

**STATEMENT BY H.E.AMBASSADOR E.BIRNUR FERTEKLIĞIL,**

Madame President,

Mr. Director General,

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, I would like to echo previous speakers in congratulating you Mr. President, on your election as the President of the General Conference. We are convinced that under your leadership the Conference will come to a successful conclusion. I assure you of my delegation's full support.

Let me also take this opportunity to express my sincere congratulations to Mr. Li Yong, Director General of UNIDO for his efforts to fulfill the mandate of UNIDO which is briefly to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable development in developing countries and economies in transition. Turkey will keep on extending its fullest support to the Director General in this collective endeavor.

Madame President,

Turkey aligned itself with the statement made by Luxembourg on behalf of EU earlier. I would also like to make the following remarks in a national capacity.

Our General Conference is taking place in a crucial phase when the world is at the threshold of the implementation process towards the new and ambitious 2030 development agenda accepted in UN General Assembly.

Since this agenda presents the biggest challenges and solutions of the next 15 years, we will need more commitment and cooperation for successful outcomes. The main reason behind the success of MDGs was the high political ownership. Taking into account the broader agenda of SDGs, political ownership is more crucial for each country to ensure integration, implementation and monitoring of the national SDG agenda.

The cooperation among all stakeholders, especially with the non-state actors to follow up the outcomes will also be vital for successful implementation of the agenda. Ensuring substantive participation of non-state actors from civil society, academia and the private sector to the process and agenda will be an impulsive force for the realization of the goals.

Turkey also believes that, new sustainable development goals can not be reached without addressing complex humanitarian emergencies at first. We think that a stronger emphasis on the humanitarian-development nexus is strongly needed. In this vein, Turkey's humanitarian diplomacy combines humanitarian and development assistance programs within a collective strategy particularly towards countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

In view of this, Turkey will host the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit between 23-24 May 2016 in İstanbul. This Summit will be a milestone in addressing the common concerns and aims of the international community. It will provide an immense opportunity to assess the coherence between financing for humanitarian and for development assistance.

We expect high level participation and commitment to the Summit from UN member countries and all other relevant stakeholders to show our global ownership for the humanitarian issues.

Madame President,

2030 Agenda pledges not to leave anyone behind. For this purpose, we should ensure that the challenges facing the low income developing countries (LIDCs) are raised more vocally. This group of countries including the LDC's defined by UN, should be at the heart of the global development assistance policies.

Within this approach, Turkey hosted the 4th United Nations Conference on the LDCs in Istanbul, in May 2011. “The Istanbul Program of Action” adopted at this Conference is a forward-looking reference document that reflects the international community’s strong political will to support the LDCs. Now, we are looking forward to hosting the Comprehensive Midterm Review on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in 2016. We count on the support of UN Member States for the success of this meeting.

Madame President,

We welcome the fact that sustainable industrialization found its rightful place in the 2030 Agenda not only for the least developed and late-industrializing countries, but also for the industrialized nations facing new challenges. One of the 17 goals of the 2030 Agenda is set as “*building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation*”, noted in goal number 9. Goal 9 highlights the need to significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries.

This new goal embeds UNIDO's mandate into the new global development agenda. By Lima Declaration in 2013, member states set out the Organization's development priorities for the coming years, placing special emphasis on inclusive and sustainable industrial development, briefly ISID. There is no doubt that the new global development agenda including ISID goal, which is also closely interrelated with the other SDGs, will make the UNIDO in the next 15 years a leading organization in the area of industrial development at the global level.

In this context, UNIDO, in assisting its members towards achieving ISID, should be empowered with all the necessary tools to ensure that it fully implements and also measures the concrete results of its core services, especially the technical cooperation and policy advisory services and its expected convening and partnership roles.

Turkey believes that UNIDO must continue leading such efforts and is ready to contribute to the global partnership in this regard. UNIDO's effective, coherent and coordinated development agenda will no doubt facilitate the development process. In that respect, Turkey attaches great importance to post-2015 development planning efforts within the UNIDO and stands ready to contribute to these efforts to the best of its abilities.

Madame President,

Last but not the least, I would like to turn to Turkey's long association with UNIDO spanning more than four decades.

Turkey, as one of the development partners of UNIDO for many years, has been closely cooperating with UNIDO in various technical areas. UNIDO opened its Turkey Office in 1967 and the Office has been serving as a Centre for Regional Cooperation since 2000. I would like to mention that we have been supporting and encouraging UNIDO Regional Centre to strengthen its activities in Turkey and to extend the coverage of its technical cooperation services towards the region, as well.

In 2015, Turkey continued to support UNIDO's technical cooperation programs hosted by Turkish expert institutions in the fields of food security, textile and nanotechnology applications, aiming at the participants from Africa, Central Asia, Middle East and Eastern Europe. In 2014, Turkey contributed 196.394,00 US Dollars in cash and also in kind aids to the aforementioned training programs.

Turkey will continue to offer its contributions through all means at its disposal to UNIDO's activities in various parts of the world. An important mechanism in this regard is the Cooperation Agreement between Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) and UNIDO. We believe that the agreement will help UNIDO utilize TIKA's vast experience in performing various technical assistance projects in Central Asia, the Caucasus and Africa.



Madame President,

Distinguished Delegates,

In 2016, UNIDO will mark its 50th anniversary. As one of the founding members of UNIDO, Turkey has supported UNIDO from the beginning and will continue to do so in order to help fulfilling its mandate and advancing sustainability and inclusiveness in industries worldwide.

Thank you for your kind attention.