospects for a meaningful dialogue between the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership and reduce the risks of a humanitarian catastrophe;
2. Demands also that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership take immediate steps to improve the humanitarian situation and to avert the impending humanitarian catastrophe;
3. Calls upon the authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership to enter immediately into a meaningful dialogue without preconditions and with international involvement, and to a clear timetable, leading to an end of the crisis and to a negotiated political solution to the issue of Kosovo, and welcomes the current efforts aimed at facilitating such a dialogue;
4. Demands further that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in addition to the measures called for under resolution 1160 (1998), implement immediately the following concrete measures towards achieving a political solution to the situation in Kosovo as contained in the Contact Group statement of 12 June 1998:
 - (a) cease all action by the security forces affecting the civilian population and order the withdrawal of security units used for civilian repression;
 - (b) enable effective and continuous international monitoring in Kosovo by the European Community Monitoring Mission and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including access and complete freedom of movement of such monitors to, from and within Kosovo unimpeded by government authorities, and expeditious issuance of appropriate travel documents to international personnel contributing to the monitoring;
 - (c) facilitate, in agreement with the UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes and allow free and unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations and supplies to Kosovo;
 - (d) make rapid progress to a clear timetable, in the dialogue referred to in paragraph 3 with the Kosovo Albanian community called for in resolution 1160 (1998), with the aim of agreeing confidence-building measures and finding a political solution to the problems of Kosovo;
5. Notes, in this connection, the commitments of the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in his joint statement with the President of the Russian Federation of 16 June 1998:
 - (a) to resolve existing problems by political means on the basis of equality for all citizens and ethnic communities in Kosovo;
 - (b) not to carry out any repressive actions against the peaceful population;
 - (c) to provide full freedom of movement for and ensure that there will be no restrictions on representatives of foreign States and international institutions accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia monitoring the situation in Kosovo;
 - (d) to ensure full and unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations, the ICRC and the UNHCR, and delivery of humanitarian supplies;
 - (e) to facilitate the unimpeded return of refugees and displaced persons under programmes agreed with the UNHCR and the ICRC, providing State aid for the reconstruction of destroyed homes,and calls for the full implementation of these commitments;
6. Insists that the Kosovo Albanian leadership condemn all terrorist action, and emphasizes that all elements in the Kosovo Albanian community should pursue their goals by peaceful means only;

7. Recalls the obligations of all States to implement fully the prohibitions imposed by resolution 1160 (1998);
8. Endorses the steps taken to establish effective international monitoring of the situation in Kosovo, and in this connection welcomes the establishment of the Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission;
9. Urges States and international organizations represented in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to make available personnel to fulfil the responsibility of carrying out effective and continuous international monitoring in Kosovo until the objectives of this resolution and those of resolution 1160 (1998) are achieved;
10. Reminds the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that it has the primary responsibility for the security of all diplomatic personnel accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as the safety and security of all international and non-governmental humanitarian personnel in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and calls upon the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and all others concerned in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to take all appropriate steps to ensure that monitoring personnel performing functions under this resolution are not subject to the threat or use of force or interference of any kind;
11. Requests States to pursue all means consistent with their domestic legislation and relevant international law to prevent funds collected on their territory being used to contravene resolution 1160 (1998);
12. Calls upon Member States and others concerned to provide adequate resources for humanitarian assistance in the region and to respond promptly and generously to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Humanitarian Assistance Related to the Kosovo Crisis;
13. Calls upon the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the leaders of the Kosovo Albanian community and all others concerned to cooperate fully with the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the investigation of possible violations within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal;
14. Underlines also the need for the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to bring to justice those members of the security forces who have been involved in the mistreatment of civilians and the deliberate destruction of property;
15. Requests the Secretary-General to provide regular reports to the Council as necessary on his assessment of compliance with this resolution by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and all elements in the Kosovo Albanian community, including through his regular reports on compliance with resolution 1160 (1998);
16. Decides, should the concrete measures demanded in this resolution and resolution 1160 (1998) not be taken, to consider further action and additional measures to maintain or restore peace and stability in the region;
17. Decides to remain seized of the matter.



Document

Contact Group

Statement

Bonn, 8 July 1998

1. The Contact Group met in Bonn on 8 July. It reviewed the situation in Kosovo and took stock of the parties' response to the requirements set out in the statement on Kosovo issued in London on 12 June by Foreign Ministers of the Contact Group and of Canada and Japan, and implementation of the undertakings made by President Milosevic in Moscow on 16 June.
2. The overall situation in Kosovo remains tense. The Contact Group noted with deep concern that, despite vigorous efforts undertaken by the members of the Contact Group, the prospects of a peaceful settlement have deteriorated since the Contact Group's meeting in London on June 12, 1998. Although the primary responsibility for the situation in Kosovo rests with Belgrade, the Contact Group acknowledges that armed Kosovo Albanian groups also have a responsibility to avoid violence and all armed activities. The Contact Group reiterated that violence is inadmissible and will not solve the problem of Kosovo: indeed it will only make it more difficult to achieve a political solution. The Contact Group stressed its condemnation of violence and acts of terrorism in pursuit of political goals, from whatever quarter.
3. The Contact Group assessed Belgrade's response to the requirements set out in the 12 June London statement: to cease all action by the security forces affecting the civilian population and order the withdrawal of security units used for civilian repression; to enable an effective and continuous international observer group in Kosovo and allow unimpeded access for observers; to facilitate, in agreement with UNHCR and ICRC, the full return to their homes of refugees and displaced persons and to allow free and unimpeded access for humanitarian organisations and supplies to Kosovo; and to make rapid progress in the dialogue with the Kosovo Albanian leadership. The Contact Group noted that:
 - withdrawal of security forces used for civilian repression has not yet been carried out although the security forces have shown some measure of restraint recently.
 - rapid progress in the dialogue with the Kosovo Albanian leadership has not been achieved.
4. The Contact Group acknowledged the significance of the undertakings given by President Milosevic in his meeting with President Yeltsin on 16 June and emphasised the need for them to be fully implemented.
 - It noted President Milosevic's commitment to allow international observers free and unrestricted access to Kosovo, which is in a first stage of implementation. It expected Belgrade to cooperate fully with those states which were enhancing their capability to observe developments in Kosovo through secondment of additional

personnel to their diplomatic representations in Belgrade. The Contact Group expected that President Milosevic's stated commitment to allow international observers in Kosovo will also permit an increase of size of the ECMM presence in Kosovo.

- The Contact Group noted that there has been some improvement in the access to Kosovo for international humanitarian organisations such as the UNHCR and the ICRC. But the Contact Group also urged Belgrade to do more to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes, in particular by agreeing to security confidence building measures. The Contact Group expressed its support for the UNHCR's regional approach to the refugee question.

The Contact Group encouraged the European Union and other competent international organisations to continue to pursue the commitment of resources in order to create the conditions for an early return of refugees throughout the region.

5. The Contact Group called for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Kosovo to pave the way for continuous talks between Belgrade and the Kosovo Albanian leadership on additional confidence building measures and the future status of Kosovo. Contact Group members will pursue this goal through immediate talks with both Belgrade and the Kosovo Albanians. It is clear that the Kosovo Albanian team for all these talks must be fully representative of their community in order to speak authoritatively.
6. The Contact Group concluded that Belgrade needed to take further action to implement fully the undertakings made by President Milosevic in Moscow on 16 June and the requirements of the Contact Group. The Contact Group also concluded that all concerned on the Kosovo Albanian side should commit themselves to dialogue and a peaceful settlement and reject violence and acts of terrorism. The Contact Group insisted that those outside the FRY who are supplying financial support, arms or training for armed Kosovo Albanian groups should cease doing so immediately. It furthermore requested all states to pursue, as a matter of urgency, all means consistent with their domestic laws and relevant International Law, to prevent funds collected on their territory being used to contravene UNSCR 1160. Against this background the Contact Group decided to pursue United Nations Security Council consideration of the adoption of a resolution reiterating the requirements mentioned above. This resolution should underline the need for a cessation of hostilities to permit a meaningful dialogue between the parties; enshrine the undertakings made by President Milosevic in Moscow; and require the authorities in Belgrade and all those concerned on the Kosovo Albanian side to ensure the safety of international observers operating in Kosovo. Should the required steps not be taken, the Contact Group will consider further action under the United Nations Charter, including action that may require the authorisation of a UN Security Council resolution, to bring about compliance by those who block the process.
7. The Contact Group reiterated that it supports neither the maintenance of the status quo in Kosovo nor the Kosovo Albanians' claims for independence. It emphasised that international involvement in the dialogue between the Belgrade authorities and representatives of the Kosovo Albanian community was an essential element of credible negotiations.
8. With this in mind, the Contact Group agreed to recommend to the negotiating teams basic elements for a resolution of the question of Kosovo's status. Contact Group members reaffirmed their intention to work actively for the achievement of the resolution of this issue.
9. As part of this, in order to help parties, the Contact Group set in hand work to define possible further elements for the future status of Kosovo, which would be made available to the authorities in Belgrade and the leadership of the Kosovo Albanian community for a dialogue with international involvement.

10. Should substantive talks begin, with the necessary security confidence building measures in place and the launch of the mission of the Special Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE, then the Contact Group remains prepared to promote a clear and achievable path towards Belgrade's full integration in the international community including participation in the OSCE. The Contact Group's goal continues to be that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should reap the benefits of membership of international financial and political institutions.
11. The Contact Group expressed its concern about the situation in neighboring countries. It asked competent international organisations to examine options further to stabilise the situation in Albania. The Contact Group also supported the extension of the mandate of UNPREDEP beyond 31 August.
12. The Contact Group noted that the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia had now expressed the view that the situation in Kosovo represented an armed conflict within the terms of the mandate of the Tribunal. It reiterated its call for Belgrade and all those in Kosovo to cooperate with the Prosecutor's investigation of possible violations of international humanitarian law; and requested international observers operating in Kosovo to supply the Prosecutor with any relevant information.
13. The Contact Group noted that a representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE met government representatives of the FRY on 3 July in Belgrade. The Contact Group supported the continuation of contacts between the OSCE and the Government of the FRY with a view to the unimpeded and early return of the long-term OSCE missions to the FRY, the early launching of the mission of the Special Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE, and a dialogue across the full range of the FRY's relations with the OSCE.

Office of the High Representative

JUL 08 '98 05:48PM RSO_AMEMBASSY_BONN

Bonn, July 8, 1998

Confidential ANNEX**Basic elements for a resolution of the question of Kosovo's status within the FRY**

- The territorial integrity of the FRY and its neighbours must be respected.
- a solution to Kosovo's status must include special arrangements for Kosovo's self-governance;
- a mere enhancement of the current status of Kosovo would not adequately address the range of problems. The future status of Kosovo must also be guaranteed at the federal level;
- all citizens and all communities in Kosovo should be able to exercise their democratic rights and should be represented at all levels of administration and elected government. There should be clear arrangements to protect the rights of all ethnic groups;
- under its new status, Kosovo should have constitutionally protected significant legislative, executive and judicial powers, including control of local policing;
- Kosovo would be obligated not to secede unilaterally, and Belgrade would be obligated not to alter Kosovo's status unilaterally.

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: _____ Date: _____

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING

Initials: VR Date: 6/17/2007

2008-0994-153

S/1998/834**4 September 1998**

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PREPARED PURSUANT TO
RESOLUTION 1160 (1998) OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998. It covers the period since my last report, of 5 August 1998 (S/1998/712).

II. SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO
RESOLUTION 1160 (1998)

2. As at 31 August 1998, in addition to those States listed in my earlier reports (S/1998/608 and S/1998/712), Albania, Chile, Croatia and the Republic of Korea reported to the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 12 of resolution 1160 (1998) on the steps they had taken to give effect to the prohibitions imposed by that resolution.

3. In a letter dated 18 August, the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations, in his capacity as the representative of the Presidency of the European Union, transmitted to the Chairman of the Committee the first monthly report of the European Community Monitoring Mission containing observations on violations of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998). The report covered the Mission's activities in July and early August and was submitted in accordance with the European Union's earlier pledge to contribute to international efforts to monitor the embargo and to report to the Committee any relevant information. The Mission has instructed its regional centres in Tirana, Belgrade and Skopje, as well as its coordination centres in Pristina and Podgorica, to be particularly alert to the possibility of weapons transfers from their respective areas of responsibility into the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

4. At its 3rd meeting, held on 19 August 1998, the Committee decided, *inter alia*, to renew its appeal of 7 May 1998 to all States, international organizations and regional organizations to provide information on violations or suspected violations of the prohibitions imposed by Security Council resolution 1160 (1998). That appeal was issued on 26 August 1998 by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Celso L. N. Amorim (Brazil), on behalf of the Committee (SC/6564).

5. In my previous report (S/1998/712), I submitted, in accordance with paragraph 15 of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998), my observations and recommendations for the establishment of a comprehensive regime to monitor the implementation of the prohibitions imposed in paragraph 8

of the resolution. If the Council concurs with the suggested arrangements, I will proceed accordingly.

III. SITUATION IN KOSOVO

6. Continued international efforts to facilitate a political solution to the Kosovo crisis have had limited results. As the Security Council is aware, the situation in Kosovo remains volatile. In mid-July and early August, heavy fighting occurred in the towns of Orahovac and Malisevo, as well as in the Suva Reka and Stimlje areas. By mid-August, fierce fighting was raging in the western parts of Djakovica, Decani and Pec. Towards the end of August, fighting continued in several areas: west of Pec in Rugovska Klisura area, along the Stimlje-Suva Reka road, on the Komorane-Kijevo stretch of the Pristina-Pec Road and near the Pristina airport. Although the scale of fighting between the security forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) has decreased, and the Government has announced that life is returning to normal, it is evident that the conflict continues and any prediction of its end would be premature. The negotiating process has not been renewed and tensions along the border between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Albania have been evident.

Humanitarian concerns

7. An estimated 600 to 700 civilians have been killed in the fighting in Kosovo since March. The conflict has resulted in the estimated cumulative displacement of over 230,000 persons. This is a nearly tenfold increase compared to the figure of 25,000 persons estimated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to have been displaced during the first four months of 1998. The vast majority of those currently displaced by the conflict are within Kosovo (170,000). Others have moved to locations in Montenegro (33,500) and Serbia (20,000). Some 14,000 refugees are currently in Albania. Deserted towns and villages, as well as destroyed houses, slaughtered livestock and burned fields, bear witness to the scale of displacement and destruction in Kosovo. However, it has not always been possible fully to gauge the level of population movement inside Kosovo, owing to the increasingly insecure environment, impediments to access and the fluidity of the population movements. Thousands of civilians are constantly in flight to escape attacks by government forces.

8. According to UNHCR estimates, there could be up to 50,000 displaced people in Kosovo who have been forced from their homes into the woods and mountains. These people are the most vulnerable and are in need of urgent help. Despite assurances from the authorities, access is hindered, and the immediate priority of the humanitarian agencies is to find these groups and to deliver essential relief. It is clear that if these people remain in their current locations over the winter, they will be at serious risk of death. It remains a priority to assist them to return to their homes, or to move them to host families, or, as a last resort, into collective centres where assistance can be more reliably provided.

9. The authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have committed themselves to the creation of conditions for the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes in Kosovo. The reality on the ground, however, is that inadequate security conditions and the continued destruction of homes are making return to many areas virtually impossible. There are disturbing

reports that some returnees, mostly young men, were taken by police for "informative talks". In some cases, the police have prevented returnees from harvesting crops. The Assistant High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Soren Jessen-Petersen, who visited the area from 18 to 22 August, reported one instance when the police, occupying the house of the potential returnee, vandalized it and did not allow the owner to move back in. Such practices, as well as any potential attempts to change the ethnic balance in Kosovo, are unacceptable. I am also concerned by unconfirmed reports that some Kosovo Albanian groups, in pursuit of their political interests, may be blocking the return process in order to prolong the humanitarian crisis and maintain international attention on Kosovo.

10. In order to expedite the return process and to facilitate political progress on the Kosovo issue, there is a **critical need to promote confidence-building measures between the parties in conflict**. As most refugees and internally displaced persons have no trust in the willingness or ability of the Serbian or federal authorities to protect them, all necessary measures should be taken to bridge the confidence gap. In this connection, UNHCR strongly argues the urgent need to strengthen the international presence in Kosovo. The government authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, who bear primary responsibility for the well-being and security of all its citizens, should unambiguously commit themselves to guaranteeing the safety of those returnees not proved to have participated in terrorist activities. The authorities must undertake to prosecute any member of the security forces involved in the mistreatment of innocent civilians. Another important factor is that many internally displaced persons have no place to go, since a significant number of houses have been destroyed or burned. The authorities must bring to justice all those involved in the deliberate destruction of property. They must also make every effort to provide assistance for the reconstruction of damaged and destroyed homes.

11. A prolongation of the Government's present policies is likely to result in further displacement of the wider population. This is particularly worrying because of the approaching winter, which could transform what is currently a humanitarian crisis into a humanitarian catastrophe. It is likely that most of the displacement will continue to be concentrated within Kosovo itself, although an increasing number of those displaced appear to be electing to move to other areas within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Montenegro in particular) and abroad.

12. At the beginning of 1998, there were 1,800 refugees from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina housed in 28 collective centres in Kosovo. UNHCR has requested the federal authorities to transfer the refugees to safe locations outside the conflict areas, but this has not yet been done. Regular visits to the collective centres reveal that the numbers of refugees therein have dropped, as most refugees with the health and means to do so have made their own way out; their present location and condition are unknown. The options of voluntary repatriation and resettlement are being pursued. So far some 600 are being assisted to return to Croatia at their request. Interest in repatriation, especially among the elderly, is increasing and it is expected that the number of requests for return will grow in the near future. More than 1,000 refugees have now requested resettlement abroad.

13. In response to the crisis, the humanitarian agencies continue to identify the location and needs of the displaced, to provide protection when possible, and to deliver assistance from available resources. At the time of writing, the municipalities in Kosovo affected by the conflict include Decane, Djakovica, Glogovac, Istok, Klina, Lipljan, Orahovac, Pec, Srbica, Stimlje and Suva Reka. Most of the displaced within Kosovo are staying within these areas, though some have

moved to other municipalities. Populations in other areas, while not directly involved in the fighting, are increasingly affected by the conflict. Many have little or no access to food supplies, as stocks in shops have, for the most part, not been replenished, and medical facilities face major supply problems. Livestock has been lost or slaughtered, crops lie unharvested in the fields, and fodder is scarce, rendered inaccessible or destroyed. It is feared that many wounded in the conflict areas have no access to medical services.

14. The most worrying problem in Montenegro is the impact of internally displaced persons on the demographic balance and the high burden they place on that Republic of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, since they already represent more than 10 per cent of its population. In Montenegro, UNHCR is increasing its budget to cope with the needs of new arrivals from Kosovo. The focus in the short term is on assisting the most vulnerable host families and to winterize public buildings used to shelter the internally displaced. A similar approach is required in northern Albania, although in the medium term those refugees willing to go there should be relocated to the south in order to decongest Bajram Curri and to move the refugees away from the area, which has become a KLA base. The security situation has become a major concern for the humanitarian agencies in northern Albania.

Human rights

15. The human rights situation in Kosovo has been marked by widespread violations. Acting under the mandates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is engaged in monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in the whole of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The Office of the High Commissioner opened its office in Belgrade in March 1996 and has in addition maintained a continuous monitoring presence in Pristina since March 1998.

16. The Office of the High Commissioner has received increasing reports of persons being arbitrarily arrested for questioning and kept in pre-trial detention for periods well beyond the legal time limit. It has registered more than 200 persons who are reported to be in police detention, and another 200 or more are reported by various sources as "missing". Some persons are believed to be in unacknowledged detention. While most of these people have been arrested in connection with police operations in the field, there is a growing number of cases in which Kosovo Albanian political activists, lawyers, humanitarian workers and medical personnel are being arrested and interrogated by the police. The Office of the High Commissioner has been informed that detainees have recently been transferred to Belgrade from prisons in Kosovo. Lawyers and family members say that they encounter serious problems in obtaining permission to see those detained. Lawyers have reportedly been prevented from speaking with their clients in private for longer than five minutes and have not been allowed by the police to speak with their clients in the Albanian language. There are many reports of torture and ill-treatment during pre-trial detention, including at least four alleged cases of death in custody. The Office of the High Commissioner has on several occasions written to the Serbian Ministry of the Interior inquiring about cases brought to its attention. In Kosovo, the Office is monitoring trials of persons charged with crimes against the state, including "terrorism". Some defendants have reportedly been tortured while under interrogation. In these politically sensitive trials there are serious concerns regarding the independence of the courts and defendants' access to legal counsel.

17. Also a serious cause for concern are reports that a number of Serb, Kosovo Albanian and Roma civilians, as well as Serbian police officers, have been abducted since early April by armed Kosovo Albanians, believed to be KLA members. The Office of the High Commissioner has interviewed relatives and family members of abductees as well as eyewitnesses to abductions. The Yugoslav authorities have indicated that more than 179 civilians and police were abducted since the beginning of the conflict. On 26 and 27 August, in Klecka, 22 persons believed to be abductees reportedly were killed and their bodies burned in a makeshift crematorium. The precise number of victims and the circumstances of their death are being investigated. International monitors have also visited the site.

IV. HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

18. The provision of humanitarian assistance is of great urgency, particularly with the onset of the harsh winter months in the Balkans. In cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, international non-governmental organizations and local organizations, United Nations agencies are attempting to deal with the crisis in the face of difficult conditions and limited funding. Within Kosovo, UNHCR has been escorting multi-agency convoys to deliver humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons; the first priority in this regard has been to help those living in the open, who are, unfortunately, the most difficult to reach.

19. Given the growing crisis in Kosovo and the commensurate increase in humanitarian needs, the international humanitarian assistance programme has become an indispensable factor in ensuring the provision of efficacious and cost-effective relief assistance at the local, national and regional level. UNHCR continues to act as the focal point for inter-agency coordination on issues pertaining to the crisis in Kosovo. Capacity for inter-agency and interregional information flow and coordination continues to be undertaken by UNHCR with support from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. A purpose of the recent visit to Kosovo by the Assistant High Commissioner for Refugees was to assess the humanitarian situation on the ground, including issues of access, security and other operational concerns and constraints.

20. Pursuant to its mandated role as lead agency in the region, UNHCR maintains close liaison with representatives of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as with members of the Kosovo Albanian community and the respective Red Cross Societies to share relevant information on population movements and assistance needs. In this connection, it is worth noting that UNHCR has worked out a division of labour for humanitarian assistance in Kosovo. It also liaises with the diplomatic community and human rights organizations in Belgrade, Pristina and Montenegro as well as with the Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission, the European Community Monitoring Mission and relevant diplomatic missions. Regular briefings are provided on current developments and the monitoring of the safety of displaced persons and refugees.

