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Feith: ICO in Kosovo will not change activities

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The Ahtisaari-based International Civilian Office (ICO) in Kosovo will not change its activities, regardless of the decision on the future of UNMIK, ICO head Pieter Feith said on Thursday.

“As the international civilian representative, I represent the countries which have recognized Kosovo. The mandate of the ICO is to help the implementation of Ahtisaari's proposal and that mandate will not be affected by the on-going UN - EU consultations”, Feith said of the ad-hoc body which never received any UN backing.

Speaking about his other duty in Kosovo, Feith said that, as the representative of the EU, his role is to help the implementation of the Eulex mission.

“We are waiting for the signal of the UN secretary general, to hear his opinion on how to continue the reform of UNMIK and that package includes how Eulex should be involved in the entire system”, Feith said.

Meanwhile, the Kosovo parliament on Thursday adopted five bills from the Ahtisaari package, including the law on the elections for Kosovo MPs and elections for local bodies of authority.

Parliament also adopted the bills on the central bank of Kosovo, establishment of the office of the Kosovo auditor-general and Kosovo railways.

Together with these laws, the Kosovo parliament has adopted 30 laws envisaged under the Ahtisaari package for the status of Kosovo.

The Ahtisaari plan is implemented in Kosovo without the agreement of the UN Security Council.

Another five laws should be adopted by June 15, when the Kosovo Constitution will take effect.