



Republic of Moldova

PARLIAMENT

LAW 130
of 8 July 2012

On the regime of firearms and ammunition for civilian use

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The Parliament adopts this organic Law.

Chapter 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Scope of the Law

(1) This law establishes the categories of firearms and ammunition for civilian use, and the conditions under which the purchase, transfer, disposal, possession, carry and use of such firearms and ammunition and the operations with them shall be permitted on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) This law does not extend to the regime of military firearms in the endowment of public administration authorities with competences in national defence, state security and public order, the regime of which shall be regulated by special laws and normative acts.

(3) If international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party contain rules other than those specified in the national legislation on firearms and ammunition, the provisions of the international treaties shall apply.

Article 2. Basic definitions

Under this law, the following definitions are as such:

arm shall mean any object or device designed or adapted by which a lead, bullet or another projectile or harmful gaseous, liquid substance or a substance in another state can be discharged by the means of explosive, gaseous or atmospheric pressure or through other propellants as far as it is found in one of the categories provided for in Annex 1;

cold arms shall mean any object or device that may endanger the health or physical integrity of persons by hitting, cutting, and poking, such as bayonets, sabres, swords, rapiers, knives, crossbows and bows;

firearm shall mean the portable arm with a barrel which is designed to launch or may be converted to launch a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of a combustible propellant. It is believed that an object can be converted to launch a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of a combustible propellant if it has the appearance of a firearm and due to its design or material from which it is made, it can be converted for such use. Under this Law, the definition of a firearm does not include arms classified in categories C and D provided for in Annex 1;

making use of a firearm shall mean shooting a projectile from a firearm;

essential component of the firearm shall mean the breach-closing mechanism, the cartridge chamber and/or barrel of the firearm which, as separate objects, are included in the category of firearms which are assembled or are designed to be assembled;

deactivation of firearms shall mean the ensemble of operations conducted on firearms by a dealer licensed in firearm repair in order to modify and convert them irreversibly into permanently inoperable arms;

illicit manufacturing of firearms shall mean manufacturing or assembling without registration of firearms, their ammunition and spare parts from any essential components illicitly trafficked,

without an authorisation issued as established by the competent authority of the state where the manufacturing or assembling takes place without registration or without the marking of firearms assembled on the date on which they were manufactured in accordance with the established conditions;

marking shall mean the ensemble of symbolic coded elements specially printed on the metal surface, and with protected information in the form of an irreproducible matrix;

ammunition shall mean the ensemble formed of cartridge tube, propellant charge, igniting caps and, as appropriate, the projectile;

confirmation of conformity shall mean the conformity assessment procedure that determines the compliance with the essential safety requirements established by norms, standards or technical regulations;

operation with firearms and ammunition shall mean the import, export, re-export, transit, bringing into the country, taking out of the country, production, manufacturing, assembling, testing, sale, purchase, transportation, transfer, transshipment, storage, keeping, decommissioning and destruction of firearms and ammunition, the regular technical inspection, processing, completion, testing, verification, deactivation and repair of firearms;

spare part of the firearm shall mean any element or element of replacement, specifically designed for a firearm, which is essential to its operation, namely: the barrel, retracting mechanism, slide or shifting coupling, gear case of breech-mechanism and any device designed or adapted to diminish the sound caused by firing the firearm;

State Register of Arms shall mean all systematised data about firearms for civilian use authorised on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and about their right holders;

repair of arms shall mean the ensemble of operations conducted on damaged firearms to return them to the state which would ensure their safe operation as intended, without modifying their design;

shooting range shall mean a specially arranged room or field, where exercises are performed, applications and experimental firings with long or short firearms or firearms with compressed air, with shots or crossbows, authorised to operate by the territorial subdivisions of the Ministry Internal Affairs;

illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition shall mean the purchase, sale, delivery, movement or transfer of firearms, their ammunition or spare parts from or through the territory of a state into the territory of another state if any of those states do not authorise this in accordance with the procedure established or if the assembled firearms are not marked in accordance with the prescribed requirements;

Definitions of categories of firearms and ammunition:

prohibited arms and ammunition shall mean firearms and ammunition classified in category A, according to Annex 1, the purchase, possession, carrying and use of which is prohibited for natural and legal persons;

lethal arm and ammunition shall mean firearm and ammunition classified in category B subparagraphs a) l) and n), according to Annex 1, which, when used, can cause the death of or serious injury to natural and legal persons;

non-lethal arm and ammunition shall mean the firearm and ammunition classified in category B subparagraph m) and category C, according to Annex 1, for utility use or which are intended for recreation or self-defence, manufactured in so that, when used, not to cause the death of persons; definitions of classification of firearms by their use:

military arms shall mean firearms for military use, any other firearms from the endowment of national defence, state security and public order authorities, as well as units in their subordination, established under normative acts;

civilian arms shall mean firearms, devices, material resources in private or public ownership (adapted) for civilian use, fit from a technical point of view to injury or immobilise a person or an animal, for practicing sports or hunting, for self-defence, for defence and security of goods and valuables or for simulating their fighting qualities;

definitions of classification of civilian firearms by their use:

arms for defence and security shall mean a short firearm recognised as prescribed by law, intended for the defence of the life, integrity and freedom of natural persons and of the property of natural or legal persons;

arm for self-defence shall mean a short lethal and non-lethal firearm (except compressed air guns), recognised under the law, especially manufactured to spread harmful gases, irritants, neutralising gases, or rubber or bullet projectiles for self-defence;

a throwing arm shall mean a firearm designed for the destruction with projectiles of remote targets, whose movement is obtained using the muscular force of the man or the force of a specially adapted device;

stunning arm shall mean a utility firearm, used to immobilise animals by subjecting them to mechanical shock for further slaughter;

collection arm shall mean a firearm intended to be a museum piece, as well as firearms which are or not functional or which are rare or have historical, documentary, scientific or artistic value;

prop arms shall mean a special firearm made, manufactured or produced or which became harmless as a result of its modification by a dealer licensed in firearm repair, used in the activity of specialised artistic institutions (cultural and artistic or cinematographic);

panoply arm shall mean a firearm which became inoperable due to its deactivation or high degree of damage, certified under the law by a licensed dealer;

signalling gun shall mean a gun designed only for the transmission of light, smoke or sound signals;

target-shooting (sports) shall mean a firearm designed for practicing sports target shooting, approved or recognised by law;

hunting arm shall mean a firearm designed for practicing hunting, with one or more barrels, which uses ammunition with bullets and/or with shots, approved or recognised by law;

deactivated arm shall mean the firearm rendered permanently inoperable due to its modification and irreversible conversion by a dealer licensed in firearm repair;

industrial arms shall mean utility, semiautomatic, firearms designed for industrial purpose civil use, which resemble automatic firearms;

tranquilliser gun shall mean a utility gun designed to immobilise animals by injecting tranquillisers;

unusable arm shall mean a firearm the wear of which exceeds 50% and which has one or more obvious flaws, certified according to the technical rules by the competent authority or by the dealer;

utility gun shall mean a firearm designed to ensure the proper conduct of certain activities in the fields of industry, agriculture, fisheries, medical-veterinary, environmental protection and protection against pests by organisations specialising in security of facilities, goods and valuables or in transportation of valuables;

old gun shall mean a lethal firearm manufactured before 1877 or a replica thereof to be kept in collections;

electroshock device is a special means of self-defence whose high-voltage electrical charge paralyses the human and animal body for a short period of time;

spray with tear gas or irritants is a special means of self-defence containing liquefied gas with irritation or temporary paralysis properties;

definitions of classification of firearms by their design:

bladed cold arm shall mean a firearm that meets the following criteria: the blade, which is an integral part of the handle or is equipped with a system that allows it to make one piece with the handle; it has double edge over its entire length; the length exceeds 15 cm; the width is less or equals 0.4 cm; the handle is provided with a bolt stop;

arm with compressed air or gas under pressure (pneumatic) shall mean a firearm which, by throwing the projectile, uses the expansion force of compressed air or of gas under pressure in a cylinder recipient;

gas arm shall mean a firearm designed or adapted through which the harmful gaseous, liquid substance or substance in another state (irritant or tear), embedded in its projectile, is transported to the target by the directed expansion force of the gas generated from firing a cap or from burning a load, or through other propellants;

arm with rifled barrel shall mean a firearm, the barrel of which has, throughout the length of its inner surface, homogeneous spiral grooves (rifling) to impart the projectile with a rotational movement to maintain its stability on the flight path;

smooth-bore arm shall mean a firearm, the barrel of which is smooth on at least two thirds of its entire inner length, starting from the cartridge chamber;

automatic gun shall mean a firearm which, after each cartridge is fired, automatically reloads and fires a series of several cartridges when pressing the trigger continuously;

single-shot firearm shall mean a firearm with no clip, which is loaded before each shot by manually introducing the cartridge into the chamber or into a space provided for that purpose, located at the entrance to the barrel;

repeating firearm shall mean a firearm which, after each fired shot, is manually loaded by introducing a cartridge taken from the clip into the barrel with the help of a mechanism;

long firearm shall mean a firearm with a barrel or overall length exceeding the maximum size of short firearms established under this Law;

short firearm shall mean a firearm with a barrel not exceeding 30 cm or the overall length of which does not exceed 60 cm;

semi-automatic gun shall mean a firearm which, after each cartridge is fired, reloads automatically, but cannot project a series of multiple cartridges when pressing the trigger continuously;

Definitions of categories of persons:

dealer shall mean a natural or legal person licensed, under this Law, to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition;

arms collector shall mean a person who has obtained, under the law, a collector certificate issued by the competent authority and who owns or intends to become the owner of a firearm collection to be authorised or declared under this Law for the purpose of historical recovery of those firearms;

resident of a foreign state shall mean a person holding an identification document issued by a foreign state such as: a passport or identification card confirming that he/she has the domicile or residence in that state;

target shooter and shooting range coach shall mean sportsmen and coaches legitimated by the central authority in physical culture and sports, which are affiliated to a sports-related structure, the status of which provides for sports shooting and practice, as well as for the development of these sports;

hunter shall mean a natural person who holds a valid hunting card under the Law on Animal Kingdom;

Definitions of types of documents:

firearms passport shall mean a document issued on request by the competent authority, under the law, confirming the right to travel within the territories of other states, based on agreements signed by them, with firearms and ammunition entered into it;

certificate of ownership shall mean a document issued, under the law, by the competent authority which proves that the holder has met the legal procedure for registering the firearm at the competent authority;

arm permit shall mean a document issued, under the law, by the competent authority to which a natural or legal person proves his/her right to own and/or, as appropriate, to carry and use lethal or non-lethal firearms the category, brand, model, calibre and serial number of which are entered in this document;

arm purchase permit shall mean a document issued, under the law, by the competent authority confirming the right of the holder to purchase and own the firearm;

arms transfer permit shall mean a document issued by the competent authorities, by which it is permitted to conduct a transfer operation of firearms and ammunition from the Republic of Moldova to another state;

arms transport permit shall mean a document issued, under the law, by the competent authority confirming the right of the owner to transport firearms and ammunition from one storage place to another or from one person to another on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, or the right to bring them into the country and transfer them out of the country, import and transit them.

Article 3. Delimitation of powers

(1) The legal regulation of the control on firearms and ammunition shall rest with the Parliament.

(2) The Government, in accordance with its duties shall:

- a) approve the normative acts for the implementation of this Law;
- b) implement the state policy on the movement and use of lethal, non-lethal firearms and ammunition for civilian use;
- c) decide on the purchase of firearms and ammunition, including those in the civilian circuit, for public administration authorities with competences in national defence, state security and public order;
- d) develop and approve the regulations of the State Commission for firearm evaluations, indemnification and discarding.

(3) The Ministry of Interior is the competent authority carrying out the authorisation, record keeping, control and supervision of the possession, carrying and use of firearms and ammunition, as well as of operations with them, being the only competent authority which represents the Republic of Moldova in transfers and notifications on firearms and ammunition as prescribed by this Law. With respect to authorisation, record keeping, control and supervision of the movement of firearms and ammunition, the Interior Ministry shall have the following duties:

- a) develop instructions on the regime of firearms and ammunition, the form and content of the documents issued under this Law;
- b) authorise, keep record, carry out the control and supervision of purchase, transfer, possession, storing, carrying and use of firearms and ammunition, as well as of operations with them, as prescribed by this Law;
- c) conduct the inspection of protective equipment, experimental firings with firearms and include the cartridge tubes and bullets fired in the collection of the Ministry of Interior systematised by their category, brand, model, calibre, series, number, year of manufacturing and lot;
- d) notify the competent authorities in the field of the foreign states and the relevant international organisations on the transfers of firearms and ammunition from the territory of the Republic of Moldova to those states;
- e) manage the State Register of Arms;
- f) issue, change, suspend and revoke licenses;
- g) issue recommendations to eliminate the violations of licensing conditions.

