

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 6 June 2000

News Headlines

- TV BiH exclusive interview with Izetbegovic
- TV BiH announces airing of its interview with Izetbegovic immediately after the main newscast
- BiH Parliament confirms Tusevljak's nomination for BiH Council of Ministers Chairman
- Miller comments on Tusevljak's nomination
- BiH State Border Service inaugurated in ceremony at Sarajevo airport
- Agreement on technical cooperation between BiH and Germany signed in Sarajevo
- Izetbegovic meets with German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Wiecek
- Miller press conference on US Government financing of minority returns in BiH
- BiH House of Representatives confirms nomination of BiH Federation Minister for Veterans and Invalids of National Liberation War and his deputy
- Ralph Johnson opens BIRE 2000 Fair
- Hombach comments on strategic goals of the Stability Pact for Southeast on the occasion of its first anniversary
- World news
- 12 Serbs wounded in Gracanica bomb attack, Kosovo
- BiH must be open to foreign capital – BiH Federation Privatization Agency press conference
- Roundtable on strategy to combat poverty
- More than 80 workers of UNIS' Gomas and Mravinjac divisions hold protest in front of Podrinje Canton Government building in Gorazde
- Dnevni Avaz condemns entry of six tax police officers

into newspaper's printing office

- Barry and Miller condemn Tuesday morning's operation of tax police, assessing it as unacceptable
- Bicakcic requests Petritsch to ensure intensive cooperation between OHR and BiH Government in drafting law on freedom of information at BiH state and level of entities to remove criminal penalties for libel and slander
- Roundtable on the Pedagogy of Trauma takes place in Sarajevo
- Agreement on realization of pilot project for the Center for Professional Rehabilitation signed in Fojnica
- Experts from three countries (BiH, Serbia and Croatia) discuss possibilities of growing wheat in BiH
- Book "The Bosniak Culture of Behavior" promoted in Sarajevo
- TV BiH announces program change due to airing of Izetbegovic interview and Tusevljak's nomination as Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers
- Sports
- Weather

News Summary

TV BiH exclusive interview with Izetbegovic

Before starting his interview with TV BiH, Chairman of the BiH Presidency Alija Izetbegovic expressed the wish to read a short statement to the public. In the statement, he said: "Dear BiH citizens, I want to inform you of my decision to withdraw from the BiH Presidency at the end of my term as BiH Presidency Chairman on 12 October 2000. In the period to the end of my mandate, a legal rule that regulates the replacement of BiH Presidency members, whose function ends, will be adopted. Currently, such a rule does not exist. There are numerous reasons for my withdrawal. The main one being my age and my health condition. The duties of a BiH Presidency member, in conditions as they are now, require both physical

and mental condition, which I do not have any more. I thank all those who supported me in the past, in the ten most difficult years of our history. I want the dream of BiH patriots for a united, democratic and prosperity BiH to come true, and I will also contribute to this within the framework of my abilities.”

01:30 Miller comments on Tusevljak's nomination

US Ambassador to BiH Thomas Miller, commenting on Spasoje Tusevljak's nomination as BiH Council of Ministers Chairman, said that he would encourage the people working in the press to look deeper into Tusevljak's background. “There are many qualified people in this country who could be excellent Prime Ministers. People who have rich experience in political life, who have a great deal of familiarity with issues, who are well known in the International community, who have proven experience. I met with Mr. Tusevljak a couple of weeks ago, and frankly, I thought that he was quite lacking in all of these areas” said Miller. (01:28)

Ralph Johnson opens BIRE 2000 Fair

Deputy High Representative Ralph Johnson on Tuesday opened the Bosnian International Rebuild Exhibition (BIRE) 2000 Fair in Sarajevo. BIRE includes the Agrifood International Fair on Agriculture and Food and the Sarajevo Medica Fair. To denote the beginning of a decade which expects significant progress with the introduction of changes in radio-diffusion, telecommunications and multimedia technology, the Independent Media Commission (IMC) has organized two-day forum within BIRE 2000 aimed at showing how new technologies can help a country such as BiH. IMC General Director Krister Thelin comments on the opening, saying “It is important to realize that information technology opens many possibilities for BiH. With the connection of different technologies, boundaries between TV and telecommunications are disappearing. BiH has the direct opportunity to enter the future of information technology,

with a big jump and this is what we want to emphasize to the public during this forum” Thelin said. (01:49)

Dnevni Avaz condemns entry of six tax police officers into newspaper’s printing office

The Dnevni Avaz Editorial Office in the strongest possible terms condemns the early Tuesday morning entry of six tax police officers into its printing office. Dnevni Avaz Editor-in-Chief Mensur Osmovic emphasized that, with this illegal act, the threats of SDA senior officials directed at journalists, for their reporting on corruption in BiH to the public, are coming true. On the other side of this story, Director of the BiH Federation Tax Office Ramiz Dzaferovic stated that Dnevni Avaz is a taxpayer, as any other institution is, and that this inspection control was carried out within the frame of regular activities, which includes this individual inspection control. (00:35)

(This excerpt is taken from the daily report of the IMC-led Joint Media Monitoring Group (JMMG)).