

# **International Community calls for urgent passage of De-Mining Law**

The High Representative, Wolfgang Petritsch, and the Principals of the four main international organisations operating in Bosnia and Herzegovina – General John Sylvester, the SFOR Commander, Jacques Paul Klein, the Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary General and Co-ordinator of U.N. Operations in BiH, Robert Beecroft, Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Werner Blatter, Chief of the UNHCR Mission to BiH – express their strong disappointment over the failure of the BiH House of Representatives to pass the Law on De-Mining, at its 28 December session. This law is essential for the security and safety of all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The High Representative and the Principals of the agencies of the International Community call upon the members of the House of Representatives to pass this law – as a matter of the highest priority – at their next session. In this regard, the Principals fully support the initiative of COMSFOR, General John Sylvester, expressed in his letter of 8 January to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which he calls for the urgent adoption of the De-Mining Law so that the tasks of the De-Mining Programme for 2002 can be fulfilled.