

MC/2029

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26 March 2001**

EIGHTY-FIRST (SPECIAL) SESSION

**APPLICATION BY THE
ASSISTANCE PEDAGOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (API)
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER**

APPLICATION BY THE
ASSISTANCE PEDAGOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (API)
FOR REPRESENTATION BY AN OBSERVER

1. In a letter dated 18 January 2001, a copy of which is appended as Annex I, the Chairman of the *Assistance Pédagogique Internationale* (API) made a formal application for his organization to be accorded observer status at meetings of the IOM Council. The Director General's reply thereto, dated 12 February 2001, is appended as Annex II. An appropriate item will be included on the provisional agenda of the Eighty-first (Special) Session of the Council.
2. This matter falls under rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council which provides that the Council may admit, upon their application, international organizations, governmental or non-governmental, concerned with migration, refugees or human resources as observers at its meetings.
3. If the Council so decides, the *Assistance Pédagogique Internationale* will be included among the non-governmental organizations listed in paragraph 2 (c) of Resolution No. 753 (LVIII).
4. An appropriate draft resolution will be submitted to the Council when this matter comes up for decision.

Annex I

LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 2001 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
ASSISTANCE PEDAGOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (API)
TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

Sir,

The *Assistance Pédagogique Internationale* has the honour of making herewith a formal application for observer status at the meetings of the International Organization for Migration.

IOM's activities are of great interest to our NGO. Activities concerning post-conflict return to a normal life, necessarily involving the reintegration of ex-combatants into civilian life, is an important objective of our association.

This integration implies respect for human rights; it is one of our principles to teach respect for human life. Teaching relief techniques is a very good way to transmit respect for life and encourages civic responsibility, as already demonstrated in Kosovo, or previously in the region of Karabagh (Armenian-Azeri conflict) and in Turkey during the last earthquake.

In view of the work carried out by our NGO in partnership with your international Organization in Kosovo, based on Resolution No. 1244, especially concerning post-conflict return to civilian life of the ex-combatants of the KLA (creation of a new civil defence corps), we wish to become a technical partner of IOM in order to develop and disseminate rapid relief techniques, in particular the setting up and/or development of civil defence structures in other countries.

As we have seen in other operations, rescue teams in countries of open or latent conflict are faced with crises needing emergency assistance and the management of displaced population flows.

Also in the context of civil defence, which is responsible for the protection of people, property and the environment, we wish to establish closer ties with IOM and become a partner in order to be able to develop concrete and efficient cooperation by offering our knowledge and experience to IOM.

Our NGO has taken note of the various internal rules and regulations of your Organization and undertakes to adhere to and respect its principles.

You are kindly requested to consider our application at the forthcoming session of the Council.

[Complimentary ending]

Annex II

LETTER DATED 12 FEBRUARY 2001 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE *ASSISTANCE PEDAGOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (API)*

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 18 January 2001, ref. SP/01/009, informing me of the wish of the *Assistance Pédagogique Internationale* to participate as an observer in the work of the Council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Through your collaboration with IOM in the field, you have shown your deep regard for the values and principles of post-conflict return to a normal life, in particular concerning the reintegration of ex-combatants and the management of displaced population flows. The necessary action will therefore be taken for inscription of your request on the agenda of the forthcoming IOM Council, to be held in Geneva at a date which will be communicated to you shortly.

The relevant document formally presenting your application for observer status will be distributed to all Member States and observers in the near future. I will send you a copy of this document, together with further details and procedural information concerning the Council session.

I take great pleasure in receiving your request for observer status. Allow me therefore to express my satisfaction at the prospect of furthering the close relationship between your association and IOM.

[Complimentary ending]