



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE OSCE**

**Statement
By the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
At the OSCE Permanent Council meeting
22 March 2007**

Mr. Chairman,

The Moldovan authorities welcomes the meeting of co-mediators and observers on the transnistrian settlement, which took place on 20th of March 2007 in Vienna and take note of the statement issued in this regard.

The Moldovan side repeatedly called for unconditional resuming of the negotiation process in the 5+2 format and believes that consistent efforts by the OSCE, Russian Federation, Ukraine, European Union and United States of America could allow us to move forward in the settlement process. In particular, we are awaiting more political will from the Russian Federation to use its leverage in order to determine Tiraspol to return to the table prepared to negotiate seriously.

Also, the Moldovan authorities take note of the concern expressed by mediators and observers on the lack of political dialog between Chisinau and Tiraspol. We underline that the Moldovan side has continuously pledged for entertaining contacts and dialog between the permanent representatives for political issues. We have been launched a numbers of concrete initiatives on conducting negotiation at the working groups level for humanitarian and economical issues, which remains without adequate feedback from Tiraspol regime. In this context, we would like to remark that an effective dialog could be established if the transnistrian side will undertake real steps for democratization and demilitarisation of the region. In the absence of such an approach we will continue to witness a sterile dialog between Chisinau and Tiraspol, which will not bring us closer to the solution of the problem.

At the same time, we would like to mention that, in the context of re-launching of the political dialog, Chisinau has proposed to establish, in the framework of the 5+2 format, of a working group on elaboration of the relevant projects, which could be financed by the interested donors. Launching of a social-economic reconstruction and reintegration projects will enhance confidence and cooperation between the business communities, NGOs and people in the transnistrian region and the right bank of Moldova.

Mr. Chairman,

Speaking about the necessity of building of an atmosphere of trust and cooperation, we cannot ignore a problem of principle in this sense – insurance of the freedom of movement. We express our deep concern with the fact that the existent barriers has not down, but even are increasing. With many occasions this Delegation informed the Permanent Council on the presence of a numbers of checkpoints belonging to separatist regime in the Security Zone, which constitute a permanent factor of tensions and dissatisfactions.

Moreover, the separatist regime in Tiraspol continues to enlarge the practice of rising barriers for access in the transnistrian region for diplomats accredited in Chisinau, as well as for representatives of international organizations involved in the settlement process. Thus, the access of the OSCE Mission members in the region is periodically blocked, which already had a negative impact on the activity of the working groups established within the Joint Control Commission. Recently, on the “black list” entered the diplomats from the Embassy of the United States in Chisinau, a state that have the status of observer in the 5+2 format. No wonder for us that the cars of the Russian Federation Embassy in Chisinau never reach obstacles at these illegal checkpoints, while Russian consular functionaries perform unauthorized activity in Tiraspol.

The Moldovan authorities receives hundreds of complaints from the people in the region and foreign citizens that are subject to the humiliating procedures of “controls”, often a few times in a day. We underline that these so-called transnistrian checkpoints contravene to the 1992 cease-fire agreement and constitute a sources of arbitrary actions and illicit incomes for transnistrian guards. We ask all our partners to contribute for elimination of all artificial barriers in the way of free movement of persons, goods and services.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we would like to inform the participating-states that on 17th March 2007 the Government of the Republic of Moldova has adopted a Decision nr.301 by which the companies in the transnistrian region, with permanent or temporary registration, obtained the proper facilities for conducting trade activity with the EU countries. Thus, the Moldovan authorities undertook another concrete step directed to facilitate the foreign economic activity of the enterprises in the transnistrian region, in the context of the objective of social-economic reintegration of the Republic of Moldova.

Thank you.