13 June 2014

ENGLISH only



STATEMENT

by the Republic of Moldova on the 5+2 talks on the Transnistrian settlement held in Vienna on June 5-6, 2014

(1004th Permanent Council, June 12, 2014)

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to briefly share our assessment of the discussions on Transnistrian conflict settlement that took place at the latest round of 5+2 negotiations in Vienna on 5-6 June as well as at the Conference on confidence building measures in Bavarian town of Freising between 10-11 June 2014.

At the 5+2 round we touched upon a broad range of issues including transportation and freedom of movement. We dedicated significant amount of time to economic issues that the Transnistrian region is facing these days. The Moldovan delegation dismissed the allegations that the region is under a "blockade" by providing relevant statistics that prove positive dynamics in foreign trade operations of the region. A number of participants pointed out that major economic issues faced by the region are generated by the fact that the conflict remains unresolved and the region does not have a legal status. Many issues cannot be easily resolved without having a clear political perspective. In this sense, the Moldovan delegation reiterated the need to open the so-called "third basket" and start talking about the status of the region. Additionally we called on the Transnistrian side to take advantage of the new trade opportunities emerging from the upcoming creation of DCFTA between Moldova and the EU.

We have also touched upon the issue of access by Dubasari farmers to their lands beyond the administrative line. This is an example of an issue where unilateral actions led to lack of progress and caused damages which Moldovan Government will have to compensate.

Education was also among the priority topics on the 5+2 agenda, in particular the issue of functioning of the Moldovan administered Latin-script schools in the Transnistrian region. Our efforts should be continued to find a long-term solution for these schools. We welcome the readiness of the EU to provide expert assistance in dealing with the issue of legalization of diplomas issued by the Transnistrian institutions.

At the CBM Conference in Freising the discussions focused on economy, environment and education. Despite the fact that the progress was limited, this event helped to reenergize the contacts. For example, the Group on education took up the idea launched at the 5+2 round to work on a framework document regulating the functioning of the Latin-script schools. They will exchange views on this idea at the next WG meeting on June 24. The experts on environment and economy have also agreed to renew their meetings. We are grateful to the OSCE and German Government for organizing this event.

Thank you.