

Pursuant to Article 17 in conjunction with Article 23 of the Law on the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH, 30/03, 42/03, 81/06, 76/07, 81/07, 94/07, 24/08) and Article 18 of the Law on Ministries and Other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH, 5/03, 42/03, 26/04, 42/04, 45/06, 88/07, 35/09, 59/09, 103/09, 87/12 and 6/13), at its \_\_\_\_\_ session held on \_\_\_\_\_ 2016, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted the following

## **DECISION**

### **ON THE SYSTEM OF COORDINATION IN THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

#### **CHAPTER I – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

##### **Article 1**

(Subject matter)

The Decision on the system of coordination in the process of European integration in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: the Decision) governs the institutional and operational system and the manner of coordination of institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina in terms of implementation of activities relating to the process of integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the European Union, joint bodies within the system of coordination, their composition, competences and mutual relations.

##### **Article 2**

(Coordination of the process of European integration)

(1) Coordination of the process of European integration shall involve activities implemented with a view to ensuring the highest level of institutional consistency and coherence across all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina relating to the fulfilment of contractual obligations arising from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH – International Treaties, 10/08) (hereinafter: the Stabilisation and Association Agreement), as well as any other obligations stemming from the process of European integration. The system of coordination shall also govern the manner of interinstitutional communication in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aimed at ensuring and expressing a common position of Bosnia and Herzegovina in communicating with the European Union institutions.

(2) The coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be based on the principles of compliance with the existing internal legal and political structure in Bosnia and Herzegovina, safeguarding of competences of all levels of government, as prescribed by the constitutions, and their institutions in charge of specific areas covered by the process of European integration, ensuring visibility and accountability of all levels of government for timely and effectively fulfilling of obligations and commitments in the European integration process within their scope of powers.

(3) The coordination of the European integration process shall be carried out at a horizontal (coordination within one level of organisation of government) and vertical level (coordination across different levels of government). In accordance with paragraph (2) of this Article, the structures and modalities of horizontal coordination shall be arranged independently by each level of government, in line with its constitutional order and administrative and legal specificities, capacities and needs, and thus they shall not be the subject matter of this Decision.

(4) For the purpose of effective vertical and horizontal coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the following joint bodies shall be established:

- a) the Collegium for European Integration,
- b) ministerial conferences,
- c) the Commission for European Integration (hereinafter: the Commission),
- d) working groups for European integration (hereinafter: the Working Groups).

(5) For the purpose of supervision over the implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and ensuring a functional link among the bodies within the internal system of coordination of the European integration process in BiH, as well as acting in line with and advocating an agreed “one voice” on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the joint bodies of the European Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina shall include the following on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- a) Standing delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Council;
- b) Standing delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Committee;
- c) Standing delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Subcommittees;
- d) Standing delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina within other joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union established in accordance with the Stabilisation and Association Agreement.

### Article 3

#### (Decision-making)

(1) Decision-making in all bodies established in accordance with Article 2 paragraph (4) above shall be by consensus. Institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall ensure participation of their representatives at meetings of the bodies established in accordance with Article 2, paragraph (4) above, provided that the invitations for meetings are delivered to all members of the body no later than five (5) working days prior to the date of meeting.

- (2) A quorum for holding a meeting and for adoption of decisions in the bodies referred to in Article 2 paragraph (4) above shall consist of authorised representatives:
  - a) a representative of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
  - b) a representative of the Government of the Republika Srpska
  - c) a representative of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
  - d) representatives of all ten cantonal governments,
  - e) a representative of the Government of the Brčko District of BiH, in accordance with the constitutional competences for the matter under consideration at the meeting, that is, the matter which is the subject matter of the decision.
- (3) All decisions adopted by different bodies in the system of coordination may be reviewed before the higher level in the coordination system within ten (10) days after their adoption, by the authorised representatives of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, representatives of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, representatives of the Government of the Republika Srpska, representatives of all ten (10) cantonal governments and representatives of the Government of the Brčko District of BiH, in accordance with the constitutional competences for the matter under consideration at the meeting, that is, the matter which is being reviewed.
- (4) Should a body in the system of coordination be unable to take a common position on the issue at hand, the issue shall be forwarded to the higher level in the system of coordination, concluding with the Collegium for European Integration, meeting and operating in accordance with Article 4 of this Decision.

