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International
Criminal Tribunal
for the former
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie

Press Release . Communiqué de presse
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REGISTRY

GREFFE

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**SLOBODAN MILOŠEVIĆ TRANSFERRED INTO THE CUSTODY
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA**

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) welcomes the transfer of Slobodan Milošević into its custody. He arrived in the ICTY's Detention Unit during the early hours of today.

The date and time for the initial appearance of Slobodan Milošević, at which he will be asked to enter a plea to the charges against him, will be scheduled and announced in due course.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The President of the Tribunal, Judge Claude Jorda, said that the transfer of Slobodan Milošević to the Tribunal is a turning point and the beginning of a new era in the development of international criminal justice. The forthcoming trial of a former Head of State is a new and irreversible step in relation to the international community's resolve to fight against impunity.

The President considers it of the utmost importance that Slobodan Milošević, like all other accused appearing before the Tribunal, be afforded a fair and expeditious trial in accordance with the highest international standards.

STATEMENT BY THE PROSECUTOR

The ICTY Prosecutor, Ms. Carla Del Ponte welcomes the decision of the Belgrade authorities to transfer Slobodan Milošević to the Tribunal for trial. This day will be remembered as an important milestone for international criminal justice.

The Prosecutor, however, wishes to emphasize that the transfer itself does not represent the end of the process. On the contrary, this is only the beginning of the criminal proceedings and a great deal of work now has to be done to bring the case to a just conclusion.

The Prosecutor also wishes to acknowledge the contribution made by Member States who have supported and facilitated the transfer.

PRESS CONFERENCE

The ICTY Prosecutor, Ms. Carla Del Ponte will hold a press conference on Friday, 29 June 2001 at 4 p.m. in the lobby of the Tribunal.

Members of the press who wish to attend are requested to present themselves at the main entrance to the Tribunal at 3 p.m.

Due to the space available, admission will be limited.

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