

OHR's Statement at the International Agency's Joint Press Conference

Speech by the PDHR Donald Hays

The PDHR Donald Hays made an opening speech today at the conference named "Doing Business in Bosnia and Herzegovina" organized by CHF (Cooperative Housing Foundation) International at Holiday Inn, Sarajevo, in which he called for continued improved in vocational training in BiH.

Aim of the conference is to find practical solutions to some of the obstacles that stand in the way of faster economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This morning, in his speech, ambassador Hays reminded that the object of Bulldozer has been to eliminate the pointless bureaucracy that hinders economic growth in this country. Yesterday in Sarajevo the Bulldozer Committees presented the authorities with a second tranche of 50 reforms.

Ambassador Hays pointed that "we have to build up as well as remove. We have to construct as well as demolish." What is also needed, as Hays highlighted, is to improve education and training to respond to the needs of an economy in which the power of business is more and more being unleashed. He said: "One issue that has been raised time and time again in my meetings with businesspeople is the inadequacy of vocational training in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is not a side issue. It's crucial. As of this moment, BiH is not equipping itself and coming workforce to meet the current demands of the free market."