

# STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE

## CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS TWELFTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES

### Geneva, 10-13 September 2024

#### CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Madam President,

First, allow us to congratulate you for assuming the Presidency of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties.

Madam President,

Although Türkiye is not a signatory to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), we share the humanitarian concerns that guide global efforts to limit the indiscriminate use of weapons, including cluster munitions. We recognize and appreciate the humanitarian spirit that the Convention embodies.

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

In this regard, Türkiye has actively supported the development 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 architecture.

Türkiye attended the Signing Conference of CCM and has participated as an observer in the Meetings of States Parties.

This underscores Türkiye's principled stance on this issue.

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

Türkiye has reiterated this position in previous MSPs.

Moreover, we have formally communicated our policy through letters addressed to key stakeholders such as the UN Secretary-General, H.E. Antonio Guterres in 2020, and the Presidents of both the Second Review Conference and the Tenth MSP.

#### Madam President,

We reaffirm Türkiye's commitment to disarmament. As a member of all major export control regimes, we actively contribute to arms control and non-proliferation efforts.

Currently our primary focus remains on fulfilling obligations arising from the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction.

Additionally, Türkiye is committed to victim assistance, adopting an integrated approach in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

#### Madam President,

In an environment of growing instability caused by regional conflicts, we would like to urge all stakeholders to refrain from actions that may lead to further erosion of existing regulations.

Thank you, Madam President.