AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ON THE READMISSION OF PERSONS RESIDING WITHOUT AUTHORISATION

The Government of the Government of Moldova and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter separately referred to as the "Party" and jointly referred to as the "Parties").

DETERMINED to strengthen their cooperation in order to combat irregular immigration more effectively,

DESIRING to establish, by means of this Agreement and on the basis of reciprocity, rapid and effective procedures for the identification and safe and orderly return of persons who do not, or no longer, fulfil the conditions for entry into, presence in, or residence on the territories of the Republic of Moldova or United Kingdom , and to facilitate the transit of such persons in a spirit of cooperation,

EMPHASISING that this Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights, obligations and responsibilities of the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom arising from international law and, in particular, from the European Convention of 4 November 1950 for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the Convention of 28 July 1951 on the Status of Refugees as amended by the Protocol of 31 January 1967,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement:

(a) "Citizen of the Republic of Moldova" shall mean any person who holds the citizenship of Republic of Moldova;

(b) "British Citizen" shall mean a person who holds British Citizenship;

(c) "National of the United Kingdom" shall mean any person who is a United Kingdom National with the right of abode in the United Kingdom, as determined by the law of the United Kingdom;

(d) "Right of Abode" applies only in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and has the meaning contained in relevant legislation;

(e) "Third-country national" means a person who does not have Citizenship of, or the Right of Abode in, the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(f) "Stateless person" shall mean any person who does not hold a nationality of any State;

(g) "Residence permit" shall mean a permit of any type issued by the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom entitling a person to reside on its territory. This shall not include temporary permissions to remain on its territory in connection with the processing of an asylum application or an application for a residence permit;

(h) "Visa" means an authorisation or decision by the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom to enable a person to enter and remain on the territory of its State, subject to the conditions according to which the Visa was issued being fulfilled. This shall not include airport transit visas;

(i) "Requesting State" shall mean the State (the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom) submitting a readmission application pursuant to Article 7 or a transit application pursuant to Article 14 of this Agreement;

(j) "Requested State" shall mean the State (the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom) to which a readmission application pursuant to Article 7 or a transit application pursuant to Article 14 of this Agreement is addressed;

(k) "Competent Authority" shall mean any national authority of the United Kingdom or Moldova entrusted with the implementation of this Agreement in accordance with Article 19 (1)(a) thereof;

(l) "Transit" shall mean the passage of a third-country national or a stateless person through the territory of the Requested State while travelling from the Requesting State to the country of destination;

(m) "Border region" shall mean an area which extends up to 5 kilometres from the territories of seaports including custom zones, and international airports of the Republic of Moldova and United Kingdom;

(n) "Working Day" means any day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in accordance with the domestic laws of either of the Parties.

SECTION I

READMISSION OBLIGATIONS BY THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

ARTICLE 2

Readmission of Citizens and Persons with Right of Abode

1. The Republic of Moldova shall readmit, upon application by the United Kingdom and without further formalities other than those provided for in this Agreement, all persons who do not, or who no longer, fulfil the conditions in force for entry into, presence in, or residenceon, the territory of the United Kingdom provided that it is proved, or may be validlyassumed on the basis of prima facie evidence furnished, that they are citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

2. The Republic of Moldova shall also readmit:

(a) minor unmarried children of the persons mentioned in paragraph 1, regardless of their place of birth or their nationality, unless they have an independent right of residence in the United Kingdom; and

(b) spouses, holding another nationality, of the persons mentioned in paragraph 1, provided they have the right to enter and stay or receive the right to enter and stay in the territory of the Republic of Moldova, unless they have an independent right of residence in the United Kingdom.

3. The Republic of Moldova shall also readmit persons who have been deprived of, or who have forfeited or renounced the nationality of the Republic of Moldova since entering the territory of the United Kingdom, unless such persons had at least been promised naturalisation by the competent authorities of the United Kingdom.

