



**Statement by
Ambassador Igor Davidović, Permanent Representative of Bosnia and
Herzegovina to the OSCE, in response to the EU Statement on the arrest
of Ratko Mladić, to the Permanent Council
Vienna, 2 June 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

Although we fully subscribe to the Statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of Hungary, also on behalf of the European Union, the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina takes this opportunity to deliver additional statement in national capacity.

Bosnia and Herzegovina welcomes the arrest and extradition of Ratko Mladić to the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia in The Hague. The international obligations towards the Court in The Hague have been fulfilled with the arrest, and since this momentum Gen. Mladić is in hand and under the authority of the ICTY in The Hague.

Bosnia and Herzegovina believes that this will contribute to an additional improvement of relations and further open up the process of reconciliation between the neighboring countries of the Western Balkans.

It is however important to differentiate between the individualization of criminal responsibility on crimes committed and the condemning of all crimes which have taken place during the conflicts in former Yugoslavia, on the other. In addition, all suspects and accused individuals from BiH have to answer for war crimes before court, regardless of their nationality carrying out an equal and full responsibility.

Again, we would like to reiterate the importance of pointing out our collective burden in healing the wounds and ensuring that crimes against humanity are never repeated. Once again, I would like to use this opportunity to express profound condolences and solidarity with the families of all Victims of war in former Yugoslavia, particularly with thousands of my compatriots who lost their most beloved in the Srebrenica tragedy.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.