



## **STATEMENT**

by Ambassador Valeriu Chiveri, Head of the Permanent Delegation at the OSCE Permanent Council meeting in response to the address delivered by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko (20 June 2012)

Mr. Chairperson,

Let me warmly welcome H.E. Mr. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko at the special meeting of the Permanent Council and thank him for a very useful outline of the Ukrainian priorities for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2013. During the last month we held a number of consultations with Ukrainian partners which are helpful in shaping our cooperation for the next year.

On a general note, we support the approach aimed at ensuring strategic continuity between Chairmanships. This is particularly important in the sphere of conflict resolution where the dialogue between the actors involved is usually quite fragile and role of mediator in bringing the sides to the table of negotiations is of particular importance. Ukraine, in cooperation with other international partners involved, is playing an important role in advancing the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict. We hope that building on the positive developments achieved during the Lithuanian Chairmanship, which are now being developed and promoted by the current Irish Chairmanship, Ukraine will help to create the ground for a real breakthrough in the conflict resolution process.

## Mr Chairperson,

As we speak here at the Permanent Council, the High-level Conference on confidence building measures in the framework of the Transnistrian conflict resolution is beginning its work in Germany. We hope that participation of the key decision-makers from both sides of the Nistru River at this event will ensure a substantive and productive discussion. Promotion of the confidence-building measures should remain among priorities for future Chairmanships and we are confident that Ukraine has enough capacity to generate progress in this regard.

As we informed the Permanent Council earlier, a step forward has been made that could be helpful in advancing the political resolution of the conflict. At the previous round of negotiations we managed to agree on the text of the two basic documents that will guide the work in the 5+2 format – principles and procedures of the 5+2 talks and the agenda. In our view, the discussions at the next round in July should be focused on substantive issues from all three thematic baskets of the agenda aiming at finding complex solutions that will become elements of the final settlement. Such an approach would be conducive towards achieving progressive results and a favourable background for the lasting political settlement of the conflict.

## Mr Chairperson,

We welcome the readiness of Ukraine to promote further strengthening of the OSCE capacity and effectiveness in all elements of the conflict cycle in accordance with the Vilnius Ministerial Decision 3/11 and other relevant documents.

We also reiterate our concern with regard to the impasse in the dialogue on the revitalization of the conventional arms control regime in Europe. Therefore, we stress the need for a new impetus to this dialogue and reaffirm our support to the efforts aimed at preserving the integrity and legally-binding nature of the CFE regime as well as its fundamental principles including the host-nation consent.

In conclusion, let me thank once again Minister Gryshchenko for his statement and wish him and his team every success in their future endeavors.

Thank you.