High Representative supports ITA efforts to accelerate delivery of aid to flood victims



High Representative Valentin Inzko met today with BiH Minister of Finance and Treasury and Chairman of the Governing Board of the Indirect Taxation Authority (ITA) Nikola Spiric and ITA Director Miro Dzakula.

Interlocutors expressed their deep sympathy and solidarity with those affected by the floods in BiH. They underlined the importance of a proactive approach by institutions in BiH and their efficient and effective coordination, including in ensuring timely delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need.

Minister Spiric and Director Dzakula informed the High Representative that over 800 parcels with 4,500 tons of humanitarian aid had entered BiH since the floods and that all international aid entering BiH had been treated with priority and released from import duties and other indirect taxes. In parallel, the ITA continued to safeguard the customs area of BiH from attempts of abuse.

The High Representative commended the ITA and its Governing Board for demonstrating leadership and proactive approach in these difficult times and expressed support for introducing additional measures designed to accelerate the import and delivery of humanitarian aid to people and to help businesses affected by the floods, including necessary safeguards against abuse.

"I am confident that the people and the institutions of this country will continue to find the strength and the energy to rebuild their homes together. The international community will continue to provide much needed aid and assistance to the recovery effort led by domestic authorities", the High Representative said.