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SOUTH AFRICA: WITHDRAWAL OF MILITARY ATTACHES

SUMMARY

1. THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION NOT TO PROLONG THE ACCREDITATION TO BELGIUM OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ATTACHE, WHO RESIDES IN PARIS.

DETAIL

2. A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID TINDEMANS HAD REPORTED TO TODAY'S MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE VARIOUS MEASURES ON SOUTH AFRICA PROPOSED AT THE EPC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG. SOME OF THESE MEASURES WERE ALREADY BEING APPLIED BY BELGIUM (E.G. THE BAN ON ARMS SALES AND MILITARY COOPERATION). OTHERS WOULD NEED FURTHER EXAMINATION BEFORE THEY COULD BE EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED (E/G THE FREEZING OF CULTURAL LINKS WOULD REQUIRE CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY EXECUTIVES, I.E THE FLEMISH AND FRANCOPHONE REGIONAL AUTHORITIES, WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXTERNAL CULTURAL RELATIONS). BUT AS REGARDED THE QUESTION OF MILITARY ATTACHES, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED NOT TO RENEW THE ACCREDITATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ATTACHE, EVEN IF THERE WAS NO UNANIMITY ON THIS ISSUE AMONG THE TEN.

COLTMAN

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