

S-0048-0001-01-00036

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Title

Items-in-Emergency Relif Coordinator

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Primary Contact

Home Location **S-0048-0001-01 (In Container)**
Assignee **In Container 'S-0048-0001-01 (In Container 'S-0048-0001 (Monika Tkacova)'**

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Date Published

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Notes

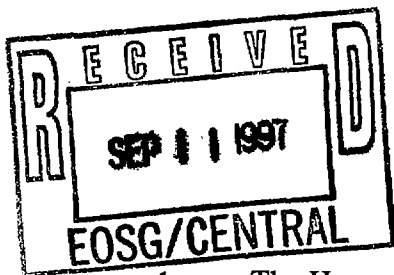
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Print Name of Person Submit Image

Signature of Person Submit

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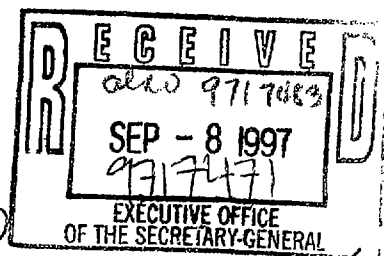
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RK(VG)

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Note to the Secretary-General
(Received after despatch to Bern of note on this subject)

1. The Humanitarian Liaison Working Group (HLWG) met yesterday to discuss the implementation of your reform proposals in regard to the humanitarian sector and the various steps which have been taken to date to implement the proposals.

FCOR
FYA
19/9

2. I informed the meeting that the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs Working Group (ECHA-WG), chaired by Mr. Nigel Fisher of UNICEF, had submitted its report to me, which I had then in turn submitted to you with my own comments. In consultation with your Office and the Department of Administration and Management, a final structure and staffing levels had been determined for the new Office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator. I outlined the rationale behind the structure and the next steps which would be taken. I also outlined the process of consultation, which had included deliberations in the ECHA-WG as well as discussions with your Office and DAM.

3. In their statements, delegations were supportive of the reform proposals outlined in your Report to the General Assembly. They also welcome this briefing which was the second in recent weeks. Regarding the structure and staffing of the new OERC, several delegations mentioned that they would not wish to micro manage the process, which remained your prerogative. The proposed staffing and structure were generally accepted. The US, however, cautioned that the OERC should not represent a re-organized DHA. France and Switzerland stressed that the OERC presence in Geneva should continue to reflect the importance of this humanitarian pole.

4. Regarding coordination arrangements, the UK, France, Germany and the Netherlands did not support the lead-agency concept as the "normal" formula for coordination at the field level. Instead, the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator model was preferred. Regarding governance, the UK, US and Canadian delegations highlighted the important role which should be played by ECOSOC in humanitarian affairs. A formula proposed by the United Kingdom, whereby a "stand alone" segment of ECOSOC should be scheduled, was supported by a number of delegations.

5. Several delegations, including the US, Japan, Germany and Canada, expressed their concern that humanitarian aspects should not be ignored during the transfer of mine-related activities to DPKO. After having been briefed on the process to date, delegations noted that the totality of issues, including advocacy, mine awareness, mine action and care of victims, must continue to be covered by the UN programmes.

6. Several delegations reaffirmed their position of increasing the share of Regular Budget funding for the OERC. This was most forcefully argued by Japan, Germany, the UK and the Netherlands.

Y. Akashi
Yasushi Akashi
5 September 1997

- cc: Mr. Connor
- Mr. Desai
- Mr. Halbwachs
- Mr. Miyet
- Mr. Prendergast
- Mr. Riza
- Mr. Speth
- Mr. Strong

#1 S.O OFFICE
9 Sept. 1997