Second day of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting
MC(25) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 7

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TRANSDNIESTRIAN SETTLEMENT PROCESS IN THE "5+2" FORMAT

1.   The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe:

2.   Recall the past Ministerial Statements on the work of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdniestrian Settlement in the "5+2" format;

3.   Reiterate their strong resolve to attain a comprehensive, peaceful and sustainable settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for Transdniestria that fully guarantees the human, political, economic and social rights of its population;

4.   Recall the output-oriented approach reaffirmed by the Hamburg and Vienna Ministerial Statements and in this context commend the Sides for major achievements since the Vienna Ministerial Meeting on four out of the five agreements reached in 2017 on priority issues, namely on apostilization of educational documents issued in Transdniestria, the functioning of the Latin Script Schools, the use of farmlands in Dubasari district and on the opening of the bridge across the Dniester/Nistru River between villages Gura Bicului and Bychok as well as the agreement on the participation of vehicles from Transdniestria in international road traffic signed in April 2018, and for having achieved substantial progress on the implementation of the 2017 telecommunication agreement;

5.   Welcome the commitment of the Sides to continue to work toward the full implementation of all agreements expressed in the Protocol of the "5+2" meeting in Rome on 29–30 May 2018, the 2017 Vienna protocol and the 2016 Berlin protocol, thus contributing to building a solid basis for further advancing the settlement process;

6.   Call upon the Sides to continue to work at all levels to achieve tangible progress on all three baskets of the agreed agenda for the negotiation process: socio-economic issues, general legal and humanitarian issues and human rights, and a comprehensive settlement, including institutional, political and security issues. We encourage the Sides to build upon the progress already achieved on socio-economic issues this year to achieve tangible results in other areas of the agenda;

7.   Underline the importance of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdniestrian Settlement in the "5+2" format as the only mechanism to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable settlement, recall the commitment of the Sides to the result-oriented approach, which is key to the rhythmical work of the negotiation process at all its levels, and reaffirm the important role the OSCE plays in supporting this process;

8.   Call upon the Sides to continue to engage, under the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship, in the negotiation process within the existing negotiating formats and in accordance with the internationally agreed parameters as referred to in paragraph 3;

9.   Applaud the commitment, leadership and political will of the Sides which led to the resolution of a number of long-standing issues, as well as the unified and active approach by the mediators and observers in the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdniestrian Settlement in the "5+2" format in the course of their activities in 2018;

10.   Encourage the mediators and observers of the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the European Union and the United States of America to continue to co-ordinate their efforts and to make full use of their collective potential to promote progress in achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Transdniestrian conflict.