21. The military operations and civil strife of the past months, resulting in the mass displacement of civilian populations, coupled with the disruption of trade and the failure to harvest crops, have also worsened the food security situation of internally displaced persons and other affected populations. The World Food Programme's intervention in the food sector has been designed to

prevent hunger and malnutrition among refugees and displaced persons, as well as among affected populations in conflict areas. UNHCR has a small provision in its budget to cover special dietary food requirements and supplementary food, to assist the most needy during the winter months of 1998 especially. A number of non-governmental organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross/ International Federation of Red Cross Societies have funding to provide food assistance to the affected population in Kosovo as well as to internally displaced persons in Kosovo and Montenegro.

22. In the non-food sector, UNHCR provides such items as blankets, mattresses, hygienic items, heating/cooking stoves and firewood, with special emphasis on the needs of women and children. Winter clothing will be essential in the coming months. UNHCR will make clothing and footwear available from its stocks in the region; non-governmental organizations are expected to supply substantial quantities of clothing and footwear. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will complement the activities of UNHCR and its partners through the provision of children's garments, basic household supplies and essential hygiene items required by displaced children and women. These supplies will improve the general health status of the internally displaced persons and help to prevent the outbreak of water-borne and food-borne diseases, lice infestation and other conditions related to living in deprived circumstances.

23. The conflict and population displacement in Kosovo has led to a shortage of essential drugs and to the collapse of basic health services. Children in temporary and inadequate shelter are at risk from common diseases and there is a serious threat of a measles epidemic in the coming months. The World Health Organization (WHO) maintains a coordination role in the public health sector and provides technical guidance to agencies involved in this sector. Activities include the procurement of emergency water supply and chlorination systems, the establishment or improvement of sanitary facilities, the improvement of the emergency health surveillance system and its management, and the strengthening of the management of drugs donations and distribution. Preventive health-care activities, in particular immunization programmes and prenatal care, will be undertaken to compensate for local services which have been severely curtailed because of shortages of trained staff and essential medical supplies. In addition to the activities of WHO, UNICEF will continue to provide special paediatric essential drug kits, together with guidelines for health workers on their use. UNICEF also promotes community health and hygiene education, sound infant-feeding practices and, in collaboration with WHO, assists in the monitoring of the general health and nutritional status of the affected population. Building on the work which began in April this year, UNICEF will seek to re-establish the network of trained care providers in Kosovo, in order to provide trauma screening and psycho-social support for children and families seriously affected by the violence and conflict. WHO continues its activities of psycho-social emergency assistance to the internally displaced persons in Montenegro.

24. Accommodation is one of the major concerns in relation to the well-being of internally displaced persons and affected populations. UNHCR will provide material for emergency repairs; more substantial repairs can be carried out only once relative peace has been restored, and it is hoped that reconstruction may be possible immediately after the 1998/1999 winter. In Montenegro, where a different type of shelter assistance is required, some basic repair and maintenance of the collective centres is foreseen. Assistance will also be provided to host families in an effort to support them and encourage them to continue to extend their hospitality, as resources have already started to dwindle. However, if fighting continues in Kosovo and it is

impossible for those now living outside to reach their homes, they may seek to reach Montenegro. This would necessitate the urgent provision of greater resources for collective accommodation.

25. The current conflict has taken a serious toll on education services in Kosovo. UNICEF plans to assist up to 100,000 internally displaced children in Kosovo and other parts of Serbia and up to 20,000 internally displaced children in Montenegro, so that they can start school promptly in September. In Montenegro, UNICEF will concentrate its assistance on providing necessary school materials and basic textbooks for the start of the new school year, and on providing teacher training. In areas of Kosovo with a high influx of internally displaced persons, existing schools will not have the capacity to provide classroom space for all children and alternative arrangements will have to be made. Finally, as a precautionary measure, UNICEF will prepare and print a teachers' manual and posters for use in mine awareness education in primary schools in certain parts of Kosovo. UNHCR will support UNICEF activities and will, in consultation with the Government of Montenegro, provide assistance to carry out sanitation and rehabilitation work at school buildings in Montenegro to increase their capacity. Activities in this sector in Kosovo will depend on the local situation but are expected to be limited at this stage. Working with the legal community and non-governmental organizations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is attempting to produce educational materials that link international human rights standards with domestic law and procedures, particularly in the area of police and judicial procedures. In August, the Office began its first small grants programme for communities and organizations involved in human rights education.

26. Humanitarian agencies can continue to operate only in areas where security conditions permit and access is granted by the relevant authorities. Although access has generally improved, insecurity resulting from fighting often prevents or delays the delivery of aid. In recent weeks, the incidence of cases of restriction of movement and denial of access for humanitarian agencies to certain areas, detention of relief personnel and attacks on relief workers has increased. On 25 August, three relief workers of a local non-governmental organization, the Mother Theresa Society, were killed under fire in a Serbian offensive. In late August, a UNHCR driver of ethnic Serb background was threatened by a KLA member at a KLA checkpoint near Pagarusa while escorting a humanitarian convoy. Humanitarian aid workers must cross numerous checkpoints established by both the police and KLA, often one after another; sometimes relief workers are sandwiched between two checkpoints as neither group will allow them to pass through. Reports of landmines also give cause for concern. While guarantees of access have been given, the security and safety of aid workers remains a real issue and must be addressed by the parties.

27. The most disappointing problem is a lack of resources. Three humanitarian convoys per week do not meet the needs of the affected people. An extension of the United Nations Consolidated Inter-agency Appeal for Humanitarian Assistance Related to the Crisis in Kosovo will be launched by UNHCR and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in September. It is vital that the international community responds generously to this new appeal so that United Nations agencies may meet the expanding emergency humanitarian needs. The support of donors is critical to enhance the response capacity of agencies participating in this appeal, and to allow them to do their utmost to alleviate the human suffering caused by the conflict in Kosovo.

V. OBSERVATIONS

28. I am alarmed by the lack of progress towards a political settlement in Kosovo and by the further loss of life, displacement of civilian population and destruction of property resulting from the ongoing conflict. It is essential that negotiations get under way so as to break the cycle of disproportionate use of force by the Serbian forces and acts of violence by the Kosovo Albanian paramilitary units by promoting a political resolution of the conflict. On 1 September, I wrote to President Milosevic to underline my alarm at the excessive use of force by Serbian military and police forces, noting that Kosovo Albanian extremists also bear responsibility for their acts of provocation. Persistent tensions on the border between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Albania, including reports of border violations and cross-border shelling, are a further cause of serious concern. As I have indicated, this escalation of tensions risks detrimental consequences for the stability in the region. In this regard, I wish to reiterate the concern, expressed in my previous report, that United Nations operations in the region could be negatively affected by developments in Kosovo.

29. I continue to believe strongly that there can be no military solution for the crisis. I urge both parties to demonstrate restraint and to start the negotiating process as soon as possible. Efforts by the Contact Group, regional organizations and individual States to put an end to the violence and to create appropriate conditions for a political settlement of the conflict have my full support. For my part, I remain prepared to contribute to these efforts through all resources available to me.

30. As I have outlined above, recent clashes in Kosovo have led to further displacement of civilian population which have borne the brunt of the fighting since March 1998. I urge parties in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to assure unhindered humanitarian access to all affected areas and to ensure the security of the relief personnel. I call also on international humanitarian organizations to intensify their efforts to provide relief to Kosovo's population. To achieve this, the international community must support these efforts by providing urgently the necessary resources for assistance in Kosovo, in order to prevent a major humanitarian disaster in the region.

[\[Back to Listing of the Secretary-General's Reports to the Security Council in 1998\]](#)

[\[Back to Listing of Security Council documents\]](#)



**United
Nations**

S/RES/1160 (1998)

31 March 1998

RESOLUTION 1160 (1998)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 3868th meeting,
on 31 March 1998

The Security Council,

Noting with appreciation the statements of the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Italy, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (the Contact Group) of 9 and 25 March 1998 (S/1998/223 and S/1998/272), including the proposal on a comprehensive arms embargo on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo,

Welcoming the decision of the Special Session of the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of 11 March 1998 (S/1998/246),

Condemning the use of excessive force by Serbian police forces against civilians and peaceful demonstrators in Kosovo, as well as all acts of terrorism by the Kosovo Liberation Army or any other group or individual and all external support for terrorist activity in Kosovo, including finance, arms and training,

Noting the declaration of 18 March 1998 by the President of the Republic of Serbia on the political process in Kosovo and Metohija (S/1998/250),

Noting also the clear commitment of senior representatives of the Kosovar Albanian community to non-violence,

Noting that there has been some progress in implementing the actions indicated in the Contact Group statement of 9 March 1998, but stressing that further progress is required,

Affirming the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Calls upon the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia immediately to take the further necessary steps to achieve a political solution to the issue of Kosovo through dialogue and to implement the actions indicated in the Contact Group statements of 9 and 25 March 1998;
2. Calls also upon the Kosovar Albanian leadership to condemn all terrorist action, and emphasizes that all elements in the Kosovar Albanian community should pursue their goals by peaceful means only;
3. Underlines that the way to defeat violence and terrorism in Kosovo is for the authorities in Belgrade to offer the Kosovar Albanian community a genuine political process;
4. Calls upon the authorities in Belgrade and the leadership of the Kosovar Albanian community urgently to enter without preconditions into a meaningful dialogue on political status issues, and notes the readiness of the Contact Group to facilitate such a dialogue;
5. Agrees, without prejudging the outcome of that dialogue, with the proposal in the Contact Group statements of 9 and 25 March 1998 that the principles for a solution of the Kosovo problem should be based on the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and should be in accordance with OSCE standards, including those set out in the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of 1975, and the Charter of the United Nations, and that such a solution must also take into account the rights of the Kosovar Albanians and all who live in Kosovo, and expresses its support for an enhanced status for Kosovo which would include a substantially greater degree of autonomy and meaningful self-administration;
6. Welcomes the signature on 23 March 1998 of an agreement on measures to implement the 1996 Education Agreement, calls upon all parties to ensure that its implementation proceeds smoothly and without delay according to the agreed timetable and expresses its readiness to consider measures if either party blocks implementation;
7. Expresses its support for the efforts of the OSCE for a peaceful resolution of the crisis in Kosovo, including through the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, who is also the Special Representative of the European Union, and the return of the OSCE long-term missions;
8. Decides that all States shall, for the purposes of fostering peace and stability in Kosovo, prevent the sale or supply to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, by their nationals or from their territories or using their flag vessels and aircraft, of arms and related matériel of all types, such as weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment and spare parts for the aforementioned, and shall prevent arming and training for terrorist activities there;
9. Decides to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a committee of the Security Council, consisting of all the members of the Council, to undertake the following tasks and to report on its work to the Council with its observations and recommendations:
 - (a) to seek from all States information regarding the action taken by them concerning the effective implementation of the prohibitions imposed by this resolution;
 - (b) to consider any information brought to its attention by any State concerning violations of the

prohibitions imposed by this resolution and to recommend appropriate measures in response thereto;

(c) to make periodic reports to the Security Council on information submitted to it regarding alleged violations of the prohibitions imposed by this resolution;

(d) to promulgate such guidelines as may be necessary to facilitate the implementation of the prohibitions imposed by this resolution;

(e) to examine the reports submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 below;

10. Calls upon all States and all international and regional organizations to act strictly in conformity with this resolution, notwithstanding the existence of any rights granted or obligations conferred or imposed by any international agreement or of any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the entry into force of the prohibitions imposed by this resolution, and stresses in this context the importance of continuing implementation of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control signed in Florence on 14 June 1996;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the committee established by paragraph 9 above and to make the necessary arrangements in the Secretariat for this purpose;