## CHAPTER II – COLLEGIUM FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

### Article 4

#### (Collegium for European integration)

- (1) The Collegium for European Integration shall be the highest political body in the system of coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, ensuring concurrence of positions on vital, strategic and political issues in the area of European integration, and, as the last instance, shall remove any potential stalemates in fulfilling obligations in the process of Bosnia and Herzegovina's integration into the European Union.
- (2) The Collegium for European Integration shall be established at the inaugural session convened by the chair of the Collegium for European Integration in agreement with the deputy chairs of the Collegium for European Integration, no later than twenty (20) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.
- (3) Members of the Collegium for European Integration shall include:
  - a) chair of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
  - b) deputies of the chair of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
  - c) Prime Minister of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
  - d) two members of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- e) Prime Minister of the Government of the Republika Srpska;
- f) two members of the Government of the Republika Srpska;
- g) Mayor of the Brčko District of BiH;
- h) Cantonal prime ministers;

(4) In the case of their absence, the chair of the Council of Ministers, prime ministers of the governments of the Entities and cantons and the Mayor of the Brčko District of BiH, may authorise a member of the Council of Ministers of BiH, that is, a member of the governments of the Entities, cantons and the Brčko District BiH to take part in the meeting of the Collegium, in full capacity and with full rights and obligations, except for the right to preside. In the case of representation, the chair of the Council of Ministers of BiH, the prime ministers of the governments of the Entities and cantons and the Mayor of Brčko District of BiH shall inform thereabout in writing all members of the Collegium for European Integration at the latest 24 hours before the meeting of the Collegium for European integration.

(5) In accordance with the expressed needs and depending on the issues under consideration by the Collegium, on the invitation agreed by the chair and deputy chairs of the Collegium, its meetings may be attended by other relevant line ministers or heads of institutions of all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the capacity of rapporteur on thematic areas or items on the agenda, and in accordance with the constitutional competence for the area under consideration. The invited rapporteurs of the Council of Ministers, governments of the Entities and cantons and the Brčko District of BiH shall have no right to vote in the Collegium.

(6) The chair of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall act as the chair of the Collegium for European Integration, while the Entity prime ministers shall act as deputies. The chair of the Collegium shall convene meetings with prior approval of deputy chairs.

(7) Meetings of the Collegium for European Integration shall be convened by the chair of the Collegium upon their own or another Collegium member's initiative. In the absence of the chair, the Collegium shall be chaired by deputy chairs. Meetings of the Collegium for European Integration shall be held at least twice (2) a year or more often if necessary. An invitation to a meeting of the Collegium shall be distributed to all members of the Collegium no later than five (5) working days prior to holding the meeting.

(8) Members of the Collegium shall present an agreed position on behalf of their respective level of government.

(9) The Collegium shall establish an Advisory Body comprising European integration advisers with the role of providing policy and technical support in the work of the Collegium and ministerial conferences, facilitating communication between technical and political levels in the coordination system, and preparing proposals for possible solutions to eliminate any stalemates that might arise in Bosnia and Herzegovina fulfilling its commitments in the European integration process. Each member of the Collegium shall appoint one representative to the Advisory Body. The work and composition of the Advisory Body shall be governed by the Rules of Procedures of the Collegium.

(10) The Directorate for European Integration shall act as the Secretariat/the Secretary to the Collegium for European Integration.

(11) The Collegium for European Integration shall adopt the Rules of Procedure regulating all technical matters relevant for its operation. The draft Rules of Procedure of the Collegium for European Integration shall be prepared by the Directorate for European Integration and submitted to all members of the Collegium no later than 15 days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.

### CHAPTER III – MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES

#### Article 5

##### (Ministerial Conferences)

(1) The ministerial conferences shall be bodies in the system of coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the actions of which shall ensure a comprehensive and congruent approach of competent institutions at all levels of government in individual sectors covered by the European integration process.

(2) The ministerial conferences shall comprise relevant line ministers of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entity governments, cantonal governments and representatives of the Government of the Brčko District of BiH, in accordance with their respective constitutional competences for the matter under consideration or the area for which the ministerial conference was formed.

(3) The ministerial conferences shall contribute to overcoming any possible stalemates in meeting the commitments of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European integration process, as well as the process of programming European Union assistance that could not be resolved by technical and operational bodies in the system of coordination. In order to fulfil obligations under the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, the ministerial conferences shall define joint guidelines and agendas for actions by operational and technical bodies in the system of coordination in individual sectors covered by the European Union accession process Agreement.

(4) At its first session, the Collegium for European Integration shall initiate the establishment of sector-specific ministerial conferences in line with the chapters of the *acquis* and in accordance with constitutional competences in the area for which a ministerial conference is being established. No later than twenty (20) days from the initiative for the establishment of the ministerial conference, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Entities' governments and the Government of the Brčko District of BiH and cantonal governments shall adopt uniform Instructions regulating the scope of activities of the ministerial conference, as well as their mutual relations, rights and obligations within the ministerial conference being established.

