



**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT**

4 February 2021

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Mr. President,

- We welcome and support the decision of the United States and the Russian Federation to extend the New START Treaty for five years. The New START Treaty, which limits nuclear capabilities of the United States and the Russian Federation, has a global significance as the last agreement that ensures strategic stability between the two countries.

- We hope that this important step will contribute to the efforts to strengthen the arms control regime and have a positive impact on the process to achieve a successful outcome at the NPT Review Conference.

Mr. President,

- I would like to thank you and other Presidents of the 2021 session for the revised draft package.

- Establishment of the subsidiary bodies may eventually pave the way for starting substantive negotiations at the Conference. We believe that we should not give up on attempts to restart the negotiations.

- As we have declared in advance, Turkey supports the draft package.

- Having said that, we would like to underline that the task of the facilitator will be to hold informal open-ended consultations with the CD members on the improved and effective functioning of the Conference. In other words, the coordinator's mandate will be limited to improved and effective functioning of the CD.

- Other issues, like the enlargement of the CD, membership will not fall under his mandate.

Thank you.