12. Requests States to report to the committee established by paragraph 9 above within 30 days of adoption of this resolution on the steps they have taken to give effect to the prohibitions imposed by this resolution;

13. Invites the OSCE to keep the Secretary-General informed on the situation in Kosovo and on measures taken by that organization in this regard;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed and to report on the situation in Kosovo and the implementation of this resolution no later than 30 days following the adoption of this resolution and every 30 days thereafter;

15. Further requests that the Secretary-General, in consultation with appropriate regional organizations, include in his first report recommendations for the establishment of a comprehensive regime to monitor the implementation of the prohibitions imposed by this resolution, and calls upon all States, in particular neighbouring States, to extend full cooperation in this regard;

16. Decides to review the situation on the basis of the reports of the Secretary-General, which will take into account the assessments of, inter alia, the Contact Group, the OSCE and the European Union, and decides also to reconsider the prohibitions imposed by this resolution, including action to terminate them, following receipt of the assessment of the Secretary-General that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, cooperating in a constructive manner with the Contact Group, have:

(a) begun a substantive dialogue in accordance with paragraph 4 above, including the participation of an outside representative or representatives, unless any failure to do so is not because of the position of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia or Serbian authorities;

- (b) withdrawn the special police units and ceased action by the security forces affecting the civilian population;
 - (c) allowed access to Kosovo by humanitarian organizations as well as representatives of Contact Group and other embassies;
 - (d) accepted a mission by the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that would include a new and specific mandate for addressing the problems in Kosovo, as well as the return of the OSCE long-term missions;
 - (e) facilitated a mission to Kosovo by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;
17. Urges the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal established pursuant to resolution 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993 to begin gathering information related to the violence in Kosovo that may fall within its jurisdiction, and notes that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have an obligation to cooperate with the Tribunal and that the Contact Group countries will make available to the Tribunal substantiated relevant information in their possession;
18. Affirms that concrete progress to resolve the serious political and human rights issues in Kosovo will improve the international position of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and prospects for normalization of its international relationships and full participation in international institutions;
19. Emphasizes that failure to make constructive progress towards the peaceful resolution of the situation in Kosovo will lead to the consideration of additional measures;
20. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

JOINT STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO

The Presidents of the United States and the Russian Federation noted with concern that the situation in Kosovo continues to deteriorate, causing growing alarm among the world public about the growing negative consequences for regional stability. Despite extensive attempts of the Contact Group, OSCE, and other international institutions, there has not yet been success in achieving an end to the armed clashes and senseless bloodshed and in initiating serious and meaningful negotiations between the authorities in Belgrade and leaders of Kosovo Albanians that would make it possible to agree promptly on measures to build confidence and security in the province as an interim step on the way to a final settlement of the Kosovo problem including the definition of the status of enhanced Kosovo self-government with strict respect for the territorial integrity of the FRY.

The escalation of tension in Kosovo inflicts heavy suffering on innocent civilians. Over 200,000 people were forced to leave their homes as the result of armed clashes. The situation is aggravated by large-scale destruction of houses, food shortages, and the risk of epidemic disease. The threat of humanitarian catastrophe is becoming ever more real.

Slobodan Milošević, as President of the FRY, must order a halt to all repressive actions against the civilian population in Kosovo. All violence by all Kosovo Albanian armed groups must cease immediately. President Milošević and the Kosovo Albanian leadership must intensify the negotiating process.

Urgent measures should be taken promptly to prevent humanitarian catastrophe in Kosovo. Necessary conditions should be created without delay for the refugees and displaced persons to return freely to the places of their permanent residence before the advent of winter. The scope and acuteness of the problem call for urgent joint actions of the authorities in Belgrade, the Kosovo Albanians, and international humanitarian organizations. Constant international monitoring in the field, accompanied both by progressive withdrawal of Serb security forces to their permanent locations, and the cessation of armed actions by the Kosovo Albanians, are needed to inspire confidence among people in their safety and prospects for restoring normal life. A mechanism for creating favorable conditions in the most heavily affected locations in the province — a series of "pilot projects" — should be set in motion immediately. The Serb authorities should implement in practice unimpeded access to all areas of the province for humanitarian organizations and diplomatic observers.

The cessation of violence and amelioration of the humanitarian situation would facilitate the creation of a favorable environment for progress in the negotiating process over the entire range of issues. President Milošević and all Kosovo Albanian leaders should engage actively in the negotiating process, with a view toward achieving a political solution to the crisis and a framework for durable peace in Kosovo.

Moscow
September 2, 1998



NATO

**PRESS AND MEDIA
SERVICE**

MR. SCHULTE G.
DIRECTOR DEFENCE PLANNING AND OPS
CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND OPS I310

INTER/BRUXL.
1-PREN

MAY 98 32502
920608



OTAN

**CE DE PRESSE
DES MEDIAS**

**NATO/OTAN, 1110 BRUSSELS/BRUXELLES • TEL. : 707 41 11
TELEFAX/TELECOPIEURS : 707 50 57 - 707 50 58**

PRESS COMMUNIQUE M-NAC-1 (98)61

For immediate release
28th May 1998

STATEMENT ON KOSOVO

Issued at the Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council
held in Luxembourg on 28th May 1998

1. We are deeply concerned by the situation in Kosovo. We deplore the continuing use of violence in suppressing political dissent or in pursuit of political change. The violence and the associated instability risk jeopardising the Peace Agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina and endangering security and stability in Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.¹ It is particularly worrying that the recent resurgence of violence has been accompanied by the creation of obstacles denying access by international observers and humanitarian organisations to the affected areas in Kosovo.

2. We are firmly convinced that the problems of Kosovo can best be resolved through a process of open and unconditional dialogue between authorities in Belgrade and the Kosovar Albanian leadership. The status quo is unsustainable. We support a political solution which provides an enhanced status for Kosovo, preserves the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), and safeguards the human and civil rights of all inhabitants of Kosovo, whatever their ethnic origin.

President Milosevic has a special responsibility to ensure that steps are taken to achieve a political solution in Kosovo. The Kosovar Albanian leadership, represented by Dr. Rugova, also has a crucial part to play in bringing about a political solution. We therefore urge both sides to ensure that the dialogue that has now begun leads rapidly to the adoption of concrete measures to lower tensions, stop the spread of violence and open the way to a peaceful resolution of the crisis. The dialogue process should take into account the views of all communities in Kosovo. We welcome all efforts of the international community to these ends.

3. We support strongly the continuation of an international military presence in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia after the end of the current mandate of UNPREDEP.

¹ Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

We support the continuation of the mandate of UNPREDEP, which has contributed significantly to stability in the region.

4. We have two major objectives with respect to the situation in Kosovo:

- to help achieve a peaceful resolution of the crisis by contributing to the response of the international community; and
- to promote stability and security in neighbouring countries, with particular emphasis on Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

5. We have decided to enhance and supplement PfP activities in both Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to promote security and stability in these Partner countries and to signal NATO's interest in containing the crisis and in seeking a peaceful resolution:

- We are launching NATO-led assistance programmes to help Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to secure their borders, based on enhanced PfP activities and on bilateral assistance.
- We are upgrading a PfP exercise in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, scheduled to take place in September.
- We are scheduling by the end of August a PfP exercise in Albania involving ground and air forces.
- We are establishing a NATO/PfP Cell in Tirana, which will play a direct role in the implementation of Albania's Individual Partnership Programme and which, with the other measures we are taking, will help to enhance the capabilities of Albania's armed forces to ensure the security of its borders.
- We are elaborating a concept for the establishment of PfP training centres, including the possible future use of the Krivolak training area in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- We are authorising the visit of NATO's Standing Force Mediterranean (STANAVFORMED) to the port of Durres in early July.
- We will prepare to support the UNHCR in the event of a humanitarian crisis in the area.

6. In addition, in order to have options available for possible later decisions and to confirm our willingness to take further steps if necessary, we have commissioned military advice on support for UN and OSCE monitoring activity as well as on NATO preventive deployments in Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on a relevant legal basis, in order

to help achieve a peaceful resolution of the crisis and to strengthen security and stability in the region.

7. We will continue to monitor closely the situation in and around Kosovo and we task the Council in Permanent Session to consider the political, legal and, as necessary, military implications of possible further deterrent measures, if the situation so requires.

8. We are in close consultation with the governments of Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia about the measures involving their countries. We have informed Partners of the development of NATO's thinking prior to this meeting. With Russia, we have consulted in a special meeting of the PJC. We will use the meetings of the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council, the NATO-Ukraine Commission and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, both here in Luxembourg and in the future, with a view to seeking the cooperation of Russia, Ukraine and our other Partners with our efforts to help achieve a peaceful resolution of the crisis in Kosovo. We have invited the Secretary General to inform the UN Secretary General, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, the WEU Secretary General and other appropriate international organisations with a view to suggesting the coordination of the activities of the various international organisations involved in Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

9. We call upon President Milosevic to agree to the re-admission of the OSCE Long-Term Mission, and to accept the mission of Mr. Felipe González, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and the EU Special Representative.

10. We are determined, through the ongoing activities of the Alliance through Partnership for Peace and the additional measures we have decided today, to contribute to the international efforts to solve the crisis in Kosovo and to promote regional security and stability.

**NATO****PRESS AND MEDIA
SERVICE****OTAN****SERVICE DE PRESSE
ET DES MEDIAS****NATO/OTAN, 1110 BRUSSELS/BRUXELLES • TEL.: 707 41 11
TELEFAX/TELECOPIEURS : 707 50 57 - 707 50 58**PRESS COMMUNIQUE M-NAÇ-D-1(98)71For immediate release
11th June 1998

MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL
IN DEFENCE MINISTERS SESSION HELD IN BRUSSELS
ON 11th JUNE 1998

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

1. The North Atlantic Council met in Defence Ministers Session in Brussels on 11th June 1998.

2. In less than a year's time the Alliance will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. We reviewed today the defence aspects of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Brussels and Madrid Summit decisions and affirmed our determination to sustain NATO's continuing process of adaptation and renewal. Based on a firm transatlantic partnership, a new NATO has emerged that is projecting stability throughout the Euro-Atlantic area. The Alliance's forces, structures and procedures will underpin its continued commitment to collective defence, ensure its preparedness for new missions, and support the development of the European Security and Defence Identity (ESDI) within NATO. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland are making good progress in their preparations for Alliance membership. We are fully committed to the Alliance's comprehensive approach to enlargement and cooperative partnership with other Euro-Atlantic nations.

3. We reviewed the operations of the NATO-led Stabilisation Force (SFOR) and commended General Shinseki and the men and women of the force for their continuing, exemplary service to the cause of peace, democracy, and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We reaffirmed our appreciation for the excellent cooperation between NATO and non-NATO contributors. Their joint efforts are creating the secure environment necessary for continued implementation of the civil aspects of the 1995 Peace Agreement. While ensuring compliance with the Agreement's military provisions, SFOR has supported the United Nations' Mine Action Centre and helped to increase de-mining by the Entity armed forces, organize an amnesty for war-like material, reform the media and establish alternative sources of information, and has contributed, within capabilities, to the civil implementation efforts for reconstruction projects throughout Bosnia. It has also supported the International Criminal Tribunal for the former

- 2 -

Yugoslavia (ICTY) by detaining and transferring persons indicted for war crimes to The Hague.

