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SECRETARY-GENERAL CHAIRS MEETING IN GENEVA ON FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

The following statement was issued today by the spokesperson in Europe for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali:

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali chaired a meeting today at the Palais de Nations in Geneva, which was attended by: Yasushi Akashi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Former Yugoslavia; Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia; Chinmaya Gharekhan, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General; Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; General Bertrand de Sauville de Lapresle, Force Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR); and William Eagleton, Special Coordinator for Sarajevo.

The Secretary-General welcomes the positive momentum and progress towards peace and stability in the former Yugoslavia. With regard to the safe area of Gorazde, the Secretary-General has taken note of the improvement in the situation there, which was reported to him this morning. At the same time, he calls for a return by the parties, especially the Bosnian Serbs, to the positions they held before the outbreak of the recent fighting. The Secretary-General has instructed UNPROFOR to use all available means, as authorized by the relevant Security Council resolutions, to attain this objective. He strongly hopes that tangible progress will be made soon, so that a global cease-fire and disengagement will be achieved in the near future.

The Secretary-General also discussed with his senior aides the tasks relating to the reconstruction of Sarajevo and the importance of a better coordination of the international assistance provided to the former Yugoslavia.

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