Article 4. General aspects regarding the regime of firearms and ammunition

(1) Lethal firearms may be owned or, depending on their category and classification under this Law, may be carried and used by natural persons based on the firearm permit, and may be owned and used by legal persons based on the certificate of ownership issued as prescribed by this Law.

(2) Non-lethal firearms may be owned and, depending on their category and classification under this Law, may be carried and used by natural and legal persons as long as they comply with the

procedures for their authorisation or registration, as appropriate, at the competent authorities as prescribed by this Law.

(3) The records of lethal and non-lethal firearm owners and the records of firearms owned by them and documents through which they are entitled to own, carry and use firearms shall be kept at the local level by the local competent police authority which issued such documents, and the records of lethal firearms with rifled barrels shall be kept at the central level by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior.

(4) Lethal or non-lethal firearm owners must report the disappearance, loss or theft of such firearms immediately but no later than within 24 hours to the nearest police authority.

(5) A person which becomes aware of the existence of a military, lethal, non-lethal firearm or ammunition owned illegally, lost or abandoned must report immediately to the nearest police authority.

(6) The person which finds a military firearm, lethal firearm, non-lethal firearm or ammunition must report it or hand it over to the nearest police authority as soon as possible but not later than within 24 hours.

(7) Relatives or persons who live with a person who owns firearms or ammunition legally must, if the holder dies or is reported missing, hand over the firearms and ammunition to the nearest police authority within 15 days from the date of death or, as appropriate, from the date the court decision by which the disappearance was reported becomes final, to keep it until a heir is established in accordance with the applicable law.

(8) Natural and legal persons who own firearms as prescribed by this Law shall keep the firearms at their home or headquarters.

(9) Natural and legal persons entitled to own, carry, use, sell or, as appropriate, repair firearms shall ensure the safety of such firearms. The conditions of ensuring the safety of firearms shall be established in the implementing norms of this Law.

(10) Firearms kept at the home address of a natural person or at the headquarters of a legal person based on the documents specified in the law may be transferred by their owner to premises other than those mentioned in the documents only with the written consent of the police authority in accordance with the procedure established in the implementing norms of this Law.

(11) Bringing into the territory and taking out of the territory of the Republic of Moldova of firearms and ammunition subject to authorisation and/or declared shall be permitted by the Customs Service authorities only if they are accompanied by the transfer permit or transportation permit.

(12) Upon disposal, firearms and their unused ammunition must be handed over for destruction to the competent police authority.

(13) Persons authorised under the law are entitled to carry with them only one lethal or non-lethal firearm, excepting during their stay on land intended for authorised hunting and in shooting rooms authorised to operate.

(14) It is forbidden to carry lethal and non-lethal firearms:

- a) in crowded places, such as stadiums, education institutions, central government institutions, courts, sanctuaries, theatres and public gatherings, and in other places where the use of such firearms is prohibited by law;
- b) if the owner is under the influence of alcoholic beverages, narcotic substances or products, medicines with similar effects or under temporary conditions such as to create a state of danger when carrying a firearm with him/her;
- c) if they are not accompanied by a document confirming the right to carry and use firearms.

Article 5. Prohibitions and restrictions in the regime of firearms and ammunition

(1) The purchase, possession, use, import, export and sale by natural and legal persons, except for authorities with competences in national defence, state security and public order, of the following firearms and ammunition, systems and devices for them shall be prohibited:

- a) firearms and ammunition classified in category A according to Annex 1;
- b) firearms manufactured by modifying the automatic military guns;
- c) lighting systems and sighting systems which are operated based on laser or which are combined with laser, designed to be mounted on the firearm;
- d) night sighting systems;
- e) devices designed or adapted to diminish the sound caused by burning of the charge;
- f) bullet cartridges: with hard core materials; with dumsemy-cover; with tracer, piercing, incendiary effect, the diameter of which is smaller than the calibre of the barrel; with a hollow space inside and with blasting cartridges for short firearms and gas firearms.

(2) It is prohibited to carry firearms classified in category D subparagraphs a) - g) provided for in Annex 1.

(3) It is prohibited to use and make use in public places of firearms with compressed air or gases under pressure (pneumatic) and for a purpose other than recreation and sports in shooting ranges, in enclosed spaces that are not publicly available or in specially arranged places, to not endanger the physical integrity and life of persons.

(4) It is prohibited to dispose of or transfer firearms and ammunition subject to authorisation to a person not authorised as established, except in cases of handing them over to a dealer or police as donation or for gratuitous use, and in other cases provided for by law.

(5) It is prohibited to pledge the firearm or its encumbrance in any other way by establishing any ownership rights in favour of the third parties.

(6) It is prohibited to carry cold arms, except hunting knives which may be carried only on land and be intended for the hunting of which it is authorised.

(7) The following restrictions shall be established in the regime of arms and ammunition:

- a) the maximum calibre of firearms with rifled barrel shall not exceed 12.7 mm;
- b) the maximum blade length shall not exceed 90 mm in cold arms whose blade is extracted automatically from the handle and is fixed rigidly when pressing the button or lever or is extracted under gravity or accelerated movement and is fixed automatically;
- c) it is prohibited to sell electroshock devices whose parameters do not meet the security requirements and norms established by the Ministry of Health;

- d) it is prohibited to sell throwing arms whose parameters do not meet the established security standards or relevant technical regulations;
- e) it is prohibited to sell crossbows for whose use it is necessary to apply a force greater than 70 kg and to use arrows with cone diameter (tip) exceeding the diameter of the arrow or to use arrows with mobile petals;
- f) it is prohibited to place and arrange firearms and ammunition stockpiles inside buildings intended for housing;
- g) the commission sale of ammunition is prohibited;
- h) until accredited by an independent and competent laboratory, it is prohibited to import firearms and ammunition that lack the marking of trial test stations of the member countries of the Permanent International Commission for Firearms Testing, recognised in the Republic of Moldova, or certificates of conformity issued in countries with which the Republic of Moldova has signed an agreement on mutual recognition of certification or trial test results.

Chapter 2

PURCHASE, DISPOSAL, OWNERSHIP, CARRY AND USE OF LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL FIREARMS AND THEIR AMMUNITION SUBJECT TO AUTHORISATION BY NATURAL PERSONS WHO ARE CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Article 6. Granting of the right to purchase, dispose of, own, carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and their ammunition

(1) Natural persons which meet the requirements stipulated in this Law may purchase, own, carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and their ammunition.

(2) The right to purchase, possess or, as appropriate, carry and use the firearms specified in paragraph (1) shall be obtained on the date on which the Ministry of Interior issues the firearm purchase permit or, as appropriate, the firearm permit.

(3) Non-lethal firearms which are the subject of declaration, may be kept, carried and used only after they are registered at the Ministry of Interior as prescribed by this Law.

(4) Depending on the use for which the authorisation to purchase the firearm is requested, the Ministry of Interior shall grant the applicant the right to possess, as appropriate, carry and use the purchased firearm, expressly stating this fact in the firearm permit.

(5) The right to own the firearm shall be granted only for self-defence, target shooting, hunting and arms collection, giving the holder the opportunity to keep the firearm at home.

(6) The right to possess and use firearms shall be granted only for self-defence firearms and for defence and security firearms. This right gives the holder the opportunity to carry the firearm with him/her and use it for the use for which its purchase was authorised and in case of legitimate self-defence or in a state of emergency, as prescribed by this Law.

(7) The right to own hunting firearms shall be granted, as prescribed by this Law, to hunters who are members of legally established associations of hunters, which operate under the laws on the animal kingdom, which took the examination for obtaining the status of hunter, and which hold a valid hunter's license, as well as to target shooters, coaches and firearm collectors.

(8) The person entitled to own a hunting firearm may carry and use the firearms entered in the firearm permit only on the land intended for the hunting for which it is authorised and in shooting ranges authorised as prescribed by law.

(9) Firearms specified in paragraph (1) may be purchased or obtained through purchase, donation, inheritance, award, rent or gratuitous use.

(10) Persons which own the firearms specified in paragraph (1), purchased or obtained, as prescribed by this Law, may dispose of them only through dealers licensed in the sale of such firearms, and through a donation.

Article 7. Conditions of granting the permit to purchase lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and, as appropriate, the firearm permit

(1) The permit to purchase lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and, as appropriate, the firearm permit shall be granted to persons specified in Article 8 (1) if they are not in one of the cases specified in paragraph (2) of this Article and meet the following conditions:

- a) have turned 21;
- b) have completed a theoretical and hands-on training course on handling firearms, organised by a legal person accredited in the field, as prescribed by law, except for the certified staff of the public administration authorities with competences in national defence, state security and public order;
- c) have conditions to ensure the safety and integrity of firearms and ammunition;
- d) are psychologically and medically fit to own and use firearms and ammunition.
- e) have the status imposed by law, confirmed by the documents specified in implementing the rules of this Law, depending to the use of firearms.

(2) Permits specified in paragraph (1) shall not be granted to persons which are in one of the following cases:

- a) are suspected or accused, under the applicable laws, in criminal cases for offenses committed with intent;
- b) have a criminal record;
- a) lost the status specified in Article 8 (2);
- b) in the past 5 years, their right to purchase, own or, as appropriate, carry and use lethal or non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation has been cancelled, except in cases when the cancellation measure was ordered as a result of the loss of the status specified in Article 8 (2);
- c) if the lethal or non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation have been lost or stolen, under circumstances attributable to them;

- d) have been convicted by a final court decision for offences committed with intent using firearms or ammunition, explosive or toxic substances and materials, as well as drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors;
- e) have been convicted by a final court decision to imprisonment for serious, very serious and exceptionally serious crimes committed with intent;
- f) are a threat to public order, life and physical integrity of persons and are under special observation by the police authorities.

(3) The application for issuing a purchase permit and, as appropriate, the firearm permit for firearms with rifled barrels and the application for issuing a collector certificate shall be submitted to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior, and for the smooth-bore firearms - to the police authority for the area in which the applicant is domiciled. The application shall be reviewed within 30 days from the date on which it was submitted.

(4) If the authority competent to review the application finds that the conditions specified in paragraph (1) are not met or that the applicant is in one of the cases specified in paragraph (2), he/she shall be denied the firearm purchase permit and shall be notified in writing, within the term specified in paragraph (3), of the decision taken.

(5) The decisions issued under paragraph (4) may be appealed under the laws on administrative litigation.

Article 8. Categories of natural persons which may be authorised to purchase lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation

(1) Natural persons which are citizens of the Republic of Moldova and meet the requirements of Article 7 (1) and are not in one of the case specified in Article 7 (2) may be authorised, on request, to purchase lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation.

(2) Hunting firearms and shooting range firearms classified in the category of long firearms may be purchased only by hunters, target shooters, shooting range coaches and firearm collectors.

Article 9. Documents confirming the right to purchase, own, carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation

(1) The permit for purchasing firearms, the firearm permit, the collector certificate, the transportation permit, the transfer permit, and the certificate of ownership shall be issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior and/or, as appropriate, by the police authorities for the area in which the applicant is domiciled.

(2) The conditions and the procedure for issuing the firearm collector certificate shall be established in the norms to be approved by the Government.

(3) The holder of the documents specified in paragraph (1) must report to the police authority for the area in which he/she is domiciled, within 10 days of the date on which any changes which require adequate changes in the document's content have occurred.

(4) The theft of documents specified in paragraph (1) shall be reported by their owner, within 24 hours from the occurrence of the theft, to the police authority for the area in which the theft

occurred, and the loss, destruction or damage must be reported to the police authority which had issued that document.

(5) A new document to replace the one lost or stolen shall be issued only after the holder presents the proof that a notice on the loss or theft of the document was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova.

(6) If the holder reports the loss, theft or destruction abroad of the firearm permit or of the firearm transportation permit, on which the arms and ammunition were entered with which the holder exited the territory of the Republic of Moldova, he/she must appear with the firearms mentioned in the document at the diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova in the country where the event occurred, which, after the Ministry of Interior verifies the legal situation of these firearms, shall issue the holder a certificate in which the holder's identification, category, brand, series and number of firearms shall be entered. Where there are no representatives of the Republic of Moldova, the holder shall seek the police authority of the State where the event occurred.

