



PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
TO THE OSCE

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ENGLISH only

### **STATEMENT**

by the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova  
at the 556<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council, 19 May 2005  
(*On the results of the Vinnitsa meeting on transnistrian conflict settlement*)

Mr. Chairman,

The Republic of Moldova would like to express its appreciation of the Ukrainian efforts to organise Vinnitsa consultations on 16-17 May 2005. This round of consultations was characterised by the focused discussions of the Ukrainian initiatives on the transnistrian conflict settlement. The Moldovan authorities have supported the initiative of the Ukrainian President H. E. Mr. V. Iuscenko “Towards settlement – through democracy” and the “Settlement Plan of the Transnistrian Problem”. Moldova considers that these Ukrainian proposals could play a role of a “road map” for the transnistrian conflict settlement.

The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova led by the Reintegration Minister H.E. Mr. V. Sova, has officially informed the participants about the Moldovan initiative to invite the representatives of the European Union and the USA to the next meeting. The Moldovan proposal was supported by the Delegation of Ukraine and the Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova. We expect that all mediators would show unanimity and common sense for the purposes of attracting the available additional expertise, support and resources in the context of the settlement process.

At the same time, the Moldovan side has reiterated the importance of endorsement of the Declaration on Stability and Security of the Republic of Moldova.

The Republic of Moldova attributes prior importance to such indispensable element of the settlement effort as the democratisation of the transnistrian region. Having in mind this objective, Chisinau will elaborate within the timeframe mentioned in the “Settlement Plan”, the Law of the Republic of Moldova on the statute of the transnistrian region, that would constitute the first stage of the settlement process. In this context, Chisinau would count on the expertise and recommendations of the European institutions and member-states, in order to present a Law that would correspond to the acknowledged norms and principles in the given field.

As a necessary precondition for any progress, the Moldovan side has reiterated the importance of demilitarizing the Security Zone and the transformation of the existing peacekeeping mechanism into a mission of military and civilian observers under the OSCE mandate. An OSCE inspection of the transnistrian enterprises involved in military production and a verification of the existing armaments' stocks in the region, is also long overdue.

It should be mentioned that the Moldovan Delegation to the Vinnitsa consultations has raised again the unresolved issue of the Moldovan schools in the region and the deplorable situation of the farmers from the Moldovan villages in the Security Zone. We expect that the mediators and other partners involved would examine these matters with utmost commitment and would force the separatist regime to obey the elementary human rights requirements for the local population that continues to endure unfair hardship. The humanitarian situation there becomes critical, obliging the Government of Moldova to seek humanitarian assistance for the region's population.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me inform the Council that the Vinnitsa consultations were preceded by the bilateral meeting of the Prime-ministers of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova: H.E. Mrs. I. Timoshenko and H.E. Mr. V. Tarlev. It should be stated here that the Prime-ministers have discussed the terms of ensuring joint border control on the Moldovan – Ukrainian, including on the transnistrian segment of the border. In addition, both sides have indicated the importance of the international monitoring along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border with the participation of the international experts. The involvement of the European Commission in ensuring the implementation of these plans remains indispensable.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me briefly conclude that the Moldovan side is ready to engage into expert-level consultations on absolutely all elements of the "Settlement Plan" without any delay. We would like to appeal to all parties involved to assist us in fulfillment of also other essential preconditions for a successful settlement, including those mentioned above. Most importantly, the role of the OSCE in the process of practical realisation of the apparent understandings is clearly stipulated and hopefully would be promoted and supported by all participating states.

Thank you.