



**Statement by**

**H.E. Igor Davidovic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the OSCE  
in response to the Report by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the  
Media Mr. Miklos Haraszti  
to the Permanent Council, 4 March 2010**

Mr. Chairman,

Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina would also like to add its voice welcoming last Report of Mr. Haraszti to the Permanent Council in the OSCE.

Since its creation, the office of the Representative of Freedom of the Media has been one of the leading OSCE institutions in the Human Dimension. It has always played its valuable role as a critical “watchdog” and thus given high visibility to our organization. Freedom of expression and freedom of the media played an essential role in protecting democracy, peace and stability.

For Bosnia and Herzegovina, freedom of the media is one of the pillars of democracy and we are continuously thriving to promote free and pluralistic media environment with the view to guarantee the freedom of the press. We deeply believe that the secure working environment for journalist is one of the preconditions for it. Regrettably, violations of the right to freedom of opinion and extension continue to occur. Therefore it is important to have in place mechanisms to allow citizens to bring their concerns to the attention and seek justice when their rights have been violated.

Bosnia and Herzegovina would particularly like to commend Mr. Haraszti for his continued work in and involvement in BiH in promoting and protecting freedom of the media and for bringing attention to cases of concern.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my Delegation`s deep appreciation for the vital work undertaken by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Miklos Haraszti, a tireless advocate for this cause throughout the OSCE region. We wish him the best in his future career.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.