



PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE OSCE

PC.DEL/941/15
3 July 2015

ENGLISH only

STATEMENT
by the Republic of Moldova in response to the Address by the
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, H.E. Mr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier
(1061st Permanent Council, July 2, 2015)

Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome H.E. Mr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany and thank him for outlining the priorities of the German OSCE Chairmanship during the next year. The Republic of Moldova has aligned with the statement delivered by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make some remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Minister,

The Republic of Moldova shares the main priorities of the in-coming German Chairmanship across all three dimensions. We will continue to support strengthening the ability of the Organization to respond to current and future crisis situations as well as to prevent and resolve conflicts.

For more than a year the OSCE's agenda is focused on addressing the crisis in and Ukraine. As a neighboring country, which enjoys strong partnership and friendly relations with Ukraine, we remain deeply concerned with the continuing violation of cease-fire and limited progress in implementing the Minsk Agreements, which constitute the road map for resolving the crisis. The Republic of Moldova has been supporting from the very beginning all political efforts to reach a peaceful solution to this crisis based on respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We highly appreciate the leading role of Germany in this regard.

Next week we will meet to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act. Regretfully, against the backdrop of current polarization, increased tensions in Europe and violations of the OSCE principles and commitments, there is not much to celebrate. Nevertheless, the up-coming Informal High-Level Meeting should encourage us to take stock of current challenges and to explore opportunities to rebuild trust and strengthen the dialogue on reconsolidating the European security. The OSCE is well placed to serve as a platform for inclusive dialogue in order to address the most pressing issues on European security agenda.

While the Organization continues to focus on ways to resolve the crisis in and around Ukraine, we must not lose sight of other important security challenges. The resolution of protracted conflicts should be a top priority of the OSCE. The lack of progress in resolving these conflicts seriously undermines regional stability. Having said that, I would like to refer briefly to the Transnistrian conflict settlement, which is passing through a period of uncertainty due to complicated regional context and some longstanding challenges within the process itself. We view the following directions as priority areas of our efforts:

- restoring the full-fledged negotiations in the 5+2 format and preparing the ground for discussion on political and security issues;

- promoting military restraint and transparency along with discouraging and preventing tensions in the Security Zone,
- promoting confidence-building activities in various fields;
- finding the way to keep the preferential access for the Transnistrian companies to the European markets.

We are engaged on all of these directions and rely on the support of the OSCE and other international players involved. I would also like to thank Germany for its major support in organizing annual high-level confidence-building conferences in Bavaria.

Let me also use this opportunity to express our gratitude for the valuable support provided by Germany for the European aspirations of the Republic of Moldova that remains our top priority. Today we are marking exactly one year since ratification by the Moldovan Parliament of the Association Agreement and we are committed to continue its rigorous implementation and carry out necessary reforms.

Mr. Minister, we share your view that the OSCE should remain one of the key pillars of the Europe's peaceful order. The time ahead of us is not an easy one, but we are confident that under your able leadership, the OSCE will make a positive change to the overall stability in our region.

Before concluding, we thank you once for again for being with us today and we wish you and your able team every success in fulfilling a very challenging task of leading the Organization during these, as you put it, stormy times.

Thank you.