# Priorities in the Transnistrian process were highlighted in the joint dialogue between Prime Minister, Aureliu Ciocoi, and Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration, Olga Cebotari, with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, Ann Linde



*17.02.2021, Chisinau* – Today, in the Government House, a meeting took place between the interim Prime Minister, Aureliu Ciocoi, and the Deputy Prime Minister, Olga Cebotari, with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, Ann Linde, who is on a working visit to the Republic of Moldova.

During the dialogue, there was an exchange of messages and opinions on issues related to the bilateral cooperation and fulfillment of commitments outlined jointly with the OSCE and the EU within the Transnistrian settlement process. The current OSCE Chairperson-in-Office mentioned the key elements of her mandate, including contribution to the Transnistrian conflict settlement on basis of the international law, support the efforts of the Republic of Moldova on all dimensions, and promoting gender equality.

The Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration highlighted that during 2021, the following objectives were prioritized in the Transnistrian settlement process:

1. Take all possible actions to ensure respect for human rights and remove all unjustified barriers to free movement from/to the localities in the Transnistrian region.

2. Implement the operational measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic on both banks of the Nistru river, with the support of the international partners.

3. Return to the progress made by March 2020 on the Berlin Plus Package agreements, continue to make progress in this regard and address other urgent issues of citizens' interests.

4. Promote an active dialog in all agreed negotiation formats and create favorable grounds for convening a new official 5+2 round.

The Chief-negotiator from Chisinau in the Transnistrian settlement process also stressed that the Moldovan side relies on activities aimed at achieving concrete results and on concomitant progress on all the baskets of the 5+2 negotiation agenda (social-economic, humanitarian, political-institutional).

It was also reiterated that given the precarious situation created in the region during the pandemic, the protection and restoration of fundamental human rights with immediate and unconditional resumption of free movement between both banks of Nistru, remain key priorities until their full completion.

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office confirmed her full readiness to actively contribute to the implementation of the set priorities and to direct the processes towards a new stage of advancement.