4. After Moldova has given a positive reply to the readmission application, the competent diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova shall, irrespective of the will of the person to be readmitted, immediately and no later

than within 7 working days, issue the travel document required for the return of the person to be readmitted with a period of validity of 90 days. If the Republic of Moldova has not, within 7 working days, issued the travel document, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the United Kingdom standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

5. If, for legal or factual reasons, the person concerned cannot be transferred withinthe period of validity of the travel document that was initially issued, the competent diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova shall, within 7 working days, extend the validity of the travel document or, where necessary, issue a new travel document with a period of validity of the same duration. If Republic of Moldova has not, within 7 working days, issued the new travel document or extended its validity, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the United Kingdom standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

6. In case the person to be readmitted possesses the nationality of a third State in addition to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, United Kingdom shall take into consideration the will of the person to be readmitted to the State of his/her choice, when the means exist to do so and without jeopardy of the removal from the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 3

Readmission of Third-country Nationals and Stateless Persons

1. The Republic of Moldova shall readmit, upon application by the United Kingdom and without further formalities other than those provided for in this Agreement, all third-country nationals or stateless persons who do not, or who no longer, fulfil the conditions in force for entry into, presence in, or residence on, the territory of the United Kingdom provided that it is proved, or may be validly assumed on the basis of prima facie evidence furnished, that such persons:

(a) hold, at the time of the submission of the readmission application, a valid visaor residence permit issued by the Republic of Moldova; or

(b) Required leave to enter the United Kingdom but has entered the United Kingdom without leave to enter or with leave to enter that was obtained by means which included deception, after having stayed on, or transited through,the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

2. The readmission obligation in paragraph 1 shall not apply if:

(a) the third-country national or stateless person has only been in airside transit via an international airport of the Republic of Moldova; or

(b) the United Kingdom has issued to the third-country national or

stateless person a visa or residence permit before or after entering its territory unless:

(i) that person is in possession of a visa or residence permit, issued by the Republic of Moldova, which has a longer period of validity;

(ii) the visa or residence permit issued by the United Kingdom has been obtained by using forged or falsified documents, or by making false statements; or

(iii) that person fails to observe any condition attached to the visa.

(c) The Republic of Moldova has expelled the third-country national or stateless person to his/her state of origin or to a Third State.

3. After the Republic of Moldova has given a positive reply to the readmission application, it shall immediately and no later than within 7 working days, issue a travel document for expulsion purposes to the person whose readmission has been accepted. If the Republic of Moldova has not, within 7 working days, issued the travel document, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the United Kingdom standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

SECTION II
READMISSION OBLIGATIONS BY THE UNITED KINGDOM

ARTICLE 4

Readmission of Citizens and Persons with Right of Abode

1. The United Kingdom shall readmit, upon application by the Republic of Moldova and without further formalities other than those provided for in this Agreement, all persons who do not, or who no longer, fulfil the conditions in force for entry into, presencein, or residence on, the territory of the Republic of Moldova provided that it is proved, or may be validly assumed on the basis of prima facie evidence furnished, that they are British Citizens or nationals of the United Kingdom.

2. The United Kingdom shall also readmit:

a) minor unmarried children of the persons mentioned in paragraph 1, regardlessof their place of birth or their nationality, unless they have an independent right of residence in the Republic of Moldova; and

b) spouses, holding another nationality, of the persons mentioned in paragraph 1, provided they have the right to enter and stay or receive the right to enter and stay in the territory of the United Kingdom, unless they have an independent right of residence in the Republic of Moldova.

3. The United Kingdom shall also readmit persons who have been deprived of, or who have renounced, the nationality of the United Kingdom since entering the territory of the Republic of Moldova, unless such persons had at least been promised naturalisation by the competent authorities of the Republic of Moldova.

