



**Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina
to the United Nations
in Geneva**

**MIS-UN-GVA
202-03-37- 319-1/2012**

The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations at Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and referring to the implementation of the General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/160 entitled "International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance" has the honor to transmit response of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



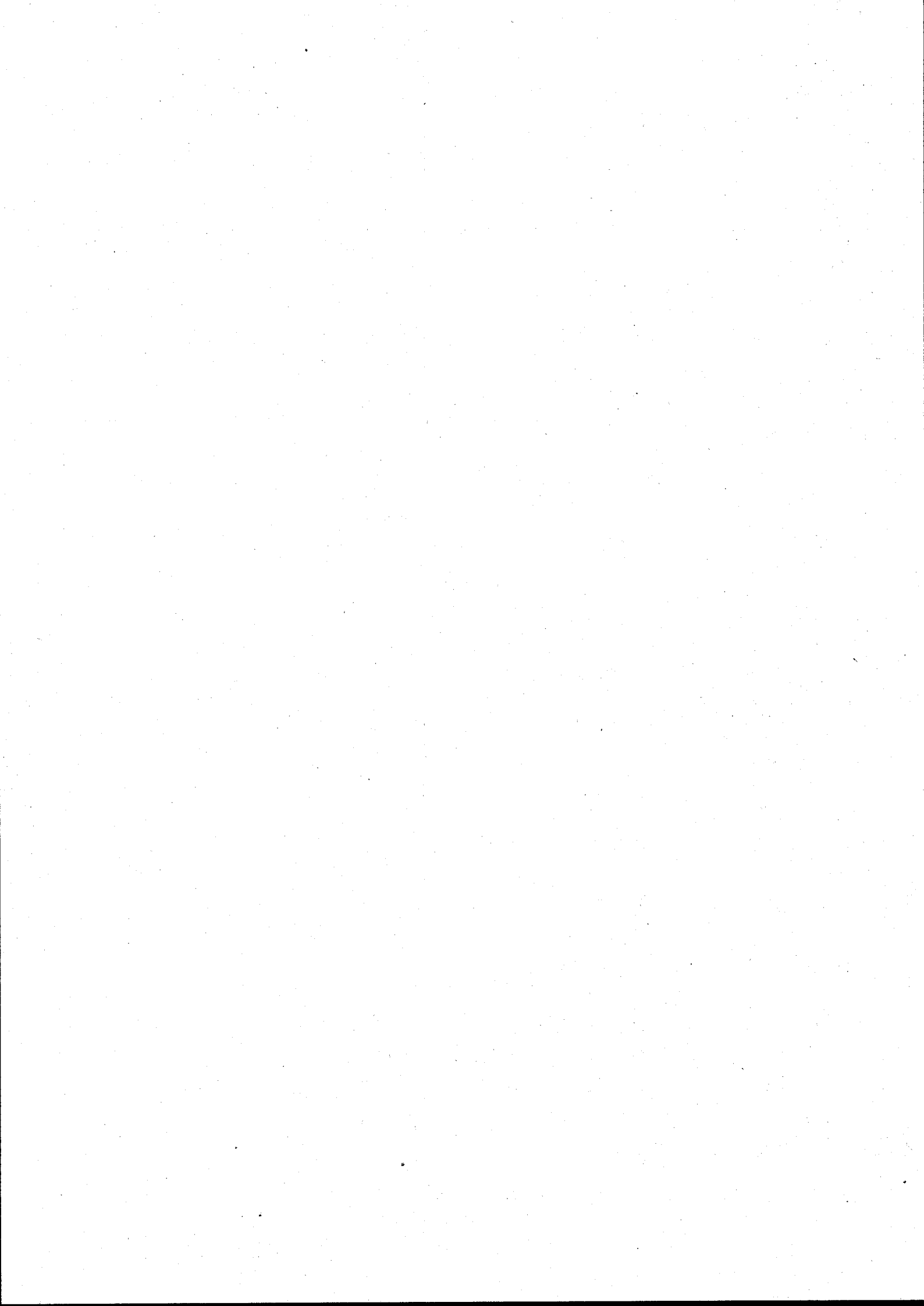
Geneva, 29 June 2012

OHCHR REGISTRY

13 JUL 2012

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BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA

*Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice
Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees
Human Rights Department*

OHCHR – Resolution adopted by the General Assembly A/RES/66/160, a reply is being submitted

In this connection we are giving the following answers:

- **Steps taken to consider signing and ratifying to the Convention**

In 2010 the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina took an initiative to accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH proceeded with the ratification process and at 14th session held on 24 October 2011 the House of Representatives of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly approved ratification of the Convention.

Pursuant to Article V 3. d) of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the approval given by the BiH Parliamentary Assembly (Decision no. 01,02-05-2-1067/11 dated 1 December 2011), at 16th regular meeting held on 24 October 2011, the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina issued a decision on ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (BiH Official Gazette – Treaties 03/12).

