

**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
at the 14th OSCE Economic Forum**
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Plenary Session II: The key role of governance: effective practices in border management and the fight against corruption: the World Customs Organization (WCO) framework of standards to secure and facilitate global trade; the implementation of the OSCE Border Security and Management Concept; customs and cross-border co-operation; fighting corruption in the transport sector; strengthening public-private partnership and dialogue

- Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

- The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova is pleased to participate to the 14th Economic Forum and regards the discussions on the themes of the Second Session as an opportunity to reflect on and share experiences in the field of implementation of the *border-related security and management commitments* and fostering *customs and cross-border co-operation*, in order to deal more efficiently with the negative phenomena at the border.

- Moldova and Ukraine jointly initiated actions to promote a more secure common border, following the principles of international law, mutual confidence and transparency.

- In line with this common objective, both countries requested, jointly, additional support from the European Union in overall capacity building for border management, including customs, on the whole Moldo-Ukrainian border. And, specifically, in the creation of an “international customs control arrangement and effective border monitoring mechanism on the transnistrian segment of the Moldova-Ukraine state border”

- The EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine was launched at the end of 2005 and half a year later the Mission (EUBAM) proved to be a successful endeavor, much appreciated by both beneficiary countries for its significant efforts to further develop an efficient and transparent border regime, to harmonize their border management standards and procedures with those prevalent in EU member States. Let me reiterate on this occasion our appreciation for the valuable and increasing contribution of the EU, and numerous EU member States in seconding their customs and border management experts to the EUBAM.

- Moldova attaches great importance to transparent and secure borders. A significant step in this direction was taken jointly by Moldova and Ukraine by reinstalling in March 2006 a transparent and legitimate customs regime on their common state border, including its transnistrian segment.

- Those measures are fully in line with international standards and should assist our common efforts to promote a transparent and effective trading system and to enhance the effectiveness of border and customs controls and border surveillance activities in Moldova and Ukraine along their common border. The OSCE, through its Mission in Moldova, as well as, through periodic reporting in the PC, is able to benefit from the reliable information of the monitoring and observe the benefits of the more efficient and transparent border regime.

- The Moldovan authorities are committed to be actively engaged in the mentioned cooperation process with the Ukrainian partners and the European Union.

- Finally, I would like to thank the Belgian Chairmanship, the Office of the Coordinator for their efforts in organizing the 14th Economic Forum and the Czech authorities for hosting the event.

- Thank you.