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ENGLISH only

Statement By the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova At the OSCE PC meeting 28 July 2005

(on the Law adopted by the Moldovan Parliament on 22 July 2005).

Mr. Chairman,

On 22 July 2005, at the initiative of President Vladimir Voronin, the Moldovan Parliament adopted a Law on the principles of resolving the transnistrian conflict. The adoption of this Law indicated the existence of consensus within all political forces represented in the Moldovan Parliament on the ways to achieve a well-defined objective of the settlement process.

In conformity with the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the Transnistrian region, being a component part of the country, will be granted an autonomous statute that has to be further negotiated in the form of a Law on Transnistria's Special Legal Status. The delimitation of competencies between Moldova's central authorities and the autonomous unit shall be regulated by this Law, and be accompanied by internal guarantees.

The immediate purpose of the negotiations would be pursuing the goals of democratisation and demilitarisation of the region, achieving the aims stipulated by the relevant resolutions of the Moldovan Parliament from 10 June 2005.

The realisation of conditions of democratisation and demilitarisation of Transnistria shall constitute the ground for conducting free and democratic elections into the Supreme Soviet of Transnistria, that have to be prepared and carried out by an International Election Committee, under the OSCE mandate, monitored by the Council of Europe, and in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Moldova. The Supreme Soviet of Transnistria will approve the Basic Law of the autonomous unit that may not contravene the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova.

These main provisions of the recently adopted Law have included all necessary prerequisites for resumption of the talks between Chisinau and Tiraspol in a clear and transparent fashion, attributing prior importance to an urgent necessity of ensuring basic democratic conditions and human rights for the local population and the need to

demilitarise the region. The Moldovan parliamentarians reiterated that the settlement could be achieved only by peaceful means, excluding any form of use of force. One of the important motivations has been the need to render humanitarian, social, economic and legal assistance to the population in Transnistria, in getting over the consequences of the conflict.

Mr. Chairman,

The parliamentarians have expressed their hope that the international community would welcome and appreciate the reasons for adoption of this Law and the importance of its contents. Taking into account the consensual resolve to achieve tangible progress in a foreseeable future, the Moldovan authorities have appealed for support in view of implementing the above-mentioned provisions. We do count on indispensible cooperation of those who are already actively involved into the settlement process, and express our conviction that the European Union and the United States of America, whose direct engagement is requested by the Republic of Moldova, would greatly facilitate our joint efforts. The constructive role of the OSCE in this context is clearly stipulated and needs to be pursued without any delay.

Thank you.