



## **General Statement by Turkey**

### **17th MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION Geneva, 26-30 November 2018**

#### **CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

Thank you Madam Vice President,

Since this is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor let me congratulate the Presidency of brotherly country Afghanistan. You can count on our delegation's support. Taking this opportunity let me also thank all dignitaries including H.E. Salahaddin Rabbani who addressed the Meeting of States Parties this morning the ISU and the GICHD for the smooth organization of this meeting today.

Madam President,

Since our delegation will deliver statements under relevant agenda items and taking the time constraint into consideration, I will keep the general statement as short as possible.

Madam Vice President,

Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction is the cornerstone of the international efforts to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. It has a noble goal, which should be honoured by all.

In this regard, we support all possible efforts in the direction to universalize the Convention. Taking this opportunity we would like to call on other States which are not yet party to the Convention to join this unique instrument of the international disarmament fora at the earliest opportunity.

Madam Vice President,

I would like to reiterate that Turkey is taking its commitments to the Convention very seriously and determined to fulfil all of them. We have been regularly providing our annual article 7 report, and additional information, as required. We would like to encourage all parties do so.

Without further due, I would like to wish a fruitful meeting of states parties.

I thank you.