

Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina acknowledges the importance of the NATO Building Integrity Programme and commits to further cooperation

In the context of the Building Integrity Peer Review visit conducted by a NATO-led expert group (24-27 March 2014), the Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina Zekerijah Osmić highlighted the importance of the Building Integrity Programme in enhancing transparency, accountability and integrity in the defence and security sector and expressed commitment to further cooperation with NATO in this area and promote good practice at a regional level in the framework of the BI Tailored Programme for South Eastern Europe.



The Minister of Defence of Bosnia Herzegovina, Mr Zekerijah Osmić pointed out that “the Ministry of Defense recognizes the importance that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization gives to the BI Programme not only through the support it gave (to the Declaration of Heads of States and Government) at the Chicago Summit but also in everyday practice”. “Appreciating the importance of this initiative and

bearing in mind the difficulties we face, we are very interested, committed and determined to countering threats to integrity and professionalism. To promote integrity as a value, we will use the capabilities of our society as well as the experience of international actors.”

Mr Osmić continued expressing the willingness to identify, during the BI Self Assessment process, “good practices and areas for improvement” and the belief that “the joint analysis will be a valuable asset to the Ministry of Defence when drafting an action plan for the prevention of corruption in the defence sector”.

Speaking about Bosnia and Herzegovina’s participation in the Building Integrity Tailored Programme for South Eastern Europe, Mr Osmić stated: “We strive to contribute also at the regional level in the framework of the South Eastern Defence Ministerial (SEDM) Process. To the Ministry of Defence, NATO is an important partner. Our education and training capabilities have been enhanced by NATO’s accreditation of the courses offered to domestic and international audience by our training centre” (PSOTC, the Peace Support Operations Training Centre is a Building Integrity Implementing Partner).