



**CERIMONIA PER LA FIRMA DEL TRATTATO TRA MOLDOVA ED
UCRAINA SULLA COOPERAZIONE NELLA CONSERVAZIONE E NELLO
SVILUPPO SOSTENIBILE DEL BACINO DEL FIUME NISTRO**

Roma, 29 novembre 2012

**Intervento dell'on. Riccardo Migliori,
Presidente dell'Assemblea parlamentare dell'OSCE**

English:

The importance and relevance of water issues is not new to the OSCE. Since its founding document, the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, participating States have recognised the importance that water has for stability and security.

The OSCE, in cooperation with the UNECE, has been working intensively in all OSCE sub-regions on water management issues with the aim of fostering regional and sub-regional cooperation. Most of this co-operation occurs within the framework of the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative. For example, the OSCE together with its ENVSEC partners contributed to development of water co-operation agreements as well as regional water management institutions among Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in the case of the Chu-Talas Rivers; Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia in the case of the Sava; and Moldova and Ukraine in the case of the Dniester River. A similar process is underway between Azerbaijan and Georgia in case of Kura River.

The Dniester process between Moldova and Ukraine could serve as an example of good practise of cooperation on water issues in Eastern Europe. Since 2004 within the project "Transboundary cooperation and sustainable management in the Dniester River basin" the OSCE has contributed to cooperation between Moldova and Ukraine on transboundary monitoring, conservation of valuable aquatic habitats, reducing vulnerability to floods and climate change, public awareness and, of course, adoption of the new Dniester Basin Treaty. I believe that signing the Treaty is a qualitatively new step in cooperation between the Governments of Moldova and Ukraine which will bring management of the Dniester river basin to a higher level and modern international standards.