

4 August 2010

**OFFICIAL OPENING OF APARTMENT BUILDING IN THE MUNICIPALITY  
OF MEDVEĐA, THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

On 8 July 2010, H.E. Ambassador Vincent Degert, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, presented the keys of a new ASB constructed apartment building to eight families in the Municipality of Medveđa with Mr. Vladimir Cucić, Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Milan Marković, Minister of Public Administration and Local Self-government, Mr. Rasim Ljajić, Minister of Labour and Social Policy, and Mr. Elmira Bojadžić, ASB Regional Director.

After the welcoming speech of Mr. Slobodan Drašković, Mayor of the Municipality of Medveđa, the guests visited the apartment building where the keys were presented to the new tenants.

The new apartment provides durable housing solutions for six internally displaced families from Kosovo and two socially vulnerable families from the Municipality of Medveđa. The completion of this project is a result of close and successful co-operation and co-ordination between the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees, UNHCR, the Municipality of Medveđa and ASB. The value of this project is € 140.386 including € 128.710 for design and construction and € 11.676 for furniture.

This apartment building was constructed under the project „Support to IDPs and Refugees in Serbia” of the IPA 2007 programme funded by the EU and implemented by ASB through the project “Provision of Social Housing in a Supportive Environment”. The total value of the project is € 1.760.000 of which € 1.600.000 is being provided by the EU and € 160.000 by ASB. Under this project, 44 families in five municipalities will be receive durable housing solutions, 74 building material kits will be distributed to IDP and refugee families who have started constructing their own homes in seven municipalities, 20 pre-fabricated housing units for IDP families in Požarevac will be constructed along with support to 100 new small and medium enterprises (SMEs) throughout Serbia.

This excellent co-operation will continue during 2010 and 2011 through the provision of six pre-fabricated housing units for IDPs living in the municipality Medveđa under the IPA 2008 Programme.

Since 1999, ASB has implemented projects valued at 10.3 million in Serbia with funds from European Commission, ECHO, EAR, the German Government, USAID and other donors. ASB built approx. 342 housing units and carried out reconstruction of social and economic infrastructure as well as emergency relief.

For further information, please contact:



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