(5) The Uniform Instructions defining the establishing of the ministerial conference per individual sector-specific areas and regulating matters referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article shall be prepared by the Directorate for European Integration of BiH, no later than ten (10) working days from the date of entry of this Decision and delivered to the Collegium for European Integration for prior approval, that is, subsequently forwarded to the Council of Ministers and the governments of the Entities, cantons and the Brčko District of BiH referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article for final adoption.

(6) The chair of the ministerial conference and two deputy chairs shall be elected by its members in accordance with Article 3 of this Decision at the first session of the ministerial conference.

(7) The ministerial conferences shall meet when needed and in line with the timetable of technical and operational bodies within the system of coordination in the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The ministerial conferences shall be convened by their chairs upon their own or any other member's initiative. In the absence of a chair, a ministerial conference may be convened and co-chaired by the deputy chairs. An invitation to the ministerial conference shall be distributed to all members of the ministerial conference no later than five (5) working days prior to holding the meeting.

(8) In the case of absence, a member of the ministerial conference shall authorise a representative who shall, at full capacity, take part in the ministerial conference. The chair and deputy chair of the ministerial conference shall be notified of this situation in writing by a member of the ministerial conference no later than two (2) days prior to the meeting of the ministerial conference. An authorised representative of a member of the ministerial conference shall have no right to preside over the ministerial conference.

(9) If a ministerial conference is unable to take a position on a specific issue, the chair of the conference shall refer the respective issue to the Collegium for European Integration to agree a resolution thereof. The request shall include a background of the dispute and suggested possible modalities for its resolution as discussed at the meeting of the ministerial conference.

(10) A nominated person coming from the institution of the chair, in cooperation with the Directorate for European Integration, shall act as Secretary to the ministerial conference.

(11) Any technical issue relating to the operation of ministerial conferences shall be governed by uniform Rules of Procedure, which, with the prior approval of the Collegium for European Integration, shall be adopted by each ministerial conference at its inaugural session. The Directorate for European Integration shall submit the draft uniform Rules of Procedure of Ministerial Conferences to the Collegium for European Integration no later than thirty (30) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.

## CHAPTER IV – COMMISSION FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

### Article 6

#### (Commission for European integration)

(1) The Commission for European integration (hereinafter: the Commission) shall be a body in charge of general, technical, operational and methodological coordination aiming at ensuring the highest possible level of inclusiveness of competent institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the area of European integration.

(2) In performing the activities within its scope of work, the Commission shall, in particular:

- a) monitor the observance of contractual obligations stemming from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement as well as of other commitments in the process of European integration;
- b) cooperate with members of the Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Committee in the context of preparation and participation of members of the Standing Delegation in the meetings of the Committee and ensuring uniformity of views that members of the Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina must represent in meetings of the Committee;
- c) at the general level, coordinate and direct the work of the Working Groups for European Integration;
- d) discuss any outstanding issue and develop guidelines for action in the process of European integration at the operational, technical and methodological level;
- e) cooperate closely with ministerial conferences on all outstanding issues in the process of European integration.

## Article 7

### (Composition of the Commission)

(1) Permanent members of the Commission shall include:

- a) Director of the Directorate for European Integration,
- b) one representative of each of the Entities' governments in charge of coordinating the European integration process on behalf of the Entities' governments;
- c) one representative of each of the cantonal governments in charge of coordinating the European integration process on behalf of their respective cantonal governments;
- d) one representative of the Government of the Brčko District of BiH, in charge of coordinating the European integration process on behalf of the Government of the Brčko District of BiH;
- e) an appointed representative from the Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the Secretary to the Commission.

(2) Complementary members of the Commission shall include:

- a) chairs of the Working Groups for European integration,
- b) an appointed representative on behalf of the respective institutions at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, cantons and the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina in charge of issuing opinions, that is, conformity assessment of the acts with the *acquis*;
- c) one IPA Coordination Board member from the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, cantons and the Brčko District of BiH, respectively;
- d) representatives of other institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina depending on the subject under consideration by the Commission;

- e) representatives of non-governmental sector and academia, depending on the subject under consideration by the Commission.
- (3) The complementary members shall take part in the work of the Commission upon invitation by the chair and a previously reached agreement by all permanent members.
- (4) No later than ten (10) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision, all relevant levels of government in BiH shall submit to the Directorate for European Integration the nominations of their representatives to the Commission for European Integration.
- (5) A decision on establishment of the Commission for European Integration shall be issued by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina upon proposal of the Directorate for European Integration, following the submission of nominations of representatives of all levels of government in BiH pursuant to paragraph (4) of this Article, no later than twenty (20) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.
- (6) The Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall provide professional and technical support to the Commission.

