



NEWSLETTER

March 2004

Permanent Mission of Romania to UNOG

Romanian positions on issues under debate in the UN Security Council

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 03.03.2004 | Report of the High Representative of the Secretary General on Bosnia-Hertegovina |
| 09.03.2004 | Romania became vice-chairman of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission |
| 12.03.2004 | Romania's Representative to the UN Security Council reasserted in official letter solidarity with the victims of the March 11 terrorist attacks in Madrid |
| 18.03.2004 | Emergency public reunion to discuss the situation in Kosovo |
| 22.03.2004 | Report of the Secretary-General on a peacekeeping operation in Burundi |
| 24.03.2004 | Public meeting of the Security Council on the situation in Middle East |
| 25.03.2004 | Public debates of the Security Council on transborder problems in West Africa |
| 26.03.2004 | Resolutions of the Security Council: the extension of the mandate of UNAMA (United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan), the strategy for the completion of the activity of ICTY and ICTR, the restructuring of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) |
| 26.03.2004 | Security Council adopted a Press statement on the recent killing of two UNMIK police officers in Kosovo |

On **3 March 2004**, the Security Council debated in a **public meeting the report of the High Representative, Lord Ashdown, on the situation of Bosnia-Herzegovina**. Romania welcomed the outstanding progress made by Bosnia-Herzegovina in the last year, especially regarding the rule of law, justice, defence and fiscal reform. This is the result of the determination of the authorities and people of Bosnia-Herzegovina to join the EU and NATO. The Romanian delegation emphasized the substantial activity of Bosnia-Herzegovina during the time it held the presidency of the South-East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) and pledged to further develop it during Romania's presidency of SEECP that is to start in April 2004.

Following elections held in Geneva on **9 March 2004**, **Romania became vice-chairman of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission** (compensation of losses caused by the Gulf War, 1990-1991). It is the second time that Romania takes over as vice-chairman of the UNCC, after having exerted a similar mandate in 1991, when the respective body was set up on the basis of Security Council Resolution 687. Germany holds the Committee's chairmanship since 2003. The UNCC is one of the most comprehensive mechanisms on

compensation matters ever created within the UN system.

On **12 March 2004**, Romania's representative to the UN in New York reasserted in **official letter solidarity with the victims of the terrorist attacks** that struck the Spanish capital on 11 March. The letter, which is to become an official document of the Security Council, firmly condemns the terrorist attacks that killed almost 200 people and mentioned the high number of the Romanian citizens among the victims of the attacks, out of which two had died at the time when the letter was produced. The total number of the Romanian victims was 16. These tragic events confirm that in the era of globalisation, the real targets of terrorism are the democratic values, the fundamental liberties and human rights. They also highlight the need for the international community to implement an efficient package of concerted actions against terrorism. The letter emphasized the measures the Security Council should take as the main global structure with competences concerning peace and international security, which also benefits of a specialized structure - the Counter Terrorism Committee. In Romania's opinion, the Resolution 1530 that was promptly adopted by the SC just a few hours after the massacre in Madrid, and which unanimously and vehemently condemned the terrorist attacks, should be completed with concrete measures aimed at bringing to trial the perpetrators of these acts and the supporters of terrorism.

The UN Security Council met on Thursday, **18 March 2004 on Romania's proposal**, in an emergency public reunion to discuss the situation in Kosovo. Romania has also initiated a draft Presidential Statement of the Security Council, condemning the widespread acts of violence in the respective province and the attacks against the representatives of the international community (KFOR troops and UNMIK staff) and calling for immediate cease of violence. The statement reiterates the need that the interim authorities in Kosovo impose the rule of the law, ensure security and bring the perpetrators of violence to trial, so that the fundamental goal of establishing a tolerant, multi-ethnic democratic society in Kosovo be achieved, on the basis of the provisions of Resolution 1244. The Security Council approved the draft statement and will closely monitor the observance by all parties of the incumbent responsibilities, with a view to bringing the situation in Kosovo back to normal.

On **22 March 2004**, the **Security Council took note of the recommendations** contained in the latest **report** of the Secretary-General **on a peacekeeping operation in Burundi**. Romania restated its support for the initiative.

