

DONOR COORDINATION FORUM (DCF)
MINUTES OF MEETING, JUNE 06TH, 2019

Participants

Ms Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator, Ms Dusanka Basta, Assistant to the Minister, BiH MoFT

(Meeting Chairs)

Donor/IFIs representatives:

Mr Aris Seferovic, UNRCO
Mr David Saunders, UN Women
Ms Steliana Nedera, UNDP
Ms Geeta Narayan, UNICEF
Ms Yulia Minaeva, UNODC
Ms Lejla Tanovic, ILO
Mr Anne-Christina Eriksson, UNHCR
Ms Gabrijela Jurela, UNFPA
Ms Envesa Hodzic-Kovac, UNRCO
Ms Maja Zaric, Embassy of Switzerland
Mr Patrick Egli, Embassy of Switzerland
Ms Normela Hodzic Zijadic, EUD
Mr Ernst Tonisson, EUD
Mr Matthias Schmidt-Rosen, KfW
Ms Magdalena Stenlund, Embassy of Sweden
Mr Kent Larson, USAID
Ms Ella Challenger, USAID
Ms Jana Zelingerova, Embassy of the Czech Republic
Ms Taida Jasarevic, Japan/JICA
Ms Lana Guberovic, Embassy of Japan
Ms Leila Fetahagic, Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
Ms Ditka Bukva, Embassy of Spain
Ms Esma Kreso, The World Bank
Ms Samra Bajramovic, The World Bank
Mr Ognjen Grujic, Embassy of Norway
Ms Signe Engli, Embassy of Norway
Ms Barbara Chiarenza, Italy /AICS
Ms Catherine Palpant, Embassy of France

Government representatives:

Ms Edina Topcagic, BiH MoFT
Mr Zoran Danilovic, BiH MoFT
Ms Bruna Kjuder, BiH MoFT
Ms Ana Savic, BiH MoFT
Mr Toni Santic, BiH MoJ
Ms Nevenka Dalac, BiH MoFTER
Ms Amra Fetahovic, DEP
Ms Sanja Alatovic, BD BiH
Ms Biljana Camur Veselinovic, BiH MCA
Ms Drazenka Malicbegovic, BiH MCA
Mr Nemanja Kovacevic, MEOI RS
Ms Danijela Injac, MEOI RS
Mr Vladan Sibinovic, RS IoS
Ms Radmila Cickovic, MF RS
Ms Maja Peric, MF RS
Mr Milos Prica, BiH MoFA
Ms Sanela Fazlic, PARCO

● Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome and opening remarks**
 - **UN Reform** - *United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina*
 - **Update on the SDGs implementation in BiH** - *UN in BiH and relevant institutions from all levels of governance in BiH*
 - **Tour de table** – *Main current and planned activities for the next three months period (DCF participants)*
 - **Closing remarks**
 - **AD1: Welcome and opening remarks**
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Ms Basta, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury welcomed all participants to the DCF meeting and briefly referred to the activities undertaken in the previous period on improvement of development cooperation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In order to improve the work and better exchange the information, it was agreed that next DCF meetings should be organized on higher

level of interactivity of development partners in BiH. From this DCF meeting on, all items on the agenda as well as accompanying presentations will be presented by the relevant BiH institutions and the development partners, to reflect partnerships in mutual cooperation. Each DCF session will be dedicated to one priority sector, for example agriculture, environment, etc., to have discussions and reach proposals for further improvement in that area. The Ministry of Finance and Treasury will officially inform the BiH Council of Ministers (CoM) about the held meeting, in the form of "Information". But, when Information includes conclusions, recommendations and proposals from the DCF meeting, it will be submitted to the CoM for adoption, in accordance with the legal procedure. The MFT will also submit Information from the meeting to entities and Brcko District Governments, thereby involving institutions at all levels of government in BiH in the DCF work. In terms of the *Tour the table*, the focus will be placed on the development activities planned in the next 3 months as well as on the achieved activities in the previous quarter. Also, due to the large number of participants and limited duration of DCF meetings, only participants having important news and information are invited to participate in the *Tour the table* discussion. It is recommended that the presentation of *Tour the table* speakers should be limited to maximum 3 to 4 minutes. Today's DCF is an example of a new approach in the future work, where BiH institutions (Working Group on SDGs) on the one hand and the representatives from UN on the other hand jointly present the achieved results in Realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Ms Basta** then gave the floor to the meeting co-chair, Ms Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator to present the next item on the Agenda.

