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**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR TOMUR BAYER**  
**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY**  
on agenda item 4<sup>1</sup>

Thank you Mr. President,

At the outset allow me to take this opportunity to express my sincere conviction that, under your able leadership, this meeting will come to a successful conclusion. You can rest assured of my delegation's full support in fulfilling your mandate.

Mr. President,

Under this agenda item I would like to give some highlights of the ongoing cooperation between Turkey and UNIDO.

Turkey continues to serve as a hub for UNIDO's activities targeted to cooperation partners from Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In this context, various international workshops were organized by Turkish institutions in collaboration with UNIDO in recent years. These events, we believe, have contributed to the development and revitalization of industrial capacities on various fields in the participating countries.

In this framework, between 21<sup>st</sup> June- 4<sup>th</sup> July 2010, an international workshop in the field of nanotechnology was held at the Institute of Materials

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<sup>1</sup> Progress report on regional programmes

Science and Nanotechnology (UNAM) of Bilkent University in Ankara. The feedback received from various participants were positive and encouraging. Many participants also requested the continuation of such an exercise.

Another event entitled "Technology Foresight Workshop on the Future of the Automotive Industry in a post-carbon economy" was held in Gebze/Turkey between 14-17 June 2010. This workshop has set the fundamental elements of a foresight exercise on the automotive industry which will be implemented in the next decades in Turkey, Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic. We look forward to continue working on this subject in close cooperation with UNIDO and other partners.

I should mention at this point that UNIDO Regional Center for Cooperation in Ankara has been playing an essential role in this process of cooperation.

Mr. President,

I would also like to touch briefly upon the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDC IV) and our cooperation with UNIDO in relation to this Conference which is to be held from 30<sup>th</sup> of May to 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2011 in Istanbul/Turkey. As you will recall, the first and second United Nations Conference on LDCs were held in Paris, in 1981 and 1990 respectively, whereas the third one was organized in Brussels, in May 2001.

We feel privileged to host this event which will focus on the most vulnerable countries and peoples of the world. This development summit aims to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the situation of the LDCs and identify effective and sound international and domestic policies to effectively deal with the long lasting and emerging development challenges that they face.

We are closely cooperating with UNIDO for the success of the Istanbul Conference. Advocating the vital role of science and technology for a more sustainable and prosperous world and considering the specific challenges of the LDCs in this field, The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) and UNIDO have agreed to jointly organize a pre-conference event on “Science, Technology and Innovation: Setting Priorities, Shaping and Implementing Policies for LDCs” in February 2011, in Istanbul. The event will aim at defining the needs of LDCs in the field of science and technology and discussing areas for future action. It will be open to the participation of the members of the scientific community as well as the relevant senior officials from 49 LDCs and the development partners.

Furthermore, Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) and UNIDO have recently embarked on a new initiative to explore opportunities of cooperation in the LDCs. This cooperation process envisages identification of target countries in which joint projects on mainly agribusiness sector will be implemented. The achievements of this cooperation will also be shared with the international community during the LDC IV.

Last but not least, UNIDO will organize a Ministerial-Level side event during the LDC IV, entitled ” The role of SMEs in the Global Value Chain approach: Technology and knowledge transfer for agribusiness development in LDCs”. The negotiations with UNIDO are also underway as to how relevant Turkish institutions could contribute to the preparation of this side event.

Mr. President,

Before concluding, I would like to express our satisfaction with the ongoing cooperation between UNIDO and Turkey both in the preparation of

LDC-IV and in other domains. We hope that the synergies that were created through such activities would be helpful for the LDCs in their endeavour to alleviate poverty and achieve sustainable development.

Thank you, Mr. President.