4. While important progress has been made, significant challenges must be overcome before we can be confident that the peace process is self-sustaining. With this in mind, we today agreed the activation order necessary to continue SFOR beyond the end of its current mandate on 20th June, subject to a resolution from the UN Security Council. SFOR will continue to deter renewed hostilities and to contribute to a secure environment for the ongoing implementation of the civil aspects of the Peace Agreement, promoting a transition of emphasis from military to civil implementation. At the same time, SFOR will provide broad support, within means and capabilities, for civil implementation, in particular to key aspects such as public security, the return of refugees and displaced persons, the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the September elections. Through the incorporation of a multinational specialised unit which will operate as an integral part of SFOR under the same rules of engagement as other elements, it will have an enhanced capability to support the local authorities in responding to civil disorder, without engaging in police functions, in close cooperation with the Office of the High Representative, and the UN International Police Task Force.

5. In deciding to continue SFOR, NATO has also agreed a transition strategy as an integral part of the force's mission. This strategy will permit and promote a gradual and progressive reduction in the size, role and profile of the force as emphasis shifts from military to civil implementation, leading to eventual full withdrawal, with residual responsibilities being transferred to the common institutions, other civil authorities or other international organisations as appropriate. Formal reviews will be conducted after the September elections and no later than December 1998, and thereafter at intervals of not more than six months to assess, against a set of identified criteria for measuring progress, the security situation and the overall implementation of the Peace Agreement. These reviews will permit the Allies, in consultation with other SFOR contributors, to consider the possible scope for force reductions, taking into account the level of support required for military and civil implementation and the requirements for deterrence. As a contribution to this transition, NATO has established an initial set of Security Cooperation Activities with Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aim of promoting confidence and cooperation among the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and encouraging the development of democratic practices and central defence mechanisms such as the Bosnia and Herzegovina Government's Standing Committee on Military Matters. Lasting security and stability will also be enhanced by continuing implementation of the existing arms control agreements and confidence-building measures and through the early beginning of negotiations aimed at reaching a regional balance in and around the former Yugoslavia. At our meeting we reviewed progress in implementing all these activities and agreed that they be continued. Their

- 2 -

- 3 -

full implementation will enable Bosnia and Herzegovina to find its proper place in the Euro-Atlantic community.

6. At their meeting in Luxembourg, Foreign Ministers looked forward to free and fair elections in Montenegro. Today, we warmly welcomed the results of these elections. Our governments remain firmly committed to supporting the political and economic reforms which the democratically elected leadership of Montenegro is pursuing.

7. We welcomed the increased involvement of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland in Alliance activities since the signing of the Protocols of Accession in December of last year. Further progress has been made in preparing the three invited countries for their future responsibilities and military roles. In particular, challenging but achievable Target Force Goals have been successfully developed within NATO's defence planning system to assist the three invited countries in planning, at the national level, the further preparation of their armed forces for membership in a realistic and effective way. These Target Force Goals address NATO's priority military requirements for an effective enlarged Alliance. We also confirmed the importance of making use of PfP tools and mechanisms in preparing the invited countries for membership, through both the collective and bilateral efforts of Allies. We took note of a progress report on reinforcing the Individual Partnership Programmes of the invited countries.

8. We took note of the report on the Alliance's Medium-Term Resource Plan which includes an assessment of the resource implications of the accession of the three invited countries. The report confirms our earlier assessment that Alliance costs associated with the accession of the invited countries will be manageable and that the resources necessary to meet these costs will be provided in accordance with our agreed procedures under which each Ally bears its fair share.

9. We, as Defence Ministers, reaffirm that the door remains open to NATO membership under Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty and in accordance with Paragraph 8 of the Madrid Declaration. We considered a report on the intensified dialogues which have taken place so far and will continue to follow the process.

10. We received a comprehensive report detailing further progress in the Alliance's internal adaptation since our last meeting. This process continues to be guided by the three objectives of ensuring the Alliance's military effectiveness in the changing security environment for both collective defence and new roles, preserving the transatlantic link, and building the ESDI within the Alliance.

11. Substantial progress has been made by the NATO Military Authorities in planning for the transition to the new command structure which was agreed last year. The detailed implementation

- 3 -

- 4 -

plan will address how the new command structure will be implemented, with a view to achieving full operational capability as soon as possible. We directed the Military Committee to take forward this work, for consideration and endorsement at the Ministerial meetings next December with the aim of completing necessary preparations for a single, irreversible decision by the Council to simultaneously approve the activation requests for all the headquarters of the new military command structure as a whole, to be taken not later than the Washington Summit. The new command structure will be fully functional, militarily efficient and cost effective.

12. Allies welcomed the decision of Spain to authorise Spanish integration in the new military structure of the Alliance and to initiate all necessary actions to achieve that integration, in agreement with NATO Authorities. In order to facilitate its full integration, Spain will participate from the outset in the transition to the new military structure. Spain has also taken a decision to participate fully in the International Military Budget and the NATO Security Investment Programme and is now participating in the Alliance defence planning process on the same basis as the other Allies who take part in this process.

13. We welcome the further progress achieved in implementing the CJTF concept, particularly the successful completion of the second CJTF trial in March of this year. We look forward to the next steps in the implementation process, based inter alia on the results of the first two and any subsequent trials, including, in due course, trials and exercises for WEU-led operations using NATO CJTF headquarters, and lessons learned from the experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Once completed, CJTF implementation, as a key element of the Alliance's adaptation, will provide the Alliance with much greater operational flexibility. The CJTF arrangements to be embedded in the new command structure will further enhance our ability to command and control multinational and multiservice forces, generated and deployed at short notice, which are capable of dealing with a wide range of military operations. They will also facilitate the possible involvement of nations outside the Alliance in NATO-led operations and, by providing for the conduct of WEU-led CJTF operations, contribute greatly to the practical realisation of ESDI within the Alliance.

14. We welcomed the progress made in further developing practical arrangements for building ESDI within NATO, based on the principle of separable but not separate capabilities. We noted that further steps have been taken, in close cooperation with the WEU, on:

- the elaboration of arrangements for the release, monitoring and return or recall of NATO assets and capabilities in the context of a WEU-led operation with NATO support, currently focusing on a framework for an agreement between NATO and the WEU;

- 4 -

- 5 -

- the development of clear and compatible joint consultation arrangements in the context of possible WEU-led operations using NATO assets and capabilities; work to date represents a good starting point for conducting trials and for reference as appropriate in the event of an operation;
- the involvement of the WEU in the Alliance's defence planning process for the first time during the current defence planning cycle, including practical arrangements for the involvement of non-Allied WEU Observer states in force planning activities;
- preparations for a workshop and seminar leading up to a joint NATO-WEU crisis management exercise in the year 2000;
- the further incorporation of requirements for WEU-led operations into NATO's military planning and exercises on the basis of the illustrative mission profiles identified by the WEU.

We direct the Council in Permanent Session to ensure that the key elements of the work on implementing the Berlin and Brussels decisions relating to ESDI are in place, as set out in the report on internal adaptation submitted to us, by the Washington Summit in April 1999.

15. We welcomed the commitment by the WEU Council of Ministers in Rhodes on 11 and 12 May to continue their efforts to enhance institutional and practical cooperation with NATO at all levels and especially between the military staffs and, in the same context, the discussions of the WEU Council with SACLANT and DSACEUR.

16. We discussed key aspects of the examination, and updating as necessary, of the Alliance's Strategic Concept, as mandated by our Heads of State and Government at their Summit meeting in Madrid in July 1997. We reaffirm the great importance we attach to this work, which is proceeding well, and look forward to a further report at our December meeting and to the endorsement of the outcome by our Heads of State and Government at the next Summit meeting.

17. We noted with appreciation a report on progress achieved in implementing the EAPC Basic Document and the enhanced Partnership for Peace. During the past year the EAPC has been gaining momentum as the overarching framework for an expanded political dimension of partnership as well as for practical cooperation under the Partnership for Peace. It has also served as a forum for political consultation on SFOR and Kosovo.

18. The decisions to establish PfP Staff Elements at the strategic and regional levels of NATO's military command structure as well as in the International Military Staff are now

- 5 -

- 6 -

being implemented and we will receive a report next year on the possibility of establishing such elements at the sub-regional level. As part of the further development of the Planning and Review Process (PARP), revised procedures introducing Ministerial Guidance and Partnership Goals for interested Partner nations have been agreed. International military posts for Partners at the Partnership Coordination Cell have now been filled and the two first Partnership projects to be supported under the NATO Security Investment Programme are well under way towards implementation. Work with Partners on the development of a political-military framework for NATO-led PfP operations is proceeding. A report on enhanced practical cooperation in the field of international disaster relief to which all EAPC nations have contributed has been agreed.

19. The efforts further to enhance cooperation, including proposals for increasing regional cooperation within PfP, and bilateral and multinational activities, such as the establishment of training centres and the creation of multinational formations which support the participation in international peace support operations, are giving substance to the enhanced and more operational Partnership and its new possibilities for engaging Partners in defence and military cooperation. We fully support the goal of affording Partners increased decision-making opportunities for activities in which they participate and to which they contribute. At tomorrow's meeting of the EAPC we will review progress on the implementation of the enhanced PfP and discuss opportunities for further practical cooperation within the EAPC framework.

20. At tomorrow's meeting of the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council at the level of Defence Ministers we will review the further progress made toward deepening NATO's new security partnership with the Russian Federation. The implementation of the NATO-Russia Founding Act is proceeding well on the basis of the substantive work programme for 1998 (which includes work on such matters as peacekeeping, disarmament and arms control, efforts against proliferation, defence policy and strategy, and nuclear weapons issues). Important consultations on SFOR and Kosovo have taken place in the PJC. Military-to-military cooperation is central to the achievement of transparency and confidence between NATO and Russia. We accordingly welcomed the second meeting of the Chiefs of Defence under the auspices of the Permanent Joint Council and underlined the importance of establishing, on the basis of reciprocity, military liaison missions at various levels of the military structures of NATO and Russia, and we strongly support efforts to achieve the early opening of a NATO Military Liaison Mission in Moscow, if possible by the end of the year. We confirm our commitment to contribute, as Defence Ministers, to making full use of and, where agreed, broadening and deepening the range of cooperative activities with Russia, with an emphasis on practical military cooperation through Partnership for Peace.

- 6 -

- 7 -

21. We look forward to the first meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission at the level of Defence Ministers tomorrow. The implementation of the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine is proceeding well. We renewed our support for the further development of the political-military aspects of the Charter on the basis of the 1998 work plan and look forward to making use of arrangements under the NATO-Ukraine Charter for consultations on security issues of common interest. The broadening and strengthening of practical military cooperation through PfP and the future work of the newly-established Joint Working Group on Defence Reform play an essential role in NATO's support of Ukraine's continuing reform process, which builds on the practical military cooperation which NATO and Ukraine have achieved to date, including Ukraine's participation within IFOR and SFOR.

22. We value NATO's enhanced Mediterranean Dialogue as an important component of the Alliance's overall cooperative approach to security, reinforcing and complementing the work undertaken in other international fora, and we reiterate that security and stability in the Mediterranean are closely linked to security in and for the whole of Europe. We received a progress report on the implementation of the first work programme of the Mediterranean Dialogue. We welcomed the inclusion of a substantial number of military activities in the work programme, which will contribute to further confidence-building and cooperation in the region, and the decision to designate NATO Contact Point Embassies in Mediterranean Dialogue countries.

23. We support the OSCE's efforts to develop a Document-Charter on European security. NATO is prepared to further develop cooperation with the OSCE and take full advantage of the respective strengths of each institution and the non-hierarchical, mutually reinforcing cooperation between them.

