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### Abbreviations

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<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>BAG KUR</td>
<td>Social Security Agency for the Self Employed</td>
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<td>BSEC</td>
<td>Black Sea Economic Co-operation</td>
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<td>CAS</td>
<td>Country Assistance Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLU</td>
<td>Child Labor Unit (Ministry of Labor and Social Security)</td>
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<td>CND</td>
<td>Commission for Narcotic Drugs</td>
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<td>CRC</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>DSI</td>
<td>General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works</td>
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<td>ECO</td>
<td>Economic Co-operation Organization</td>
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<td>EIB</td>
<td>European Investment Bank</td>
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<td>FATF</td>
<td>Financial Action Task Force</td>
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<td>FP</td>
<td>Family Planning</td>
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<td>GDWSP</td>
<td>General Directorate for the Status and Problems of Women</td>
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<td>GEF SGP</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility Small Grant Programme</td>
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<td>GoT</td>
<td>Government of Turkey</td>
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<td>HDR</td>
<td>Human Development Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>HONLEA</td>
<td>Head of National Law Enforcement Agencies</td>
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<td>HPI</td>
<td>Human Poverty Index</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Children Center</td>
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<td>ICN</td>
<td>International Convention on Nutrition</td>
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<td>ICPD</td>
<td>International Conference on Population and Development</td>
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<td>IEC</td>
<td>Information, Education and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFC</td>
<td>International Finance Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCB</td>
<td>International Narcotics Control Board</td>
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<td>IPEC</td>
<td>International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor</td>
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<td>JICA</td>
<td>Japanese International Cooperation Agency</td>
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<td>LCA</td>
<td>Life Cycle Assessment</td>
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<td>LJC</td>
<td>Law of Juvenile Courts</td>
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<td>MARA</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs</td>
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<td>MCH</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIGA</td>
<td>Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency</td>
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<td>MOH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
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<td>NEAP</td>
<td>National Environmental Action Plan</td>
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<td>NHDR</td>
<td>National Human Development Report</td>
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<td>NPA</td>
<td>National Plan of Action</td>
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<td>NPAN</td>
<td>National Plan of Action for Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSPWHFP</td>
<td>National Strategic Plan of Women's Health and Family Planning</td>
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<td>ODS</td>
<td>Ozone Depleting Substances</td>
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<td>OIC</td>
<td>Organization of Islamic Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>PFI</td>
<td>Institute for Training and Development of Police</td>
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<td>PHC</td>
<td>Primary Health Care</td>
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<td>RC</td>
<td>Resident Coordinator</td>
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<td>RH</td>
<td>Reproductive Health</td>
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<td>SECI</td>
<td>South Eastern Europe Cooperative Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHCEK</td>
<td>Social Services and Child Protection Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIS</td>
<td>State Institute of Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>SME</td>
<td>Small and Medium-size Enterprise</td>
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<td>SPO</td>
<td>State Planning Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSK</td>
<td>Social Security Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>TADOC</td>
<td>Turkish International Academy Against Drug and Organized Crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCL</td>
<td>Turkish Criminal Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>TGNA</td>
<td>Turkish Grand National Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>TICA</td>
<td>Turkish Development Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCED</td>
<td>United Nations Conference on Environment and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCT</td>
<td>United Nations Country Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDG</td>
<td>United Nations Development Group</td>
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<td>WFS</td>
<td>World Food Summit</td>
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<td>WSC</td>
<td>World Summit for Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSSD</td>
<td>World Summit for Social Development</td>
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<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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FOREWORD

In 1997, the Secretary-General launched an ambitious reform program, which aimed at preparing the United Nations for the challenges of the 21st century. The reform actions set forth under Mr. Kofi Annan’s leadership gave particular attention to those addressing a core mission of the United Nations: its involvement in development work. While recognizing the major contribution that the Organization, directly and through its Funds, Programs and Agencies, has made in this area for over fifty years, the Secretary-General stressed how much was still ahead. Therefore, to enhance the Organization’s capacity to implement its development mandate, he proposed a series of concrete measures calling for the strengthening of the cooperation existing between all its institutions and their respective partners.

The United Nations Development Group (UNDG), composed of most development oriented UN institutions, was then charged with the elaboration of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). This new instrument was developed in order to bring greater coherence to the United Nations programs at the country level. Consequently, the UNDAF was one of the most important subjects discussed in the General Assembly during the 1998 triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the UN system. The UNDAF was endorsed by the GA resolution A/53/192.

Following a first pilot exercise, it was decided that, in order for each United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to engage in this effort with a common vision for the task ahead, there was a need for joint identification of key issues. These would then constitute the basis for advocacy, policy dialogue and the preparation of the UNDAF. Guidelines were therefore developed for UNCTs to undertake a country-based process for reviewing and analyzing the national development situation. This process, the Common Country Assessment (CCA) would then lead to the production of a UN country-based document described as the CCA document.

Turkey was chosen as one of the pilot countries for this endeavor; this report is the first Turkey Common Country Assessment (Turkey CCA) document. In early 1998, the CCA exercise was undertaken by the United Nations system in Turkey in close cooperation with its national counterparts. The methodology adopted called for each agency concerned to look at the topics relevant to their respective mandates, to collect data and existing updated analyses, to process them and, together with relevant governmental and non-governmental national counterparts, to propose a consolidated view on a set of key development issues. In January 2000, in view of two major events in 1999, the two devastating earthquakes of August and November, and Turkey’s new status as a candidate to European Union membership, the UNCT reoriented the CCA process to adapt it to the new circumstances.

Based on lessons learned during the work undertaken until then, and considering the importance of the UN system’s role in relation with the follow-up to world summits, conferences and conventions, the UNCT decided to focus its work on this aspect of its mandate in line with resolution A/53/192. This CCA focuses then on the national legislative framework and a set of issues and measures relevant to ensuring the implementation of several major international instruments that Turkey has signed and ratified.

This CCA does not pretend to give the most comprehensive picture of the situation relevant to the eleven Summits, Conferences and Conventions identified. It reflects the result of an analysis aimed at determining future directions of the UN system in Turkey. It tries to identify the key areas in which the UN system can offer added value through the resources and know how of its Agencies, Funds and Programs. The two key objectives of the CCA are to establish
the basis of the forthcoming UNDAF and to ensure that the UN system will be used to the best of its capacity in support of and with the leadership of its national counterparts.

While the analysis contained in the CCA considers the activities of the UN system and of their national partners in the broad sense, it does not reflect the individual views of all entities concerned. For various reasons, it was not possible to involve in the analysis a number of UN institutions (including UN Departments and Commissions, UN Agencies, Funds and Programs not represented in Turkey). Therefore this CCA suffers from the absence of the views and guidance that their specific expertise and experience could have offered. The authors would also have wished to associate in this effort a far larger number of UN system partners in governmental institutions and among the civil society. This CCA would have gained immensely from their wisdom and direct grasp of the situation. It is worth noting that in preparing the CCA, the UNCT integrated in its analysis the views of the World Bank, as reflected in its draft Country Assistance Strategy (CAS).

However, the dramatic impact of the earthquakes of August and November 1999 forced the UN system in Turkey to review its priorities. When time came to resume normal activities, difficult choices had to be made between UN system-wide endeavors and agency based obligations. Time was also of the essence, since the CCA exercise in Turkey was originally meant to be completed in 1999, in keeping with the schedule of the UN Development Group. This situation required difficult choices that led the UNCT members to undertake this analysis with a reduced number of participants, in order for it to meet the new 2001 final deadline.

This being said, this Common Country Assessment is not a final exercise. The CCA, while offering a product (this document) is above all a process that should allow the entire UN system (with or without country representation) and its partners to have a regular joint look at the prevailing situation in areas of interest common to all. The CCA is a snapshot of the country situation in a given moment of the long process of implementation of Turkey’s international commitments in relation with United Nations summits, conferences and conventions. Many others, with wider participation, in the years ahead should follow this first step. Moreover, following the national census of October 2000, the State Institute of Statistics (SIS) is currently undertaking a major updating of its database; therefore, this CCA will have to be revised in due course.

In conclusion, those, who have had a role in this analytical exercise, firmly believe that this CCA/UNDAF process allows the United Nations system to effectively and efficiently offer a comprehensive, useful, and impact oriented framework of cooperation to the people and Government of Turkey. They trust that those who will add their wisdom and efforts, now and in the future, will also join them in this belief.

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PART I

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND and RATIONALE

The Common Country Assessment (CCA)/UNDAF process for Turkey began in 1997, and was almost concluded before the 1999 earthquakes. It was then decided to include the ramifications of the earthquakes and Turkey’s evolving candidature statute to the EU in the final CCA document.

The CCA recognizes the Government of Turkey’s (GoT) participation in World Summits and Conferences and its ratification of the major UN Conventions. It tries to highlight the role that the UN has played and may continue to play in facilitating Turkey’s follow up of these Summits and Conferences. This effort is geared towards supporting the country’s development performance.

The analysis focuses on the national legislative frameworks instituted in order to follow up the summits, conferences and conventions. Other factors which impact on national follow up are also presented, together with some social, economic and political factors that create and perpetuate social exclusion and hinder many people from realizing their potential.

The analyses aim to be the basis for determining the future direction of the UN System in Turkey. Following the CCA, these analyses will be further elaborated in the UNDAF exercise.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

Turkey is located at the intersection of five regions (the Balkans, Mediterranean, Black Sea, Caucasus and the Middle East) and plays an especially important role in a sixth region (Central Asia).

Historical and cultural ties with Balkan, Central Asian and Middle Eastern countries date back to the Ottoman Empire, with Turkey’s secular parliamentary democracy serving as a model for some countries in Central Asia.

For the last two decades, Turkey has played an important economic role in Central Asia and the Balkans, and provided educational and technical assistance (know-how and financing) in both regions. Turkey has had a major stake in the energy sector in the CIS region especially the Caspian-Mediterranean Coast Oil Pipeline Project.

In political terms, Turkey has also played an important role in the Balkan region. It was among the first countries to recognize the independence of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia. Turkey has also played a significant role in the international efforts to establish peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in Kosovo.

Turkey is not only a founding member of the UN, but also an active member of international and regional organizations and is party to numerous international instruments.

Turkey has been a member of NATO since 1952 and attaches great importance to the North Atlantic Alliance as the linchpin of Euro-Atlantic security and stability. It has supported the adaptation of the Alliance to the new security environment especially the accession process for new members.
Turkey is a member of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (BSEC) and the Economic Co-operation Organization (ECO).

Turkey has been an associate member of the European Economic Community since 1963 and applied for full membership in 1987. At the Helsinki European Council held in December 1999 Turkey was officially recognized, without any precondition, as a candidate state on equal footing with the other candidate states. Thus, Turkey will participate in Community programs open to other candidate countries and agencies. This will enable Turkey to benefit from funds and programs aimed at supporting reforms and to adopt the acquis.

The Commission prepared the Accession Partnership document, and submitted it to the European Council in November 2000. The National Program, which, at the time of drafting this CCA document, was under preparation by Turkey, will include detailed guidelines, targets and strategies on Turkey’s alignment.

The Board of Directors of the World Bank Group has discussed a new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Turkey in the last quarter of 2000. This CAS lays out the strategy and indicative program for support to Turkey by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) over a three-year period. The primary objective of the CAS is to help Turkey meet its goals of improving living standards and reducing economic vulnerability and poverty.

The CAS will focus the Bank Group’s FY01-03 program on five broad themes:
- implement reforms for growth and for the generation of employment;
- improve public administration and public accountability;
- improve social services and social protection;
- improve environmental management and strengthen disaster mitigation;
- accelerate connectivity and technological capabilities.

The IFC will play an important role in Turkey, supporting several CAS themes, during the reform implementation stage. Together with its investment, the IFC will provide targeted technical assistance. The MIGA is also very active in Turkey, providing guarantees and building capacity for foreign investment promotion.

The Bank Group works closely with the following range of international and domestic partners in assisting Turkey to shape its economic program: IBRD teams who work closely with IMF colleagues; the EU; UN organizations and the European Investment Bank (EIB); private sector, financial organizations and several non-governmental organizations (NGOs); bilateral and international agencies.

Turkey is also a provider of technical assistance. During 1997-1998 Turkey’s cooperation activities amounted to 0.05% of GNP. These began in 1985 with humanitarian assistance to Sahel countries and now extend to NIS countries in Central Asia, Caucasia, the Balkans and to the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Turkey is currently considering becoming a member of OECD/DAC.

**NATIONAL CONTEXT of TURKEY’S DEVELOPMENT**

The Turkish economy has demonstrated remarkable growth rates in the past decade. This economic growth, however, has not been totally sustainable and the Turkish economy has been extremely vulnerable to international financial crises. The inflationary situation, combined with instability in money markets and interest rates has had a negative impact on
investments and national productivity. For the past few years, GNP has stabilized at around US $200 billion.

As a result of the earthquakes in 1999, annual production decreased by 6.4% and inflation resumed its upward trend.

In 1999 the budget deficit reached uncontrollable levels and made it imperative for the government to introduce structural reforms. The new government of May 1999 worked on introducing reforms in the fields of social security, banking legislation, privatization, international arbitration and capital markets legislation.

The election of a new government and the expectations for a long-term agreement with the IMF helped to pull interest rates down to 30%. These had risen to over 45% prior to elections. The Istanbul Stock Exchange index rose to 1,654.2, a remarkable increase of 241.7% since 1998.

The current Government has built its program on structural reforms and stable growth at a low rate of inflation. A Stand-by Arrangement signed with the IMF in December 1999 frames a loan of US $4 billion over three years. The macro-economic adjustment program defined in the Agreement includes structural reforms in agricultural support policies, social security, public finance, transparency, tax policy, privatization and monitoring and auditing of the banking system.

The Eighth Five Year Development Plan (2001-2005), as part of the Long-term Strategy (2001-2023), was passed by the Turkish Parliament in June 2000. The main objectives of the Eighth Plan are:

1. Improving the quality of life and raising living standards;
2. Increasing the share of Turkey in world economic output;
3. Accelerating the integration of Turkey into the world economy within the perspective of its accession to the European Union;
4. Further promoting the economic effectiveness of Turkey, both in the world and in the region.

The Eighth Plan also aims to increase the competitiveness of the Turkish economy within an outward-oriented structure, paying particular attention to research and development, development of technology and environmental norms and regulations.

**ANALYSIS of NATIONAL FOLLOW-UP to UN CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS and SUMMITS**

The main text covers the following UN summits, conferences and conventions:

1. Convention on the Rights of the Child;
2. Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
3. International Conference on Nutrition;
4. World Food Summit;
5. World Summit for Social Development;
6. UN Conference on Environment and Development and Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer;
7. UN Conference on Human Settlements (II);
8. International Conference on Population and Development;
9. International Labour Conventions;
10. Health for All in the 21st Century;
11. UN Conventions Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
Map I.1 Human Development Index in 1999
All international conventions ratified by member states have precedence over national laws. Member states must therefore take steps to change or amend laws or regulations that might be in conflict with the convention.

**CONVENTION on the RIGHTS of the CHILD**

Turkey signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) during the World Children’s Summit in 1990 and ratified it in 1994, with some reservations. Statistics available at the time of drafting indicate that there are 25.2 million children (people below 18 years of age) in Turkey. This constitutes 40% of the population.

The CRC introduces the notion of legal and moral obligation and accountability of the State and institutions to meet the basic needs of its people. It affirms that children and women also should be the beneficiaries of these rights.

There are four Foundation Principles of the CRC:
1. The principle of non-discrimination means that all children have the same right to develop their potential;
2. In all actions concerning children, “primary consideration” to be given to the best interests of the child;
3. All children have a right to life, survival, development, and basic services in order for them to achieve their full development;
4. The views and voice of children must be heard and respected.

The Government of Turkey’s National Plan of Action for Children was developed in 1993 and updated in 1996. The overall strategy focuses on:

*Health*: to ensure continuous, consistent and efficient health services; to reinforce primary health care services at all levels; to expand maternal and child health care and family planning services in the referral services system.

*Education*: to ensure that children gain basic knowledge, skills, behavior and practices in order to reach their full potential, and to prepare them for higher education in line with their interests and skills.

*Water and sanitation*: to provide access for all to safe and adequate drinking water and sewage systems, in order to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

*Children in difficult circumstances*: to protect physically and mentally disabled children, children in conflict with the law, street and working children, victims of substance abuse and other children in difficult circumstances.

The goals and objectives of the CRC have been widely communicated to the public and various sectors. Administrative and implementing structures of the government have been strengthened. The frameworks for legislative and judicial actions are being put in place. As a general conclusion, it may be stated that the legislation in Turkey is in broad agreement with the CRC. By internalizing the CRC as an international tool in its legislative system, the Government of Turkey has shown its commitment to the CRC’s goal of a child-friendly society. For example, since 1992, the government has been giving high priority to combat child labor within the framework of the ILO/IPEC program. The number of working children in the 6 to 14 age group decreased by half between 1994 and 1999.
While progress has been achieved in recent years, Turkish children's rights have not been claimed in accordance with available resources. Although the legal infrastructure has been strengthened, for various reasons such as lack of qualified staff, organizational facilities, lack of budgeting, etc., there has been insufficient implementation. Some examples are: lack of childcare centers, juvenile courts and separate detention centers for juvenile delinquents, unequal distribution of health staff around the country, and lack of educational facilities and personnel. Moreover, objectives have not been fully achieved because of gender and regional disparities and the centralized administrative structure.

**Recommendations:**

- Geographical and intra-urban disparities should be eliminated;
- Decentralized integrated planning and mobilization of community participation in the planning and monitoring of programs for women and children should be promoted;
- The worst forms of child labour and of child labour in general should be eliminated in the short and in the longer term respectively.
- Gender disparities, especially in the fields of education and employment should be eliminated;
- An integrated approach to survival and development within the framework of early childhood care for survival, growth, and psycho-social development should be implemented;
- Emerging issues which relate to child protection from abuse and exploitation, adolescent health and development, and teenage pregnancy and early marriage should be addressed more effectively;
- The state, civil organizations, community and family should be mobilized in the implementation of the CRC and CEDAW;
- Instruments and tools for monitoring implementation should be created.

**CONVENTION on the ELIMINATION of ALL FORMS of DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)**

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1979. Turkey ratified CEDAW in 1985 with some reservations which were lifted in 1999 (one reservation to Article 29 remains). Turkey has actively supported the drafting of an Optional Protocol to CEDAW.

The Government of Turkey has a National Action Plan as a follow up to the Fourth World Conference on Women. Eight of the twelve critical areas identified in the Beijing Platform for Action have been prioritized as follows:

- Education of Women;
- The Girl Child;
- Women and Health;
- Violence Against Women;
- Women and the Economy;
- Women in Decision Making Processes;
- Institutional Mechanisms for Women’s Advancement;
- Women and the Media.

Turkey made the following three commitments at the Conference:

1. To withdraw by the year 2000 all reservations about CEDAW;
2. To reduce maternal and infant mortality by 50% by the year 2000 on the basis of the 1994 figures;
3. To increase compulsory basic education from five to eight years and eradicate female illiteracy (28.9% in 1994) by the year 2000.

Following the adoption of CEDAW, the General Directorate for Women's Status and Problems affiliated to the Ministry of State has been designated to coordinate its implementation.

The Turkish Constitution contains an equality clause (Article 10) which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of sex. However, there are still areas of the Criminal and Penal Code which have yet to be amended, for example the legal recognition of the husband as the head of the family.

Areas of particular concern are:

Employment: Women's participation in the work force has actually fallen during the last 10 years. Contributing factors are lack of educational attainment and unsatisfactory maternity leave provisions. Another problem area is the concentration of women in low paid, low status work and the lack of 'equal pay for equal work' legislation.

Education: Although the difference between male and female literacy and school enrollment is narrowing, there is a continuing discrepancy in the enrollment rates especially beyond basic education.

Domestic violence: Although a law was adopted in 1998, domestic violence is still widespread and is not necessarily perceived as a violation of women's human rights.

Women's political rights: Although the percentage of women voters is high, their representation in national and local government is very low, as is their representation in senior positions in the public sector.

Recommendations:

- Women's human rights should be clearly associated with mainstream concepts and socio-political projects such as democratization and secularism, which have widespread legitimacy in Turkish society;
- More effective public awareness campaigns should be initiated to address the problem;
- Social norms regarding childcare and family responsibilities, which constrain women's participation in the workplace, should be addressed as well as maternity leave and equal pay legislation;
- Projects to assist women in developing marketable skills should be implemented;
- The national education system should be analyzed from a gender perspective and effective measures should be implemented to address gender disparities in school enrollment and graduation in the Eastern region;
- Strategies such as affirmative action should be adopted to increase the proportion of women in critical positions.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on NUTRITION

The International Conference on Nutrition was held in Rome in 1992. The main goal was to eliminate hunger and reduce all forms of malnutrition. The Global Plan of Action for Nutrition was designed to provide guidelines for governments to achieve the objectives of the World Declaration on Nutrition.
The most important achievement of the GoT has been the enactment of Decree No. 22327, 28 June 1995, ‘Food Production, Consumption and Control’.

A National Food and Nutrition Council was recently established, composed of the representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Education, Industry and Trade, State Planning Organization (SPO), State Institute of Statistics (SIS), the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Universities, NGOs, relevant UN Agencies and the private sector, with the objective, amongst others, of coordinating the National Plan of Action for Nutrition.

In the Seventh Five Year Development Plan covering the period 1996-2000, it is stated that food production policies will be developed with due attention to nutritional issues, demonstrating the Government’s commitment to achieve food security and safety in the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture has proposed an investment project to the European Union (EU) to provide financing for the ‘Development of Food Control Services’ aimed at upgrading the ministry’s food control laboratories to meet EU standards.

Turkey still does not have a National Plan of Action on Nutrition, mainly due to the lack of a national coordination mechanism, which will prioritize, develop, implement and monitor the policies and plans. Even with the establishment of the National Food and Nutrition Council, there are doubts about its executive power over the different actors involved. Although the last countrywide survey on nutrition and health was conducted in 1974 and there is little current data available, energy deficiency, protein-energy malnutrition, anemia, endemic goiter, rickets and vitamin deficiencies are still prevalent in both rural and urban areas.

