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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS Forty-sixth session Agenda items 10, 11, 12, 14 and 19

> QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO ANY FORM OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES ON ITS FORTY-FIRST SESSION

Letter dated 1 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

1. With reference to the statement about my country made in the Commission on Human Rights on 27 February 1990 by the head of the delegation of the SFR of Yugoslavia, I wish to inform you that I firmly reject the malicious and unfounded accusations contained in that statement.

2. Whereas the representative of Yugoslavia was expected to respond to the concern of international public opinion about the long-standing state of emergency in Kosovo and the tragedy being experienced there by the Albanian population as a result of the police brutality and State terror practised against them, and also to explain when the situation would be brought to an

E/CN.4/1990/85 page 2

end, he chose to make unfounded and absurd accusations against Albania. This departure from the truth by the Yugoslav representative pursues premeditated aims, namely to divert the attention of the Commission and the public at large and to hide the truth about the tragedy being experienced by the Albanian population in Yugoslavia.

3. The events in Kosovo are known to the world. In recent weeks alone, dozens of Albanians have been killed and hundreds wounded, including women and children, and thousands have been imprisoned. Many Governments, institutions and important international bodies such as the European Parliament and the Commission on Human Rights have expressed their concern about the violence in Kosovo.

4. Albania has not interfered and does not interfere in Yugoslavia's internal affairs. It is in favour of good neighbourly relations between the two countries. The Kosovo problems can be settled, not artificially by handing over responsibilities to others, but by using political wisdom, by relinquishing violence and terror, by engaging in dialogue with the Albanians in Kosovo and by respecting their rights to full equality and justice.

5. The rights and fundamental freedoms of Albanian citizens are sanctioned in the laws of the SPR of Albania and are fully observed in practice. In order to clear up this matter, the Permanent Mission of the SPR of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva has, in extending its co-operation, submitted documents and replies to the Commission on Human Rights. They are included among the Commission's official documents for the forty-sixth session, namely, E/CN.4/1990/57; E/CN.4/1990/71; E/CN.4/1990/74; E/CN.4/1990/78 and E/CN.4/1990/80.

6. I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights, under items 10, 11, 12, 14 and 19 of the agenda for the forty-sixth session.

(<u>Signed</u>): Alfred Papuçiu Chargé d'affaires