

steer RS politics into a moderate course is now at a critical phase. Hardliners are using recent events—the Brcko arbitral award, the dismissal of headline nationalist RS President Poplasen, and the NATO action against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—to try to derail the Dodik government and whip up public feeling against the international community.

The United States has made clear repeatedly at RS and municipality levels that all assistance is contingent on continued progress in implementing the Dayton accords and announced its readiness to terminate any projects if the situation warrants. The U.S. has also encouraged other donors to deliver the same message. Progress toward full implementation of the Dayton accords includes progress on arresting indicted war criminals, formation of a broad-based moderate government in the RS, and other key Dayton goals.

Section 570 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, imposes restrictions on assistance to states or entities that fail to “take necessary and significant steps to apprehend and transfer” to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia all persons who have been publicly indicted by the Tribunal. The Secretary of State determined in November 1998 that Serbia and the Republika Srpska were subject to this restriction. However, Section 570 also provides for a selective use of the waiver authority.

An upcoming decision by the World Bank to establish a Local Development Fund (LDF), to lend to municipalities for infrastructure reconstruction, fits the criteria for a waiver. The LDF, which would commit a total of \$15 million, is a longer-term (four years) effort to upgrade lending expertise of local banks and debt management capabilities of municipal governments.

The U.S. has made clear to the World Bank that it expects strict controls to ensure that no persons publicly indicted of war crimes should benefit from the program, and that no municipalities openly harboring such persons should benefit. The World Bank will institute strong control and audit mechanisms. International banks and consultants responsible to the World Bank will be involved in the selection of participating banks and eligible municipalities. The World Bank is fully aware of the need to avoid a situation where its funds could benefit persons publicly indicted for war crimes, or municipalities responsible for harboring such persons. It will consult regularly with the Office of the High

Representative in Sarajevo on the administration of this program.

Our record on war criminals remains strong and unequivocal. U.S. encouragement of moderate elements in the RS has helped improve the climate for bringing indicted war criminals to justice. To date, there have been ten forcible detentions and six voluntary surrenders in the RS. Of these, there were seven forcible detentions by SFOR and five voluntary surrenders during 1998. Since April of 1997, the number of war criminals brought before the Tribunal has increased from 7 to 35, due in large measure to the persistent pressure applied by the U.S. Government.

The fact that the detentions occurred without major incident, and that there is a relatively high proportion of voluntary surrenders, reflects directly on the climate created by the cooperative relationship with the international community of the Dodik government. We believe that by strengthening moderate and democratic forces in the Republika Srpska, we have strengthened institutions, capabilities, and resolve that will lead to the fulfillment of the Dayton objective of seeing those war criminals who remain at large detained and brought to justice.

The international community has repeatedly warned that obstructionism will lead to serious repercussions, including the curtailment of economic assistance. However, positive signals are also needed. The currently volatile climate in the RS should not sway the international community from a long-term policy that strengthens moderates and rewards those who cooperate with Dayton implementation.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice Number 3008]

The Interagency Working Group on Anti-fouling Paints for Ships; Notice of Public Meeting

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Anti-fouling Paints for Ships will conduct an open meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 1999, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., in Room 3328, Department of Transportation, 407 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and prepare the U.S. position for treaty negotiations relating to international regulations relating to the harmful effects of the use of anti-fouling paints for ships. These negotiations will

be conducted at the 43rd session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 43) of the International Maritime Organization. MEPC 43 will be held from June 28, to July 2, 1999 in London, United Kingdom.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Information requests and comments may be submitted electronically to cboes@comdt.uscg.mil. For further information pertaining to this meeting, contact Lieutenant Junior Grade Christopher Boes, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G-MSO-4), 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; Telephone: (202) 267-0713.

Dated: April 14, 1999.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice Number 3007]

Shipping Coordinating Committee, Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea, Working Group on Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers; Meeting Notice

The Working Group on Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers (DSC) of the Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) will conduct an open meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 1999, in Room 6332, at the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the outcome of the Fourth Session of the DSC Subcommittee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) which was held February 22-26, 1999, at the IMO Headquarters in London. In addition, initial plans and preparations for the upcoming meeting of the DSC Subcommittee's Editorial and Technical Group and other topics of interest will be addressed.

The agenda items of particular interest are:

a. Amendment 30 to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, its Annexes and Supplements including harmonization of the IMDG Code with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, reformatting of the IMDG Code, and revision of the format of the Emergency Schedules (EmS).