

concluded that the rights of the defendant(s) were violated, and that retrials be ordered where appropriate;

- ♦ procedures for the appointment of judges be changed, where necessary, to comply with international standards and ensure judicial independence;
- ♦ relevant authorities in both entities ensure that those indicted for war crimes by the International Criminal Tribunal, in particular those belonging to their own ethnic group, are arrested and extradited to The Hague; SFOR, acting in accordance with its mandate, intensify its efforts to apprehend those indicted;
- ♦ relevant authorities in both entities cease all practices which limit freedom of movement, such as the imposition of illegal fees or taxes, illegal requests for visas and other documents, and arbitrary arrests; a uniform car-registration system be adopted for use throughout the country; and law enforcement officials responsible for violating freedom of movement be punished;
- ♦ authorities fulfil obligations under the Dayton Agreement to facilitate returns on as large a scale as possible; international donors make financial aid conditional on minority returns and countries hosting refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina not pursue forced repatriation; authorities in both entities amend their property laws to enable pre-war occupants to reclaim their properties;
- ♦ authorities in both entities put an end to various forms of pressure exerted on the media and take steps to promote pluralism and independent voices in public communication; telecommunications links between the entities be broadened and other measures be taken to increase inter-entity exchange of information;
- ♦ the international community provide more support, both financial and in the form of expertise and equipment, to conduct exhumations and identifications and place additional pressure on the parties to undertake joint exhumations;
- ♦ international agencies establish an efficient and transparent mechanism to respond systematically to allegations of "secret" detention and authorities in both entities establish strict control of the prisons, including inspections by qualified and experienced inspectors and systematic registration of detainees;
- ♦ authorities in the Republika Srpska enter into a restructuring agreement with IPTF in the area of reform of the police without further delay;
- ♦ authorities in both entities offer their full and unequivocal support to the human rights institutions and comply fully with their findings and recommendations and the authorities in the Republika Srpska consider establishing an ombudsman's office for that entity;

- ♦ authorities in both entities endeavour to adopt a comprehensive law covering NGOs and remove provisions burdening their activities and restricting their independence, such as confusing registration procedures and excessive taxation; and
- ♦ donors adopt a coherent and long-term approach towards national NGOs to ensure their successful development.

The review of previous recommendations covers the period from 3 November 1995 to 29 January 1997, related to:

- ♦ recommitment to the promotion and protection of human rights still requiring implementation in many areas;
- ♦ respect for human rights institutions, noting the low level of cooperation, severely limited financial support to these institutions and failure of authorities in Republika Srpska to establish the office of the Ombudsperson;
- ♦ conduct of law enforcement officials, noting the failure of these officials often to protect the targets of intimidation and abuse, and sometimes actively participate in the commission of such acts; and the fact that local authorities have rarely taken action to put an end to such practices, generally affecting minority populations and returnees;
- ♦ freedom of movement, referring to continuing problems arising from arbitrary and illegal restrictions, failure to implement a system of uniform licence plates, several instances of violations of the "rules of the road" — involving the arrest and detention of individuals who were not indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal and without prior submission of incriminating evidence to the Tribunal;
- ♦ cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal, stating that cooperation has remained limited, with all parties refusing to surrender war crime suspects to the ICTY in violation of the Dayton Agreement which, with regard to Republika Srpska, supersedes provisions in the Constitution;
- ♦ domestic war crimes trials, noting irregularities in most trials;
- ♦ voluntary return, noting practical and administrative obstacles, outright political hostility directed against returnees and virtual impunity for those engaging in such acts as harassment, destruction of property and physical attack;
- ♦ property rights, noting failure to protect the property of displaced persons and refugees and repeal laws on property that are inconsistent with the Dayton Agreement and international law;
- ♦ freedom of expression, noting that inter-entity distribution of publications remains extremely limited; difficulties continue to be encountered for journalists