



*OIC/ACM-2018/BOSNIA/REP
ANNEXE - X*

**REPORT OF THE
CONTACT GROUP ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL SECRETARIAT, NEW YORK

25 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Report of the Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina
New York –25 September 2018**

- 1- The OIC Ministerial Contact Group on Bosnia Herzegovina convened on... September 2018 in New York and was attended by the OIC Secretary General and other members of the Group.
- 2- Statements were heard from the OIC Secretary General HE. Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimen and other members of the OIC Contact Group addressed the meeting.
- 3- The meeting was briefed by H.E. Mr. Miloš Vukašinić Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative on the current situation in Bosnia Herzegovina.
- 4- The meeting reiterated the OIC support to preserve 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 absolute blockade mechanisms as well as its multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious structure.
- 5- The meeting welcomes the progress in the implementation of the Reform Agenda, adopted by Bosnian and Herzegovina in July 2015 and calling on the leadership of Bosnia and Herzegovina to maintain positive momentum in implementing the reforms, in line with citizen's demand in cooperation with cooperation with civil society.
- 6- The meeting notes that the presidential and legislative elections will be held in October 2018 in Bosnia and Herzegovina and encourage the responsible conduct of participants (leaders, candidates and voters) to achieve an accepted and peaceful outcome and to run honestly and transparently the elections with the effective and neutral support of State institutions.
- 7- The meeting reiterates that the primary responsibility for the further successful implementation of the Peace Agreement lies with all the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina themselves and notes the continued willingness of the international community and major donors to support them implement the peace Agreement, and calls upon all the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to fully cooperate with the international Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, as well as with the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunal, in order to complete its work and facilitate the closure of the Tribunal as expeditiously as possible.
- 8- The meeting welcomes the positive step taken by the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina for processing the country's application to join the European Union, and **urged** the authorities to intensify their efforts to advance the reforms needed for interrelation.
- 9- The meeting takes note of the continued support expressed by Bosnia and Herzegovina's leadership towards a European perspective, on the basis of the Peace Agreement,

including through the submission of the Bosnia and Herzegovina's EU membership application in February 2016.

- 10- The meeting **calls** on the Bosnia and Herzegovina's leadership to expeditiously implement the key elements of the Dayton Peace Agreement, particularly relating to the building of the state institutions, regulatory framework, and return of refugees & displaced persons of their origin.
- 11- The meeting expressed great concern over divisive rhetoric statements from some officials and **calls** 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 territorial integrity of the state and compromise its progress towards European integration.
- 12- The meeting welcomes the country's efforts to develop a national reconciliation and economic and social development and to continue to strengthen the rule of law.
- 13- The meeting acknowledged the significance of the continued contributions of the OIC countries of the Peace Implementation Council to the budget of the Office of the High Council.
- 14- The meeting encourages the regional efforts towards confidence building among stakeholders in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the neighboring countries.
- 15- 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.
- 16- 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.
- 17- The meeting emphasized the importance of the economic development in consolidating peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina and invites the Islamic Development Bank to develop result-oriented projects in cooperation with relevant development agencies of the Member States for ameliorating the economic and social conditions of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 18- The meeting called for the continued interest and support of the OIC and its Member States in the stability and prosperity of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the face of the critical period it is passing through. It called for regular convening of the Contact Group to continue the OIC support to the Bosnian people.