

High Representative and political leaders agree on implementation of constitutional amendments

The High Representative, Wolfgang Petritsch, today met with the chair and members of the Council of Ministers, as well as the prime ministers and representatives of the two Entity governments who agreed to undertake all activities necessary to ensure the Mrakovica-Sarajevo Agreement is fully and consistently implemented in both Entities. This will require that necessary laws, rules and regulations at all levels must be brought in line with these constitutional amendments.

In order to ensure progress in implementation and facilitate partnership and co-operation between the relevant institutions a Task Force will be established with the participation of BiH and Entities' institutions as well as OHR to ensure the most effective realization of these and other goals necessary to implement the constitutional amendments in full.

The High Representative and the political leaders agreed on an action plan that will ensure progress in implementation prior to the 5 October 2002 elections. This is essential, particularly with regard to the regulation of elections effected by the recent constitutional amendments, as well as with regard to making the vital interest protection system fully effective immediately after the October elections.

The same is true for regulations, which allow all constituent peoples to be represented in public institutions in line with the Sarajevo Mrakovica Agreement. This task force will also discuss how the principles established under the Mrakovica-Sarajevo-Agreement find their place in the Cantons of the

Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.