HRAP/PR/8
Monday 9 June 2008

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL

In a decision adopted on 6 June 2008 during its seventh session in Pristina/Pristina from 2 to 6 June 2008, the Human Rights Advisory Panel (the Panel) declared the complaint of Kadri BALAJ (on behalf of Mon BALAJ), Shaban XHELADINI (on behalf of Arben XHELADINI), Zenel ZEMELI and Mustafa NERJOVAJ, admissible.

The complaint relates to the deaths of Mon Balaj and Arben Xheladini, and the serious wounding of Zenel Zeneli and Mustafa Nerjovaj as a result of injuries sustained when UNMIK Police discharged rubber bullets towards the crowd during a protest demonstration organized in Pristina/Pristina by Vetëvendosja on 10 February 2007.

The Panel found that the complaint, claiming violations of the right to life, prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, right to a fair hearing and right to an effective remedy, and right to peaceful assembly, raised issues of law and of fact the determination of which should depend on an examination of its merits.

The next session of the Advisory Panel is scheduled to take place from 9 to 15 July, 2008.

Complaints for the Advisory Panel should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Room 19, Second Floor, UNMIK Main HQ, East Wing, Pristina, Kosovo.

For further information, please contact Mr. John J. Ryan, Executive Officer of the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, Tel: +381 (0) 38 504 604 Ext 5847, Email: ryanj@un.org. Interested persons are also referred to the website of the Advisory Panel, at http://www.unmikonline.org/human_rights/index.htm.