**Recommendations:**

- It is imperative to conduct research into ways of improving the nutritional status of the rural poor and in preventing nutrition-related diseases;
- NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the private sector should be encouraged to conduct applied research and field surveys.

**WORLD FOOD SUMMIT**

The Rome declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, via its seven commitments, laid the foundations for food security at the individual, household, national, regional and global levels.

Turkey is currently self-sufficient in food production. However, population growth is still continuing and raw material requirements of the domestic industry, the need for increased export earnings, and rural incomes are increasing. Therefore, agricultural production needs to expand to meet the national objectives of retaining food self-sufficiency.

There are indications that around 14 million people in Turkey are considered to be vulnerable in terms of food security. Steps have been taken by the Government to map vulnerable groups in order to take the necessary remedial actions.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has initiated a study in cooperation with the Government, to identify its national agricultural development strategy ‘Horizon 2010’.

The government has provided a suitable political environment in which to make agricultural reforms. Steps have been taken to increase livestock production and improve animal health.
A package of law proposals has been submitted to the Grand National Assembly. These consist of legal arrangements for complying with sanitary and phytosanitary agreements of the EU and the World Trade Organization (WTO), land utilization and land conservation, establishment of agricultural producers’ unions, and the restructuring of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA). The MARA is also making efforts to modify the present support systems for small farmers.

In the long run, the policy of the Government is to reduce the rural population, mainly the farming community, from its present 40% to 10%.

The Government has signed a Stand-by Agreement with the IMF committing itself to phase out existing agricultural support policies and replace them with a direct income support system targeted at poor farmers.

The government has also taken steps towards the adoption of an agricultural insurance system, privatization of the State Economic Enterprises, reformation of the Agricultural Sales Cooperatives Unions, development of agricultural commodity exchanges and the allocation of more resources to agricultural research and development activities.

In Turkey, physical access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food is attainable and should be ensured. The problem is the lack of economic access faced by certain groups in society. Therefore, poverty eradication is essential in order to improve access to food.

**Recommendations:**

- 40% of the population is in some way or another affiliated with agriculture. 45.1% of the work force is in the agricultural sector. Therefore, the most important, direct and easiest way of reducing disparities in the country is to develop its agricultural sector;
- Due to land degradation, population pressure and poor natural resources management practices, Turkey’s vast land, water, forest and related resources are being depleted at an alarming rate. An intensive and concerted program supported by sufficient economic and legal measures is urgently needed. Specifically, Turkey should reduce the rate of deforestation and increase forest coverage;
- If poverty alleviation and sustainable human development are to be promoted, the Government and international development organizations must focus on the 7 million poor forest dwellers;
- If governance is to be improved, priority must be given to the establishment of farmers unions and grassroots institutions that have direct access to national or international markets;
- In the process of integration with the EU, the Government must aim to promote agro-industry and adopt international quality standards for agricultural commodities;
- The Government should mobilize the private sector to assist in eradicating poverty and inequality and improve economic access by all to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food;
- A participatory approach should be adopted in agricultural and rural development activities to create ownership and ensure success;
- Both the private and public sectors should be encouraged to expand and diversify their research efforts;
- Agricultural extension and farmer training by the MARA need to be strengthened so as to transfer new technologies to small farmers in order to improve their productivity;
- Organic farming and aqua-culture are new potential areas of income generation in remote areas and should therefore receive due attention;
- Turkey is situated at the crossroads of three continents and therefore should be alert and deploy early warning systems in order to safeguard its crop and livestock production against animal diseases and plant pests.
World Summit for Social Development

Turkey participated in the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) in 1995 and was a signatory to the Copenhagen Declaration that focused on the eradication of poverty.

The Turkish delegation to the WSSD was led by the State Planning Organization. In the immediate follow up to the Summit, no single national agency was designated to assume the relevant follow-up co-ordination responsibilities. No National Action Plan to follow up the WSSD has been prepared, despite the ongoing individually implemented activities of relevant agencies and institutions in relevant fields. However, the SPO has prepared an overview report focusing on the progress made by the relevant agencies towards the WSSD commitments.

In preparing for the Eighth Five Year Development Plan, the SPO has set up specialized commissions to address some of the priorities emanating from the WSSD. In particular, the Commission on Poverty and Social Security will be working towards filling many of the gaps in the Government’s follow up to the WSSD.

SPO estimates that the poverty rate in Turkey is about 16%, with high levels in rural areas, female-headed households and in Eastern and South-Eastern Anatolian regions. Although Turkey does not have an official poverty eradication target or policies, there are national strategies and action plans aimed at reducing poverty. These range from efforts to reform the tax system and the education system to efforts to reduce regional development disparities.

In particular, the Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund, established in 1986, and the ‘Green Card’ system of the Social Services and Child Protection Agency (SHCEK) are major tools for combating poverty.

In 1996 the unemployment figure was 12.3% for men and women, and 34% for women only. Since then labor force growth rates have shown only moderate increases (less than 2% per annum).

The large proportion of the work force employed in the agricultural sector (45.1%) and the low wages paid contribute towards high rural poverty.

In order to upgrade the skills of the work force, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has been providing technical support via the Employment and Training Project. In order to forestall the negative impacts of the ongoing privatization program, the Government has been implementing the Labor Adjustment Project with World Bank financing.

The government has been providing limited support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through its SME Action Plan and through better access to credit lines. When the age limit for eligibility of women for credit schemes was raised from 35 to 45, the number of beneficiaries increased significantly. A special credit line has been established for SMEs affected by the 1999 earthquakes. The Government is trying to expand the credit lines available through Halk Bank.

In terms of social integration and cohesion, national reporting on WSSD focuses on the disabled, on the family and on women and children. For the disabled, quotas for the employment of disabled people have been allocated to companies and occupational training programs have been introduced. With regards to women, we have already mentioned changes to the law on domestic violence and other laws relating to the status of women. As discussed within the framework of the CRC, there are still estimated to be 0.5 million children in need. It is also noted that sound policies for good governance and for expanding the participation base in decision-making processes could also foster social integration and cohesion.
There are many resource allocation issues related to further social development in Turkey. For example, although compulsory education increased from five to eight years in 1997, expenditure on education as a percentage of GNP has hardly changed through 1999. Expenditure on health has increased but lags behind industrialized Western countries. Only half the civilian labor force is covered by social security insurance schemes.

Successive National Human Development Reports have pointed to the shortcomings of the basic social services delivery in Turkey, and in particular with respect to gender and regional disparities both in terms of quantity and quality.

 Whilst Turkey has recently become signatory to a series of international agreements which have the potential to impact Turkey’s social development performance positively, there are other factors that are impeding Turkey’s social development performance. Amongst which are chronic budget deficits, high inflation rate and heavy internal debt servicing obligations of the Government. Hence the critical importance of the economic stability program.

Finally, the lack of co-ordination between social assistance, service and security agencies and institutions has negatively impacted the national capacity to respond to the multi-faceted needs of the poor and disadvantaged population groups.

**Recommendations:**

- To establish, for and among, social assistance, security and services agencies, a new co-ordination system enabling more effective service delivery to target groups;
- To improve social services delivery, including health and education, to the poor and low-income groups;
- To improve the efficiency of the Green Card program enabling the poor to benefit from the health services;
- To give new momentum to the planning and implementation of health policies that target disadvantaged population groups in order to provide cost-efficient, effective health services in an equitable manner;
- To promote occupational training programs and projects with a view to enhancing the productivity of rural populations and diversifying agricultural production patterns;
- To develop new institutional mechanisms to enhance the productivity, efficiency and harmonization of occupational, technical and higher education in line with the competitive demands of the labor market;
- To use innovative technologies in the provision of educational services. In particular, focus on information technologies, and distance learning;
- To prepare the infrastructure in order to increase compulsory basic education to nine years, inclusive of pre-school education;
- To address the skills training and service sector employment of that part of the labor force that will abandon the agricultural sector due to implementation of the Structural Adjustment Plans.

**CONFERENCE on ENVIRONMENT and DEVELOPMENT**

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) was convened in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. It adopted three major agreements aimed at changing the traditional approach to development:
**Agenda 21**: a comprehensive program of action for the integration of environmental concerns into social and economic development. It requires implementation at local, national, regional and global levels.

**The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**: a series of principles defining the rights and responsibilities of States.

**The Statement of Forest Principles**: a set of principles to underlie the sustainable management of forests worldwide.

Two legally binding Conventions, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* and the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, are aimed at preventing global climate change and the eradication of the diversity of biological species. Another legally binding instrument, the *Montreal Protocol* aims to reduce and eventually eliminate the emissions of man-made ozone depleting substances (ODSs).


Responsibility for the environment and natural resources falls to a number of ministries and directorate generals: the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources’ General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSI), the General Directorate of Rural Affairs of the Prime Minister’s department, the Ministry of Forests, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Municipalities also play an important role in the implementation of environmental protection measures, as well as in land use planning.

In Turkey, environmental projects and investments are basically financed through:
- allocations from the national budget;
- funds created either within or outside the budget;
- fines and levies;
- taxes on sources of pollution;
- grants and credits provided by the bilateral and international organizations.

As part of the Seventh Five Year Development Plan (1996-2000), the SPO supervised the formulation of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) in 1998, with technical assistance from the Ministry of Environment and input from a broad range of stakeholders.

Major challenges in the environmental management system in Turkey are:
- over-reliance on regulatory mechanisms;
- little integration of environmental factors in planning;
- limited public participation;
- inadequate enforcement capability to implement environmental laws;
- little use of environmental information;
- over-centralization of budgets, authority and information;
- low levels of awareness about environmental rules;
- inadequate environmental content in the educational system.

In light of:
- The sectoral environmental challenges (land degradation, biodiversity, marine and coastal waters, solid waste management, climate change, ozone depletion, etc.), but more importantly,
• Cross-sectoral environmental challenges (poverty, sustainable livelihoods, trade, tourism, etc.);
• The institutional, legal and financial bottlenecks;
• The environmental requirements for Turkey’s accession to the EU.

**Recommendations:**

• To promote participatory decision-making processes at all levels and strengthening of civil society organizations and other stakeholders (in order to migrate from traditional behaviors to contemporary participation models);
• To promote sustainable local environmental development planning as a new approach for good local governance and effective environmental management (in order to migrate from centralized national approaches to dynamic local initiatives);
• To facilitate the integration of environmental concerns into market policies (in order to migrate from sectoral policies to integrated approaches).

With special attention given to:
• National capacity building, with particular emphasis on effective and efficient use of existing human, technical and financial resource;
• Strengthening cooperation and coordination among relevant government agencies and other actors in the environmental field;
• Promoting partnership arrangements among a variety of actors in order to address environmental issues.

**CONFERENCE on HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (II)**

The Conference was held in Istanbul in 1996. The Habitat Agenda recognizes the necessity of assured access to safe and healthy shelter and that basic services are essential to individual welfare and national social and economic development.

The Government, civil organizations, private sector and academics participated in the preparation of the National Report for Turkey and a Plan of Action. The National Report analyses the major problems in human settlements and describes the problems encountered in altering settlement systems in Turkey. These are associated with the main principles of the Habitat Agenda, sustainability, livability and equity.

The National Plan of Action (NPA) indicates 28 priority issues, each of which includes a description of the problem, the proposed solution and related activities, the strategy for monitoring implementation, and a list of actors to which the responsibilities in this issue may be imparted.

Although human settlement issues are mainly dominated by central government policies, local government is increasingly influential. However, issues such as true governance, transparency, participation, etc., have yet to be realized.

Although much new legislation has been introduced to deal with the mounting issues, it did not produce sufficient housing. There has been an increase of ‘gecekondus’ (spontaneous settlements) around the cities and development and construction mechanisms aimed at controlling urbanization could not be established.

No overall coordinating body has been assigned, other than the National Committee, as a facilitating and monitoring entity. With respect to implementation of proposed restructuring activities in the Plan of Action, institutional arrangements are very vague.
Although the National Report and Plan of Action was conceived with the participation of a wide range of actors as a comprehensive blueprint for action to solve human settlement-related problems in Turkey, it has not been utilized.

The Housing Development Administration has recently undertaken to revive the Habitat II process, in preparation for Istanbul +5, which will take place in 2001. The National Committee has once again been called to action and the National Report and Plan of Action are being revised. Following the two earthquakes of 1999, civil organizations are once again active in dealing with human settlement related issues.

**Recommendations:**

- To increase dialogue between the government and civil organizations, thus encouraging multi-partied governance in human settlements;
- To support local initiatives;
- To create a Global Urban Observatory body in order to facilitate the monitoring and assessment of the status of human settlements at global, regional, national and local levels;
- To promote a better understanding of urban poverty in Turkey;
- To produce risk reducing plans in human settlement areas which are sensitive to natural disasters.

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on POPULATION and DEVELOPMENT**

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994 underlined the importance of human-centered development activities within the context of population and sustainable development. In the ICPD Plan of Action, reproductive rights are accepted as an indivisible part of universal human rights.

Much has been achieved in Turkey since the ICPD. A ‘suitable environment’ was created and the ICPD targets and strategies were reflected in the Government’s Five Year Development Plans. The Seventh Five Year Development Plan emphasized the development of a master plan for the provision of family planning (FP) services. In accordance with this, the National Strategic Plan for Women’s Health and Family Planning (NSPWHFP) was developed under the auspices of the Ministry of Health (MOH) with the active participation of main stakeholders in Turkey. These are representatives of public institutions and civil organizations. However, resources have not been allocated for all the proposed activities.

An ICPD Follow-up Committee has been formed. A multi-disciplinary National Aids Commission attached to MOH was established in 1996. Consequently, the National Action Plan for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS was created under the auspices of MOH. The Family Planning Advisory Board (renamed the Advisory Board on Women’s Health and Family Planning after ICPD), also attached to MOH, monitors the progress of reproductive health (RH) and FP activities and facilitates inter-sectoral collaboration.

A Special Experts Committee on RH and FP, established for the preparation of the Eighth Five Year Development Plan, introduced for the first time, policy recommendations on adolescent reproductive health, sexual health, and elderly RH to be integrated into the plan.

Surveys conducted on a five-yearly basis and national censuses remain the principal data sources for the review and appraisal of demographic processes and for the monitoring of the implementation of the goals and objectives of the ICPD.
Progress in the implementation of CEDAW is important in the realization of ICPD objectives.

There has been progress made in the fields of training of medical staff, Information Education Communication (IEC), service provision (including national guidelines) and procurement of contraceptives. An International Center of Excellence for Reproductive Health has been established in Turkey this year.

Reproductive health activities receive 95% of their funding from within Turkey.

A number of constraints have been experienced in the field of population and development activities in Turkey. Policies do not yet reflect human rights approaches both in terms of RH and gender equality. The budgetary allocations for primary health care services are limited. Efforts for the integration of RH into primary health and referral services as well as institutionalization and standardization efforts are inadequate. Intergovernmental disparities in the provision of health services and counseling and RH services tailored to the needs of adolescents are lacking. Initiatives to involve men in RH are still quite limited. The dissemination of survey results is limited.

**Recommendations:**

- More effective use should be made of national expertise;
- The NSPWHFP should be updated and a plan of action should identify precisely the priorities and especially regional disparities at the implementation level;
- Management of RH services and the quality of service delivery through supervision should be strengthened and service providers’ should receive pre-service and in-service training;
- The establishment of a core central team of trainers should be considered in order to support, monitor and coordinate the training program at the central level;
- The number of training centers, particularly MCH/FP centers, should be increased;
- Collaboration among the MOH Directorates, particularly Primary Health Care, Curative Services Medicine, Training and MCH/FP Directorates, under the MCH/FP Directorate coordination should be strengthened;
- Specific advocacy programs targeting men should be devised;
- RH information should be expanded, particularly within the eight years compulsory education system that includes years of puberty and early adolescence;
- NGOs should continue to complement the government efforts in trying out pilot approaches in sensitive domains and difficult settings;
- In order to facilitate the design of appropriate strategies and policies, awareness should be raised on the consequences of aging, HIV/AIDS, migration/urbanization, environment, income distribution disparities and poverty;
- ‘South-South cooperation’ with the CIS, Balkan States and Middle East countries should be strengthened.

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS**

The tripartite International Labour Conference has adopted a total number of 182 Conventions and 189 Recommendations, which set international standards in the world of work encompassing certain basic human rights.

The Government of Turkey has signed and ratified all the key ILO Conventions pertaining to basic human rights covered by the Declaration. This encouraged the Government to extend the compulsory education to eight years. The ratification by the Government of Turkey of Convention no. 138 is a sign of the commitment of the Government of Turkey to abolishing child labour.
Thirty eight Conventions have been ratified to date. The Government contemplates to ratify the eighth core convention no. 182 on the worst forms of child labour.

Other Conventions that should be highlighted within the context of advancements at the national level are Convention no. 144 on Tripartite Consultation, ratified by Turkey in 1993, and Convention no. 102, concerning the minimum standards of social security.

Despite the above mentioned advances in the ratification of the core Conventions, serious problems still remain in achieving the full application of some of the Conventions.

Recommendations:

- National legislation should be adjusted in accordance with the conventions ratified, to ensure their full application;
- Newly adopted ILO Conventions should be promoted at national level on a tripartite basis, to encourage ratification.

HEALTH for ALL in the 21st CENTURY

Turkey, together with all Member States of the European Regional Office of the World Health Organization, signed a World Health Declaration adopting a European Health Policy named Health for All in the 21st Century in May 1998. The declaration provides guidance to countries for the adoption of strategies leading to the achievement of better health, thereby committing them to providing a full health potential for every inhabitant of the country. This is achieved by promoting and protecting the health of people throughout all the stages of their lives, reducing the incidence of diseases and injuries, and alleviating the ensuing suffering.

In Turkey the national programs in health services delivery have registered notable progress and achievements in the past decades, while new efforts are clearly needed to expand the servicing base of the Ministry of Health. The Social Security Reform Bill, including provisions for universal social security and health insurance coverage, is expected to increase access to health services by the whole population. However, legislative changes are not in themselves sufficient to affect real changes in the lives and life quality of citizens, and especially in vulnerable groups.

Recommendations:

- The present national health care policy is characterized as having a curative orientation. A major challenge should be to direct the national health care policy towards preventive health care services, with appropriate budgetary support and human resources policies;
- It is of utmost importance to build environmental health care concerns into the national preventive health care policy;
- The official classification of health personnel should be revised, recognizing the relevance of all pertinent health related professions;
- Health Centers should resume the primary health care role they have been given by law. Constraints such as the lack of human resources as well as the lack of other facilities such as medical supplies and transportation should be addressed;
- The capacity of municipal authorities in areas related to public health should be developed;
• The Ministry of Health should consider the establishment of an authoritative and well-funded Department of Environment and Health Services, at the level of General Directorate;
• The relevant central-level vector control responsibilities of the Ministry of Health should be integrated with those at municipal levels;
• The needs of youth as well as those of an aging population should be addressed;
• Improved workplace inspections and more stringent enforcement of workplace safety regulations are needed;
• Issues relating to the modern economy such as ergonomics, mental stress and productivity, mental health, and hygiene should be addressed;
• Programs aimed at preventing accidents should be developed;
• There is a need for a total revision and reform of the present information system used in health establishments, including state hospitals.

CONVENTIONS AGAINST the ILLICIT TRAFFIC in NARCOTIC DRUGS and PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

Turkey is party to all the three UN Conventions Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances which are mainly based on limiting the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution of, trade in, use and possession of drugs exclusively for medical and scientific purposes.

The Turkish Government has made serious attempts and changes in the administrative and legislative sectors in order to apply the provisions set forth in the three Conventions related to drugs.

The Government spends approximately US $30 million every year on its anti-drug activities and maintains its policy of regarding drug crimes as crimes committed against humanity. It is determined to fight the problem with equal commitment at all phases of supply, demand and rehabilitation. It also believes that the drug trade is the main source of finance for terrorist organizations.

The government has proven itself to be very successful in cultivation of opium poppy and production of opium without any record of release to illicit channels. The government's efforts in this regard have received recognition by the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

Although the Turkish Government has signed and ratified all the three conventions, the 1972 Protocol that amends the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 has not been ratified to date.

Recommendations:

• The Turkish government has taken the required action to enable legislative tools for the application of the provisions of the three Conventions. However, in order to put these tools into practice, adequate training should be provided for judges, prosecutors and other law enforcement officers;
• In its annual reports to the INCB, the government faces a discrepancy between the estimated and actual figures of production of opium poppy and opium due to climatic reasons. In order to overcome this, the quality of the seed of the plant should be improved so as to contain 1% of opium;
• The law enforcement agencies have accumulated considerable expertise on anti-drug activities. This needs to be matched with adequate technical equipment in order to improve national interdiction results;
• Drug abuse does not seem to be a major problem for the country as yet. However, national professional capacities in treatment, prevention and research techniques should be improved to prevent any increase in the number of addicts.

CONCLUSION

The CCA provides an analysis of the progress that Turkey has made towards the implementation of its commitments in the framework of a specific number of UN conventions, conferences and summits. In this context, the CCA has identified key development challenges and opportunities that face the country in areas of specific relevance to the UN System mandate.

The UN Country Team (UNCT) in Turkey is therefore committed to supporting Turkey’s efforts towards consolidating the implementation of the priorities of the relevant UN Instruments. In so doing, the UNCT, through the CCA process, has identified four priority areas on which it will focus its joint efforts:

1. Promoting Governance and Participatory Development;
2. Reduction of Socio-Economic and Regional Disparities;
3. Gender Equality;
4. Increased Awareness of the UN Conventions and Increased Mobilization of Human and Financial Resources for Their Implementation.

These priority areas will be the focus of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process.
PART II

BACKGROUND

and

RATIONALITY
BACKGROUND and RATIONALE

2.1 OVERVIEW of CCA/ UNDAF PROCESS

In the context of The UN Reform proposed by the Secretary General and endorsed by the UN General Assembly, the CCA/UNDAF process for Turkey began in 1998.

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) established a committee of mid-level UN staff to steer the process. Initial activities focused on preparation of a common database that would form the basis of the Common Country Assessment (CCA), for which guidelines were still very vague. Led by UNFPA, the activity yielded the initial CCA database that would later be revised several times, to be finally incorporated in a much more comprehensive database and information management system in 1999.

