Protocol

on Some Priority Steps

for the Speeding Up of a Political Settlement

of the Transdniestrian Conflict

The participants in the Odessa meeting - President of Ukraine L.D. Kuchma, President of the Republic of Moldova P.C. Lucinschi, Head of Government of the Russian Federation V.S. Chernomyrdin and leader of Transdniestria I.N. Smirnov, after an exchange of views on the state of affairs concerning the process of a Transdniestrian settlement and the progress of implementation of the provisions of the Memorandum on the Bases for Normalization of Relations between the Republic of Moldova and Transdniestria of 8 May 1997, and other corresponding multilateral agreements, declare that during the recent period certain slight positive movements in the negotiations between the parties have taken place.

The Agreement on the Organizational Bases for Social and Economic Co-operation has been signed. Important specific agreements for the development of relations in the commercial-economic, customs, financial and other fields have been reached. The question of lessening the level of military confrontation and strengthening confidence measures in the security zone is under examination. Approaches to determining of a mechanism of guarantees for the future status of Transdniestria are being worked out.

However, of late there have been noted misfires and slowdowns in the working out of the most pressing political questions having to do with a settlement. First of all, we are dealing with the key issue of determining the future status of Transdniestria.

Participants in the meeting consider it necessary at the present stage of negotiations to concentrate the attention of the parties on the following priority directions:

- Delimitation and mutual delegation of powers and jurisdictions;
- Specific measures for the establishment of a common economic, social and legal space;
- Deepening of mutual confidence and cooperation;
- Determination of a mechanism of external and internal guarantees;

Unofficial Translation by the OSCE Mission to Moldova of the Signed Russian Language Original.
- Securing the effective work of the Joint Control Commission;
- Improving the forms of activity of the Joint Peace-Keeping Forces and sending of the Ukrainian peace-keepers (at the present moment - monitors) into the security zone;

The participants in the meeting will take under constant control the realization of measures concerning the implementation of the given protocol.

For the Republic of Moldova

(signed)

P. Lucinschi

For Transdniestria

(signed)

I. Smirnov

For the Russian Federation

(signed)

V. Chernomyrdin

For Ukraine

(signed)

L. Kuchma

In the Presence of Head of the OSCE Mission

(signed)

(John M. Evans)