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**UPR Bosnia & Herzegovina
International Lesbian and Gay Association (European Region) &
COC Netherlands**

We welcome the positive response of Bosnia and Herzegovina to recommendations to guarantee effective protection against all discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, to publicly condemn all acts of violence connected with such discrimination and prosecute those responsible, to take the measures necessary to combat discrimination on these grounds and to strongly commit to protecting and advocating the fundamental human rights of members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities as equal citizens.

We would like to ask the delegation what specific plans the government has to give effect to these commitments? We note concerns by stakeholders at ongoing discrimination faced by marginalized groups, as well as at hate crimes and violent attacks, such as those directed against participants in the 2008 Queer Sarajevo Festival.

We therefore urge the Government to implement increased measures to combat hate crimes, to develop public education and awareness programmes, including on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, and to provide sensitivity training on these grounds to law enforcement, judicial and other authorities.

Finally, we welcome the support of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the landmark joint-statement on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights, delivered in December 2008 at the General Assembly, and recommend that the *Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity* be applied as a guide to assist in policy development.