OHR’s Statement at the International Agencies’ Joint Press Conference in Banja Luka

Schwarz-Schilling in theUnited States

As you are all aware, the High Representative and EU Special Representative, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, is currently in the United States on a three-day visit.

Mr Schwarz-Schilling specifically raised the issue of the plight of police decertified by the United Nations International Police Task Force both when he addressed the UN Security Council in New York yesterday and later when he met with Jean-Marie Guéhenno, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

In his speech, he explained what he and his staff have done since he last addressed the UN Security Council, but pointed out that legally and politically he is unable to resolve this issue. “The ball is squarely in your court,” he said.

With Under-Secretary-General Guéhenno, Mr Schwarz-Schilling also discussed the transition in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Peace Implementation Council’s decision to seek the endorsement of the UN Security Council for the closure of the Office of the High Representative.

Today, the High Representative and EU Special Representative is in Washington DC where he will be meeting with Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary for Europe, and Clint Williamson, Ambassador-at-Large for War Crime Issues, at the State Department and Judy Ansley, Senior Director for European Affairs, at the National Security Council.

On Friday, he will meet with Paul Wolfowitz, the President of the World Bank.