



Ref.: RC 13/010

Sarajevo, 14th February

Dear Sirs,

I am pleased to offer the testimonial statement for the World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize competition to the distinguished civil society organisation 'Forum Bosnia International' and in particular the President, Prof. Rusmir Mahmutcehajic for exceptional organisation of the public forum 'Sarajevo UN Religious Harmony Week: Intellectual Views on Religious Relations in the World' organised on 1st and 2nd of February 2013.

Professor Mahmutcehajic with his specific ease moved us all away from mundane daily routines and daily politics and transported us to the core of the value of human existence, that of respect and love of other man. At the same time, Professor Mahmutcehajic with equal ease emphasized the specificities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its inherent tolerant history long relations with the neighbour of 'other' religion.

Despite the recent violent history of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the difficult postwar period, I was once again reminded of reinforcing powers of harmonious religious cohabitation of the peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the importance of the promotion of this social phenomena for improved cohabitation around the globe.

I highly recommend Prof. Rusmir Mahmutcehajic for the World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Yuri Afanasiev', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Yuri Afanasiev
UNDP Resident Representative
UN Resident Coordinator

**Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute
for Islamic Thought
of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**