JOINT DECLARATION

of the Presidents of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on a speedy political settlement of the Trans-Dniester conflict.

The Presidents of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, proceeding from the need for a speedy settlement of the conflict in the Trans-Dniester region of the Republic of Moldova,

reaffirming their commitments to the aims and principles of the Charter of the UN, the Helsinki Final Act and other OSCE documents, Council of Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States, the Memorandum on Maintaining Peace and Stability in the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Declaration on Observing the Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity and Inviolability of Frontiers of the Participating States of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

understanding the responsibility for enhancing stability and security in this region of Europe,

approving the role of the OSCE Mission to Moldova and attaching a special importance to the mediating activity of the Russian Federation and Ukraine in the settlement of the conflict,

consider that now in the Republic of Moldova there are all conditions to eliminate fully the consequences of the conflict through negotiations by exclusively peaceful means, implementing the principles and provisions of the agreements concluded earlier between the leadership of the Republic of Moldova and Trans-Dniestria.

The Presidents of the three countries will take all necessary measures contributing, within the framework of the existing mechanism of the negotiating process for settling the conflict, to accelerate the coordination and sign a document defining the special status of Trans-Dniestria as a component part of the unitary and territorially integral Republic of Moldova.

The Russian Federation and Ukraine express their readiness to be guarantors of the observance of the provisions of the Special Status of Trans-Dniestria defined by corresponding documents as a condition of securing peace and stability in this region of Europe.

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Moscow 19 January 1996