Joint Statement
by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Romania and the Republic of Moldova,
Co-hosts of the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the Moldova Partnership Platform

17 September 2024, Chișinău

1. The Fifth Ministerial Conference of the Moldova Partnership Platform (MPP) held today in Chișinău, under the auspices of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova, Dorin Recean, and with the participation of the President of the Republic of Moldova, Maia Sandu, was attended by Ministers and high-level representatives from 35 States (including the Republic of Moldova) and 23 international organizations, including international financial institutions.

2. The Moldova Support Platform (MSP), spearheaded by France, Germany, and Romania, emerged as a crucial initiative following Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Building upon the outcomes of the four ministerial conferences held in 2022 and 2023, as well as numerous working group meetings, the MSP has been restructured and is currently operating under the framework of the Moldova Partnership Platform (MPP).

3. The primary objective of this transformation is to transition from providing ad-hoc and emergency support to establishing a long-term partnership aimed at fostering the Republic of Moldova's sustainable and resilient development. The MPP continues to be instrumental in mobilizing international support for the Republic of Moldova and its citizens.

4. On 25 of June 2024, the EU and the Republic of Moldova have held the first intergovernmental conference, thus officially launching the accession negotiations. This historic milestone has taken place following the EU's decision to grant candidate status to the Republic of Moldova two years ago (in June 2022) and after the decision of the European Council from December 2023 to open accession talks. These advances were also achieved thanks to the support provided by the Republic of Moldova's partners, including through the Moldova Partnership Platform.

5. Today, participants to the 5th ministerial conference of the Moldova Partnership Platform reaffirmed the Republic of Moldova's rightful place in the European family and their commitment to supporting the Republic of Moldova's EU accession path. We commend the Republic of Moldova's dedication to reforms and commitment to shared values of peace, democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledge the important progress made by the country in implementing major reforms, particularly in fields relevant to the European integration. We agree that a resilient,

democratic and prosperous Republic of Moldova will bring a valuable contribution to the security and stability of the region and of Europe as a whole.

6. We commend the contributions of the four Working Groups, which made significant progress in fostering economic development and strategic infrastructure, improving energy efficiency and addressing environmental challenges, advancing public administration reform and public financial management, and strengthening justice, anticorruption, and security measures.

7. Discussions focused on current and emerging challenges as the Republic of Moldova continues to address the multiple consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Partners welcomed the renewed commitment to provide assistance to support the authorities and citizens of the Republic of Moldova in order to address pressing needs. This shows enduring commitment by the Republic of Moldova's partners to helping the country increase its resilience and highlights the role the Platform plays in generating concrete support for the democratic reform process and the development of the Republic of Moldova.

8. The Republic of Moldova has also shared its views regarding long-term development needs aimed at strengthening the economy, enhancing economic cooperation, upgrading infrastructure, bolstering environmental sustainability and energy security. In this context, the MPP will continue to play an important role in linking available assistance with key priorities thereby contributing to the Republic of Moldova's stability and sustainable development.

9. Underscoring the importance of regional security, this platform has played a pivotal role in assisting the Republic of Moldova to address its security and humanitarian challenges. All partners reaffirmed their unwavering support to the Republic of Moldova's sovereignty and territorial integrity and reiterated their commitment to closely co-operating to enhance regional stability, and working with the Republic of Moldova to overcome challenges related to border security, organized crime, and conflict prevention.

10. We also highlight the crucial role of civil society as a vital stakeholder in the Republic of Moldova's development and progress achieved in strengthening its democratic institutions. We encourage the Republic of Moldova to maintain the current pace of reforms that strengthen the rule of law, promote transparency, and combat corruption.

11. We stand resolute in our unwavering support to the democratic, prosperous, and European future of the Republic of Moldova and reaffirm our commitment to accompany the Republic of Moldova's reform and European integration agenda.

12. The next Conference of the Platform will be held in 2025.