(7) The certificate specified in paragraph (6) shall grant its holder only the right to bring into the territory of the Republic of Moldova the firearms entered on it. Upon entering the country, the firearms shall be withdrawn by the Customs Service until the firearm permit is presented.

Article 10. The firearm purchase permit

(1) The firearm purchase permit shall be issued for a 90-day term of validity, which may be extended by the licensing authority, on reasonable grounds, for another period of up to 90 days.

(2) If the holder of the firearm purchase permit does not purchase firearms within the term specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, he/she may request in writing to be granted a new permit to purchase firearms without the need to prove that he/she meets the conditions specified in Article 7 (1) a) -c) and e).

(3) The holder of the firearm purchase permit may purchase, within the term of validity of the permit, a firearm of the category and in the amount registered in the document from any dealer licensed to sell such firearms.

(4) The purchase of firearms from another natural or legal person shall be possible only through a dealer licensed to sell such firearms.

(5) If the holder of the firearm purchase permit changes her/his domicile, he/she must, within 10 days, notify it to the police authority for the area in which his/her new domicile is.

(6) The right to purchase firearms shall be cancelled and the firearm purchase permit shall be withdrawn by the issuing authority if the holder no longer meets the conditions of Article 7 (1) c)-e) or is in one of the cases specified in Article 7 (2).

(7) The procedure for granting the firearm purchase permit shall be established in the implementing norms of this Law.

Article 11. Granting of the firearm permit, entering the firearm in the firearm permit and its endorsement

(1) A person which purchased, as prescribed by law, lethal or non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation must, within 10 days from the purchase date, appear at the police authority which issued the purchase permit to apply for the firearm permit.

(2) The firearm permit must be endorsed every 5 years by the authorities specified in Article 7 (3).

(3) Holders of the firearm permit must appear, upon expiration of the term specified in paragraph (2), in places established by the competent police authorities with documents specified in the implementing norms of this Law.

(4) The firearm permit shall be endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 7 (3) if the holder meets the conditions of Article 7 (1) c) and d) and is not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2), and the firearms intended to be used under this Law undergo the regular technical inspection as established by the Government.

Article 12. The amount of firearms for which one person may be granted the right to purchase and own firearms

Persons which meet the conditions of Article 7 paragraph (1) and which are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) may be authorised to purchase and own firearms as follows:

- a) up to two short firearms with rifled barrels (revolver or pistol);
- b) up to two long firearms with rifled barrels and with barrels of different dimensions;
- c) up to eight long, smooth-bore firearms;
- d) an unlimited number of firearms for target shooters who prove that they need them for training and/or participation in sports competitions;
- e) an unlimited number of firearms for firearm collectors.

Article 13. The regime of purchasing and possessing the ammunition of lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation

(1) The holders of the right to possession carry firearms may purchase from licensed dealers only the ammunition of the firearms entered in the firearm permit.

(2) The amount of ammunition that can be possessed by persons specified in paragraph (1) is established as follows:

- a) for firearms with rifled barrels – up to 250 bullet cartridges for every firearm except for firearms specified in subparagraph c);
- b) for long smooth-bore firearms – up to 500 cartridges for each firearm;
- c) Collector firearms – up to 50 cartridges for each firearm.

(3) Persons who own firearms for self-defence may carry with them up to 18 cartridges outside their home, where the ammunition is kept.

(4) Cartridges will be transported in a pack to ensure their safety.

(5) The person who purchased the ammunition specified in paragraph (2) shall be prohibited to dispose of it, unless the ammunition is handed over to the competent police authority.

(6) It is prohibited to sell or dispose of in any form, as well as to possess or use expired or degraded ammunition which, if stored or used, might endanger the life, physical integrity and health of persons.

Article 14. The conditions of storage and carrying of lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation

(1) The holder of the right to own and, as appropriate, carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation must keep the firearm entered in the firearm permit in safe condition and not allow unauthorised persons to access it.

(2) The owner of the firearms specified in paragraph (1) shall keep the firearm at his/her home in specially designed places, in a metal safe bolted to the floor or wall, so as to exclude the access of unauthorised persons.

(3) The firearm specified in paragraph (1) may be owned only by the holder of the permit, as long as he/she meets all of the following conditions cumulatively:

- a) firearms must be with safety catch engaged if it is provided by default, and unloaded;
- b) firearms must stay permanently inserted in the holster, in a place out of sight, except in cases when the person is authorised by law to make use of them;
- c) firearms must remain permanently with the holder and not be transmitted in any form to persons, other than dealers, competent police authorities and staff authorised by law to keep and ensure the temporary safety of firearms when entering the public institutions, naval or air means of transportation, other places in which carrying firearms is prohibited by law;
- d) firearms must be accompanied by the document confirming the right to carry and use them.

Article 15. Transportation, carrying and use of long lethal firearms

(1) Hunting firearms, for which a firearm permit has been issued with the right to own the firearm, shall be transported, under the law, from the owner's home to the place where hunting will take place, under the following conditions:

- a) firearms must be kept in a case, unloaded;
- b) the conditions specified in Article 14 (3) c) must be met and firearms must be accompanied by a document confirming the right to own them.

(2) Hunting firearms shall be carried in places intended for hunting under the following conditions:

- a) the firearm may be loaded as long as, after being loaded, it is carried so as not to present any risk of accidents;
- b) the conditions specified in Article 14 (3) c) must be met and firearms must be accompanied by a document confirming the right to own them.

(3) The holder of the right to own long firearms with rifled barrels and collector firearms (except for those entered expressly in the firearm permit with the right to carry the firearm) may obtain, on request, from the police authority for the area in which he/she is domiciled, a transportation permit to transfer firearms which he/she owns under the law from the place where they are kept in the following cases:

- a) to hand over the firearms to a dealer;
 - b) to change the place of their storage;
 - c) to transport and use them in a shooting range specially equipped and authorised as prescribed by law for that category of firearms;
 - d) to transport and transfer them from the Republic of Moldova to participate in sports competitions or hunting.
- (4) Firearms specified in paragraph (3) of this Article shall be transported under the following conditions:
- a) firearms must be kept in a case, unloaded;
 - b) the conditions specified in Article 14 (3) c) must be met and firearms must be accompanied by a document confirming the right to own or, as appropriate, to carry and use them.

Article 16. Limits for making use of firearms

(1) Holders of the right to own hunting firearms may make use of the firearm entered in the firearm permit only for the hunting for which it was authorised, as well as for practicing in shooting ranges authorised as prescribed by law.

(2) Holders of the right to own hunting firearms may make use of the firearm entered in the firearm permit only for the hunting for which it was authorised as well as for practicing in shooting ranges authorised as prescribed by law.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2), the owner of hunting firearms may make use of them, as prescribed by law, in a state of legitimate self-defence or in a state of emergency.

(4) Holders of the right to own long firearms (except for firearms specified in paragraph (2)) may make use of them only in shooting ranges authorised as prescribed by this Law.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4), the owner of long firearms may make use of them, as prescribed by law, in a state of legitimate self-defence or in a state of emergency.

(6) The use of firearms in shooting ranges may be authorised only as prescribed by the internal regulations of the shooting ranges.

(7) The conditions under which a person who holds a public position may own and use lethal firearms in the course of his/her official duties shall be established in the organic laws governing the duties of such person.

(8) The firearm transportation permit specified in paragraph (3) shall state the term during which the firearms must be transported outside the place where they are kept, why they are transported, the route, the destination and the conditions of their safety during transportation.

(9) If long firearms with rifled barrels are transferred from the place in which they are kept in order to be presented for endorsing the firearm permit to the competent authorities, there will be no need to obtain in advance the permit specified in paragraph (3).

Article 17. The duties in case of making use of firearms

(1) A person which made use of firearm must act immediately to provide the first aid and medical care to the wounded persons.

(2) The person which makes use of a firearm must immediately report to the nearest police authority, whether or not he/she has caused casualties or property damage.

(3) In the case described in paragraph (2), the police or prosecuting authority notified must investigate the circumstances under which the event took place and conduct on-site investigations. The firearm that was used and withdrawn shall be kept as proof with the police or prosecuting authority which conducts the investigation until the investigation is over.

(4) The case when the firearm was made use of under the conditions specified in Article 16 (1), (2) and (4) does not fall under the scope of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article, unless such use caused casualties.

Article 18. Cancellation of the right to possess firearms and limitation of the right to own firearms

(1) The right to possess firearms shall cease if the holder is in one of the following cases:

- a) he/she no longer meets the conditions of Article 7 (1) e);
- b) he/she is in one of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) e) to g);
- c) he/she does not appear to endorse the firearm permit within one year from the expiration of the term specified in Article 11 (2);
- d) he/she does not hand over for destruction the firearm entered in the permit;
- e) he/she permanently leaves the Republic of Moldova or loses his/her Moldovan citizenship;
- f) it was found that he/she made use of and did not comply with the conditions of Article 7 (2) and (4); and
- g) he/she is in other cases specified in the law.

(2) The limitation of the right to own firearms by prohibiting the possession of firearms shall apply if the holder:

- a) is in one of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) a) or b);
- b) no longer meets the condition specified in Article 7 (1) d);
- c) has committed one of the offenses for which the law provides for deprivation of the right to carry and use firearms.

(3) The limitation of the right to own firearms by prohibiting the possession of firearms for a 5-year term shall apply if the holder:

- a) is in one of the situations specified in Article 7 (2) d);
- b) has committed one of the offenses related to the breach of the provisions of normative acts on hunting, the breach of the rules of sale and/or disposal of firearms and ammunition, the breach of the rules of purchase, carrying, and possession of firearms, the breach of provisions on the repair of the firearm which was not registered as established, the breach of rules of using firearms.

(4) If the holder is in one of the cases specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (3), the competent police authority shall withdraw the firearm permit and the owner must hand over his/her firearms and the entire amount of their ammunition to the police authority for the area in which he/she is domiciled or must dispose of them as prescribed by this Law.

(5) If the person is in the case specified in paragraph (1) c), his/her right to possess firearms shall cease only for the firearms in respect of which he/she no longer meets the conditions for possessing such firearms as prescribed by law.

(6) Cases specified in paragraphs (1) - (5) of this Article shall be established by the competent authorities referred to in Article 7 (3) which shall apply the measure of withdrawing or, where applicable, cancelling the firearm permit for the respective firearms of which the right to possess them was cancelled or the right to own them was limited, by imposing a ban on its possession.

(7) The measure specified in paragraph (4) may be appealed as prescribed by law on administrative offences.

(8) The owner of firearms must, within 10 days from the date he/she was notified about the measure specified in paragraph (6), hand over, for disposal or storage, the firearms and the entire amount of their ammunition to the police authority for the area in which he/she is domiciled, unless they were withdrawn by the competent police authority. Applying the legal remedies provided by law against the measure of cancelling the firearm permit shall not suspend the owner's duty to hand over the firearms to the police authority.

(9) Upon the occurrence of cases specified in paragraph (1) b) or c) the holder of the right to own firearms must, within 15 days, dispose of or hand over the firearm to a dealer authorised in firearms disposal, notifying the police authority, and if the established deadline is missed, the firearm shall be withdrawn by force.

Article 19. The suspension, revocation and cancellation of the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and their ammunition

(1) The suspension of the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation shall be ordered by the competent authority which granted this right, in cases specified in Article 18 (2) or (3).

(2) The suspension of the right to possess or carry and use firearms shall be ordered for the entire period during which the person is in one of the cases specified in Article 18 (2).

(3) The suspension of the right to possess or carry and use firearms shall be ordered for a 5-year term by the competent authority which granted that right if the holder is in one of the cases specified in Article 18 (3).

(4) During the suspension of the right to possess or carry and use firearms, the firearm permit shall be revoked by the police authority which ordered the measure, and the entire amount of firearms and ammunition possessed shall be handed over, within 24 hours, to the police authority for the area in which the holder is domiciled, unless they were withdrawn by the police authority.

(5) The suspension shall cease on the date on which the holder of the right to possess or carry and use firearms is no longer in the cases specified in paragraphs (1) - (3), and the firearm permit, the firearms and ammunition are returned to the holder.

(6) The revocation of the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation shall be ordered by the competent authority which had granted this right, in cases specified in Article 18 (1).

(7) Cancellation of the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation shall be ordered by the competent authority which has granted this right, in the following cases:

- a) if it is established that, on the date when the firearm permit was granted, the holder did not meet the legal conditions stipulated in the law for possession or carrying and use of firearms;
- b) the person was granted the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms based on false documents or information.

