PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA



MISSION PERMANENT DE LA BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES A GENEVE

Geneva, 20th March 2015

Thank you Mr. President,

Bosnia and Herzegovina's cooperation with the Human Rights Council has always been constructive and fruitful. It has been reflected in our efforts to fulfill various UN human rights treaties reporting obligations in a timely manner by successfully presenting the initial and periodic reports, and by noting and accepting recommendations and instructions for further progress so far.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is looking forward to further deepen the full cooperation with the Human Rights Council and fulfill the commitment to the provisions of the human rights instruments. We pay particular attention to the obligations deriving from the UPR mechanism.

We consider the UPR as a positive, innovative mechanism with the true potential to improve human rights on the ground. We recognize the conclusions and recommendations of the UPR Working Group as an impetus for our relevant authorities to further enhance our cooperation with the UN appropriate bodies dealing with human rights.

We would like to thank all the delegations who contractively participated in the interactive debate during the UPR review in November last year, recognized our efforts since the first cycle and made valuable recommendations and observations in order to improve our human rights record.

However, Bosnia and Herzegovina had a prolonged interim period with the caretaking Council of Ministers since the elections on 12th October 2014. The new Council of Ministers is expected to be fully operational within few a days. Therefore, the new authorities need more time in order to continue detailed and thorough examination of the 167 recommendations received during the UPR of which all <u>we take note</u>.

Purely procedurally speaking, we will soon be in a position to provide very specific views on each recommendation, even though there is no doubt that everything that is within the framework of the taken international obligations, as well as constitutional arrangement of the state, will be positively considered.

I thank you.