Statement by the High Representative/Chair of the PIC Steering Board

SBA convenes in Potočari ahead of 30th Srebrenica genocide anniversary

The Peace Implementation Council Steering Board (PIC SB) Ambassadors convened today in Potocari ahead of the 30th Srebrenica genocide anniversary. The members of the Board of Principals also attended the session. The meeting was held at the Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial Center in support of the efforts to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica and honor the legacy of its victims.

The participants heard about the plans for commemoration from the leadership of the Potocari Memorial Center and victims' associations and commended their tireless dedication to truth and justice as the basis for trust building and enduring peace and stability.

"By meeting in Potočari, a singular place of remembrance, we reaffirm the international community's commitment to upholding the General Framework Agreement for Peace and the achievements of three decades of its implementation", said Christian Schmidt, High Representative and Chairman of the PIC SB.

The Memorial Center in Potocari is a vital state institution

with a clear mandate to hold the memory of Srebrenica and support education, recognition and reconciliation to avoid future occasions of violence based on ethnicity. “The Memorial has the qualifications and the capabilities to develop visions for an honest dialogue among all people and peaceful coexistence. It is about remembering and drawing the right conclusions. Never again must people in Bosnia and Herzegovina become victims of hostility, incitement, or violence because of their origin, religion, or nationality,” the High Representative emphasized.

Participants took the opportunity to reiterate the International Community’s unwavering support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and constitutional and legal order of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its continued progress towards European and Euro-Atlantic integration.