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Impressive Greek comeback

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Hosts Bosnia and Herzegovina suffers a 10-1 loss against Greece

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Scoring chance for Greece's Georgios Kalyvas. Photo: Aleksandar Kordic

SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina - The Greek national team won its first game in nine years against Bosnia and Herzegovina, 10-1.

Greece opened the qualification tournament to the World Championship Division III with a lopsided win against the hosts in front of 3,100 fans. The beginning of the game was balanced as the teams kept the score low, netting one goal each. However Bosnia and Herzegovina couldn't keep up and was outshot 46-19. Igor Apostolidis, who played at the last Greek appearance - the 1999 World Championship pool D in South Africa - was the best scorer with two goals and three assists. Defenceman Ioannis Koufis also scored twice.

The winner of the three-nation tournament will join host Luxembourg, DPR Korea, Mongolia, South Africa and Turkey at the 2008 IIHF World Championship Division III March 31 to April 6, 2008.

A decision could already come tonight when the Greeks play Armenia. The Armenians requested a schedule change because of problems with their flight due to a plane crash at the airport of their capital Yerevan. The tournament will close with the game between Bosnia and Herzegovina vs. Armenia on Sunday.