

**ON THE CONSULTATIONS OF THE MEDIATORS FROM
THE OSCE, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND UKRAINE
FOR A TRANSNIESTRIAN SETTLEMENT, WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA AND TRANSNIESTRIA**

At the initiative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy, consultations took place on 8 and 9 November 2004 in Varna between the mediators from the OSCE, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine in the Transdnistrian settlement process, with the representatives of the Republic of Moldova and Transdnistria.

The Special Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, President of Bulgaria (1997-2002), Mr. Petar Stoyanov, took part in the meeting.

The participants in the meeting expressed their gratitude to the Bulgarian Chairmanship for creating conditions for the discussion of issues pertaining to the Transdnistrian settlement, as well as the current situation in the region as a whole.

In the framework of consultations, separate meetings with representatives of the Republic of Moldova and Transdnistria were held, and a discussion of the Transdnistrian problem during a direct dialog between the sides took place.

In the plenary session, the participants in the meeting exchanged opinions regarding the current situation in the negotiation process. Also discussed were steps that might facilitate the building of confidence between the Moldovan and Transdnistrian sides. In that connection, the mediators welcomed the intention of the representatives of the Republic of Moldova and Transdnistria to prepare a list of practical issues that can be solved in the course of dialogue between the parties.

The participants in the meeting reiterated their commitment to achieving a final settlement of the Transdnistrian question by means of political dialogue, on the basis of the recommendations of the mediators, as well as the drafts achieved in the framework of the negotiation process recently.

The mediators agreed on additional efforts to continue an efficient negotiation process.

In that context, the representatives of Chisinau and Tiraspol do not rule out the possibility of participating in the near future in an additional round of consultations with the mediators. Guided by the need of achieving further progress in the Transdnistrian settlement, the mediators expressed their readiness to organize such a meeting.

On behalf of the OSCE

On behalf of the Russian Federation

On behalf of Ukraine

I. Naidenov
W. Hill

V. Nesterushkin

V. Ogryzko

Varna, 9 November 2004