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Reference: EKK014/002/2007

To: Mark Gooding

SUBJECT: KOSOVO/FINAL STATUS: WHY THE STATUS QUO IS UNSUSTAINABLE

1. The Foreign Secretary asked for arguments as to why the status quo in Kosovo is unsustainable.

Why Kosovo's status quo is unsustainable?

2. Under the terms of UNSCR 1244, Kosovo remains technically part of Serbia but subject to UN administration pending the outcome of a status process.
3. These arrangements were never intended to be permanent. Nor should they become so.

The status quo is not good for the two million people of Kosovo, whether Albanians, Serbs or from any other community.

4. **It inhibits Kosovo's political development**, offering no clear perspective, no clear national identity and suppressing the aspirations of the vast majority of the people of Kosovo.
5. **It stifles Kosovo's economic development**. Uncertainty over Kosovo's future status deters long-term planning and foreign investment. It prevents Kosovo from benefiting from much-needed financial support from IFIs.