



STATEMENT
by H.E. Gheorghe BREGA
Deputy Prime Minister

AT THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL
ON WATER AND HEALTH TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND
USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES
AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES

Fourth session
High Level Segment
Geneva, 14 November 2016

**Dear Mister President,
Dear Secretary General of UNECE Your Excellency Christian Friis Bach,
Dear Swiss Government Representative,
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is a distinguished honour for me to be here today and to represent the Republic of Moldova. My country became Party to the Protocol on Water and Health in December 2005, setting after that the targets and benchmark dates, in accordance with Article 6 of the Protocol, with the assistance of the Swiss Government and UNECE.

This process has strengthened inter-sectoral cooperation in Moldova, our experience has been recognized at the international level at the Second Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in November 2010.

Undoubtedly, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development have and will have a direct impact on the process of developing and drafting of national strategies, initiatives and programs in the area of water sanitation and health.

Specifically, I would like to underline that for the Republic of Moldova is a priority not only the access to water and sanitation, but also the issue of the quality of the water and to ensure the corresponding level of needed services.

We strongly believe that in pursuing the aims of access to drinking water and provision of sanitation for everyone, special consideration should be paid to ensure equitable access to these services for all members of the population, which factors include: reducing geographical disparities; overcoming the barriers faced by vulnerable and marginalized groups; and addressing affordability concerns.

Mister President,

The National Program for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2025 has been developed and approved by my Government, with the assistance of our partners: UNECE and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

This document will undoubtedly increase the responsibility for the implementation of the program, will strengthen the health system, will improve the management of water resources, quality of water and sanitation, reduce health risks, will provide safe water for recreation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The National Program for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in Moldova, includes priority measures on 19 target areas of the Protocol, which are consistent with objectives of today's Agenda until 2030.

Also, by the Government's Decision no. 1063, Articles 18 and 19 of the Protocol are included in the Action Plan of the National Program for the implementation of the Protocol in the Republic of Moldova.

Following the already approved Goals for Sustainable Development for the period up to 2030, by the Moldovan Government Decision, the goals of the National Program of Moldova will be further revised with a view to better achieving the Agenda, focusing on sustainable development and poverty reduction in the country.

Lessons learned from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and consultation with the community after 2015, represent the starting point in the process of adaptation of the global Agenda 2030 to the national needs.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate our commitment to fully implement at the national level, the relevant provisions of the Protocol, and to achieve all the goals in the interest of the Republic of Moldova.

Only by acting together, we can achieve success.

I thank you!