4. After the United Kingdom has given a positive reply to the readmission application, the competent diplomatic mission or consular office of the United Kingdom shall, irrespective of the will of the person to be readmitted, immediately and not later than within 7 working days, issue the travel document required for the return of the person to be readmitted with a period of validity of 90 days. If the United Kingdom has not, within 7 working days, issued the traveldocument, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the Moldovan standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

5. If, for legal or factual reasons, the person concerned cannot be transferred withinthe period of validity of the travel document that was initially issued, the competent diplomatic mission or consular office of the United Kingdom shall, within 7 working days, extend the validity of the travel document or, where necessary, issue a new travel document with a period of validity of the same duration. If the United Kingdom has not within 7 working days issued the new travel document or extended its validity, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the Moldovan standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

ARTICLE 5

Readmission of Third-country Nationals and Stateless Persons

1. The United Kingdom shall readmit, upon application by the Republic of Moldova and without further formalities other than those provided for in this Agreement, all third-country nationals or stateless persons who do not, or who no longer, fulfil the conditions in force for entry into, presence in, or residence on, the territory of the Republic of Moldova provided that it is proved, or may be validly assumed on the basis of prima facie evidence furnished, that such persons:

(a) hold, at the time of the submission of the readmission application, a valid visaor residence permit issued by the United Kingdom; or

(b) Required leave to enter the Republic of Moldova but has entered the Republic of Moldova without leave to enter or with leave to enter that was obtained by means which included deception, after having stayed on, or transited through, the territory of the United Kingdom.

2. The readmission obligation in paragraph 1 shall not apply if:

(a) the third-country national or stateless person has only been in airside transit via an International Airport of the United Kingdom; or

(b) the Republic of Moldova has issued to the third-country national or stateless person a visa or residence permit before or after entering its territory unless:

(i) that person is in possession of a visa or residence permit, issued by theUnited Kingdom, which has a longer period of validity;

(ii) the visa or residence permit issued by the Republic of Moldova has been obtained by using forged or falsified documents, or by making false statements; or

(iii) that person fails to observe any condition attached to the visa;

(c) the United Kingdom has expelled the third country national or stateless personto his/her state of origin or to a Third State.

3. After the United Kingdom has given a positive reply to the readmission application, it shall immediately and no later than within 7 working days, issue a travel document for expulsion purposes to the person whose readmission has been accepted. If the United Kingdom has not, within 7 working days, issued the travel document, it shall be deemed to accept the use of the Republic of Moldova standard travel document for expulsion purposes.

SECTION III
READMISSION PROCEDURE

ARTICLE 6

Principles

1. Subject to paragraph 2, any transfer of a person to be readmitted on the basis of one of the obligations contained in Articles 2 to 5 shall require the submission of a readmission application to the competent authority of the Requested State.

2. If the person to be readmitted is in possession of a valid travel document or identity card the transfer of such person can take place without the Requesting State having to submit a readmission application or written communication, as referred toin Article 11(1), to the competent authority of the Requested State.

3. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, if a person has been apprehended in the border region (including airports) of the Requesting State after irregularly crossing the border coming directly from the territory of the Requested State, the Requesting Statemay submit a readmission application within 2 days following that person's apprehension (accelerated procedure).

ARTICLE 7

Readmission Application

1. To the extent possible, the readmission application is to contain the following information:

(a) the particulars of the person to be readmitted (e.g. given names,surnames, date of birth, and – where possible – place of birth, and thelast place of residence) and, where applicable, the particulars of minorunmarried children and/or spouses;

(b) in case of own nationals, an indication of the means with which proofor prima facie evidence of nationality will be provided;

(c) in case of third-country nationals and stateless persons, an indication of the means with which proof or prima facie evidence of the conditions for the readmission of third-country nationals and stateless persons and unlawful entry and residence will be provided;

(d) a photograph of the person to be readmitted;

(e) fingerprints.

2. To the extent possible, the readmission application shall also contain the following information:

(a) a statement indicating that the person to be transferred may need helpor care, provided the person concerned has explicitly consented to thestatement;

(b) any other protection, security measure or information concerning the health of the person, which may be necessary in the individual transfercase.

3. A common form to be used for readmission applications is attached as Annex 5 to this Agreement.

4. A readmission application may be submitted by written communication, such as and including email to an address to be specified.

