

granted. Engagement with regional neighbours by UN envoy/Contact Group– no formal role but need to feel they are being included and part of the overall process.

OTHER AREAS OF ACTIVITY 2005

- EU to start quickly (before end of 2005 ideally) to identify more concretely what it can offer both Pristina and Belgrade to assist the parties to come to a binding political settlement. See attached paper on confidence building measures for **Serbia and Montenegro**.
- Eide report calls for the EU to play a more prominent role¹. How can we act upon this? Can we agree the international community presence post-settlement be led by the EU, with an EU High Representative and strong economic mandate? How can we get the EU/international community to begin work **now** on revitalising the economy (see separate section below)?
- Remainder of 2005 - Work to identify quick-wins (drawing from Eide report) that the Kosovo Government can offer once negotiations start – protection of religious sites. Introduce confidence-building measures. For example early progress on the situation with the Roma in Kosovo; Kosovo Serb engagement in de-centralisation (with Belgrade support). Belgrade provide UNMIK/PISG with cadastral records for Kosovo (long-standing UNMIK request that Belgrade has ignored). Front-load negotiations at an early stage?

ACTIVITY FOR 2006

POLITICAL

- Broad agreement within the Quint on a High Representative “lite” with powers to intervene to veto legislation or remove ministers/officials. Should such powers also be extended to minority rights or apply across the board (in a way defined as a manner inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of a final status settlement).
- Special status for Mitrovica (but no entity or territorial solutions). Need to define the issues more clearly and look at possible solutions but tailored to the precise needs of Mitrovica i.e. re-configuring existing models – e.g. Brcko.

¹ The Solana/Rehn paper of June 05 sets out in broad terms the current political context and operating environment in Kosovo as well as focusing upon some of the areas of responsibility that may fall to the EU in a post-final status settlement in Kosovo. These include – institutional capacity building and advice (i.e. EU twinning arrangements) and the protection of minorities.