24. We reiterate the condemnation of terrorism in all its forms as expressed by Foreign Ministers in Luxembourg and reaffirm the determination of our Governments to combat this scourge. We believe that close international cooperation is an essential means of eradicating it.

25. Despite the improved overall security environment, the proliferation of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and their delivery means continues to be a matter of concern for the Alliance. The principal aim of the Alliance and its members is to prevent proliferation from occurring, or, should it occur, to reverse it through diplomatic means. However, we also recognize that proliferation can continue to occur despite our preventive efforts and can pose a direct military threat to Allies' populations, territory, and forces. In particular, the use or threat of use of chemical or biological weapons could be a characteristic of future operations in which Allied forces become involved. Therefore we remain committed to continue improving the Alliance defence posture against NBC weapons and to ensure that NATO's defence response is fully reflected in our strategy

- 7 -

- 8 -

and plans, in order to underpin NATO's ability to perform the full range of its missions despite the presence, threat or use of NBC weapons.

26. We received a report taking stock of the wide range of achievements across the full spectrum of NATO's political and military response to NBC weapons risks since the 1994 Brussels Summit to enhance the Alliance defence posture and endorsed the report's recommendations to address areas where further work is required. In particular, we agreed to intensify our efforts to understand better proliferant intentions and doctrine; to enhance biological detection, protection and decontamination and to improve other capabilities that support deployable forces; and to explore opportunities for dealing with the implications of terrorist and coercive CBW attacks. We underscored the importance of consultations with Partners on proliferation-related defence issues. We also underscored the high priority we attach to adapting NATO's operational doctrine, plans, training and exercises to reflect more fully the risks posed especially by CBW.

27. In the light of India's and Pakistan's recent nuclear tests, which the Alliance has condemned, we urge all countries, which have not yet done so, to accede to and fully implement the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We support the early conclusion of a verifiable and universal Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty. We are determined to achieve progress by the end of this year in the negotiation of appropriate measures, including possible verification measures, and draft proposals to strengthen the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and re-emphasize the importance of universal adherence to and full implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

28. We re-affirm the Alliance's commitment to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe as a cornerstone of European security. The Alliance is committed to ensuring that the ongoing adaptation of this Treaty preserves its integrity and enhances its effectiveness in building confidence and security throughout Europe. During this adaptation process the full implementation of and compliance with the provisions of the current Treaty must be ensured. We will continue to encourage all States Parties to intensify their efforts with the objective of an early completion of the adaptation process, on the basis of the goals and objectives in the "Scope and Parameters" Document and the "Basic Elements" Decision. To this end, several Allied proposals have already been tabled in Vienna, including and most recently on the substance of the flank régime and its reconciliation with the structure of the adapted Treaty.

We also call on Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus to ratify the Open Skies Treaty.

- 8 -

- 9 -

29. We stress the need for the entry into force of the START II Treaty, which will reduce Russian and United States strategic nuclear forces and is a prerequisite for further reductions through the envisaged START III Treaty. Therefore we encourage the Russian Federation to ratify START II at the earliest possible date. Furthermore, we urge Russia to honour its commitments as stated by President Yeltsin in 1992 to substantially reduce its tactical nuclear weapons.

30. We look forward to receiving a report on the ongoing work by the NATO Military Authorities to assess the impact on NATO of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

31. We noted a comprehensive annual report of NATO's Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD). In particular, we noted that the Directors are investigating short, medium and long-term solutions to the requirement for an Alliance Ground Surveillance capability, and we look forward to receiving their findings next year. We underlined the importance of the work underway in NATO's new Research and Technology Organization to develop a long term strategy for guiding the Alliance's defence research and technology activities. We welcomed CNAD approval of a programme plan for a NATO layered theatre ballistic missile defence capability starting with the preparation, between 1998 and 2000, for a feasibility phase. We also noted with satisfaction CNAD initiatives in the areas of PfP, including one to launch small scale Partnership Armaments Cooperation Projects, as well as the exploratory dialogue with the Russian Federation and Ukraine on armaments-related matters. Finally, we noted progress made by the Directors in their study of the conduct of NATO armaments activities in the future, and look forward to receiving the results of this work at our next meeting.

32. Military common-funded programmes continue to make a significant contribution to the Alliance's military effectiveness and are practical demonstrations of cooperation and cohesion among the Allies. They are also playing an important role in preparing the three invited states for membership. We note with satisfaction the steps taken to give greater transparency to the budgetary process and to enable the Council to take a broader, more strategic overview of NATO common-funded expenditure.

33. As the Alliance approaches its 50th anniversary, we will continue to work for the strengthening of security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area, based on the solidarity and cohesion of the new NATO, as reflected in our commitment to the core function of collective defence and the indispensable transatlantic link, the development of cooperative security partnerships with other Euro-Atlantic nations, the creation of ESDI within NATO, and the Alliance's effectiveness for the full range of its missions.



NATO

**PRESS AND MEDIA
SERVICE**

MR. SCHULTE G.
DIRECTOR DEFENCE PLANNING AND OPS
CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND OPS I310
INTER/DEF/PL.
1-PREN



May 98 32502

OTAN

**SERVICE DE PRESSE
ET DES MEDIAS**

**NATO/OTAN, 1110 BRUSSELS/BRUXELLES • TEL. : 707 41 11
TELEFAX/TELECOPIEURS : 707 50 57 - 707 50 58**

PRESS COMMUNIQUE M-NAC-1 (98)60

For immediate release
28th May 1998

STATEMENT ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Issued at the Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council
held in Luxembourg on 28th May 1998

1. The Alliance has made a decisive contribution to stability and peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Encouraging progress has been made recently in the implementation of many aspects of the Peace Agreement of 1995. But much remains to be done. Today, we endorsed the operational planning for the continuation of SFOR beyond June 1998, following consultations with the non-NATO contributing nations, to assist in the further implementation of the Peace Agreement. The creation within SFOR of a Multinational Specialized Unit, with the same mandate as other SFOR elements, will enhance SFOR's ability to support the local authorities in responding to civil disorder, without engaging in police functions, so as to assist the return of refugees and displaced persons and the installation of elected officials.

2. While the prime responsibility for implementing the Peace Agreement lies with the parties, SFOR will continue, within its means and capabilities, to provide broad support for civil implementation. This will include assisting and coordinating closely and efficiently with:

- the High Representative in the implementation of the civil aspects of the Peace Agreement;
- the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, as a matter of high priority, with the phased and orderly return of refugees;
- the UN International Police Task Force in the reform and re-structuring of the local police;
- the OSCE in the context of the September elections; and
- the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia by transferring persons indicted for war crimes to The Hague.

Detentions by SFOR over the past year of war crimes indictees have contributed to the peace process and underscored our commitment not to let this aspect of the Peace Agreement rest.

3. Progress in these areas will not only help to consolidate the peace within a single, democratic and multi-ethnic state, but will also help to create the conditions in which a NATO-led military presence is no longer needed. NATO has adopted a series of benchmarks to measure progress in the overall implementation of the Peace Agreement. This will allow progressive reductions in the size and profile of the force commensurate with its agreed tasks.

4. We strongly support the continuing implementation of confidence-building measures at the local and regional level. We look forward to the beginning of arms control negotiations, as provided for in the Peace Agreement, with the goal of establishing a regional balance in and around the former Yugoslavia, including appropriate verification arrangements. The Alliance has initiated a set of security cooperation activities with Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the aim of promoting confidence and cooperation among the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and encouraging the development of democratic practices and central defence mechanisms, such as the Standing Committee on Military Matters established by the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. We call on all parties to the Peace Agreement to redouble their efforts to implement the Agreement in full and thus to create the conditions for a peaceful, stable and prosperous future for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

25 -02- 1998

NATO**PRESS AND MEDIA
SERVICE**MR. SCHULTE G.
DIRECTOR DEFENCE PLANNING AND OPS
CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND OPS I310INTER-BRUXL.
1-PREN**OTAN**
Feb 98 132401
920608**SERVICE DE PRESSE
ET DES MEDIAS**NATO/OTAN, 1110 BRUSSELS/BRUXELLES • TEL. : 707 41 11
TELEFAX/TELECOPIEURS : 707 50 57 - 707 50 58PRESS RELEASE (98)1820 February 1998

**STATEMENT BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL ON THE CONTINUATION
OF A NATO-LED MULTINATIONAL MILITARY PRESENCE
IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Following consultations with non-NATO contributors, the North Atlantic Council today agreed that, subject to the necessary mandate from the UN Security Council, NATO is prepared to organize and lead a multinational force in Bosnia and Herzegovina following the end of SFOR's current mandate in June. This decision was taken in the light of encouraging progress in the implementation of the Peace Agreement, to which SFOR has made a major contribution, the conclusions of the Peace Implementation Conference in Bonn and an assessment of the military situation provided by the NATO Military Authorities. On the basis of today's decision, the Alliance looks forward to further progress towards achieving self-sustaining stability and calls on the parties to assume their responsibilities in implementing the Peace Agreement fully and without delay.

The new NATO-led multinational force will retain the well-established name SFOR. It will have the mission to deter renewed hostilities and to contribute to a secure environment for the ongoing civil implementation efforts in order to stabilize and consolidate the peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will have an enhanced capability to help promote public security in close cooperation with the Office of the High Representative, the UN International Police Task Force and the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The force will continue to provide broad support for the implementation of the civil aspects of the Peace Agreement including the promotion of democratic institutions, support for OHR, IPTF, UNHCR, OSCE, ICTY and other international civil agencies and assistance in carrying out humanitarian tasks. As part of a transition strategy the extent of support over time should be adapted to developments in the political and security situation and to progress in the implementation of the civil elements of the Peace Agreement including the Autumn elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Force levels will therefore be reviewed later this year and at regular intervals with the aim of achieving both progressive reductions in the size, role and profile of the force as part of the transition strategy and the transfer of responsibilities to the common institutions, other civil authorities, the UN, the High Representative, the OSCE and other international organizations as appropriate.

The Council has directed the NATO Military Authorities to initiate the necessary planning. It will review the detailed Operation Plan in the Spring in consultation with non-NATO contributors taking into account national procedures.

NATO welcomes the support of non-NATO participants in SFOR for the continuation of the force and the widespread interest in continuing to contribute to the force.

NATO Information is available on E-Mail via the following address:
NATODOC@HQ.NATO.INT



NATO

**PRESS AND MEDIA
SERVICE**



OTAN

**SERVICE DE PRESSE
ET DES MEDIAS**

**NATO/OTAN, 1110 BRUSSELS/BRUXELLES • TEL. : 707 41 11
TELEFAX/TELECOPIEURS : 707 50 57 - 707 50 58**

PRESS COMMUNIQUE M-1 (97)81

For immediate release
8th July 1997

MADRID DECLARATION ON EURO-ATLANTIC SECURITY AND COOPERATION

Issued by the Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting
of the North Atlantic Council in Madrid
on 8th July 1997

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the North Atlantic Alliance, have come together in Madrid to give shape to the new NATO as we move towards the 21st century. Substantial progress has been achieved in the internal adaptation of the Alliance. As a significant step in the evolutionary process of opening the Alliance, we have invited three countries to begin accession talks. We have substantially strengthened our relationship with Partners through the new Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and enhancement of the Partnership for Peace. The signature on 27th May of the NATO-Russia Founding Act and the Charter we will sign tomorrow with Ukraine bear witness to our commitment to an undivided Europe. We are also enhancing our Mediterranean dialogue. Our aim is to reinforce peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area.