● **AD2: UN Reform – United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Ms Sinanoglu, UNRCO, welcomed all participants to the DCF meeting and emphasised the UN supports and fully appreciates the proposed mentioned changes. DCF is a very important forum and whatever it could be done to make it stronger and more effective, the UN is ready to provide such support. In the previous period, Swiss Government and the UN, in cooperation with the DCF representatives and other partners/institutions from BiH, worked on improvement of donor coordination in the country. Also, the assessment was launched of the current situation in the country, which unfortunately failed as it happens sometimes with consultancies. However, those deliberations that took place over the course of the past 8-9 months have guided some of the changes mentioned by Ms Basta, for which UN is very grateful since this is definitely a positive and constructive improvement to this forum. UN also very much welcomes stronger involvement of the government counterparts at the DCF meetings, i.e. having sector meetings related to education, agriculture etc., thus providing the opportunity to have in depth discussions and consultations.

Ms Sinanoglu, expressed the pleasure for the opportunity to introduce her colleagues from various UN agencies present at today's meeting as well as to present the UN reform, which is taking place as a part of the support in realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. Namely, in September 2015, all the world leaders agreed on defining of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, whose realization implies the implementation of broad and comprehensive reforms. After analyzing the internal situation, the UN has concluded that it is necessary to carry out the reform, which implies the change of the mind-set, management, work, financing, and access to work and partners. After the UN Secretary General assumed the office, he provided strong support to the reform platform, so it can be said that the UN is now profoundly in the reform process, which is different in the scope, depth and ambition from all previous reforms.

The main highlights of the UN reform:

- The UN reform is mandated by the General Assembly onto the UN System and the Agencies and the Secretariat, in the UNGA Resolution 72/279 on May 31, 2018
- The UN reform was based on delivery of SDGs as mandated by the GA
- Reform is happening in 3 big pillars: Development System Pillar, Management System Pillar and Peace and Security Pillar
- Most of the UN staff, money and efforts go into the Peace and Security Pillar (UN 's job is to uphold peace and security)
- Peace keeping element & Political element: Reform intended to shake up the system/structure/ mechanisms and make them consult, talk and deliver together
- New UN organigram (structures, jobs have been slashed, new jobs established)
- Most important: Peace keeping and political affairs and peace support office are sitting together in one office
- Management Pillar underwent big change since UN most of the rules and regulations were developed in 1945, outdated and need to be reviewed (over 600 policies and SOPs should be cancelled and renewed)
- The UN reform encountered resistance both from within the organization itself and from the UN member states
- The goal is to make the UN much more nimble/effective/transparent/accountable
- The new system of delegation of authorities and stronger system of managing accountability - the system became faster through its decentralization

For more details, please see the "United to reform" web site at <https://reform.un.org/>

Ms Sinanoglu, then elaborated in more details on the Development System Pillar and way of functioning of UN agencies which have different mandates, governing councils and expectations from their (national and other) counterparts and beneficiaries. It has been a challenge to gather all different agencies so that the UN as a whole can work in a much more coherent way and deliver particularly on national counterparts' expectations. As an example, she noted that upon her arrival to BiH she was the UNDP Representative and the UN Resident Coordinator, however as of January 2019, her two roles were separated and she assumed the function of the UN Resident Coordinator. Based on this function, her work has been changed and the type of support she receives