A two-person team of facilitators was fielded to Turkey in early 1998. The mission brought together the UNCT to review the logic and basic requirements of the process, and a work plan identifying key activities and deadlines both for the CCA and the UNDAF was produced. The week-long mission also prompted the UNCT to review the follow-up to the main UN conferences and conventions, yielding a summary table to that effect. The mission however provided little directive on how this process would be conducted.

The government was informed of the CCA to ensure national support for this and the UNDAF exercise. Following several sets of discussions and a further exchange of communications concerning the role of the UN in Turkey, the government agreed to support the process. In the second half of 1998 the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and several UN organizations’ representatives were replaced.

In the first quarter of 1999, the UNCT concluded that the CCA database, as prepared by a consultant, was not satisfactory. Another national consultant, who had had experience in another pilot UNDAF country, was hired. This longer than foreseen beginning of the process caused a considerable delay.

In March 1999, with the arrival of a new RC, the CCA process was re-vamped and re-framed. Following a review it was decided that the consultant had to be replaced (done in June). In June 1999, a half day UNCT retreat was devoted to the issue and a decision on hiring a senior consultant, who would take the responsibility to compile all the inputs of the UNCT members, was reached. The senior consultant worked in July and August and presented her final draft on 15 August 1999. However, work on finalizing the CCA was interrupted by the earthquake of 17 August 1999 followed by another one on 12 November 1999, both of devastating scales and demanding the full commitment of the UNCT in support to the Government’s response.

In January 2000, the UNCT resumed the CCA exercise. It was then also decided that the emerging conditions created by the two earthquakes and Turkey’s evolving candidature statute to the EU would have to be considered in the CCA document. A Task Force comprising of UNCT members was therefore established to finalise the document also benefiting from the “Analysis and Main Lessons drawn from 15 CCA and UNDAF documents from the UNDAF Pilot Phase”. The CCA Turkey document was re-written and finalised under this new approach.

In October 2000, a workshop guided by a team of experts of the UN Staff College and including a UNDG Ex-Com Mission successfully addressed the remaining bottlenecks that had further slowed down the CCA/UNDAF formulation process.
2.2 OBJECTIVES and METHODOLOGY

2.2.1 Objectives

The Common Country Assessment (CCA) has been framed to recognize the critical importance of the Government of Turkey's (GoT) participation in world summits/conferences and ratification of major UN conventions. The aim in this regard is to highlight the important role the UN has played and may continue to play by fostering in Turkey an enabling environment for sound follow up to the UN conferences and summits, which will advance the development performance of the country at large, in line with national development objectives.

The main conferences, summits and conventions which have been selected for the CCA exercise are the following:

- CEDAW + 4th World Conference for Women (1995)
- National Plan of Action on CEDAW
- International Conference on Nutrition (1992)
- World Food Summit (1996)
- World Conference for Social Development (1995)
- UN Conference on Human Settlements (II)
- Fourth World Conference on Population and Development
- ILO Conventions
- Amsterdam and Oslo Conferences on Child Labour
- Health for All in the 21st Century (1999)
- Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961
- Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
- United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988

An analysis of the national development situation through the perspective of major UN conferences, summits and conventions must inevitably, though not exclusively, focus on the national legislative frameworks instituted to follow-up. In the following pages, analyses of legislative action in follow up to UN Conferences, summits and conventions are provided (notably in follow up to the CRC). An effort is also made to present other pull and push factors that impact on national follow up to major UN summits and conferences while highlighting the social, economic and sometimes political factors that create and perpetuate social exclusion and hinder many people from realizing their potential.

While the CCA is meant to be a broad examination of the national response (governmental and non-governmental alike) to the full range of issues addressed in those Conferences, Summits and Conventions, the following analyses aim to be the basis for determining the
future directions of the UN System in Turkey which will be further elaborated in the UNDAF exercise to follow.

By supporting the GoT in meeting its international commitments, the UN System in Turkey will also endeavor to support the GoT’s accession to the European Union.

2.2.2 Methodology

The methodology employed in preparing the CCA document is primarily a critical analysis of national follow up to major UN conferences, summits and conventions. The UN events on which critical analysis would be conducted were selected through a consultative process among the UNCT. UNCT member agencies volunteered to draft the analytical chapters most relevant to their mandate. The agencies involved their national counterparts in the preparation of the chapters that are within their area of responsibility. The inputs were submitted to the Resident Coordinator’s office, which assumed the responsibility of drafting and compiling the inputs. Several drafts were shared with the agencies, seeking their suggestions and comments. This was followed by regular UNCT meetings in order to reach a consensus, which, was then reflected in the document. The fourth draft was then shared with the facilitators from the UN Staff College in Turin and the UNDG Ex-Com Mission from New York for their comments. The completion of the CCA document and the next step, the formulation of the UNDAF, were undertaken in line with the outcome of the October CCA/UNDAF Workshop.

UNFPA, with the support of the UNDP/FAO IT specialist, would take the responsibility of the CCA database and annexes. ILO, with the support of UNDP and the RC office, would coordinate the finalization of the CCA document. UNICEF would lead the drafting of the UNDAF document, with the RC’s support. Two Steering Groups comprised of members of different agencies were established to work under the coordination of the respective lead agencies and carry out the final stages of the CCA/UNDAF process. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at the request of and in cooperation with the RC, would lead the UNDAF consultation process involving relevant governmental counterparts of the UNCT member agencies in Turkey.
PART III

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

3.1 GEOGRAPHICAL IMPORTANCE

Turkey is exceptionally located at the intersection of five regions plays especially important role in a sixth one. Located at the edge of South Eastern Europe, Turkey is a very important actor in the Balkans, Mediterranean and Black Sea regions. With the Caucasus on the East and the Middle-East bordering its South and South-Eastern frontiers, Turkey plays and will continue to play a key role in both these regions. Finally, counting on its especially rich links with the recently independent states of Central Asia, Turkish influence is very significant in this area and beyond.

3.2 TURKEY’S LEADERSHIP in the REGION, HISTORICAL and PRESENT

Turkey’s deep-rooted historical and cultural ties with Balkan, Central Asian and Middle Eastern countries date back to the Ottoman Empire. In many respects, the secular parliamentary democracy, preceded by a legendary war of independence has served as a model for some countries of Central Asia who have gone through their independence and state building processes in the past decades.

The thriving Turkish economy of the 1980s and 90s and a very dynamic private sector have made Turkey into an important actor in the Central Asian and Balkan countries. Transfer of know how and capital have been Turkey’s most important assets in this regard. Close to US $8 billion worth of projects have been implemented by over two hundred Turkish Companies operating in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) region. Turkey’s educational and technical assistance to the countries in both regions focuses on transfer of technology, know how (especially in free market economy) and includes more than ten thousand scholarships and training opportunities for university students.

Turkey has had a major stake in the energy sector in the CIS region, with particular national attention devoted to the Caspian-Mediterranean Coast Oil Pipeline Project as the main export route for the transfer of Kazakh and Azeri Oil.

In the political realm, Turkey has been an important actor also in the Balkan region where it was among the first countries to recognize the independence of the newly-born states of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia. Turkey has also been a forceful actor in the international efforts in establishing peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly under the aegis of the UN, OIC and OSCE. Likewise in Kosovo, Turkey has been an important partner under NATO in the military operations aiming to establish peace in this unstable territory.

Turkey has been a spearhead in technical cooperation activities in the region and has initiated technical assistance programs in favor of Sahel countries and members of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) and Newly Independent States (NIS). In addition to financial assistance, already accumulated technical capacity at national level is made available and is still being offered to the countries in the region through regular training programs provided by the competent authorities either bilaterally or through international organizations.
3.3 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Since the foundation of the Republic in 1923, Turkey has been an eager and active member of international cooperation endeavors through its membership of international and regional organizations and by being party to numerous international instruments, such as covenants, conventions and conferences.

3.3.1 United Nations

Turkey has participated in the following UN conferences and approved the final documents they had adopted:

UN Instruments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Turkish Accession</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>(1948)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951)</td>
<td>1951/1962</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<td>Discrimination (1966)</td>
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<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against</td>
<td>1985</td>
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<td>Women (1979)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading</td>
<td>1988</td>
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<td>Treatment or Punishment (1984)</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discrimination Against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography</td>
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<td>Convention no. 98 ratification and enforcement:</td>
<td>1951</td>
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<td>Convention no. 105 ratification and enforcement:</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>Convention no. 100 ratification and enforcement:</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>Convention no. 111 ratification and enforcement:</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>Convention no. 87 ratification:</td>
<td>1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention no. 29 and 138 ratification and enforcement:</td>
<td>1998</td>
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</tbody>
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Conferences and Declarations

World Conference on Education for All (EFA), 1990
World Summit for Children, 1990
World Conference on Human Rights, 1993
International Conference on Population and Development, 1994
World Summit for Social Development, 1995
Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995
World Food Summit, 1996
General Assembly Twentieth Special Session on the World Drug Problem, 1998
ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up, 1998
3.3.2 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

Turkey has been a member of NATO since 1952 and attaches great importance to the North Atlantic Alliance as the linchpin of Euro-Atlantic security and stability. The Atlantic Alliance, with its indispensable transatlantic link, core functions and the integrated military structure constitutes the basis on which Euro-Atlantic security is established; a most important factor in the framework of Turkey's own political and security concerns since the 1950s.

Turkey has supported the progress in adapting the Alliance to the new security environment and has constructively and actively contributed to the work of the Alliance in this regard. Within this context, Turkey has welcomed the successful conclusion of the accession talks with Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland which led to the signing of their accession protocols during the NATO Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 16 December 1997.

3.3.3. Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) is composed of eleven participating states (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine). It is based on the principles laid down in the Helsinki Final Act and Paris Charter for a New Europe such as democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms, prosperity through economic liberty and social justice and equal security for all participating states. The goals and principles embodied in the Summit Declaration of the BSEC are in full conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter.

The Participating States regard the BSEC as an appropriate forum for the introduction or expansion of common activities in the region and thus for the stimulation of bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the field of economic development, technology, environment, health and trade.

The Convention on Cultural, Scientific Information Cooperation has been signed by the participating countries.

3.3.4 Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

ECO with its ten participating states (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) encompasses an area inhabited by nearly 300 million people and serves as an instrument for development of economic, social and technical cooperation among the member states.

The activities of ECO comprise projects and programmes of mutual benefit in the fields of economic and commercial cooperation, transport and communications, agriculture, energy, infrastructure and public works, narcotics, education, science and cultural differences.

3.3.5 Accession to the European Union

An associate member of the European Economic Community since 1963, Turkey applied for full membership in 1987. The Association Council of 29 April 1997, reconfirmed Turkey's eligibility for membership and asked the Commission to prepare recommendations to deepen Turkey-EU relations. However, the Commission excluded Turkey from the enlargement process in its report entitled, 'Agenda 2000'.

The Helsinki European Council held on 10-11 December 1999 produced a breakthrough in Turkey-EU relations. At Helsinki, Turkey was officially recognized without any precondition as a candidate state on equal footing with the other candidate states. Thus, Turkey will participate in Community programs open to other candidate countries and agencies. This will
enable Turkey to benefit from funds and programs aiming at supporting reforms as well as the adoption by Turkey of the acquis communautaire.

The European Commission has submitted the Accession Partnership document to the Council in November 2000. This document provides a political, economic and social assessment of Turkey's position vis-à-vis the Copenhagen criteria and the acquis communautaire. The National Program, which will be prepared by Turkey will include detailed guidelines, targets and strategies on Turkey's alignment. Turkey should benefit from the amount of Euro 8.5 billion to be provided to the candidate countries for a period of three years as the 'Pre-accession Facility'. Private sector projects will also be eligible for funding under this facility. Also it is estimated that a disbursement of approximately Euro 400 million out of the loan of Euro 750 million dating back to the initial period of the Customs Union will get underway. The improvement of Turkey-EU relations has also ensured the European Investment Bank co-financing of major Turkish energy and infrastructure projects.

3.3.6 The World Bank Group’s Country Assistance Strategy for Turkey

The Board of Directors of the World Bank Group, at the time of drafting, is discussing a new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Turkey. This CAS lays out the strategy and indicative program for support to Turkey, by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) over a three-year period. While some details may change before the document is finalized, the main thrusts of the CAS can be outlined here.

The primary objective of the CAS is to help Turkey meet its goals of improving living standards and reducing economic vulnerability and poverty. The Bank's recent analytical work - including the Living Standards Study and Country Economic Memorandum - demonstrates that it is impossible to make real progress in reducing economic vulnerability in Turkey without high growth and low inflation. Therefore, the Bank Group intends to support very strongly the Government's ambitious economic reform program, begun in 1999, which aims to tame inflation and restore the economy to high and sustainable growth in output and employment. Some months ago, IBRD triggered the High Case scenario of the last CAS, based on almost one year of implementation of strong up front reforms with the Economic Reform Loan, approved in May 2000. The current CAS continues the High Case program with further support for reforms through both adjustment and investment lending. The High Case program, along with the IMF's Stand-by program, will assist Turkey's economic reforms and help catalyze substantial and necessary private inflows. If the reforms were not implemented, IBRD would continue to provide assistance with a much smaller scale program in support of Turkey's longer-term development needs - focused on rural development, education, and other social priorities.

Within the overall reform program, Turkey's plans to improve agricultural productivity and better target agriculture subsidies to small farmers through the switch to direct income support command special attention because a large share of the economically vulnerable population is in the rural sector. These agriculture reforms will be complemented by steps to improve land and forestry management. The Bank will provide strong support to the agriculture reform program and follow-up investments.

While creating and sustaining growth will be a challenge for Turkey, growth alone will not suffice. Strengthening education, health and social assistance is another critical aspect of the strategy. IBRD will continue to support Turkey's successful basic education reforms which are leading to very substantial improvements in school enrollment - especially among girls. Similar bold reforms are needed in health, but sufficient consensus for this effort does not yet exist. IBRD strategy in the health sector aims to help Turkey build the necessary consensus for reform through economic and sector work, and to ensure that sufficient funding is
available for basic health services. The Government has also requested IBRD help to better target Turkey’s social assistance programs and to improve municipal services for the rapidly growing urban population. Reform of municipal services and financing mechanisms form a core part of the proposed Bank Group strategy.

The Government is giving increased priority to governance issues. The IBRD is already working with the Government to improve the enforcement of housing codes following the August 1999 earthquake. There is growing realization in the country that Turkey must modernize its public institutions in order to deliver better services to people, to help Turkey’s private sector in a fast-paced global environment and accelerate its prospects for EU entry. IBRD studies and lending will support these efforts.

In summary, in line with Turkey’s current and upcoming priorities, the CAS will focus the Bank Group’s FY01-03 program on five broad themes:

- implementation of reforms for growth and employment generation;
- improvement of public administration and public accountability;
- improvement of social services and social protection;
- improvement of environmental management and strengthen disaster mitigation; and
- acceleration of connectivity and technological capabilities.

IFC will play an important role in Turkey, cutting across several CAS themes, during the reform implementation stage. It will accompany its investment with targeted provision of technical assistance. IFC will improve access to long-term financing for companies in selected cases which demonstrate the tangible benefits of reform. To help promote Turkey as a technological hub for the region, IFC will assist Turkish companies to increase their technological competitiveness and invest in CIS and the Balkans. In financial markets, IFC will focus on developing domestic long-term contractual savings institutions. IFC’s investments in infrastructure will improve Turkey’s prospects for sustained growth and meeting EU infrastructure standards.

MIGA is also very active in Turkey, through both guarantees and capacity building for foreign investment promotion. While MIGA’s portfolio in Turkey has until now been concentrated in the financial sector, other sectors are expected to grow in its portfolio - particularly infrastructure. MIGA’s Investment Marketing Service will continue to be an active supporter of the Center for Private Sector Development in Istanbul, which is a joint undertaking of the OECD and the Turkish Development Agency (TICA), to catalyze and support the transfer of expertise and experience related to private sector development to economies in the region.

The Bank Group works closely with a range of international and domestic partners in assisting Turkey to shape its economic program. In particular, IBRD teams have worked closely with IMF colleagues in assisting Turkey to design its economic program - especially on structural and social issues. Closer dialogue is developing with the EU as Turkey and the EU gradually establish the mechanisms for EU candidacy discussions. The EU candidacy agenda remains comprehensive and the Bank Group strategy aims to assist in this process as that process accelerates. The Bank works closely with UN organizations and the European Investment Bank (EIB) on many issues. The Bank Group also collaborates with a range of private sector and financial organizations and several NGOs, and continues to share information and coordinate with many bilateral and international agencies and private-sector organizations on a broad range of issues.

3.3.7 Technical Assistance Capacity of Turkey

Turkey’s technical assistance to developing countries started in 1985 in the form of humanitarian assistance to Sahelian countries and gained momentum following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union. Turkey is providing technical assistance to the NIS countries in Central Asia, Caucasus, the Balkans and to the member countries of the

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Organization of the Islamic Conference, (which it joined in 1969) with special focus on its African members.

The technical assistance of Turkey during 1997-1998 period amounted to 0.05% of her GNP. Parallel to the growing technical assistance capacity of Turkey, the Official Development Assistance (ODA) it receives from the OECD/DAC countries has decreased to negligible amounts since 1992.

Turkey is currently considering becoming a member of OECD/DAC. To that end, the State Institute of Statistics (SIS) has started, in 1998, to compile statistics of Turkey’s development assistance to developing countries, in accordance with OECD/DAC norms and standards.

In 1998, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey has prepared, in collaboration with related institutions and the private sector, an Action Plan within the framework of its strategy to opening up to Africa. The Plan contains, inter alia, measures to increase Turkey’s technical assistance to this continent in a coordinated manner.

Turkey is also one of the founding members of the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe. Turkey actively takes part in all reconstruction work carried out in the international arena to redress the ongoing problems in the field and from their inception, strongly supports the initiatives of the Stability Act and SECI. Turkey has taken over the co-chairmanship of the 2nd Working Table for six months as of 1 July 2000. For this period, a comprehensive Work Program Plan, which will be totally financed by the national resources, has been prepared. This Work Plan also includes technical aid and educational courses for the regional countries as well as the monitoring and finalization of the projects entering the construction phase. The Turkish Private Sector is also contributing to these efforts under the scope of SECI & the Stability Pact Business Advisory Council as well as individual activities.
PART IV

NATIONAL CONTEXT

of

TURKEY’s DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL CONTEXT of TURKEY’s DEVELOPMENT

4.1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Turkish economy has demonstrated remarkable growth rates in the past decade, however, this economic growth has not been totally sustainable. Indeed, the Turkish economy has been extremely vulnerable to the international financial crises, including the Russian and the Asian downturns in 1998 and 1999. The inflationary situation, combined with instability in money markets and interest rates have had a negative impact on investments and national productivity which has stabilized around US $200 billion GNP for the past years.

The two devastating earthquakes Turkey has lived through in 1999 have also put a heavy burden on state resources (causing a loss of US $5.7 billion). As a result, the production has decreased by 6.4% and inflation has resumed its upward trend.

In spite of the increase in the production of energy sector in 1999, a significant fall in the production of mining and manufacturing sector has marked a fall of an average of 3.9% in quarterly industrial production index. Major sectors in the Turkish economy, namely, textile, automotive and machinery have shown considerable falls in production.

The negative developments in the economic sector have reflected on the labour market, pulling up the unemployment rate to 7.3%.

The budget deficits reaching uncontrollable lengths made it imperative for the government to introduce structural reforms. The new Government that came into power in May 1999, has decisively worked on introducing reforms in the fields of social security, banking legislation, privatization, international arbitration and capital markets legislation.

Following the election of the new Government, the expectations for a long-term agreement with the IMF have helped to pull down the interest rates to 30%, which had risen over 45% prior to elections. Politically stable atmosphere and negotiations with IMF had a positive impact on the Istanbul Stock Exchange, pulling the index to 1,654.2, a remarkable increase of 241.7% as compared to 1998.

The current Turkish Government has built its program on structural reforms and stable growth at a low rate of inflation. A Stand-by Arrangement has been signed with IMF on 22 December 1999, which frames a loan of US $4 billion over a period of three years. The macro-economic adjustment program defined in the Agreement includes structural reforms in agricultural support policies, social security, public finance, transparency, tax policy, privatization and monitoring and auditing of the banking system. For the first time ever, the macro-economic program also includes incomes policy that regulates the increases in income and rent of fixed assets in line with the targeted inflation.

4.2 MACRO-ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

The macro economic objectives of the Program for the years 2000-2002 include:

1. The target for inflation is to move to lower single digits (about 5-7 percent) by end 2002. The target for 2000 is lowering the 12-month Consumption Price Index (CPI) inflation rate to 25% by end-December and lowering both CPI and Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation to 10-12 % by end 2001;
2. To achieve a reduction in inflation and growth at the same time, while the primary fiscal position of the public sector is tightened, growth will be spurred by increased confidence related to the decline in inflation, the expected fall in real interest rates, the revitalization of the private credit market, sizable interest payments that will still continue to accrue to the private sector on the stock of public debt in circulation, and the improvement in the external economic environment. The GNP growth is projected to be in the range of 5-5.5 % in 2000 and 5.6% in 2001-2002;
3. The external current account deficit is projected to increase from 0.5% of GNP in 1999, to 1.5-2% of GNP in 2000, with deficits of the same order of magnitude expected in 2001 and 2002;
4. To sustain the public debt-to-GNP ratio at 58% for 2000 and to lower it in 2001 and 2002.

The Macro-Economic Adjustment Program sits on four main groups:  
1. Fiscal Policies;  
2. Income Policies;  
3. Monetary and Exchange Rate Policy;  
4. Structural Reforms.

**Fiscal Policies**

Inflation can only be eradicated if public finances are moved to a sustainable path. This requires shifting the primary balance of the public sector into a sizable surplus, while at the same time accelerating privatization.

The fiscal goal for 2000 is to raise the primary surplus of the public sector from 2.2% of GNP in 1999 to 3.7% of GNP in 2000. This level of the primary surplus will be maintained for 2001 and 2002.

The privatization receipts for the public sector is expected to be raised at least 3.5% of GNP (US $7.6 billion) in 2000. The legislative changes required to accelerate privatization will be completed.

**The Monetary and Exchange Rate Policies**

The monetary and Exchange Rate Policies will be guided by two considerations. First, to reduce the uncertainty of the value of financial investment for both residents and non-residents. Second, need for a transparent and pre-announced exit strategy from the exchange rate regime.

