



OIC/ACM-2013/BH.CG/D.REP

Annex-V

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
OIC CONTACT GROUP
ON BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA**

UN HEADQUARTERS - NEW YORK

24 SEPTEMBER 2013

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1. The OIC Ministerial Contact Group on Bosnia Herzegovina convened on 24 September 2013 in New York.
2. The OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu and other members of the OIC Contact Group addressed the meeting.
3. The meeting was briefed by the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the current situation in BiH.
4. The meeting welcomed the visit of the OIC Secretary General to Bosnia and Herzegovina in May 2013 as a major step towards strengthening the good relations between the OIC and BiH.
5. The meeting discussed in depth the developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina and reiterated the OIC support to preserve the unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty and international personality of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within internationally recognized borders, as a fully functional and self-sustainable State capable of carrying out its powers and fulfilling its international obligations without any blockade mechanisms, as well as its preserving multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious structure. The OIC Contact Group, in this respect, emphasized the importance of the decision-making powers of Bosnian legal structures for the proper functioning of the State, and stresses the need to tackle any existing

mechanisms that may hamper these powers, as part of the reform process.

6. The meeting welcomed the municipal elections held in October 2012 and the election of the President of the BiH on 28 June 2013 conducted as a furtherance of the process of consolidating democracy.
7. The meeting called upon all the political factions to focus on the country's economic and development priorities and the need for the country's politicians not to engage in divisive or inflammatory rhetoric, which might threaten the viability of the State and may compromise its progress towards European integration.
8. The meeting called upon the political leadership for more reforms and inter-ethnic cooperation in order to strengthen State institutions to make them more effective and better coordinated and to ensure the transformation of the country into a non-ethnic parliamentary democracy.
9. The meeting encouraged the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board's discussion on the possibility of terminating the supervision of Brcko District as one of the five objectives and two conditions required for the closure of the Office of the High Representative.
10. The meeting welcomed the steps taken by the parliament to allow members of minority groups to run for the country's presidency and the upper house of parliament by ordering a commission to propose amendments to the country's constitution.
11. The meeting expressed its deep concern over inadequate implementation of the key elements of the Dayton Peace Agreement, particularly relating to the building of the State institutions, regulatory framework, and return of refugees and displaced persons.
12. The meeting expressed concern on the lack of progress in fully implementing the '5+2 agenda', which sets out five objectives that need to be met and two conditions that need to be fulfilled by Bosnia and

Herzegovina authorities before the Office of the High Representative (OHR) is closed.

13. The OIC Contact Group underlined the importance of the rule of law as part of any settlement impacting on the future of the country and invites all local and international actors to focus on the need to fully implement the existing legal obligations when presenting solutions for the future.
14. The meeting reaffirmed that the role of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in bringing justice to the region is of significant importance in preventing the reoccurrence of any tragic incidents in the future in this sensitive region.
15. The meeting called upon the OIC Secretary General to actively follow up the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina within the implementation of the resolution adopted by the 38th meeting of the Council of Foreign Affairs held in Astana. The meeting also called upon OIC Member States and OIC financial institutions to contribute generously to the OIC Trust Fund for the Return of the Displaced Persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina to enable the Fund to continue its reconstruction and development activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
16. The meeting expressed once again its thanks and appreciation to the OIC Secretary General for reactivating the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and called for the regular convening of the Contact Group to continue the OIC support to the Bosnian people.