

# Framework for Mediation Development Agreed

BiH Ministry of Justice and the International Financial Corporation signed yesterday the Memorandum on Cooperation, which defines the framework for development of mediation in BiH in the next two years.

This concerns establishing of an efficient system of mediation for the purpose of contributing to better implementation of business contracts and stimulating employment and investing in the private sector.

This project will be realized within the IFC ARS Program, which is funded by the Government of Netherlands.

The Memorandum was signed by BiH Minister of Justice Slobodan Kovac and Regional Manager of ARS Program Wilma H. Van Benthem, who said that

establishment of a mediation system represents support to the judicial reform in our country.

Van Benthem said that the system would provide for improving the business ambiance in BiH and that it is directed to small and medium sized companies, banks and insurance companies.

"Mediation is faster and cheaper than solving disputes in court, and it also fixes the interrupted business relations and improves business communication", underlined Van Benthem.

IFC will support development of mediation through establishing centers for mediation, building capacities with mediators, judges and administrative personnel, and by implementing a comprehensive public campaign.