A new Europe is emerging, a Europe of greater integration and cooperation. An inclusive European security architecture is evolving to which we are contributing, along with other European organisations. Our Alliance will continue to be a driving force in this process.

2. We are moving towards the realisation of our vision of a just and lasting order of peace for Europe as a whole, based on human rights, freedom and democracy. In looking forward to the 50th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty, we reaffirm our commitment to a strong, dynamic partnership between the European and North American Allies, which has been, and will continue to be, the bedrock of the Alliance and of a free and prosperous Europe. The vitality of the transatlantic link will benefit from the development of a true, balanced partnership in which Europe is taking on greater responsibility. In this spirit, we are building a European Security and Defence Identity within NATO. The Alliance and the European Union share common strategic interests. We welcome the agreements reached at the European Council in Amsterdam. NATO will remain the essential forum for consultation among its members and the venue for agreement on policies bearing on the security and defence commitments of Allies under the Washington Treaty.

3. While maintaining our core function of collective defence, we have adapted our political and military structures to improve our ability to meet the new challenges of regional crisis and conflict management. NATO's continued contribution to peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the unprecedented scale of cooperation with other countries and international organisations there, reflect the cooperative approach which is key to building our common security. A new NATO is developing: a new NATO for a new and undivided Europe.

4. The security of NATO's members is inseparably linked to that of the whole of Europe. Improving the security and stability environment for nations in the Euro-Atlantic area where peace is fragile and instability currently prevails remains a major Alliance interest. The consolidation of democratic and free societies on the entire continent, in accordance with OSCE principles, is therefore of direct and material concern to the Alliance. NATO's policy is to build effective cooperation through its outreach activities, including the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, with free nations which share the values of the Alliance, including members of the European Union as well as candidates for EU membership.

5. At our last meeting in Brussels, we said that we would expect and would welcome the accession of new members, as part of an evolutionary process, taking into account political and security developments in the whole of Europe. Twelve European countries have so far requested to join the Alliance. We welcome the aspirations and efforts of these nations. The time has come to start a new phase of this process. The Study on NATO Enlargement - which stated, inter alia, that NATO's military effectiveness should be sustained as the Alliance enlarges - the results of the intensified dialogue with interested Partners, and the analyses of relevant factors associated with the admission of new members have provided a basis on which to assess the current state of preparations of the twelve countries aspiring to Alliance membership.

6. Today, we invite the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland to begin accession talks with NATO. Our goal is to sign the Protocol of Accession at the time of the Ministerial meetings in December 1997 and to see the ratification process completed in time for membership to become effective by the 50th anniversary of the Washington Treaty in April 1999. During the period leading to accession, the Alliance will involve invited countries, to the greatest extent possible and where appropriate, in Alliance activities, to ensure that they are best prepared to undertake the responsibilities and obligations of membership in an enlarged Alliance. We direct the Council in Permanent Session to develop appropriate arrangements for this purpose.

7. Admitting new members will entail resource implications for the Alliance. It will involve the Alliance providing the resources which enlargement will necessarily require. We direct the Council in Permanent Session to bring to an early conclusion the concrete analysis of the resource implications of the forthcoming enlargement, drawing on the continuing work on military implications. We are confident that, in line with the security environment of the Europe of today, Alliance costs associated with the integration of new members will be manageable and that the resources necessary to meet those costs will be provided.

8. We reaffirm that NATO remains open to new members under Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty. The Alliance will continue to welcome new members in a position to further the principles of the Treaty and contribute to security in the Euro-Atlantic area. The Alliance expects to extend further invitations in coming years to nations willing and able to assume the responsibilities and obligations of membership, and as NATO determines that the inclusion of these nations would serve the overall political and strategic interests of the Alliance and that the inclusion would enhance overall European security and stability. To give substance to this commitment, NATO will maintain an active relationship with those nations that have expressed an interest in NATO membership as well as those who may wish to seek membership in the future. Those nations that have previously expressed an interest in becoming NATO members but that were not invited to begin accession talks today will remain under consideration for future membership. The considerations set forth in our 1995 Study on NATO Enlargement will continue to apply with regard to future aspirants, regardless of their geographic location. No European democratic country whose admission would fulfil the objectives of the Treaty will be excluded from consideration. Furthermore, in order to enhance overall security and stability in Europe, further steps in the ongoing enlargement process of the Alliance should balance the security concerns of all Allies.

To support this process, we strongly encourage the active participation by aspiring members in the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace, which will further deepen their political and military involvement in the work of the Alliance. We also intend to continue the Alliance's intensified dialogues with those nations that aspire to NATO membership or that otherwise wish to pursue a dialogue with NATO on membership questions. To this end, these intensified dialogues will cover the full range of political, military, financial and security issues relating to possible NATO membership, without prejudice to any eventual Alliance decision. They will include meeting within the EAPC as well as periodic meetings with the North Atlantic Council in Permanent Session and the NATO International Staff and with other NATO bodies as appropriate. In keeping with our pledge to maintain an open door to the admission of additional Alliance members in the future, we also direct that NATO Foreign Ministers keep that process under continual review and report to us.

We will review the process at our next meeting in 1999. With regard to the aspiring members, we recognise with great interest and take account of the positive developments towards democracy and the rule of law in a number of southeastern European countries, especially Romania and Slovenia.

The Alliance recognises the need to build greater stability, security and regional cooperation in the countries of southeast Europe, and in promoting their increasing integration into the Euro-Atlantic community. At the same time, we recognise the progress achieved towards greater stability and cooperation by the states in the Baltic region which are also aspiring members. As we look to the future of the Alliance, progress towards these objectives will be important for our overall goal of a free, prosperous and undivided Europe at peace.

9. The establishment of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council in Sintra constitutes a new dimension in the relations with our Partners. We look forward to tomorrow's meeting with Heads of State and Government under the aegis of the EAPC.

The EAPC will be an essential element in our common endeavour to enhance security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic region. Building on the successful experience with the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and with Partnership for Peace, it will provide the overarching framework for all aspects of our wide-ranging cooperation and raise it to a qualitatively new level. It will deepen and give more focus to our multilateral political and security-related discussions, enhance the scope and substance of our practical cooperation, and increase transparency and confidence in security matters among all EAPC member states. The expanded political dimension of consultation and cooperation which the EAPC will offer will allow Partners, if they wish, to develop a direct political relationship individually or in smaller groups with the Alliance. The EAPC will increase the scope for consultation and cooperation on regional matters and activities.

10. The Partnership for Peace has become the focal point of our efforts to build new patterns of practical cooperation in the security realm. Without PfP, we would not have been able to put together and deploy so effectively and efficiently the Implementation and Stabilisation Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the participation of so many of our Partners.

We welcome and endorse the decision taken in Sintra to enhance the Partnership for Peace by strengthening the political consultation element, increasing the role Partners play in PfP decision-making and planning, and by making PfP more operational. Partners will, in future, be able to involve themselves more closely in PfP programme issues as well as PfP operations, Partner staff elements will be established at various levels of the military structure of the Alliance, and the Planning and Review Process will become more like the NATO force planning process. On the basis of the principles of inclusiveness and self-differentiation, Partner countries will thus be able to draw closer to the Alliance. We invite all Partner countries to take full advantage of the new possibilities which the enhanced PfP will offer.

With the expanded range of opportunities comes also the need for adequate political and military representation at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. We have therefore created the possibility for Partners to establish diplomatic missions to NATO under the Brussels Agreement which entered into force on 28th March 1997. We invite and encourage Partner countries to take advantage of this opportunity.

11. The Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security between NATO and the Russian Federation, signed on 27th May 1997 in Paris, is a historic achievement. It opens a new era in European security relations, an era of cooperation between NATO and Russia. The Founding Act reflects our shared commitment to build together a lasting and inclusive peace in the Euro-Atlantic area on the principles of democracy and cooperative security. Its provisions contribute to NATO's underlying objective of enhancing the security of all European states, which is reinforced also through our actions here in Madrid. It provides NATO and Russia a

framework through which we intend to create a strong, stable and enduring partnership. We are committed to working with Russia to make full use of the provisions of the Founding Act.

Through the new forum created under the Founding Act, the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council, NATO and Russia will consult, cooperate and, where appropriate, act together to address challenges to security in Europe. The activities of the Council will build upon the principles of reciprocity and transparency. The cooperation between Russian and NATO troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina and between the staffs at SHAPE demonstrate what is possible when we work together. We will build on this experience, including through PfP, to develop genuine cooperation between NATO and Russia. We look forward to consulting regularly with Russia on a broad range of topics, and to forging closer cooperation, including military-to-military, through the Permanent Joint Council, which will begin work soon.

12. We attach great importance to tomorrow's signing of the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine. The NATO-Ukraine Charter will move NATO-Ukraine cooperation onto a more substantive level, offer new potential for strengthening our relationship, and enhance security in the region more widely. We are convinced that Ukraine's independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty are a key factor for ensuring stability in Europe. We continue to support the reform process in Ukraine as it develops as a democratic nation with a market economy.

We want to build on steps taken to date in developing a strong and enduring relationship between NATO and Ukraine. We welcome the practical cooperation achieved with the Alliance through Ukraine's participation within IFOR and SFOR, as well as the recent opening of the NATO Information Office in Kyiv, as important contributions in this regard. We look forward to the early and active implementation of the Charter.

13. The Mediterranean region merits great attention since security in the whole of Europe is closely linked with security and stability in the Mediterranean. We are pleased with the development of the Mediterranean initiative that was launched following our last meeting in Brussels. The dialogue we have established between NATO and a number of Mediterranean countries is developing progressively and successfully, contributes to confidence-building and cooperation in the region, and complements other international efforts. We endorse the measures agreed by NATO Foreign Ministers in Sintra on the widening of the scope and the enhancement of the dialogue and, on the basis of their recommendation, have decided today to establish under the authority of the North Atlantic Council a new committee, the Mediterranean Cooperation Group, which will have the overall responsibility for the Mediterranean dialogue.

14. We welcome the progress made on the Alliance's internal adaptation. Its fundamental objectives are to maintain the Alliance's military effectiveness and its ability to react to a wide range of contingencies, to preserve the transatlantic link, and develop the European Security and Defence Identity (ESDI) within the Alliance. We recognise the substantive work which has been carried out on the development of a new command structure for the Alliance; the implementation of the Combined Joint Task Forces (CJTF) concept; and the building of ESDI

within NATO. We attach great importance to an early and successful completion of this process. Building on the earlier reductions and restructuring of the Alliance's military forces, it will provide the Alliance with the full range of capabilities needed to meet the challenges of the future.

15. We welcome the substantial progress made on the development of a new command structure which will enable the Alliance to carry out the whole range of its missions more effectively and flexibly, support our enhanced relationship with Partners and the admission of new members, and provide, as part of the development of ESDI within NATO, for European command arrangements able to prepare, support, command and conduct WEU-led operations.

We note that essential elements of the new command structure have been identified and will form the basis for further work. We must maintain the momentum of this work. We have, accordingly, directed the Council in Permanent Session, with the advice of the Military Committee, to work on the resolution of outstanding issues with the aim of reaching agreement on NATO's future command structure by the time of the Council Ministerial meetings in December.

16. Against this background, the members of the Alliance's integrated military structure warmly welcome today's announcement by Spain of its readiness to participate fully in the Alliance's new command structure, once agreement has been reached upon it. Spain's full participation will enhance its overall contribution to the security of the Alliance, help develop the European Security and Defence Identity within NATO and strengthen the transatlantic link.

