

# **OHR SRT News Summary, 13 March 1998**

## **Headlines**

- Session of the RS Government in progress
  - “Kosovo is internal affair of Serbia”, Milosevic warns State leadership of RS, Greek diplomats and the international mediator for B&H Schwarz-Schilling
  - Talks Krajisnik – Kuznetzov, Bozanic – Sidorski
  - Parliamentarians of Srpska and the Netherlands in Banja Luka
- 0:50

The 9th regular session of the RS Government started 2 hours ago in Banja Luka. The agenda foresees discussion about the RS Prime Minister's recent visit to eastern RS, the work and financial matters of the State Commission for tracing the missing and exchange of POW's (report for 1997 to be elaborated by Mr. Jovo Rosic), situation in the SRT. According to the RS Government Deputy Speaker, Tihomir Gligoric, this session is a preliminary session to the 4th session of the RS NA that is to take place tomorrow.

3:00

The 4th session of the RS NA due to take place tomorrow will treat the following issues: the draft amendment to the RS Constitution which foresees three instead of two deputy speakers in the Assembly, the draft budget for this year and the Law on budget realisation.

0:30

The issue of Kosovo and Metohija can be solved in Serbia by exclusively political means, which rules out the possibility of internationalisation, stated FRY President, S. Milosevic. Again today the Kosovo Albanian representatives failed to show up at a meeting with the Serbian delegation. The Yugoslav President stated that there was no excuse for Kosovo Albanians not entering the dialogue initiated by the Serbian Government. The Kosovo Albanians, instead of negotiating, organised a protest rally in Pristina.

2:15

RS President Biljana Plavsic, the RS Vice President Dragoljub Mirjanic and the RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik spoke, in separate meetings, with the Greek Ambassador to B&H and to the Greek coordinator for stability and cooperation in southeastern Europe about economic assistance to the RS and economic cooperation between the RS and Greece.

2:00

Momcilo Krajsnik, member of the B&H Presidency from the RS, spoke to Vladimir Kuznetzov, the Special Envoy of the OSCE Head of Mission to B&H, about implementation of the September elections.

2:00

The RS President spoke with the international mediator for B&H, Schwarz-Schilling, about the return of refugees, which has to be a reciprocal process supported in terms of financial assistance to refugees, solution of employment issues, etc.

2:50

An RS NA delegation led by Dragan Kalinic, RS NA Speaker, held talks with a Dutch delegation today in Banjaluka.

1:15

Representatives of the German Ministry for economic cooperation and development visited the RS today and spoke with the RS Prime Minister about economic cooperation at governmental level. It was underlined that the Government of Germany would allocate DEM 7.5 million to the RS.

2:00

Dragan Bozanic, Deputy Foreign Minister in the CoM of B&H, spoke to the Russian Ambassador to B&H. The main

topics were implementation of the DA, joint institutions and cooperation between Russia and B&H, i.e. Russia and the RS. This was a kind of preparatory meeting for the forthcoming visit of Russian Foreign Minister Primakov to the RS.

2:00

Aisling Byrne, OHR spokesperson, stated that the Brcko decision would be declared on Sunday March 15th and that it would be the final and obligatory one. The task of OHR would be the implementation of the decision, Byrne stated.

0:20

Carlos Westendorp HR to B&H, sent a letter to the RS Prime Minister M. Dodik and reminded him of the commitments of the new RS Government relating to creating conditions for refugee return, establishing telecommunications and bus lines, adopting the economic laws, and demining laws.

0:50