

STATEMENT BY MR. TARIK SONMEZ TURKEY UNDERSECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN TRADE

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. Before starting my presentation, we would like to thank the U.S. and Polish Governments for their co-hosting of this Conference.

It is my pleasure to be able to give you some brief information regarding the Export Control Arrangements of Turkey.

To start with, I would like to spare a few words on proliferation. Proliferation is one of the most critical security challenges that the world faces and one that we all combat against together. The spread of conventional arms and weapons of mass destruction contributes to uncertainty and instability, especially in regions of tension, and makes the world more dangerous for all countries. Therefore, export controls continue to be a critical element to control proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The paper presented by my colleague Mr. Cahit Yerci from the Undersecretariat of Customs elaborates on the current mechanism of export control in Turkey. As the representative of the Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, I will give you some additional information concerning decision taking and registration procedures of export control arrangements in Turkey.

2. Turkey believes that prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery means is possible through international export control arrangements. Therefore, Turkey is party to all international arrangements in this field.

3. Turkey's policies governing the export of conventional arms are based on the primacy of preserving the regional and global stability. In this context, we take into account the following criteria while considering whether to grant a license or not for the export of conventional arms:

- Turkey's foreign and security policy objectives.
- Whether the intended transfer of conventional arms is in compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions and also in accordance with Turkey's international commitments stemming from non-proliferation and arms control regimes and arrangements.
- Whether the State is a party to and in compliance with the international export control regimes.

- The record of compliance of the recipient country with regard to international commitments, in particular in the field of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation.
- Whether the State lends support to terrorism, provides safe havens for indicted terrorists or people known to be involved in terrorist acts.
- Whether the State has irredentist aims, supports armed insurgencies or guerrilla movements or has a legacy of resorting to force to settle territorial and/or political disputes.
- Whether the envisaged transfer is commensurate with the State's legitimate security needs.
- Whether there is a civil war in the destination country, which is threatened to be fuelled by arms exports.

4. All exports involving items included in the list of goods subject to the control of the Ministry of National Defence require an export license. The exporter is required to provide the following information:

- Exporter's full name and address (including information concerning the name of the owners and executive managers, amount of capital holdings, the share holders and shares, number of personnel, certification of registration with the relevant commercial chamber, amount of goods in the stock, and the addresses of company outlets).
- Importers' full name and address
- End-users' full name and address
- Detailed description of the goods which discloses their true identity
- Quantities and values
- The sales contract regarding the intended export
- Production information (technical conditions, quality control documents, the existence of know-how and license agreement) about the arms and munitions to be exported
- Signature and title of importer's/end-user's representative
- Signature and end-use certification by the importers/end-users

5. The goods subject to license cannot be re-exported without the approval of the government of the country of origin. All private industrial enterprises producing any such material and equipment need to register with the MDN. Export license applications are considered on a case-by-case basis and no one country is subject to preferential treatment.

6. Being aware of her geographic situation and her transit position between Asia and Europe, Turkey recognizes the importance of catch-all provisions for an effective export control system. In practice, Turkey's current export control regulations meet the requirements of a catch-all system. Nonetheless, the relevant authorities work on new legislation that will reflect the catch-all provisions in the Turkish legislation in a more definitive way.

Stemming from her commitments in the context of a Customs Union with the European Union, Turkey is also taking into consideration the legislation of the EU on catch-all provisions.

Thank you very much.