OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES A GENÈVE



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

CENTRE POUR LES DROITS DE L'HOMME

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(à rappeler dans la réponse)

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Palais des Nations CH-1211 Genève 10



18 May 1995

Dear Sir/Madam:

I would like to extend an invitation to you or a representative of your organization to participate in the meeting tentatively scheduled on 8 - 9 July in Seged. The purpose of the meeting is to gather information enabling me to assess the human rights situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I would like to inform you that my mandate was extended at the fifty-first session of the Commission of Human Rights in March 1995. The mandate covers, inter alia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Unfortunately in the past two years all attempts to conduct missions to that country or to establish a field office in Belgrade within the framework of the mandate have failed. Nevertheless, for the proper execution of my mandate it is crucial to be able to obtain an objective picture of the human rights situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as maintain contact with those organizations and individuals that have first-hand knowledge of the situation.

It is envisaged that the meeting will offer organizations and interested individuals an opportunity to voice their concerns and opinions as well as inform me of the present situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I will be pleased to have an open discussion with all organizations and I am looking forward to establishing contact with those in attendance.

The following issues seem to be of particular concern:

- humanitarian situation, with particular references to the vulnerable groups
- situation of refugees and displaced
- the independence of the judiciary
- citizenship law
- the abuse of force by police
- freedom of the media
- discrimination based on nationality and religion-

However, all organizations are free to raise any relevant issue for discussion.

I trust that transportation and accommodation will be provided by the United Nations.

Please respond as soon as possible. The fax and telephone numbers are as follows:

Telephone:

41 22 917 15 58/917 2185 (Kristina Tronningsdal)

Fax:

41 22 917 00 92

Yours sincerely,

Tadeusz Mazowiecki Special Rapporteur of the

United Nations Commission on Human Rights