STATEMENT BY THE TURKISH DELEGATION DURING THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

ARTICLE 9 UPDATE

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

Turkey is among the States Parties that have adopted legislation to implement the provisions of the Convention. There is nothing new to report on that front.

The reason why my delegation requested the floor under this agenda item is to provide a short update related to the main goal of the Convention, namely to rid the world of the scourge of these indiscriminate weapons called anti-personnel landmines.

My delegation, during the Intercessional Meetings last year, had informed participants that Turkey, with the same of spirit joining the Ottawa Convention, had deposited its instrument of ratification of what is, in short, known as the "Certain Conventional Weapons Treaty", along with Protocol I, Amended Protocol II and Protocol IV on the 2nd of March 2005 and that it would come into force for Turkey six months after having done so.

We would like to inform you that the Certain Conventional Weapons Treaty entered into force for Turkey on the 2^{nd} of September 2005, along with the Protocols I have just mentioned.

This development should be viewed together with Turkey's decision to become a State Party to the Ottawa Convention in 2004 so as to help rid the world of these menacing weapons called anti-personnel mines that kill or maim indiscriminately.

I thank you, Distinguished Co-Chairs.