

Stalna misija Bosne i Hercegovine pri Uredu Ujedinjenih naroda u Becu, OSSE i drugim medjunarodnim organizacijama, B E C Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office at Vienna, OSCE and other International Organizations, V I E N N A

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**ENGLISH** only

## Statement by Colonel Slaven Galic, Military Adviser Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the OSCE

## Forum for Security Co-operation Vienna, 16 July 2008

Madam Chairperson,

When you have good news, than share it with somebody. So I would like to share few good news with my colleagues just before summer break. Good news is about my country, Bosnia and Herzegovina and about OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially about Department of Security Co-operation.

Since its establishment following the Dayton-Paris Peace Accord in 1995, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina has served as a leading international organization working to stabilize Bosnia and Herzegovina and the surrounding region. The Mission through its Political Military Department, the Department of Security Cooperation has a role to support Bosnia and Herzegovina in its compliance with all OSCE documents of politico-military dimension.

The focus of the Department of Security Co-operation work is on its two objectives as stated in the Programme Outline:

- (1) To assist Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities comply with OSCE politicomilitary commitments and contribute to the development of long-term domestic capacity
- (2) To assist Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities comply with Dayton Peace Accord, Annex 1-B commitments and support to the Chairman-in-Office's Personal Representative for Article IV in meeting his responsibilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this respect OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina is helping, and I shall just mention few areas:

- O The Management and Security of SALW and ammunition, including the elimination of excess and dangerous stockpiles and progress to increased domestic capacity.
- O Department of Security Co-operation gives a high priority to assisting Bosnia and Herzegovina in the preparation of information exchanges. A number of workshops aimed to assist preparation of information exchanges on CoC, SALW, and VD99... have been organized and my country successfully exchanged information, some for the first time at State level, and significantly increased its implementation record.

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- O The Department is using the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security as a basis for its projects that are designed to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities to create and enhance mechanisms meant for state level democratic control of the defense, security and intelligence sectors.
- O OSCE Mission gives support to democratic parliamentary oversight of the defence and security sectors and increased capacity of the relevant Parliamentary Assembly Joint Committees Joint Defense and Security Committee and the Joint Security-Intelligence Committee. The Department organized seminars that offered senior representatives an opportunity to review the legal basis, tasks, and responsibilities of their institutions. The visits have been organized for parliamentarians to Montenegro, Austria, and Germany and Norway.
- O This year the focus of the Joint Defense and Security Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly has been promoting cross border cooperation and regional cooperation in the area of civil protection. In this context, a regional conference titled "Regional Cooperation and Assistance in Crisis Situations and Natural Disasters Problems and Perspectives" has been organized by the Committee, in cooperation with the Department and the Regional Cooperation Council for participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia.
- O Successful building of state-level defence and security institutions and increased domestic capacity in the areas of Code of Conduct training and Security policy training is also a priority. Since the adoption of Bosnia and Herzegovina Security Policy Paper in 2006 OSCE Mission has supported Bosnia and Herzegovina. Council of Ministers and relevant ministries in the implementation. Plans are made to continue to do the same in 2009.
- O The Mission has supported Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in the development of security policy training system for the country. With the technical and financial support from Finnish Government two pilot courses were successfully held in 2007 and the First Security Course in 2008.
- Department of Security Co-operation continues to support the activities of the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton-Paris Peace Accord.
- O In 2007, DSC successfully supported all ten active and passive inspections under Article IV of Annex 1B of the Dayton Agreement. This successful inspection under Bosnia and Herzegovina leadership was a major step forward and a positive indicator of future capability.
- o Department of Security Co-operation provided expert advice in the establishment of a unified Bosnia and Herzegovina Verification Centre.

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Those are just few positive examples of excellent cooperation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and OSCE Mission in my country.

Here we would like to express our gratitude to Brigadier General Ulrich Heider, Director of the Department of Security Co-operation and all his predecessors and his excellent team for helping Bosnia and Herzegovina and whole region of Western Balkan to enjoy stability, security and prosperity and to fulfill its commitments towards Euro-Atlantic integrations.

Thank you Madam Chairperson.

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