MUTUAL COMMITMENT LETTER

between the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Romania, the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development of the Republic of Moldova regarding the implementation of Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moțca – Ungheni - Beresti cross-border sections financed through SAFE Instrument

Having regard to

1) Council Regulation (EU) no. 2025/1106 of 27 May 2025 establishing the Security Action for Europe (SAFE) through the Reinforcement of the European Defence Industry Instrument;

2) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1328 of 10 August 2021 specifying the infrastructure requirements applicable to certain categories of dual-use infrastructure actions pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council;

3) Taking into account the military mobility corridors approach that aims at creating a network of main routes meant to simplify and accelerate the movement of military forces, equipment and material, both during peacetime and crisis or in conflict situations. These corridors will enable the rapid and efficient deployment of forces, contributing to a rapid response capacity and strengthening collective security;

4) Recognizing the existing relations of friendship and integrated cooperation between Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova;

5) Considering the objectives of the European Union's Neighbourhood Policy, the Eastern Partnership, and the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes initiative, aimed at enhancing connectivity and regional resilience;

6) Recognizing that the Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moțca – Ungheni - Beresti corridor constitutes a critical cross-border transport and logistics axis between the European Union and its Eastern Partners, essential both for civilian and military mobility, in line with the EU Action Plan on Military Mobility (Council Conclusions 8909/21) and the objectives of the EU Strategic Compass for Security and Defence ("Readiness 2030");

7) Acknowledging that the enhancement of dual-use transport infrastructure strengthens the Union's capacity for rapid deployment, resilience of supply chains, and secure connectivity between Member States and neighbouring partners, contributing directly to the objectives of the SAFE Regulation (EU) 2025/1106;

8) Emphasizing that the coordinated implementation of the Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moţca – Ungheni - Beresti cross-border sections contribute to European preparedness and deterrence capabilities under the "Readiness 2030" framework and supports the operational dimension of the European Defence Industrial Strategy, by ensuring secure, interoperable and resilient cross-border transport corridors;

The following Mutual commitment letter is concluded between:

The Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Romania

The Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine

and

the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development of the Republic of Moldova,

hereinafter - the Parties

Object

1) This Mutual commitment letter lays down a description of the actions and the implementation timetable for Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moţca – Ungheni - Beresti motorway cross-border sections, as well as related governance provisions.

2) The object of this Mutual commitment letter is the organisation of a partnership in order to implement the Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moţca – Ungheni – Beresti motorway cross-border sections, as below:

   - ✓ Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Romania, authorizing CNIR SA as the leader of the partnership (for section Moţca-Ungheni- Beresti) and CNAIR SA as the leader of the partnership (for section Paşcani-Siret- Taraseni (Тарашани)), which will ensure the implementation of the actions on Romanian, Ukrainian and Moldavian territories;

   - ✓ The Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development of the Republic of Moldova hereby authorize their respective national road infrastructure administrations, namely) Agency for Restoration and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine (UA) and the State Road Administration of Republic of Moldova (MD) to become partners

within the Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moțca – Ungheni - Beresti motorway cross-border sections.

- ✓ These entities shall undertake all necessary actions and procedures to enable the continuation and extension of the contractual benefits, project activities and related technical assistance on their respective territories, in full coordination with the Romanian implementing entities and in accordance with the provisions of the present Mutual commitment letter;

3) Ukrainian and Moldavian entities shall be invited to participate in relevant procurement procedures, particularly for construction and infrastructure works that extend across the borders of Romania, on their territories, ensuring that the benefits of these contracts and investments are shared with Ukrainian and Moldavian stakeholders. Agency for Restoration and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine (UA), respectively the State Road Administration of Republic of Moldova shall be invited to participate as partners within the works contracts, with the Romanian National Road Companies (CNIR SA and CNAIR SA) acting as leaders of the procurement processes.

Financing of the project

1) The effective financing of all works and activities related to the overall Taraseni (Тарашани) - Siret - Moțca – Ungheni - Beresti cross-border sections, including those carried out on the territories of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, shall be ensured through the SAFE funds allocated to Romania, in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) 2025/1106 establishing the Security Action for Europe (SAFE), through the Reinforcement of the European Defence Industry Instrument.