ARTICLE 8

Means of Evidence Regarding Nationality

1. Proof of nationality pursuant to Article 2(1) and Article 4(1) can be furnished in particular through the documents listed in Annex 1 to this Agreement, including documents the validity of which has expired by up to 6 months. If such documents are presented, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom shall mutually recognise the nationality without further investigation being required. Proof of nationality cannot be furnished through false documents.

2. Prima facie evidence of nationality pursuant to Article 2 (1) and Article 4 (1) can be furnished in particular through the documents listed in Annex 2 to this Agreement, even if their period of validity has expired. If such documents are presented, the Republic of Moldova and United Kingdom shall deem the nationality to be established, unless they can prove otherwise. Prima facie evidence of nationality cannot be furnished through false documents.

3. If none of the documents listed in Annexes 1 or 2 can be presented, or if they are insufficient, the competent diplomatic and consular representations of the Requested State concerned shall, upon a request from the Requesting State which is included in the readmission application, make arrangements to interview the person to be readmitted without undue delay, at the latest within 4 working days from the date of receipt of the readmission application, in order to establish his or her nationality.

(a) If the submitted documents and facts are insufficient or contested, the competent Consular Officers of the Requested Party may demand the Requesting Party to interview the person concerned within the shortest possible time limit and may attendthe interview concerned. The interview should be used to establish the background ofthe individual and a transcript of the interview and a report of any background checksshould be shared with the Requesting State.

(b) The time and place of the interview shall be mutually agreed. The demand for such interview shall be delivered by the Requested Party within the time limit provided for under paragraph (1) of this Article. The reply to the readmission requestshall be given in writing within ten Working Days from the date of interview.

ARTICLE 9

Means of Evidence Regarding Third-country Nationals and Stateless Persons

1. Proof of the conditions for the readmission of third-country nationals and stateless persons laid down in Article 3 (1) and Article 5 (1) shall be particularly furnished through the means of evidence listed in Annex 3 to this Agreement; it cannot be furnished through false documents. Any such proof shall be mutually recognised by the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom without any further investigation being required.

2. Prima facie evidence of the conditions for the readmission of third-country nationals and stateless persons laid down in Article 3 (1) and Article 5 (1) shall be furnished in particular through the means of evidence listed in Annex 4 to this Agreement; it cannot be furnished through false documents. Where such prima facieevidence is presented, the Republic of Moldova and United Kingdom shall deem the conditions to be established, unless they can prove otherwise.

3. The unlawfulness of entry, presence or residence shall be established by means of the travel documents of the person concerned in which the necessary visa or other residence permit for the territory of the Requesting State are missing. A statement by the Requesting State that the person concerned has been found not having the necessary travel documents, visa or residence permit shall likewise provide prima facie evidence of the unlawful entry, presence or residence.

ARTICLE 10

Time Limits

1. The application for readmission must be submitted to the competent authority ofthe Requested State within a maximum of 6 months after the Requesting State's competent authority has gained knowledge that a third-country national or a stateless person does not fulfil, or no longer fulfils the conditions in force for entry, presence or residence. Where there are legal or factual obstacles to the application being submitted on time, the time limit shall, upon request by the Requesting State, be extended but only until the obstacles have ceased to exist.

2. A readmission application must be replied to in writing:

(a) within 2 working days if the application has been made under the accelerated procedure (Article 6(3)); or

(b) within 12 calendar days in all other cases.

This time limit begins to run from the date of receipt of the readmission request. If there is no reply within this time limit, the transfer shall be deemed to have been agreed to.

3. Reasons for the refusal of a readmission request shall be given in writing.

4. After agreement has been given or, where appropriate, after expiry of the time limits laid down in paragraph 2, the person concerned shall be transferred within 3 months. On request of the Requesting State, this time limit may be extended by the time taken to deal with legal or practical obstacles.

ARTICLE 11

Transfer Modalities and Modes of Transportation

1. Without prejudice to Article 6 (2), before returning a person, the competent authorities of the Requesting State shall notify in writing at least 3 working days in advance the competent authorities of the Requested State regarding the transfer date,the point of entry, possible escorts and other information relevant to the transfer.

