# New joint meeting of the road transport and infrastructure development working groups



*24.09.2021, Chisinau* – The working groups on road transport and infrastructure had a joint follow-up videoconference today, attended by relevant experts from Chisinau and Tiraspol and representatives of the mediators and observers in the 5+2 negotiations.

The experts assessed the progress in addressing the issues detected during the joint visit to the Vehicle Registration Office in Tiraspol on October 7, 2020 and exchanged views on the measures that could be taken to streamline the work of the territorial units in relation to the documentation of non-commercial cars with neutral plates and registration certificates from the region.

To achieve a larger number of processed applications, the Chisinau representatives reiterated that applicants with no prior appointments should be given the opportunity to be served in parallel with the ones who do and stressed that  the time for issuance of registration certificates has been shortened (10 and 20 days) and that an assessment of the available technological capacity could show whether it can be shortened even more (i.e., to 5 days) with an appropriate fee attached to such emergency services.. They also provided information about the adjustment of the technical modules for re-registration of cars the owners of which have changed, noting that other public services could be considered for delivery in the units on the left bank of the Nistru River (changing the driving licenses, processing of the applications for changing the identity documents that are no longer valid, etc.).

Regretfully, Tiraspol has politicized some technical issues (documentation of foreign citizens living in the region, re-registration of the vehicles re-equipped with gas fueling systems, payment for use of the Internet in Tiraspol and Ribnita etc.). The Moldovan side, in turn, called for a productive dialogue focused on compliance with the requirements in force and shifting away from unilateral conditionalities.

When Tiraspol insisted that an additional mechanism for documenting commercial passenger and freight transport vehicles with neutral plates should be developed, Chisinau stressed that the topic of the meeting was the implementation of the Protocol Decision of 24 April 2018 and documentation of non-commercial vehicles and that most of the operators of commercial vehicles are registered and have licenses issued by the relevant Moldovan authorities and that many cars have “MD” plates, while the humanitarian and emergency issues will be addressed during the next meetings.

The dialogue of the expert working groups will continue.