from the UN headquarters as well as the reporting, which is now directly submitted to the UN Secretary General. At the same time, UNDP in BiH appointed the new representative, Ms Steliana Nedera, who Ms Sinanoglu welcomed and wished her success in her future work. In terms of development cooperation with BiH, she pointed out that preparation for the new UN Cooperation Framework for BiH for the next 5 years is under way, considering that the existing UNDAF is about to expire. The name Cooperation Framework demonstrates the new approach to partnership cooperation, through the joint responsibility of the UN and BiH in implementation of development activities. Cooperation Framework will be strongly based on the SDGs, which is rights-based development agenda, touching upon all living beings, i.e. the sustainability of the planet. Yesterday it was the Earth day and world environment day. UN is aware that the world is going in the wrong direction and is committed to change this and improve the lives of human beings and sustainability of the planet.

Another part of the UN reform is focused on further development of the trust with counterparts. Accordingly, the new accountability and transparency mechanisms are being established, to enable the counterparts to know at any given time on the activities the UN is undertaking. Numerous UN agencies are already a part of this transparency network, and publically present all relevant data available on their web sites. One of the biggest changes that happened so far is that since 1945, most of these UN agencies recognized each other's financial procurement rules and regulations. Finally, the UN is also trying to further improve its own efficiency, so now different UN offices share common teams and processes. In line with this, UNCT in BiH has already formed the vehicle pool, they share cars, drivers, etc., in order to save the costs.

In terms of the overall global funding, it is evident voluntary contributions have downsized and the funds coming for implementation of the UN framework cooperation are very small. Thereby, the UN with the strong support from the Secretary General, is trying to change the collaboration with the member states, through the so-called funding compact and the increase of the non- earmarked contributions to the voluntary "pots", with very specific criteria prescribed both for the member states and the UN. The member states agreed to issue the 1% of levy on all partnership agreements with the UN, meaning that whenever they contribute money to UN programming, 1% of that money will go into the coordination, coherence and joint work and eventually also in supporting the voluntary activities. This is a significant progress, considering that for an example, in 2017, UNDP in BiH was able to actually implement USD 30.00 m in one year, while UNDP's budget for core programming was only USD 300.000. Ms Sinanoglu concluded she is counting on understanding and the support from the member states and their colleagues in BiH in implementing of the UN reform.

Ms Basta, thanked for the presentation, confirmed that magic words "trust and partnership" are mentioned in it and pointed out that all stakeholders involved in development cooperation should work to improve the partnerships. She noted she is looking forward to see how this new cooperation framework will look like as well as the change in the approach, and asked Ms Sinanoglu if she considers that this UN reform came at the right time or should it happen earlier?

Ms Sinanoglu, reminded that this has not been the first UN reform, however this one is ambitious and deep reform. She confirmed that this is the right time for the reform, considering that the world is at the crossroads, not only in terms of environment and sustainability, but also in terms of globalization or contextualization of multilateralism, concluding that the UN would definitely become irrelevant without implemented reforms.

Mr Egli, Swiss Embassy, agreed that this is the right moment for the reform because the Agenda 2030 is a very connected framework. Namely, there are many interdependencies between the SDG goals, when talking about water, we are talking about health, when talking about climate change, it also refers to the sustainable consumption and production, etc. This also presents the challenge for the UN colleagues whose mandate is to assist the partner countries and implement global resolutions. Agenda 2030 is a common endeavour and there is no room for failure. In this context, more collective efforts should be undertaken, joint programming within the development cooperation in BiH. As an example, he referred to the social inclusion, which is integral part of the UN mandate and it requires more integrated approach. Generally, it is important to have more coherent approach to coordination approach when it comes to the inclusion, for example related to inclusive development of women, children, vulnerable people, refugees, etc. He concluded that Switzerland is ready to support and to engage in this process and invited all stakeholders to engage in this important process in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Ms Sinanoglu, observed that several countries, including Switzerland, were very vocal about this issue and informed that she just attended the ECOSOC meetings in New York, where it was clear that they all want concrete results in this domain.