(8) The decision on revoking or cancelling the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation shall be communicated to the right holder in writing or, in case of his/her death, to his/her heirs.

(9) Within 10 days of the date on which the right holder was informed of the decision to revoke or cancel the right to possess, carry or use lethal and non-lethal firearms, the holder must hand over the firearm permit to the competent police authority and the entire amount of ammunition he/she holds to the police authority for the area in which the holder is domiciled, except for the ones withdrawn by the police.

(10) The decision to suspend, revoke or cancel the right to possess or carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation may be appealed under the Law on Administrative Offences.

Article 20. The regime of travelling abroad with lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and with their ammunition which are in the possession of citizens of the Republic of Moldova

(1) The person which, under this Law, is in possession of lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and wants to travel abroad with them may request from the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to be issued the firearm transportation permit in order for the firearms to be to entered by the Customs Service in the passport upon exiting the country.

(2) The person specified in paragraph (1) must, upon returning to the Republic of Moldova, present at the state border crossing point all firearms entered in the passport which he/she possessed upon exiting the country. If, during the stay abroad, the firearms entered in the passport have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the person specified in paragraph (1) must present, without submitting them, upon return, for the control at the state border crossing point of the Republic of Moldova , the documents legalised as prescribed by law, issued by the State where the event occurred, confirming that the person claimed the loss, theft or, as appropriate, destruction of the firearm, and the Customs Service must register the respective particularities in the passport and inform in writing the Ministry of Interior.

(3) If, during the stay abroad, the firearms registered in the passport were lost, stolen or destroyed, the owner must, within 3 days after returning to the country, appear at the police authority which had issued the firearm permit and submit a declaration about the event occurred together with a legalised copy of the appropriate document issued by the competent body of the State where the event occurred.

(4) The permit specified in paragraph (1) shall be granted if the applicant meets the following conditions:

- a) he/she is the holder of a firearm permit for firearms and ammunition to be entered in the passport;
- b) he/she presents the reasons of his/her trip abroad with firearms and ammunition for which he/she is applying for the permit.

(5) The permit specified in paragraph (1) must contain the data about its holder, the date and the state border crossing point through which the holder intended to exit the country, as well as the information about the amount of firearms and ammunition that will be transferred from the territory of Republic of Moldova.

Article 21. Conditions of bringing firearms into the territory of the country from abroad

Natural persons who have the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova and have obtained the possession of firearms by inheritance, donation or award in another state or who have established their permanent place of residence on the territory of the Republic of Moldova may bring into the country only firearms provided for in this Law if they meet the conditions specified in Article 7 (1) and (3) and if they are not in any of the cases stipulated in Article 7 (2).

Chapter 3

PURCHASE, DISPOSAL OF, POSSESSION, CARRYING AND USE OF NON-LETHAL FIREARMS AND THEIR AMMUNITION BY NATURAL PERSONS

Article 22. Purchase and disposal of non-lethal firearms

(1) The person which, under this Law, is in possession of lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and wants to travel abroad with them may request from the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to issue the firearm transportation permit in order for firearms to be to entered by the Customs Service in the passport upon exiting the country.

(2) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova and foreign citizens legally residing in the Republic of Moldova, who turn 18 years old, may purchase non-lethal firearms, except for those subject to authorisation, as well as their ammunition only from a dealer licensed in the sale of firearms from the Republic of Moldova, by submitting the criminal record and the proof that they meet the conditions specified in Article 7 (1) d).

(3) Firearms specified in paragraph (1) of this Article may be disposed of by the owner in accordance with Article 6 (10) informing the police authority which had issued the certificate of ownership within 10 days from the date on which he/she disposed of the firearms.

Article 23. The certificate of ownership

(1) Persons who have purchased non-lethal firearms under Article 22 (1) shall, within 10 days from purchase, appear with them at the authorities referred to in Article 9 (1) to obtain the certificate of ownership.

(2) The certificate of ownership entitles its holder to possess, carry and use the firearms entered into it.

(3) Holders of certificates of ownership may cross the state border of the Republic of Moldova with the firearms which are entered into it without being permitted to dispose of them outside the Republic of Moldova.

(4) The procedure for granting the owner certificate shall be established in the implementing norms of this Law.

Article 24. Keeping and carrying non-lethal firearms

(1) Holders of non-lethal firearms, specified in Article 22 (1), shall take the necessary steps to keep firearms at home, so as not to allow unauthorised persons to access them and shall eliminate any danger of accidental bodily injury.

(2) Holders of non-lethal firearms may only carry lethal firearms intended for self-defence, which are to be accompanied by the certificate of ownership.

Article 25. Making use of non-lethal firearms

(1) Holders of the right to carry and use non-lethal firearms for self-defence specified in Article 22 (1) may make use of the firearm only in shooting ranges authorised as prescribed by this Law or for legitimate self-defence or in a state of emergency.

(2) Short and long firearms with compressed air or gas (pneumatic) intended for recreation and sports target shooting, as well as crossbows and bows intended for target shooting may be used in enclosed spaces that are not publicly available or in specially arranged areas not to endanger the physical integrity and life of persons.

(3) Crossbows, bows, and firearms specified in paragraph (2) of this Article, designed for collection may only be used in places in which the collection is located, for legitimate defence. If the collector has made use of the arm, he/she must act as indicated in Article 17 (1) and (2).

(4) The use of non-lethal firearms specified in Article 22 (1) in authorised shooting ranges shall be permitted only in accordance with the internal regulations of those shooting ranges.

(5) It is prohibited to use the firearms specified in paragraph (2) in public places or on land intended for hunting.

Article 26. The use of utility firearms

Tranquilliser guns, fishing harpoons, and stun guns may be used, under the law, only against animals, and industrial firearms, alarm and signalling pistols, starting pistols used in sports competitions - only for the use for which they are designed in such conditions so as not cause bodily injury to others persons.

Article 27. Purchase of ammunition for non-lethal firearms

(1) The ammunition for non-lethal firearms specified in Article 22 (1) may be purchased only on the basis of the certificate for ownership from dealers authorised to sell such ammunition.

(2) For non-lethal firearms specified in paragraph (1), the amount of ammunition to be purchased shall be limited to 300 pieces.

Chapter 4

CONDITIONS ON THE PURCHASE, DISPOSAL, OWNERSHIP, CARRY AND USE OF LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL FIREARMS AND THEIR AMMUNITION BY FOREIGN CITIZENS

Article 28. Purchase and transfer from the territory of the Republic of Moldova of lethal and non-lethal firearms and their ammunition subject to authorisation by foreign citizens

(1) Foreign citizens may purchase lethal and non-lethal firearms or their ammunition subject to authorisation in the Republic of Moldova on the basis of the firearm purchase permit issued in the country where they are domiciled, in order to be transferred from the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) Firearms and ammunition specified in paragraph (1) may be transferred from the territory of the Republic of Moldova only through dealers licensed to import and sell firearms, which have the firearms and ammunition transfer permit issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior, and appropriate authorisation from the Interdepartmental Commission for the control over export, import and transit of strategic goods for the firearms and their ammunition specified in the Nomenclature of strategic goods, in order to be transferred from the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

(3) Persons specified in paragraph (1) shall not be entitled to transport, carry and use lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

(4) The transfer permit specified in paragraph (2) shall be granted on request, which shall be reviewed within 10 business days.

Article 29. Bringing, possession, carrying and use of lethal and non-lethal firearms on the territory of the Republic of Moldova by foreign citizens

(1) Residents of a foreign state may temporarily bring lethal and non-lethal firearms and their ammunition into the territory of the Republic of Moldova, while on diplomatic missions, accompanying official delegations, participating in sports competitions or hunting.

(2) Persons specified in paragraph (1) must provide proof that they have been accredited or invited by institutions or associations authorised in this field and obtain from the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior the firearm permit for the period of the activity.

(3) Foreign citizens which travel to the Republic of Moldova to participate in official target shooting competitions or to practice hunting, under the law, on the basis of a valid visa or without the need for a visain accordance with the law, may be authorised to possess and, as appropriate, to

carry and use the target shooting or hunting firearms which they possess, if firearms and ammunition are entered in the passport. Only firearms and ammunition allowed to be purchased and possessed in the Republic of Moldova shall be permitted to be brought into its territory.

(4) The provisional firearm permit to bring firearms into the country may be granted to foreign citizens by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior under the following conditions:

- a) the applicant must provide the proof that the firearms are in his/her legal possession in his/her country;
- b) the firearms meet the conditions imposed by the conformity norms;
- c) for hunting firearms, the applicant shall present a nominal invitation issued by a hunting association legally established in the Republic of Moldova, which operates under the law, to participate in a hunt organised as prescribed by the applicable laws;
- d) for target shooting firearms, the applicant must provide the proof that he/she will participate in a target shooting competition organised by a target shooting association or sports club.

(5) For foreign citizens which transit the territory of the Republic of Moldova and carry with them the firearms specified in paragraph (3), the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior shall issue the firearm transportation permit for the transit, which shall be granted upon submission of the documents confirming that bringing firearms and their ammunition is permitted on the territory of the country of destination.

(6) The procedure and documents necessary to issue the permits specified in paragraphs (4) and (5), the amount of firearms that may be brought by foreign citizens into the territory of the Republic of Moldova, as well as the state border crossing points through which foreign citizens may bring these firearms and ammunition into the Republic of Moldova, shall be established in the implementing norms of this Law.

Article 30. The regime applicable to certain special categories of foreign citizens which own lethal firearms

(1) Persons accompanying foreign delegations of the Heads of State or Government and other foreign dignitaries who enjoy the protection in the Republic of Moldova may bring, carry and use defence and security firearms on the territory of the Republic of Moldova on a reciprocal basis or as stipulated by bilateral agreements, if a notification about such firearms has been sent through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, the Ministry of Interior, and their authorisation has been obtained.

(2) The staff of diplomatic missions, consular offices and representations of international organisations accredited in the Republic of Moldova may carry and use firearms for self-defence, on a reciprocal basis or as stipulated by bilateral agreements, without the need to obtain the firearm permit.

(3) The persons specified in paragraph (2) may purchase in the Republic of Moldova firearms for self-defence on the basis of the permit issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior, and endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

(4) Persons specified in paragraph (1) shall carry and use firearms and ammunition on the territory of the Republic of Moldova under the law, based on the provisional firearm permit issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior.

(5) The procedure and documents necessary for issuing the permits specified in paragraph (4) shall be established through the implementing norms of this Law.

Chapter 5

PURCHASE, POSSESSION AND USE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION BY LEGAL PERSONS

Article 31. Categories of legal persons which may purchase, possess and use firearms and ammunition

(7) The public administration authorities with competences in national defence, state security and public order shall be authorised to purchase, dispose of, possess and use lethal and non-lethal firearms, their ammunition to arm their staff as prescribed by organic laws.

(8) Legal persons of public law other than those specified in paragraph (1), as well as legal persons and units in their subordination or in respect of which public authorities act as their founder, shall be authorised to purchase, possess and use lethal and non-lethal firearms and ammunition, as prescribed by this Law, to carry out their duties established in the normative acts on their establishment and operation.

(9) Legal persons of private law which are not in the subordination of public authorities or in respect of which such authorities do not act as their founder may be authorised, as prescribed by this Law and depending on the subject of their business, to purchase, possess and use lethal and non-lethal firearms and ammunition:

- a) to arm their staff appointed to conduct security activities, if such activities are justified to ensure the security of headquarters, residential buildings or facilities which belong to them or which they guard, as well as the security of persons, goods, valuables or shipments or storage of important valuables with respect to companies for which the provision of security services is the subject of their business or with respect to companies which can ensure their own security, as prescribed by law;
- b) to carry out activities related to performing firings with firearms in shooting ranges specially equipped for training or entertainment, as well as to organise and hold the training courses specified in Article 7 (1) b);
- c) to carry out artistic activities in film and television production centres, as well as during circus and theatre performances.

(10) Museums may be authorised, as prescribed by this Law, to purchase and own collector firearms, as well as lethal firearms.

(11) Foreign legal persons may not be authorised to possess or use military arms, lethal and non-lethal fire arms and their ammunition subject authorisation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 32. The competent authorities which issue permits for the purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition

Authorisations specified in Article 31 (2) - (4) shall be granted, as prescribed by this Law, by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior or by the police authorities for the area in which the headquarters of the legal person are located or the place where firearms and ammunition are stored.

Article 33. Conditions of purchase, possession, storage and endowment of staff with firearms and ammunition

(1) Legal persons specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) may purchase and, as appropriate, dispose of lethal and non-lethal firearms and their ammunition, under this Law, through dealers licensed to sell firearms.

