

**STATEMENT of the REPUBLIC of TURKEY**  
**63rd CND Reconvened Session**  
**(2-3 December 2020)**

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you, Your Excellency, for your wise Chairmanship and all your efforts, throughout this sensitive and difficult process.

I also express our appreciation to the UNODC Secretariat and to the INCB for all their efforts and assistance during this process.

Mr. President,

I reiterate that Turkey continues to be fully committed to the three international drug conventions, which are the cornerstones of the international drug control system. Their full and universal implementation is crucial for the effectiveness of the system and we all bear the responsibility of securing it together.

Today, the CND, took a decision to change the existing level of control on cannabis and cannabis resin. For the record of this meeting, I repeat that Turkey objected to all the recommendations. We continue to believe that there is a high risk to create a wrong public impression as if cannabis and cannabis resin are not dangerous for health.

Mr. President,

Adoption of 5.1 by voting today, without consensus, just with a majority of 27 countries and against the will of 25 member states and one abstention, created a situation, which should be carefully examined and assessed by my authorities. I therefore reserve our right to communicate later on our final assessment and national position regarding this decision taken today on cannabis and cannabis resin and whether it will be implemented by the Republic of Turkey.

Thank you.