Political representatives took stock of the current issues related to road transportation and agreed to resume the activity of thematic working groups



18.10.2021, Chisinau – Political representatives in the negotiation process for the Transnistrian settlement, jointly with mediators and observers in the 5+2 negotiation format, met today during a 1+1 meeting in the OSCE Mission's Chisinau office.

The agenda of discussions included the topics related to road transportation, perspectives for organizing the next round of the 5+2 meeting, as well as the necessity to resume the activity of thematic working groups.

Concerned specialists from Chisinau attended the discussions on issues related to road transportation in the region. The improved quality and quantity of the provided services for car owners from the Transnistrian region were due to facilities provided by the Vehicle Registration Offices in Tiraspol and Ribnita. This is evidenced by statistics on issued neutral license plates (September 2021- 618, August-371, July-239). According to the above mentioned specialists, technical and human capacity allows to issue more than 1000 of such license plates.

The Moldovan side is willing to expand the range of services to be provided in offices on the left bank of the Nistru river, and namely: to offer the possibility to shorten up to 3-5 days the term for issuing the registration certificate for vehicles with neutral model plates, to delegate more employees from the Public Services Agency to perform other categories of related services, to exchange driving licenses according to the national model, to issue neutral plates of size 220x174 mm, complementary to the plates of size 520x112 mm.

It has been also specified that a technical solution will be implemented in the near future by the registration offices on the left bank of the Nistru, being designed to receive applications required for issuing registration forms to foreigners ("RT" Form). The RT Form is required to obtain the TV-24 Form, which leads to vehicle registration with neutral plates. The solution is expected to increase the number of applicants served. It was also noted that the service delivery to visitors based on "first come first served" principle is an additional way to get more applicants served.

Following previous discussions, the topic of commercial vehicles and medical ambulances that ensure assisted transportation of patients in medical emergency was repeatedly raised. It was underlined that these vehicle categories are not covered by the Protocol Decision of April 24, 2018 or other documents agreed upon in negotiations. As part of a humanitarian approach, the Moldovan side is willing to offer, and proposed facilitated registration mechanisms, based on relevant legislation to be adopted in order to offer a possibility for participation in international road traffic, subject to compliance with Republic of Moldova's international commitments.

The Moldovan side expressed its availability to participate at the next round of the 5+2 negotiation meeting. The level of implementation of commitments of the Berlin+ package was assessed and the desire was expressed to lead constructive and unconditional consultations as well as to map the future pathways. In the near future, additional discussions will take place at the level of political representatives.

The chief negotiators agreed to resume in the near future the activity of thematic working groups for addressing and identifying sustainable technical solutions to current issues on the agenda.

The Deputy Prime Minister for reintegration also reminded about the issue related to supply with basic necessities for inhabitants of villages in the Dubasari rayon on the left bank of the Nistru river. A lasting solution was proposed to ensure the free and permanent movement of suppliers via land communication channels, and not only by the ferry boat owned by "Bacul Molovata" state enterprise, including during the period when the Nistru river freezes.

Another working meeting of political representatives will take place in the coming days.