(2) The categories and amounts of firearms and ammunition which may be purchased shall be established based on the specific activities which will be carried out, the number of positions to be filled with armed personnel by the managers of legal persons specified in Article 31(2) and (3), and shall be endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 32.

(3) Firearms and ammunition specified in paragraph (1) shall be stored in specially equipped premises which meet the conditions set out in Annex. 3.

(4) The specialised staff shall be endowed with firearms based on individual official orders to be issued by the managers of the legal persons specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) or, as appropriate, of the units in their subordination or in respect of which the legal person acts as their founder. The order shall specify the identification of the firearm, the identification of the owner, the duties in the course of which the holder may carry and use firearms, the places in which the holder may carry and use firearms, as well the conditions under which they may make use of the firearm.

(5) The legal person and units specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) must establish at the central level a register to keep track of the firearms and ammunition purchased, possessed and disposed of, consumed ammunition and, at the local level, a register to keep track of firearms and ammunition delivered and received, as well as of the staff endowed with them. Such records, on request, shall be made available to the authorities provided the endorsement specified in paragraph (2) of this Article.

(6) The records specified in paragraph (5) shall be kept for 20 years for lethal firearms and for 10 years for non-lethal firearms.

(7) Legal persons and units specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) must submit for registration the registers, upon their establishment, to the authorities referred to in Article 32. The records of registers specified in paragraph (5) of this Article shall be kept by the authorities referred to in Article 32.

Article 34. Endowment of staff with lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation and with their ammunition

(1) Persons which meet the following conditions may be endowed with lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation as prescribed in Article 33 (4):

- a) they have the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;
- b) they are 21 years of age;
- c) they are employed on the basis of an individual employment contract with the legal person or units specified in Article 31 (2) and (3);
- d) they meet the conditions of Article 7 (1) b) and d) and are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2);
- e) they have received instruction organised by the employer on the use for which they were endowed with firearms, as well as on the conditions in accordance with which the firearm must be carried and used, with the proper application of the provisions of Article 4 (14), Article 6 (6) Article 14 (3), Article 15 (1) and (2), Article 16 (1) and (6), Article 25 and Article 26, as appropriate, at the end of which they sign a commitment that they undertake to carry and use firearms and ammunition provided to them only for the uses and under the conditions established in the instruction.

(2) The content of the instruction specified in paragraph (1) subparagraph e) of this Article shall be established by the employer and endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 32.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall also apply to staff with responsibilities in management, administration and maintenance of firearms owned by the legal person.

(4) The provided firearms may be carried and used only during the timeframe established daily by the employer, during which the persons specified in paragraphs (1) and (3) of this Article shall fulfill their official duties which require carrying and using firearms, as well as only in the conditions and places provided for in the official order. At the end of this timeframe, the firearms shall be deposited in places specified in Article 33 (3), and the official order shall be sent to the headquarters of the legal person or of units specified in Article 31 (2) and (3), except firearms owned by the staff of the Forest Service and the staff of the Environmental Protection Service, which may keep the firearms under conditions established by law. The staff shall be forbidden to possess, carry and use the provided firearms when they are not on official duty.

(5) The firearms and ammunition provided to the staff shall be used only for the uses established by the employer, after such uses have been endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 32 in accordance with their powers specified in Article 31 (2) and (3).

(6) To endow employees with firearms, the employer shall request for each person the endorsement from the authorities specified in Article 32, through which the compliance with the conditions of paragraph (1) c) of this Article shall be confirmed.

(7) Signing of the individual employment contract requires the consent of the persons to be endowed with defence and security firearms for testing their professional and moral integrity through specialised verifications to be carried out by the authorities specified in Article 32 in order to prevent and combat the use of the firearms provided for purposes other than those specified in this Law.

(8) Sports clubs which obtained the sport identity certificate and are affiliated to the related central public authority, federations, associations and sports clubs shall be endowed with firearms and such firearms shall be used by target shooters and coaches in accordance with the conditions

to be established by an order to be approved by the specialised institution and endorsed by the local police authority and the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior.

Article 35. Endowment of staff with non-lethal firearms

(1) Non-lethal firearms (except firearms subject to authorisation) may be provided under Article 33 (4) to persons which meet the conditions specified in Article 34 (1) b), c) and e), as well as to target shooters and coaches under Article 34 (8).

(2) The conditions specified in paragraph (1) of this Article shall also apply to the staff with responsibilities in management, administration and maintenance of firearms owned by the legal person or persons specified in Article 31 (2) and (3).

Article 36. Verification of the staff endowed with firearms and ammunition, as well as of the technical condition of firearms and ammunition

(1) Legal persons and units specified in Article 31(2) and (3) must periodically carry out, at intervals established by the authorities specified in Article 32, the following activities:

- a) verification of the compliance of the staff which is endowed with firearms and ammunition with the conditions specified in Article 7 (1) d), their knowledge of the instruction referred to in Article 34 (1) f), as well as how the instruction provisions are met;
- b) verification of the technical condition of firearms and ammunition by dealers licensed in this field, as well as of the conditions in which they are kept.

(2) Authorities specified in Article 32 may require to be communicated the results of the verifications specified in paragraph (1) of this Article or may take part directly in carrying out such verifications.

Article 37. Shooting ranges for training and verification of firearms

(1) Legal persons and units specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) may build and equip shooting ranges for the training of staff endowed with firearms, and for the verification of firearms and ammunition provided as prescribed by this Law.

(2) The staff with responsibilities in administration, maintenance and supervision of shooting ranges must comply with the conditions specified in Article 34 (1) and (4).

(3) The staff which will conduct the continuous supervision of activities carried out in shooting ranges, as well as of training and coaching of persons performing training activities, must have professional training in this field.

(4) The activities which shall be permitted to be carried out in shooting ranges shall be established in the Regulations for the organisation and operation of shooting ranges to be endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 32.

Article 38. Categories of legal persons and units which may possess and use different categories of firearms and ammunition

(1) Legal persons specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) may possess and use firearms and ammunition with proper application of Article 33-37, as follows:

- a) the administrative authority specialised in forestry may possess and use through “Moldsilva” State Agency and state enterprises in respect of which it acts as their founder, firearms for defence and security, utility firearms and their ammunition to fulfill the official duties of the control bodies in forest conservation and animal protection, as well as hunting firearms and their ammunition for planned harvesting of hunting and controlling harmful animals;
- b) hunting and fishing companies legally established and operating under the applicable legislation, may possess and use, through specially appointed staff, utility firearms and their ammunition for the protection of hunting grounds, as well as hunting firearms and their ammunition for planned hunting and controlling harmful animals;
- c) higher education units related to hunting may possess and use hunting firearms and utility firearms for carrying out their teaching activities;
- d) central public administration authority in charge of fisheries and units in their subordination in respect of which it acts as their founder, may possess and use firearms and their ammunition without a projectile for endowing their staff appointed to haze harmful birds;
- e) airport administrations may possess and use utility firearms and their ammunition without projectiles to haze birds that may endanger the aircraft safety;
- f) the central public administration authority for environmental protection and units in their subordination in respect of which it acts as their founder, may possess and use firearms of defence and security, utility firearms and their ammunition necessary for carrying out specific activities related to the protection and conservation of natural habitats, biodiversity and national network of protected areas;
- g) associations, agencies, military departments, federations, sports clubs and schools, which are related to practicing target shooting and biathlons, affiliated to such legal persons, may possess and use target-shooting firearms and their ammunition, as necessary, for practicing or target shooting competitions approved by the aforementioned legal persons;
- h) film production centres, circuses, theatres and other cultural, art and sports institutions may possess and use prop firearms for their activities.
- i) art and cultural institutions, cultural, arts or sports associations may possess and use panoply firearms for their activities.

(2) If firearms are possessed under paragraph (1) g) of this Article, targetshooters shall be endowed with target-shooting firearms and their ammunition for practice and competitions only in shooting ranges without the need for them to comply with the conditions of Article 34 (1) a) -d) in accordance with the Regulations for organisation and operation of shooting ranges.

(3) If firearms are possessed under paragraph (1) d) and f) of this Article, persons appointed to use the firearms for specific activities shall be endowed with them without the need to meet the conditions specified in Article 34 (1) a) -d). The provision of panoplyfirearms or prop firearms shall also be permitted without the need to meet the condition of Article 33 (4).

Article 39. Permits for the purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition

(1) To purchase firearms and ammunition or to build and arrange shooting ranges, legal persons specified in Article 31 (2) and (3) shall submit to the authorities specified in Article 32 an application to be granted the appropriate permits, which shall be reviewed within 15 days.

(2) Authorities specified in Article 32 shall issue, endorse every 3 years, change, revoke or cancel the permits for purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition, as well as permits for construction and arrangement of shooting ranges.

(3) The procedure for issuing, endorsing, changing, revoking or cancelling the permit for the purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition shall be established in the implementation of the norms of this Law.

Article 40. Changing of permits for the purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition

(1) Permits specified in Article 39 (1) shall be changed if:

- a) the name or headquarters of the legal person changes;
- b) permits are lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged;
- c) the spaces in the permits intended for endorsements and entries are exhausted;

(2) To be issued a new permit, the legal person shall submit an application to the authorities specified in Article 32 within 10 days from the date of the occurrence of one of the cases specified in paragraph (1) a) and b) of this Article. The issuance of a new permit to change the one declared lost or stolen shall be carried out only after the publication of a corresponding notice in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 41. Revocation and cancellation of permits for the purchase, possession and use of firearms and ammunition

(1) Permits obtained under Article 39 (1) shall be revoked in the following cases:

- a) the holder discontinues the operations in respect of which the permit was issued;
- b) the holder has committed offenses for which the law prescribes the deprivation of the right to possess and use firearms;
- c) the holder has committed, within one year, more than two violations of the procedures for firearm sale or disposal, of the rules for the possession, transportation, use or registration of firearms, as well as for endorsing permits to possess and use firearms other than those specified in subparagraph b).

(2) Permits obtained under Article 39 (1) shall be cancelled in the following cases:

- a) if it was found that, at the time when the permit was issued, the holder did not meet the conditions required by law for purchase, possession or use of firearms and ammunition and, as appropriate, the conditions for the construction, arrangement and operation of shooting ranges;
- b) if the holder was granted the permit based on false documents or information.

Article 42. Duties of the legal persons authorised to possess and use firearms and ammunition

Legal persons authorised to purchase, possess and use firearms and ammunition shall have the following duties:

- a) to appear at the authorities within the period specified in Article 32 for endorsing the permits indicated in Article 39 (2);
- b) report, at least 10 days in advance, the changing of its headquarters to the police authority for the area in which the new headquarters are located to enter the respective particularities in the permit;
- c) notify the authorities specified in Article 32 about the loss, theft or destruction of the authorisation, within 24 hours from the occurrence of the event;
- d) if he/she discontinues his/her operation, to communicate this fact, within 10 days, to the authorities specified to in Article 32;
- e) to submit, within 10 days, to the authorities specified in Article 32 the documents proving the purchase or, as appropriate, transfer of firearms and ammunition for entering the respective particularities in the permit.

Article 43. Authorisation of the purchase of firearms and ammunition by legal persons specialising in security activities

(1) Legal persons specialising in security activities, established as prescribed by law, may be authorised, on request, to purchase firearms for defence and security from dealers licensed to sell firearms.

(2) Depending on their legal security activities, persons specified in paragraph (1), may be authorised to purchase firearms and ammunition, as follows:

- a) for activities related to the security of natural persons: firearms for defence and security - only for the security of persons which are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) b) and e) - g), and short non-lethal firearms - for the security of the other categories of persons;
- b) for activities related to the security of facilities, goods and values - defence and security firearms: only for security of banks, political parties, premises and work points of companies carrying out activities which constitute a state monopoly, premises of dealers, warehouses with firearms, ammunition, explosive materials, toxic substances, narcotic substances and medicines containing narcotics, precious metals and stones; facilities guarded by police officers in cooperation with companies specialising in security activities, shooting ranges in which are carried out activities with the use of lethal firearms and in other places specified to that effect in the law; and for short non-lethal firearms – for the security of the other facilities, goods and values to be carried out under the law;
- c) for the activities related to the security of transportation of valuables: short lethal firearm - only for the security of shipments of firearms, ammunition, explosives, toxic substances, narcotic substances and medicines containing narcotics, precious metals and precious stones, valuable documents, cash, bonds, checks, as well as other valuables provided by law; and non-lethal short barrel firearms - for the activities related to security of the other categories of shipments.

