# Current situation in the negotiation process discussed by the acting Deputy Prime Minister Olga Cebotari and the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for the Transnistrian settlement Thomas Mayr-Harting



*24.05.2021, Chisinau* – Today, the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for the Transnistrian settlement Thomas Mayr-Harting had an official meeting with the acting Deputy Prime Minister Olga Cebotari, according to the planned agenda of the working visit to the Republic of Moldova.

Discussions focused on the dynamics in the negotiation process and in the dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol, noting that despite the limited powers of the central public authorities during the resigning executive, a functionality of the existing interaction formats is ensured. Thus, during 1 January – 24 May, 2021, 3 working meetings of the political representatives and 10 meetings of the sectoral working groups took place. On 25 May, experts on the railway transportation will also meet.

The acting Deputy Prime Minister specified the evolutions marked on the registration of vehicles with neutral plates and the efforts undertaken by Chisinau to accelerate this process.

The obligation to solve the free movement problem in the region was highlighted, as well as returning to the situation when the officials/civil servants from the Republic of Moldova were traveling on private visits or passing through the localities on the left bank of Nistru and Bender without written notifications towards Tiraspol. The need to improve the human rights situation in the region and to solve the individual cases, to

eliminate the unfounded obstacles for the farmers from Dubasari district as to have access to land and to cross the administrative line, to avoid the unilateral actions regarding the Latin-script schools in order for them to have their own premises accordant to the educational requirements, were also emphasized.

The necessity to return to the progress made on the Berlin Plus Package and to continue working on priority issues, in the legitimate interests of the citizens, was mentioned.

The acting Deputy Prime Minister outlined Chisinau's support measures for residents in the region to protect/restore/recover their health during the pandemic, referring to the humanitarian aid and the medical inventory redirected to the region out of the aid lots offered to the Republic of Moldova. She also spoke about the transmitted anti-COVID-19 vaccines authorized at the international level, and to the trainings performed jointly with the WHO by the specialists from Chisinau for the medical staff from the left bank of Nistru regarding the efficient organization of the immunization process and the implementation of the clinical protocols.

The Chief-negotiator from Chisinau reiterated that this year it will remain a priority to maintain the functionality and productivity in all the negotiation formats, including the Joint Control Commission. The following priorities were also listed: prospects for the next "5+2" negotiations, ensuring respect for the inalienable human rights and freedom of movement to the left bank of Nistru, protecting the health of the population and combating COVID-19, maintaining an atmosphere of trust, excluding unilateral approaches and solving urgent problems of the citizens.

It was stated that the Moldovan side will contribute to boosting the processes for achieving positive results in the interests of the people and for promoting the negotiations on the Transnistrian settlement, expressing the hope that in achieving these goals it will have the full support of the OSCE Presidency and firm confidence that tangible progress can be achieved through joint efforts.