2. Transportation may take place by air or land. Return by air shall not be restricted to the use of the national carriers of the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom and may take place by using scheduled or, in case of nationals of the Requested State, charter flights. In the event of escorted returns, such escorts shall not be restricted to authorised persons of the Requesting State, provided that they are persons authorised by the Republic of Moldova or the

United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 12

Readmission in Error

The Requesting State shall take back any person readmitted by the Requested State ifit is established within a period of 6 months in the case of the Requested State citizens,and in case of third-country nationals or stateless persons 12 months, after the transferof the person concerned, that the requirements laid down in Articles 2 to 5 of this Agreement are not met. In such cases the procedural provisions of this Agreement shall apply *mutatis mutandis* and all available information relating to the actual identity and nationality of the person to be taken back shall be provided.

SECTION IV
TRANSIT OPERATIONS

ARTICLE 13

Principles

1. The Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom should restrict the transit of third-country nationals or stateless persons to cases where such persons cannot be returned to the State of destination directly.

2. The Republic of Moldova shall allow the transit of third-country nationals or stateless persons if the United Kingdom so requests, and the United Kingdom shall allow the transit of third-country nationals or stateless persons if the Republic of Moldova so requests, if the onward journey in possible other States of transit and the readmission by the State of destination is assured.

3. Transit can be refused by the Republic of Moldova or United Kingdom:

(a) if the third-country national or the stateless person runs the real risk of beingsubjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or the death penalty or of persecution because of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political conviction in the State ofdestination or another State of transit;

(b) if the third-country national or the stateless person shall be subject to criminalsanctions in the Requested State or in another State of transit; or

(c) on grounds of public health, national or state security, public order or othernational interests of the Requested State.

4. The Republic of Moldova or United Kingdom may revoke any authorisation issued if circumstances referred to in paragraph 3 subsequently arise or come to light which stand in the way of the transit operation, or if the onward journey in possible States of transit or the readmission by the State of destination is no longer assured. In this case, the Requesting State shall take back the third-country national or the stateless person, as necessary and without delay.

ARTICLE 14

Transit Procedure

1. An application for transit operations must be submitted to the competent authority of the Requested State in writing and is to contain the following information:

(a) type of transit (by air or land), possible other States of transit and intended final destination;

(b) the particulars of the person concerned (e.g. given name, surname, maiden name, other names used/by which known or aliases, date of birth, sex and – where possible – place of birth, nationality, language,type and number of travel document);

(c) envisaged point of entry, time of transfer and possible use of escorts;

(d) a declaration that in the view of the Requesting State the conditions pursuant to Article 13(2) are met, and that no reasons for a refusal pursuant to Article 13(3) are known of.

A common form to be used for transit applications is attached as Annex 6 to this Agreement.

2. The Requested State shall, within 5 calendar days of receipt of the application andin writing, inform the Requesting State of the admission, confirming the point ofentry and the envisaged time of admission, or inform it of the admission refusal and of the reasons for such refusal.

3. If the transit operation takes place by air, the person to be readmitted and possibleescorts shall be exempted from having to obtain an airport transit visa.

4. The competent authorities of the Requested State shall, subject to mutual consultations, assist in the transit operations, in particular through the surveillance of the persons in question and the provision of suitable amenities for that purpose.

5. Transit of the persons shall be carried out within 30 days of receipt of consent onthe request.

SECTION V
COSTS

ARTICLE 15

Transport and Transit Costs

Without prejudice to the right of the competent authorities to recover the costs associated with readmission from the person to be readmitted or third parties, all transport costs incurred in connection with readmission and transit operations pursuant to this Agreement as far as the border of the State of final destination shall be borne by the Requesting State.

SECTION VI
DATA PROTECTION AND NON-AFFECTION CLAUSE

ARTICLE 16

Data Protection

1. The Parties shall not use, disclose or store any information shared pursuant to this Agreement for any purpose except processing the return and readmission of persons as described in this Agreement.

