

High Representative Extends Mandate of ITA Governing Board Chair



The High Representative Miroslav Lajcak today amended the Law on Indirect Taxation System in BiH and re-appointed Peter Nicholl as Chair of the Indirect Taxation Authority's Governing Board until 30 June 2008.

The ITA Governing Board has not yet established a permanent system for the distribution of funds from indirect taxation, Peter Nicholl will continue to assist the Board in finding a permanent methodology for revenue distribution.

Peter Nicholl's mandate was due to expire on 13 January 2008. So far BiH's parties have been unable to agree on Peter Nicholl's successor.

The High Representative therefore today also amended the Law on Indirect Taxation System in BiH to ensure continuous leadership and this institution's functionality in case there is no agreement on future ITA Board Chairs.

"The law now provides for the BiH Finance and Treasury Minister to automatically take on the role of Chair for at least a year if there is no agreement on a new Chair of the Governing Board", said the High Representative today. "Functional institutions and a secure base from which to continue to build a common economic space are essential for this country's future."

This six-month extension also allows time for the ITA Governing Board to establish the administrative capacity necessary for the transition to BiH leadership.