

21 October 2010

CONCLUSIONS

Regional Conference: Role of Inspectors in Education Quality Assurance, Sarajevo, 20-21 October 2010

The representatives of the Ministries, Inspectorates and other state institutions from the Western Balkans responsible for education inspection, representatives of Regional Cooperation Council, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, European Training Foundation and Centre for Education Policy met in Sarajevo on 20-21 October 2010.

On the basis of common background and similarities between the education systems, especially in the Western Balkans, this conference enabled a platform for fostering knowledge transfer and exchange of best practices among the countries from the region. The main goal of the event was to discuss the role, status, competencies and activities of Education Inspectors in the Western Balkans as well as to elaborate modalities to improve their capacities, effectiveness, and transparency of their work.

Education is crucial to the future for all citizens in the region, and it is therefore a matter of great importance to draw attention to the quality of individual, organizational and institutional capacities of respective governmental structures.

Emphasising importance of further European integrations of the Western Balkans countries, participants acknowledged that there is an obvious need to modernize education systems in the region, with a view on further involvement of the democratization and reconciliation elements in teaching methodologies. To that aim, the role of Education Inspectors is of utmost importance for appropriate interpretation and application of legislation and proscribed standards in the education sector.

Therefore, participants have expressed commitment to furthering and developing cooperation between Inspectorates and other state institutions responsible for education inspection from the Western Balkans in the following priority areas:

- **Development of a comprehensive framework for quality and quality assurance in education;**
- **Development of protocols, guidelines and monitoring mechanisms;**
- **Planning and conducting of on sight visits, methodology and preparation of the reports;**
- **Raising awareness on the optimal role of education inspectors in the system of education quality assurance;**
- **Continuous professional enhancement of inspectors and individuals responsible for education inspections, both in the legislative and quality related aspect;**
- **Exchange of legal frameworks and system solutions with regards to the division of roles and competences for ensuring quality in education inspection;**
- **Insight to procedures, protocols, guidelines, standards and indicators between national institutions responsible for education inspection;**
- **Sharing of experience and best practices in both aspects legislative and quality inspection from the EU member states.**

The Regional Cooperation Council and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to facilitate the activities on development and promotion of cooperation in the agreed areas among the members of the RCC from South Eastern Europe, in close cooperation with, European Training Foundation and other regional and international stakeholders.