

**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

MADE 16 JUNE 2004

**AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Eleventh Session**

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. OKTAY ÖZÜYE  
AMBASSADOR  
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
(DRAFT)**

MR. PRESIDENT,  
DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVES,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION MR. PRESIDENT TO CHAIR UNCTAD XI. UNDER YOUR ABLE PRESIDENCY WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT OUR DELIBERATIONS WILL BE FRUITFUL.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS AND GRATITUDE GO TO THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES AND THE FRIENDLY PEOPLE OF BRAZIL WHO HAVE NOT SPARED ANY EFFORT TO MAKE UNCTAD XI. CONFERENCE A SUCCESS.

AT THIS OCCASION, I WISH TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PREPCOM OF UNCTAD XI., HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR SHA, FOR HIS DETERMINED AND EFFICIENT CHAIRMANSHIP DURING THE PRE-CONFERENCE PERIOD.

WE AVAIL OURSELVES OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLY PRAISE THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD, MR. RUBENS RICUPERO, WHOSE ABLE LEADERSHIP AND WISDOM SUCCESSFULLY GUIDED UNCTAD, AS WELL AS THE MEMBERS OF THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN EFFICIENTLY ORGANIZING THIS EVENT.

WE HOPE THAT OUR DELIBERATIONS DURING THIS WEEK WOULD GUIDE US TO DEVELOP A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES, THE PROCESS OF GLOBALIZATION AND UNCTAD'S FUTURE ROLE.

FOUR YEARS AFTER ITS ADOPTION, WE BELIEVE THAT BANGKOK PLAN OF ACTION IS STILL VALID. IN BANGKOK WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THAT GLOBALIZATION OFFERS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES, ALIKE. SINCE THEN, WE HAVE BUILT ON THE BANGKOK PLAN OF ACTION THROUGH THE UN MILLENIUM DECLARATION, DOHA DEVELOPMENT AGENDA, MONTERREY CONSENSUS ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE REPORT OF WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND OTHERS.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE LANDMARK DEVELOPMENTS, OUR TASK HAS BEEN THAT OPPORTUNITIES CREATED BY GLOBALIZATION ARE NEEDED TO BE UTILIZED IN A FAIRER MANNER BY A LARGER GROUP OF PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES, AND CHALLENGES POSED BY GLOBALIZATION ARE NEEDED TO BE CUSHIONED BETTER SO THAT MORE VULNERABLE COUNTRIES AND GROUPS IN OUR SOCIETIES COULD ADAPT TO THE PROCESS OF GLOBALIZATION IN A MORE HUMANE WAY.

WHEN WE EVALUATE RESULTS OF ALL OUR EFFORTS, WE COME ACROSS TO A MIXED PICTURE. WE MAY TAKE COMFORT THAT WE HAVE MADE SOME HEADWAY IN ACHIEVING SOME OF OUR TARGETS IN SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD. HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL SUBSTANTIALLY MORE TO ACHIEVE.

IN THE LIGHT OF PAST 4 YEARS EXPERIENCE AND IN TERMS OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILURES, WE NOTE THAT UNCTAD XI IS A TIMELY EVENT TAKING PLACE AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL UNCERTAINTIES, WHICH REQUIRE MORE IN DEPTH DISCUSSION.

MR. PRESIDENT,

AT THE START OF THIS NEW CENTURY, WE HAD HIGH HOPES FOR A BETTER WORLD. HOWEVER, IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WE HAVE WITNESSED NEW CHALLENGES LIKE THE SPREAD OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD, DETERIORATING SECURITY AND THE RISE OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND RADICALISM, USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH ABJECT POVERTY AND HOPELESSNESS FOR THE FUTURE.

THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO OUR SYSTEMS BY THESE TRENDS COULD BEST BE NEUTRALIZED BY INCREASED FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT, MORE INTERDEPENDENCE AMONG NATIONS THROUGH A BALANCED AND EFFICIENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM THAT IS CONDUCIVE TO THE NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

MR. PRESIDENT, ON DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN THE GLOBALIZING WORLD ECONOMY, WE ARE OF THE VIEW THAT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES NEED TO BE TAILORED IN A WAY THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE SPECIFIC NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND LDCS. "ONE SIZE FITS ALL" APPROACHES IN THE FIELD OF DEVELOPMENT CARRY INHERENT DEFICIENCIES, IF THEY ARE FORMULATED WITHOUT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEIR BENEFICIARIES. THIS COULD ALSO CAUSE FURTHER PROBLEMS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND LDCS RATHER THAN PROVIDING THEM MUCH NEEDED SOLUTIONS.

