



**Oral statement at the 35th regular session of the Human Rights Council
Item 3: General debate – promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political,
economic, social and cultural rights**

June 12, 2017

Mr. President,

VIVAT International welcomes the efforts of the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in regard to the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. We also note with satisfaction the full engagement of the government with the Committee in the process of the first and the second period of reporting.

In its concluding observations of the second period of reporting the Committee recommended that the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina *takes effective measures to ensure that employers abide by their legal obligations towards their employees, namely by paying their salaries or social security in time.*

Therefore, we are deeply concerned with information coming out of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The increasing disrespect to the International Covenant and the disregard to the HRC Resolution (A/HRC/RES/31/15) should not go further without any reaction from the Council. We have received a report of a number of cases, in which State employees (all of them are women) have allegedly not being paid for their work for many, many months. The outstanding unpaid salaries for those employees are from 36 to 58 months. In addition, the government wants them to pay taxes on salaries that they have not yet received.

Therefore, we recommend that the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

1. Fully comply with the recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, especially in regards to remuneration of its employees.
2. Fully support and protect rights and dignity of the state's employees in compliance with the Human Rights Council Resolution (A/HRC/RES/31/15)

Thank you, Mr. President.