

PROTOCOL

of the Meeting of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Pridnestrovian Settlement Negotiation Process

(Kishinev-Tiraspol, January 26-27, 2006)

1. The participants of the meeting listened to the information of representatives of Ukraine and the Pridnestrovian side and discussed issues connected with implementation of the Joint Statement of Prime Ministers of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova from December 30, 2005 on the unification of customs procedures on the Ukraine-Moldova state border, and also took into account Ukraine's initiative to organize expert Ukraine-Moldova consultations in Odessa involving experts, economic agents of Pridnestrovia starting from January 31, 2006 for the discussion of issues relating to implementation of the given Statement.

2. The participants of the meeting welcome work of the OSCE Mission to Moldova and take into consideration draft mandate of the OSCE International Assessment Mission to Pridnestrovia for the analysis of the situation and elaboration of recommendations on free democratic elections to the Supreme Council of Pridnestrovia in the context of initiatives put forwards by Ukraine's President V. Yushenko.

3. The participants of the meeting welcome willingness of the Pridnestrovian side to hold consultations with the participation of experts from Ukraine, Russian Federation and the OSCE on data exchange between the Republic of Moldova and Pridnestrovia on military units and weapons as envisaged in the Protocol "A-1" of the package of draft documents "Arms Control – Confidence and Security Building Measures in Moldova".

4. The participants of the meeting noted that in pursuance of the protocol from December 16, 2005, the OSCE Mission to Moldova handed over draft protocol on the monitoring of facilities of the Pridnestrovian military industrial complex on January 20 this year, and expressed willingness to continue the expert work on the proposed draft and on the subject as a whole.

5. The participants of the meeting appreciated proposals "Joint Working Group – Composition and Mission" developed by the OSCE Mission and submitted to the sides on January 24, 2006. Mediators and observers called upon the sides to implement Paragraph 2 "Interim Measures" of the draft document by February 15, 2006 as a significant element for resumption of the JCC regular work and will assist as much as possible in that. The participants of the meeting believe that a number of issues can be resolved in the framework of experts groups of the sides and proposed the sides to consider formation of such groups.

6. The sides and mediators agreed to hold the next meeting of the Permanent Conference with participation of the EU and US representatives as observers on February 27-28, 2006 in Tiraspol and Chisinau.

For the Republic of Moldova

For Pridnestrovia

For the OSCE

For the Russian Federation

For Ukraine