

Translated from French

Case No.: UNDT/GVA/2012/053







- d. While the Applicant's post was not abolished, operations in Van were

primarily to the findings contained in a report of the UNHRC Inspector General's Office issued on 28 November 2011, following an inspection carried out in Turkey, particularly in Van, in May 2011. On page 14 of that report, the Representative of the High Commissioner in Turkey is advised to re-examine the functions of staff of the Field Office Van and to transfer refugee registration and refugee status determination (RSD) procedures from Field Office Van to the Ankara Office, to avoid any claims or perceptions of political bias.

18. Given the statements cited by the Applicant during the hearing regarding the Van law enforcement authorities' desire that he leave his position as Protection Associate, the Tribunal believes that this recommendation may have been included in the report in order to reduce possible tensions between the local Turkish authorities and some Kurdish UNHRC staff members. However, the facts as set forth above indicate that, while all staff members were informed of the report's recommendations in November 2011, the recommendations were apparently drafted before the earthquake of 23 October 2011 that left the city in ruins.

19. The Tribunal therefore finds that, while the recommendations contained in the report could perhaps have prompted the Representative of the UN High Commissioner in Turkey not to renew the Applicant's contract, it was in fact the very severe earthquakes that occurred in Van between

21.

(Signed)

Judge Jean-François Cousin

Dated this 19th day of February 2013

Entered in the Register on this 19th