



**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE**

**CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS
ELEVENTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

Geneva, 11-14 September 2023

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Mr. President,

At the outset, we would like to congratulate you on your assumption of the Presidency of the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties.

Mr. President,

Despite not being a signatory to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), Türkiye shares the humanitarian considerations that guide the efforts to limit the indiscriminate use of weapons, including cluster munitions and appreciates the humanitarian spirit embodied in the Convention.

We are particularly concerned about the use of cluster munitions against civilians.

Türkiye supported the drafting of a protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) concerning cluster munitions, which would include major users and producers and strengthen the overall UN disarmament machinery.

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 approach regarding the matter.

I also would like to reiterate that although Türkiye is not a party to the CCM, Türkiye has never used, produced, imported or transferred cluster munitions since 2005, nor does it intend to do so in the future.

We have shared our position through statements during the previous (7th and 10th) Meetings of CCM State Parties.

We have also registered our policy on the matter by letters addressed to:

- H.E. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, dated 23 June 2020,
- Ambassador Félix Baumann, President of the Second Review Conference, dated 19 April 2021,
- Ambassador Aidan Liddle, the President of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties, dated 5 October 2021.

We call on all stakeholders to take into account our abovementioned principled approach in their statements and publications.

Mr. President,

At this stage, our primary aim is to fulfill our challenging obligations arising from the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

We are undertaking a full-fledge operation to finish the clearance and release of the approximately remaining 133 square kilometers of hazardous area as soon as possible.

We are also very active in the area of victim assistance and adopted a holistic and integrated approach with a close connection to our obligations under the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Mr. President,

Before concluding, I also would like to point out our commitment to the disarmament efforts.

Türkiye is, at the same time, a member of all major export control regimes and supports all efforts to uphold global security through arms control, preventing proliferation, and disarmament.

Annually, we submit national reports about transfers of major conventional arms and SALW to the UN Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA), Wassenaar Agreement and the OSCE.

To contribute to transparency, we sent our 28th annual report to UNROCA last June, which could be reached online by all stakeholders.

Thank you, Mr. President.