

## STATEMENT BY TÜRKİYE

## INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION (Cooperation and Assistance)

Geneva, 17-20 June 2025

## CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madam Chair,

We would like to express our appreciation to you for your tireless efforts as Chair and for sharing such a comprehensive report.

Türkiye, as a country that plays a crucial and active role at global and regional levels in combating land and sea mines, supports the Ottawa Convention (on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction), along with the international cooperation established under its framework, through the National Mine Action Center.

Since its inception, Turkish Mine Action Center (TURMAC) has fostered not only inter-institutional cooperation with other programmes, states and military bodies but also international partnerships with the UNDP, GICHD and the EU.

## Madam Chair,

We share the security concerns of countries confronting the scourge of mines, such as Afghanistan, where mine contamination has long constituted a grave threat, as well as those of Azerbaijan, where a substantial number of mines remain undetected.

In 2024, two Turkish military demining teams conducted mine clearance in Azerbaijan.

Trainings such as Humanitarian Demining, Mine/Improvised Explosive Devices Awareness, Basic Demolition Techniques, Counter Improvised Explosive

Devices and Explosive Ordnance Disposal were provided to the Azerbaijan Armed Forces and Libyan Armed Forces personnel.

Türkiye's steadfast support to countries combating the mine threat, both on land and at sea, as well as within international platforms, will continue unabated.

Madam Chair,

Türkiye is honoured to be a member of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance and actively contributes to the Convention's work.

Our voluntary contributions to the functioning of this forum have been consistent over the years. In 2025, we also supported the ISU budget and the sponsorship program. We encourage all States Parties to contribute to mine action to the best of their abilities.

Last November, under the very first study visit financed by the Cooperation and Assistance Fund (CAF), representatives of Nigerian Mine Action Centre visited TURMAC.

TURMAC provided the Nigerian Delegation with detailed information regarding our institutional framework, information management tools, operational activities, lessons learned and the national legal framework governing our mine action efforts. Additionally, our four facilities related to humanitarian demining activities were visited.

Türkiye will continue to support countries requiring capacity development.

In order to enhance the CAF's effectiveness—we have already responded in detail to the Committee's follow up questions regarding that visit.

We trust that this exchange will serve as a model for sharing best practices among States Parties.

Thank you, Madam Chair.