OHM/NOTE



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and has the honour to communicate the following:

The Government of Ghana has decided to withdraw Ghana's recognition of Kosovo as an independent state. This decision of the Government is informed by the following considerations:

In 2012, Ghana decided to recognise Kosovo as an independent and sovereign state, leading to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. This recognition was in contravention of the Helsinki Final Act and, more fundamentally, in contravention of the UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

The decision to recognise Kosovo turned out to be premature in view of paragraph 10 of the UNSC Resolution 1244 (1999) which authorised the Secretary General to "establish an international civil presence in Kosovo in order to provide an interim administration for Kosovo under which the people of Kosovo can enjoy substantial autonomy within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and which will provide transitional administration while establishing and overseeing the development of provisional democratic self-governing institutions to ensure conditions for a peaceful and normal life for all inhabitants of Kosovo".

The decision of the Government of Ghana at the time must have, however, been inspired by the quest for peace and harmony.

The Government of Ghana has taken into account the on-going dialogue between Serbia and Kosovo aimed at resolving the issue of the latter's quest to be recognised as an independent and sovereign entity and supports the ongoing process to bring finality to the matter.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia the assurances of its highest consideration.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA BELGRADE

