

Friday, 6 July 2012

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The Association "Network of Women Police Officers" in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) held its Annual Meeting

From 4-6 July 2012, the Association "Network of Women Police Officers" in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), held both its Annual Meeting and a workshop on "Gender Equality in Security Sector" in Sarajevo. Events were co-organized by the Federal Police Administration, UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina, and UNDP/SEESAC and with the support of the Gender Equality Agency in BiH.

The Association brings together women police officers from fifteen police institutions, from across the country, in an effort to raise awareness about gender equality in police services and to advocate for gender sensitive police practices. The work of the Association is supported by the UNDP/SEESAC as part of the *Support for Gender Mainstreaming in Policing Practice in South East Europe* project.

The goals of the Association are directly aligned with the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1325 Action Plan in BiH calling for the increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in the national, regional, and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict.

At the annual meeting, members of Association discussed priorities and devised a plan of activities for the upcoming period. It was agreed that the promotion of the Association and development of the capacity of its members to advocate for gender equality in policing practice, should at this time take priority.

"Gender Equality in Security Sector" Workshop

In addition, on 5 and 6 July, a workshop dealing with gender based violence was organized for members of the Association. The workshop addressed gender roles and stereotypes, the international commitments and its transposition into the national legislative system, mechanisms for gender equality and protection of women in BiH, as well as dynamics of the gender based violence. One of the sessions of the workshop was specifically dedicated to sharing experiences with the Association of Women Judges in BiH, a similar association of women professionals.

UNDP/SEESAC Project Manager and Coordinator of the Women Police Officers Network in Southeast Europe (WPON), **Ms. Bojana Balon**, acquainted the workshop participants with the results and activities of WPON as a mechanism for gender equality promotion.

Participants were greeted by **Ms. Samra Filipovic-Hadziabdic**, Head of the Gender Equality Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina; **Mr. Edin Vranj** from the Federal Police Administration in BiH, **Ms. Ankica Tomic**, the Head of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Security BiH, **Ms. Amna Berbic** from UNDP BiH, and **Ms. Marina Zovic**, the Chair of the "Network of Women Police Officers" in BiH.

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Participants during discussions in working groups



(from left to right) Ms. Verica Golijanin, Inspector of the Administration of the Federal Police, BiH; Ms. Marina Zovic, Chair of the Network of Women Police Officers and Ms. Aldina Ahmic, Chair of the Assembly of the Network of Women Police Officers.



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(from left to right) Ms. Marina Zovic, the Chair of the Network of Women Police Officers; Ms. Amna Berbic from UNDP BiH; Mr. Edin Vranj from the Federal Police Administration in BiH; Ms. Samra Filipovic-Hadziabdic, Head of the Gender Equality Agency of Bo

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