OUR SNAPSHOT OF DEVELOPMENT IS THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE AN INTERNAL PROCESS WHEREBY THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITHIN THE NATIONAL AUTHORITIES, WHICH MAY BE ENHANCED BY EXTERNALITIES.

IN THIS VEIN, TURKEY CONSIDERS UNCTAD AS AN ESSENTIAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, WITH AN IMPORTANT AND UNIQUE MANDATE IN THE FORMULATION OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES. WE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FROM UNCTAD TO CONTINUE WITH ITS TRADITIONAL WORK AS THE FOCAL POINT WITHIN THE UN FOR THE INTEGRATED TREATMENT OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE INTERRELATED ISSUES OF FINANCE, TECHNOLOGY, INVESTMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, WE WISH TO UNDERLINE ONE IMPORTANT SUBJECT, WHICH RELATES TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF EXTERNAL DEBT IN THE LONG TERM. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE IN NEED OF BETTER-ADJUSTED INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL POLICIES, WHICH WOULD FACILITATE DEBT SUSTAINABILITY.

IN THIS CONTEXT, WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL COOPERATION. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS GREATLY ENHANCED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION SCHEMES THROUGH WHICH COUNTRIES ATTAIN LARGER SCALES OF ECONOMIES. THEREFORE, REGIONALISM IS A USEFUL AND COMPLEMENTARY TOOL TO FURTHER THE PROCESS OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL LIBERALIZATION.

CONCERNING BUILDING PRODUCTIVE CAPACITIES AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A PRESSING REQUIREMENT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO ADAPT BETTER TO THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESS, WHEREBY THEY COULD BE IN A POSITION TO BENEFIT FROM IT.

IN RELATION TO THIS ISSUE, WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT LONG TERM FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN PRODUCTIVE AREAS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT. IT IS NECESSARY TO LAY THE GROUND NATIONALLY FOR AN OPEN, FUNCTIONING AND COMPETITIVE ECONOMY, PROVIDE A SOUND LEGAL FRAMEWORK FRIENDLY TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND OTHER CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FOR DEVELOPMENT, LIKE THE SOFTWARE INDUSTRY. THE ROLE OF THE SMES WOULD BE THE KEY FOR A COMPETITIVE ECONOMY IN THE FUTURE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRANSPORT LINKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE AND SETTING NEW RULES WITHIN THE' WTO ON TRADE FACILITATION ARE SOME ESSENTIAL FEATURES FOR THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL ECONOMY.

REGARDING OUR THIRD SUBTHEME ON ASSURING DEVELOPMENT GAINS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM AND TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT TRADE IS NOT THE PANACEA TO ALL OF OUR CURRENT GLOBAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS ONE OF THE MEANS OF DEVELOPMENT, WHICH SPURS NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC GROWTH. AN OPEN, EQUITABLE, RULE BASED, PREDICTABLE AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM IS INDISPENSABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM MAY BE REGARDED AS FAR FROM BEING PERFECT. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE PERCEIVED AS THE BEST AVAILABLE SYSTEM OF INCREASING INTERDEPENDENCE AMONG COUNTRIES TO FOSTER ECONOMIC GROWTH BY EXPANDING GLOBAL TRADE, THUS PROMOTING PEACE AND STABILITY.

THE DOHA DEVELOPMENT AGENDA (DDA) WOULD NOT BE A FALSE PROMISE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PROVIDED THAT ITS OUTCOME IS SHAPED IN A MANNER, WHICH WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THEIR LEGITIMATE NEEDS.

TURKEY FAVORS AN EARLY COMPLETION OF THE DDA IN LINE WITH THE DOHA MANDATE. WE HOPE THAT RECENT EFFORTS FOR REACHING CONSENSUS ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF NEGOTIATION ISSUES BY JULY WOULD INDEED BE SUCCESSFUL AND GIVE IMPETUS TO THE DDA NEGOTIATIONS.