- **Steps taken to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention (paragraph 2 of the resolution)**

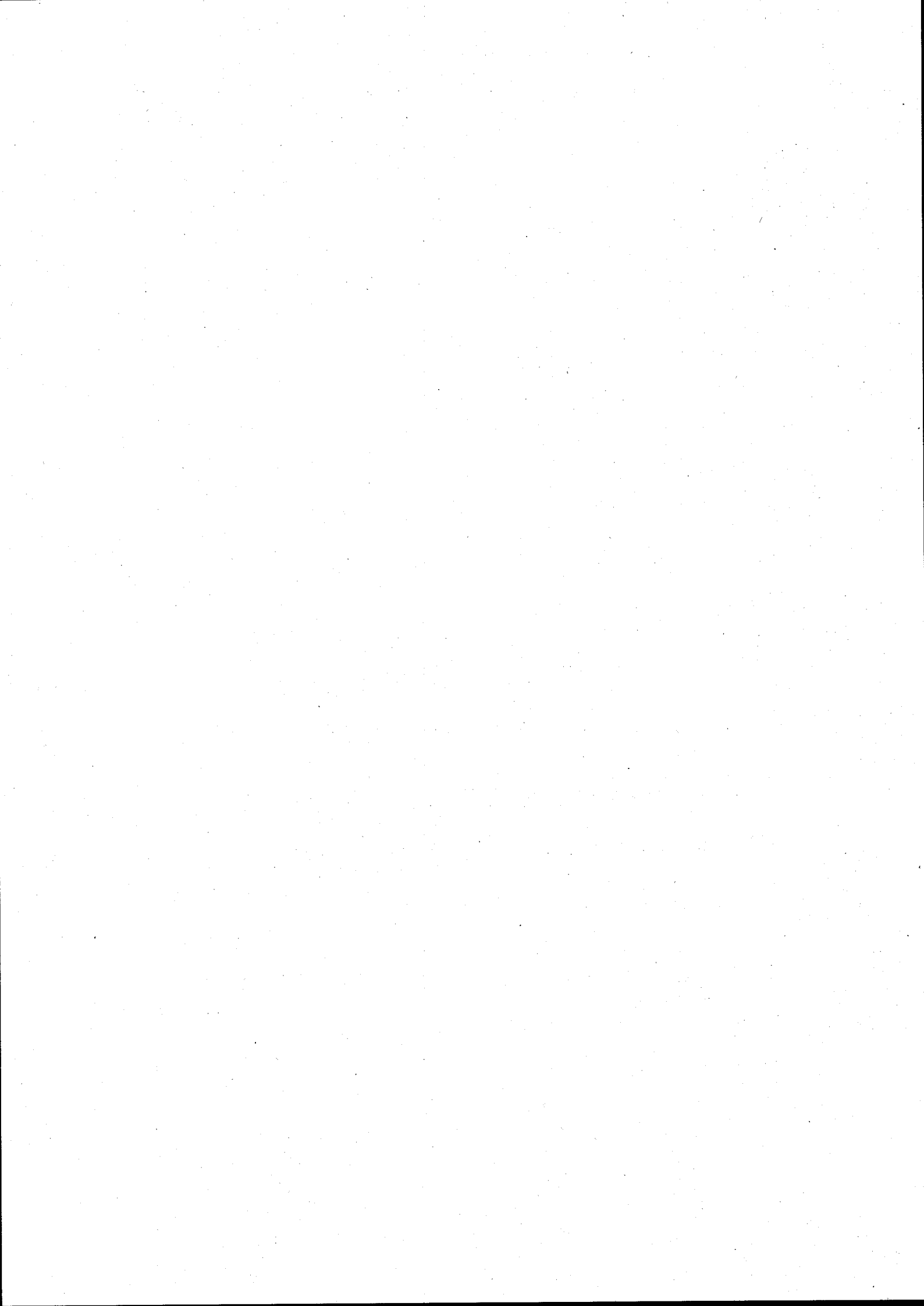
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH has received the information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH that, at the time of ratification of the Convention, a declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee was not and could not be signed given Articles 31 and 32 provide for State Parties and not State Signatories.

In the coming period the appropriate ministry will start activities that will bring about recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances.

- **Assistance requested and received by the Secretary General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to become State Party to the Convention**

In the past, before the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, Bosnia and Herzegovina cooperated and was strongly supported by associations of families of missing persons of BiH, Red Cross of BiH and the International Commission for Missing Persons (ICMP).

- **Assistance received by the United Nations agencies and organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances in the understanding and implementation of the obligations under the Convention (paragraph 6 of the resolution)**



At the invitation of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances visited the country from 14 to 21 June 2010. The purpose of the visit was to learn about the efforts made by Bosnia and Herzegovina to address cases of enforced disappearances/missing persons and examine lessons learned and good practices in addressing cases of enforced disappearances/missing persons, fighting against impunity and dealing with other matters, including the truth, justice and reparation for the victims.

Sincerely yours,

MINISTER

M.Sc.Damir Ljubić

