



STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY

ON SARAJEVO DONORS' CONFERENCE

**904th PERMANENT COUNCIL
8 March 2012**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to thank the Serbian delegation for bringing the Sarajevo Donors' Conference to the attention of the Permanent Council.

Recently we had the opportunity to come together with the Personal Envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Bijleveld, on the occasion of his address to the Human Dimension Committee. His presentation and the following discussion shed more light to the process of finding a durable solution to the protracted displacement problem in the Western Balkans that led to the Joint Declaration of the four Ministers of Foreign Affairs as well as the development of the Regional Housing Programme.

Ensuring a lasting solution for the most vulnerable refugees and IDPs is one of the most pressing and critical aims to be achieved for the stability of the region. In this respect, we congratulate Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia for having demonstrated political determination in this direction. We were pleased to observe that the principle of "regional ownership" continues to be the driving force of this progress.

We also welcome the leading role assumed by the UNHCR in bringing together the regional countries and contributing to the development of the Programme.

At this stage, maintaining this positive momentum is more crucial than ever and we hope that it will also be reflected in the success of the Sarajevo Conference.

Thank you.