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PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT

by the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
at the 542 OSCE Permanent Council meeting, 27 January 2005
(On the Odessa consultations on the transnistrian conflict settlement)

The Delegation of Moldova would like to thank the Ukrainian side for hosting the Odessa consultations on the conflict in the eastern districts of Moldova. At the same time, we express our regret with the low representative level of participation and absence of any clear mandate of the transnistrian side. This reflects yet again the lack of any will on behalf of the regime to be constructive and to move forward on the settlement issue.

The consultations provided room for discussions on a number of outstanding issues, such as the school crisis, the situation in the Security Zone, including freedom of movement of persons and goods. The Moldovan side has proposed an international monitoring in this zone, under the auspices of the OSCE. We hope that all interested partners will duly consider this proposal.

The Republic of Moldova has also demonstrated willingness to move forward with the settlement of practical issues as the Gura Bacului bridge over the Nistru river, and the restoration of fixed telephone connection between the both banks. However, we again faced the irreconcilable and stubborn position of the Tiraspol representative on all proposals and ideas that were voiced.

The Moldovan delegation has stressed the importance of endorsement of the text of the Declaration on Stability and Security for the Republic of Moldova by all the invited parties as one of the steps towards identifying a political settlement of the conflict. In this regard, we stand ready to further consult on this issue and hope that this document will be signed this year.

Having obtained no meaningful results whatsoever in Odessa, the Moldovan side reiterated the inefficiency of the existing negotiation format. In this context, our Chief negotiator once again underlined the importance of EU's and the USA's involvement into the process.

Mr. Chairman, so much to report on behalf of this Delegation on the Odessa consultations.

Thank you.