



NEWSLETTER

April 2004

Permanent Mission of Romania to UNOG

Romanian positions on issues under debate in the UN Security Council

- 05.04.2004** Resolution 1534/2004 on The International Crime Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia and the International Crime Tribunal for Rwanda
- 06.04.2004** Public meeting, the results of the International Berlin Conference "Afghanistan and the International Community: A Partnership for the Future " (31 March-1 April 2004).
- 13.04.2004** Public meeting of the Security Council on the situation of Kosovo
- 15.04.2004** Public meeting of the Security Council on the role of business in conflict prevention, peacekeeping and post-conflict peace building
- 28.04.2004** Resolution 1540/2004 on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Upcoming events - Romania will hold the chairmanship of the SC during the month of July. Our country intends to promote a public debate concerning the cooperation between the UN and the regional organizations in stabilization processes.

Romania hails the unanimous adoption by the **UN Security Council of Resolution 1534/2004, on 5 April 2004, on The International Crime Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia and the International Crime Tribunal for Rwanda**. The Resolution reaffirms the determination of the international community to bring to justice those responsible for serious impeachment of international humanitarian law and human rights on the territory of former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. Concurrently, the Resolution 1534/2004 underlines the importance of strict application of the completion strategy, to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010. It also reiterates its support for the measures to be taken in order to intensify the activity of the two tribunals in view to meeting the completion strategy set by the Security Council and considers that an important aspect in the implementation of the completion strategy is the cooperation with the national jurisdictions of the states in charge with bringing all inductees to justice.

On 6 April 2004, the Security Council evaluated, in a public meeting, the results of the International Berlin Conference: "Afghanistan and the International Community: A Partnership for the Future " (31 March-1 April 2004). Considered unanimously as a great success, the Berlin Conference consolidated the Afghan political, security and reconstruction framework, beyond the organization of the presidential and parliamentary elections of September this year. The Romanian delegation reconfirmed Romania's present and future multi-dimensional contribution at the security consolidation process in Afghanistan (participation to the International Security Assistance Force-ISAF,

the Provincial Reconstruction Teams-PRT's, the Enduring Freedom Operation) and to the reconstruction process. The Security Council adopted a presidential statement confirming the support for the Berlin Declaration, thus reaffirming the international community's long-term commitment in Afghanistan.

On 13 April 2004, the Security Council held a public meeting on the situation of Kosovo, following the violent events of 17-20 March 2004. Under-Secretary General Jean-Marie Guehenno informed the Council about the events and the measures taken by the UN Administration and the forces under NATO command, for restoring order and bringing the perpetrators to justice. He considered the wide-scale Kosovo violence against Serbs and other minorities, to be organized by Kosovo Albanian extremists. The Security Council members, including Romania, demanded that the UN Administration take all necessary measures to protect the members of minority communities, and to ensure the rule of law and adequate justice. Romania repeated the condemnation of the violent events and asked Kosovo's leaders to engage unconditionally, and with tangible results, in ensuring the rights, liberties and security of all inhabitants of the province, regardless of their ethnic background. Romania commended, at the same time, the balanced conduct of the Serbian government during the tragic events of March 2004.

The Security Council met on 15 April 2004, at the initiative of the German Presidency, to discuss the role of business in conflict prevention, peacekeeping and post-conflict peace building. UN Secretary General, representatives of other international and regional organizations, as well as the ambassadors of the Security Council members, highlighted the essential role and responsibilities of the private sector in conflict prevention and in overtaking the social and economic problems of the countries involved in armed conflicts. A common position agreed by all speakers was the need to avoid those situations in which private companies provide willingly or unwillingly support for conflict situations. Romania mentioned its experience over the last 14 years, which proved the vital character of foreign investment for democratic changes and trade development. At the same time, the Romanian delegation underlined the importance of the private sector in eliminating the sources of the conflicts at global level: poverty and lack of development perspectives.

On 28 April 2004, the Security Council adopted unanimously the resolution 1540 on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The resolution has a historic value, being the first Security Council decision that qualifies, on basis of chapter VII of the UN Charter, the proliferation of WMD as a threat to international peace and security. Consistent to the policy promoted in the field of non-proliferation of WMD, Romania had an active contribution to the debates in order to reach the consensus on the resolution project. A constant supporter of the efforts and initiatives for combating terrorism and preventing the proliferation of WMD, Romania co-authored the resolution together with the USA, the UK, France, the Russian Federation and Spain.

In the declaration following the adoption of the resolution, the Romanian Permanent Representative at the UN, stated that the unity of action demonstrated by the Security Council members is a clear sign for the emergency of a proper approach by the international community of this new kind of threat. The objective of this resolution is filling an important gap in international law and addressing one of the most ominous

challenges to international security, specifically that posed by non-State actors seeking to acquire and use weapons of mass destruction. The adoption of the resolution does not run counter to the rights and obligations assumed by states in the multilateral agreements concerning the WMD non-proliferation and does not overlap with the activities of the International Agency for Atomic Energy and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. The international cooperation and the transfer of materials, equipments and technologies for peaceful purposes, will not be affected by the implementation of this resolution. The resolution provides the creation of a special Committee with a two-year mandate, for monitoring the application of the resolution by member states.

Available on the internet at: <http://missions.itu.int/~romania>

Permanent Mission of Romania to
UNOG

6 Chemin de la Perriere, 1223 Cologny -
Geneva

Tel +41.22.752.10.90

Fax +41.22.752.29.76

E-mail: mission.romania@ties.itu.int