



Agreement on the Passage of Humanitarian Convoys

In response to the problems inhibiting the free passage of humanitarian aid to the farthest destination in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina; cognizant of the critical humanitarian situation on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the imperative for the unhindered passage of humanitarian convoys and that all aid arrived to its destination as soon as possible:

- determined to alleviate any further suffering of the civilian population through the delivery of humanitarian assistance in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- taking into account the Agreement signed in Geneva, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, 22 May, 1992, and all other provisions of international humanitarian law;
- recalling the Protocol on the Co-operation of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina concerning the Establishment of Logistic Centers in the Republic of Croatia for the Acceptance and Distribution of the Humanitarian Assistance Directed to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, signed in Zagreb, on 25 February, 1992;
- recalling the Medugorje Agreement concluded on 18 May, 1993;
- according to the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions;

The Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Croatian Defence Council, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Protection Forces (UNPROFOR), bind themselves:

1. to create the necessary conditions and assumed full responsibility for the safe and unhindered delivery and distribution of humanitarian aid;
2. to respect the rules of operation of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the organization of the delivery and distribution of humanitarian aid, to facilitate the delivery of such assistance to those for whom it is intended without any discrimination on the basis of national origin or religion;



3. to undertake all necessary measures to guarantee direct access to the beneficiaries and to ensure the safety and security of all personnel involved, which includes full responsibility of the parties for acts committed by so-called uncontrolled groups, and to guarantee that no duties are required or imposed;
4. to undertake all necessary measures to prevent any violations of international humanitarian law;
5. to ensure that representatives of the Croatian Defence Council Office for Displaced Persons and Refugees and authorized personnel of the logistical center of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina for Humanitarian Aid on the territory of the Republic of Croatia will jointly control the loading, packaging and distribution planning of humanitarian convoys to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the framework of the Protocol on Logistical Centers and laws of the Republic of Croatia. Representatives of the Croatian Defence Council Office for Displaced Persons and Refugees and authorized personnel of the Logistical Center of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall issue documentation that a load has been searched and approved, and that all the important details about the weight, transport and individuals participating in the convoy and the intended path of travel to be marked; (ineligible);
6. to ensure that the representatives of the Croatian Defence Council and the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in their respective zones of responsibility without stopping and controlling guarantee the movement of humanitarian convoys in the most safe and according to the circumstances along the shortest route possible;
7. to respect the route of movement of a convoy confirmed in the freight documentation;
8. that the Croatian Defence Council and the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the territory under their control appoint responsible representatives for the purposes of notification of humanitarian convoys and liaison;
9. to ensure that the Croatian Defence Council and the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall ensure the unhindered passage for all international humanitarian convoys as well as convoys of non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Power supply in the service of humanitarian purposes, to be decided by a Joint

Commission, will also be treated as humanitarian assistance.

For the realization of this Agreement will be prepare plans for the initiation of humanitarian convoys, of which the first will be prepared immediately, but will be realized no later than 15 July, 1993. Plans will be prepared by representatives of the Ministry of Commerce, Tourism and Industry of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Croatian Defence Council Office for Displaced Persons and Refugees. The ICRC and UNHCR will plan their own convoys independently in agreement with the parties to this agreement.

With the purpose of the most effective delivery of humanitarian assistance the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Croatian Defence Council shall ensure the free passage of humanitarian assistance along every major traffic route, including major traffic route Čapljina-Mostar-Jablanica-Konjic-Tarcin.

Every individual involved with a humanitarian convoy which are unlawfully deprived of their freedom will be released immediately, and unlawfully seized transported goods will be returned to their owners no later than thirty days.

For the realization of the aforementioned obligations a Joint Commission composed of representatives of the Croatian Defence Council and the Ministry of Commerce, Tourism and Industry of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The nomination of representatives for this Commission will be implemented no later than 15 July, 1993, when the Commission will begin with its operations. Representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNPROFOR will be called upon according to the need to participate in meetings of the Commission. The Commission in performing its duties will abide by the principles of equality and proportionality in the distribution of humanitarian assistance to the population.

This Agreement shall not prejudice any political resolution.

The Agreement comes into force on the day it is signed.

For the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Hadžo Efendić

For the Croatian Defence Council - Dr. Jadranko Prlić

This Agreement was reached in Makarska, Republic of Croatia, 10 July, 1993, and witnessed by representatives of the

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Government of the Republic of Croatia - Dr. Mate Granic

International Committee for the Red Cross - C. Von Flue

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees - Anthony C. Land

UNPROFOR - William Veenvliet

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