Ress Release

Communication Unit of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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Council of Europe Congress to observe the election of the Bashkan (Governor) of Gagaouzia, Moldova

Strasbourg, 28.11.2006 – A delegation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe is to visit Moldova from 30 November to 4 December to observe the elections of the Bashkan of Gagaouzia, which will take place on 3 December.

On 30 November, 1 and 2 December, the delegation, led by Susan Bolam (United Kingdom, EPP), will meet representatives of the Government, Parliament, Central Electoral Commission as well as the Authorities and the Election Commission of the "GAGAUZ-Yeri" Territorial Administrative Unit. The delegation will also meet electoral contestants, representatives of the civil society as well as of international and domestic observer organisations.

The Congress delegation will be deployed throughout the autonomous region on Election Day and will issue a press statement presenting its preliminary findings on 4 December.

Membership of the delegation:

Mrs Susan Bolam, Northumberland County Councillor (UK, EPP) -Head of delegation

Mr Lorenc Luka, Head, Regional Council of Shkodra (Albania, NR)

Mr Albert Moens, Member of the Provincial Executive of Nord-Holland (The Netherlands, SOC)

Mr Petru Radu Paun-Jura, Mayor of Simeria, Hunedoara County (Romania,

Mr Paolo Rondelli, Municipal Councillor of San Marino (San Marino, SOC) Mr Emin Yeritsvan. Councillor. Community of Parakar (Armenia. EPP)

Mrs Pilar Morales, Congress Secretariat Ms Elena Piscopo, Congress Secretariat

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