

STATEMENT

ENGLISH only

of H.E. Mr. Andrei STRATAN, Deputy Prime-minister,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova,
at the Adoption of Ministerial Council Documents Session
of the 13th OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting
(Ljubljana, 6 December 2005)

I regret that the Council was not able to adopt the Ministerial Declaration and the Statement on Moldova at its annual meeting. The Moldovan delegation has worked in a constructive and result oriented manner to reach consensus on these important documents. However, due to the position of one country, we do not have a political final document for the third year in a row.

Let me briefly state the main issues that Moldova perceives as very important for the Council to take into consideration.

Moldova is determined to find a political settlement for the transnistrian problem based on respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of my country. The transnistrian problem can be resolved by the democratization and demilitarization of the region. The final goal of negotiations should be the definition of the special legal status of the transnistrian region within the Republic of Moldova.

The documents adopted by the Moldovan Parliament on 10 June and the Law on basic principles of the special legal status of the localities from the left bank of the Nistru river (Transnistria) of 22 July represent the framework for the settlement of the transnistrian problem.

The participation of the EU and USA at the negotiation process is of paramount importance for a fair and just solution to this regional security problem.

The destabilizing actions of the Tiraspol separatist regime taken against the local population from the Security Zone should be condemned by all of us.

The need for the transformation of the existent peacekeeping mechanism into an International Mission of Military and Civilian Observers under an OSCE mandate is imperative.

The Republic of Moldova highly appreciates the involvement of the EU in securing the Moldovan-Ukrainian frontier by deploying the Border Assistance Mission. This Mission will contribute to the process of the political settlement of the transnistrian problem.

We are concerned with the delay in organizing an international inspection at the depots with ammunition of the Russian Federation. The monitoring of the military-industrial enterprises from the eastern region of the Republic of Moldova should be expedited.

The Republic of Moldova deeply regrets that the Russian Federation has not fulfilled its Istanbul Commitments. In this regard, we urge the Russian Federation to resume without delay and complete the withdrawal process of its troops and ammunition from the territory of the Republic of Moldova in line with the OSCE Istanbul Summit Decisions of 1999. The complete implementation of these Decisions will facilitate the process of entering into force of the Adapted CFE Treaty.

Mr. Chairman, I ask that the statement be attached to the Journal of the day.