



**PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT**

by the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Moldova  
in response to the report presented by Ambassador Philip Remler  
(29 April 2010)

Thank you Mr Chairman,

We warmly welcome Ambassador Remler back to the Permanent Council and thank him for his, as usually, interesting and comprehensive report. We highly appreciate the activity conducted by the Mission in accordance with its mandate.

The OSCE Mission to Moldova continues to undertake efforts aimed at advancing of the Transnistrian settlement process, in particular – resumption of the “5+2” negotiation process and promotion of confidence building measures. We also appreciate efforts undertaken in this regard by all mediators and observers. We are in constant cooperation with the Kazakh OSCE Chairmanship. The recent visit of the Chairman-in-Office to Moldova was a remarkable development in this sense. We are glad to acknowledge that the Kazakh Chairmanship continues and consolidates the approaches and policies initiated by previous Finnish and Greek Chairmanships.

As a general approach, we reiterate our strong commitment to a viable and comprehensive settlement of the Transnistrian conflict. The final solution should be identified in the 5+2 negotiation framework on the basis of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova. We call for unconditional resumption of the official negotiations in the 5+2 format – the only internationally recognized mechanism for final resolution of the conflict.

Chisinau treats with cautious optimism the perspectives of renewal of the official negotiations, as an outcome of some positive results reached by the Moldovan Government. We could mention here the establishment of regular, direct contacts between Chief-negotiators from Chisinau and Tiraspol, as well as several rounds of 5+2 consultations. At the last 5+2 meeting in Vienna there was a common understanding of the majority of delegations, that there are no real obstacles for the resumption of the negotiations. We hope that the informal round in Astana planned for 24 of May will bring us closer to this objective.

We hope that the activity of the working groups on confidence building measures will become more systematic and will start producing expected results. By results we mean resolution of existent problems that people from the region are confronting every day. This should create a better atmosphere for the conflict settlement.

We welcome the Mission's efforts in organizing a series of CBM seminars, with participation of the representatives from law-enforcement and military authorities from Chisinau and Tiraspol. We deem it as a positive practice and are supporting it.

An important factor in advancing the settlement process is the need to demilitarize the Transnistrian region and transform the current peacekeeping operation into civilian mission under an international mandate. We call on the OSCE and our partners for a more resolute involvement in this regard.

We remain concerned over the situation with democratic standards, human rights and media freedom in the Transnistrian region. In particular I would mention here the case of the journalist Ernest Vardanean and other similar incidents described in the spot report distributed by the OSCE Mission. We appreciate the reactions from US, EU and OSCE and other actors and would welcome a more active involvement of our partners, including the participants to the conflict settlement process, in resolving this case. We should focus our efforts at preventing the harassment of the mass-media, civil society representatives and local residents in the Transnistrian region, including those detained in the penitentiary institutions on the left bank of Nistru.

Mr. Chairman,

As Ambassador Remler has pointed out, the recent history of my country has been marked by significant political developments. I will not go into details, as the situation is well presented in the report.

The priorities of the Government include concrete actions in promoting necessary reforms aimed at stabilizing economic situation, justice reform, implementation of equitable social policies, protection of human rights, reintegration of the country. The main goal and path of our foreign policy is the EU integration. In this sense I would like to stress that our negotiation on the Association Agreement are advancing well. In near future we expect to start visa-liberalization dialogue with EU and creation of the deep and comprehensive free trade area. All inhabitants of the Republic of Moldova, including those residing in the Transnistrian region, will benefit from the integration process.

At the current stage, our main objective is to find the way to overcome the existent difficult political situation that has been created after two failed attempts to elect the president. The Moldovan authorities maintain a close cooperation with their foreign partners, including the Venice Commission, with the view of identifying a formula that would provide a legitimate constitutional solution to the current stalemate and would prevent this from happening in future.

In conclusion, Mr Chairman, let me express our gratitude to Amb. Remler and his team for the valuable work done by the Mission.

I thank you