

Statement of Henry L. Clarke, Supervisor of Brcko District, on the Issue of Non-Adoption of the Law on Education by the Brcko District Assembly

After the Brcko District Assembly voted down the draft Law on Education at its 22nd regular session held on 27 June 2001, Brcko Supervisor Henry L. Clarke stated:

“I am not surprised that the law was not adopted, but I’m disappointed. We were told by the thirteen councilors proposing the amendment to article nine that they would not give up their amendment even though it seemed to be discriminatory towards minorities. The proposal that we made that seemed to meet their needs was not accepted. I’m disappointed because I believe that there are many families in Brcko District, including Serb families, who are prepared to send their children to non-discriminatory, multi-ethnic schools. And those people were not represented in the vote today. “

Ambassador Clarke remains committed to his obligations introduced by the Final Arbitral Award. “As you know, the final award makes the Supervisor responsible for setting up a multi-ethnic, unified, non-discriminatory school system. It would have been much better if the law had been adopted by the Assembly, and it would not need me and it would not need me to take any separate actions. But, of course, I’ll do my job”, he added.

Brcko Supervisor Henry L. Clarke again reiterates that the Office of the High Representative will proceed with the

educational reform in the Brcko District.