18 July 2014

**ENGLISH** only



## STATEMENT

## by the Republic of Moldova in response to the Address by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic Serbia H. E. Mr. Ivica Dačić

(1008th Special Permanent Council, July 15, 2014)

Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome H.E. Mr. Ivica Dacic, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, and thank him for outlining the priorities of the Serbian Chairmanship during the next year. While aligning to the EU Statement, we would like to make some brief remarks in our national capacity.

We share the main priorities of the upcoming Serbian OSCE Chairmanship for 2015 and the Republic of Moldova will continue to support efforts aiming at strengthening security and stability in the OSCE area. As we move closer to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, we note that the very principles and commitments of the OSCE are currently seriously shattered. It is an important historical juncture for the OSCE and we hope that the Serbian Chairmanship will lead our joint effort to transform current challenges into opportunities. The Helsinki +40 process provides us with the opportunity to assess where we stand now and to develop initiatives on strengthening the capabilities of our organization in line with the existing political and security environment.

Mr. Minister,

We welcome the readiness of the future Serbian Chairmanship to continue undertaking all necessary efforts in order to promote the resolution of the protracted conflicts within agreed formats. OSCE has been playing a key role not only in ensuring organizational aspects of the negotiation processes, but also in providing substance for the talks. It is true that the negotiations on the existing protracted conflicts are still far from achieving their final objective. At the same time we believe that due to its unique role the OSCE has an opportunity to create a political momentum and mobilize international support to move the negotiations forward. Today, such an effort on behalf of the OSCE is very much needed. The substantial progress in the conflict resolution processes will also have a positive impact on our discussions on wider European security. In the same context, the Republic of Moldova, supports strengthening the OSCE's capabilities related to conflict cycle and mediation activities.

The Transnistrian conflict is among those issues where a constant engagement by all OSCE factors – the Chairmanship, the Special Representative, the field mission and OSCE autonomous institutions – can make a difference and advance the political talks in the 5+2 format towards finding an agreement on a special status for the Transnistrian region, based on respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.

In conclusion, we would like to thank Deputy Prime Minister Dacic for his comprehensive presentation and wish every success in the future Serbian OSCE Chairmanship.

Thank you.