**ENGLISH** only



## **STATEMENT**

by the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Moldova at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Joint FSC-PC meeting (10 March 2010)

Thank you Madam Chairperson,

The Delegation of Moldova has aligned to EU statement, but since the today's topic has a crucial importance for my country I would also like to make a national statement.

At the outset, I would like to thank both Chairmanships for their timely decision to dedicate this joint meeting of the FCS and PC to the issue of conflict resolution. I would also like to thank Director of CPC for his thought-provoking presentation. I will cover in my statement the issues that are currently under discussion in the Corfu Process as well as will refer to the Transnistrian settlement.

Moldova has expressed its support to the initiatives aimed at strengthening analytical and early-warning capacity of the OSCE Secretariat, in particular of the CPC, as well of the other Institutions involved in conflict prevention and crisis management activities. These OSCE structures should also be able to react in a quick manner to emerging or developing crisis situations by providing early warning signals and recommending appropriate actions to mitigate the tension. With regard to the existing conflicts, the CPC and other OSCE structures, in close contact with participating States involved, could provide analysis and propose ideas for further advancement of the resolution process.

Our experience shows that non-military confidence building measures can be useful in promoting conflict resolution and creating better atmosphere for talks between parties to the conflict. Perhaps we should explore the ways how to generalize this experience and transform it into practical recommendations or a handbook.

At the Corfu meeting on 23 of February, my delegation proposed the idea of thematic meetings dedicated to existent conflicts that could be organized in the framework of Corfu process. Since the tentative program of the Corfu process for the first semester is already formulated, this idea better fits the perspectives of the Corfu dialogue. Conflicts will be on the dialogue's agenda in any case – so we should think about the formulas of how to assist those directly involved in the settlement process. Such thematic meetings could be focused on those areas where the progress is possible. So let me register this idea for further consideration by delegations.

Madam Chairperson,

Now let me turn to the Transnistrian issue. As delegations know, a round of consultations in 5+2 format took place in Vienna, a week ago. We appreciate the results of these talks with a cautious optimism. I believe it became clear to all participants that, after its breakdown in 2006, now, the "5+2" talks are self-sustainable and that all necessary prerequisites for official restart of negotiations are in place. Since 2006 all successive OSCE Chairmanships and the field Mission together with other co-mediators and observers, as well as Moldovan authorities, undertook sustained efforts to bring the negotiations back on track. In this regard we welcome the efforts undertaken by the Kazakh CiO, particularly the CSBM events proposed by the OSCE Mission to Moldova for 2010, and we expect that these endeavors will bring us to the renewal of the official 5+2 negotiations this year. We appeal to all actors involved to unite their efforts in achieving this goal.

The Moldovan Government will spare no effort to create a better atmosphere for the negotiation process. We strongly support the activity of working groups on confidence building measures, and I'm glad to inform distinguished delegations that the groups have already conducted their first meetings. The chief-negotiator on Transnistrian settlement from Chisinau has established a functional channel of direct communication with its counterpart from Tiraspol. Furthermore, Chisinau granted non-limited in time registration to the Transnistrian companies. The EU has also done an important incentive to Tiraspol by introducing, upon the Moldovan Government request, a temporary moratorium on travel restrictions for Transnistrian leadership. So, the overall context is getting more favorable and we should build on these positive developments.

Our main task now is to prepare a substantive agenda for the next "5+2" round of talks that is scheduled to take place in May, in Astana. At the recent meeting in Vienna, the Moldovan delegation proposed that both sides – Chisinau and Tiraspol – have the right to introduce on the agenda of 5+2 talks a topic related to settlement process, which they consider important.

Madam Chairperson, Dear colleagues,

All of us were speaking on numerous occasions that there is a need to achieve concrete progress in conflict resolution. OSCE needs it to restore trust and to prove its role in conflicts resolution. The sides to the conflict need it to move forward on resolving some critical issues that affect daily life of citizens. The international stakeholders need it to create a better dynamics in the ongoing dialogue on European security, particularly on revitalizing the arms control regime. The restart of the official 5+2 negotiations could be this long-expected progress that we are all striving for.

I thank you.