

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 10.A  
15TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES OF THE  
ANTIPERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION  
29 NOVEMBER 2016, SANTIAGO, CHILE**

Thank you Madam President,

Turkey has aligned with the European Union statement. I will add a few remarks in my national capacity.

Since this is the first time that my delegation takes the floor let me congratulate the Presidency of Chile and the ISU for the smooth organization of this meeting.

Our thanks also go to the Committee on Victim Assistance for their effort and for the informative report they presented.

Madam President,

Victim assistance is an integral part of Turkey's mine action efforts.

Though it is duly recorded on our Article VII report, I would like to share shortly some information on the victims in my country and the assistance that have been provided for them.

In the time frame between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2015 casualties by explosion of APMs and IEDs laid by terrorists are 215 in total. Of these, 29 are dead and 186 are wounded. Rehabilitation and medical care provided by the Turkish Armed Forces Rehabilitation Centre to the casualties by explosion of APMs in this period are 30 in total. Rehabilitation activities include medical/physical therapies as well as activities directed at improving daily lives of victims and training them in various professions.

On the other hand, Turkish Mine Action Centre's Victim Assistance Department is working with civilian agencies which are involved in assistance to persons with disabilities, to compile comprehensive information on mine victims.

Finally, I would like to add that Turkey's cooperation and assistance activities directed at other states also include victim assistance dimension.

Thank you Madam President.