Ms Peric, RS MF, in terms of ongoing reforms and those that will be implemented in the future, she asked if this will affect the timeframe of implementation of certain projects, due to the fact that certain mechanism has been established to implement certain 3 or 5 years projects and does BiH have to adjust to the UN reform process?

Ms Sinanoglu, reminded the UNDAF was supposed to end in 2019. However, in terms of the new Framework Development Cooperation, after the past elections and consultations with its national counterparts, the UN concluded it would be better to wait for the new government to be formed in BiH. In accordance with this, the UNDAF has been extended for another year. However, it is still uncertain when the preparation of the new Cooperation Framework will begin, since new guidelines for its preparation have not been issued yet. Hopefully the timeframes for implementation of projects will not be changed since most agencies still have fixed executive boards deadlines against which they have to submit their relevant country programs. Little delay can be expected but not too much. In terms of current cooperation, there should not be any changes, namely the UN signed given commitments and will deliver on those commitments, because these are legal agreements. However, in the future some adjustments are welcomed and will be made, for instance in terms how to better address the SDGs. With regard to the project implementation mechanisms, currently there is a Joint Steering Committee represented by the State, Entities, District Brcko levels, noting that this mechanism definitely needs to be improved.

Mr Santic, MoJ, confirmed that the lack of coordination and communication is the core issue in the BiH agenda and not just in the UN member countries. He asked how the UN fits its reform with the High level forum on aid effectiveness and when is the next High level forum planned and how it would fit the agenda?

Ms Sinanoglu, replied that the UN reform derives most of its elements from the high level forums on aid effectiveness. Most of the key terminology and the key principles applied in the UN reform, came from aid effectiveness whether it is accountability, direct ownership by the governments, effectiveness, efficiency, etc. She pointed out that beside the SDGs many other efforts are underway, such as summits on financing for development, the children's summit, the reproductive health summit, women's discussions, etc., and all of them are contributing to these reforms discussions.

Ms Basta, informed that BiH participated in 2018 Global Partnership for Effective Development. The results of this survey are expected by the end of June. After the completion of the final Global Partnership report, the findings will be presented at the next DCF meeting, when all survey participants will be invited (all development partners, including NGOs and private sector), to jointly discuss the survey findings from the Global Partnership for effective cooperation and aid management.

● **AD3: Update on the SDGs implementation in BiH – UN in BiH and relevant institutions from all level of governance in BiH**

Mr Prica, MoFA, as the Head of the sub-group that worked on the Voluntary National Review (VNR), thanked the Ministry of Finance and Treasury and the UN for organizing the DCF meeting and the opportunity to spread out the message regarding the SDGs as well as to present in the shortest and in as good as possible way on the current state of affairs regarding the SDGs.

SDGs) were adopted in September 2015, whereupon every single state became obliged to adjust their policies and financial frameworks in order to achieve them. These activities were launched in BiH at the end of 2016, which is one year after the SDGs Agenda was adopted. The UN launched over 60 workshops throughout the BiH, in many cities and towns in both entities and in District Brcko, which gave the opportunity to get the insight what the citizens think on priorities that should be achieved until 2030. With regard to the relation between the SDGs/Agenda 2030 and the BiH Reform agenda and the EU integration, he pointed out that the SDGs/Agenda 2030 is rather broad and comprehensive and touches upon every single aspect of life, environmental, economic and social. EU *acquis* and 17 Sustainable Development Goals are very compatible and complementary. It is evident that whenever BiH contributes to the Reform Agenda and to the EU integration, it also contributes to the achievement of the SDGs. Mr Prica thanked to the Swedish government as well as to Sida for generous support provided in implementation of the SDGs and praised the UNRCO and the UNCT for a excellent job done within the activities of the SDG Working Group on realization of the Agenda 2030. The SDGs Rollout Project supported by Sida was launched in December 2017 with two components: Support to institutions with the rollout of the SDGs and SDGs and private sector engagement, which should be finalized until 2020. Besides, SDGs National Voluntary Review (VNR) has been finalized which will be presented in New York on 16, July 2019. So far, the VNR has been approved by the entity level governments and District Brcko as well as DEP gave the green light. Also, institutions in BiH are also making great efforts to develop and adopt the document on Sustainable Development Goals Framework in BiH, which is expected to be finalized in early fall 2019. This could be used for drafting of the strategic documents at all levels of governance in BiH.