2. The Parties may, for the purpose of processing the return and readmission of persons, disclose information received under this Agreement to other domestic authorities responsible for pursuing the same purpose as they carry out their official duties as required by and/or permissible under their domestic law, subject to the safeguards set out in Article 16.

3. The Parties shall ensure that information shared under this Agreement is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purpose of this Agreement and may include:

a) biographic personal information (names, date of birth, place of birth, nationality, aliases, gender and family composition);

b) document information (type of document (passport, identity card or driving licence), document number, period of validity, date of issue, issuing authority, place of issue);

c) travel itinerary;

d) other information needed to identify the person to be transferred or toexamine the readmission requirements pursuant to this Agreement.

4. The Parties will share information in writing and ensure that any restrictions, conditions or special handling instructions are adequately provided with the information shared pursuant to this Agreement, where appropriate. To prevent the unauthorised access, disclosure, copying, use, modification or disposal of informationreceived under this Agreement, the Parties will restrict access to the information to those who need it in the course of carrying out their official duties for the purpose ofprocessing the return and readmission of persons and use recognised security mechanisms such as passwords, encryption, or other reasonable safeguards, where appropriate. The Parties will ensure that all persons authorised to have access to information received under this Agreement are appropriately instructed on the handling and usage restrictions which apply to this information and intend to safeguard the information in a manner consistent with this Agreement.

5. Each Party will notify the other Party of any accidental or unauthorised access, use, disclosure, modification or disposal of information received under this Agreement as quickly as possible after becoming aware of the security or privacy breach and, where possible, provide all necessary details of the accidental or unauthorised access, use, disclosure, modification or disposal of that information as soon as practicable.

6. The Parties will provide to each other the most current and accurate information available. In the event that either Party becomes aware that information being relied upon is inaccurate, it will notify the other Party immediately and provide correcting information, where available. When a Party receives correcting information, that Party will correct, annotate or dispose of inaccurate information, and any information derived from it, in accordance with its domestic laws.

7. Each Party confirms that it has in place a system by which individuals may

request information about themselves that was shared under this Agreement, and, where that information is disclosable to the individual, may request a correction of that information. Each Party confirms that it has a system in place through which individuals may seek to redress or challenge a decision not to disclose their personalinformation to them.

8. Each Party will assess the continued relevance of the information received under this Agreement and dispose of the information securely when it is no longer relevant in accordance with its domestic laws.

9. Either Party may request assurance from the other that sufficient policy, legal or technical safeguards are being maintained with regard to the information shared under this Agreement and may request a review of the safeguards. This may includea request for a summary of how information received was used. Either Party, if it is not satisfied with this assurance, may decline to provide Information pursuantagreement pending resolution of an identified deficiency.

10. The Parties shall review the data sharing arrangements under this Agreement.The first review shall take place not earlier than one year and not later than five yearsfrom the date of the entry into force of this Agreement, unless a change in the domestic law of one of the Parties requires an immediate review, and as the Parties mutually decide thereafter.

ARTICLE 17

Non-affection clause

1. This Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights, obligations and responsibilities of the Republic of Moldova and United Kingdom arising from international law and, in particular, from:

(a) the Convention of 28 July 1951 on the Status of Refugees as amendedby the Protocol of 31 January 1967 on the Status of Refugees;

(b) the international conventions determining the State responsible forexamining applications for asylum lodged;

(c) the European Convention of 4 November 1950 for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols;

(d) the UN Convention of 10 December 1984 against Torture and otherCruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

(e) international conventions on extradition and transit;

(f) multilateral international conventions and agreements on the readmission of foreign nationals, such as the Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944.

2. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent the return of a person under other formal or informal arrangements.

SECTION VII
IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION

ARTICLE 18

Joint Expert Group

1. The Parties shall provide each other with mutual assistance in the application and interpretation of this Agreement. To this end, they shall set up a joint expert group(hereinafter referred to as "the Expert Group") which will, in particular, have the task:

(a) to monitor the application of this Agreement;

(b) to recommend amendments to this Agreement and its Annexes.

