



United Nations  
Nations Unies



International  
Criminal Tribunal  
for the former  
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal  
International pour  
l'ex-Yougoslavie

## Press Release . Communiqué de presse

(Exclusively for the use of the media. Not an official document)

**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

**BUREAU DU PROCUREUR**

The Hague, 21 February 2001

FH/P.I.S./565-E

### **STATEMENT BY THE PROSECUTOR CONCERNING THE CROATIAN JUDICIARY'S INVESTIGATION OF GENERAL MIRKO NORAC**

The Prosecutor has taken note of the recent opening of a criminal investigation by the Croatian judiciary against former general Mirko Norac for alleged crimes committed in Gospić Croatia in 1991.

In view of the fact that no indictment had been issued against Mr. Norac, and based on Rule 9 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure and Evidence, the Prosecutor has decided not to seek deferral of the case to the ICTY.

The prosecution of Mirko Norac - for the events which occurred in Gospić in 1991 and for any other alleged crime committed between 1991 and 1995 on the territory of the Republic of Croatia - is thus the responsibility of the relevant judicial authorities of Croatia.

Within the limits of her power, the Prosecutor will assist the investigating and prosecuting bodies in Croatia by providing all useful evidence she may possess in relation with Mr. Norac.

The Prosecutor expresses her satisfaction about this further positive development of cooperation between her Office and the Government of Croatia.

\*\*\*\*\*

Internet address: <http://www.un.org/icty>

**Public Information Services/Press Unit**

Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW The Hague. P.O. Box 13888, 2501 EW The Hague. Netherlands

Tel.: +31-70-416-5356; 416-5343 Fax: +31-70-416-5355