Statement by The Delegation of the Republic of Turkey
NPT II. Prep Com (Cluster II)

Mr. Chairman,

Before I begin my national statement, let me state that Turkey aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Mexico on behalf of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative.

It is important to recall that the 2010 Action Plan calls on parties "to ensure that the IAEA continues to have all political, technical and financial support so that it is able to effectively meet its safeguards responsibilities under NPT's Article 3." Indeed, it is Turkey's strong conviction that there is an indispensable need for our robust non-proliferation regime and effective implementation thereof. The Agency is at the very core of the non-proliferation system and needs to be upheld and strengthened. All States Parties have a common interest in ensuring that the IAEA can effectively carry out its safeguards implementation and verification mandate. The IAEA safeguards system provides a practical means for Non Nuclear Weapon States to have access to nuclear energy and technologies for exclusively peaceful purposes. Therefore it is safe to suggest that it underpins the general international security environment.

Recalling Actions 28 and 29 of the Action Plan, Turkey is pleased to see that more countries now have the IAEA's Additional Protocol in force. Turkey remains convinced that it is in the interest of every country to conclude the necessary safeguards arrangements. Therefore, we call on all States to strive to apply this safeguards standard as a condition for their supply of nuclear material, equipment and technology.

Equally, as per Action 30, we support the widest possible application of IAEA safeguards to peaceful nuclear facilities in the NWSs to ensure irreversible and verifiable removal of the nuclear material.

Mr. Chairman,
Export control plays a critical role in meeting the nuclear non-proliferation obligations. Bearing in mind the complexity of illicit procurement activities and the duty of preventing the acquisition by unauthorized actors, including terrorists, it is incumbent upon all of us to aim to strengthen export control systems. Effective national controls over the export of nuclear materials and technology as well as efficient international cooperation and solidarity are legitimate and necessary for the implementation of States' obligations.

At this stage, we wish to stress the importance of the full implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, through the work of the 1540 Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Turkey's views on Nuclear Weapons Free Zones are very well known to this august body and they were mentioned in our general statement earlier this week. For the sake of brevity we will not go into depth on this issue. In fact, it is the intention of this delegation to deliver a detailed statement on the issue of the Middle East Conference in the days to come. Nevertheless, allow me, at this stage, to highlight the fact that Turkey's contentment following the 2010 Review Conference turned into utter disappointment with the announcement on the postponement of the Conference. We hope to see a breakthrough, at the earliest convenience, on the discussions towards the preparation of the groundwork for this Conference. Turkey believes that a possible protraction of the existing stalemate will inevitably have negative repercussions on this PrepCom and the NPT Review Cycle alike. To this end, Turkey urges all States to lend their support to the Facilitator and his team.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.