An exchange rate path for the period January 2000-June 2001 with respect to the currency basket comprising US $ 1 + 0.77 EURO is announced daily. The depreciation rate will be 20%, equal to the target for WPI inflation. A gradual shift toward a more flexible exchange rate regime will begin on July 2001, when a symmetric, progressively widening band about the central exchange rate path will be introduced.

**Incomes Policy**

Incomes policy will be essential to support the reduction in inflation and exchange rate policy, and in particular to guide the private sector to set wage and price increases in line with the inflation target. To this end, salary increases for civil servants will be set in line with targeted CPI inflation rate (25% for 2000).

**The Structural Reform**

The structural reform comprises reform programs for agricultural sector, social security, administration of public finance, privatization and banking sector.

Rational agricultural policies will be formulated with respect to support prices, taking into consideration the targeted CPI inflation and projected c.i.f. world prices. The government will gradually phase out the input subsidies to farmers.
Due to the problems experienced for a long time, the social security system has virtually become difficult to be sustained. Problems of the system stem not only from the financial deficits, but also the existence of structural defects. The Government of Turkey has requested ILO to provide technical assistance for social security and health insurance reform in 1993 and 1995 respectively.

The first part of a comprehensive agenda for social security reform comprising of an increase in the minimum retirement age for new entrants (58 for women and 60 for men), a reduction of the average replacement ratio from 80% to 65%, indexing pension benefits to the CPI and increasing the ceiling on contributions were completed in 1999. Unemployed insurance implementation started in June 2000. Administrative reforms to improve coverage, compliance and administrative efficiency, creating the legal framework for private pension funds are yet to be handled.

In order to secure the effective coverage of the budget, a total of 45 budgetary funds will be closed by August 2000, and the remaining by January 2001. Accounting and reporting on a commitment basis for the consolidated central budget will be introduced. An integrated financial information system based on a treasury single account and a general ledger will be implemented.

A quarterly monitoring system for tax administration will be set up.

In 1999 Parliament passed key constitutional amendments permitting international arbitration in concession contracts. Legal amendments will be passed by parliament to define energy as a sector subject to the Turkish commercial code. US $7.6 billion is expected to be received from privatization in 2000, another US $6 billion in 2001 and US $4 billion in 2002.

A new supervision authority, The Banking Regulation and Supervision Agency (BRSA), was created in 1999 in place of the current split between the treasury and the central bank. The Banks Act will be amended to increase transparency and independence in the operation of the Agency. The BRSA will be made fully autonomous by removing the involvement of the Council of Ministers from all decisions in the area of supervision, other that the appointment of the members of the Board. The Banks Act will also be amended to strengthen the prudential standards for bank lending to owners and to single parties.

4.3 The EIGHTH FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Eighth Five Year Development Plan (2001-2005), as part of the Long-term Strategy (2001-2023), has been passed by the Turkish Parliament on 27 June 2000. The Plan, as a Constitutional requirement, is the major policy document containing commitments, made at the highest level, of the Government regarding the development of Turkey. It consists of background information, objectives and targets, as well as policies to be followed and legal arrangements to be made to realize these objectives pertaining to the economic and social sectors of the country.

The main objectives of the Eighth Plan are:
1- To improve the quality of life and raise the living standards;
2- To increase the share of Turkey in the world economic output;
3- To accelerate the integration of Turkey into the world economy within the perspective of its accession to the European Union; and
4- To further promote the economic effectiveness of Turkey in the world and in the region.
The Eighth Plan also aims at increasing the competitiveness of the Turkish economy within an outward-oriented structure, paying particular attention to research and development, development of technology and environmental norms and regulations.

The provisions of the Eighth Plan, and information contained therein, are reflected in the related chapters of the CCA.

**4.4 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in the TURKISH ECONOMY**

*Industrial Production and Capacity Utilization*
According to the quarterly industrial production index, production increased by 3.4% in the industrial sector during the first trimester of 2000; the private sector registered a 8.7% increase and the public sector a 8% decrease. During the same period, manufacturing sector production increased by 2.8% and production in energy sector by 11.8%, whereas production in the mining sector fell by 4.1%. Significant increases in sub-sectors such as textile, chemicals, motor vehicles and basic metal industry have been recorded, while production declined considerably in petroleum products, food and beverages, paper and leather articles.

According to the quarterly tendency surveys, capacity utilization in the manufacturing industry recorded developments parallel to the production. Capacity utilization in the manufacturing industry rose by 2.5% and reached at 72.8% in the first quarter of 2000. During this period, the capacity utilization in the private sector rose by 5.2% to 70.7% and in the public sector declined by 3.5% to 78.4%.

*Development in the Demand Indicators*
The production and sales of durable goods followed its increasing trend in the first two months of 2000 and the rate of increase slowed down in March and April. Increased by 107.4% in January, automobile sales went up by 94.7% in February and 77% in March, 49% in April and 86% in May, resulting in an average increase of 72.1%.

*Balance of Payments*
The foreign trade deficit that shrunk in line with the contraction in the domestic demand and production in 1999, started to rise as the economic activity started to recover. Hence, foreign trade deficit increased by 209.4% on year basis and reached US $4.9 billion during January-March 2000.

Exports declined by 1.3% in January-March 2000 compared to the same period of the previous year. The developments in favor of the US dollar against the Euro played an important role in limiting the increase of exports during the first quarter of 2000. Exports to the EU region increased by 0.3% while exports to non-OECD countries declined by 9.4% and to the Russian Federation by 5.5%.

Following the sharp increases of 44.6% and 40.4% in January and February 2000 respectively, imports rose by 36.3% in March. The base year effect due to the contraction in the first quarter of 1999 and the recovery of economic activity contributed to this development. Also the rise in international oil prices increased the import bill of petroleum products. Thus resulting in an increase in imports by 40% in the January-March 2000 period and amounting to US $11.3 billion.

The current account balance yielded a deficit of US $2.6 billion in January-March 2000, compared to a surplus of US $1.3 billion in the same period of 1999.
Consolidated Budget
The Consolidated budget revenues increased by 127.7% and realized as US $18 billion. Expenditures rose by 106.7% and recorded as US $30 billion, hence yielding a deficit of US $11.6 billion.

Monetary Aggregates
Targets for the monetary and exchange rate policies within the context of the Stand-By Agreement were reached in April and May, as well as the first trimester of 2000. The monthly change in the currency basket realized as 2.1% in the first quarter as announced by the program. For the second quarter, the program targeted a monthly change of 1.7% and by May 2000, monthly percentage change occurred in the basket at 1.7%.

Price Developments
Price increases slowed down in February 2000 and this tendency prevailed in the March-May period of 2000. The monthly increases of CPI and WPI for May 2000 have recorded the lowest rate for the last eight years.

Increases in agricultural prices slowed down from 7.7% in January 2000 to 0.8% in May 2000. Public sector prices increased by 1.2% during May 2000, and private sector prices increased by 1.9% for the same month.
PART V
CRITICAL ANALYSIS of
NATIONAL FOLLOW-UP to
UN CONFERENCES
CONVENTIONS
and
SUMMITS
A CRITICAL ANALYSIS of NATIONAL FOLLOW-UP to UN CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS and SUMMITS

5.1 CONVENTION on the RIGHTS of the CHILD

Turkey signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) during the World Children’s Summit in 1990 and ratified the CRC in 1994, with the reservation of her right to interpret articles 7, 29 and 30 in accordance with the Lausanne Treaty and the Turkish Constitution. The Convention was published in the Official Gazette no. 22148 on 27 January 1995.

The total child population (below 18 years old) in Turkey is 25.2 million or 40% of the whole population of 62.9 million, based on the 1997 Population Count and the 1998 Turkish Demographic and Health Survey.

5.1.1 General Principles

A CRC-based approach introduces the notion of the legal and moral obligation and accountability of the State and the institutions with regards to meeting the basic needs of its people. It affirms that children and women are subjects of rights and that this better guarantees the sustainability of development programs.

There are four Foundation Principles of the CRC:

a) The principle of non-discrimination means that all children have the same right to develop their potential.

b) The best interest of the child is to be a ‘primary consideration’ in all actions regarding children. First, it is meant to guide judgement in a particular direction. Second, it can help to resolve confusion between different rights. Third, it provides a basis for evaluating the laws and practices of State Parties with regard to the protection provided to children at all times, including during conflicts or periods of structural adjustments and other economic reforms.

c) All children have a right to life, survival and development. All have the right to basic services in order for them to achieve their full development.

d) The views and voice of children must be heard and respected. This principle is closely linked to the best interests of the child.

The Government of Turkey National Plan of Action for Children was developed in 1993 and was updated in 1996. The overall strategy for the survival, protection and development of children is focused on the following:

Health

Ensure continuous, even and efficient health services; reinforce primary health care services at all levels as well as referral services systems to expand maternal and child health (MCH) care and family planning (FP) services:

a) prioritize maternal and child health care in national policies;

b) reduce the adverse effects of physical, economic and social risk factors on health;

c) ensure an effective human resource planning for equitable distribution of health personnel and sustainable training of all health personnel and managers;

d) ensure ‘cost-effectiveness’ and ‘cost-efficiency’ in investment plans;
e) strengthen first level of primary health care services in terms of personnel, organization and management;
f) ensure community participation and increase public awareness and demand for health services via use of mass media, particularly TV;
g) prioritize and improve health care services, including MCH/FP services in risk areas where fertility rates and infant, neonatal and maternal mortality rates are high;
h) develop a National Plan of Action on Nutrition based on assessment conducted every five years;
i) develop a national program for adolescents;
j) provide school health education e.g., in preventable childhood illnesses;
k) establish a data base on gender;
l) ensure coordination and cooperation between health delivery institutions;
m) improve the health management system, with participation and contribution of local administrations, NGOs and CSOs.

Education
Ensure that children gain basic knowledge, skills, behavior and practices in order to expand their opportunity to reach their full potential, and prepare them for higher education in line with children's interests and skills:
a) prioritize completion of physical infrastructure of compulsory primary school education in high urbanization areas;
b) develop curricula based on scientific studies;
c) maintain number of students in classes to at least 20 in pre-school and 40 in primary school education;
d) provide pre-school space in all to-be established educational institutions;
e) pursue decisions taken by the Ministries of Education and Interior, Governors and Mayors of Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir, Adana, Bursa provinces to open and expand pre-schools;
f) promote special education classes and schools for children who have difficulty adapting to regular classes and schools;
g) expand use of modern educational materials (audio-visual and computers);
h) ensure 'cost-effectiveness' and 'cost-efficiency' in investments;
i) advocate participation of public and private sector in establishing schools, developing school materials, and in conducting research on education.

Water and Sanitation
Provide access to safe and adequate drinking water and sewerage system to all in order to prevent spread of communicable diseases:
a) take measures to protect surface resources against pollution;
b) support research on wastewater purification through biotechnology;
c) design jointly the urban sewerage network construction, marine discharge and major treatment plants;
d) design city sewerage systems and rain water ducts to be independent;
e) ensure establishment of common treatment plants for the industry, holiday villages and housing estates;
f) ensure participation of end-users in drinking water and sewerage investments and their full financing of operational costs.

Children in Difficult Circumstances
Protect children in difficult circumstances such as physically and mentally disabled children, children in conflict with the law, street and working children and victims of substance abuse.
a) take/expand effective measures e.g., foster families, to prevent children resorting to institutional care services which are more costly;
b) ensure systematic contribution to and participation of the public and private institutions in social services and the improvement of the management of protective and preventive care services;
c) establish a standardized data base and review legislation on child criminology;
d) ensure expansion of community centers and youth centers;
The National Plan of Action for Children also provides a monitoring and evaluation system together with a financial and cost analysis.

In accordance with the United Nations recommendation, ad hoc committees comprising 200 members from public agencies, non-government organizations and representatives from universities as well as international organizations were formed for preparing the Initial State Report on CRC compliance in Turkey. The Report was subsequently reviewed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and sent to the Human Rights Commission in Geneva on 20 July 1999 for further follow-up by the Committee on Child Rights.

The United Nations General Assembly will hold a Special Session in September 2001 inviting Governments and relevant organizations, in particular UNICEF, as well as regional and sub-regional organizations to inform the General Secretary of the progress achieved since the World Summit for Children, adopted by the World Declaration and Plan of Action in December 1999. It will include lessons learnt, an analysis of factors that had inhibited or enabled progress for children, an overview of the remaining challenges and key issues, followed by specific recommendations for the future.

5.1.2 Achievements in National Commitment

General Measures of Implementation

Since all international conventions ratified by Turkey have precedence over all national laws, CRC has become a national law instrument. Accordingly, GoT has taken steps to change or amend any laws and regulations that might be in conflict with the Convention. The GoT has also undertaken several structural changes, administrative arrangements and general measures. Among these are the Ministry of Justice’s examination in 1994 of all legislation relevant to children to make the necessary changes to bring them in line with CRC, the redesign of the school curricula by the Ministry of Education so as to incorporate a course on human rights and democracy, the extension of basic education to eight years, the designation of the General Directorate of Social Services and Protection of Children (SHCEK) as the coordinating agency in the implementation of CRC, and the establishment of inter-sectoral Council for Children’s Rights to oversee the work done in bringing CRC to life in Turkey.

The Definition of the Child

The end of childhood in Turkey is not clearly marked in the national laws. In the Turkish Civil Code, marriage is legal for females at age 15, and under certain circumstances, at age 14. A child committing a crime aged 11-14 is accepted as a ‘minor’ and is subject to the Law on Juvenile Courts, in line with the CRC. A child aged 15-18 is considered to be an adult and faces a regular trial. The Labour Law sets the minimum age for employment as 15 years. The existing laws are such that a 14 years old girl may marry, bear children and enter into legal contracts that are binding, but cannot take part in elections, acquire a passport or seek employment.
**General Principles**

**Non-Discrimination**
The Turkish constitution and the legislation are, in general, in full agreement with the principle of non-discrimination. However, in practice, certain groups of children are discriminated against mainly due to persistent disparities and inadequacy of basic social services. Another is the exclusion of children, age 15-18, from the ‘child’ category in the Law on Juvenile Courts.

**Best Interests of the Child**
The Turkish legislative system views children as a vulnerable group who should be protected by special provisions. One noteworthy deviation from this principle: GoT openly supports full breast feeding of infants up to 6 months, but mothers who are public servants are not provided with the means and exceptional treatment to be able to do so for the suggested period.

**Civil Rights and Freedom**
A sizable proportion of children in Turkey remains without birth registration. The Turkish State does not officially register some (26 percent) of its children under 5 years as her citizens, which prevents children's right to a name, nationality and identity. A new system in birth registration is needed where births are registered as they occur. One reform needed is to base the registration system on *de jure* residence rather than family ledgers only.

**Family Environment and Alternative Care**

**Parental Guidance and Responsibility**
The Turkish Constitution and laws upholds “strengthening the family as the foundation of Turkish society”. The GoT has empowered some ministries to implement family-oriented programs to enable parents to have the primary responsibility for ensuring the child’s rights and best interests, and that the State assists and supports them. But still necessary measures have to be taken to ensure that nurseries and daycare centers are accessible to all working mothers.

**Separation from Parents**
Turkish laws recognize adoption for children whose families are unable or unwilling to take care of their needs. Under such circumstances, children are placed in institutions managed by the State. Institutional care is quite limited in capacity in Turkey and hence, measures could be taken to encourage foster parenting. The GoT encourages the establishment of private childcare centers and home-type care. Due to financial difficulties, this approach has yet to be expanded across the country.

**Family Reunification**
The Turkish legal system takes up the inseparability of children from their parents in the context of the parental guardianship rights and duties since the right of the child to remain with his/her family is based on natural parentage. In principle, Turkish laws encourage family reunification. Under normal circumstances, the permission of both parents is needed to take children out of the country.

**Discrimination Against Women with regards to Marriage and Family Relations**
The Ministry of Justice has prepared a draft Civil Code to respond to the gender equality principles. The draft bill proposes to set the minimum age for marriage at 17 for both men and women. Presently the marriage age is 15 for women and 17 for men. In accordance with CRC, the increase of the marriage age to 18 would be the best solution for ensuring the physical and psychological growth of young persons.
Map V.1.2.1 Full Vaccination Rates for Infants
Health and Nutrition

Disability and Disabled Children
Turkey's welfare institutions provide limited financial, employment and educational support to the handicapped. Turkey is still one of the few countries in the world where the number of disabled people is still unknown. A continuous registration system should be set up to identify and monitor the development of disabled children, so that appropriate strategies can be developed and appropriate services be provided to them.

Health System in Turkey: The Right to Health
Turkey has not yet reached the health-related national goals. In terms of immunization, infant mortality, maternal mortality and malnutrition, Turkey has improved its standards but these standards remain under the desired level compatible with the level of development and the resources available in the country. Information needs remain in the case of maternal mortality, perinatal mortality and other mortality indicators. A major problem to improving the survival chances of children is immunization. Only 46% of children of 12-23 months are fully immunized (1998 TDHS).

The distribution of health personnel is unbalanced between provinces and between urban and rural areas. The average number of patients per specialist is around 3500. Shortage of health personnel and physical equipment limits the right to health. There is a need to improve the distribution and adequacy of health professionals around the country, especially in high-priority regions and provinces.

Social Security, Child Care Services and Welfare Status
There are gaps in the coverage of social security and health insurance for all citizens. Some form of the insurance in Turkey covers approximately 80% of the population. Persons who are not covered by social security schemes and the needy persons have right to benefit from the “Green Card Program” to access the health services and from the “Poverty Fund” or “Cash and Kind Assistance Program” to access the material assistance and support. The poverty faced by the family generally hits the children first and this poverty has a tendency to transmit to the next generation. The most persuasive rationale for targeting the vulnerable groups is to reduce the transmission of the poverty into the next generation.

Education, Leisure and Cultural Activities

Children in Formal Education
In 1997, compulsory primary education was extended from 5 to 8 years of continuous education, merging primary schools and junior-high schools under the umbrella of 8-year primary education. The GoT still faces financial problems in trying to accommodate the increased volume of students in basic education. Major problems are lack of physical capacity, trained personnel and insufficient infrastructure, mainly in the underdeveloped regions and in large metropolitan areas. Pre-school education is optional which results in low attendance rates.

State run high schools are free, but privately run schools also exist to cater to relatively better-off families. Students graduating from private schools stand better chances to enter universities. All high school graduates have equal access to higher education but only few actually manage to do so. While various scholarships are available for those coming from poor families, higher education is not free either in the public, or in the private universities. Yet, tuition and other fees at public universities are kept very low so as to allow as many students as possible to seek higher education.

Universal basic education is yet to be achieved. Gender disparity in the illiteracy rates continues with 22% for women and 6% only for men.
Non-attendance even at primary education level is quite high with cost as a major obstacle. Families either cannot afford the direct cost of schooling or need to employ their child’s labor in paid work or help out in domestic chores and economic activities.

Non-Formal Education
There exist non-formal education opportunities ranging from apprenticeship training to literacy courses, vocational training, socio-cultural programs and the open educational programs at basic education and high school levels.

Gender Disparity
The continuing discrepancy in the enrollment rates especially beyond compulsory education indicates that women will continue to lag behind men in terms of knowledge and skills endowment for years to come. The Government is running literacy courses and vocational training for women. However, these are insufficient and are mainly geared towards ‘female’ employment.

Children in Need of Special Education
Provision of learning opportunities for children in need of special education are insufficient. There are very few schools catering for disabled children. Schools lack infrastructure, facilities and qualified staff to accommodate them. Inclusive education methods and strategies needed to integrate disabled children into normal classrooms should be expanded.

Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Activities
The Government organizes summer youth camps, festivals and competitions to encourage them to dwell on their artistic talents. Youth centers are also run, with the aim of providing various cultural, social and sportive activities to children.

Well-equipped libraries, museums, bookstores, theaters and choirs are important facilities for the social and intellectual development of children but these are few in Turkey. Children’s libraries do not exist but separate sections of the public libraries are reserved for children’s books. A limited number of mobile libraries are also available. A number of archaeological museums have recently created children’s sections, while the entrance fees at all museums are kept low, potentially attracting as many children as possible.

Children's programs are aired on TV and radio and are screened carefully by the government to make sure that they are appropriate for children. However, it has become quite common to shut down television channels due to their airing of programs detrimental to children.

Special Protection Measures

Children in conflict with the law
The Turkish Constitution and the laws are in general in agreement with the CRC. However, children age 15-17 are excluded from the jurisdiction of the Law of Juvenile Courts (LJC). The LJC needs to be revised to extend the definition of the child to 18 years. Also, a review is needed to cover in the LJC those children who have committed a crime against the State or living in areas of state of emergency.

For the proper assessment of the conditions that might have given cause to the illicit behavior of the children, the Law of Juvenile Courts proposes the employment of social workers and of other specialists such as pedagogues, psychologists, psychiatrists. However, the LJC does not make such preliminary examination obligatory. Part of the reason lies with the lack of specialists within the Ministry of Justice or the insufficiency of funds to hire, even on a temporary basis, such specialists.

Juvenile delinquents are required to be kept under separate detention centers from the adults. However, only two such reformatory centers are available in Turkey.
Although Juvenile Courts have been a major success in Turkey, the number of such courts is still too few. There are also institutional shortcomings for the follow-up of juvenile delinquents after detention. Since a small proportion of juvenile delinquents are students, it is very important to keep children in school.

**Child Soldier**

In Turkey, laws exclude children under 15 from military service which is obligatory in Turkey for male citizens from 20 years of age.

**Children in Situation of Exploitation**

The Turkish Constitution states that "No one shall be required to perform work unsuited to his/her age, sex, and capacity" and that "minors, women, and persons with physical and mental disabilities shall enjoy special protection with regard to their working conditions". With this the GoT guarantees to protect the children from work unsuited to their age and capacity.

The Labour Law determines the minimum age for child workers to be 15 years. However, in the case of light work that does not harm the health of the child or interfere with his/her education, the minimum age is 13 years. Not all economic activities/sectors are covered under the Labour Law. Children working in agriculture, in household-based establishments, in establishments with 3 or fewer workers, in apprenticeship training centers and those working as domestic servants are subject to the Code of Obligations, which fails to provide a provision for minimum age of employment. Turkey was one of the first six countries to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between their Government and ILO in respect of the problems of Child Labour. This Memorandum of Understanding was initially signed in 1992; and in September of 1996 was extended until December 2001.

The minimum Age Convention No. 138 of the ILO was ratified by the parliament on 23.01.1998 and was published in the official Gazette on 27.01.1998. The ILO Convention No: 182 on the worst forms of child labour is waiting to be reviewed by the Parliament.

The Child Labour Unit (CLU) of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security established within the framework of International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) program in Turkey, has been working on the amendments in the relevant legislation to eradicate the conflicts with the ILO Convention No: 138. The CLU has already started preparing a draft bill that comprehensively identifies acceptable and unacceptable sectors of employment for children between the ages of 15 and 18 and the procedures for enforcement.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security has started a time-bound integrated programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in selected industrial areas in Izmir by 2003. The interventions include the withdrawal of children under the age of 15 from footwear, auto-repair and maintenance and garment sectors, and withdrawal of children between the ages of 15 to 18 years from the worst forms of child labour, anti-poverty measures, vocational training, educational support, advocacy, awareness raising, community involvement and creation of income generation opportunities for the families of working children. Interaction among the interventions in these areas is critical for program success.

Temporary results of the child Labour Survey conducted in October 1999 by the State Institute of Statistics within the ILO IPEC program have been obtained and published in September 2000. According to this survey, the number of working children of age group 6-14 which is the target group of IPEC for the period 1992-1999, decreased from 8.5% to 4.2%.

Although the laws and regulations governing the work life of children are in agreement with the CRC, their application falls short of expectations. Because of gross under-staffing, effective inspections are not carried out. Also, the majority of establishments where children are employed fall outside the jurisdictions of the government.
Refugee Children
There are no national laws in Turkey concerning refugee children. There is, however, a regulation regarding the “procedures and principles that are to be applied to individual foreigners who seek refuge in Turkey or demand residence permit in order to seek refuge in another country and foreigners who cross the Turkish border for collective asylum and those who arrive in Turkey in mass influx”. Refugees who come to Turkey need to apply to the authorities within 10 days in order to gain a ‘refugee’ status. Many refugees who are not informed about this 10-day application limit fail to gain refugee status and hence, become illegal residents in Turkey. Individual asylum seekers also have to arrange for their own accommodation and finance their expenses personally.

Drug Abuse
Independent studies indicate that the prevalence of drug abuse is more wide spread than that is indicated by official statistics. Inhalant use is especially common among street children and those working in industries where such substances are used such as in furniture making, leather production, textiles etc.

Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and the Abduction of Children
The Turkish Criminal Law (TCL) prohibits any form of sexual exploitation, abuse and the abduction and illicit transfer of children for sexual purposes of sale, trafficking or other forms of exploitation. It includes detailed articles concerning these issues and prescribes various sentences for those violating the law depending on the age of the child and the severity of the crime committed. However, the TCL considers only younger children as minors, and prescribes lighter sentences for older children.
Domestic Violence
The Turkish Criminal Law requires the victim of domestic violence to bring charges against the abuser before any legal action can be taken against him. The difficulty faced in pressing charges against a family member, usually the husband and the reluctance of other family members and/or neighbors to testify against the abuser discourage women from seeking help.

Human and Financial Resources for the Implementation of CRC

Economic Resources
Turkey is a middle-income country with an annual per capita GNP of US $3,100. However, an inequitable income distribution persists in the country. The poor social safety nets, high rates of unemployment and inflation aggravate the lives of a large number of families including children. Economic restructuring has been slow in alleviating the position of the households at the lower end of the distribution. A wide variety of measures need to be implemented especially in the fields of health and education.

The Human Development Index rank of Turkey is worse than the GDP per capita rank, which supports the argument that the social development of the country still lags behind its economic development. Financial resources are available, but putting these into good use in terms of social development and basic rights is still a challenge.

Organizational and Human Resources
In Turkey, children are still valued as sources of future economic support and security and as promoters of the family name. Boys have generally higher status than girls.

Voluntary associations and civic initiatives dealing with the rights of children in local and national politics to voice or promote issues are mostly lacking in Turkey. Trade unions, business associations and institutional interests are more robustly organized to assert their influence on the political decision-making process than grassroots organizations.

5.1.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

Turkey is a country with a considerable wealth of human, financial and organizational resources. With its vast historical experience in governance and a diverse and colorful cultural social structure, it has the potential and capacity to fare much better in regard to the rights of its children and women.

The goals and objectives of the CRC have been widely disseminated to the public and among various sectors. Government administrative and implementing structures have been strengthened. The frameworks for legislative and judicial actions are being put in place. As a general conclusion, it may be stated that the legislation in Turkey is in broad agreement with the CRC, and the Government of Turkey has shown its commitment to the CRC as an international tool internalized in the legislative system toward a child-friendly society.

There are several ways of conceptualizing a framework, which can be used to evaluate performance. In a very crude categorization, such a framework can first be divided into ‘supply’ and ‘demand’. ‘Supply’, in the context of achieving the goals implied by the CRC, includes the provision of the legal infrastructure, the organizational structure, the services and the facilities and the like to the public. ‘Demand’ refers to the degree to which the general public is prepared to ask for its rights, and if necessary, to pressure the government and other authorities to provide them with the necessary knowledge to demand their rights. Turkey has problems on both supply and demand.
As mentioned earlier, Turkish laws are in general compliance with the CRC. However, the legal infrastructure still requires modifications, amendments and new ways of thinking i.e., the definition of the child and birth registration.

Also, while the legal infrastructure is prepared, implementation is lacking due to various reasons, ranging from lack of qualified staff, organizational facilities, lack of budgeting, etc. Some examples are: lack of childcare centers, juvenile courts and separate detention centers for juvenile delinquents, unequal distribution of health staff around the country, and lack of educational facilities and personnel. Moreover, gender and regional disparities, coupled with the centralized administrative structure, contribute to the below-par fulfillment of the objectives.

The long-term objective efforts of the elimination of child labor in Turkey should focus on the full application of ILO Conventions 138 and 182. The elimination of child labor below the age of 15 and eradication of its worst forms for children aged 15-18 years old should be the immediate objectives of these efforts. Formulation of macro socio-economic policies at sectoral level, building the partners’ capacity to sustain action on child labor based on IPEC models and experience, allocation of adequate government and private resources, provision of knowledge on child labor should constitute the sub-objectives in this respect.

Precise, continuous and detailed information is necessary for the successful implementation of laws and policies, but Turkey lacks reliable information on a number of areas. To begin with, due to the current state of the birth registration system, the annual number of births is not known, there is no recording system of disabled children, and no information on certain indicators of vital importance on the current situation, such as the maternal mortality rate, the peri-natal mortality rate. To fill information gaps, research and reforms in the data collection programs are needed.

The past experience of international organizations in Turkey implies that a key area that should be further explored in the government programs and the assistance of international organizations is the empowerment of families with the necessary knowledge to demand proper services and care from the Government.

Turkey appears to have reached a stage where increased efforts will be needed, with new approaches, to make further progress in a number of areas. Advocacy activities must be concentrated, especially on parliamentarians and high-level decision-makers, to enable a better allocation of resources for the improvement of children. Other mechanisms should also be strengthened to contribute to developments in areas where the inflexible state structure is clearly insufficient. In this vein, the incorporation of community volunteers into the system and strengthening non-governmental voluntary institutions are vital.

As in the past, efforts should concentrate on eliminating disparities, which lead to unfair neglect of the potential of a large portion of the society. Toward this purpose, areas where large numbers of children under risk are located should be identified, as well as areas of special interest, such as those at high risk of natural disasters or those where children at higher risks are densely settled.

In the near future, in summary, efforts should be concentrated on the following areas: the elimination of geographical and intra-urban disparities; promotion of decentralized integrated planning and mobilization of community participation in the planning and monitoring of programs for children and women; elimination of gender disparities, especially in the fields of education and employment; implementation of an integrated approach to survival and development within the framework of early childhood care for survival, growth, and psycho-social development; addressing more effectively emerging issues in relation to child protection from abuse and exploitation, adolescent health and development, teenage pregnancy and early marriage; mobilization of the state, the civil society, community and
family in the implementation of CRC and CEDAW; and creation of instruments/tools for monitoring implementation.
The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1979. Turkey ratified CEDAW in 1985 with reservations. In July of 1999, the reservations placed on Articles 15 and 16 were lifted. This convention is considered by the GoT and its civil society partners as a leading international instrument which will help eliminate discrimination against women. The drafting of an Optional Protocol to CEDAW has been actively supported by Turkey.

At present, Turkey’s only remaining reservation to CEDAW is to Article 29 which deals with a state party’s obligation to settle disputes between states on the interpretation or implementation of the Convention at the International Court of Justice. However, its withdrawal is under consideration.

### 5.2.1 General Principles

The Government of Turkey has a National Action Plan as follow up to the Fourth World Conference on Women. Eight of the twelve critical areas identified in the Beijing Platform for Action have been prioritized:

- Education of Women
- The Girl Child
- Women and Health
- Violence Against Women
- Women and the Economy
- Women in Decision Making Processes
- Institutional Mechanisms for Women’s Advancement
- Women and the Media

Turkey made the following three commitments at the Conference:

1. To withdraw by year 2000 all the reservations put on CEDAW;
2. To reduce maternal and infant mortality with baseline year of 1994 by 50% by year 2000;
3. To increase compulsory basic education from five to eight years and eradicate female illiteracy (28.9% in 1994) by year 2000.
5.2.2 Achievements in National Commitment

National structures
Following its adoption, the General Directorate for Women’s Status and Problems affiliated to the Ministry of State has been designated to coordinate the implementation of CEDAW.

General Legal Framework
Establishing women's equality with men before the law particularly in the public sphere has been a priority in Turkey ever since the establishment of the secular Republic in 1920s. The Turkish Constitution contains an equality clause (Article 10) which prohibits discrimination on grounds including sex. As a ratified international convention, CEDAW carries the force of law in Turkey.

While CEDAW is not incorporated into domestic law to allow direct appeal to the courts on the Convention’s provisions it has, nonetheless, become part of Turkish jurisprudence through Constitutional Court decisions.

However there is as yet no separate gender equality act which in effect means, despite the general equality clause of the Constitution and the status of international treaties under Turkish law, there is still no explicit legal provision addressing indirect and/or de facto discrimination.

Some legislative changes have been made in the area of women’s rights in the recent years. However the most salient discriminatory provisions in the Civil and Penal Code have not yet been amended.

For example, Article 153 of the Turkish Civil Code accords legal recognition to the husband as family head and representative of conjugal union and its corollary articles on legal domicile of the family, the final say in matters concerning children in cases of parents disagreement etc. As such they violate the rights and fundamental freedoms of married women.

Draft bills amending the existing Civil and Penal Codes have been prepared and are awaiting consideration of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

The amendment in 1997 of Article 153 of the Turkish Civil Code whereby married women’s right to retain their former surnames after marriage was recognized and the 1998 amendment of the Income Tax Law can be mentioned as positive steps recently taken to protect women's rights.

Employment
Despite the supportive legal structure, women’s labour force participation rate has fallen from 34% in October 1990 to 31.1% in 1999 (8th Five-Year Development Plan). This is due to migration, and socio-cultural expectations and norms which constrain women and result in unpaid household work. Women’s lack of adequate education (especially relative to men) is a major reason restricting their participation in the labour market.

According to the Labor Law, employers should allow paid maternity leave of six weeks before and six weeks after female workers give birth. In addition the Civil Servants Law provides for an additional twelve months of unpaid maternity leave for public servants.

Under the existing labor legislation in Turkey paid maternity leave is shorter in duration than in most industrialized West European countries. Thus the Law reinforces the socio-cultural attitudes and behavior that define child-care as primarily a woman's responsibility. Furthermore, the employers’ right to terminate a woman worker's contract for the reason of pregnancy is in clear contradiction with relevant ILO conventions and CEDAW.
Also the differences in the provisions of Labour Law and Civil Servants Law regarding maternity leave, causes differential treatment of pregnancy and motherhood by the public and private sectors. Since the availability of extended maternity leave is limited to unpaid leave, it is de facto only available to women workers whose income is ‘supplementary’ rather than essential for their families’ maintenance.

**Chart V.2.2.1 The labour force participation rate by age, group and sex, 2000 (II)**

Under the existing legal and socio-cultural conditions many women are forced to leave their jobs as a consequence or in expectation of childbirth. This tendency marginalizes women further as they become more costly to the employers, and as it becomes more difficult for women to return to the labour market after extended periods away.

Women are concentrated in labour intensive/low paid industries such as textiles, food, and tobacco. Women are also employed in gender-typed jobs which generally offer lower pay and lower status. Therefore, despite the presence of a general ‘equal pay for equal work’ notion in the existing legislation, and although Turkey has ratified many ILO Conventions related to gender discrimination in employment, the principle of ‘equal pay for work of comparable value’ does not de facto operate.

While lack of social security is a general problem for Turkish workers, women fare considerably worse than men. According to the labour statistics of the SIS for 1996, 54% of the total working population was not covered by any security scheme 80% of which were women.

Women’s concentration in the informal and unrecorded labour sector presents difficulties in understanding and evaluating the changing patterns in female participation in the labour market.

Finally, there is still no law or legal provision defining and/or criminalizing sexual harassment at the work place despite the fact that the issue has been brought to the public arena in recent years.

*Education*

Although the difference between male and female literacy and enrollment is narrowing, the continuing discrepancy in the enrollment rates especially beyond basic education indicate that women will continue to lag behind men in terms of human capital.
Domestic Violence

According to the results of the "Survey of Turkish Women in the 1990’s" (SPO, 1994), one third of married women in Turkey are subjected to violence by their husbands. This, however, is not reported, indicating that while violence against women in the home is widespread, in general the community and women themselves accept this as ‘normal’ and is not perceived as a violation of women’s human rights.

Turkey’s first domestic violence law entitled ‘The Law for the Protection of the Family’ was adopted in January 1998. This legislation specifically criminalizes violence against spouses and other family members, and grants third parties the right to register complaints against perpetrators of the violence.

A few shelters for abused women exist in some urban centers run by NGOs or the state. A new draft Local Government Reform Law contains a provision giving the municipalities a mandate to run shelters and also to provide support for local NGOs working toward that end.

Women in Decision Making

Participation in decision making and access to positions of power reflect gender-based differences universally caused by direct or indirect discrimination.

Turkey, as a state party to the UN conventions and signatory to the Beijing Platform for Action has commitments to recognize, protect and promote women’s political rights.

Significant steps to increase women’s participation in public life and enhance their access to political decision-making positions have been taken since the establishment of the Republic in 1923 as part of social and political reforms. Suffrage rights were extended to women in 1935.

While women’s political participation as voters has always been very high (as is that of men) in Turkey there is evidence suggesting that women’s tendency to vote independently of their male kin has increased in the recent past.

However, the proportion of women elected to office in national and local structures has remained low. The proportion of women members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly (TGNA) was 4.6% in 1935. This rate has steadily declined and only reached 4.3% in 1999. Currently there are 24 women in the 550 member Parliament.

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<th>Indicators</th>
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<th>Male</th>
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<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>86.1</td>
<td>91.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>93.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior high school &amp; Equivalent</td>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>61.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>71.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school &amp; Equivalent</td>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>38.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>45.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>59.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher education</td>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>23.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Annual Formal Education Statistics Series (SIS)
There are no legal and structural mechanisms such as affirmative action schemes or different kinds of temporary special measures, quotas, specific time frames, goals and targets to prioritize and promote women’s participation in political life at the national level. There is also a lack of proactive efforts by the state or civil society to create a gender sensitive, ‘women friendly’ political culture.

These inadequacies have prevented changes in women's political participation from gaining momentum. The recent increase in women’s representation has been attributed to the slow but noticeable change in some political parties’ and leaders’ attitudes in response to the pressure of women’s NGOs and international trends, especially in Western Southern Europe.

Women’s participation in local government is even less than at the national level, indicating the lack of any ‘bottom-up’ development or expansion of opportunities at grassroots level for women.

Recently, there has been a noticeable increase in the proportions of women standing for office at both local and national levels, but this has not resulted in proportional increases in those elected. The situation indicates the continued presence of barriers (party structures, male bias etc.) to women’s participation operating even when women’s own reluctance decreases.

Women are found in great numbers in the public sector but the overwhelming majority of female employees are concentrated in middle management positions (80%). Only 15% of women in the public administration system are branch heads, 4% department heads and 0.5% deputy director generals. Only 4 women have ever served as undersecretaries or acting undersecretaries.

Women employees in the public sector have higher educational attainment than their male counterparts but they are, on the average, younger with fewer years of work history, indicating that women leave the system earlier, never attaining senior positions.

Table V. 2.2.3  Number of parliamentarians by election year and sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election Year</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Female percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>455</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950</td>
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<td>484</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>442</td>
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<td>1.8</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1.1</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

Despite all changes towards modernization, the status of women is still clearly lower than that of men. This generalization holds to varying degrees for all subgroups within the larger society, from clan communities, to villages and to cities. This status difference is reflected in a stereotypic definition of sex roles as well as social segregation.

**Recommendations**

**Legal Framework**
Women's rights must be clearly associated with mainstream concepts and socio-political projects such as democratization and secularism that have widespread legitimacy in the Turkish society.

The integral nature of women's rights should be underlined rather than being promoted on an independent platform as a specific women's issue. Also, since human rights is increasingly becoming a more acceptable issue on the agenda of the Turkish state, no opportunity should be missed to emphasize 'women’s rights as human rights' in the framework of the Beijing Declaration. In this context, it is necessary for the state (and its civil society partners) to mainstream gender concerns into the enhanced focus on promoting human rights in Turkey.

Ensuring the *de jure* protection and promotion of women's rights through the amendment of all remaining discriminatory laws is a clear priority. Women’s *de facto* enjoyment of their rights is contingent upon the improvement of their overall wellbeing and status in society. Therefore, recommendations of this chapter directed at socio-economic advancement and empowerment of women are expected to have a bearing on promoting women's rights.

With respect to violence against women specifically, the need for a reliable data base is a priority. A first step in this regard could be a cooperative effort amongst all relevant agencies to define types of violence on which information from a reliable, nationally representative sample can be collected. Groups of women most prone to violence as well as of men most likely to be abusers need to be identified. Appropriate public awareness and sensitization campaigns directed to population groups with different needs and problems should be designed and implemented.

**Employment**
It is necessary to develop a cultural climate in which childcare and family responsibilities are understood as social rather than women's responsibilities. In many cases, the provisions of existing laws, for example the Inheritance Law or the Labor Law are not effectively implemented due to socio-cultural norms. Measures for their implementation should be put in place and systematically monitored. Also, there is clear need for certain aspects of the existing laws to be improved. For instance, improvements are needed in equal pay legislation to put in the principle of 'equal pay for work of comparable value' in order for both sexes to have equal opportunities.

Women's invisible contribution to the national economy in the form of unpaid work and their intensive participation to the informal sector, should be valued.

Social security schemes should be extended to cover agricultural and informal sector workers, as well as housewives. Urgent priority should be given to issues of compensation for women's unpaid labor in agriculture.

Job-oriented training projects should be developed so that women migrating from rural to urban areas who lack the necessary skills would be able to find jobs.
However providing income generation activities for women can only be part of a larger scheme. As a general trend, especially in internationally financed technical development projects, the women's component tends to be considered as an after thought especially in the case of participatory rural development projects. Instead, gender as a category of analysis in the formulation of appropriate economic, political and social policies should be used. Otherwise, the male bias in development planning hinders women's participation and empowerment by assuming women to be recipients rather than true development partners.

**Education**

The first recommendation is an analysis of the national education system from a gender perspective. Policies and specific indicators based on such analysis need to be designed and implemented for all levels of education. In this context, it is recommended that proactive and effective measures to address the main educational attainment problems be put in place particularly in the Eastern region and in rural areas as a matter of urgency.

Design and implementation of policies that are based on ensuring families’ cooperation in sending girl children to school should be prioritized. Concrete incentives need to be designed especially in respect to the implementation of the Eight-Year Compulsory Basic Education Law. There is reason to expect that cultural traditions etc, in less-developed, conservative regions may well cause pressure to remove adolescent girls from the co-educational system. It may be necessary to explore the possibility of providing public single-sex schools in these regions.

Changes in the courses offered to girls within 'vocational-technical' secondary education need to be monitored and evaluated with a view to enhancing girls presence in non-conventional fields, and in areas that offer best income generating possibilities after graduation.

**Women in Decision Making**

In order to accelerate the increase in women's participation in decision making positions, both men and women in critical positions (i.e. political leaders, academics, opinion leaders, etc.) need to be convinced about the need for affirmative action policies and implementation of special temporary measures such as quotas, time frames, and numerical goals.
5.3 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on NUTRITION

The International Conference on Nutrition (ICN) was held in Rome in 1992 with the participation of 159 states including the EU and Turkey.

5.3.1 General Principles

The main goal is to eliminate hunger and to reduce all forms of malnutrition. Hunger and malnutrition are unacceptable in a world that has both the knowledge and the resources to end this human catastrophe. Access to nutritionally adequate and safe food is a right of each individual. Globally there is enough food for all; inequitable access is the main problem.

The global Plan of Action for Nutrition was designed to provide guidelines for governments to achieve the objectives of the World Declaration on Nutrition adopted by the ICN. It calls for partnership with NGOs, the private sector, local communities, families and households and the international community, including international organizations, multilateral financing institutions and bilateral agencies.

The goals of the World Declaration on Nutrition as well as the recommendations of the Plan of Action for Nutrition need to be translated into priority actions in accordance with the realities found in each country and must be supported by action at the international level. Taking these into account, governments should prepare national plans of action, establishing priorities, setting up time frames and, where appropriate, identify the resources needed and those already available. The strategy for achieving the objectives may vary from country to country.

