Current issues on auto transport were discussed in a joint experts’ meeting, with the participation of the political representatives



10.03.2021, Chisinau – Another online meeting of the working group for the development of road transportation and infrastructure took place from the headquarters in Chisinau and Tiraspol of the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova, with the participation of political representatives from Chisinau and Tiraspol in the negotiation process for the Transnistrian settlement, Olga Cebotari and Vitalii Ignatiev, and the representatives of mediators and observers in the 5+2 negotiations.

The discussions agenda included several topics aimed at streamlining the activity of the Vehicle Registration Points from Tiraspol and Rybnita, taking into account the findings of the sectoral experts’ visit on 7 October, 2020 to the territorial subdivision of Tiraspol. These include several improving proposals of experts from the right bank of Nistru, such as: the need of parallel servicing of citizens programmed both electronically and in live line, reducing the timeframe for issuing neutral registration certificates to 15 days, possibility to choose the combination of plates numbers and letters from the distributed stock, re-registration of motor vehicles based on the documents issued by the law empowered authorities and persons, etc.

The dynamics of cars registration with neutral plates so far is limited to 4552 transport units, and as a result of the simplified procedures for obtaining Moldovan driving licenses established by the national legal framework, residents living in the eastern districts of the country obtained 16 thousand of "MD" driving licenses in the period from 2017 to present (36 thousand driving licenses in total).

With regard to the insistence of Tiraspol representatives to extend the mechanism of documentation with neutral plates to other categories of vehicles transporting passengers and goods, it was mentioned that this subject can be examined only after

marking substantial progress on vehicles that do not carry out activities for profit, and at the same time, the prospects for advancement in this regard are to be analyzed.

The activity of transport operators having routes abroad and between both banks of Nistru were also tackled, as well as the certificates of professional competence issued by the National Auto Transport Agency, being mentioned the rigors and procedures established by the regulatory framework in force.

The political representative from Chisinau pointed out that as a result of the information campaign on participation of means of transport from the Transnistrian region in international road traffic, the drivers are familiar with the requirements of the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of 8 November, 1968 the Protocol Decision of 24 April, 2018, the provisions of the national legislation in force and that they are willing to comply with the established requirements.

Readiness to continue the dialogue on current issues in the field of auto transport was highlighted, including provision of a productive activity of the sectoral experts in order to identify viable solutions to eliminate the difficulties faced by residents on both banks of the Nistru river.

