

IOM Chief of Mission briefed KPC senior officers on IOM Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration activities



KPC demonstrating civil protection skills, impact of IOM's DDR intervention in previous years

In January 2006, the IOM Chief of Mission Mr. Enrico Ponziani had an opportunity to make a presentation to senior officers of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) about one of IOM's most successful interventions in immediate post-conflict situations known as Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR).

Successful demobilization and reintegration of former combatants after violent conflicts represent a crucial moment for any peace-building process. Combatants must have faith in a future where the advantages of peace outweigh those of war, stressed Mr. Ponziani.

IOM's DDR strategy is based on the following complementary programmatic pillars: I) information, counseling and referral services, II) reintegration fund, and III) capacity-building activities. Mr. Ponziani noted that implementing these pillars simultaneously produces the optimal results.

By actively supporting the reintegration of ex-combatants, IOM contributes to the peace building process in post-conflict societies. IOM also contributes to the prevention of new conflict and new population movements by stabilizing and strengthening societies still vulnerable from the previous armed clashes.