

R

DOCUMENT ID: 41166124  
INQNO: DOC23D 00482869  
DOCNO: TEL 013102 92  
PRODUCER: BRUSSELS  
AGENCY: STATE  
DOCTYPE: IN  
DOR: 19921015  
TOR: 160935  
DOCPREC: R  
ORIGDATE: 199210151616  
MHFNO: 92 9981835  
DOCCLASS: C

CDS  
C 08172BRUSSELS 131022892005ZSCR 92-9981835 C  
MIDB

S  
UPID

/ /

CONFIDENTIAL

FRP: , , 3, , , , ,

ACTION: NONE INFO: AFSMETS, DONOVA, FBIS6, IRL, MDSX, NHTC/EE,  
NHTC/EUR, NIO/ECON, ODPB, ODPD, ODPS, OPCTR/EURA, STATDICT, FILE,  
CE/EE/R/S, CE/EE/YA-2, EUR/BNL, EUR/F, EUR/RR, EUR/SS (8/W)

92 9981835 SCR

PAGE 001  
TOR: 152005Z OCT 92

NC 9981835  
BRUSSE 13102

HEADER  
RR RUEAIIB  
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH  
MSI1851  
RR RUEHC  
DE RUEHBS #3102/01 2891616  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 151616Z OCT 92  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6041  
INFO RUFHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3403  
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 6534  
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA 0008  
BT

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

CONTROLS  
CONFIDENTIAL BRUSSELS 13102

DEPARTMENT FOR L AND EUR/NE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TEXT

TAGS: EFIN, TGC, CASC, AL, UK, FR, BE

COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION  
SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: A) STATE 286026 NOTAL B) BRUSSELS 4554 NOTAL C)  
STATE 183310

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED: A PROPOSED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL (SG) POSITION OF THE TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION (TGC) AS PREPARED BY THE U.K. COMMISSIONER, AS WELL AS FURTHER POINTS TO CONSIDER, FOLLOW. PLEASE PROVIDE DEPARTMENT REACTION ASAP, PREFERABLY DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19. IN ADDITION, PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF STATUS REPORT ON THE EFFORTS OF THE USG TO REACH A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA ON U.S. PRIVATE CLAIMS. END SUMMARY

3. PER REFS A AND B, U.K., FRENCH AND U.S. COMMISSIONERS TO THE TGC HAVE BEGUN A SEARCH FOR A REPLACEMENT FOR THE LATE MR. COLIN HARRIS AS SG OF THE TGC. A PROPOSED JOB DESCRIPTION AS PREPARED BY THE U.K. COMMISSIONER FOLLOWS IN PARA 6 BELOW.

4. THE U.K. COMMISSIONER TOLD EMBASSY THAT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE HAVE A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR THE SG POSITION, BUT BEFORE APPROACHING THE CANDIDATES, HMG WOULD LIKE CONFIRMATION THAT THE JOB DESCRIPTION IS AGREEABLE TO THE USG.

5. EMBASSY WILL DRAW FROM PARAS 4 AND 5 OF REF A AS A PRELIMINARY REACTION TO THE JOB DESCRIPTION. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY DRAWS ATTENTION OF L TO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

A. WORK LOAD OF JOB: THE AMOUNT OF WORK THAT THE NEW SG WILL HAVE UPON TAKING OFFICE DEPENDS TO A LARGE DEGREE ON WHEN THE USG AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA (GOA) REACH A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ON U.S. PRIVATE CLAIMS AGAINST THE GOA (SEE REF C). PRIOR TO SUCH A SETTLEMENT, THE SG WORK LOAD WILL BE MODEST AFTER THE TASKS OUTLINED IN THE U.K. TEXT ARE COMPLETED. ONCE THE US/GOA AGREEMENT IS REACHED, WE EXPECT THE SG WORKLOAD TO PICK UP CONSIDERABLY FOR AN UNCERTAIN PERIOD, PERHAPS A YEAR OR LESS. THE FINAL TIME WILL DEPEND ON HOW FAST THE COMMISSION CAN DISTRIBUTE THE RESIDUAL RESERVES TO ALL ORIGINAL CLAIMANT COUNTRIES AFTER A QUASI-FINAL PAYMENT IS MADE TO ALBANIA. (MR. HARRIS BEFORE HIS DEATH WAS DEVISING AN ACCELERATED DISTRIBUTION PLAN ON A TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT, NO COUNTERCLAIMS ACCEPTED,

PRORATED SHARE BASIS.) PLEASE PROVIDE THE LATEST INFORMATION ON WHEN A US/GOA AGREEMENT MIGHT BE CONCLUDED.