At the national level:
1) All governments should establish appropriate national mechanisms to prioritize, develop, implement and monitor policies and plans to improve nutrition within designated time frames, based both on national and local needs, and provide appropriate funds for their functioning;
2) Within the context of the national plans of action, governments should formulate, adopt and implement priority programs and strategies to achieve the recommendations of the Plan of Action for Nutrition. Where appropriate, ministries of agriculture, fisheries, food, health, social welfare, education, planning, as well as other concerned ministries, should formulate concrete proposals for their sectors;
3) Governments at the local and provincial levels, as well as NGOs and the private sector, should be encouraged to participate in the process;
4) All sectors of society should be encouraged to play an active role and to assume their responsibilities in implementing related components of the national plan of action, with appropriate mechanisms for coordination. Households, communities, NGOs, private institutions – including industry, small-scale producers, women farmers and trade and services, as well as social and cultural associations – and the mass media should be mobilized to help in close association with government and technical service sectors;
5) Programs aimed at improving nutritional wellbeing particularly of groups at greatest risk, should be supported by the allocation of adequate resources by the public and the private sectors so as to ensure their sustainability;
6) Governments, academic institutions and industry should support the development of fundamental and applied research directed towards improving the scientific and technological knowledge base against which food, nutrition and health problems can be
analyzed and solved, giving priority to research concerning disadvantaged and vulnerable
groups;
7) High priority should be given to the development of human resources and training of
personnel needed in all sectors to support nutrition-related activities;
8) National governments, in cooperation with local authorities, NGOs and the private sector,
should prepare periodic reports on the implementation of national plans of actions, with
clear indications of how vulnerable groups are faring.

5.3.2 Achievements in National Commitment

The most important achievement of the GoT has been the enactment of Decree No. 22327, in
28 June 1995, “Food Production, Consumption and Control.” It contains provisions for
hygienic and technical production, processing, preservation and storage of food, better
nutrition of the people and protecting the well being of producers and consumers,
determining the specifications of raw materials, half and fully manufactured food and their by
products, and the minimum technical and hygienic standards of food producing plants, and
their enforcement. The law also sets the conditions for licensing, registration, personnel
employment of processing plants, and compliance with the Turkish food codex which is
mutually prepared and issued by the Ministries of Agriculture and Health and administered by
the Ministry of Agriculture. The licensing and control of private laboratories which carry out
the hygienic and quality analysis, their mandates and standards are also determined by both
ministries. The food processors should receive permits before production operations from the
Ministry of Health indicating their compliance with technical and hygienic conditions.
However, after production starts, the control of food processing plants regarding compliance
with food codex and food control activities are carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Through the Decree, the duties and responsibilities of the two ministries have been defined
providing an efficient system for both the industry and public institutions.

Recently the “National Food and Nutrition Council” has been established, composed of the
representatives of Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Education, Industry and Trade, SPO, SIS,
Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey, Universities, NGOs, relevant UN Agencies
and private sector, with the objective of coordinating the National Plan of Action for Nutrition,
among others.

In the Seventh Five-Year Development Plan covering the period 1996-2000, it is stated that
food production policies will be developed with due attention to nutritional issues among
others, iodized salt, fluoridated water, fortified bread production, and balanced and adequate
nutrition of an increasing population. This indicates the Government of Turkey’s (GoT)
commitment to achieve food security and safety in the country.

Academic and vocational training in nutrition is well advanced in the country. However, there
is hardly any applied research towards improving scientific and technological knowledge base
through which food, nutrition and health problems can be analyzed and solved, particularly
relating to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. Data regarding the nutrition, nutritional
habits and related health problems is lacking, except a few academic studies conducted in the
suburbs of big cities.

The Ministry of Agriculture has proposed an investment project to EU for financing on
“Development of Food Control Services” which aims at upgrading the food control
laboratories of the ministry to meet EU standards, providing modern equipment and training
of staff. The Ministry of Agriculture has research projects on pesticide, heavy metal, nitrite
and nitrate residues, determination of pathogen micro-organisms, mycotoxins, preservatives,
plant growth regulators and dyes in food stuff and determination of the residues of veterinary
drugs.
5.3.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

The GoT, in general has not been active in the preparation of the National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN) after the ICN held in 1992. Turkey still does not have a NPAN, mainly due to the lack of a national coordination mechanism which would prioritize, develop, implement and monitor the policies and plans. Even with the establishment of the “National Food and Nutrition Council,” there are doubts about its executive power on different actors involved. It is necessary that this council be equipped with appropriate authority for coordinating the multi-sectoral issues of food production, processing and nutrition.

The last country-wide survey on nutrition and health was conducted in 1974. There is no current data available in Turkey to develop relevant policies and strategies. The last nutrition survey covered three Provinces in 1984. The private sector’s participation in research is negligible despite the presence of a well-developed food industry and consumer protection groups in the country.

The public sector lacks the financial resources to carry out surveys, research, public awareness raising and training programs on nutrition and nutrition based diseases. While Turkey produces a wide variety of crops that are available in the market, there is still prevalent energy deficiency, protein-energy malnutrition, anemia, endemic goiter, rickets and vitamin deficiencies in the rural, as well as urban areas.

The researches carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture are concentrated on determining residue levels of chemicals, identifying the micro-organisms, and determining the additive concentrations and mycotoxins in food and feed stuff. There is no research carried out regarding the nutrition status of the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. Nutrition research and on ways of improving the nutritional status of the rural poor and in preventing nutrition-related diseases are imperative. NGOs, CSOs and private sector should be encouraged to conduct applied research and field surveys.
5.4 WORLD FOOD SUMMIT

5.4.1 General Principles

The Rome declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit (WFS) Plan of Action lay the foundations for diverse paths to a common objective, food security at the individual, household, national, regional and global levels. The following seven commitments took place in the WFS Plan of Action:

1. Political, social and economic environment designed to create the best conditions for the eradication of poverty and for durable peace, based on full and equal participation of women and men, which is most conductive to achieving sustainable food security for all, will be ensured;

2. Policies aimed at eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical and economic access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food and its effective utilization will be implemented;

3. Participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices in high and low potential areas, which are essential to adequate and reliable food supplies at the household, national, regional and global levels, and the combat of pests, drought and desertification, will be pursued;

4. Food, agricultural trade and overall trade policies which are conductive to fostering food security for all through a fair and market-oriented world trade system will be ensured;

5. To prevent and be prepared for natural disasters and man-made emergencies and to meet transitory and emergency food requirements in ways that encourage recovery, rehabilitation, development and a capacity to satisfy future needs will be endeavored;

6. Optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry systems, and rural development, in high and low potential areas will be promoted;

7. This Plan of Action at all levels will be implemented and monitored in cooperation with the international community.

5.4.2 Achievements in National Commitment

Although Turkey is currently self-sufficient in food, agricultural production needs to expand to meet the national objectives of retaining food self-sufficiency in the face of continuing population growth, increasing rural incomes, meeting the raw material requirements of domestic industry and in increasing export earnings. There are indications that around 14 million people in Turkey, divided into 7 groups, of which the largest population with 7 million reside in villages situated either in or near the forest areas, are considered to be vulnerable in terms of food security. Steps have been taken by GoT in the preparation of a mapping system for vulnerable groups more specifically in terms of food security, in order to take the necessary steps to remedy their vulnerability.

According to the decisions taken at the WFS, FAO has initiated a study in cooperation with the Government of Turkey, to identify its national agricultural development strategy-Horizon
2010. This study may serve as a guiding document for the preparation of agriculture, rural development and food security programs and policies.

Chart V. 4.2.1 Ratio Population agriculture, forestry and fishery / Total Population

![Chart showing the ratio of population in agriculture, forestry, and fishery to total population from 1990 to 1997.](image)

Source: SIS

A Plan of Action for young farmers living in the Southern and Eastern parts of the Marmara Region, where the two devastating earthquakes hit in 1999, has been prepared and put under implementation.

Chart V.4.2.2 Agricultural GDP development rate

![Chart showing the agricultural GDP development rate from 1989 to 1997.](image)

Source: SIS Division of Agricultural Statistics

An institutional arrangement within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) has been made with the establishment of the Department of Food Control services under the General Directorate of Protection and Control. This Department has organized a number of meetings with the participation of CSOs, NGOs, academia and relevant public institutions for informing the public on the sensitivity of food security and safety issues, and measures to be taken for the prevention of malnutrition, under-nutrition. MARA organizes nutrition courses in each district for women and girls as routine training practices.

In Turkey, the government has provided an enabling political environment to make the necessary reforms in agriculture by bringing stability. Steps have been taken to increase livestock production and improve animal health. The pasture law was enacted in February 1998, which bears significance in the preservation, improvement and better utilization of range lands. A package of law proposals consisting of legal arrangements for complying with sanitary and phytosanitary agreements of EU and WTO, land utilization and land conservation, establishment of agricultural producers’ unions and restructuring of MARA for
more efficient functioning have been submitted to the Grand National Assembly. Also efforts are underway by the MARA on modifying the present support systems for small farmers.

The GoT has signed a Stand-By Agreement with IMF regarding the structural reform in agricultural policies. Present agricultural support policies are not the most cost-effective way of providing support to small farmers. They distort resource allocation by distorting market price signals, tend to benefit rich farmers more than poor ones, and lack coherence given the fragmentation of the policy making process in this field among several ministries and public institutions. Above all, they have become quite onerous to the taxpayers with an average cost of about 3 percent of GNP in recent years. The medium term objective of the reform program is to phase out the existing support policies and replace them with a direct income support system targeted to poor farmers. This will first be done by setting up a pilot program for the crop year 2000, and based on the results of that pilot implementation, the direct support system will be extended nation-wide in 2001 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2002. This system will be based on a farmers registration system, which will be completed by March 2001.

It is encouraging to note that the GoT has taken steps for the adoption of the agricultural insurance system, privatization of the State Economic Enterprises, reforming the Agricultural Sales Cooperatives Unions, development of agricultural commodity exchanges and allocation of more resources to agricultural research and development activities.

In Turkey, physical access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food is attainable and should be ensured, drawing upon the untapped potential for enhanced food production, processing, transportation, storage and marketing. Food industry is fairly well advanced and Turkey exports processed food, fresh fruits and vegetables as well as fruit juices and concentrates. The problem emerges from the economic access faced by certain layers of the society, for which poverty eradication is essential to improve access to food.

**5.4.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations**

Despite the high rate of urbanization, still 40% of the population (about 25 million) live in rural areas and in one way or another, are affiliated with agriculture. Agriculture is still the biggest employment sector with 45.1% of the work force and most important source of income. On the other hand, the share of agriculture in the GDP of Turkey has been decreasing. According to the 1999 figures, it was 15%.

Therefore, agriculture is the most critical basis for sustainable social and economic development in Turkey. At the same time agriculture could also be the pivot of such development, provided that the already existing potential is utilized efficiently by the application of appropriate policies, programs and technologies and by the allocation of sufficient resources and investment promotion. The most important, direct and easiest way of reducing disparities in the country is to develop its farm sector, which will ensure sustainable social and economic development in the lagging regions.

Although Turkey has vast land, water, forests and related resources, they are being depleted with an increasing speed, caused by land degradation and population pressure and unscientific natural resources management practices leading to degradation and devastation such as through soil erosion, floods and droughts. These natural resources are most closely connected with sustainable rural development, agriculture and food security. While there were some initiatives mainly lead by NGOs in recent years to create public awareness, an intensive and concerted program supported by sufficient economic and legal measures are urgently needed.

If poverty alleviation and sustainable human development are to be promoted, the Government and international development organizations must focus on the 7 million poorest
forest villagers and 3 million food-insecure and vulnerable small farmers. If governance is to be improved, priority must be given to the establishment of farmers’ unions and grassroots institutions. They can not benefit from the economic reforms and liberation process unless they, through their unions and/or cooperatives, have direct access to national or international markets.

Chart V.4.3.1. Agriculture: Average annual rate of growth

The GoT has traditionally intervened in the agricultural sector to support producer prices, to subsidize inputs and credit and to reduce the consumer prices of staple food. Support procurement has been done by two types of intervention agencies, state economic enterprises and agricultural cooperative unions. Producer price support has been very costly to the Government, but has failed to stabilize the farm incomes. For some commodities, it has also led to excessive production and the accumulation of surpluses, which had to be destroyed or sold at a loss. There are about 8.5 million hectares of land economically and physically irrigated in Turkey, of which about 4.5 million hectares are equipped with irrigation infrastructure. The country expects to irrigate an additional 1.7 million hectares through the South-eastern Anatolia Project (GAP) when it is completed in 2015. Another characteristic of Turkish agriculture is the small farm sizes. There are around 4,060,000 farm households in Turkey. Sixty-seven percent of these each owns between 0.1 - 5 hectares of land, which constitute 22% of total agricultural land. Only 30% of the households own more than 5 hectares, which comprises 78% of agricultural land available. Due to small farm size, which limits mechanization and input use, coupled with increases in input prices, dependency on climatic conditions, inadequate training and extension services and lack of market information, there is low output, low quality and low incomes.

In the long run, the policy of the Government is to reduce the rural population, mainly the farming community, from its present 40% to 10%. It must also aim to promote agro-industry as well as to adopt the international quality standards for agricultural commodities in the process of integration with EU. In the Stand-By agreement with the IMF, signed in December 1999, the GoT committed itself to phase out existing agricultural support policies and replace them with a direct income support system targeted to poor farmers.

There is a need to harmonize the utilization, management and conservation of the natural forest, pasture, soil, water and biodiversity resources vis-à-vis the needs of the people on a long-term basis. But this process has to be completed soon and with extensive care, otherwise Turkey’s agriculture will face severe problems.

The GoT is committed to eradicate poverty and inequality and improve economic access by all to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food. However, the government faces economic
constraints in implementing rural development projects and it is constantly in search of funds from international donors. Poverty is closely related to income generation in rural areas. Besides the public sector, the private sector has a big potential and a role to play in the development of the agro-industry as well as of other sectors like tourism, services and small industries. Even though the GoT provides some incentives to encourage private sector investments in less privileged regions of the country, these incentives have not been effective. It is necessary to explore other ways and means of private sector mobilization.

Participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices are not developed. Strategies and policies are developed at the central level without the involvement of local communities. A participatory approach may be adopted in agricultural and rural development activities to create ownership and ensure success.

Research is the locomotive of productivity which has been neglected in Turkey and has to be revitalized. The momentum gained between the years 1970-1980 has not been maintained in food, agriculture and fisheries research, mainly due to two reasons. Firstly, MARA has not been able to allocate the required funds to upgrade and reinforce the infrastructure of research institutes, and secondly a continuous circulation of qualified researches has not been realized through in-service and advanced training programs. Seed, fertilizer, pesticide and agricultural machinery industries are developed and are driven by the private sector. However, the private sector prefers to invest in the most advanced areas and in more profitable crops such as hybrid vegetable and maize seed. It is necessary to encourage the private sector to expand and diversify its research efforts. In areas or crops where private sector involvement may not be obtained, MARA may reserve the required funds for research and prepare a program for capacity building in its institutes.

MARA needs to strengthen the agricultural extension and farmer training in order to transfer new technologies to the small farmers for improving productivity. Extension programs and technical services may be targeted especially to women producers who are the actual producers of food but have been neglected so far. Also, the number of women extension agents and advisors may be increased to reach the women farmers. In addition, MARA is recommended to gather information on women's traditional knowledge and skills in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and natural resource management, to be utilized elsewhere in the country. Furthermore, improvement of collection, dissemination and use of gender-disaggregated data in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development will be useful in the empowerment of rural women.

Due attention should be paid to organic farming and aqua-culture as new potential areas of income generation in remote areas. Also, the reduction of post harvest losses and safe storage of crops harvested should not be overlooked.

Regional cooperation in the prevention and control of animal diseases and plant pests has gained even more importance in a globalizing world. Turkey, being at the crossroads of three continents, must be alert and give importance to early warning systems to safeguard its crop and livestock production.

Turkey should reduce the deforestation rate and increase forest coverage, maintain and develop the multiple contributions of forests, trees and forestry to food security for the conservation and sustainable use of land and water resources, including the protection of watersheds, and as reservoirs of biological diversity. It should take all the necessary measures for preventing and controlling forest fires.

Finally, in order to improve the welfare of the forest dwellers totaling 7 million, Turkey must continue and expand its community forestry activities to other areas of the country. Turkey should also extend the experience gained in pilot community forestry projects implemented in four different provinces between 1990 and 1995.
Turkey participated in the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) in Copenhagen in 1995 and was a signatory to the Copenhagen Declaration.

5.5.1 General Principles

The Copenhagen commitments are summarized as follows:
1. To create an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development;
2. To eradicate poverty, by a target date to be set by each country;
3. To promote the goal of full employment as a basic priority of national economic and social policies, and to enable all men and women to attain secure and sustainable livelihoods;
4. To promote social integration, based on protection of all human rights and including non-discrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, equality, opportunity, solidarity, security and participation of all people including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons;
5. To promote full respect for human dignity; to achieve equality between men and women and to enhance the role of women in political, civil economic and cultural life and in development;
6. To promote and attain the goals of universal and equitable access to quality education;
7. To accelerate the economic, social and human resource development of Africa and the least developed countries;
8. To ensure that the Strategic Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) include social development goals, in particular eradicating poverty, promoting full and productive employment and enhancing social integration;
9. To increase significantly and/or utilize more efficiently the resources allocated to social development in order to achieve the goals of the Summit through national action;
10. To improve and strengthen international, regional and national cooperation frameworks for social development in a spirit of partnership.

5.5.2 Achievements in National Commitment

The Turkish delegation to the WSSD was led by the State Planning Organization (SPO). However, in the immediate follow up to the Summit, no single national agency was designated to assume the relevant follow-up and co-ordination responsibilities. Furthermore, no National Action Plan for follow up to the WSSD has been prepared, despite the ongoing individually implemented activities of relevant agencies and institutions in fields related to the WSSD. In other words, in the five years since Copenhagen, national follow up has not been adequately co-ordinated.

This does not mean however that there was no follow up. Especially considering the multi-disciplinary nature of the Summit commitments and the convergence of this Summit’s commitments with other conventions and declarations (to which Turkey is signatory), follow up has been constant from the line ministries and national agencies’ perspectives.

The SPO has prepared an overview report focusing on achievements by the relevant agencies towards the WSSD commitments from which the following discussion is drawn.
In preparing for the Eighth Five Year Development Plan the SPO has set up Specialized Commissions to address some of the priorities emanating from the WSSD. In particular, the Commission on Poverty and Social Security will be working towards filling many of the gaps in the GoT follow up to the WSSD.

5.5.2.1 Poverty Alleviation

Poverty Measurements and Mapping
In the case of Turkey, there is no official government poverty line. For practical purposes however it can be adequately asserted that 'absolute' poverty, a definition often used to denote extreme poverty and the one-dollar-a-day fixed standard, is not applicable to Turkey.

Rather, the SPO employs a 'bread basket' calculation of income poverty and has estimated that 3,500 calories per day are required to achieve an adequate nutritional level. Households are classified as poor if their per capita incomes are below the amount needed for purchase of this bread basket. 'Despite certain dubious methodological assumptions underlying this calculation ... this is the best available official poverty definition.' (NHDR 1996). Accordingly, SPO posits the poverty rate in Turkey at around 16% (HDR 2000).

Studies point at the following in terms of distribution of poverty in Turkey:

a) The poverty rate among rural households is 2.4 times higher than among urban households;

b) The largest income disparity in Turkey is between male and female headed households. In the lowest 20% of the income bracket, the household income for female headed households is an average US $854; for male headed households the same figure is an average US $1,484;

c) Poverty rates differ greatly between regions. Poverty rates as calculated per the above method point to 30.3% poverty rates in East and Southeast Anatolia regions, compared to 19.7%, 16.1%, 10.4% and 1.4 % in the Mediterranean, Central Anatolian, Black Sea and Marmara/Aegean Regions respectively.

The Human Poverty Index (HPI) is a composite constructed on deprivations in three essential dimensions of human life: longevity, knowledge and a decent standard of living. It is an index that attempts to measure the extent of access and opportunities that people have, in a given country, to basic services and to minimum standards of living needed to maintain a decent life.

The NHDR for 1999 presents the result of calculations at the provincial level of the HPI. These calculations are based on figures for life expectancy, proportion of under-five years old children who are underweight, access to health services, access to safe water, and adult literacy rates. While the calculations used for the HPI for Turkey are not internationally comparable, they have been accepted by many analysts as reflecting a realistic picture of the level of poverty in Turkey. The picture HPI portrays for Turkey, however, is worrisome.

While the calculation of overall national rates of poverty are not presently available, the provincial data for poverty point to dire levels in Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia regions. For instance, poverty levels in Sirnak province reach 42%, while for the rest of the regions’ provinces figures are above 30%. Of interest also are the absolute numbers of people living in poverty. For example the HPI estimates that 13% of Istanbul’s population live below the Human Poverty Line - over 1.5 million people.

Poverty Alleviation Policies
Turkey does not have an official poverty eradication target. This stems perhaps from the rather well-placed assumption that 'absolute' or 'extreme' poverty definitions as such are not applicable to the poverty situation in Turkey.
While there is neither a single national poverty alleviation target, nor a policy per se, there are national strategies and action plans with the aim of reducing poverty. These range from efforts to reform the tax system to efforts at reducing regional development disparities.

Addressing regional disparities and aiming at their reduction, the Southeast Anatolia Development Project (GAP) has been operational since 1989. Planning work has recently been completed for similar regional development projects in Eastern Anatolia (DAP) and the Eastern Black Sea Region (DOKAP). Through these and the several incentives and allocations made through the Priority for Development Areas Policy, the Government seeks to reduce the high levels of human poverty in these regions. Concerns for the success of these regional development programs focus mainly on the absence of regional development entities, specialized funds and local implementation project design staff.

The Priority for Development Areas programs are supported by legislative action providing incentives (including tax breaks and land allocation for investments). However, the focus and therefore impact of these programs have been diluted throughout the past decade. The support legislation's initial target of some 10 to 15 provinces has been increased to 30, limiting the allocation to each province of the already limited global allocation for development priority provinces.

In the field of education (one of the main determinants of social empowerment and human poverty indexes), the Government of Turkey increased compulsory basic education from 5 to 8 years in 1997. Despite budgetary allocations and new tax measures, the impact of this development on increasing enrollment rates and educational attainment (for girls especially) has not been thoroughly assessed. There are concerns however unless grassroots support mechanisms are introduced, improvements in educational attainment of girls will be very difficult to achieve.

