



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
MISSION IN KOSOVO

**Remarks of Ambassador Werner Wnendt,
Head of OSCE Mission in Kosovo,**

At the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo

Prishtinë / Priština, 8 June 2007

The following remarks were given a dual ceremony for the graduation of the first class of inspectors and for the new building of the Police Inspectorate, an institution which the OSCE Mission has helped to build.

A year ago this month, I spoke at a press conference to launch the Police Inspectorate Agency – an event which marked an important step in the history of democratic policing in Kosovo. The Inspectorate ensures that the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) are held accountable to all the communities of Kosovo. The continued success of Kosovo's police service will be closely linked to the success of the Inspectorate.

I am pleased that the OSCE – the organization that has played a central role in the evolution of the KPS – is able to assist in the development of the Police Inspectorate. The OSCE has invested time and expertise in the development of the concept of the Police Inspectorate, its legal framework, and the preparation of a comprehensive training programme.

Developing a team of Inspectorate officers with the required knowledge, skills and attitude takes time and effort. That effort starts with a selection process designed to identify the best candidates. The OSCE has worked closely with the Ministry of Internal Affairs during two separate selection processes, using a selection examination to help to identify people with the right potential. The next step involved a comprehensive training programme in two phases.

The first phase of the training process provided Inspectorate officers with the knowledge and skills to scrutinise the management performance of the KPS in a number of key areas. This phase has successfully concluded and I am pleased to record that the PIK – with OSCE support – has already achieved a number of tangible outcomes regarding KPS performance and accountability. The most significant of which are nine ordinary inspections, two extraordinary inspections and the first PIK Annual Report published earlier this year.

I am also pleased to record that the second phase of the OSCE-led Inspectorate training is now underway and will target the investigation of serious misconduct by KPS officers. This phase will provide Inspectorate investigators with the knowledge and skills required to carry out investigations, interviews, the preparation of case files, and the application of the applicable law on disciplinary procedures. We expect the investigators to complete their training and become fully operational later this year.

The Inspectorate has a positive and constructive role – it is intended to help the KPS to continue to improve and develop. The Inspectorate will measure KPS performance against those standards set out in the *European Code of Police Ethics*. In this way, the Inspectorate will build on the foundations established by the OSCE and UNMIK Civilian Police and it will help the Ministry of Internal Affairs to guide the KPS toward full compliance with the EU model of democratic policing.

I congratulate the PIK in their development over the past 12 months and this ceremony to open their new building and award the first graduates. I look forward to further and close cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs in this important venture. The OSCE will continue to support the Ministry and the KPS in the effort to provide democratic policing for all the people of Kosovo.