

ANNUAL MINISTERIAL REVIEW
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF ECOSOC 2007
(AGENDA ITEM 2 b)
Geneva, 3-4 July 2007

Mr. President,

This session of ECOSOC is of particular significance as we conduct the first Annual Ministerial Review.

My Delegation shares the widely held view that, as a global high-level forum with broad-based participation, the AMR has the potential to serve as a powerful new tool in advancing the implementation of the UN development agenda. We, too, believe that it provides a forum for an exchange of lessons learned and successful approaches and practices.

The theme of the substantive discussions this year is especially well chosen.

Although we all agree that, absolute poverty continues to decline, the rate of improvement is insufficient to achieve the goal outlined in the Millennium Declaration. That is why *strengthening* ongoing efforts at all levels to promote pro-poor sustained economic growth, and *strengthening* efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger ought to be our priority tasks.

The challenges are immense. Eight million people, most of whom live in Asia and Africa, die every year due to malnutrition and poverty. Approximately 900 million

Mr. President these are not simple figures. Human beings are no different than any one of us are in question. Their suffering is morally unacceptable. Poverty and hunger are insurmountable and will remain so unless we have a new development and the erosion of conflicts are closely interrelated. Our success in defeating world

Mr. President,

The Secretary-General's report prepared for the theme of AMR notes that "many of the initiatives and actions highlighted in the United Nations global conferences and elsewhere are yielding positive results". We welcome this information. Indeed, according to latest figures, the percentage of the developing world that is living in extreme poverty has fallen from 28% in 1990s to 18.4% in 2004. The percentage of people living in chronic hunger has also significantly dropped. Employment in developing countries as well as the primary gross employment rate has steadily increased since 2000. Nevertheless, there remains an enormous backlog of deprivation and international solidarity is still short of need. We have a long way to go before our deeds match our words.

Mr. President

On the implementation side, attaining the Millennium Development Goals requires a comprehensive, balanced, interdisciplinary and coordinated approach.

Developed countries must fulfil their commitment to a genuine and mutually beneficial global partnership for development. International cooperation and greater policy coordination at global scale is crucial. At the same time, this

cooperation should be geared towards supporting countries in their efforts to develop national development policies

Turkey attaches utmost importance to strengthening bilateral relations

donor country status at regional and global levels

In support of international development efforts, Turkey has provided an estimated

700 million US dollars in 2006 as Official Development Assistance (ODA). The

Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) established

Turkey also shares with partner countries its experience and know-how in areas

where it has been successful. Having transformed from an agriculture based

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 by assisting

African countries in their struggle against poverty. In order to coordinate these

activities, TIKA has opened 3 regional field offices in Ethiopia, Sudan and

Senegal.

A total of ninety countries benefited from 931 TIK A projects and activities in 2006. This represents a 66 percent increase in comparison to 2005. Half of these projects were implemented in the Caucasus and Central Asia, 30 percent in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, and 15 percent in Africa and the Middle East.

While developing and implementing these projects and activities, TIK A bilateral donors, Turkey's partners in this regard along with some donor countries are mainly UNCTAD, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, ITC and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB).

Mr. President,

Turkey has been identified as a "pivot 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 based on visits or training in the fields of survey training, study tours, job training and implementation.

On a different but related note, and in line with our policy of placing emphasis on development issues within the UN framework, Turkey is hosting a Ministerial Conference titled "Making Globalisation Work for the Least Developed Countries", which will be held next week in Istanbul.

This Conference will address global imbalances which exacerbate poverty in
of Action of the Least Developed Countries for the decade 2001-2010, as well as their beneficial integration in the world economy. The Conference is organised in collaboration with the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least

Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island
Developing States (UN-CHRIIS) and the UNDP.

Mr. President,

Eradication of poverty is neither an unattainable aspiration nor an unreachable

is of paramount importance to ensure full implementation and a proper follow up
to the outcomes and commitments of major UN conferences on development, if

there are to be any significant progress. In this regard, we believe that
the UN has a crucial role to play. 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,

significant progress has been achieved though much remains to be done. Member
states should fully support all efforts and initiatives to effect these

Turkey is committed to playing its part in addressing the needs of most
Developed Countries and assisting in their efforts to achieve the Millennium

Development Goals.

Confident that many of these points will be adequately addressed under your able
stewardship during this substantive session, I thank you, Mr. President.

