



ZUBIN POTOK MUNICIPALITY

KSIP Monthly Evaluation – MAY 2005

1. Functioning Democratic Institutions

The Municipality held a preparatory meeting on the proposed Town Hall Meeting on Standards on 15 April 2005. The tripartite preparatory meeting involving the Municipal Assembly President, Mr. Slavisa Ristic, the Municipal Representative, Mr. Jean-Luc Sintès and the Political Affairs Officer (Office of the SRSG), Mr. Oleg Egorov, was held to discuss the *raison d'être* and the modalities for the proposed Town Hall Meeting. Following a further meeting on the matter it has been agreed that the Town Hall Meeting on Standards would take place on 31 May 2005.

Despite these efforts, The Town Hall meeting on Standards could not take place as scheduled due to the disagreement either or not, the PISG should be present to the Meeting. Finally the Town Hall Meeting was postponed *sine die*.

A meeting of the Communities Committee took place on 20 April 2005. The meeting, which was called at the initiative of the Local community Officer (LCO), was to deliberate on the reviving of the Committee and enable it meet its statutory obligation of monthly meetings. The members welcomed the initiative of the LCO and agreed that the meeting of the Committee will now take place on or about the 20th of every month. The next of the Committee should take place on 20 May 2005.

However, at the Municipal security meeting which took place earlier in April 2005, the Deputy President of the Municipal Assembly, Mr. Srdjan Djurovic, had expressed on behalf of the President of the Municipal Assembly, Mr. Slavisa Ristic, the disappointment of the people of Zubin Potok over the handling of the Crkolez incident and other crimes against Kosovo Serbs. He stated that since UNMIK is unwilling and unable to solve criminal cases against Kosovo Serbs, they will not participate in any institutions of UNMIK and consequently will not attend the meeting of the LCPC. After consultation between the Municipal Representative and other members of the meeting the LCPC and other Municipal Committees meetings were postponed *sine die*.

2. Rule of Law

During the month of May three scheduled meetings of the weekly Municipal Security Meeting were held. The Municipality has appealed to KFOR and UNMIK Police to increase their patrols in and around the villages of Stërnac I Epërm/Gornji Strmac, Dren/Dren, Bërnjak/Brnjak so as to stem the tide of illegal wood cutting and alleged intermittent gun fire in the area. This request was necessitated by complaints of the inhabitants of the area that the removal of the KFOR checkpoint in the area might lead to petty crimes and possible inter-ethnic security problems in the area. This area abuts on the Municipality of Skenderaj/Srbica, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica which has witnessed sporadic inter-ethnic incidents in the past. Both the representatives of UNMIK Police and the Danish KFOR have promised to intensify and increase patrols in the area. For now, KPS have 11 people in Custody.

3. Freedom of Movement

Civil Servants from Qabra/Cabra, continue to have regular business with their colleagues in Zubin Potok Municipality. However, all movements are ensured either by UNMIK Police or by International Staff. We would like also, to underline that there is no public transportation between the Qabra – K-Albanian Village and Zubin Potok – K-Serb Town. Therefore, any judgment on Freedom of Movement could be subjective

4. Sustainable Returns and Rights of Communities and their Members

To enable the children in the minority Kosovo Albanian village of Çabër/Čabra benefit from children's television programmes the Municipality, in cooperation with the OMiK Democratisation Department, has initiated an educational project in the village. With OMiK support RTK in Pristina will broadcast the popular children educational series "Sesame Street" in the village. This popular TV programme, professionally dubbed in Serbian and Albanian, is intended to benefit children from areas where RTK signal is not available. The Additional Deputy President, Mr. Agim Hassani, representing the village of Çabër/Čabra, the Director of the Osman Rama Primary School, Mr Zymber Zeqiri, and the UNMIK Municipal Representative, Mr. Jean – Luc Sintès, in coordination with the LCO Mr Diacko, had fully supported this project/program..

5. Property Rights

NSTR – no specific complaints.