



Statement by Turkey on Cooperation and Assistance

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

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you Mr. Vice President,

We aligned with the EU statement and in our national capacity we would like to deliver following statement.

Mr. Vice President,

We thank the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance for the efforts and for the informative report presented.

I would like to share brief information regarding the activities of my country on cooperation.

Since its establishment, Turkish Mine Action Center-TURMAC initiated not only inter-institutional cooperation with other programmes, states and military bodies, but also international partnership with the UNDP and GICHD. Representatives of TURMAC attended relevant international meetings of the convention and visited Afghanistan Mine Action Center in 2017. ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) was visited within the scope of mutual cooperation in 2018.

The Eastern Borders Mine Clearance Project is implemented by UNDP and funded by the EU, Turkey and the UN. The amount of funding which Turkey provides for this project is approximately 10 million Euros. Taking this opportunity we would like to thank all our partners for their invaluable support.

TURMAC capacity development efforts are implemented in partnership with the UNDP and GICHD as well as other national partners. TURMAC personnel have participated in training courses conducted by James Madison University and the GICHD.

Turkey invests around 13 million USD for the procurement of new equipment to establish new demining companies.

Turkey has been donating to the International Trust Fund (ITF) since 2014 in order to support mine victim assistance around the world. The amount of donations add up to 110.000 USD.

Turkey was the lead nation for the Third Phase of the ANAMA-NATO/NSPA Partnership for Peace Trust Fund named "Jeyranchel Clearance Project" on the mine/unexploded ordnance-U XO clearance of approximately 22 km² in Azerbaijan. Turkey also donated around 200.000 USD since the beginning of the project. The Project was completed in June 2018.

I thank you Mr Vice President.