



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2005

Permanent Mission of Romania to UNOG

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| 05.01.2005 | Romania keeps the presidency of the Committee 1540 on non-proliferation, the Committee 1518 for Iraq and the vice-presidency of the Committee 1267 on Al Qaeda |
| 12.01.2005 | Open Debate of UNSC on Haiti |
| 18.01.2005 | Open Debate on "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts" |

On **5 January 2005**, the **UN Security Council** decided that Romania continues to **hold the Presidency of Committee 1540** for the non-proliferation of weapons for mass-destruction and of **Committee 1518 for Iraq**, as well as that of vice-president of **Committee 1267** regarding Al Qaeda/ Talibans.

The vote offered by the Council stands for recognition of Romania's performance and efficiency in managing the activity of the two Committees in the first part of its tenure as chosen member.

Committee 1540 is, at present, one of the most important subsidiary structures of the Security Council, dealing with threats posed by proliferation of weapons for mass-destruction by non-State actors. This Committee is mandated for a period of 2 years, to monitor the application by all states of the commitments included in the resolution: adoption of corresponding legislation and efficient measures at national level for prevention of access, manufacture, transfer and use of weapons of mass-destruction and of their means to delivery by non-State actors.

In its capacity as president of Committee 1518 for Iraq, Romania attempts to facilitate the transfer to the Iraq Development Fund of the goods and assets belonging to the members of the former Iraqi regime, at present outside Iraq.

In a statement **made on 12 January 2005, during the Open Debate of the Security Council on Haiti**, the representative of Romania to UN aligned with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Luxemburg on behalf of the EU and pointed out that Haiti is a test case for the UN, for the Security Council in particular, for the ability to sustain or foster a long-term, multi-dimensional, integrated investment in addressing the political, security and economic challenges of complex post-conflict situations. There is a close inter-relationship between security, institution building and economic development in Haiti.

Improving security in Haiti remains one of the core issues, as it is a pre-condition for a wide range of objectives. The persistent violence perpetrated by illegal armed groups is an extremely worrying signal for the many dangers that still menace this hard-trying country. Such violence can undermine the ongoing stabilization efforts and disrupt the transition process.

MINUSTAH's role in upholding Governmental efforts to bring about peace and reconciliation in the country remains decisive.

Romania looks forward to an inclusive political process, without which, as rightly assumed in the latest report by the Secretary General, no sustainable peace and security shall be achieved.

Like always, Romania attaches great importance to fighting impunity and proper observance of human rights by all parties. Arbitrary detentions should stop without delay and the Transitional Government must release those against whom no charges have been brought and bring to justice all those responsible for human rights violations. Accordingly, reforming the judiciary has to be a high priority.

As a promoter of the cooperation between UN and the regional organizations, Romania remains supportive of the enhanced involvement of the regional organization in the efforts toward stabilization and development in Haiti. The streamlined working relationship between the UN and the OAS in Haiti demonstrates once more the political weight and the effective impact of the cooperation between the United Nations and the regional organizations in stabilization processes.

In fostering functioning democracy in Haiti, it is of utmost importance that development projects are launched and implemented with the help of the UN, international financial institutions and Member States. There is need for establishing a long-term development strategy for Haiti, with the assistance of the international community, as reflected in the Interim Cooperation Framework. The recent decision taken by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, respectively, to provide emergency assistance for Haiti's recovery in support of the Government's efforts to deliver urgently needed basic services to the population is timely and commendable.

The structural instability in Haiti requires a long-term commitment and a multidimensional approach, based on the lessons learnt from the past and addressing core causes of instability, including economic and social dimensions. The efforts of the Transitional Government, the meaningful and effective involvement of the UN, through MINUSTAH and a wide range of other UN organs, the impressive regional cooperation developed in support of Haiti are important steps toward bringing closer the moment when Haiti regains its rightful place among stable, prosperous and democratic states. The proposed mission of the Security Council to Haiti, possibly in conjunction with a similar mission of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti would also work in that same direction.

On **18 January 2005**, in a statement made by the **Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations during the public debate on "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts"** Romania aligned with the statement made by Luxembourg on behalf of European Union.

Countering terrorism requires indeed the continuous review and reinforcement of the mechanisms at the UN disposal, as well as the consolidation of the institutional dimension of efforts undertaken in this field at UN level.

Visits by the CTC to selected Member States, with their consent, is one of the most recent instruments the Committee has been provided with, in its endeavors aimed at enhancing dialogue with relevant authorities of the respective countries. It is our belief that such visits shall highly contribute to strengthening the monitoring of implementation of resolution 1373, while also giving important indications about

States' needs for technical assistance. Nevertheless, close coordination and cooperation between the CTC and 1267 Committee in preparing those visits is needed in order to avoid possible overlapping. Joint visits by the two Committees could be envisaged to achieve this goal. Since the 1540 Committee became fully operational, participation of its representatives to such joint visits might be also contemplated.

The fact that a significant number of States are late in submitting their national reports to the CTC is of particular concern. Non-reporting, regardless of motivation - lack of willingness or lack of capacity on the part of respective States - is a highly worrying situation that has to be addressed on a priority basis. Further measures should be therefore sought for boosting up the level of reporting by UN member States.

In carrying forward its leading role in the global fight against terrorism, the Security Council is benefiting from the work of three energetic subsidiary bodies, namely the CTC, the 1267 Committee and the 1540 Committee. Mandates and activities of those Committees are closely inter-linked, as terrorist acts and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction are two faces of the same coin. Cooperation among their chairmen, as well as among their experts, is therefore essential for ensuring a coherent approach of the Council in combating terrorism. Informal tripartite consultations mechanism already established should be further consolidated and offered new dimensions. Regular exchange of information and collaboration in analyzing and responding to reports submitted by Member States might bring added value to these efforts.

The representative of Romania expressed his gratitude to the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as to the Government of Kazakhstan for the efforts displayed in organizing the 4th Special meeting of the CTC with international, regional and sub-regional organizations to be held in Almaty.

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