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PRESS RELEASE

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**PRESS RELEASE ON THE CNS'S CONCERN
REGARDING SELECTION CRITERIA FOR REFUGEES
FROM KOSOVO**

It appears that, according to information from various trustworthy sources, during the course of the transfer of refugees from Kosovo out of camps in Macedonia and Albania to receiving countries, selection criteria are being used at the request of states by the international bodies in charge of these operations, and notably by the High Commission for Refugees.

Certain criteria appear to relate to the state of health of the people concerned, notably HIV seropositivity. This situation regarding selection based on health criteria is absolutely contrary to the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as to international treaties and conventions which govern the law on displaced people and refugees.

The Conseil national du sida as a result expresses its great concern in relation to this situation. As the Conseil national du sida has already underlined on several occasions, all country-admission and immigration policy founded on health criteria, particularly HIV seropositivity, is unacceptable.