Statement on Article 9 by Turkey at the Ottawa Treaty Intercessional Meeting

17 June 2005

Distinguished Co-Chairs Delegates

My delegation requested the floor under this agenda item to inform the distinguished delegates of this meetings that the new Turkish Criminal Code, we had mentioned in our Article 7 Report of this year as "adopted", entered into force on the 2nd of June 2005. Article 174 of this Code relates to the Ottawa Treaty.

In addition, Turkey, having deposited her instrument of ratification with the United Nations Secretary General, has become a State Party, as of 2nd of March 2005 to the "Convention on the Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW" as amended in 2001, Protocol I, Amended Protocol II and Protocol IV.

This Convention, along with the Protocols we have just mentioned, will enter into force for Turkey on the 2nd of September 2005, in accordance with Article 8 and 5(4) of the Convention.

These decisions serve as reminders of the importance Turkey attaches to ridding the world of the scourge of these indiscriminate and dastardly weapons called landmines.

Thank you Co-Chairs.