## Article 8

### (Organisation of work of the Commission)

- (1) The chair of the Commission shall convene the Commission's meetings upon own or any other permanent member's initiative.
- (2) The Commission shall meet as necessary and at least once every two months.
- (3) The Director of the Directorate for European Integration shall act as a chair of the Commission, while the deputies shall be representatives from the Entities' governments tasked with coordination of the European integration process. In the absence of the chair, a meeting shall be chaired by the deputies. An invitation to a meeting of the Commission shall be distributed to all members no later than five (5) working days prior to holding the meeting of the Commission for European Integration.
- (4) An appointed person by the Directorate for European Integration shall act as a secretary to the Commission.
- (5) In the case of absence, a permanent member of the Commission for European Integration may appoint a deputy who shall, with full capacity except for the right to preside, take part in the meeting of the Commission. The permanent member shall inform thereof the chair and deputy chair of the Commission for European Integration in writing at the latest two (2) days before the meeting of the Commission.
- (6) All technical issues relating to the operation of the Commission shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure to be adopted by the Commission for European Integration. The Directorate for European Integration shall submit a draft Rules of Procedure to the Commission for European Integration no later than thirty (30) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.

## Article 9

### (Working Groups for European Integration)

- (1) The Working Groups for European Integration (hereinafter : Working Groups) shall be operational bodies within the system of coordination acting in line with the guidelines laid down by the Commission for European Integration.
- (2) The Working Groups shall be established in line with the *acquis* and in line with the chapters and articles of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement.
- (3) The Working Groups shall consist of representatives of competent institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in line with their constitutional competence for respective areas that the Working Groups are established for.
- (4) Initial identification of competent institutions from all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina whose appointed representatives shall take part in the work of individual Working Groups shall be done by the Commission for European Integration and forwarded to the relevant levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina for verification.
- (5) All Working Group members shall be appointed by the identified competent institutions from all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the names shall be forwarded to the Commission for European Integration for final consolidation of the list of nominated representatives in the Working Groups.
- (6) Having received the nominations referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article, the Directorate for European Integration shall submit a proposal to the Council of Ministers of BiH that shall issue a decision on the establishment of the working groups no later than 40 days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.
- (7) Depending on the work to be done by a Working Group, the chair of the Working Group, in agreement with their deputies, may invite representatives of other institutions from all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, non-governmental organisations, experts and practitioners and any other non-members to take part in its meeting.
- (8) Working Groups shall be entrusted with:
  - a) technical finalisation of written documents drawn up by the institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina for information to the European Commission and other European Union institutions and technical finalisation of other materials stemming from the commitments under the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and the European integration process;
  - b) participation in the process of programming of the European Union assistance, primarily in the context of the assessment of needs for ensuring financial and technical assistance of the European Union for the institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina in meeting their commitments in the European integration process;
  - c) identification of the needs for translation of the *acquis* in cooperation with the institutions at all levels of government that deal with the translation in the European integration process;

- d) identification of the needs for trainings and education on specific areas or issues of the *acquis*, in cooperation with the institutions at all levels of government dealing with organisation and coordination of the training and education process;
- e) exchange of positive experiences and good practice among responsible line institutions at all levels of government for the purpose of efficient fulfilment of European integration obligations;
- f) as part of the pre-accession negotiations, the Working Groups, strengthened in terms of human resources, shall act as negotiating teams representing Bosnia and Herzegovina for specific areas of the *acquis*;
- g) Working Groups may by no means substitute for the competent institutions at all levels of government in meeting the European integration obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## Article 10

### (Organisation and work of the Working Groups)

- (1) A list of candidates for the chairs of the Working Groups, amongst assistant ministers or heads or deputy heads of the institutions, as well as their two deputies, shall be made by the Commission for European Integration, taking into account the constitutional competence of individual institutions from all levels of government in the areas and issues addressed by individual Working Groups, and visibility and accountability at all levels of government in the process of European integration. The list as confirmed by the Commission for European Integration shall be submitted by the Directorate for European Integration to the Council of Ministers of BiH in the form of a proposal for adoption. The deadline for the appointment of chairs and deputy chairs of the Working Groups shall be 40 days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.
- (2) Meetings of the Working Groups shall be convened by the chair upon their own initiative or initiative of any of its three members. In the absence of the chair, a meeting shall be convened and chaired by the deputies. An invitation to a meeting shall be distributed to all members of the Working Group no later than five (5) working days prior to holding the meeting.
- (3) The function of the secretary to the Working Groups shall be performed by a designated representative of the institution of the chair, in cooperation with the Directorate for European Integration.
- (4) If the Working Group is unable to reach consensus on a specific issue, the chair or the deputy chairs of the Working Group shall send a request to the Commission for European Integration to agree on a resolution thereof. The request shall include a background of the dispute and suggested possible models for its resolution as discussed at the meeting of the Working Group.
- (5) All technical issues related to the work of the Working Groups for European Integration shall be governed by uniform Rules of Procedure to be adopted by the Commission for European Integration. The Directorate of European Integration shall submit to the Commission for European Integration draft Rules of Procedure no later than 40 days from the date of entry into force of this Decision.