B. SALARY OF JOB: RELATED TO A) ABOVE, THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION WILL DEPEND TO SOME DEGREE ON THE TIMING OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE US PRIVATE CLAIMS. NOTE THAT THE U.K. HAS PROPOSED A SALARY OF 22,000 POUNDS. PARA 5 OF REFTTEL A MAKES REFERENCE TO A PART-TIME POSITION AT MODEST STIPEND. THE CHANCES THAT THE COMMISSION CAN FIND ANYONE WHO WILL WORK FOR THE TOKEN ANNUAL SALARY (SET IN THE LATE 1970S) OF 120,000 BF (APPROXIMATELY \$4,000) THAT MR. HARRIS RECEIVED ARE VIRTUALLY NIL. ASSUMING THE USG AND THE GOA HAVE REACHED A SETTLEMENT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEW SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD BE ASKED TO PERFORM ENOUGH WORK TO JUSTIFY A SALARY OF 22,000 POUNDS. IF THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT THE US/GOA SETTLEMENT WILL STILL TAKE A CONSIDERABLE TIME, PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BEST TO LEAVE THE SG POSITION VACANT IN THE MEANTIME.

C. DURATION OF JOB: THE U.K. PROPOSES AN INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF 12 MONTHS. WHETHER THE COMMISSION CAN WRAP UP ITS WORK IN THIS TIME PERIOD IS UNCERTAIN. OBVIOUSLY THE COMMISSION SHOULD NOT FUND THE POSITION FOR AN UNNECESSARILY LONG TIME PERIOD. AT THE SAME TIME, THE COMMISSION DOES NOT WANT TO BE FACED WITH HIRING A NEW COMMISSIONER ONE YEAR FROM NOW. PERHAPS THE CONTRACT COULD BE FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR, WITH AN OPTION TO RENEW ON A MONTHLY OR QUARTERLY BASIS.

D. DIPLOMATIC STATUS: MR. HARRIS ENJOYED DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES. BEFORE THE COMMISSION APPROACHES THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE DIPLOMATIC STATUS OF THE NEW SG, SHOULD IT CONSIDER ANY SPECIAL POINTS?

6. TEXT OF PROPOSED SG JOB DESCRIPTION DONE BY U.K.:  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION(TGC)

(1). AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II, THE FRENCH, US AND UK GOVERNMENTS WERE APPOINTED AS CUSTODIANS OF MONETARY GOLD SEIZED BY GERMAN OCCUPYING FORCES. THE TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION (TGC) WAS ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH THE CLAIMS TO THE GOLD OF ABOUT SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE GOLD HAS NOW BEEN DISTRIBUTED, THERE IS STILL WORK TO BE DONE IN SHARING OUT WHAT REMAINS. IT IS HOPED THAT THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN LESS THAN A YEAR AND THAT THE TGC CAN THEN BE FORMALLY WOUND UP.

THE TASK  
-----

(2). THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAWING THE WORK OF THE TGC TO A CLOSE, AND ARRANGING A SMOOTH ALLOCATION OF THE REMAINING GOLD TO CLAIMANT COUNTRIES. HE/SHE WILL BE REQUIRED TO MANAGE THE AFFAIRS OF THE TGC, INCLUDING THE ORGANISATION OF MEETINGS OF THE

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMISSIONERS, MAINTENANCE OF THE TGC'S RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS, AND LIAISON AS NECESSARY WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES IN CLAIMANT COUNTRIES.

(3). THE TGC HAS BEEN INACTIVE FOR SOME YEARS. A PRELIMINARY TASK, THEREFORE, WILL BE TO EXAMINE (WEEDING AND ORGANISING AS NECESSARY) THE TGC'S EXISTING RECORDS WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING HOW BEST TO APPROACH THE TASK OF WINDING UP. AT THIS STAGE THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD BE EXPECTED TO WORK APPROXIMATELY 35 HOURS A WEEK. WHEN THE PRELIMINARY TASK IS COMPLETED THERE IS LIKELY TO BE A PERIOD OF MUCH REDUCED ACTIVITY BEFORE THE FINAL, INTENSIVE WINDING-UP STAGE BEGINS.

TERM OF OFFICE AND SALARY  
-----

(4). THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT WOULD BE FOR 12 MONTHS AT A SALARY OF 22,000 POUNDS. IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE WORK COULD LARGELY BE CARRIED OUT FROM HOME, WITH OCCASIONAL VISITS TO LONDON, BRUSSELS AND OTHER EUROPEAN CAPITALS. ANY NECESSARY IT EQUIPMENT WOULD BE PROVIDED: BUT NOT SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE.

QUALIFICATIONS  
-----

(5). APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL EXPERIENCE, PREFERABLY IN AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT: AND THE SKILLS AND PERSONALITY TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES. THE WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE TGC IS ENGLISH.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENT ON PARAS 5 AND 6 ABOVE, AS WELL AS A STATUS REPORT ON THE USG/GOA NEGOTIATIONS. GELB

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL