

UNP 062/32

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LUXEMBOURG FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

SIC EME

MIPT: BOSNIA: SAFE AREAS: ADDITIONAL TROOP CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Line for selected posts to take in lobbying host governments, subject to Secretary of State's approval and in light of guidance from UKMIS New York, Paris and Bonn.

- Host government will be aware of the passage on 4 June of UNSCR 836 on safe areas in Bosnia, which, inter alia, extends the mandate of the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the safe areas named in UNSCR 824, and calls upon member states to contribute forces to assist in the implementation of that mandate.

- The Resolution also invites the UN Secretary General to report to the Security Council on the modalities for its implementation, if possible within 7 days of its adoption, in other words by 11 June. The UN Secretariat is considering how to take matters forward, including on the possibility of additional troop contributions needed to enable UNPROFOR to carry out its enhanced mandate.

- The passage of UNSCR 836 is not a magic wand. It is a preparatory step towards protecting safe areas. For the safe areas concept to become a reality, the international community needs to take further action. First and foremost, this means considering strengthening UNPROFOR to allow it to carry out its

new tasks. As set out in paragraph 5 of the Resolution, these include deterring attacks against the safe areas, monitoring the cease-fire, promoting the withdrawal of military or paramilitary units other than those of the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and occupying key points on the ground.

- The UK is at present a leading troop contributor to UNPROFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are also a co-sponsor of UNSCR 836. We therefore attach importance to ensuring that the Resolution is followed up effectively. We are approaching you, along with other key governments, to urge you to reflect on how you too might be able to assist, in particular by considering rapidly and positively the UN Secretary General's request for additional troops to allow UNPROFOR to carry out the above tasks.

- Different states will be able to contribute in different ways. Some may be able to contribute additional 'front line' troops, who will be needed in and around the safe areas. Others, the logistic resources which UNPROFOR needs. And some may be able to provide equipment which those providing troops may need. The important point is that the UN Secretary General should have sufficient resources at his disposal.

- For its part, in addition to its existing contribution to UNPROFOR, the United Kingdom is, together with its North Atlantic Allies, looking at follow-up to the decision in paragraph 10 of the Resolution to authorise member states, acting nationally or through regional organisations or arrangements, to take all necessary measures through the use of air power in and around the safe areas, to support UNPROFOR in the performance of its mandate.

- We hope that you will now consider urgently how you might be able to help the UN Secretariat.

- Strengthening UNPROFOR is the first step. But safe areas will work only if there is local agreement between the parties in and around the areas to comply with UNSCR 836's terms, and to allow full and unimpeded access to UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies. The international community should also therefore use its contacts with all the parties to urge them to act accordingly.

(defensive line: if asked about possible additional British

troop contribution:)

- UK already a major troop contributor to UNPROFOR in Bosnia. 2,400 men escorting humanitarian relief effort in central Bosnia, in difficult conditions. Only France in same league.
- No plans to increase our force, or to redeploy existing contingent: fully engaged on present duties, including in Vitez, which remains very tense.
- British UNPROFOR personnel now in Tuzla are for humanitarian purposes only. Other forces would be required if UN wished to garrison the Tuzla safe area.
- UK has already made clear its willingness to make available air power to defend UN forces in safe areas. Now considering with Allies follow up to paragraph 10 of SCR 836.

(for Islamabad and Stockholm)

2. Please add an element on these lines:

- We understand that you have already told the UN Secretariat that you might be willing to provide troops to help strengthen UNPROFOR. We warmly welcome this indication of your intentions. We hope that you will be able to confirm to the UN Secretariat the details of your possible contribution. (Additional for Islamabad) We know the Secretariat are in touch with states who might be able to provide any material support necessary.

(for Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and other Islamic posts as necessary)

3. Please add an element on these lines:

- We understand the concern you feel about the need to safeguard the lives and well-being of the Moslem community in Bosnia. We hope that you will be able to make a practical contribution to that end.

(for Wellington)

4. Please add an element on these lines:

- We have noted the strong line which your representative on the

Security Council has taken in discussion of Bosnia. Would there be any scope for you to make a practical contribution, however modest, on the ground as well - even if only a few military observers?

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