

High Representative Appoints Gerhard Sontheim Acting Brcko District Supervisor

The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown, has appointed Mr. Gerhard Sontheim Supervisor of Brcko District in an acting capacity until that position is filled on a permanent basis. His appointment follows the departure of Supervisor Henry L. Clarke.

Since July 2000, Mr. Sontheim has held the position of Deputy Head of the Office of the High Representative in Brcko. The High Representative is confident that Mr. Sontheim's familiarity with the District will enable him to carry out the responsibilities of the Supervisor and to further the implementation of the Brcko Final Award. In his new capacity, Mr. Sontheim has the full authority of the position of Supervisor and the complete support of the High Representative. The High Representative expects the District authorities and all other authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to cooperate fully with Mr. Sontheim.

The High Representative expresses his appreciation and thanks to Ambassador Henry L. Clarke for his indefatigable hard work during his tenure in Brcko. Ambassador Clarke has made an effective contribution to many different aspects of life in the District. Among other things he has been responsible for enabling the setting up of a working multiethnic District education system and accelerating returns to the District. The High Representative notes in particular Ambassador Clarke's role in promoting economic reform and development. Ambassador Clarke has made an invaluable contribution to the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement and the Brcko Final Award.