November 25, 2013.

**On the occasion of the 70th anniversary from the First Meeting of the State Anti-fascist Council of National Liberation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ZAVNOBIH), the Congress of North American Bosniaks held commemorating events on 23rd November 2013 in Toronto and at the Central Academy of North American Bosniaks held on 30th November 2013 in Atlanta, where the members of the Congress of North American Bosniaks have adopted**

**Resolutions about the historical validity of ZAVNOBIH for the statehood of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

1. Bosniaks of North America recognize the importance and value of the First Meeting of the State Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: ZAVNOBIH), which confirmed the established continuity of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian state as well as the legal traditions, history, culture, and sovereignty, restoring the statehood and became the legal and political foundation for the later development of the system of government of Bosnia and Herzegovina until its internationally and legally recognized, independent state of existence.
2. Bosniaks of North America assess that the first meeting of ZAVNOBIH represented the first true and genuine people’s representative government, composed of representatives of all the people and citizens, which as such may sovereignly decide the political future of Bosnia and Herzegovina. ZAVNOBiH and its activity since 1943 until April 1945 was the most significant event in the history of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its resolution at the Inaugural Meeting and the Proclamation of the peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina, ZAVNOBiH has after 480 years, restored the sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina confirmed its historical, political and governmental legal individuality and formed Federal Bosnia and Herzegovina (state), which is the most important achievement of the Anti-fascist war. It is a historic date - Statehood Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
3. Bosnaiks of North America express their gratitude to Antifascist fighters and activists including all the country’s nationalities and the citizens who stood on the side of the freedom struggle against the occupiers and collaborators. ZAVNOBIH is a victory of political will of all Bosnian nations and citizens, as well as the crucial moment in their classification in a large coalition of allied nations against Triple Fascist Alliance: Germany, Italy and Japan.
4. Bosniaks of North America believe that the historical meaning of the First Meeting of ZAVNOBIH represents concentration and the triumph of the traditional, historical ideas of Bosnia and the Bosnian spirit embodied in the recognition, respect, acceptance and tolerance of others and those who are different. It was confirmed at this meeting that the social, national and religious characteristics of the Bosnian reality can find a point of synthesis and reach the source of a unifying human element, which is the basis not only of the modern Bosnian society, but also of the modern world. At the Second Meeting held on July 1st 1944 ZAVNOBiH adopted the Declaration about the Rights of the Citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is one of the largest documents of this kind in the world. Three years before, the Declaration from Sanski Most, preceded the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and held the same level of significance. Decisions and other documents adopted at the second session ZAVNOBiH had far-reaching significance for the construction of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina and for the further development of national authorities. ZAVNOBiH is constituted in the highest legislative executive representative body, the highest organ of state power, as the only representative of popular sovereignty. It was decided that the presidency of ZAVNOBiH perform executive functions. Second session of ZAVNOBiH declared Bosnia and Herzegovina a federal unit in the Democratic Federal Yugoslavia. Authorities of ZAVNOBiH become carriers of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian statehood.
5. Bosniaks of North America once again recalls that the decision declaring ZAVNOBIH invalid was the illegal and illegitimate session at the so called National Assembly of the so called Republic of Srpska (on July 20, 1993 in the name of only the Serb people) which is vain and void, because it was adopted by the illegitimate state bodies of the Republic of Srpska which is legally non-existent. This means that the specified illegitimate government body within the internationally recognized government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina could not make a decision on proclaiming an invalid decisions taken at a meeting of ZAVNOBIH. Bosnia and Herzegovina had its state continuity before the signing of the Dayton Agreement, and after the collapse of the former Yugoslavia. The signing of the Dayton Agreement, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina still continues its civil and legal continuity under international law under the name "Bosnia and Herzegovina" within its borders and limits.
6. Bosniaks of North America confirm the historical fact that the 25th of November is a day of the restoration of the Bosnian and Herzegovinian statehood. This date cannot be erased from the history of Bosnian and Herzegovian people and its citizens by any decision, by any political or ethnic groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond.
7. Declaration from ZAVNOBiH that preceded the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a key date in history of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the foundation which allows the achievement of complete independence. ZAVNOBIH is proof that multiethnic coexistence in Bosnia and Herzegovina is not only possible but also only logical for its people and its citizens, and that their shared state can work for the good of all. Therefore, 25. of November is the most important date in our history, which is the date that confirmed millennial existence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and provides a model in which only Bosnia-Hercegovina can be developed, for the sake of all its peoples and citizens. Independence of Bosnia-Hercegovina (1992) is just a logical sequence and the result of what the history of Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed and why ZAVNOBIH left important political constitutional prerequisites.The legacy of the State National Liberation Movement and the Anti-Fascist Resistance in World War II was an important foundation for the defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the defensive war from 1992 to 1995, in the continued fight against fascism for the preservation of the Bosnian state and its citizens.
