


In the course of his interview Mr Strack stated that despite the alleged irregularities the work covered by the contract was carried out at a lower cost than would have been the case had the contract been transferred to another company.

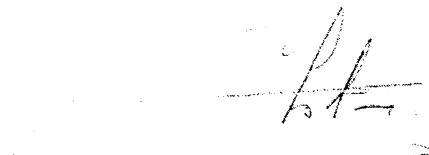
At present it is not possible to state with any degree of accuracy whether Mr [REDACTED] or other members of the hierarchy in OPOCE were involved in any irregularities in the management of the contract or the re-negotiation of the tender. However, it is clear that Mr [REDACTED] played no part in the original tender process.

We believe that the matter warrants further investigation. Accordingly, we will seek a copy of the original tender dossier and a copy of the dossier in relation to the amendment of the contract. Having considered these documents we will be in a position to decide what further action, if any, will be necessary.


At this stage, it appears that OPOCE had taken on an incompetent contractor to carry out work of an urgent nature. It is also likely that OPOCE would have been under some political pressure to have the consolidation work completed as it related to candidate countries. It may be that OPOCE took what they believed to be practical steps to ensure that the contract was completed. The question therefore would appear to be whether the action taken was irregular which would warrant disciplinary or other such action.



Declan Murphy
3/12/02



Paul Ghislain
3/12/02



Robert McDonald
3/12/02

