



STATEMENT BY TÜRKİYE
INTERSESSIONAL MEETING
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION
(Victim Assistance)
Geneva, 17 June 2025

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

- Türkiye aligned itself with the EU statement, and in our national statement, we will focus on efforts undertaken by Türkiye for victim assistance.

- Firstly, I take this opportunity to congratulate Ambassador Ichikawa and Japan upon assumption of the presidency. We thank you and the members of the Committee on Victim Assistance for your efforts and the informative report presented.

Mr. Chair,

-In Türkiye, 10 mine/unidentified Explosive Ordnance (EO) victims were identified in 2024. Four of them were military personnel and six were civilians (1 child, 1 woman and 4 men). Two of the 10 victims, both civilians, lost their lives. Since the beginning of 2025, two children have been injured by the same explosive substance.

-I would like to reemphasize once again that the impact of minefields in Türkiye on the local people is minimal as these areas are fenced and marked as military zones and under constant surveillance by our armed forces, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians. Excepting one mine stepping accident, all casualties were caused by unidentified EO.

-Türkiye's 2023-2025 Disability Rights National Action Plan aims to strengthen disabled individuals' participation, in social and cultural life, enjoy tourism and sports activities. Action Plan also enhances their access to public transportation services and public areas.

-In line with the principle of "leaving no one behind", a social structure that fosters social integration and collective development for all is nurtured.

-Last December, a cooperation protocol was signed between the Ministries of Labour and Social Security and of Family and Social Services to enhance participation of women and persons with disabilities in professional and social life and to eliminate barriers they face.

-TURMAC monitors social, medical, psychological and economic assistance provided to mine victims and it works with relevant authorities such as the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MOFLSS) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) to ensure assistance is provided to mine victims.

-Mine victims and their families receive psychological and psycho-social support, monthly payments, employment opportunities, enterprising grants, free job counselling and courses tailored to their specific conditions.

-Family members are trained to assist therapy for victims, especially in remote areas, including male family members, so that the burden of care does not fall on women and girls.

-“Ankara Gaziler Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Training and Research Hospital” is the leading national rehabilitation center for mine/IED victims, equipped with advanced technological devices and services. The hospital has prosthetic, orthotics, and silicone laboratories serving amputee patients.

-Detailed information is available in Türkiye’s Article 7 reports published in the web page of the Convention.

Thank you.