(3) The authorised service of the Ministry of Interior shall keep centralised records of all legal persons specialising in security activities and which are authorised to purchase, possess and use firearms and ammunition.

(4) Persons employed by organisations specialising in security activities which are endowed with firearms shall be prohibited in the course of their official duties to carry firearms with them when they are not on official duty.

Article 44. The conditions of the purchase, possession, carrying, use and endowment of staff with firearms and ammunition for the personal security of legal persons of private law which are not under the subordination or coordination of public institutions

(1) Legal persons of private law which are not under the subordination or coordination of a public institution and which ensure their own security as prescribed by law, may be authorised, on request, to purchase, possess and use for their own security activities only short non-lethal firearms and their ammunition.

(2) Article 33 (3) and Articles 34-37 shall apply to the legal persons specified in paragraph (1) of this Article accordingly with regard to the conditions under which they can possess and endow their staff with firearms and ammunition intended for their own security, as well as with regard to the conditions under which persons endowed with firearms owned by those legal persons may possess and use such firearms.

Article 45. The regime for the authorisation and operation of shooting ranges

(1) Depending on the subject of their business, legal persons which are not under the subordination or coordination of any public administration authorities specified in Article 31 (1), may build and arrange shooting ranges with lethal firearms, which, on request, may be authorised by the authorities specified in Article 32 to operate as:

- a) shooting ranges for training their own staff – for legal persons specialising in security;
- b) shooting ranges for verification of firearms and ammunition – for dealers licensed to manufacture and repair firearms;
- c) shooting ranges for training and entertainment – for legal persons authorised to organise shooting activities for training and entertainment.

(2) The operating permit specified in paragraph (1) may be granted if the following conditions are met:

- a) the shooting range meets the conditions provided for in the implementation of the norms of this Law;
- b) the staff appointed for management, maintenance and supervision of shooting ranges must comply with the conditions specified in Article 34 (1) and (4);
- c) the staff appointed to supervise the activities carried out in shooting ranges, training sessions and the coaching of persons performing test firings of arms, practicing firing or taking theoretical and hands-on training courses specified in Article 7 (1) b) must comply with the conditions referred to in Article 37 (3);

d) have specialised full-time staff appointed to provide the first aid and emergency medical care in the event of any accident in the shooting range.

(3) Activities that may be carried out in shooting ranges shall be established in the Regulations on organisation and operation of shooting ranges, which will be endorsed by the authorities specified in Article 32.

Article 46. Conditions for purchasing firearms and ammunition intended to be used in shooting ranges

(1) Legal persons whose shooting ranges were authorised to operate under the conditions of Article 45 (1) a) and c) may be authorised, on request, to purchase firearms and ammunition from dealers licensed in the field, if they comply with the following conditions:

a) lethal and non-lethal firearms subject to authorisation – on the basis of the firearm purchase;

b) non-lethal firearms and their ammunition – as prescribed by law.

(2) To receive a permit to purchase, possess and use firearms and ammunition from the authorities specified in Article 32, legal persons specified in Article 45 (1) shall draw up a plan for the endowment with firearms and ammunition, to be submitted to these authorities together with the application for the authorisation.

(3) Only the purchase of firearms and ammunition for which the shooting range has been authorised to use in its premises shall be authorised. The amount of firearms and ammunition that may be purchased shall be established by the competent authority which shall issue the authorisation for the necessary amount of firearms and ammunition specified in the endowment plan referred to in paragraph (2).

Article 47. The conditions of access for various categories of persons to shooting ranges

(1) Depending on the use of the shooting range, the following categories of persons shall be permitted to access and perform firings within its premises:

a) the staff hired by the legal person specialising in security entitled to carry and use firearms and ammunition – in shooting ranges specified in Article 45 (1) a);

b) staff specialising in the repair and testing of firearms hired by dealers licensed to repair firearms – in shooting ranges specified in Article 45 (1) b);

c) holders of firearm permits and persons which attained their majority, provided that they are accompanied by a person which will supervise and train them – in shooting ranges specified in Article 45 (1) c);

(2) Persons who have access to shooting ranges under paragraph (1) a) and c) may perform firings with the firearm they were endowed with or with the firearms of the shooting range.

(3) In cases specified in paragraph (1) a) and c) of this Article, the access to shooting ranges shall also be permitted with the firearm the person was endowed with or the firearm which is entered in the firearm permit belonging to the respective person in order to perform firings with those firearms. Holders of the right to possess the firearms entered in the firearm permit shall have access only if they show the permit specified in Article 15 (3).

(4) If shooting ranges specified in Article 45 (1) c) are intended exclusively for firings with non-lethal firearms, the access to them shall be permitted for any person who is 14 years of age, provided that minors under 18 are accompanied by an adult. The access for these persons to the shooting range shall also be permitted with firearms and ammunition which they own if they hold the certificate of ownership in which the firearms are entered.

(5) If incidents which result in casualties or property damage occur in the shooting range, the shooting range manager must act in accordance with the provisions of Article 17 (1) and (2).

Chapter 6

REGIME OF THE MOVEMENT OF FIREARM AND AMMUNITION

Article 48. The conditions for the possession and selling of firearms and ammunition

(1) Firearms and ammunition manufactured in the Republic of Moldova may be possessed or sold only if they meet the following conditions:

- a) are marked by a dealer licensed to manufacture firearms;
- b) are certified by accredited certification bodies and are notified as prescribed by law;
- c) firearms were entered in the State Register of Arms.

(2) Firearms and ammunition manufactured abroad and brought into the territory of the Republic of Moldova may be sold or possessed by natural and legal persons from the Republic of Moldova only if they:

- a) are marked by the manufacturer from abroad;
- b) are endorsed by the body authorised to conduct the conformity assessment of firearms and ammunition in accordance with the conformity assessment regulations, except for firearms and ammunition specified in Article 52 (7);
- c) were entered in the State Register of Arms.

(3) Firearms and ammunition which transit the Republic of Moldova under the law shall be exempted from compliance with the requirements specified in paragraph (1)

(4) Firearms and ammunition specified in paragraph (1) may be sold only to dealers licensed in firearm sales.

Article 49. Marking of firearms and ammunition manufactured by dealers from the Republic of Moldova

(1) Dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and/or ammunition must, during the manufacturing process, make identification markings on firearms and ammunition.

(2) The markings specified in paragraph (1) must include the following elements:

- a) the country sign of the Republic of Moldova;
- b) the sign of the dealer which manufactures them;
- c) the sign corresponding to the category specified in Annex 1, in which the firearm or caliber of the ammunition is classified;
- d) year of manufacturing of firearms and ammunition, the sequence number of each firearm established for each category provided for in Annex 1.

(3) The form and content of the elements specified in paragraph (2) shall be established in the implementation of the norms of this Law.

Article 50. Record keeping of firearms and ammunition manufactured in the Republic of Moldova

(1) Dealers which manufacture firearms and ammunition must keep records of their manufacturing in the registries on firearms and ammunition established and endorsed by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior.

(2) Registers established under paragraph (1) shall be registered with the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior, which shall keep the record of registers of all dealers licensed in firearm and ammunition manufacturing.

(3) Records in the registers specified in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be kept based on the criteria stipulated in Article 49 (2) b) -d).

(4) Records of lethal and non-lethal firearms and their ammunition manufactured in the Republic of Moldova shall be classified as state secret information.

Article 51. Keeping records of manufactured firearms and ammunition

(1) Registers specified in Article 50 (1) shall be kept for 20 years at dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and ammunition, after which they are submitted for archiving to the authority referred to in Article 50 (1).

(2) If the dealer ceases to manufacture firearms and ammunition, the registers specified in Article 50 (1) shall be submitted to the authority referred to in Article 50 (1) within 10 days from the date of termination of activity.

Article 52.Confirmation of firearms and ammunition conformity

(1) The activity related to the confirmation of firearms and ammunition conformity shall be carried out by an institution, organisation or company accredited in the field and shall aim to establish a system of conformity and compliance with the safety criteria established through the norms on confirmation of firearms and ammunition conformity.

(2) The activity related to confirmation of conformity specified in paragraph (1) shall be carried out taking into account the following objectives:

- a) the technical characteristics of firearms and ammunition should meet the uses established by this Law;
 - b) the possession and use of firearms and ammunition should meet the safety criteria such as not to create a risk of accidents that could endanger the life, health, and physical integrity of the owner or of other persons which are not involved in situations that require the legitimate use of firearms, as well as a risk of accidents which may cause property damage.
- (3) To achieve the objectives specified in paragraph (2), the conformity shall be confirmed for:
- a) firearms, ammunition and their components;
 - b) technological lines for manufacturing of firearms and ammunition;
 - c) crossbows and their arrows;
 - d) electroshock devices.

(4) The conformity of components specified in paragraph (3) with the criteria established through the conformity norms shall be confirmed by a certificate of conformity issued by a specialised body accredited in the field of conformity confirmation.

(5) The conformity of firearms and ammunition specified in paragraph Article 48 (2) with the requirements established through the conformity norms shall be confirmed by a certificate of conformity issued by a specialised institution, organisation or company accredited in the field of conformity confirmation.

(6) The duties of the institution, organisation or company accredited in the field of conformity confirmation, the conformity norms and procedure shall be established in the implementation of the norms of this Law.

(7) Firearms and ammunition, the conformity of which has been confirmed, approved in the country of origin with which the Republic of Moldova has signed agreements on mutual recognition of conformity assessment results which have the marking of trial test stations of the member countries of the Permanent International Commission and are imported from these countries shall not be subject to repeated conformity confirmation or approval.

(8) If, the procedure of conformity confirmation or periodical technical inspection finds that firearms are not compliant with the criteria established in the conformity procedure, the firearms shall be submitted according to their use to the dealer licensed in firearm repair in order to be repaired or converted into deactivated arms or, as appropriate, shall be submitted for destruction to the local competent police authority to be handed over to the State Commission for firearms evaluation, indemnification and discarding.

Article 53. Periodic technical inspection

(1) Dealers licensed to repair firearms shall, when firearm permits are endorsed or firearms are disposed of, conduct the periodic technical inspection of firearms to identify if whether they meet the essential safety conditions.

(2) If the technical inspection finds that the verified elements meet the essential safety conditions, the dealer licensed to repair firearms shall issue to the natural or legal person which owns the firearms, the periodic technical inspection certificate, which shall be valid for 5 years as prescribed by law.

Article 54. The establishment and keeping of the State Register of Arms

(1) The Ministry of Interior is the owner and holder of the State Register of Arms and has the following duties in managing the regime of the movement of firearms and ammunition:

- a) keep the records of operations with firearms and ammunition by entering the relevant particularities in the register on persons who have purchased them;
- b) keep the records of dealers which conduct operations with firearms;
- c) keep the records of procedural steps taken by the competent authorities in cases of declaration of loss, theft or destruction of firearms and ammunition in circulation, making the necessary entries in the register;

d) cooperate with national and foreign institutions and relevant international organisations to monitor operations with firearms.

(2) The Regulations on keeping the State Register of Arms shall be approved by the Government.

(3) Dealers which manufacture firearms and ammunition must keep automated records of manufactured firearms and ammunition. The verification of records of firearms and ammunition shall be performed by the Ministry of Interior.

(4) The transmission of personal data about firearm owners and their firearms shall be performed with the unconditional consent of the subject of such personal data, except in cases prescribed by law.

(5) Ministries, other central administrative authorities, natural and legal persons licensed in this field whose activities generate, modify or suspend the law relations in the field of firearms and ammunition for civilian use will submit, in this connection, the relevant data to be entered in the State Register of Arms within 30 working days from the date of entry into force of the adopted decision.

(6) The Automated Information System “State Register of Arms” will have real time access to the State Register of Population and State Register of Legal Persons to assure the exchange of information between the authorities which carry out specific investigation actions through “Access-Web” search system.

Chapter 7

REGIME OF OPERATIONS WITH FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

Article 55. Conducting operations with firearms and ammunition

(1) Operations with firearms and ammunition may be conducted in the Republic of Moldova only by dealers or through them, as prescribed by this Law, except by natural persons which, on the basis of the firearm transportation permit, may import or export from the country, under the law, lethal and non-lethal firearms and ammunition.

(2) Dealers may conduct operations with firearms and ammunition on the basis of a license issued by the Ministry of Interior.

(3) The following operations with firearms and ammunition shall be subject to regulation through licensing:

- a) import and sale of firearms and ammunition;
- b) repair of firearms;
- c) manufacturing of firearms and/or ammunition.

