

BiH takes over civil aviation

The International Standing Committee for Bosnia and Herzegovina yesterday held its last session in Sarajevo, thus effectively handing over its task of monitoring the full normalisation of civil aviation to Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the meeting attended by Azra Hadziahmetovic, the Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations and other representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the European Commission, Eurocontrol, as well as the OHR and SFOR, was agreed a new national Civil Aviation Steering Committee (CASC).

This Committee will oversee, reinforce and improve the functioning of the civil aviation institutions. It will also monitor the continued appropriate level of conformance of civil aviation activities in BH to the International Civil Aviation Organisation, European Civil Aviation Committee, Eurocontrol (BiH will be member of Eurocontrol end of this year) and Joint Aviation Authorities in charge of safety requirements.

During the meeting, the International Standing Committee took note of the fact, that during the past year, significant actions have been undertaken by Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to hand over to a local institutional framework. Thus, BiH was preparing to take over the air traffic services at Sarajevo airport at the end of 2002; To maintain the same level of safety, two contracts will be signed in the very next days by the Federation Civil aviation Department; one for providing air traffic services, the second for purchasing a terminal approach radar to be in place in spring 2003.