2. The Expert Group shall meet where necessary at the request of one of the Parties.

ARTICLE 19

Implementing Protocol

1. On request of the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom shall draw up an implementing Protocol which shall, inter alia, cover rules on:

(a) designation of the competent authorities, border crossing points andexchange of contact points;

(b) conditions for escorted returns, including the transit of third-countrynationals and stateless persons under escort;

(c) means and documents additional to those listed in the Annexes 1 to 4to this agreement;

(d) the modalities for readmission under the accelerated procedure; and

(e) the procedure for interviews.

2. The implementing Protocol referred to in paragraph 1 shall enter into force only after the Expert Group, referred to in Article 18, has been notified.

SECTION VIII
FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 20

Territorial Application

This Agreement shall apply to:

1. The territory of the Republic of Moldova.

2. In relation to the United Kingdom:
   The territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the territory of Gibraltar, for whose international relations the UK is responsible.

ARTICLE 21

Amendments to the Agreement

This Agreement may be amended and supplemented by mutual consent of the Parties. Above-mentioned amendments and supplements shall form an integral part of this Agreement and enter into force in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 22

Entry into Force, Duration and Termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date of receipt of the later of the Parties' written notifications, sent through diplomatic channels, confirming completion of their internal procedures.

2. This Agreement is concluded for an unlimited period.

3. Each Party may terminate this Agreement by notifying the other Party, through diplomatic channels. This Agreement shall cease to apply 6 months after the date of such notification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Chisinau on the 20th November 2024, in the Romanian and English languages, both of these texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Republic of Moldova:

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

ANNEXES

Annexes 1 to 6 shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

ANNEX 1

COMMON LIST OF DOCUMENTS THE PRESENTATION OF WHICH ISCONSIDERED AS PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP
(ARTICLES 2(1), 4(1) AND 8(1))

- passports of any kind (national passports, diplomatic passports, service passports, collective passports and surrogate passports including children's passports),
- identity cards issued by a State (including temporary and provisional ones),
- citizenship certificates and other official documents that mention or clearly indicate citizenship.

ANNEX 2

COMMON LIST OF DOCUMENTS THE PRESENTATION OF WHICH ISCONSIDERED AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF NATIONALITY (ARTICLES 2 (1), 4 (1) AND 8 (2))

Where the Requested state is either the Republic of Moldova or the United Kingdom:

- documents listed in Annex 1 whose validity has expired by more than 6 months,
- photocopies of any of the documents listed in Annex 1 to this Agreement,
- driving licenses or photocopies thereof,
- birth certificates or photocopies thereof,
- company identity cards or photocopies thereof,
- statements by witnesses,
- statements made by the person concerned and language spoken by him or her, including by means of an official test result,
- any other document which may help to establish the nationality of the person concerned.
- service books and military identity cards,
- seaman's registration books and skippers' service cards,
- *laissez-passer* issued by the Requested State.

Where the Requested State is Moldova:

- confirmation of identity as a result of a search carried out in the Visa Information System,
- positive identification established from visa application records of the United Kingdom.

ANNEX 3

COMMON LIST OF DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED AS PROOF OF THE CONDITIONS FOR THE READMISSION OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS AND STATELESS PERSONS (ARTICLES 3(1),5(1) AND 9(1))

– Visa and/or residence permit issued by the Requested State, entry/departure stamps or similar endorsement in the travel document of the person concerned or other evidence of entry/departure (e.g. photographic)

ANNEX 4

COMMON LIST OF DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THE CONDITIONS FOR THE READMISSION OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS AND STATELESSPERSONS (ARTICLES 3(1), 5(1) AND 9(2))

- description issued by the relevant authorities of the Requesting State, of place and circumstances under which the person concerned has been intercepted after entering the territory of that State,
- information related to the identity and/or stay of a person which has been provided by an international organisation (e.g. UNHCR),
- reports/confirmation of information by family members, travelling companions, etc.,
- statement by the person concerned,
- information showing that the person concerned has used the services of a courier or travel agency,
- official statements made, in particular, by border authority staff and other witnesses who can testify the fact of the border crossing for the person concerned,
- official statement by the person concerned in judicial or administrative proceedings,
- documents, certificates and bills of any kind (e.g. hotel bills, appointment cards for doctors/dentists, entry cards for public/private institutions, car rental agreements, credit card receipts etc.) which clearly show that the person concerned stayed on the territory of the Requested State,
- named tickets and/or passenger lists of air, train, coach or boat passages which show the presence and the itinerary of the person concerned on the territory of the Requested State.