Governance

1) The progress of the action shall be discussed at least quarterly per year between the representatives of Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova at the Interministerial Task Force, specially created for monitoring the implementation of the actions, with at least 2 representatives of the three Ministries, as well as 2 representatives from each of the entities, in close cooperation with the representatives of the European Commission – DG DEFIS.

2) Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova shall report at least once a year to the Commission on the progress in implementation of the action and shall notify any delay encountered, specifying the causes for the delay and indicating the corrective measures taken.

3) All the involved partners will assume full responsibility for the implementation of their own activities, while the coordination and management of cross-border project will be ensured by CNIR SA, respectively CNAIR SA.

4) All the involved partners will ensure that the project starts timely and that is entirely implemented in due time and according to the obligations included in Romania's European Defence Industry Investment Plan.

5) While CNIR SA and CNAIR SA act as project leaders responsible for the overall coordination, the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development of the Republic of Moldova, through their designated national road infrastructure administrations, shall ensure the completion of all national administrative, legal, and procedural steps required to enable the execution of works on their respective territories.

6) Such steps shall include, but shall not be limited to, the issuance of permits and authorizations, land acquisition or expropriation procedures, environmental approvals, public consultations, and all other measures necessary for granting full and unconditional access to the contractors and implementing entities on the sites located within their national jurisdictions.

7) The Parties acknowledge that the timely fulfilment of these national procedures is a prerequisite for the effective implementation of the cross-border actions financed under the SAFE Instrument, and undertake to cooperate closely to remove any administrative or legal obstacles that could hinder the execution of works on the territories of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.

8) The Parties shall establish, as necessary, bilateral technical coordination units to facilitate on-site supervision and cross-border continuity of works.

9) The three partners States shall notify the Commission regarding any events that may result in delays in the implementation of the project and/or that may affect their budget.

10) The three partners States shall work towards the harmonization of technical standards with the aim to develop an infrastructure compliant with the requirements of the dual-use.

11) A mechanism for sharing of best practices and promoting joint capacity building will be put in place.

Technical parameters

1) The project will be implemented in accordance with the requirements of the *Council Regulation (EU) 2025/1106 of 27 May 2025 establishing the Security Action for Europe (SAFE) through the Reinforcement of the European Defence Industry Instrument* regarding the objective, the budget and the rules for providing such funding and with the requirements of the *Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1328 of 10 August 2021 specifying the infrastructure requirements applicable to certain categories of dual-use infrastructure actions pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council* regarding the standards for dual-use infrastructure.

2) On the territories of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, the scope and type of works to be financed under the SAFE Instrument shall be determined based on the degree of project maturity, the availability of technical documentation, and the completion of the national administrative and approval procedures.

3) All procedures specific to this action will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the legislation of Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova, as well as with the relevant *acquis communautaire*, in close cooperation between the three partner states.

4) In addition to the extension of benefits related to infrastructure works carried out on the territories of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, the activities covered by this Mutual commitment letter shall also include capacity-building measures.

5) Capacity-building activities shall be embedded within the SAFE-financed contracts and will include technical assistance, on-the-job training, and knowledge-sharing components aimed at strengthening UA and MD institutional and technical capacity in the management and execution of defence mobility and dual-use infrastructure projects.

Final provisions

1) The Mutual commitment becomes effective on the date of its signature by the last of the Parties. The last party signing has the obligation to notify the date.

2) The Mutual commitment shall remain valid for five (5) years from the date of the final payment.

3) The implementation period of the Mutual commitment shall be aligned with the eligibility period of the SAFE Instrument, which extends until 31 December 2030, ensuring that all activities financed under SAFE comply with its financial and temporal eligibility requirements.

4) This Mutual commitment letter is not an international treaty and does not create rights or obligations under international law.

5) This Mutual commitment letter is not intended to create any legally binding obligations for either Party.

For the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Romania	For the Ministry for Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine	For the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development of the Republic of Moldova

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