On the basis of the Art. 89 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, I pass

DECISION

ON PROMULGATION OF THE LAW ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW ON THE STATUS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES

I promulgate the Law on Amendments to the Law on Status of Displaced Persons and Refugees, which was passed by the House of Representatives of the Croatian State Parliament on its session of 12 November 1999.

No. 01/1-081-99-17/2 Zagreb, 26 November 1999

> On the basis of the Art. 1 of the Constitutional Law on the Temporary Inability of the President of the Republic to Perform his Duties

TEMPORARILY REPLACES THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

PRESIDENT OF THE CROATIAN STATE PARLIAMENT: Vlatko Pavletic, Member of the Academy (signed)

THE LAW ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW ON THE STATUS OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES

Article 1

Art. 3 of the Law on the Status of Displaced Persons and Refugees (Official Gazette Nos. 96/93, 39/95 and 29/99) is hereby amended and now reads:

"A person finally convicted of the criminal act under Art. 3, para 1 of the General Amnesty Law (Official Gazette No. 80/96) cannot realise the rights from this Law.

With respect to a person indicted for the criminal act under Art. 3, para 1 of the General Amnesty Law (Official Gazette No. 80/96), the realisation of the rights from this Law is postponed until the finality of the court decision by which the court penal procedure shall be completed.

The restrictions under para 1 and 2 of this Article regarding the rights from this Law do not refer to family members of the persons under para 1 and 2 of this Article."

Article 2

In Art. 4, the words "subparagraph 1" are replaced by the words " para 1 and 2".

Article 3

In Article 6, para 4, the words "Head of the Office" are replaced by the words "Assistant Minister".

Article 4

In Article 9, para 1, behind item 4, items 5, 6, 7 and 8 are added and read:

- "5. if he/she returns pursuant to the Programme for Return and Accommodation for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Resettled Persons (Official Gazette No. 92/98);
- 6. if the competent body provides housing or if he/she acquires the position of lessee pursuant to the Law on Lease of Apartments (Official Gazette Nos. 91/96, 66/98);
- 7. if he/she has not submitted a reconstruction application within the foreseen deadline:
- 8. if he/she does not realise the right to reconstruction."

Article 5

In Art. 14, para 2 and 7 are deleted.

Former paras 3, 4, 5 and 6 now become paras 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Article 6

Behind Art. 23, Chapter IIIA and Art. 23a, 23b and 23c are added and read:

" IIIA RETURNEE STATUS

Article 23a

The returnee under this Law is a person who acquired the returnee status pursuant to the special regulations on returnees and a person who returned pursuant to the Programme for Return and Accommodation for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Resettled Persons (Official Gazette No. 92/98).

Article 23b

The person under Art. 23a of this Law, whose returnee status was recognised, may enjoy the rights of returnee under this Law at most up to 6 months counting from the date of his/her return.

While the returnee enjoys the rights from para 1 of this Article, he/she is not entitled to welfare assistance under the Law on Social Welfare (Official Gazette No. 73/97).

Article 23c

The provisions under the Chapters II, III, IV and V of this Law are applied adequately to returnees and resettled persons."

Article 7

As of entering of this Law into force, the status of displaced person and status of refugee cannot be acquired.

Article 8

In the text of this Law the words "Office for Displaced Persons and Refugees of the Government of the Republic of Croatia" are replaced by the words "Ministry Competent for Care of Displaced Persons, Returnees and Refugees" in the adequate grammatical case.

Article 9

This Law enters into force on the eighth day after its publication in the Official Gazette.

No. 019-04/95-01/05

Zagreb, 12 November 1999

House of Representatives of the Croatian State Parliament

> President of the House of Representatives of the Croatian State Parliament Vlatko Pavletic, Member of the Academy (signed)