Ms Fetahovic, DEP, informed that Sustainable Development Goals Working Group consists of three sub-groups and one of them is in charge of drafting the Voluntary National Review (VNR report). This Working Group includes representatives from all levels of governance in BiH. When countries draft voluntary reports, they mostly already have localized the Agenda 2030 and they are reporting on that, i.e. which targets they choose, indicators, financing, etc. Since BiH is not yet in this process, the focus of this VNR was on the localization process. Besides the VNR preparation, other activities are undertaken at the same time, preparation of the SDGs Dashboard and Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA). All mentioned activities were achieved prior to the extensive consultations that were held in May 2018, which included all government representatives and the civil sector. The first result was the Synthesis report which will be, after being reviewed on June 13-14, introduced to the institutions in BiH, civil society and academia and then to the broader public. She invited all DCF meeting participants to come to these consultations and provide their expert opinion as well as to get the real insight from the government officials. The expected results from these consultations are supposed to be the SDGs Framework in BiH, which will serve as the basis for different strategies for each level of government.

The main points of SDGs implementation in BiH presentation:

- *Zamisli 2030* (www.zamisli2030.ba) – Sustainable Development Goals in BiH
- Importance of SDGs /Agenda 2030 in BiH
- Linkages between EU *acquis* and chapters of SDGs
- Montenegro SDG/EU analysis (33 of 35 chapters open)
- *Zamisli 2030* – 2016 and 2017
- SDG Rollout Project supported by Sida
- SDG Rollout Working Group
- SDG Rollout Roadmap in BiH with milestones and key processes
- First Voluntary Review/Report, written by VNR subgroup
- The process of the review
- RIA / Rapid Integrated Assessment; SDG Dashboard
- Next steps / VNR /SDG framework in BiH

- SDGs and private sector engagement; SDGs and private sector Conference (June 12, over 400 participants)
- SDGs Business week 2019 (June 10-14, 2019)

For more details, please see the attached presentation

Mr Kovacevic, MEOL, briefly informed on recent developments related to SDGs and the private sector in BiH. He noted that he is very proud of the work done on SDGs and VNR in BiH in such a short period of time. Business sector Working Group has been established, consisting of chambers of commerce from both entities and BiH, Foreign Chamber of Commerce and as well as BiH companies, which is responsible for coordination of activities in the field of the private sector and the SDGs. A Conference on Sustainable Development Goals was held (in Sarajevo on June 12, 2018) as one of major events in the private sector in BiH, with over 400 participants. Key speakers were mostly from Sweden, since Swedish Embassy was the main partner with the UN. Also, early this year the SDGs business pioneers awards were introduced to motivate the private sector companies to embrace the SDGs and incorporate them in their business models. Business awards consist of two categories, category “people” and category “planet” related to environmental protection. Seven awards will be given to small, medium and large companies in the field of people and another three in the category of planet, while one award will be given to the company who achieved both categories. Within the SDGs, mapping has been undertaken of the existing value chains in the BiH sector of furniture and automotive parts. This is a unique study done by the UNDP in BiH and *PricewaterhouseCoopers* agency, which aims to show how the business sector can implement the SDGs and integrate them in their business models. Mr Kovacevic finally announced the SDGs business week which will be held from June 10-14, when WG and the UN in BiH will dedicate the entire week to business and SDGs. This business week agenda will consist of webinars through the online platforms in many cities, including Banja Luka, Sarajevo and Mostar, with global speakers and various topics on SDGs. More information can be found on the web site www.zamisli2030.ba.

