STATEMENT BY THE TURKISH DELEGATION ON COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

Madam Vice President,

Article 6 constitutes an important facet of the Ottawa Convention. Bu virtue of this article, the States Parties, in fulfilling their obligations under the Convention, have the right to seek and receive assistance, where feasible, from other States Parties to the extent possible. Actions number 44 and 45 of the Nairobi Action Plan calls upon States Parties in a position to do so, to fulfil their obligations under Article 6 by promptly responding to calls for support from those States Parties in need by integrating, if possible, mine action into broader humanitarian and/or development assistance programmes.

Madam Vice President,

My country attaches significant importance to international cooperation in mine action. Turkey plays the role of a donor in our general endeavour to rid the world of the scourge of landmines.

Until now, Turkey has provided the following financial and technical assistance abroad:

- 100,000 USD and experts to Azerbaijan,
- 50,000 USD to Bosnia-Herzegovina,
- 27,000 USD to Ukraine,
- 20,000 USD to Georgia,
- 9,000 USD to Albanian Mine Action Centre,
- 12 mine detectors to Turkmenistan,
- 12 mine detectors to Mongolia and
- Mine clearance courses to NATO/Partnership for Peace countries.

In addition, in 2005, Turkey has made a modest, yet meaningful contribution to the Implementation Support Unit of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. We also contributed to the Landmine Monitor Projects in 2004 and 2005.

Thank you Madam.