Clarifications on actions taken by the Bureau of Reintegration with regard to Ghenadii Ciorba case



21.07.2021, Chisinau - The Bureau of Reintegration has notified the competent national authorities with regard to the "conviction" of Ghenadii Ciorba, citizen of the Republic of Moldova, on July 19, 2021. Ciorba is to be illegally deprived of his freedom for another 3 years and 3 months in the Transnistrian region in addition to the period of unfounded detention of over 1 year (July 3, 2020 – July 18, 2021). It’s worth recalling that he was illegally detained on July 3, 2020 in Ribnita for expressing disagreement with the abusive restriction by Tiraspol (under alleged pandemic pretexts) of the right to free movement of inhabitants between both banks of the Nistru river.

Olga Cebotari, acting Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration, has emphasized the case to the OSCE Mission to Chisinau, mediators and observers in the "5+2" format negotiations immediately after receiving the information on illegal "conviction” and asked their involvement. Also, the political representative of Tiraspol in the Transnistrian settlement process has been asked for unconditional release of Ghenadii Ciorba and respect of his inalienable rights and freedoms.

Also, national law enforcement bodies have been requested to take appropriate actions in compliance with their legal competencies to investigate the case and apply necessary measures to ensure the rights and legitimate interests of Ghenadii Ciorba are respected.

In this context, the Moldovan authorities will take all possible measures and use all available levers to intervene in cases of human rights violations, which occur in the administrative-territorial units on the left bank of the Nistru river and Bender municipality. These actions will be taken in order to guarantee the obligations prescribed by international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is party and to ensure implementation of recommendations of national and international

jurisprudence, including that of the European Court of Human Rights.

Meanwhile, we strongly condemn any abuse and illegality manifested by the Tiraspol exponents, which lead to serious infringement of human rights and freedoms. Depriving people of liberty by violating provisions of national laws and international standards is inadmissible and liable under the corresponding legal liability of those who have ordered such arbitrary measures in absence of powers assigned by law.