CHAPTER VI – STANDING DELEGATIONS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WITHIN JOINT BODIES OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION IN CHARGE OF MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STABILISATION AND ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

Article 11

- (1) In accordance with the provisions of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, the following shall be operational in the context of joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union:
  - a) Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Council;
  - b) Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Committee;
  - c) Standing Delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Subcommittees;
  - d) Standing Delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina within other joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union, as established in accordance with the Stabilisation and Association Agreement.
- (2) Members of the standing delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina in joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers of BiH by virtue of a separate decision no later than forty (40) days from the date of entry into force of this Decision, in accordance with the provisions of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and taking into account the constitutional competence of individual levels of government in BiH in the areas under consideration of joint bodies, as well as the need to ensure appropriate functional connection between bodies of the internal system of coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the one hand, and acting and advocating an agreed “one voice” on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union, on the other hand.
- (3) In accordance with provisions of paragraph (2) of this Article:
  - a) Members of the Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Council shall be the appointed members of the Council of Ministers.
  - b) Members of the Standing Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Committee shall be the permanent members of the Commission for European Integration referred to in Article 7 paragraph (1) of this Decision, the chair and deputy chairs of the standing delegations on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the bodies referred to in paragraph (1) points (c) and (d) of this Article, and other appointees as determined by the Council of Ministers of BiH in a separate decision. The chair of the delegation on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association

Committee shall be determined in line with paragraph (2) of this Article, based on the agreed proposal of the members of the Committee.

- c) Members of the standing delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Stabilisation and Association Subcommittees and other bodies established in accordance with the Stabilisation and Association Agreement shall be the chairs and deputy chairs of the Working Groups for European integration dealing with matters addressed by sector-specific subcommittees or other bodies established on the basis of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement;
- (4) All technical issues related to the work modalities of representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union under Article 11 paragraph (1) of this Decision shall be governed by the common rules of procedure of joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union.
- (5) Members of the standing delegations of Bosnia and Herzegovina in joint bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union under Article 11 paragraph (1) of this Decision shall, at the meetings of the joint bodies, represent and present only views and positions defined by the bodies in the system of coordination of European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## CHAPTER VII – EXERCISING COMMUNICATION ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION MATTERS

### Article 12

(Communication with the European Union institutions)

- (1) The Directorate for European Integration as an expert, technical and operational body shall communicate with the European Commission and the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina for the purpose of European integration process. In this communication, the Directorate shall establish close cooperation and timely inform the coordinating institutions at the level of Entities, Cantons, and the Brčko District of BiH.
- (2) In communicating with the European Commission, other European Union institutions and the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina, only the contents previously agreed upon within the system of coordination of the European integration process in Bosnia and Herzegovina may be presented as a common position of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### Article 13

(Communication among the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District of BiH in the European integration process)

- (1) Communication among the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District of BiH in the European integration process shall be maintained solely in the manner prescribed by this Decision, in full compliance with the principles and arrangements contained herein.

(2) Representatives of the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District of BiH in the bodies in the system of coordination in the European integration process in BiH, and in particular, coordinating institutions in the field of European integration from the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District of BiH, shall have an intensive and transparent communication and cooperation aimed at facilitating the timely and efficient fulfilment of the European Union accession obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(3) Communication among the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District of BiH shall be carried out in accordance with the arrangements herein and with full respect to the modalities and principles of horizontal coordination across all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which, in accordance with Article 2 paragraph (3) of this Decision, shall not be the subject matter of this Decision.

## CHAPTER VIII – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

### Article 14

(Repeal)

Upon entry into force of this Decision, the Decision on Coordination System in the Process of European Integration in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 8/16) shall be repealed.

### Article 15

(Entry into force)

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption and shall be published in the Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Number: /16  
Date: 2016  
Sarajevo

Chair of the CoM BiH  
Dr. Denis Zvizdić