Article 56. Licensing conditions and the license fee

(1) The license for conducting commercial and import operations with firearms and ammunition shall be granted to the legal person which meets the following conditions:

- a) has premises intended for the storage of firearms and ammunition which meet the conditions stipulated in Annex 3;
 - b) has premises intended for conducting commercial operations with firearms and ammunitions which meet the conditions stipulated in Annex 4;
 - c) the company manager took training courses on firearms and ammunition organised by an authority accredited in accordance with the law;
 - d) the seller took training courses on firearms and ammunition;
 - e) all employees of the company comply with the conditions of Article 7 (1) a) and d), they are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) a), b) and e) - g), and are licensed by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition.
- (2) The license to repair firearms shall be granted only if the applicant meets the following conditions:
- a) has premises intended for the repair and maintenance of firearms which meet the requirements stipulated in Annex 5;
 - b) at least one employee has a relevant degree in the field;
 - c) all employees meet the conditions of Article 7 (1) a) and d), they are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) a), b) and e) - g), and are licensed by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition.
- (3) The license for the manufacturing of firearms and/or ammunition shall be granted only if the applicant meets the following conditions:
- a) has premises intended for the manufacturing of firearms and/or ammunition which meet the conditions established in the implementing norms of this Law;
 - b) has premises intended for firearm storage, as well as premises intended exclusively for storing ammunition, blasting caps or gunpowder for ammunition which meet the conditions stipulated in Annex 3;
 - c) has production lines for manufacturing firearms and ammunition which have passed the conformity procedures as prescribed by law;
 - d) the company manager has a relevant degree in the field;
 - e) at least one employee has a degree in the field;
 - f) all employees meet the conditions of Article 7 (1) a) and d), they are not in any of the cases specified in Article 7 (2) a), b) and e) - g), and are licensed by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition.
- (4) The fee for issuing the license for carrying out activities specified in Article 58 a) is MDL 10,000, for the activity specified in Article 58 b) - MDL 5,000, and for the activities specified in Article 58 c) - MDL 20,000. The license shall be issued for a 5-year term.
- (5) The fee changing the license and/or for issuance of license copies shall be established at a ratio of 10 percent of the license fee for issuance of the license, and MDL 500 for the issuance of a duplicate.
- (6) The fees for issuance, changing of licenses and/or for issuance of license copies or of a duplicate license shall be transferred to the state budget.

(7) The sample of the license form and its annexes, as well as the procedure for issuing, changing licenses and/or issuing license copies, or issuing a duplicate license shall be established in the implementing norms of this Law.

Article 57. Grounds for revoking or suspending the license

(1) The license for conducting import and sale operations with firearms and ammunition shall be withdrawn in the following cases:

- a) non-fulfillment of duties specified in Article 59 (1) a) to c);
- b) sale of prohibited or illegally held firearms;
- c) sale or storage of firearms or ammunition in premises that do not meet the established conditions;
- d) non-fulfillment of conditions specified in Article 56 (1) e);
- e) sale of firearms subject to authorisation and their ammunition to persons which do not have the relevant authorisation or the original identification document present.

(2) The license specified in paragraph (1) shall be suspended in the following cases:

- a) non-fulfillment by the holder of the conditions specified in Article 56 (1) a)-d);
- b) non-fulfillment of the conditions specified in Article 59 (1) d) or g);
- c) non-fulfillment of the recommendations issued by the body authorised to conduct the control of firearms and ammunition.

(3) The license on firearm repair shall be revoked in the following cases:

- a) storage or repair of prohibited firearms or for which there is no proof that they are legally owned;
- b) modification or deactivation of firearms without the authorisation issued as prescribed;
- c) non-fulfillment of the conditions specified in Article 66 (2).

(4) The license specified in paragraph (3) shall be suspended in the following cases:

- a) non-fulfillment by the holder of the conditions specified in Article 56(2).
- d) non-fulfillment of the recommendations issued by the body authorised to conduct the control of firearms and ammunition.

(5) The license for manufacturing firearms and/or ammunition shall be revoked in the following cases:

- a) non-fulfillment of the conditions specified in Article 49 (1) and (2), Article 50 (1) and (2) or Article 51 (1);
- b) manufacturing of prohibited firearms or ammunition;
- f) manufacturing or storage of firearms or ammunition in premises which do not meet the established conditions;
- c) the sale of firearms or ammunition that have not passed the conformity procedure in the prescribed manner;
- d) non-fulfillment of the conditions specified in Article 48 (4).

(6) The license specified in paragraph (5) shall be suspended in the following cases:

- a) non-fulfillment by the holder of the conditions specified in Article 56 (3);

- b) non-fulfillment of the recommendations issued by the body authorised to conduct the control of firearms and ammunition.

Article 58. Categories of operations which may be conducted by licensed dealers

Dealers licensed in accordance with Article 56 may carry out the following activities:

- a) dealers licensed to import and sell firearms and ammunition: purchase, sale, storage, import, export, re-export, transshipment, transfer and transport of firearms, ammunition and their components, and intermediation of such operations;
- b) dealers licensed to repair firearms: keeping, repair, deactivation, completion, testing and verification of firearms, performing regular technical inspections;
- c) dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and/or ammunition: manufacturing, fabrication, production, assembly, processing, testing, storage, sale, transport, export, disposal and destruction of firearms and ammunition, as well as import, export, re-export of parts and components of firearms and/or ammunition.

Article 59. Duties of dealers licensed to import and sell firearms and ammunition

(1) Dealers licensed to import and sell firearms and ammunition have the following duties:

- d) to introduce in commercial use only the firearms and ammunition which meet the conditions of Article 48 (1) and (2);
- e) to sell firearms and ammunition only to natural and legal persons authorised to purchase firearms on the basis of their original identification documents presented and, for firearms with rifled barrels - only after submitting to the competent police authority each firearm with a rifled barrel together with three cartridges of appropriate calibre for each firearm to perform the experimental firing and register the projectile and the cartridge case (transexperimental) in the operative records of the Ministry of Interior. Experimental firing shall be confirmed in a minutes - for legal persons, and in a certificate - for natural persons;
- f) only to purchase firearms and ammunition from foreign or Moldovan legal persons authorised to conduct such operations, as well as from natural persons who own and dispose of firearms legally;
- g) to establish registers for operations with firearms and ammunition according to the samples approved by the Minister of Interior's order which have a special regime and are registered with the authorised service of the Minister of Interior, and submit the registers for verification to a specially appointed police officer;
- h) to submit for verification the documents on operations with firearms and ammunition to the authorised police authorities, as well as documents on the basis of which they sold the firearms;
- i) to submit on a monthly basis to the police authority for the area in which the home address of the natural person is or the headquarters of the legal person are, the lists of persons who purchased lethal and non-lethal firearms, as well as the identification of these firearms, and in case of firearms with rifled barrels to also communicate them to the services of the

Ministry of Interior authorised to manage the State Register of Arms and registration and keeping of operative records of the projectile and cartridge cases (transexperimental);

- j) to ensure the full safety of firearms and ammunition in their possession, so that buyers or visitors not be able to take a firearm from the rack or shelf;
- k) to enter in the purchase permit issued by the police authorities and submitted by the buyer the data necessary for identification of the firearm sold and its position in the Register of firearms put up for sale;
- l) to issue the depositor a proof of receipt of firearms and ammunition, and after the sale - a copy of the invoice;
- m) to notify the police authority immediately upon finding that the firearms received on consignment from natural and legal persons have obvious signs of modification or characteristics that are different from the original;
- n) to request the police endorsement for persons employed to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition.

(2) The registers specified in paragraph (1) d) shall be kept by the dealer for 10 years and must contain the data necessary for the identification of each firearm, namely: the category, brand, model, calibre, marking content, as well as identification data of the supplier and of the recipient of each operation. When the 10-year term expires, the records shall be submitted to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior for archiving.

(3) To conduct commercial and import operations of firearms and ammunition as prescribed by this Law, dealers must apply in advance with the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior for a purchase permit and a transportation permit, and for export and re-export operations – for a transfer permit.

(4) The purchase permit and the transportation permit for import operations, as well as the transfer permit for export and re-export operations, shall be issued separately for each operation and only for the category, brand and amount of firearms and ammunition that are the subject of each operation. Permits shall be valid for 6 months from the date on which they were issued. The failure to conduct on time the operation for which the permit was granted, regardless of the reason, shall lead to the cancellation of the permit. The failure to conduct the operation during the term for which the permit was granted, regardless of the reason, shall lead to the cancellation of the permit.

(5) To conduct import, export, re-export and transit operations with firearms and ammunition specified in the Nomenclature of strategic goods, dealers must obtain in advance as prescribed by this Law the appropriate authorisation from the Interdepartmental Commission for the control over export, import and transit of strategic goods.

(6) The legal person must, within 30 days from the date of import, export or re-export, submit to the authority specified in paragraph (3) the documents based on which the operation was conducted.

(7) The use of firearms or ammunition purchased shall be changed by the dealers as prescribed by this Law with the authorisation of the authority specified in paragraph (3).

(8) The legal person must, within 30 days from the date of import, export or re-export, submit to the authority specified in paragraph (3) the documents based on which the operation was conducted.

Article 60. Duties of dealers licensed to repair firearms

Dealers licensed to repair firearms have the following duties:

- a) submit on a monthly basis to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior the list of firearms with rifled barrels he/she received for repair, of which he/she replaced one or more parts specified Article 66 (2), as well as the list of owners of these firearms;
- b) keep the records of repairs in registers established under Article 59 (1) d) and submit them for verification to competent police authorities;
- c) to accept for repair only firearms for which there is a proof that they are legally owned;
- d) to immediately notify the nearest police authority if the firearm owner does not prove that he/she owns the firearm legally.

Article 61. Duties of dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and/or ammunition

(1) Dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and/or ammunition shall have the following duties:

- a) to manufacture only firearms and ammunition and to conduct operations which are permitted on the territory of the Republic of Moldova;
- b) to manufacture firearms and ammunition in accordance with their technical and safety norms;
- c) to mark, as prescribed, firearms and ammunition on the date they are manufactured, as well as on the date on which they are transferred from governmental stocks into the permanent civilian circuit;
- d) to establish registers of the manufactured firearms and ammunition, as well as registers of all operations upon entry and exit of firearms, ammunition, their spare parts and components, which shall contain unique identification, i.e. the category, brand, model, calibre and series of the firearm, and the name, address and identification number of the person who purchased the arm;
- e) to establish registers according to samples approved by the Minister of Interior, which have a special regime, and register them at the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior and submit them for verification to the specially appointed police officers;
- f) to have a laboratory for testing firearms and ammunition, accredited as prescribed;
- g) to perform the testing of firearms and ammunition;
- h) to sell only firearms and ammunition whose safety indicators have been evaluated through certification, inspection, testing or laboratory tests to verify their compliance with the conformity norms;
- i) to organise and conduct the decommissioning and destruction of firearms and ammunition which do not meet the conformity norms;

- j) to sell firearms and ammunition only wholesale and only to legal persons authorised to purchase and transport them on the basis of the original identification document of the person responsible for conducting the operation concerned;
- k) to submit for verification to the competent police authorities the documents on conducted operations with firearms and ammunition, and documents on the basis of which they sold the firearms;
- l) to submit on a monthly basis to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior the lists of legal persons which purchased firearms and ammunition, as well as the identification of those firearms;
- m) to ensure the integrity and full safety of firearms and ammunition which are under their management;
- n) to request the endorsement from the police for persons employed to conduct operations with firearms and ammunition.

(2) To conduct commercial and import operations of spare parts and components of firearms and/or ammunition as prescribed by this Law, dealers licensed to manufacture firearms and/or ammunition must apply in advance with the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior for a purchase permit and a transportation permit, and for export and re-export operations – for a transfer permit.

(3) The purchase permit and the transportation permit for import operations, as well as the transfer permit for export and re-export operations, shall be issued separately for each operation and only for the category, brand and amount of firearms and ammunition, their spare parts and components that are the subject of each operation. Permits shall be valid for 6 months. The failure to conduct the operation during the term for which the permit was granted, regardless of the reason, shall lead to the cancellation of the permit.

(4) Within 30 days from the date of import, export or re-export, the legal person must submit to the authority specified in paragraph (2) the documents on the basis of which the operation was conducted.

(5) The use of firearms or ammunition manufactured by dealers under this Law shall be changed with the authorisation of the authority specified in paragraph (2).

