

ROMANIA

**STATEMENT BY MR EUGEN TEODOROVICI, GOVERNOR FOR ROMANIA,
MINISTER OF FINANCE**

Dear Colleagues,
Esteemed Board of Directors and Management of the EBRD,

We are gathering after a complex year since our last Annual Meeting in Jordan. EBRD faced challenges, both internal and external and I hereby commend the Board of Directors and the Management for its work to overcome such a difficult period. Unfortunately, these challenges will continue and will mark our joint efforts to stabilise and develop this venture, that we created 28 years ago.

Romania is fully committed to continue and develop its partnership with EBRD and to strongly advocate for a dynamic and innovative presence of the Bank in all our Countries of Operation. This is the mandate of this Management and it should be enforced together with our Board of Directors.

A new geographical expansion suggested by the Management became an issue since Amman and generated severe disruptions among the Board of Directors and the Management, as well as among the shareholders. This should stop now as a priority and should be investigated together with other options, as specified in this Draft Resolution, that we support. First, let's address the geographical expansion for which we already mandated the Management and our Board of Directors. Let's start first operations in these Mediterranean areas, so important for all of us. In parallel, we should accelerate and increase our intervention in our current Countries of Operation, to achieve substantial or complete results, to inspire other current countries of operations and future partners of the Bank. EBRD is not and should not become a "sunset bank", as long as we will calibrate correctly our intervention, in line with the vision of our Founding Fathers.

Nevertheless, our strong belief is that any future activity of the EBRD should be based on clear and transparent values and principles and therefore we suggest a revision of the current principles and procedures of the Bank, including the Code of Conduct for all stakeholders, Directors, President and Management, as well as staff. Only based on sound governance we will achieve progress, for the satisfaction of all shareholders and clients of the Bank. How can we promote good governance towards our clients, if we have severe problems among ourselves in the organisation? Therefore, we advocate for a complete revision of the governance of the EBRD, with an external independent input, reporting finally to the Board of Governors for ultimate decisions, in parallel with the work to be conducted under the Draft Resolution. This will enable us to take all appropriate decision next year in London, when we will appoint a new President and we will have a fresh start after the elections.

Finally, I would like to reiterate our official position concerning the future location of the Bank. As stipulated in the Agreement Establishing the Bank this is London and our opinion is

that this should remain London for many reasons that we emphasise in previous fora. Particularly today when Britain tries to redefine its future relations with the rest of the World, the bank can be a valuable instrument for all of us in London, to bridge the gaps and improve our relations and understanding, in line with our common values. Also, our staff and clients deserve predictability from Shareholders and Management.

I wish to the Board of Directors and to the Management a lot of wisdom and strength to overcome the challenges ahead and work hard until next year Annual Meeting!