Statement - Sarajevo, 25/02/97

Statement of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina held its fifteenth session at the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo on February 25, 1997.

The Presidency has decided to accept accreditation for the Ambassadors of Denmark, South Africa and Iceland to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Presidency has formed the Organization Board for the Visit of Pope John Paul II, who will pay a visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina on April 13, 1997.

The Presidency has adopted the platform for the visit of a delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Jadranko Prlic, to Great Britain, and has authorized him to sign an agreement on economic cooperation on that occasion.

The Chair of the Presidency, Alija Izetbegovic, has informed the members of the Presidency that he had personally received an invitation to participate in the extraordinary summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which will be held in Islamabad, on March 23, 1997., on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of Pakistan.

The Presidency has autorized the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to start negotiations on the protection of investments as well as on the agreement on trade and economic cooperation with the government of Bulgaria; on the agreement for the protection of investments with the governments of Algeria and Albania; and on the agreement on trade with the government of Egypt.

The Presidency has acknowledged its support to the Committee on Human Rights as one of the institutions of BiH, and expressed the commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to fulfill its obligations which are part of the <u>General Framework Agreement</u>, Annex 6, Article III (2).

The Presidency has authorized the Co-Chairmen of the Council of Ministers – Dr. Haris Silajdzic and Boro Bosic, Vice-Chair Neven Tomic, Minister Jadranko Prlic and his deputies, to prepare a proposal for the distribution and organization of the diplomatic and consular network of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as for the nomination of new representatives of BiH in the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Following its session the Presidency received the Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson who is paying a two-day visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Office of the High Representative