Statement by the Republic of Moldova

- Yesterday was a historical moment for the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. The European Council granted Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova EU the status of candidate country.
- First of all, I would like to thank the EU and its Member States for the trust and opportunity given to the Republic of Moldova to strongly move on the European path. As President M. Sandu said: “it is a strong signal of support for Moldova and its citizens”.
- It is a great honor and responsibility that we take together with understanding how much needs to be done to move towards the goal.
- The country will make further efforts in key areas such as justice reform, public administration, strengthening human rights, and the fight against corruption, to reform the economy according to European standards.
- Indeed, for me, it is symbolic to meet this historical moment in the meeting of the Aarhus Convention, which is a flagship of the rights of the public with regard to the environment.
- Taking an opportunity I want to reaffirm that the Republic of Moldova will step up its efforts to achieve European environmental standards and policy targets.
- Today it is a goal that we are working on together with our European partners, with the support of the institutions and the Member States of the European Union. These are exactly the areas in which the Republic of Moldova is committed to making changes and we will honor our commitments.
- We are aware that the negotiation process and the implementation of European Union legislation and standards in all 35 Negotiation Chapters will follow.
- The intensive reforms of the environmental sector by harmonizing legislation and ensuring transparent, inclusive environmental governance in order to establish efficient environmental protection and the right of people to live in a safe and clean environment is ongoing.
- We are keen to complete as soon as possible the institutional reform and implementation of European standards on the activity of national institutions, to fulfill commitments undertaken in the Association Committee of the Republic of Moldova - European Union on cooperation in energy, transport, environment, climate, and civil protection.
- The Ministry of Environment has started the process of updating the Environmental Strategy for 2033, which will also include the components of actions to ensure an ecological recovery / sustainable investment, better addressing the European Green deal and Agenda 2030 as well as a number of programming documents related to the greening of the economy and reflecting climate issues: The Program for the Promotion of the Green Economy for 2022-2027 and the National Program for Adaptation to Climate Change and its Action Plan.
- We will also continue to focus on the adoption of harmonized legislation on environmental governance, air quality, waste and chemicals management, legislation on industrial emissions, biodiversity, and the green economy.
- On this beautiful occasion, I would like to thank you once again for your support, confidence, and trust. Indeed you gave the Republic of Moldova more self-confidence and strength to overcome challenges.
- It is an indescribable feeling to know that we had and have not only a common European history, and European language, but we also will have a European future now.