Ms Basta, praised the work of the SDGs Working Group and noted it is good to have representatives from all relevant institutions from all levels of government and asked what the starting points were for the SDGs in relation to the Voluntary National Review?

Ms Fetahovic, in terms of starting points, 70% of the VNR document is dedicated to the activities and tools that were already designed, such as Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA), *Zamisli 2030*, SDGs Dashboard, Complexity analysis, consultation process, establishing of the Working Group and its work. The other part of the VNR is dedicated to the goals and targets, as the obligatory segment of the Report. When countries already have localized the Agenda 2030, they are reporting through this process and focusing on certain goals and targets that they have chosen to implement in their country. However, in this segment BiH made approximately 2 pages overview of each of the 17 goals.

Mr Prica, noted that as starting points they used the data currently available at all levels of government, which are presented in the VNR. However, activities were focused on the process how the sub-group started its work, how they organized themselves and defined the future work. The sub-group used the mentioned tools, the SDGs Dashboard, Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) and also maps prepared by the people from the team as well as from the UN and its’ various agencies, specialized in certain parts of the SDG Agenda. Also, RIA has enabled the insight into how many strategic documents from all levels and even some documents from the local level are analyzed and how much they are in compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ms Sinanoglu, reminded that even though it signed the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, BiH is one of the late SDGs adopters. Working Group is trying to interpret and figure out how the country can localize SDGs or “translate” them into national context, despite the complicated government structure in the country. The process itself started only a year and a half ago, and while BiH is preparing its first VNR, other countries have already done their second or third Voluntary National Reports. However, what the WG did in a very clever way, since they do not have all the data embedded in entity frameworks, is to show to the world what they achieved so far and how they are going to deal with this SDGs issue in the future. Through this process, they understood what they need to do and anticipated the necessity to prepare of the Sustainable Development Goals Framework. When this Framework is developed, the next VNR will contain more information, and from then on, it will be possible to start reporting on some of the priorities or commitments listed in this Framework. Currently, this VNR is more descriptive but it should not be underestimated. It presents a very solid document and the entire work in it has been written by this sub-group. She noted that this is very important and that she is very proud of the work done by this sub-group and cannot wait for the VNR presentation at the high level forum in New York, to be presented by Mr Denis Zvizdic, Presiding of the BiH Council of Ministers.

Mr Egli, Swiss, congratulated on this achievement and for agreeing on the process and on working modalities which is the basis for the future work. The first step has been done, which is often not easy to achieve in BiH, so it is an important achievement. In terms of processes being carried out in the last one and half year, it is of key importance to have the Sustainable Development Goals Framework prepared as an important and the main document for shaping the future of BiH. He asked what is the current status of the Framework.

Mr Prica, ascertained that this VNR which will be presented next month at the high level political forum in New York, is considered as an impetuous for their further work, since it is expected that the Framework will be finalized in early fall. Working Group will now continue to spread their activities firstly to the parliaments and then the NGOs. The large number of NGOs remained as the main challenge, due to the limited number of umbrella organizations that could cluster them. Also, it should be anticipated to engage the academia and see how much media can further contribute to this process. It is expected that the second VNR will be completed in 2020 as an *interim* step in achieving the Agenda 2030 goals.

Ms Sinanoglu, thanked the Czech Government for excellent support provided in preparation of the VNR. Big team of experts came from the Czech Republic and participated in the preparation of the VNR and in this way gave their support. Next week, two days consultations will be held with BiH institutions from all levels to present to them the “zero” draft document and acquire their opinion on it. So, the first round of discussion and consultation will take place the next week with various levels of government.

