

# Meeting with Minister Dodik on Bugojno issues

Senior Deputy High Representative Hanns Schumacher met yesterday with the Federation Minister of Justice, Mr Ignatius Dodik, to discuss how to proceed following the Joint Report of the OSCE and the Federation Ombudsmen concerning misallocation of socially owned property in the Municipality of Bugojno.

Minister Dodik acknowledged that the Joint Report raised in a professional manner very serious questions concerning practices in Bugojno, which should be dealt with by the appropriate legal authorities. Any findings given by the Office of the federation Ombudsman should be paid the respect this constitutional institution deserves. The Minister therefore agreed to send administrative inspectors from the Ministry of Justice to Bugojno, and in light of their findings to examine further options for legal remedies to protect the rights of the injured parties. OHR will ask the Acting Mayor of Bugojno to be elected and the municipal administration to assist with the work of these inspectors.

The report of the inspectors should be established within 20 days.

Ambassador Schumacher and Minister Dodik agreed that there is a widespread pattern of misallocation of socially owned land in Federation municipalities. The legal remedies which are identified in Bugojno should therefore be used as a model for other municipalities, to ensure that the rule of law is properly respected throughout the Federation.