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## Statement on November 28 Parliamentary Elections in Moldova

As delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly to the Permanent Council, Vienna December 9, 2010

The United States congratulates the people of Moldova for conducting an election that international observers judged to meet most OSCE and Council of Europe commitments. As the Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions noted, this election was "administered in a transparent and impartial manner," with a diverse field of candidates providing voters with a genuine choice. The November 28 vote represents another significant step forward on Moldova's democratic path, and we hope authorities will build on this experience to continue to improve the electoral framework. We encourage Moldova's political leaders to work together to form a new government and elect a president in order to tackle the challenges ahead.

The United States strongly supports the aspirations of the citizens of Moldova to build a democratic, prosperous European state, secure within its internationally recognized borders. We look forward to working with Moldova's new government as it accelerates important reforms to consolidate democracy, improve the economy, and strengthen the rule of law. Respect for the full range of OSCE and international commitments will continue to be a key element in our relationship.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.