

**Second day of the Twenty-Third Meeting**  
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**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. Underline the need to advance 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 as the only mechanism to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable resolution of the conflict and the important role the OSCE plays in supporting this process;
5. Call upon the sides to engage constructively and regularly in outcome-based meetings of the “5+2” format with fully empowered Political Representatives 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;
6. Welcome the resumption of negotiations in the “5+2” format with a substantial meeting in Berlin on 2 and 3 June 2016 and the signature by all parties of the Berlin Protocol, output-oriented steps, to the benefit of the population on both banks, in accordance with the internationally agreed parameters as referred to in paragraph 3;
7. Urge the sides to ensure the continuity and increase the effectiveness of the process on a regular basis at the level of expert (working) groups and Political Representatives to further advance the settlement process and to implement the remaining provisions contained in the Berlin Protocol;

8. Call upon the sides to engage, under the Austrian 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 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 Transdnestrian Settlement in the “5+2” format in the course of their activities in 2016;
10. Encourage the mediators and observers of the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the European Union and the United States of America to continue co-ordinating their efforts and to make full use of their collective potential to promote progress in achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Transdnestrian conflict.