

OBN News Review, 22 February 2000

Headlines

- Trade union and the BiH Federation Government agreed on the collective labour contract draft
- From March 1st, twelve banks from the BiH Federation will deal with internal payment operations – names of the banks have not been announced yet
- The only topic of today's session of the BiH Federation Parliament Representative House was the law on amnesty
- Tomorrow at 12 a.m. [OSCE](#) will officially announce the beginning of the pre-election campaign for the municipality elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- KFOR units in Kosovska Mitrovica ready to act

Sarajevo

After long negotiations, wording of the collective labour contract has been agreed between the negotiation teams of the BiH Trade Union and the BiH Federation Government. The Trade Union accepted the minimum salary to be 55% of an average salary in the BiH Federation, which is 212 DEM. Previously, the Trade Union insisted on 65%. However, because of the difficult situation in industry, a compromise had to be made. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

This was followed by a report on the session of the BiH Federation Parliament Representative House. Today, representatives discussed changes of the current law on amnesty suggested by the Socialist-Democrat Party. After a several hours discussion, the SDP party withdrew their suggestions from the procedure until the Government and the Office of the High Representative announce their position, OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, confirmed.

From March 1st, twelve banks from the BiH Federation will start dealing with internal payment operations. Which commercial banks will be operational in this respect has not been announced yet. Some 25 banks have submitted their applications to the BiH Federation Bank Agency to date. The piece was produced by Sanjin Beciragic.

Banja Luka

Tomorrow at 12 a.m. [OSCE](#) will officially announce the beginning of the pre-election campaign for the municipality elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The beginning of the campaign for the elections scheduled for April will be announced in Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar, Bihac, Tuzla and Gorazde. The Head of the [OSCE](#) Mission in BiH, Robert Barry, met with the representatives of political parties in Banja Luka today. They discussed the local elections, Biljana Arsic reported from Banja Luka. At the press conference held in Banja Luka, Robert Barry reiterated a decision of [OSCE](#) to ban officials in BiH from participating in the management of companies and that as from February 10th this year, paid political advertising was prohibited.

This was followed by a piece on Zivko Radisic's explanation why the RS Socialist Party decided to leave the Sloga Coalition. The President of the Socialist Party, Mr. Radisic, said that the dismissal of Prime Minister Dodik should be discussed because the Socialist Party, among others, voted for his election. The report from Banja Luka was produced by Tatjana Lajsic.

Turkey

A delegation of the BiH Federation, headed by the Prime Minister Edhem Bicakcic, visited Turkey. Today, delegations talked about the improvement of cooperation in respect to economic issues. It was said that an agreement on trade between the two countries would be made soon. This will avoid

double tax paying and a decrease of taxes. The piece from Istanbul was produced by Jusko Bojadzic for TV INFO.

Croatia

An item on the current political situation in the Republic of Croatia. After a meeting with the President of the Croatian Sabor, Zlatko Tomcic, the Ambassador of Portugal in Croatia, the country which chairs the [EU](#), said that the process of Croatia's acceptance into the membership of the European Union would be long and depend upon the fulfilling of obligations towards the [EU](#), Gordana Simonovic confirmed for OBN from Zagreb.

World

KFOR announced that the current situation in Kosovska Mitrovica was stable although KFOR units in the town were ready to act. The US Ambassador to the [UN](#), Richard Holbrooke, accused authorities in Belgrade of provoking problems in the part of Kosovska Mitrovica with a mainly Serb population. The Russian Government rejected a visit of the [UN](#) High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, to Chechnya. In Nigeria, bloody clashes between Catholics and Muslims occurred. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

Bocinja (Maglaj) / Foca

The Head of the Regional Office of OHR in Doboj announced that "black spots" in the process of return were the village Bocinja near Maglaj in the BiH Federation and the town of Foca in the RS. He stressed that some concrete activities were made in order to solve the problem of Bocinja. OBN reporter from Doboj, Svjetlana Celic-Ninkovic confirmed.

Tuzla

According to the decision of the RS Government, one of the

additional registration points in the process of privatisation in the RS should be opened in Tuzla. However, the opening scheduled for today was postponed, OBN reporter from the area, Muhamed Berbic, confirmed. It was explained that some technicalities were the reason for a two days' delay in the opening of the office.

Vitez

The requests of 250 workers of the "Vitezit" company from Vitez who were on strike have been granted. Workers will start working from tomorrow. The management of the company was dismissed, Vanja Elezovic confirmed for TV INFO.

Sarajevo

A piece on the production of dairy products and the problems producers are face with was made by OBN reporter Sevko Bajic.

Brcko

Within the preparations for the Brcko District establishment, the integration of media from three Brcko municipalities will also take place, OBN reporter from the area, Slobodanka Radojkovic, confirmed.

Sarajevo

A 500th anniversary of the birth of the great Croatian and world author Marko Marulic was marked in Sarajevo. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

Sport

Reports on local basketball, NBA and international football were presented.