ON THE ISSUE OF UNCTAD PARTNERSHIPS, WE ARE IN FAVOR OF THEIR ESTABLISHMENT WITH THE RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS AND CIVIL SOCIETY, IN LINE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF BETTER COORDINATION WITH MEMBERS, TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSIVENESS, GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY. IT MAY ALSO BE FRUITFUL TO ENGAGE THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS BETTER IN THIS PROCESS.

THE ROLE OF UNCTAD IS AN INTEGRAL ELEMENT OF UNCTAD XI. CONFERENCE'S ALL SUBTHEMES. INDEED, UNCTAD HAS SEVERAL AREAS OF INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED COMPETENCE, ON WHICH IT IS EXPECTED TO CARRY ON WITH ITS VALUABLE WORK.

UNCTAD'S TRADITIONAL ROLES OF PROVIDING TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND BUILDING HUMAN CAPACITY ARE INDISPENSABLE, THUS, W E SUPPORT THAT UNCTAD COULD IMPROVE AND EXTEND ITS ACTIVITIES IN THESE AREAS.

WE EXPECT BETTER-INTEGRATED AND MORE EFFICIENT COORDINATION AMONG ALL RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. SHARPER FOCUSED AND PRIORITIZED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WOULD SERVE BETTER THE CONTEMPORARY NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND LDCS.

UNCTAD'S MAJOR ROLE OF CONSENSUS AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING IS AN ESSENTIAL TOOL FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY DURING THE DIFFICULT PERIODS OF STALLED MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, THERE IS MERIT NOT TO MIX THE DDA AND THE UNCTAD PROCESSES FOR THE SAKE OF SUCCESS IN BOTH OF THEM.

MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO DWELL ON UNCTAD AND TURKEY BEFORE CONCLUDING MY INTERVENTION. AS A FELLOW DEVELOPING COUNTRY, TURKEY HAS AN EXPERIENCE OF BEING AN OPEN ECONOMY, DURING WHICH SHE HAS BEEN UNDERTAKING EXTENSIVE ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL RESTRUCTURING.

IN THE FIELD OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TURKEY IS TRYING TO DO ITS BEST TO HELP THOSE IN NEED OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN ITS LIMITED RESOURCES AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. TURKEY HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTING A GSP REGIME SINCE 2002. IN 2004, TURKEY'S GSP REGIME GRANTS QUOTA FREE-DUTY FREE MARKET ACCESS TO MORE THAN 3000 PRODUCTS TO MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO ALL OF THE LDCS.

TURKEY IS ALSO PROVIDING MODEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN COOPERATION WITH SOME INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE OECD. OECD-TURKISH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (TICA) ISTANBUL CENTER AND OECD ANKARA TAX CENTER HAVE BEEN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO REGIONAL COUNTRIES.



TURKISH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY; TICA, WITH ITS SEVERAL OFFICES IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OFFERS TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS AND IMPLEMENTS PROJECTS RELEVANT TO THESE COUNTRIES' NEEDS OF DEVELOPMENT.

TURKEY IS ALSO TRYING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES WITH A SMALL BILATERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUDGET THROUGH BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS. THUS, WE COULD STATE THAT TURKEY HAS A MODEST, BUT A GOOD TRACK RECORD OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.

WE BELIEVE THAT UNCTAD'S ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT COULD BE ENHANCED BY COOPERATING MORE WITH REGIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES, SUCH AS THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (BSEC), SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE (SECT), ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (OIC), GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL (GCC), D-8 AND OTHERS.

FINALLY MR. PRESIDENT,

IN A SPIRIT OF COMMON PURPOSE, WE BELIEVE THAT OUR PRIOR DUTY IS TO WORK FOR THE AIM OF FAIR AND INCLUSIVE GLOBALIZATION, WHILE PRESERVING OUR RESOLVE FOR OPEN ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND FREEDOM OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, IF WE WOULD LIKE OUR CHILDREN TO LIVE IN A WORLD OF PEACE, STABILITY AND HOPE FOR EVERYONE, RATHER THAN IN A WORLD TANGLED WITH CONFLICTS AND DESPAIR.

THANK YOU SIR.