A national poverty alleviation strategy has been put in place in the framework of follow up to the World Food Summit Action Plan. Follow up activities focus on balanced nutrition and identification of food non-secure community groups. Also the GoT has participated actively in the 'Globalization without Poverty' campaign initiated in 1998 by the European Council.

**Poverty Alleviation Measures: Poverty Assistance Mechanisms**

With reference to poverty alleviation/eradication, authorities report of national activities from a multiplicity of sectors, including some measures which have begun implementation prior to the WSSD in the field of social assistance.

In particular, the Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund, established in 1986, and operating at local levels through the Foundations for Social Assistance and Solidarity, affiliated to the Provincial Special Administration are the main tools for combating poverty. These are often used for supporting community development activities benefiting the poor and needy. In some instances however the distribution of these funds placed under the jurisdiction of the provincial governors has come under criticism from civil society organizations both local and national. Some tentative plans are being discussed for reform of the funds.

In addition, the work of the Social Services and Child Protection Agency (SHCEK) is highlighted as a leading national tool for poverty alleviation. SHCEK disburses regular salaries to some 900 thousand people, deemed in need of cash assistance through the ‘Green Card’ system. Like the Social Solidarity Fund, however, the Green Card implementation has come under increasing criticism due to perceivable inefficiencies, lack of coverage and the lack of budgetary allocations which limit its coverage.

### 5.5.2.2 Employment

Through the 1996-99 period, employment and labour force growth rates have shown only moderate increases (approximately 1.8% and 1.5% per annum respectively). Official figures
for un/underemployment combined for 1996 are recorded at 12.3%. For women on the other hand, the problem is more acute. Official statistics as provided by the Directorate General for the Status and Problems of Women place urban women’s unemployment rates at 17% in 1999 (8th Five Year Development Plan).

As of April 1999, agriculture makes up 45.1% of the labour force, with industrial and services sectors composed of 15.2% and 39.7% respectively. In light of the limited contribution of the agricultural sector to the national GDP (at less than 14%), there exists a rather important imbalance in the distribution of the labour force, with important implications for the share of income for the rural population. Meanwhile, the agricultural sector continues to be the largest employer of women in Turkey. Thus, the large share of female labour force in agriculture compared to the very limited contribution of this sector to national productivity makes of women’s participation to the national economy a marginal one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Non-institutional civilian population</th>
<th>Labour force</th>
<th>Population not in labour force</th>
<th>labour force participation rate</th>
<th>Employed</th>
<th>Under-employed</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994-October</td>
<td>40,042</td>
<td>21,395</td>
<td>18,647</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>19,715</td>
<td>1,879</td>
<td>1,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-April</td>
<td>40,502</td>
<td>21,737</td>
<td>18,764</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>20,169</td>
<td>1,532</td>
<td>1,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-October</td>
<td>40,932</td>
<td>22,077</td>
<td>18,855</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>20,620</td>
<td>1,415</td>
<td>1,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-April</td>
<td>41,623</td>
<td>22,212</td>
<td>19,411</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20,821</td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>1,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-October</td>
<td>41,984</td>
<td>22,259</td>
<td>19,725</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20,967</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>1,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-April</td>
<td>42,835</td>
<td>21,977</td>
<td>20,858</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>20,684</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>1,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-October</td>
<td>43,378</td>
<td>21,819</td>
<td>21,560</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20,326</td>
<td>1,402</td>
<td>1,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-April</td>
<td>43,760</td>
<td>22,177</td>
<td>21,582</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>20,749</td>
<td>1,342</td>
<td>1,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-October</td>
<td>44,096</td>
<td>22,848</td>
<td>21,248</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>21,419</td>
<td>1,306</td>
<td>1,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-April</td>
<td>44,852</td>
<td>23,247</td>
<td>21,605</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>21,546</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>1,701</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: SIS Labour force database

ILO has been providing technical support in the field of employment during the last two decades within the framework of UNDP and IBRD funded projects to develop employment services, through improvements in the conduction of Household Labour Force Surveys and Scientific researches. The results of the findings reached within the ILO projects, in related fields, show that Turkey faces six basic serious problems in the employment and income.

1) The principal problem of the Turkish economy is the scarcity of employment opportunities and the absence of high quality jobs.
2) The progress of the manufacturing has been discouraging over the recent years and decades.
3) Turkey has not shown the same capacity to produce high quality jobs as it has shown in educating highly qualified persons. These latter persons have displayed the same incapacity to create demand for their supply.
4) Women’s participation rate has not increased as against the trend in the world.
5) Regional divergence is considerable and the income distribution is very unequal.
6) Poverty has persisted over the recent years.

In order to forestall the negative impacts of the presently ongoing privatization program, the Government has been implementing the Labor Adjustment Project with World Bank financing. The project entailed some job insertion programs for those losing jobs due to the privatization of state owned enterprises (KIT). In the aftermath of the Marmara and Duzce Earthquakes in 1999, the Labor Adjustment Project has been renegotiated to target social support and guaranteed employment training programs.
**SME Sector and Micro Enterprises**

Support to the sector of Small and Medium-size Enterprises (SMEs) explicitly entered Government policy in 1995 and was further strengthened in 1997 with the SME Action Plan. However, due to limited resources only very few of the SME projects envisioned under the Action Plan have been realized.

In 1999, several legislative measures have helped SME’s enhanced access to credit lines, with particular focus on Eastern and South Eastern Anatolia regions.

The upper age limit for eligibility of women for credit schemes has been raised to 45 from 35, significantly increasing the number of credit beneficiaries from negligible figures to 28,978. This is part of the effort geared towards promoting women entrepreneurs.

Also in responding to the Marmara and Duzce earthquakes the Government has negotiated a credit line financing with the European Investment Bank (EIB) for addressing the credit needs of affected SMEs.

The GoT and its international interlocutors (including the EIB, World Bank and UNDP) have discussed the limitations of the credit lines available to Halk Bank (the state bank mandated for SME and Micro Enterprise credits).

**5.5.2.3 Social Integration**

The national WSSD reporting on the Summit commitments pertaining to social integration/cohesion (Commitment 4) focuses on 3 groups: the disabled, family and women and children.

It must be noted that the integration of women in development processes is clearly a major area of concern to promoting social integration in Turkey, and therefore deserving of treatment under Commitment 4. However, gender equity and equal opportunities in accessing social and other services, including employment opportunities, may well be better reported separately and more adequately under Commitments no. 3 and 5, which deal with equal opportunities for employment and equal enjoyment of human rights by men and women, respectively. As these commitments very much overlap with those of CEDAW, from the preparation of the CCA purposes, this analysis of WSSD does not treat them in detail.

**The Disabled**

With an estimated 7.5 million disabled people in Turkey, clearly their integration in the development processes is a highly important issue. The national policy formulation and project implementation in this arena gained added momentum in 1997, with the promulgation of Law no. 571 placing a 3% compulsory quota for the disabled for enterprises employing more than 50 persons. In the same year, Law no. 573 laid the policy and budgetary framework for occupational training programs targeting the disabled.

**Women and the Family**

The analysis of CEDAW mentions the changes to the law on domestic violence and other laws relating to the status of women.

**Children**

The SPO reports that desired achievements have not been registered in reaching out to children in need, estimated to be over 500,000 in number. However, the specific issues pertaining to children, their protection, integration in social development plans, policies and programs are more adequately treated in other sections of the CCA document.
Other Considerations

Follow up to Commitment 4 focuses on the three areas above. However, social integration considerations of specificity to Turkey and its young population, as well as it developmental disparities may well benefit from policies and accompanying programs targeting youth. Furthermore, as strongly argued by successive National Human Development Reports, sound policies for good governance, for expanding participation base in decision making processes, comprise several of the outstanding national problems in fostering social integration and cohesion. In addition, overcoming some of the bottlenecks of representation, especially of population groups in South Eastern and Eastern Anatolia regions continue to be issues to be reckoned with.

5.5.2.4 Resource Allocation for Social Development (Commitment 9)

Measures have been taken to increase the financial resource base for support of 8 years of compulsory basic education. However for the period 1990-97, public expenditures for education as percentage of GNP remained largely unchanged with 1990 figure of 2.1% rising modestly to 2.2 % in the 1995-97 period.

In the health sector noticeable growth has been registered in public expenditures as percentage of GNP with 2.2% in 1990 compared to 2.9% in the 1996-98 period (HDR 2000). However expenditure on health continues to lag behind industrialized western countries. In line with the WHO promoted Health21 program, a national action plan is under preparation for implementation by 2001. Likewise the National Environmental Health Action Plan is under preparation.

Of the total civilian labour force, almost half is covered by social security insurance schemes. A World Bank financed project targeting financial sound management of the social security institutions has been finalized.

In line with the modest increases in public expenditure in social development fields, the 1995 national consolidated budget included allocations for the Social Security Agency (SSK) and the Social Security Agency for the Self Employed (BAG KUR) for the first time. SPO reports that with these new developments, the share of social security institutions in public expenditure increased to 7.8% at end 1999.

Successive National Human Development Reports have pointed to several issues among which some can be highlighted as follows: The shortcomings of the basic social services delivery in Turkey, as they exist especially along the lines of gender and regions. The need for Turkey to go beyond sole focus on service delivery and to question the quality of basic services delivered in light of achievements made in EU member countries in this field. It is important to ensure that there is sounder social development policy formulation and program implementation in the fields of culture, women's advancement and youth.

From the gender equality perspective, suffice it to say that the allocations from the consolidated budget for women's advancement or gender equality have historically been minimal, with very little advances made in the aftermath of the WSSD. Some line ministries, notably Health and Education, have made symbolic budgetary allocations for gender equality purposes (e.g. technical / vocational schools for girls, Mother and Child Care Department allocations of the Ministry of Health).

Finally, there is no appropriate classification in the consolidated budget for accommodating social development concerns specifically; nor for ‘gender budgeting,’ an increasingly widely used and advocated policy for promoting social development and gender equality.

5.5.2.5 National and International Cooperation Frameworks

During the period 1995-2000, Turkey has become signatory to a series of international agreements which have the potential to impact Turkey's social development performance
positively. While many of these agreements are commercial in nature and aim at regional trade/commercial relations, they are considered by national authorities to have impact on promoting Turkey's social development. In summary, these agreements concern the Black Sea Economic Co-operation, ECO, OSCE and enhanced relations with the European Investment Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

In addition to these international push factors in favor of promoting social development, there are pull factors that impede Turkey's social development performance. The chronic budget deficits as well as the heavy internal debt servicing obligations of the Government have constrained the Government's capacity to implement social development policies. The rooted structure of inequality in income distribution has prevented Turkey's rather remarkable economic growth of the past decade from alleviating poverty.

The state of inflation in the economy also further imbalances the income distribution gaps, and exacerbates the situation of poverty. The safety nets for the salaried workers and agricultural producers have fallen short of the protection mechanisms required in face of inflation. The SPO requisites that no sustainable improvement can be registered in poverty alleviation and disparities reduction unless the inflation rates are controlled. In this regard, the recently initiated (end 1999) stability program (in line with IMF recommendations) has been a serious step towards controlling inflation and is bound to have positive impact for the realization of longer-term goals for reducing the income gap and poverty. Its immediate to short-term impact, however, has not been adequately addressed. Plans are in place for the creation of certain safety nets for the population groups that may be effected negatively by the stability program (namely the rural poor population and salaried workers). However, they are far out paced in terms of realization when compared to the stability program implementations of 1999.

Added to this is the very limited contribution of the agricultural sector (less than 14%) to the GNP combined with the very low productivity of this sector and the large number of self employed or non-paid family workers which hinders the success of poverty alleviation programs in the immediate future.

In addition, the existing regional disparities in development exacerbate the East to West migration pattern, accumulating non-skilled labor in Western cities. This in turn has had negative effects of widening the already skewed income distribution gap and enlargement of the informal sector.

Finally, the lack of co-ordination between the agencies and institutions involved in social assistance, service and security have negatively impacted national capacity to respond to the multi-faceted needs of the poor and disadvantaged population groups.

5.5.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

The foregoing analysis contained tentative and interspersed recommendations for more effective follow up to the WSSD. Perhaps above all, Turkey's immediate concern regarding WSSD follow up is whether the economic stability program will put in place the relevant safety nets for effected populations and reducing regional disparities.

This final WSSD related section provides a summary of some of the issues considered for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Development plan as presented by the SPO. While this is not clearly an exhaustive list of priority plans and actions in follow up to WSSD in general and poverty alleviation in particular, some concerns arise from noting the absence of specific poverty targets. Furthermore, it seems that the following targets assume that human resource development is synonymous with social development which is a misleading assumption. While human resource development clearly contributes to social development at large, social development is a rather more complex multi-disciplinary and multi-faceted concern. It thrives in democratic environments where human rights of men and women are respected. It is achieved when communities are secure and when those who seek better lives by migrating to cities find decent reception and a life in dignity.
In fact, it is the addressing of these concerns by the Government and people of Turkey which will define the scope and effectiveness of Turkey's follow up to the Summit's primary directive to countries around the world: create an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development - an enabling environment which calls for respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**Recommendations:**

- A new co-ordination system enabling more effective service delivery to target groups be established for and among social assistance, security and services agencies. Efforts concentrate on more precise targeting of the poor and monitoring of assistance. In this regard, the more active and effective participation of civil society organizations, local governments and private sector in combating poverty, the more effective these measures will be.

- Social Services delivery, including health and education, to the poor and low-income groups be improved. Housing and housing finance projects targeting these social groups will be supported.

- Plans be put in place for rendering more effective the Green Card program enabling the poor to benefit from the health services.

- New momentum be given to the planning and implementation of health policies, with a view to a comprehensive assessment of the national health schemes and to provide cost-efficient, effective health services in an equitable manner, targeting disadvantaged population groups.

- Occupational training programs and projects be promoted with a view to enhancing the productivity of rural populations and diversifying the agricultural production patterns. A system for support and incentives to new entrepreneurial engagements in the rural sector be established. Occupation training be incorporated at the level of basic education and systems will be put in place that centralize the students’ capacities.

- New institutional mechanisms be developed for enhancing the productivity, efficiency and harmonization of occupational, technical and higher education with the competitive demands of the labor market. In particular, new partnerships between economic entities, occupational agencies and voluntary organizations be built for more effective planning, implementation, management and monitoring of technical and occupational education. Multi-actor partnerships and civil society participation be encouraged.

- In the provision of educational services and opportunities, innovative technologies be used. In particular, attention be paid to information technologies, and distance learning. Partnerships be established with occupational agencies, civil society organizations and local governments in identifying educational needs. Private sector contributions to education be encouraged.

- Plans be put in place to address skills training and service sector employment of the labour force which will leave the agricultural sector due to implementation of Structural Adjustment Plans.

- Plans be put in place for preparing the infrastructure for increasing compulsory basic education to 9 years, inclusive of pre-school education.

- Plans be put in place to address the skills training and service sector employment of the labor force which will abandon the agricultural sector due to implementation of Structural Adjustment Plans.

- Plans be put in place for preparing the infrastructure for increasing compulsory basic education to 9 years, inclusive of pre-school education.
5.6 UN CONFERENCE on ENVIRONMENT and DEVELOPMENT


The Montreal Protocol (MP) on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was adopted by Governments in 1987 and has been modified five times to date. Its control provisions were strengthened through four adjustments to the Protocol adopted in London (1990), Copenhagen (1992), Vienna (1995), Montreal (1997) and Beijing (1990). Turkey signed the Protocol and Vienna Convention in 1991, and ratified the London and Copenhagen Amendment in 1995.

5.6.1 General Principles

The Earth Summit’s message – that nothing less than a transformation of our attitudes and behavior would bring about the necessary changes – was transmitted by almost 10,000 on-site journalists and heard by millions around the world. The message reflected the complexity of the problems facing the world: that poverty as well as excessive consumption by affluent populations place damaging stress on the environment. Governments recognized the need to redirect international and national plans and policies to ensure that all economic decisions fully take into account any environmental impact.

Table V.6.1.1 Protected areas, 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protected Area</th>
<th>Year first established</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Number of sites</th>
<th>Surface area (ha)</th>
<th>(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National parks</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>641,753</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature parks</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>52,256</td>
<td>0.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature reserve areas</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>85,303</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural monuments</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife conservation areas</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specially protected areas</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>MoE</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>418,850</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected natural sites</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>452</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest protection areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>361,000</td>
<td>0.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>15,946</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife breeding stations</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed stands</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>46,266</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic conservation forests</td>
<td></td>
<td>MoF</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16,210</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) MoF = Ministry of Forests; MoE = Ministry of Environment; MoC = Ministry of Culture
b) % of total land area; some protected areas overlap.

Source: Ministry of Environment.

Cited in: OECD Environmental performance reviews. 1999

In Rio, more than 150 Governments – 108 represented by heads of State or Government – adopted three major agreements aimed at changing the traditional approach to development:

**Agenda 21**
A comprehensive program of action for integration of environmental concerns into social and economic development. It requires implementation at local, national, regional and global levels.

**The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**
A series of principles defining the rights and responsibilities of States
The Statement of Forest Principles
A set of principles to underlie the sustainable management of forests worldwide

Two legally binding Conventions – the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity - aimed at preventing global climate change and the eradication of the diversity of biological species. Another legally binding instrument, the Montreal Protocol aims to reduce and eventually eliminate the emissions of man-made ozone depleting substances (ODSs).

5.6.2 Achievements in National Commitment

Environmental legislation, administration and financing in Turkey

The 1982 Constitution recognizes the right of all Turkish citizens to a healthy environment, as well as the duty of the State and of citizens to upgrade the environment, protect environmental health and prevent pollution. The 1983 Environmental Law defines the framework for environmental legislation on the basis of the Polluter Pays Principle. It is supported by the various regulations on air, water and noise pollution, solid waste management and environmental impact assessment. Physical planning regulations are based on the 1985 Construction Law. In the 1985 Housing Development Law, most of the responsibility for physical planning was devolved to municipalities and mandatory urban development plans were introduced for cities over 10,000 inhabitants. Regulations on land use for purposes other than agriculture came into force in 1989, with the aim of reducing the rate of urban encroachment in agricultural areas. The purpose of the 1990 Law on Coasts is to protect the shoreline from pollution and prevent inappropriate land use.

Table V.6.2.1  Major environmental legislation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Legislation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Ports Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Public Health Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Forestry Law (as amended in 1982 and 1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Law on Water Resources (as amended in 1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Tourism Incentive Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation on the Pollution Prevention Fund (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation on Air Quality Protection (1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation on Noise Control (1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Regulation on Fines Imposed on Ships and Other Sea Vessels (1987)</td>
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<td>Regulation on Water Pollution Control (1988)</td>
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<td>Regulation on Solid Waste Control (1991)</td>
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<td>Regulation on Environmental Impact Assessment (1992)</td>
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<td>Regulation on Medical Waste Control (1993)</td>
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<td>Regulation on Hazardous Waste Control Management (1995)</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Law on the Istanbul Strait (Bosphorus Strait)</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Law on National Parks</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Construction Law</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Decree on the Establishment of the Authority for the Management of Specially Protected Areas (as amended in 1991)</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Law on Coasts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Law on Reforestation and Soil Erosion Control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Environment.
Cited on: OECD Environmental performance reviews. 1999
Nature conservation is referred to in general terms in the 1983 Environment Law. More specific legislation includes the 1983 Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Assets, the 1983 Law on National Parks, the 1989 Decree on the Establishment of the Authority for the Management of Specially Protected Areas (as amended in 1991) and the Forestry Law. The 1995 Law on Reforestation and Soil Erosion Control provides for the restoration of forest ecosystems.

Turkey operates under Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol and thus is legally required to phase out ODSs by 2010. The Turkish Government has adopted accelerated phase out of some ODSs listed in Annex A and B of the Protocol. Turkey was the first Article 5 country to promulgate a National Ozone Policy and associated regulations to phase out the import and production of ODS-using products, and implement an accelerated phase-out schedule (relative to the mandate for Article 5 countries under the Montreal Protocol) during the transition to non-ODS technologies. In 1997, Turkey received an award from the MP as one of the nine most successful Article 5 countries, out of 49, in implementing the MP.

The Import Communique for the phase-out of some ODSs, issued on 30 June 1998, introduced an import quota system, which was in force by the year 2000 and an import ban on the equipment containing controlled substances. The Communique issued for the year 2000 and Regulation on the Phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances, which entered into force on 25 July 1999 introduces an early phase-out of some substances listed in Annex A and B of the Protocol. In line with the provisions of the Regulation, only the import of the amounts required for essential uses and servicing the products functioning of which relies on these substances have been permitted, and no allocation has been made for use in manufacturing of new products either containing or produced with these substances since 1 January 2000.

The Ministry of Environment has had full ministry status since 1991. It has an overall coordination and advisory role.

The State Planning Organization (SPO), under the authority of the Prime Minister, develops Five Year Development Plans, which are the main instrument for coordinating government policies. In addition, the SPO allocates resources for public investment. Since the Third Five-year Development Plan (1973-77), these development plans address environmental management. The Sixth Five-year Development Plan adopted the concept of sustainable development. As part of the Seventh Five-year Development Plan (1996-2000), the SPO supervised the formulation of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), with technical assistance from the Ministry of Environment and input from a broad range of stakeholders.

Several government departments and agencies address issues relating to the management of water resources. The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources’ General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSI) are responsible for the development and management of water resources. The General Directorate of Rural Affairs of the Prime Minister’s department is concerned with water supply, irrigation and water treatment in rural areas. In urban areas the provision and operation of water supply and sewerage services is the responsibility of municipalities. The Bank of Provinces offers assistance to some municipalities in project preparation and construction of water and sewerage infrastructure. The Ministry of Health is responsible for drinking and bathing water quality and air quality monitoring; the DSI monitors surface and groundwater quality.

The Ministry of Environment's responsibilities for nature conservation frequently overlaps with those of the Ministry of Forests. It is responsible for protection of natural flora and fauna; the Ministry of Forests is responsible for managing national parks and other protected areas, except for 12 specially protected areas managed by the Ministry of Environment. The Ministry of Culture is responsible for managing a number of protected natural sites. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs is responsible for the protection and development of natural resources, including fisheries.
Municipalities play an important role in the implementation of environmental protection measures, as well as land use planning. Although the Ministry of Public Works and Housing is responsible for land use planning at national level, land use development plans are basically established by the local administration (municipality of provincial government). In metropolitan areas, the metropolitan municipalities are responsible for planning. In rural area these plans are prepared by provincial government.

