

**THE STATEMENT BY  
H.E. MR. ZAFER CAGLAYAN  
TURKISH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN TRADE  
EIF BREAKFAST MEETING  
(December 1, 2009)**

Esteemed Ministers,  
Mr. Director General,  
Ms. Executive Director  
Your Excellencies,

I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to share my thoughts with respect to the issues pertaining to LDCs, and particularly “Enhanced Integrated Framework Fund-EIF”.

As an emerging development partner for LDCs, Turkey has been showing efforts to support LDCs to improve their trade and build productive capacities for achieving internationally agreed development goals. This resolve of the Turkish government is shared by the Turkish private sector and the civil society. This is demonstrated by the presence of their representatives in almost all of the LDCs, be it as investors, traders or generous participants in humanitarian affairs.

With this in mind, Turkey pledged 1 million US Dollars at the Stockholm International Donor’s Conference for the “EIF Fund”. And we signed the Contribution Agreement with UNOPS in July 2009. Our contribution should be released soon.

It gives me great pleasure today to learn to the success of the implementation of EIF Fund. The purpose of the existence of this Fund is in line with Turkey’s policies towards LDCs which is to support their efforts to improve the trade capacities and to integrate the trade related issues of these countries into their national development strategies.

We are determined to continue to work closely with our EIF partners to ensure the success of the EIF Projects.

In line with Turkey's growing interest in global development issues, Turkey has hosted series of meetings which have been designed to support LDCs including Istanbul Ministerial Conference in 2007 (Globalization and LDCs), Izmir Workshop for African LDCs and Ankara Workshop for Asian, Caribbean and Pacific LDCs in 2008.

I believe these meetings provided a valuable input for growth and development prospects of LDCs and created an opportunity to deepening cooperation.

We believe that the three UN Conferences on the LDCs, held in 1981, 1990 and 2001, have helped to raise international awareness of the economic plight of the LDCs. While it is unfortunate that some of the structural difficulties remain and the succession of international crisis has left LDCs vulnerable and fragile, We believe that the challenges that LDCs face could be overcome. As a sign of Turkey's desire to contribute to the efforts to support LDCs to overcome these challenges, we volunteered to host the Fourth UN Conference on the LDCs to be held in 2011.

I am happy to inform you that there is a consensus in the 2nd Committee in New York that Turkey will host the Fourth United Nations Conference on the LDCs. This Conference is of paramount importance not only to Turkey or to LDCs but to the whole international community as well.

As the host country, we are looking forward to working closely with all development partners, LDCs and international organisations with a view to promoting interests of the LDCs.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.