17. We are pleased with the progress made in implementing the CJTF concept, including the initial designation of parent headquarters, and look forward to the forthcoming trials. This concept will enhance our ability to command and control multinational and multiservice forces, generated and deployed at short notice, which are capable of conducting a wide range of military operations. Combined Joint Task Forces will also facilitate the possible participation of non-NATO nations in operations and, by enabling the conduct of WEU-led CJTF operations, will contribute to the development of ESDI within the Alliance.

18. We reaffirm, as stated in our 1994 Brussels Declaration, our full support for the development of the European Security and Defence Identity by making available NATO assets and capabilities for WEU operations. With this in mind, the Alliance is building ESDI, grounded on solid military principles and supported by appropriate military planning and permitting the creation of militarily coherent and effective forces capable of operating under the political control and strategic direction of the WEU. We endorse the decisions taken at last year's Ministerial meeting in Berlin in this regard which serve the interests of the Alliance as well as of the WEU.

We further endorse the considerable progress made in implementing these decisions and in developing ESDI within the Alliance. In this context we endorse the decisions taken with regard to European command arrangements within NATO to prepare, support, command and conduct WEU-led operations using NATO assets and capabilities (including

provisional terms of reference for Deputy SACEUR covering his ESDI-related responsibilities both permanent and during crises and operations), the arrangements for the identification of NATO assets and capabilities that could support WEU-led operations, and arrangements for NATO-WEU consultation in the context of such operations. We welcome inclusion of the support for the conduct of WEU-led operations in the context of the ongoing implementation of the revised Alliance defence planning process for all Alliance missions. We also welcome the progress made on work regarding the planning and future exercising of WEU-led operations, and in developing the necessary practical arrangements for release, monitoring and return of NATO assets and the exchange of information between NATO and WEU within the framework of the NATO-WEU Security Agreement.

We note with satisfaction that the building of ESDI within the Alliance has much benefitted from the recent agreement in the WEU on the participation of all European Allies, if they were so to choose, in WEU-led operations using NATO assets and capabilities, as well as in planning and preparing for such operations. We also note the desire on Canada's part to participate in such operations when its interests make it desirable and under modalities to be developed. We direct the Council in Permanent Session to complete expeditiously its work on developing ESDI within NATO, in cooperation with the WEU.

19. The Alliance Strategic Concept, which we adopted at our meeting in Rome in 1991, sets out the principal aims and objectives of the Alliance. Recognising that the strategic environment has changed since then, we have decided to examine the Strategic Concept to ensure that it is fully consistent with Europe's new security situation and challenges. As recommended by our Foreign Ministers in Sintra, we have decided to direct the Council in Permanent Session to develop terms of reference for this examination, and an update as necessary, for endorsement at the Autumn Ministerial meetings. This work will confirm our commitment to the core function of Alliance collective defence and the indispensable transatlantic link.

20. We reiterate our commitment to full transparency between NATO and WEU in crisis management, including as necessary through joint consultations on how to address contingencies. In this context, we are determined to strengthen the institutional cooperation between the two organisations. We welcome the fact that the WEU has recently undertaken to improve its capacity to plan and conduct crisis management and peacekeeping operations (the Petersberg tasks), including through setting the groundwork for possible WEU-led operations with the support of NATO assets and capabilities, and accepted the Alliance's invitation to contribute to NATO's Ministerial Guidance for defence planning. We will therefore continue to develop the arrangements and procedures necessary for the planning, preparation, conduct and exercise of WEU-led operations using NATO assets and capabilities.

21. We reaffirm our commitment to further strengthening the OSCE as a regional organisation according to Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as a primary instrument for preventing conflict, enhancing cooperative security and advancing democracy and human rights. The OSCE, as the most inclusive European-wide security organisation, plays an essential role in securing peace, stability and security in Europe. The principles and

commitments adopted by the OSCE provide a foundation for the development of a comprehensive and cooperative European security architecture. Our goal is to create in Europe, through the widest possible cooperation among OSCE states, a common space of security and stability, without dividing lines or spheres of influence limiting the sovereignty of particular states.

We continue to support the OSCE's work on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the Twenty-First Century, in accordance with the decisions of the 1996 Lisbon Summit, including consideration of developing a Charter on European Security.

22. We welcome the successful holding of elections in Albania as a vital first step in providing the basis for greater stability, democratic government and law and order in the country. We stress, in this context, the importance of a firm commitment by all political forces to continue the process of national reconciliation. We also welcome the crucial role of the Italian-led Multinational Protection Force, with the participation of several Allies and Partners, in helping to create a secure environment for the re-establishment of peace and order. We value the efforts of the OSCE as the coordinating framework for international assistance in Albania, together with the important contributions made by the EU, WEU and the Council of Europe. We are following closely events in Albania and are considering measures through the Partnership for Peace to assist, as soon as the situation permits, in the reconstruction of the armed forces of Albania as an important element of the reform process. Continued international support will be essential in helping to restore stability in Albania.

23. We continue to attach greatest importance to further the means of non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament.

We welcome the progress made since the Brussels Summit, as an integral part of NATO's adaptation, to intensify and expand Alliance political and defence efforts aimed at preventing proliferation and safeguarding NATO's strategic unity and freedom of action despite the risks posed by nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) weapons and their means of delivery. We attach the utmost importance to these efforts, welcome the Alliance's substantial achievements, and direct that work continue.

We call on all states which have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention. Recognising that enhancing confidence in compliance would reinforce the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, we reaffirm our determination to complete as soon as possible through negotiation a legally binding and effective verification mechanism. We urge the Russian Federation to ratify the START II Treaty without delay so that negotiation of START III may begin.

We support the vigorous pursuit of an effective, legally binding international agreement to ban world-wide the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines. We note the positive developments in the Conference on Disarmament. We further note the progress made by the Ottawa Process with its goal of achieving a ban by the end of the year.

24. We continue to attach utmost importance to the CFE Treaty and its integrity. In this context, we welcome the entry into force of the CFE Flank Agreement on 15th May 1997 and underline its importance for regional stability. We share the commitment of all thirty States Parties to continue full implementation of the CFE Treaty, its associated documents, and the Flank Agreement. We confirm our readiness to work cooperatively with other States Parties to achieve, as expeditiously as possible, an adapted CFE Treaty that takes account of the changed political and military circumstances in Europe, continues to serve as a cornerstone of stability, and provides undiminished security for all. NATO has advanced a comprehensive proposal for adaptation of the CFE Treaty on the basis of a revised Treaty structure of national and territorial ceilings. The Allies have already stated their intention to reduce significantly their future aggregate national ceilings for Treaty-Limited Equipment. We look forward to working with other States Parties on the early completion of a Framework Agreement on CFE adaptation.

25. We reaffirm the importance of arrangements in the Alliance for consultation on threats of a wider nature, including those linked to illegal arms trade and acts of terrorism, which affect Alliance security interests. We continue to condemn all acts of international terrorism. They constitute flagrant violations of human dignity and rights and are a threat to the conduct of normal international relations. In accordance with our national legislation, we stress the need for the most effective cooperation possible to prevent and suppress this scourge.

26. The steps we have taken today, and tomorrow's meeting with our Partners under the aegis of the EAPC, bring us closer to our goal of building cooperative security in Europe. We remain committed to a free and undivided Euro-Atlantic community in which all can enjoy peace and prosperity. Renewed in structure and approach, strengthened in purpose and resolve, and with a growing membership, NATO will continue to play its part in achieving this goal and in meeting the security challenges in the times ahead.

* * * * *

27. We express our deep appreciation for the gracious hospitality extended to us by the Government of Spain. We are looking forward to meeting again on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty in April 1999.

N A T O



O T A N

SERVICE DE PRESSE

PRESS SERVICE

NATO/OTAN, 1110 Brussels/Bruzelles • Tel.: 728 41 11 - Telex: 25-599
Telefax/Télécopieurs: 728 50 57 - 728 50 58

PRESS COMMUNIQUE M-NACC-2(92)108For immediate release
17th December 1992STATEMENT ON FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Issued by the North Atlantic Council in Ministerial
meeting at NATO Headquarters, Brussels on 17th December 1992

1. We are profoundly disturbed by the deteriorating situation in the former Yugoslavia, which constitutes a serious threat to international peace, security, and stability. Recent meetings in Edinburgh, Stockholm and Geneva have made clear the international community's impatience with the situation, its determination that the carnage and lawlessness in former Yugoslavia be brought to a halt, and its commitment to a negotiated, peaceful and lasting settlement. We are contributing individually and as an Alliance to the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, and we are prepared to respond to further requests for such contributions.

2. Primary responsibility for the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina lies with the present leadership of Serbia and of the Bosnian Serbs. They have sought territorial gains by force and engaged in systematic gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including the barbarous practice of "ethnic cleansing". There is the systematic detention and rape of Muslim women and girls. Relief convoys are being harassed and delayed. All such acts must cease. Those individuals responsible for atrocities, whatever party they belong to, are accountable for their actions and liable to be judged accordingly. To this end, we welcome consideration of the creation of an ad hoc tribunal.

3. We reject any unilateral changes in borders, territory, or populations. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina must be restored. We call upon all parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina to accept the Geneva Conference draft outline constitution as a basis for negotiations. We strongly support the continuing

-2-

efforts of the UN and EC Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia (ICFY).

4. We are deeply concerned about possible spillover of the conflict, and about the situation in Kosovo. We call urgently on all parties to act with restraint and moderation. Serious negotiations on the restoration of autonomy to Kosovo within Serbia and the guarantee of full human rights should begin immediately under the ICFY. We are in favour of a UN preventive presence in Kosovo. An explosion of violence in Kosovo could, by spreading the conflict, constitute a serious threat to international peace and security and would require an appropriate response by the international community.

5. We support CSCE efforts and a substantial increase in international conflict prevention measures, such as monitoring missions, and expect cooperation from all parties. We urge further speedy preventive steps by the UN or the CSCE to help defuse existing tensions. In that context, we welcome the decision of the United Nations Security Council to place peacekeeping forces on the borders of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with Albania and Serbia and Montenegro.

6. Strict enforcement of UN embargoes is essential. We urge nations to continue efforts to tighten their enforcement.

7. The Alliance has contributed personnel and equipment to the UNPROFOR II Headquarters in Bosnia-Herzegovina, is helping to enforce UN embargoes in the Adriatic, and is providing to the UN data obtained from NATO Airborne Early-Warning (AWACS) aircraft to help monitor the Bosnia-Herzegovina no-fly zone. Members of the Alliance are prepared to take further steps to assist the UN in implementing its decisions to maintain international peace and security.

8. The Security Council will shortly consider adopting a resolution on enforcement of the No-Fly Zone, bearing in mind the need to continue the current humanitarian effort in Bosnia. Should such a resolution be adopted, and should violations continue thereafter, we would be prepared to support the UN in enforcing that resolution.

9. In view of the continuing attacks on Sarajevo, we urge the Security Council to consider further measures as soon as possible, as set out in the 9th December Statement of the UN Security Council President.

10. All parties, but in particular the Serbian authorities, in and outside Bosnia-Herzegovina must cooperate fully with UNHCR and UNPROFOR. We recall that UNSCR 770 authorizes all measures necessary to ensure relief deliveries to Bosnia, and that interference in relief activities is an

-2-

-3-

international crime. All must refrain from any action which might jeopardize the safety of UNPROFOR and other UN personnel. If requested by the UN, the Alliance would be prepared to take appropriate measures if any of these personnel are threatened or harmed.