

OHR SRT News Summary, 2 February 1999

Headlines

- RS Government was in session
- New law on local self-management: full unity of the executive power in RS
- In Kosovo peaceful today; diplomatic initiatives directed towards the forthcoming peace conference in France
- American aircraft rocketed Iraqi military facilities

The RS Government, chaired by the Vice President of the Government Ostoja Kremenovic was in session in Banja Luka today. Ministers in the RS Government discussed, inter alia, the harmonizing of the trade with the FRY in accordance with the new measures of the FRY Government.

2:00

The FRY Government decided that the trade with the RS, as of February 1, should have the treatment of foreign trade transaction that the valid regulations from the field of foreign economic relations will be applied to.

0:24

The RS Vice President Duradj Banjac stated today that in the next 30 days the Government, in agreement with the Direction for Privatization, would single out a number of small enterprises for sale whose state capital value does not exceed KM 300,000.

1:46

The BiH Presidency Chairman Zivko Radisic talked today with the OSCE Chairman Special Envoy for implementation of the DA about the preparations for the upcoming Vienna Conference on regional stabilization. Radisic also met with the Croatian Ambassador to BiH Darinko Bago. That was, at the same time, the farewell visit of the Croatian representative to BiH, since he will be leaving for a new duty.

1:42

The RS NA Speaker Petar Djokic talked today with a representative of the UNHCR political department in Sarajevo. Today's meeting discussed the law on DPs, refugees and returnees to the RS that is currently under procedure.

1:07

Presenting the pre-draft law on local self management, which foresees the reform of the local self management and the state management in the RS, the RS Government Vice President Ostoja Kremenovic stressed that this law will ensure the unity of the executive authorities in the RS. New law will define competencies and responsibilities of certain levels of the local authorities and relation towards the RS central authorities. The significant changes are planned in the field of executive authorities and financing of the local communities.

2:28

Kosovo-related news

3:32

A member of the Slovenian United List of Social Democrats leadership Ciril Ribicic is one of the signatories of the petition for raising indictment against the FRY President Slobodan Milosevic which has been submitted to the Hague Tribunal, Slovenacko Delo carries. Ribicic was the last president of the SKJ Central Committee.

1:19

The RS President Nikola Poplasen will announce the name of the new prime minister designate for the RS Government at a press conference which is to be held in Banja Luka tomorrow at 17:00 hrs, says the press release from Poplasen's office submitted to SRNA.

0:10

The President of the SNS and the Coalition "Sloga" Biljana Plavsic stated at today's press conference that Poplasen should take care of the authority of the RS. Plavsic expects the third mandate, as she said, be given to Milorad Dodik without conditioning. Speaking on arbitration for Brcko, Plavsic reminded that the DA was based on the Geneva Agreement that guarantees the compactness of the Entities' territory.

1:15

The SNSD Secretary General Nenad Bastinac stated in Banja Luka today that the Coalition "Sloga", with the aim of harmonizing the standpoints pertaining to the election of the new Government, offered the SDS and SRS a number of deputy ministers' seats in the RS Government. Bastinac said that "Sloga" has not yet received any answer to such moving closer towards another block because the SRS and SDS, as he said, want the power that no one will be able to interfere with. Speaking on the passed consultative meeting of the President Poplasen with the representatives of the caucuses and political parties, Bastinac assessed it as unsuccessful.

1:10

The regular press conference of the international organizations was held in Banja Luka today. The IC is still concerned regarding the problem of election of the new Government and the stalemate position in the RS NA, the spokesperson for OHR Christian Palmer stated at today's press conference. Palmer stressed that the RS President is responsible for this situation since he did not propose the prime minister designate who would have the assembly majority. Palmer reiterated the position that the RS is experiencing the presidential and not the constitutional crisis and that there is no reason for dissolving of the NA. Speaking on Srebrenica, the spokesperson for OHR said that the Steering Board is intensively working on forming of the municipal assembly, expressing hope that the assembly would be formed in accordance with the election results by the end of the month.

1:09

The caucuses of the Serb parties in Srebrenica accepted the framework agreement of the OHR and OSCE to schedule the constitutive session of the municipal assembly by the end of the month and implement the results of the local elections held in 1997.

0:29