Reference: .....

To: .....
.....
.....
.....
(Designation of requested authority)

☐ ACCELERATED PROCEDURE
☐ (Article 6(3))INTERVIEW REQUEST
(Article 8(3))

ANNEX 5

READMISSION APPLICATION
pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Irland on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation

A. PERSONAL DETAILS

Photograph

1. Full name (underline surname):
.....

2. Maiden name:
.....

3. Date and place of birth:
.....

4. Sex and physical description (height, colour of eyes, distinguishing marks etc.):
.....

5. Also known as (earlier names, other names used/by which known or aliases):
.....

6. Nationality and language:
.....

7. Civil status: ❑ married ❑ single ❑ divorced ❑ widowed If married: name of spouse
.....

8. Names and age of children (if any)
.....

.....

.....

.....

9. Last address in the Requested State:
.....

B. PERSONAL DETAILS OF SPOUSE (IF APPROPRIATE)

i. Full name (underline surname):

.....

ii. Maiden name:

.....

iii. Date and place of birth:

.....

iv. Sex and physical description (height, colour of eyes, distinguishing marks etc.):

.....

.....

v. Also known as (earlier names, other names used/by which known or aliases):

.....

vi. Nationality and language:

.....

C. PERSONAL DETAILS OF CHILDREN (IF APPROPRIATE)

i. Full name (underline surname):

.....

ii. Date and place of birth:

.....

iii. Sex and physical description (height, colour of eyes, distinguishing marks etc.):

.....

iv. Nationality and language:

.....

D. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE TRANSFEREE

i. State of health (e.g. possible reference to special medical care; Latin name of contagious disease):

.....

ii. Indication of particularly dangerous person (e.g. suspected of serious offence; aggressive behaviour):

.....

E. MEANS OF EVIDENCE ATTACHED

1.

....

(Passport No.) (date and place of issue)

....

(issuing authority) (expiry date)

2.

....

(Identity card No.) (date and place of issue)

....

(issuing authority) (expiry date)

3.

....

(Driving licence No.) (date and place of issue)

....

(issuing authority) (expiry date)

4.

....

(Other official document No.) (date and place of issue)

....

(issuing authority) (expiry date)

F. OBSERVATIONS

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

(Signature) (Seal/stamp)





.....

.....

(Designation of requesting authority)
(Place and date)

Reference

.....

To

.....

.....

.....

(Designation of requested authority)

ANNEX 6

TRANSIT APPLICATION

pursuant to Article 14 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the readmission of persons residing without authorisation

A. PERSONAL DETAILS

Photograph

1. Full name (underline surname):
.....

2. Maiden name:
.....

3. Date and place of birth:
.....

4. Sex and physical description (height, colour of eyes, distinguishing marks, etc.):
.....

5. Also known as (earlier names, other names used/by which known or aliases):
.....

6. Nationality and language:
.....

7. Type and number of travel document:
.....

B. TRANSIT OPERATION

1. Type of transit:

❑ by air ❑ by land

2. State of final destination:
.....

3. Possible other States of transit:
.....

4. Proposed border crossing point, date, time of transfer and possible escorts:
.....
.....
.....

5. Admission guaranteed in any other transit State and in the State of final destination (Article13, paragraph 2):

❑ yes ❑ no

6. Knowledge of any reason for a refusal of transit (Article 13 paragraph 3):

❑ yes ❑ no

C. OBSERVATIONS

.....

.....

.....

.....

(Signature) (Seal/stamp)