Dans **les débats publics sur la situation au Moyen Orient, de 24 mars 2004**, le Représentant permanent de la Roumanie auprès des Nations Unies s'est associé pleinement au discours qui a été prononcé par la Présidence irlandaise du Conseil de l'Union européenne. Le Conseil de l'Union européenne a, en effet, condamné l'exécution extra-judiciaire du leader du Hamas, et de sept autres Palestiniens par les forces israéliennes; il a également rappelé sa condamnation constante des actes terroristes commis par l'organisation Hamas. La Roumanie considère que la situation dans le Moyen Orient est extrêmement dangereuse et risque de détériorer de plus le climat de sécurité dans la région. Ce type d'action peut mettre en péril les efforts engagés jusqu'à présent pour pour renouer le

dialogue entre les parties et identifier une solution pacifique au conflit de la région. La Roumanie reconnaît pleinement le droit de l'Etat d'Israël à se défendre et d'assurer la sécurité de ses citoyens contre les attaques terroristes, qui ont provoqué la mort des centaines d'innocents. En effet, pour rompre le cycle de la violence, la suppression du terrorisme et le démantèlement de son infrastructure restent prioritaires. Néanmoins, la lutte contre le terrorisme, parfaitement légitime, ne doit pas miner les efforts de parvenir à un cessez-le-feu et de créer les conditions nécessaires à une reprise des négociations. La Roumanie réaffirme son engagement à travailler avec les parties et avec tous les membres de la communauté internationale, en vue de combattre le terrorisme, tout en respectant les principes et les normes de droit international. La mise en oeuvre de la "Feuille de route" doit recommencer sans plus tarder. Ce plan de règlement a été accepté par les parties et il est le seul à offrir un cadre approprié afin d'arriver, par négociations et avec l'appui de la communauté internationale représentée par le Quartet, à une solution juste et durable, fondée sur les résolutions pertinentes du Conseil de Sécurité et la vision des deux Etats, coexistant en paix et sécurité, à l'intérieur des frontières sûres et internationalement reconnues.

Dans l'intervention prononcée au Débat ouvert du Conseil de Sécurité, **sur les problèmes transfrontalières en Afrique de l'Ouest, le 25 mars 2004**, S.E. Ambassadeur Mihnea Motoc, Représentant permanent de la Roumanie auprès des Nations Unies a souligné que la Roumanie s'associe pleinement à la déclaration faite par la présidence de l'Union européenne. Roumanie se félicite de la vision fondamentale ainsi que du contenu du Rapport du Secrétaire général sur les moyens d'approcher les problèmes sous-régionaux et transfrontaliers en Afrique de l'Ouest. Le Rapport imprime un sens plus pragmatique pour ce qui est de l'accent graduel que le Conseil de Sécurité met sur la dimension régionale des crises et de la solution des conflits en Afrique de l'Ouest. Avec trois missions de maintien de la paix des Nations Unies étant maintenant déployées, dans des phases différentes, en l'Afrique de l'Ouest - la MINUSIL, la MINUL et la MINUCI – on peut estimer qu'on est arrivé à une masse critique onusienne dans la région. Cela signifie, dans la situation donnée, un impacte plus fort sur le combat des diverses sources transfrontalières d'instabilité, notamment le mouvement des mercenaires, des enfants soldats et des groupes armés, ainsi que le trafic des armes légères. Cependant, la présence consolidée et mieux coordonnée sur place n'est qu'une des pièces d'un système plus vaste. Les Nations Unies sont censées agir avec plus de congruence et en poursuivant des résultats synergiques avec les autres acteurs, surtout les gouvernements nationaux, les organisations sous-régionales, ainsi que la communauté des donateurs, parmi eux l'Union européenne.

On **26 March 2004**, in a public meeting of the **Security Council**, Romania adopted alongside with the other 14 member states **three resolutions** regarding: **the extension of the mandate of UNAMA (United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan), the strategy for the completion of the activity of ICTY and ICTR (the International Crime Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia and the International Crime Tribunal for Rwanda), as well as the restructuring of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)**. The Security Council Resolution 1536 (2004) on Afghanistan concerns the extension of the UNAMA mandate due to end on 28 March 2004 for an additional 12 months. Romania considers that there is sufficient time for

holding national elections in Afghanistan. After the elections, new responsibilities may be given to this UN Mission.

On **26 March 2004** the **UN Security Council** adopted a **Press statement on the recent killing of two UNMIK police officers in Kosovo, which was drafted by Romania**. The members of the Security Council called on the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government and all inhabitants of Kosovo to cooperate with UNMIK and KFOR so that the responsible for the killing of the police officers to be brought to justice.

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