



Statement by Turkey

NINETEENTH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION 18 November 2021

(10 b)

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President,

-We would like to reiterate that Turkey takes its obligations stemming from the Convention seriously and is determined to fulfil them. We are of the view that the Convention's full implementation must be guaranteed. Universalization efforts should continue.

-I would like to convey our preliminary views on a proposal we heard yesterday for the first time regarding the reviewing process of extension requests.

-In our opinion, the Convention has a well-established mechanism, including the Committee on Article 5 with a solid purpose, mandate and working methods.

-We would like to express our appreciation for the work of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation and the ISU. We have benefited greatly from their guidance.

-It is true that there are various challenges regarding the implementation of the Article 5 obligations. The MSP has heard from States Parties on those challenges.

-In our view, the extension request process works well. Launching a review would take valuable time and effort away from the Committee's primary task to analyze and prepare requests for consideration by States Parties.

-To the best of our knowledge, NGOs are already involved in the process. Committee on Article 5 Implementation sends all the initial requests to the known NGOs in mine action. Those willing express their opinion both at intersessional meetings and MSPs about each and every request made by a State Party.

-Another point we would like to underline is that we are not a party to the CCM. We are not in a position to compare or evaluate the practices of other Conventions.

-Once again, we would like to commend Committee on Article 5 Implementation and the ISU for their crucial efforts.

Thank you, Mr. President.