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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANVAR AZIMOV,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

9 December 2010

**Regarding the results of the early parliamentary elections
in the Republic of Moldova**

Mr. Chairperson,

In Russia, we have been following with particular interest the course of the early parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova, which were the result of the stormy internal political processes in the country. Russian observers took part in the various monitoring groups, including the one sent by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. Our experts were particularly active in the observation mission from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) consisting of 77 representatives from 7 CIS countries. This mission judged the elections to have been open, transparent and in compliance with electoral law.

In our opinion, the problems of statehood, sovereignty and a clear geopolitical orientation facing the Republic of Moldova today can be overcome only through a widely representative and really competent government, which, regrettably, has been absent for the last one and a half years.

Naturally, we hope that the Moldovan leadership will solve all of these problems in strategic partnership with Russia. In this connection, we are pleased to note that the recent parliamentary elections, which were satisfactorily organized and had a high turnout, gave an adequate assessment of the political forces that are promoting an antagonistic Russian-Moldovan agenda.

At the same time, we note that the elections, which pursued the aim of putting an end to the constitutional crisis, have so far only brought the political situation in Moldova to a point from which to start building a functioning authority in all sectors. Russia is counting on this process being continued in a constructive manner based on the actual outcome of the voting and without any kind of outside interference. We hope that the coalition talks will produce results.

The establishment of a government with full powers would also give the necessary impetus to the settlement of the Transdnistrian conflict and the resumption of official

negotiations between Chisinau and Tiraspol in the 5+2 format. As a guarantor country and one of the mediators in this process, Russia would be interested in a development of this nature.

In conclusion, I should like to state that Russia continues to count on collaboration with the Republic of Moldova in the areas of international co-operation and the development of economic and humanitarian contacts. Our peoples have ancient links, united by a common historical destiny, culture and spirituality, and we are disposed to do everything possible to strengthen the bilateral partnership.

Thank you for your attention.