

**BİRLEŞMİŞ MİLLETLER NEZDİNDE
TÜRKİYE DAİMİ TEMSİLCİLİĞİ**

**PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

2009/Turkuno DT/12957

The Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and with reference to the Latter's Note no. DESA-09/0314 dated 6 March 2009, has the honour to present below Turkey's views regarding the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development to assist the preparation of the report of the Secretary General requested in resolution 63/212 of the General Assembly.

Sustainable development is one of the key issues in the activities of the United Nations system and has cross-cutting implications in a number of areas, including economics and environment. Recent energy and food crises, as well as the current economic and financial crises have made sustainable development even more pertinent for the United Nations system and its membership, especially with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Turkey believes that sustainable development is one of the greatest global challenges today and the United Nations should make every effort to address all its aspects in terms of both policy options and implementation. Focusing on constraints and obstacles in implementation which hinder the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is essential in these efforts. Follow-up of commitments is also crucial.

In this regard, the Commission on Sustainable Development plays an important role as a forum to discuss cross-cutting issues in the development agenda of the United Nations. The work of the Commission should be facilitated and supported.

In light of the above, Turkey deems the convening of a high-level event on sustainable development appropriate and useful to take stock of both best practices and obstacles in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in particular towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Secretariat of the United Nations
New York

However, Turkey believes that in view of the increasing number of high-level events for the follow-up of major United Nations conferences, the objectives of such an event should be carefully determined in a result-oriented manner in order to ensure its success. It should be designed to complement and bring value-added to the ongoing discussion and activities on sustainable development within the United Nations system, as well as at the regional and national levels.

The Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 29 May 2009

