
Second day of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting
MC(24) 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 Ministerial Statement of 9 December 2016 and in this context commend the sides for reaching agreements on five of the priority issues: on apostilization of educational documents issued in Transdniestria, interaction in the field of telecommunications, functioning of the Latin Script Schools, use of farmlands in Dubasari region, as well as the opening of the bridge across the Dniester/Nistru River between villages Gura Bicului and Bychok; thus achieving substantial progress in the negotiation process;
5. Welcome the commitment and timelines stipulated by the sides in the Protocol of the “5+2” round of talks held in Vienna on 27 and 28 November 2017 to draw on the positive achievements of 2017 in order to resolve other priority issues in the coming year, in particular the remaining provisions from the Berlin Protocol;
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;
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 resolution of the conflict

in accordance with the internationally agreed parameters as referred to in paragraph 3, and the important role the OSCE plays in supporting this process;

8. Call upon the sides to continue to engage, under the Italian 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 political will of the sides to continue to resolve 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 2017;

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.