8. The aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the genocide on its people are the essence of the joint criminal enterprises of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, i.e. Serbia and Montenegro from September 1991 until the end of 1995; and the new independent Croatia from the end of the 1991 until March 18th 1994. This includes their government, military and police leadership, collaborators and mercenaries in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The intent of this criminal act was aimed towards the division and destruction of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a state and the “final solution” to exterminate Bosniaks or reduce them to an insignificant ethnic group. All credible sources confirm the existence of a well-designed plan to carry out these aggressions and other forms of crime to commit genocide against Bosniaks. During the war, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina defended itself against the great brutal Serbian and Croatian aggression, in which, as allies or collaborators many members of these countries were involved in order to justify aggression and crime that fascist regimes make on a regular basis. The defensive war was driven primarily by its own forces and means. In situations where Bosnia and Herzegovina had an illegal arms embargo, which the UN Security Council adopted at the request of Serbian leadership and personally by Slobodan Milosevic in 1991, the recognized independent state and a full member of the United Nations was in fact deprived of the right to defend the territorial integrity and security of its citizens against the aggression and genocide. This was guaranteed according to the Charter of the United Nations. In the summer of 1995 the Bosnian defense was on the verge of a complete success of. The Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina did not seek conquest of foreign territories and only wanted the defense of their territory and their sovereignty and the need to be an internationally recognized state and members of the United Nations.
9. The Dayton Accords were awarded to the aggressors and their collaborators who are destroying the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the genocide committed against its citizens. Unlike the World War II, where both the occupiers and their collaborators were defeated by the military, today's Dayton Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of two entities, one of which is the entity of the Republic of Srpska, a genocidal creation of ultranationalist Serbs, built on heavy violations of the international humanitarian law, marked and soaked, mainly in Bosniaks blood and surrounded by and covered in numerous mass graves and concentration camps, in which fascist organizations legally operate. There, the genocidal creation by the international community is legalized and legitimized as a constitutional category. The political leadership and other structures of the Republic of Srpska in accordance with the great genocidal ideology, policy and practice hides, minimizes, denies in all possible ways the genocide against Bosniaks. It equalizes the victims of genocide with its perpetrators (war criminals), challenging historical, political and legal government continuity of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It obstructs the strengthening of Bosnia and Herzegovina and constantly pursues secession, dissolution and the destruction of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore it is denying the possibility of maintaining, developing and improving the quality of community life thus seriously undermining universal human values ​​of freedom and rights, civilization and cultural achievements. The entity of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose foundation is the Washington Agreement (18 March 1994), essentially acts as two separate entities, one of which is a fully operating power of collaborationist creation of the Croatian Community of Herceg-Bosna, whose leadership is based on trial (for joint criminal enterprise) in ICTY, and the other supporters in cooperation with the leadership of the Republic of Srpska They advocate publicly in Bosnia and Herzegovina for such a criminal action.
10. Bosniaks of North America call for a unified action of all Bosnia and Herzegovina forces to build a sovereign, whole and unified state of Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to International law and the UN Charter where a civil state has three levels of government - national, regional and municipal – and according to the European standards of local self-government , whereby regions are not states but associations of municipalities, based on geographic, traffic, economic and historical criteria in which citizens live. Such a state should provide:
* The right to work
* The peace and prosperity for future generations
* The same rights and freedoms to all loyal citizens and peoples throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina
* The ability for everyone to return to his/her homeland
* The full membership in Euro-Atlantic integration
* The protection of nature and resources
* The protection of man and the family as the foundation of a healthy society
* The respect for different points of view
* The protection of the interests of the people and religious groups

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a state of all its citizens who make up the Bosnian nation, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or any other demographic. The first step in achieving a Bosnian Renaissance is the building of the system of rule of law, the change of the Dayton constitution of the state, the application of judgment of the International Court of Justice which clearly stipulated that the army and the police of the Republic of Srpska carried out the genocide and crimes against humanity. The state is built on this basis. That's why we need a strong program of the pro Bosnian and Herzegovina coalition.