



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, 14 April 2005
(*On the transnistrian conflict settlement process*)

Mr. Chairman,

The Moldovan authorities highly appreciate the efforts of the Slovenian Chairmanship to contribute to the transnistrian conflict settlement process, including by convening the consultations among mediators. The personal involvement of the Chairman-in-Office, in particular in the aftermath of his visit to Moldova, is especially encouraging. An uniformed and adequate perception by all mediators of the settlement parameters has proved to be an indispensable element of any progress. The Republic of Moldova hopes to see this eventual unity of views transformed in practical achievements on the ground.

Let me reiterate using also this opportunity that approval, including by the mediators, of the Declaration on Stability and Security for the Republic of Moldova would constitute an eloquent proof of thorough understanding of the situation in and around Moldova and would facilitate the conflict settlement efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

In the meantime, the situation in the Security Zone remained tense. The local population continues to endure hardships as the exponents of the transnistrian regime deny them the right to free circulation. The victims are again peasants from the Moldovan village Dorotcaia who should by now be starting the agricultural season but are unable even to reach their terrain lots. A compromised agreement to deblock the situation was reached at the level of the Moldovan Minister of Reintegration Vasile Sova with the transnistrian chief negotiator on 11 April 2005. Let me stress that “compromising” referred exclusively to the position of the Moldovan side, guided by the willingness to eliminate any grounds for further provocations involving population. To our dismay, Minister Sova was impeded to participate in the meeting of the Joint Control Commission next day in order to formalise the agreement. According to a well-known to you scheme, transnistrian guards stopped him at the entrance to Bender where the meeting was supposed to take place.

The lack of readiness for any progress on part of the transnistrian side is way too obvious. Under such circumstances, we could hardly expect any positive movement on either political, economic or other track. In the aftermath of the incident, the Moldovan authorities have reiterated their disappointment with the existing settlement mechanisms that are continuously proving to be ineffective, in particular the Joint Control Commission that is unable to solve any problem within the Security Zone. A revision and analysis of the existing settlement tools is long overdue and the proposals of the Moldovan side in this sense are well known and could be only reiterated.

Mr. Chairman,

On a different note, we are pleased that the newly appointed EU's Special Representative for the Republic of Moldova visited Moldova without any delay (10-13 April 2005) and managed to assess the situation in the country after the recent parliamentary elections. We are convinced that the contribution of the European Union through its Special Representative would provide a necessary impetus to all elements of the conflict settlement, including to the negotiations process. We are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation with Amb. Jacobovits de Szeged on the realisation of the provisions of the EU-Moldova Action Plan. The successful implementation of the Action Plan would facilitate the conflict settlement and would advance Moldova on the European integration path.

Thank you.