

- Macedonia Stands By Ahtisaari Plan Principles

Contributed by News Desk
Sunday, 26 August 2007

SKOPJE, August 24 (Kosov@News) - The Macedonian Security Council Thursday reiterated Skopje's existing position on the final status of Kosovo.

The Council also cautioned that Kosovo's partition might give strength to radical groups in the region.

"We will continue to support the Contact Group principles which are contained in the Martti Ahtisaari plan and which ban the division and merger of Kosovo with another state and return to the situation preceding 1999, and includes the principle of determination of borders under an international agreement filed at the United Nations," Macedonian Foreign Minister Antonio Miloshoski said.

Macedonian President Branko Crvenkovski said after the session that there were no serious threats to Macedonia's security.

Crvenkovski added that the partition of Kosovo, which, according to him, was only possible on the basis of ethnicity, would encourage numerous radical groups which operate in the region, the Macedonian news agency MIA reported.

Crvenkovski said the Council had urged that Macedonia should demand that any negotiated solution envision the delineation of the Macedonian-Kosovo border in accordance with the Ahtisaari plan, which clearly defined the process.

The Council agreed that Skopje should support the new round of talks between Belgrade and Pristina, hoping that the negotiating process would bring forth a solution that would help achieve lasting stability in the region and Euro-Atlantic perspective of all states.