The Human Rights Advisory Panel (the Panel) held its sixth session in Pristina/Pristina from 5 to 9 May, 2008.

Mr. Joachim Rücker, SRSG, swore in Ms. Snezhana Botusharova-Doicheva from Bulgaria as a member of the Panel on Thursday, 8 May. Ms. Botusharova graduated with a Master of Law from the Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia in 1978 and as a Doctor of Law from the Lomonosov University of Moscow in 1984.

She served, inter alia, as the Republic of Bulgaria Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America from 1994 to 2008 and as a Judge in the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg from 1998 to 2008.

The Panel continued with its examination of complaints, requesting further evidence from complainants in eight cases.

The Panel declared that five complaints were admissible and is referring these cases to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for his response in accordance with section 11.3 of UNMIK Regulation No. 2006/12.

The Panel refused a request for review of a decision declaring a case inadmissible, pursuant to Rule 46 of its Rules of Procedure.

The Secretariat continued with its public information campaign and the Panel approved a Public Service Announcement. This was designed in conjunction with the Division of Public Information and will be shown on Kosovo and Serbian television in the coming weeks.

The next session of the Advisory Panel is scheduled to take place from 2 to 6 June, 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.