

- Ahtisaari's office: bribe allegation are "rubbish"

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The Vienna office of Martti Ahtisaari, the UN special envoy for the future status process for Kosovo, told the Finnish News Agency (STT) on Wednesday it did not intend to take action over allegations that the former Finnish president had accepted bribes for recommending independence for the Serbian province.

Banja Luka-based paper Fokus had accused Mr Ahtisaari of accepting more than 40 million euros in bribes from Albanian criminals. Fokus further claimed that Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND), Germany's foreign intelligence agency, had submitted a report on the alleged transaction to the UN secretary-general.

"This is a rubbish story, which is actually from a Republica Srpska magazine. We have nothing to add to that. This is just a rubbish story," Remi Dourlot of the UN office of the special envoy or Kosovo, or Unosek, told STT.

Mr Dourlot also dismissed the report that BND had reported to the secretary-general as malicious.