



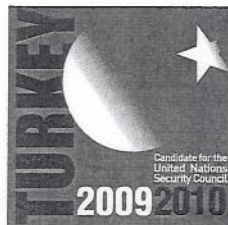
**PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**STATEMENT BY**  
**MR. ÖZHAN ÜZÜMCÜOĞLU**  
**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF ECOSOC**  
**HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT**

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Mr. President,

My Delegation has already aligned itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Representative of France on behalf of the European Union. I still would like to add my voice to the debate and share some of our views on the issues before us.

This session of ECOSOC is of particular significance as we hold the first Development Cooperation Forum. This session also coincides with the rising of interacting crises negatively affecting the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs.

The themes of the substantive discussions this year are well chosen. Although we all concur that absolute poverty continues to decline, our global performance report with regard to the attainment of the MDGs so far has been a mixed one. Unfortunately we are seriously off track on some of the Goals. This rather dim backdrop is further compounded by food security crisis and increasing fuel prices. However, there are some encouraging signs in our global response to confront and overcome the challenges posed by child mortality as well as HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

Mr. President,

Indeed, the challenges before us are daunting. 8 million people, most of whom live in Asia and Africa still die every year due to malnutrition and poverty. Approximately 800 million people in the developing world are chronically undernourished.

These are not just figures on a piece of paper. And we should not forget that poverty and hunger are also economically unacceptable and politically dangerous. Most of the time development issues and the causes of conflicts are closely linked. Our success in defeating world poverty will no doubt contribute to our collective security and to the establishment of a more stable and peaceful international order.

Mr. President,

Attaining the Millennium Development Goals requires a comprehensive, balanced, interdisciplinary and coordinated approach. Sustainable development for all necessitates well integrated national strategies coupled with cohesive international cooperation. Developed countries must fulfil their commitment to a genuine and mutually beneficial global partnership for development. At the same time, this cooperation should be geared towards supporting countries in their efforts to draw up national development policies.

Mr. President, now I would like to give a brief summary of Turkey's activities in South-South and triangular cooperation.

Turkey tries to strengthen its bilateral, multilateral, technical and economic cooperation with developing countries in order to increase the effectiveness of its development assistance as well as to reinforce its emerging donor country status at regional and global levels.

In support of international development efforts, the Official Development Assistance offered by Turkey in this regard, has been steadily increasing over the recent years. In 2006 it has risen to almost 715 million USD, which stood at the 0.18 % of our GNI. However, Turkey's total development assistance for 2006 including also the funds channeled by the Turkish private sector reached at 1.7 billion USD.

Turkey also shares with partner countries its experience and know-how in areas where it has been successful. Having transformed from an agriculture-based economy to one of trade and industry, Turkey has much to share with countries that are going through a similar process while facing the challenges of globalization. This transfer of experience and know-how, initially focused on Central Asia, the Caucasus and other neighbouring regions. In recent years, however, Turkey has expanded the geographical scope of its ODA and its technical assistance by focusing on the Least Developed African countries in their struggle against poverty. However, the Turkish Government is resolved to continue its assistance programs by funding further projects of the Least Developed Countries beyond Africa.

Mr. President,

Turkey has been identified as a "pivotal country" in Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) mechanism. A TCDC umbrella project co-funded by the UNDP and the Turkish Government is underway. 200 TCDC arrangements have been put into practice in the fields of group training, study tours, job training consultancy services and project implementation.

In line with our policy of placing emphasis on development issues within the UN framework and especially on the LDCs, Turkey hosted an LDC Ministerial Conference which was held in Istanbul last July.

This Conference addressed global imbalances, which aggravate poverty in the LDCs and prevent them from fully and effectively implementing the Brussels Programme of Action as well as their beneficial integration in the world economy. The Istanbul Declaration adopted at this Conference which was later circulated as a UN document (A/62/216) constitutes a solid achievement as it reminds the responsibilities of the LDCs as well as the commitments of international community to the LDCs while showing the way forward for a meaningful development partnership.

Mr. President,

Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs as well as ensuring sustainable development for all require a multi-faceted approach. And we do not have the luxury to overlook cross-cutting issues like climate change and food crisis as they have direct bearing on the development as a whole.

In this regard, we believe that the UN plays and will continue to play a pivotal role. It is essential for the UN to support a more comprehensive and coherent development agenda, to ensure greater coordination of the activities of its specialized agencies, Funds and Programmes. In this respect, substantial progress has been achieved though much remains to be done. Member states should fully support all efforts and initiatives to that effect.

Turkey is committed to playing her part in global development efforts.

I thank you, Mr. President.