

JOINT STATEMENT

President of the Croatian Republic of Herceg Bosnia Mate Boban
and
President of the AP Western Bosnia Fikret Abdic

Accepting the principles of the London conference and taking into consideration provisions for the constitution of the future Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina, put forward by the Geneva Peace Conference;

Respecting the traditional interests of the Croatian and the Muslim peoples;

Convinced of the need for the permanent confidence building between the Croatian and the Muslim peoples and for the implementation of efficient measures thereof;

Respecting the Declaration and the Geneva agreements between the representatives of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina of 14 September 1993;

WE STATE

1. In the light of the excellent cooperation between the Croats and the Muslims in the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia, whose legitimate authorities and predominantly Muslim population have been exposed to attacks by the B&H Army, we are determined to exert efforts on the cessation of all hostilities in the territory of the Union of the Republics and on the establishment of an immediate and lasting cease fire in the territory of the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia. To that effect the HVO units for the Bihać region will remain incorporated into the armed forces of the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia.

2. Changes in the B&H Presidency by a faction of the Presidency led by Alija Izetbegovic we consider un-constitutional and illegal because a member can be dismissed from the Presidency only if he hands in his resignation or if he has been revoked by his constituency. That act, which runs contrary to the Geneva agreement and the arrangements for the establishment of friendship and cooperation between the Croats and the Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina, brought an end to the last remaining democratically elected institution in B&H.

3. The signatories of this statement are committed to the establishment of the closest possible relations between the Autonomous republic of Western Bosnia and the Croatian Republic Herceg Bosnia, in the Union of the Republics of B&H.

4. By the same token we are calling on all the parties to strictly respect internationally recognized human rights and freedoms and to ensure unrestricted movement of humanitarian convoys and civilians.

Zagreb, 21 October 1993.

President of the Croatian Republic
Hercceg Bosnia

Mate Boban

President of the AP
Western Bosnia

Fikret Abdic