However, it should be taken into account that this document does not take away anyone's competencies, rather it supports them, gives them new ideas and guides them, which all requires extensive discussion. The activities are moving forward and UN and the WG hope to finalize the document in September, but then again it all depends on discussions. The reason for this timeframe is because entities and BD all have their own deadlines and they need this document to start working on their separate strategic documents which will hopefully then embrace the SDGs. It is obvious how complicated this is and how it requires the overall planning effort which is normally undertaken in the period of 5-6 years. She recommended to everyone involved looking for a minimum common denominator in this document, not to look for perfection but for the common denominator that everybody can agree upon i.e. the best document is the one that everybody has agreed upon. She concluded that the WG will be the leader in this process, while the UN will provide support, facilitate, inject some inputs, etc.

Ms Fetahovic, added that interesting next steps will be the process of monitoring and reporting, and maybe also the evaluation of the implementation of the Agenda 2030 as well as the most important – financing for the development. This is of key importance for the implementation and the involvement of CSOs, media, but for these two processes as well.

Mr Prica, informed that the WG has also started engagement with local communities which are crucial for the implementation of the SDGs Agenda. A couple of events were organized with representatives from municipalities in the Federation, RS and BD, trying to trigger horizontal cooperation among different municipalities and share lessons and best practices, gain insight in the current situation, which could bring another added value. Also, it is expected that financial institutions, budgets at all levels and donor community will contribute to those projects, which would really be accelerators in terms of Agenda 2030 achievement.

Ms Peric, RS MF, reflected to the IDD Conference that was held in Istanbul on May 27-28 and in October, where among other things, it was discussed how to be more efficient in SDGs implementation, which is the main question here. She noted that a couple of points from this conference is worth mentioning and one is that there is the money, but the money should be channelled better. When talking about financing of the SDGs, there are some estimations that USD 5-7 trillion is necessary to implement the SDGs annually, particularly in the developing country such as BiH. All stakeholders should look for alternative measures how to implement as much as possible of the Agenda 2030. What the authorities in BiH can do is to create good and sustainable economic systems for engagement of the private sector in order to attract the investments. Financial markets can be developed in order to implement the new mechanisms that could support the private sector and give them incentive to place more money in implementation of the SDGs. Also, the authorities in both entities are trying to implement this through several parallel processes. One of the processes is the implementation of the countrywide Economic Reform Program, which is the comprehensive activity for the entire country. Part of the ERP is the Structural Reform Program, which envisages the measures that are parallel with the sub-targets of the Agenda 2030, while on the other hand the ERP basically is creating the sustainable economic eco systems for the private sector to engage more. So, the focus should be placed on the ERP, which is prepared on annual basis for 3 years period, while implementation of the structural reforms is parallel with implementation of certain measures envisaged by the Agenda 2030.

Mr Santic, MoJ, commented that the Agenda Imagine 2030 is the BiH agenda for development, meaning that political commitment needs to be achieved, so this vision could become BiH vision. He welcomed what Ms Peric said about the efficiency, but the efficiency should come later after the common agreement is reached. All mentioned can be applied to the BiH Justice sector itself.

Ms Sinanoglu, repeated that given the complexity of the system in the country, bare minimum common denominator must be found, one that involves everybody. She added that the campaign Imagine 2030 actually reached out to 3.500 people in the country, whose opinions have already been incorporated. However, there is still an obligation to reach out as many people as possible and agreed with Mr Santic that this is a vision for the country.

● **AD 4: Tour de table**

Ms Nedera, the new UNDP representative, noted that UNDP is a strong and competent with big portfolio, and in 2019 it will strive to implement activities in the amount of 36 million or more. This is the time of change for UNDP as well. In line with the reform, UNDP has the opportunity to restructure, in order to become more agile and to be better equipped to implement the SDGs Agenda. UNDP now has the new capacities for policy support as well as updated legal and project instruments that enable it to react faster and be more flexible. Also, UNDP is focused on joint work, i.e. on partnerships, both with UN agencies and companies, with private sector, development banks, along with simultaneous intensive joint work with BiH institutions.

