



REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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**UPR Working Group
15th Session
Universal Periodic Review of Liechtenstein
Statement by H.E. Victor Moraru
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
(Geneva 30 January 2013)**

Mr President,

Let me welcome the delegation of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the UPR Working Group and thank the head of delegation, for his comprehensive presentation of the national report.

The Republic of Moldova commends Liechtenstein for its steadfast efforts to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We applaud Liechtenstein for undertaking actions to review and advance its human rights legislation and policy by regular dialogue and cooperation with the UN treaty bodies and human rights bodies at the European level.

We note with satisfaction the continuous progress made, in recent years, by Liechtenstein with respect to the equality of women and men. Nevertheless, the realisation of complete *de facto* equality is still a challenge. The further strengthening of the capacity of the Office for Equal Opportunity would ensure, among others, that the Office gives priority attention to women's rights to non-discrimination and to the enjoyment of gender equality.

We acknowledge that Liechtenstein pays much attention to ensuring equality of girls and boys, particularly by promoting gender balance in school in general and in vocational schools, in particular. A properly resourced part-time Ombudsman for Children and Young People, which is already in place for several years, would also contribute to achieving full equality of girls and boys and to fulfil its other important functions for children's rights protection.

Finally, we recognise the commitment of Liechtenstein to combat human trafficking through development of policies and programs, as well as through appropriate amendments to laws.

The Republic of Moldova makes the following recommendations:

- 1. Establish a single independent human rights institution with a broad mandate, in line with the Paris Principles or another specialized body, to consider issue opinions and make recommendations on complaints submitted by women alleging violations of their human rights;*
- 2. Develop a comprehensive strategy to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes;*
- 3. Establish mechanisms for the identification of victims of trafficking as well as referral mechanisms and provide temporary residence permits, protection and support to all victims of trafficking.*

I thank you, Mr. President.