

STATEMENT BY PERMANENT MISSION OF TÜRKİYE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS TENTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

Geneva, 30 August - 2 September 2022

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Mr. President,

At the outset, please allow me to congratulate you on your assumption of the Presidency of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties.

Mr. President,

Türkiye supports all efforts to sustain international security through arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament.

We share the humanitarian concerns behind the efforts to limit the indiscriminate use of cluster munitions.

In this regard, Türkiye is deeply concerned about the use of cluster munitions against civilians and condemns such actions wherever it occurs.

While not a signatory to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), Türkiye was present at the Signing Conference of the Convention and has been represented in the Meetings of States Parties as an observer.

This is a clear display of my country's interest in the matter.

Although Türkiye is not a party to the CCM, it has never used cluster munitions, nor does it not intend to do so in the future.

Being that said, we are not yet in a position at this stage to assume additional responsibilities regarding cluster munitions.

Currently, our primary aim is to fulfil our obligations arising from the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

Mr. President,

In the "Review Document of the Dubrovnik Action Plan" which was adopted in the Second Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) (held on 25-27 November 2020 in a virtual format and on 20-21 September 2021 in a hybrid format), particularly in its 18th paragraph, Türkiye was listed among the countries which have produced cluster munitions and have not renounced such an activity in the past five years.

Unfortunately, this official document of the Convention does not reflect the fact that Türkiye has not produced, imported, used or transferred cluster munitions since 2005.

This fact has been stated officially through several occasions.

Our delegation declared in the 7th Meeting of States Parties held in 2017 that Türkiye *quote* does not use, transfer, produce or import cluster munitions *unquote*.

Another instance is the letter dated 23 June 2020, sent by H.E. Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu, Permanent Representative of Türkiye to the United Nations in New York, addressed to H.E. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, which states *quote* I should also point out that my country has not produced, imported, or transferred cluster munitions since 2005 *unquote*.

We have also conveyed in a letter to the President of the Second Review Conference dated 19 April 2021, stating that Türkiye *quote* has never used, produced, imported or transferred cluster munitions since 2005, nor does it intend to do so in the future *unquote*.

Following the adoption of the Review Document, our position was also shared with Your Excellency as the President of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties through a letter dated 5 October 2021, which was circulated among the CCM State Parties as requested.

We expect this fact will duly be taken into consideration in future documents.

Thank you, Mr. President.