Ms Minaeva, UNODC, Head on UN Office for Drugs and Crime in BiH, informed that they will continue to pursue the implementation of programming in the area of the Rule of law, working across all levels of governance and across all enforcement and judiciary institutions. UNODC is currently in the process of developing the new programming for 2023 which will be aligned with the new deadlines for the UNDAF.

Mr Saunders, UN Women, announced the new program IT Girls that will be jointly implemented by the UN Women, UNICEF and the UNDP in BiH.

Mr Seferovic, UNCT, briefly updated on activities of the overall UN agencies and preparation of the next program for BiH. Preparation process of the New Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework that will cover the period from 2021-2025, has been initiated while the final evaluation of the current UN program has been concluded. The UN is now conducting an assessment that will be the baseline for the preparation of the next 5-year cycle for BiH. In the second half of 2019, UN will finalize the new Cooperation Framework with BiH, whose formal signing is planned at the beginning of 2020, while the actual implementation will be launched as of 2021.

Ms Engli, Norway, noted that all of their cooperation projects are done within the SDGs, so it is very encouraging to here on activities achieved so far in BiH from this domain. She added it would be a good idea to focus in both entities not only on the

companies in the private sector but on the public companies as well. As of last year, Norway stepped up the cooperation with BiH and will continue to do so this year. The cooperation is channelled through lots of UN organizations as well as with the OSCE and the CoE.

Mr Grujic, Norway, informed that this year several interventions will be undertaken within their cooperation program, with the assistance of the UNDP. The first intervention will be “Explode plus” project that will be extended, while two more projects are in the pipeline.

Mr Larson, USAID, informed that after nearly 4 years of service, USAID Director Peter Duffy will leave the mission in July and his replacement Ms Nancy Aslik will arrive in the end of July. Currently, USAID is in the procurement stages for two large programs dealing with anti-corruption and energy. USAID will refocus the efforts in these two important areas, and particularly in the gas and the energy sector. In the fall, USAID will also initiate the drafting of the Country Development Cooperation Strategy, which implies discussions with the government representatives and other key donor organizations in BiH, as part of the consultations process.

Ms Zelingerova, Czech Republic, thanked for setting the DCF forum on a new modus, stating she is very grateful for the changes and that she hopes it will continue to be very dynamic and effective in the future as well. In terms of the SDGs, she supported the idea of engagement of all donors in the efforts of BiH, with special regard to the very generous financial support of Sweden. She handed out a brief brochure on Czech Republic Development Cooperation effort in BiH, which shows direct linkages of their priorities with the SDGs. She encouraged all donors to take the advantage when implementing the projects, for instance with local communities, in order to stimulate them to target activities on the SDGs. Also, she mentioned the invitation of Czech expert who came for just one day to share their practical experience with the VNR presentation in New York,

Ms Stenlund, Sweden, thanked to the WG members on the presentation and the overall engagement and hard work done in the project that is supported by the UN. Sweden is happy to support this process in BiH with the aim to implement the Agenda 2030. In terms of Swedish development cooperation, in 2019 they have EUR 2.5 m extra to allocate within sectors of environment and democracy and human rights and also plan to invest additional funds to the SDGs project in BiH. This will partly address the concern how to get the SDGs framework in concrete actions and concrete plans and she concluded that Sweden will hopefully be able to support this process moving forward.

Ms Basta, thanked all participants on their attendance on today's DCF meeting. She noted that 3 colleagues (Matthias Schmidt-Rosen from KfW, Peter Duffy from USAID and Marie Bergström from Sida) are soon leaving BiH and used this opportunity, on behalf of the DCF members and herself, to wish them all the luck in their future work. She reminded that the next DCF will be dedicated to the 2018 Global Partnership Monitoring for Effective Development Cooperation – Report for BiH, after the report is received from the OECD and closed the DCF meeting.

The meeting was closed at 13:10 hrs.