



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)

**TRIAL CHAMBER
CHAMBRE DE 1ERE
INSTANCE**

The Hague, 27 January 2004

JL/P.I.S./818-e

MILAN BABIĆ PLEADS GUILTY TO ONE COUNT OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

Today, Tuesday 27 January 2004, Trial Chamber I comprised of Judges Alphons Orie (presiding), Amin El Mahdi and Joaquín Martín Canivell held a hearing to consider a joint Motion for consideration of a Plea Agreement between Milan Babić and the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP).

The Motion reflected a negotiated Plea Agreement whereby the accused would agree to plead guilty to Count 1 of his Indictment and, in exchange, the Prosecution would move to dismiss the remaining charges against Milan Babić.

Milan Babić entered a guilty plea to Count 1 of the Indictment, persecutions on political, racial, and religious grounds by participating as a co-perpetrator in a Joint Criminal Enterprise, punishable under Articles 5 of the Statute of the Tribunal.

The Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) recommended the Trial Chamber impose a sentence of not more than 11 years' imprisonment. The Defence did not make a recommendation in relation to possible sentence, but reserved the right to do so at the time of sentencing.

The Trial Chamber will render its Decision on whether to accept the Plea Agreement in due course.

*The full text of the Plea Agreement will be available on the ICTY website in due course:
www.un.org/icty*

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.: +31-70-512-5356; 512-5343 Fax: +31-70-512-5355