

OHR's Statement at the International Agencies' Joint Press Conference in Mostar



In response to a request for the revision of the High Representative's Mostar-related decisions from the Bosniak Caucus of the Mostar City Council, the High Representative, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, has written to Suad Hasandedic, the Caucus President.

In his letter, the High Representative expressed disappointment at the fact that the Bosniak Caucus is asking him to reconsider his decisions, calling into question their validity, and even indicating it will obstruct their implementation. .

Decisions made by the High Representative are based on the recommendations of his Special Envoy, Norbert Winterstein, which were the product of extensive talks with all parties to find a viable solution to the urban planning issues. Those talks resulted in the submission of his proposal, dated 14 December 2006, to the Mayor of Mostar and the City Council for adoption. As the City Council was unable to adopt the proposal, the High Representative was forced to intervene as he had warned he would if necessary.

The High Representative's decisions were formulated to ensure that Mostar has a functional City Administration and are valid, final and binding and in the best interests of

the citizens and City of Mostar.

In his letter, the High Representative urged the Bosniak Caucus to stop obstructing implementation of these decisions, and invited them to cooperate with the Mayor and the rest of the City Council to establish the Commission at the next City Council session. If the City authorities fail to adopt the necessary decision to establish the Commission, the High Representative will have to consider appropriate further action.