Article 62. Duties of legal persons authorised to transport firearms and ammunition

Legal persons authorised to transport firearms and ammunition shall have the following duties:

- a) ensure the security of firearms transportation, as well as their safety;
- b) if more than 5 units of firearms or more than 2,500 of cartridges are transported, this shall be communicated to the police authority for the area in which the place of destination of the consignment is, 5 days prior to its transportation, and a copy of the security plan for firearms and ammunition transportation or a copy of the transport order will be submitted.

Article 63. Transfer of lethal firearms and ammunition from the Republic of Moldova to another state

(1) The dealers in the Republic of Moldova licensed to import and sell or manufacture firearms and their ammunition may transfer lethal firearms and their ammunition to a person from another state provided they have obtained in advance a transfer license for each operation, and in case of a transfer of firearms and their ammunition specified in the Nomenclature of strategic goods, they have obtained the authorisation of the Interdepartmental Commission for the control over export, import and transit of strategic goods.

(2) The firearms transfer permit shall be granted, on request, by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior under the following conditions:

- a) the dealer shall communicate the information specified in Article 64 (4) and the purpose of the transfer to the police authority;
- b) the recipient shall have the authorisation issued by the competent authorities of the State in which he/she is, to purchase and own arms which will be transferred to him/her.

(3) The firearms transfer permit should contain the data specified in Article 64 (4) which were communicated by the dealer, and shall be valid only for firearms and the term entered in it. The document must accompany the firearm throughout the transfer, up to the destination, and is subject to control by the competent authorities of transit countries.

(4) The authorised service of the Ministry of Interior must communicate to the competent authorities of the country of destination the data from the firearm transfer permit no later than the start date of the transfer operation.

Article 64. Permit for the transfer of firearms without prior consent

(1) Dealers in the Republic of Moldova licensed to conduct import, export and re-export operations may request the issuance of a permit for firearm transfers without prior consent on the basis of which they may transfer firearms to dealers in states where such a transfer is not conditional, by obtaining a provisional authorisation for the entire period of validity of the document, only for categories of firearms and to the states entered in the firearm transfer permit.

(2) The permit for firearm transfers without prior consent shall be issued on the basis of the application to be submitted to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior for a period of one year only for categories of firearms for which the authorisation was requested.

(3) The following data shall be entered in the permit for firearm transfers without prior consent:

- a) identification of the dealer;
- b) categories of firearms and ammunition which are the subject of transfer operations with firearms;
- c) states which permit bringing into their territory without prior consent the categories of firearms which are the subject of transfer operations with firearms;
- d) the period of validity of the permit for firearms transfer without prior consent;

(4) Conducting any transfer operation with firearms on the basis of the permit specified in paragraph (1) shall be conditional upon the submission of the following information by the dealer to the competent police authority, no later than before the start date of the operation:

- a) the name and address of the seller or of person which disposes of the firearms and of the buyer or customer and of the owner;

- b) the address of the recipient of the transferred or transported firearms;
- c) the number of firearms to be transported;
- d) identification characteristics of each firearm and particularities of the firearm which was the subject of the control of identification markings;
- e) the means of firearm transfers;
- f) departure date and estimated arrival date.

(5) The authorised service of the Ministry of Interior shall submit immediately to the competent authorities of the State of destination of the firearm transfers the data communicated by the dealers under paragraph (4).

(6) The permit for firearm transfers without prior consent may be cancelled or, as appropriate, suspended by the competent police authorities, by adopting a reasoned decision, whenever there is credible evidence that the transfer operation is a threat to public order, national security, life and physical integrity of persons.

Article 65. Import of firearms and ammunition

(1) A dealer licensed to import and sell firearms and ammunition under this Law, shall be entitled to import lethal and non-lethal firearms and ammunition on the basis of the firearm purchase permit and firearm transportation permit.

(2) Permits specified in paragraph (1) shall be issued, on request, by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior for a period of 6 months only for the categories of firearms and ammunition for which the authorisation is requested.

(3) The following data shall be entered in the purchase permit:

- a) identification of the dealer;
- b) the categories, calibre and amount of firearms and ammunition which are the subject of purchase and import operations;
- c) the period of validity of the permit;
- d) the period of validity of the permit for the transfer of firearms without prior consent.

(4) The following data shall be entered in the firearm transportation permit:

- a) identification of the dealer;
- b) the categories, calibre and amount of firearms and ammunition which are the subject of transport and import operations;
- c) the country from which firearms are imported;
- d) the identification of the person responsible for transport and import operations;
- e) the period of validity of the permit.

(5) Permits specified in paragraph (1) which have not been used during the prescribed term shall be returned to the issuing authority.

Article 66. Repair of firearms, replacement of components and spare parts of firearms

(1) Repair of firearms and replacement of firearm components and spare parts shall be performed by a dealer licensed in the repair of firearms.

(2) Replacement of essential components and spare parts of firearms with rifled barrels (hammer, barrel, claw extractor, ejector, breech-mechanism, slide) shall be performed on the basis of the authorisation issued as prescribed by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior.

(3) To replace the components and spare parts specified in paragraph (2) of firearms with rifled barrels, the firearm owner shall, within 10 days, present the firearms with three cartridges to the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior to perform the experimental firing for the collection of bullets and cartridge cases.

Article 67. Regime of firearms which have become unsuitable for use

(1) Arms which due to irreparable damage have become unsuitable for use shall be reviewed by the State Commission for firearm evaluation, indemnification and discarding.

(2) Firearms considered unsuitable for use are those which have falsified, destroyed, removed or modified marking, which, after the ballistic examination, if they do not constitute material evidence, shall be submitted for decommissioning to the State Commission for firearm evaluation, indemnification and discarding.

(3) Firearms, which cannot be restored to be functional, may be deactivated and kept as collectorfirearms or panoply firearms, training firearms or as museum pieces, and the unsalable firearms, decommissioned firearms or their components shall be handed over for decommissioning and destruction to the Ministry of Interior.

Article 68. Deactivation of firearms

(1) Firearms shall be deactivated by a dealer licensed in firearm repair on the basis of a permit for the deactivation of firearms.

(2) The permit for the deactivation of firearms shall be issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior on the basis of an application submitted by the owner of the firearms.

(3) The firearm is deemed deactivated when all its essential components have finally become inoperable and cannot be removed, replaced or modified so that the firearm can be re-activated.

(4) Deactivation of a firearm by modifying and converting it irreversibly in a permanently inoperable stateshall be confirmed in a technical-scientific report issued by the authorised service of the Ministry of Interior, which serves as the basis for cancelling its registration.

(5) Deactivated firearms shall be used only for training, panoply, collection and as a museum or exhibition pieces.

(6) The procedure for deactivating firearms shall establish the norms for the application of this Law.

Article 69. Regime of gunpowder

Gunpowder used for the manufacturing of cartridges shall be stored in a safe or in a metal cabinet with the following restrictions:

- a) it is permitted to store no more than 20 kg net weight of gunpowder in buildings with commercial premises, in a room next to such commercial premises,

- b) it is prohibited to store gunpowder in commercial premises, except in the amounts put up for sale;
- c) it is permitted to store no more than 50 kg net weight of gunpowder in non-residential buildings in residential areas, in the storeroom of the building used exclusively for industrial purposes;
- d) amounts that exceed those specified in subparagraphs a) and c) shall be stored only in warehouses for explosives, as authorised by law;
- e) import, re-export and sale of gunpowder shall be permitted only to legal persons licensed by the Ministry of Interior's authorised service.

Article 70. Withdrawal of firearms and ammunition

(1) In cases specified in Article 19 (1), (3), (6), (7) and (9), firearms and ammunition shall be withdrawn by the police authority for the area in which the owner of the firearms resides.

(2) Firearms specified in paragraph (1) shall be handed over to the State Commission for firearms evaluation, indemnification and discarding.

(3) Firearms and ammunition shall be withdrawn if they lack ownership documents confirming the legality of their ownership.

(4) Firearms shall be withdrawn if their marking is falsified, destroyed, removed or modified.

(5) Firearms shall be withdrawn if they are converted, have their barrel or butt of a rifle shortened or are adapted to use silencers due to noise produced by the combustion of the load.

(6) Firearms and ammunition shall be withdrawn upon reviewing appeals or petitions on their illegal use or misuse, as well as for the violation of normative acts on hunting.

(7) Firearms and ammunition shall be withdrawn in other cases specified by law.

Article 71. The control in the field of firearms and ammunition

(1) The Ministry of Interior is the competent authority which, through its representatives, carries out the control of compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime as prescribed by this Law.

(2) When carrying out the control of compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime, the control authority shall take into account the following principles:

- a) legality and compliance with the competences established by legislation;
- b) interpretation of doubts arising from the implementation of legislation in favour of the person subjected to control;
- c) issuance of recommendations to eliminate violations found during the control.

(3) Planned controls of how natural and legal persons comply with the firearms and ammunition regime shall be carried out by the control authority no more than every 6 calendar months, involving, as appropriate, the representatives of institutions with regulatory and supervisory functions, according to their competence;

(4) Unannounced controls shall be carried out only based on a written notification received from institutions with regulatory and supervisory functions on violations committed by a person to

be subjected to the control for compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime or fulfillment of the order to eliminate the violations related to the firearms and ammunition regime.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4), in the cases and according to the procedures established expressly by other laws, unannounced controls of the compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime may be carried out by the control authority on its own initiative or on the basis of a written notification received in accordance with the legislation on the protection of consumer rights or legislation on petitions.

(6) When carrying out the control of the compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime, the person subjected to control shall present the information and documents relevant to the purpose of such control and comply with the conditions for conducting the control.

(7) Based on the control results, a control report shall be drawn up in two copies, one shall be sent to the person subjected to control, and the other shall remain at the control authority. If the person subjected to control disagrees with the control results, he/she may submit, within 5 working days from the date the control report was drawn up, a written justification of the disagreement to be accompanied by all necessary documents.

(8) If violations of the firearms and ammunition regime are found, the control authority shall, within 15 working days from the date of drawing up the control report, issue an order on elimination of violations, comprising recommendations on how to eliminate all deficiencies found and a warning of possible suspension or revocation of the permit for the possession of firearms or, as appropriate, the operating authorisation of the shooting range, if the violations found are not eliminated within the prescribed term.

(9) Upon receipt of the order on elimination of violations of the firearms and ammunition regime, the person subjected to control must, within the period indicated in it, submit to the control authority the information about the elimination of violations.

(10) If violations of the firearms and ammunition regime are found, the institutions with regulation and control functions must inform the control authority or, as appropriate, the licensing authority, and provide them with the relevant documents. The control authority or, as appropriate, the licensing authority shall, on the basis of documents submitted, verify the compliance with the firearms and ammunition regime, and, as appropriate, with the licensing conditions, and shall issue, as necessary, within 15 working days, an order on eliminating the violations of the firearms and ammunition regime or, as appropriate, of licensing conditions in accordance with paragraph (8).

Chapter 8

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 72

(1) The fees for service provision and for issuing documents in the field of firearms and ammunition are established in Annex 2.

(2) Central and local public administration authorities, institutions, organisations, enterprises, or other legal persons and dealers which own or use firearms and ammunition will undertake, within one year of the entry into force of this Law, the measures necessary to fulfill its provisions.

(3) Licenses issued before the entry into force of this Law and the entrepreneurship activity resulting from the licensed field, but which is not subject to licensing, shall be deemed valid before the expiration of license validity.

(4) Natural and legal persons who own firearms must, within two years from the date of entry into force of this Law, appear at the police authorities for the area in which their home address or headquarters are located, to verify the compliance with the conditions necessary for owning or carrying and using firearms and for issuing the relevant documents under the law.

(5) The persons specified in paragraph (4) which, within two years of the entry into force of this Law, do not take steps to comply with its provisions, shall lose their right to own, carry and use firearms and ammunition.

Article 73

(1) This Law shall enter into force after 12 months from its publication.

(2) The Government, within 12 months from the date of publication of this Law:

- a) will submit to the Parliament proposals on bringing the existing legislation into conformity with this Law;
- b) will bring its normative acts in conformity with this Law;
- c) will make sure that ministries and other authorities revise and abrogate their normative acts that contravene the provisions of this Law;
- d) will draft the normative acts necessary for the implementation of this Law.

(3) Upon entry into force of this Law, the Law no. 110-XIII of 18 May 1994 on Arms (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 1994, no. 4, Art. 43), with its further amendments, shall be repealed.

SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT
No. 130. Chisinau, 8 June 2012.

Marian LUPU

[Annex 1](#)

[Annex 2](#)

[Annex 3](#)

[Annex 4](#)

[Annex 5](#)