In Turkey, environmental projects and investments are basically financed through:
- allocations from the general budget;
- funds created either within or outside the budget;
- fines and levies;
- taxes on sources of pollution;
- grants and credits provided by the bilateral and international organizations.

Environment related investments can be financed from 20 funds in the general budget, notably for pollution prevention, national parks, afforestation, municipalities, special provincial administrations, special settlements, reform, support to and development of housing, upgrading of traffic services, tourism, improvement of health services and new settlements, earthquakes and natural disaster relief.

Revenues of the Environment Pollution Prevention Fund, created in 1991, are generated by a variety of fees and taxes. The Minister of Environment has the authority to approve disbursements of the Fund. In 1996, revenues were US $346 million and outlays were US $184 million for 182 projects.

The Bank of Provinces, a public entity, provides grants and credits to municipalities to fund technical assistance and implementation plans. In 1998, the Bank of Provinces provided a total of about US $264 million to local governments, of which US $156 million was for water supply projects and US $108 million for sewerage and waste-water treatment plants.

About one-quarter of environment-related public investment is made by local governments. In addition to receiving 9.25% of general budget tax revenues, and 5% of State revenue collected in metropolitan municipalities, the municipalities obtain revenues from local taxes and charges (notably taxes on property and land, groundwater, electricity and coal gas consumption) and a range of other charges. On average, 40% of a municipality’s revenue is spent on environmental services, largely solid waste collection and disposal.

National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP)

As a follow-up to the Rio Conference, the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) was prepared in 1998 through participatory processes involving central and local government agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and the private sector. Major goals of the National Environmental Action Plan are summarized in Table V.6.2.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improvement of the quality of life</td>
<td>Quality and quantity of factors that have positive impacts on physical, spiritual, mental and cultural development, and the form and level of making use of such factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased environmental awareness</td>
<td>Consistent and effective knowledge about the effects of information, culture, ethics and skills as well as attitudes and behavior on the protection and enhancement of environmental assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved environmental management</td>
<td>Design, implementation, management, monitoring and supervision of legislative and institutional arrangements, sources of finance and information, techniques and technologies for the protection and development of environmental assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic social and cultural development</td>
<td>Raising the level of economic, social and cultural development so as to assure the protection and improvement of the conditions of living and aesthetic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in harmony with the characteristics of living environments.

The strategic objectives that support these goals are:
1. Reduce or prevent pollution;
2. Improve access to basic environmental infrastructure and services;
3. Encourage sustainable resource use;
4. Support sustainable environmental practices;
5. Minimize vulnerability to environmental hazards.

5.6.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

The major challenges in the environmental management system in Turkey are:

a. over-reliance on regulatory mechanisms;
b. little integration of environmental factors in planning;
c. limited public participation;
d. inadequate enforcement capability to implement environmental laws;
e. little use of environmental information;
f. over-centralization of budgets, authority and information;
g. low levels of awareness about environmental rules; and
h. inadequate environmental content in the educational system.

Having identified the major environmental problems of Turkey as the problems faced in the urban environment, natural resource management, marine and coastal resources management, management of cultural and natural heritage, and natural and man-made environmental hazards, NEAP has identified the following action categories:

- Development of effective environmental management;
- Enhancing information and awareness;
- Investing in improved environmental management.

These action categories are supported by a set of concrete projects for implementation in the short (5 years) and medium (10 years) terms. It is estimated that the implementation of the NEAP during its first 10 years would cost at least US $300 million. This would require governmental resources, private sector support and international financing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study/Project Term</th>
<th>Study/Project Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Enhancing Environmental Management System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1. Harmonizing institutional setting</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2. Harmonizing legislative framework</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3. Identifying eco-basins</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4. Local Environmental Action Planning</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5. Making the EIA process more effective</td>
<td>Short</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.6. Classifying and planning land use capacity</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.7. Completing rural cadastral works</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8. Preparing and implementing national productivity action plans</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Improved Information and Awareness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Managing environmental data</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. Environmental education and training</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Investing in the Environment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3.1. Improving waste management</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2. Encouraging clean technologies and energy sources</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3. Upgrading urban slums</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4. Upgrading rural environmental infrastructure</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5. Improving coastal zone management</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6. Environmental management for the GAP region</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.7. Reducing environmental risks

In light of:
- the sectoral (land degradation, biodiversity, marine and coastal waters, solid waste management, climate change, ozone depletion, etc.), but more importantly;
- cross-sectoral environmental challenges (poverty, sustainable livelihoods, trade, tourism, etc);
- the institutional, legal and financial bottlenecks; and
- the environmental requirements for Turkey’s accession to the EU;

the major focus of the environmental initiatives in Turkey should be on the following areas:

**From traditional behaviors to contemporary participation models**

*Promotion of participatory decision-making processes at all levels and strengthening of civil society organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders*

**Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

Environmental NGOs need to address a range of issues in order to establish themselves as stimulating and constructive partners for environmental progress in the country. The Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Program (GEF/SGP) of UNDP is the most easily accessible and transparent mechanism in Turkey which is solely for supporting environmental projects of NGOs and which also aims for strengthening the capacity of NGOs. Mainstreaming of the GEF/SGP methodology into other projects and programs of the UN system would facilitate the active involvement of NGOs in addressing sustainable development concerns of the country and strengthen their capacities in project formulation, management, implementation and monitoring.

**Parliamentarians**

Efforts should be made towards enhancing cooperation and dialogue with parliamentarians, particularly with the relevant standing commissions, such as the Environment Commission.

**Women**

Women are essential to improving the management of ecosystems and natural resources, fundamental to the pursuit of sustainability. The important connections between women and the environment, advanced at the Nairobi Conference of 1985 have been fostered by the Fourth World Conference on Women held in 1995 in Beijing.

Therefore it is necessary to mainstream gender issues in environmental programming through:
- Identification of key linkages/rationales for the consideration of gender equality and environmental sustainability;
- Moving the analysis and focus up from the community level;
- Ensuring the capacity development initiatives and frameworks on the environment integrate the ability to work with gender equality;
- Ensuring an agenda-setting focus in mainstreaming strategies that recognizes the importance of women’s collective action and struggle in both the conceptualization and the movement towards sustainable development.

**Youth and children**

In addition to their intellectual contribution and their ability to mobilize support, the youth bring unique perspectives that need to be taken into account. In this respect support should be provided in the following areas:
• Establishing procedures allowing for consultation and participation of youth in environmental decision-making;
• Promoting dialogue with the youth organizations regarding the formulation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of environmental plans, projects and programs;
• Cooperating with youth organizations to develop educational and awareness programs in the environmental field specifically targeted to youth population in the country.

Private sector
The private sector should not be considered only as a source of funding for relevant environmental programs. Their role in the social and economic development of the country should be fully taken into account.

Media
A systematic approach should be developed for cooperating and enhancing dialogue with the media on environmental issues. This is essential not only for increasing the visibility of environmental projects and programs among general public, but also for expanding the impact of such initiatives and enhancing awareness at all levels.

From centralized national approaches to dynamic local initiatives
Promoting local environmental and sustainable development planning as a new approach for good local governance and effective environmental management.

Since 1997, THE UNDP and International Union of Local Authorities, Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East (IULA-EMME) in Turkey have been cooperating with a variety of partners including, the Ministries of Interior and Environment, Unions of Municipalities, metropolitan municipalities and other municipalities. These are joined by governorships, central government agencies, civil society organizations and academic institutions for promoting local sustainable development planning and implementation through the ‘Local Agenda 21 Program in Turkey’. It is currently implemented in 43 pilot cities with varying sizes and levels of economic and social development. The second phase of the program which was launched in January 2000 aims at expanding the city coverage of the Local Agenda 21 process. It also focuses on enhancing partnership arrangements among the major actors listed above, and developing institutional, legal and financial recommendations for ensuring the sustainability of the Local Agenda 21 process.

From sectoral policies to integrated approaches
Facilitating the integration of environmental concerns into market policies

In Turkey, there is limited coordination between sectoral ministries and different levels of government on environmental issues. Particular attention needs to be given to integrating environmental concerns in energy, tourism, agriculture sectors and trade. In the industrial sector, most of Turkey’s large exporting firms try to meet national and international environmental standards, and many are becoming increasingly aware of their environmental responsibilities. However, most of the vast number of small and medium-sized enterprises do not comply with environmental standards. Facing severe economic difficulties, they continue to use old technologies and find it difficult to make a strong effort to protect the environment or prevent risks to employees and the surrounding area. This suggests opportunities for investment in cleaner technologies and enhanced productivity consistent with sustainable development objectives. Greater focus should be put on “getting the prices right, with appropriate attention to addressing special needs of the poor”. The use of appropriate pricing, natural resources accounting and economic instruments should help shape more sustainable production and consumption patterns.
Recommendations:

- Conducting studies for identification of linkages between environment and cross-sectoral issues, which are priorities for Turkey such as poverty, production & consumption patterns, trade, employment, and health. These require close cooperation of specialized agencies, particularly WHO, ILO, UNIDO, and UNDP, with relevant government agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions.
- Expanding the use of economic instruments to internalize the environmental costs of major economic sectors and increase their financial contribution to environmental protection.
- Enhancing the environmental awareness of small and medium-sized enterprises and encouraging the use of environment friendly techniques and technologies.
- Promoting, among industries and business, the concept of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) as a tool for supporting sound decision-making. LCA is the process of evaluating the effects that a product has on the environment over the entire period of its life-cycle, including extraction and processing; manufacture; transport and distribution; use, reuse and maintenance; recycling; and final disposal.
- Promoting public-private partnerships for encouraging the use of cleaner technologies and further expanding the voluntary agreements with selected industrial sectors.
- Further developing and implementing projects aiming at sustainable management of natural resources and income generation, particularly in rural areas.
- Availability of reliable and accessible data and information is the starting point for any environment and development initiative. The relevant authorities and their partners, including the UN System, should put particular emphasis on improvement of environmental data and information systems.
- The catalytic and facilitating role of the UN in guiding international and bilateral resources in line with the national priorities should also be strengthened.
- Reduction of subsidies (e.g. for industry, agriculture, energy) with adverse environmental effects; identification of current fiscal measures that have detrimental effects on the environment, with appropriate attention given to the specific needs of the poor.
- Promotion of changes in consumption and production patterns by providing appropriate information and environmental education, by measures to ensure waste minimization, recycling and by ensuring that prices fully reflect environmental costs while giving attention to the needs of the poor.
- Review of the environmental impact of small and medium-sized enterprise and taking relevant measures.
- Further development of projects aiming at sustainable management, use and conservation of natural resources and income generation in rural depressed areas; ensuring the environmental impact assessment of sub-projects of GAP, and minimizing their adverse environmental impacts.
- Strengthening the institutional capacity to analyze the economic and social consequences of proposed policies, programs and projects having significant environmental impacts.
- Within the context of Turkey's accession process to the EU, ensuring the compliance of the Turkish environmental legislation and standards with the relevant EU regulations and procedures.

With special attention given to:
- national capacity building, with particular emphasis on effective and efficient use of existing human, technical and financial resources;
- strengthening cooperation and coordination among relevant government agencies and other actors in the environmental field;
- promoting partnership arrangements among a variety of actors for addressing environmental issues.
5.7 UN CONFERENCE on HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (II)

The Conference was held in Istanbul in 1996.

5.7.1 General Principles

The Parties recognize that assured access to safe and healthy shelter and basic services are essential to individual welfare and national social and economic development. Unsustainable patterns of consumption, environmental degradation, demographic changes, poverty, social and economic inequality have negative impact on conditions in shelter and human settlements, endangering the safety, health and well-being of the population.

The Conference mainly focused on partnership, which aimed at facilitating and including as much input from the various actors in the field of human settlement as possible.

5.7.2 Achievement in National Commitment

A Turkey National Report and a Plan of Action were prepared in a participatory manner representing a wide spectrum of government, civil society, private sector and academics. The National Report analyses the major problems in human settlements and describes the problems encountered in altering settlement system in Turkey with regard to the sustainability, livability and equity, which constitute the main principles of the Habitat Agenda.

The National Plan of Action (NPA) indicates 28 priority issues, each of which includes a description of the problem, the proposed solution and related activities, the strategy for monitoring implementation, and a list of actors to which the responsibilities in this issue may be imparted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LONG TERM ISSUES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increasing the capacity of settlement systems to establish national and international links/networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reducing spatial inequalities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishing peace, security and stability in city life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preventing unauthorized constructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving sensitivity to quality in settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving the status of women in urban life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing sustainable urban energy use and preventing air pollution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing sensitivity to noise pollution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing a multi-actored regulation system</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROGRESSIVE RESULTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regulating urban rent and increasing land supply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving and renewal of squatter areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving capacities for disaster mitigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation and improvement of the existing housing stock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving intra-urban transportation facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishing adequate recreational areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving the environment and opportunities for children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving the environment and opportunities for youth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designing and building open spaces suitable for disabled and elderly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increasing the capacities of the local authorities</td>
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<td>Enforcing empty spaces within the city</td>
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<tr>
<th>SHORT TERM RESULTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Improving financing of urban infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving financing of housing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving delivery of housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resettlement of citizens affected by forced migrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of clean water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing wastewater treatment and management systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing a solid waste management system</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
5.7.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

Human settlements development is mainly dominated by government centered policies. Local governments are increasingly influential, however true governance, transparency, participation etc., are yet to be implemented.

Although a lot of new legislation has been promulgated to deal with the mounting issues, sufficient housing by legal means could not be produced and increase of "gecekondu" (spontaneous settlements) around the cities could not be prevented, the bottleneck on the production of urban land could not be overcome, and development and construction mechanisms that would control urbanization could not be established.

No overall coordinating body has been assigned other than the National Committee as a facilitating and monitoring entity. With respect to implementation of proposed restructuring activities in the Plan of Action, institutional arrangements are very vague.

Although the Turkey Habitat II National Report and Plan of Action was conceived with the participation of a wide range of actors as a comprehensive blueprint for action to solve human settlements related problems in Turkey, it has not been utilized.

The Housing Development Administration, which is the government agency that had led the Habitat II process, has recently undertaken to revive the Habitat II process, in preparation for Istanbul +5, which will take place in 2001. The National Committee has once again been called to action and the National Report and Plan of Action are being revised. The civil society on the other hand is once again on the rise and active in dealing with human settlements related issues, all which came about after the two earthquakes of 1999. In this connection, the UN can have a role in supporting increased dialogue between the government and civil society, in this way, encouraging multi-actored governance in human settlements.

It follows, from the above, that support could also be provided to local initiatives. Local authorities, neighborhood groups etc, within the principle of subsidiarity are the best placed to identify and deal with problems relating to their localities. In this connection, support could be provided to communities and local authorities to undertake initiatives benefiting their locals.

One of the strategic issues in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda was the creation of the Global Urban Observatory to facilitate monitoring and assessment of the status of human settlements at the global, regional, national and local levels. In this framework, the establishment of a national and also local urban observatories in Turkey, as loci to monitor and assess human settlements development in the country, and to promote information sharing, tools, instruments and technologies among the different actors, is another area that the UN may endeavor to support.

Another area that needs priority attention and support is the promotion of a better understanding of urban poverty in Turkey. There is very little data available in this regard and any action to develop a database related to urban poverty with policy-oriented urban indicators would help focus on the problem and help to generate solutions.

Risk reduction and human settlements planning sensitive to natural disasters is yet another area that needs intervention and the time is ripe for this. Both national and international interests are high, but there is no coordinated or concerted effort just yet. The GoT has to lead this effort with other actors such as local authority, civil society organizations and the UN, facilitating the sharing of information and expertise as well as the coordination of activities in this field.
5.8 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on POPULATION and DEVELOPMENT

The population conferences of 1974 and 1984, and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994 underlined the importance of human-centered development activities within the context of population and sustainable development. This materialized by a shift in paradigm from family planning to reproductive health (RH), from demographic goals to human-centered development and to the promotion and safeguarding reproductive and sexual rights. ICPD assigned to UNFPA a new set of responsibilities and a new mandate:
1. Assisting developing countries in providing quality reproductive health and family planning services on the basis of individual choice;
2. Formulating population policies;
3. Advancing the strategy that focuses on meeting the individual needs of women and men based on empowering women rather than achieving demographic targets.

5.8.1 General Principles

Together with the universally accepted rights, reproductive rights are accepted as an indivisible part of universal human rights. ICPD placed human beings at the center of development, with a particular focus on their needs for survival and well being.

5.8.1.1 The Principles

Reproductive rights encompass the rights of individuals as well as couples to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and the right to ‘attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health’.

To satisfy reproductive health (RH) needs during all stages of the human life cycle, the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) recommends that all countries should provide, through the primary health care system, a range of information and services including family planning (FP). The RH needs of marginalized groups such as refugees, the displaced and disabled people are also emphasized in PoA.

The ICPD contributed to expanding the focus of Family Planning programs to include concern for caring for pregnant women (pre and post natal care), safe delivery, safe abortion, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) including HIV/AIDS and its related issues of responsible behavior, decision making in reproductive and sexual matters and gender-based violence.

ICPD also highlighted the fact that reproductive rights are solely dependent upon the empowerment of women.

Several general objectives of ICPD PoA relate to improving status of women by providing for gender equity and equality, education, especially of girls, education, reduction of infant, child and maternal mortality and universal access to RH services. Education is seen as one of the most important means for the empowerment of women.

As for the operational strategies, PoA recommended that partnership be promoted between all levels of government, NGOs, local community groups and private sector partners in the discussions and decisions on the design, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of population and development programs.
ICPD also quantified what it would cost to implement activities at successive points in time over 20 years.

5.8.1.2 Evolution of the Concept of Population and Development

The World Declaration on the survival, protection and development of children adopted at the World Summit for Children (WSC) in 1990 places emphasis on strengthening the role and the status of women and ensuring their equal rights, including equal treatment and opportunities for girls. ICPD later endorsed all the WSC goals on reducing infant, child and maternal mortality and eliminating malnutrition among children under the age of five.

Following the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) the ICPD PoA put special emphasis on gender equality and equity by stressing the importance of access to health care services, including RH, as a basic right. ICPD also stressed that the states are bound to respect, protect and fulfill women’s rights to RH care.

In June-July 1999, the United Nations General Assembly, convened to review progress made since Cairo, during which governments agreed on key actions. This review further drew the attention of governments to population and development concerns, noting the linkages between population, economic growth and environment. It highlighted the implications of changing age structure and aging populations as well as those related to international migration, internal migration and urbanization.

The ICPD+5 review also reiterated the importance of human rights of women and girls, particularly the freedom from coercion, discrimination and violence. It called upon governments to intensify efforts to provide better on RH and sexual health, information, education and communication (IEC), to reduce maternal mortality and to address the RH needs of adolescents. It highlighted consequences of unsafe abortion and prevention of HIV/AIDS and called governments to strengthen national information systems.

5.8.2 Achievements in National Commitment

Much has been achieved in Turkey since ICPD. An ‘enabling environment’ was created and the ICPD targets and strategies have been reflected in the Government’s Five-year Development Plans. The Seventh Five-year Development Plan emphasized the development of a master plan for the provision of family planning services. In accordance with this the National Strategic Plan for Women’s Health and the Family Planning (NSPWHFP) was developed under the auspices of MOH with the active participation of main stakeholders in Turkey, namely, representatives of public institutions and civil society.

Legal reforms were also affected such as the Eight Year Compulsory Basic Education Law put into force in 1997, and reforms to ensure gender equality and equity.

ICPD PoA has also initiated the establishment of institutional mechanisms for the implementation of the recommendations. Under the leadership and coordination of SPO, the ICPD Follow-up Committee was formed. The Committee, consisting of representatives from different ministries, universities and NGOs, is a coordinating, monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the implementation of ICPD PoA. Technical assistance from different donors is evaluated and monitored by the SPO, through the ICPD Follow-up Committee.

A multi-disciplinary National AIDS Commission attached to MOH was established in 1996. Consequently, the National Action Plan for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS was realized under the auspices of MOH. The Family Planning Advisory Board (renamed the Advisory Board on Women’s Health and Family Planning after ICPD) also attached to MOH monitors the progress of RH and FP activities and facilitates inter-sectoral collaboration.
Surveys conducted every five years and national censuses remain the principal data sources for the review and appraisal of demographic processes as well as for the monitoring of the implementation of the goals and objectives of ICPD PoA.

Extensive advocacy efforts on gender equality and empowerment were made in Turkey prior to and following the Fourth World Conference on Women. Starting with the State Ministry responsible for Women's Affairs, Family and Child Protection, and The Directorate General for the Status and Problems of Women, several state agencies, and women's NGOs as well as the electronic media and the press, Women and Gender Studies Centers of universities have also been active and influential agents in these efforts.

The National Action Plan was prepared to implement the recommendations of the Beijing Platform for Action. The specialized commission consisting of the representatives of women's NGOs, academic experts and relevant state institutions formulated this National Action Plan.

Legislation passed after the Beijing Conference, created an enabling environment for the implementation of the conference recommendations. Turkey ratified the convention and removed all reservations. Several legal arrangements in favor of gender equity and equality and the prevention of domestic violence have already been made. Mainstreaming the gender perspective in all policies, plans and programmes is in progress.

A special parliamentary commission to investigate gender discrimination in Turkey was established in 1998. In its report, the commission recommended that gender mainstreaming should be integrated in all policies; that reservations on CEDAW be withdrawn; special measures should be taken in education, labour and politics, equality should be ensured and a Parliamentary Standing Commission on Gender Equality be established.

Institutional mechanisms such as ‘policy gender focal points’ to serve as centers of information dissemination and service provision were established at the governors’ offices in 12 provinces. The Multi-purpose Community Centers (CATOMs) established through the South-eastern Anatolian Development Project (GAP), offer multiple opportunities for women. There has also been a proliferation of Women’s Studies Programs and Research Centers in academic institutions throughout the country since the mid-1990s.

5.8.2.1 Reproductive Health, Family Planning and Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights

ICPD prompted Turkey to review its current situation with respect to RH services. The present primary health care (PHC) system and infrastructure have the capacity to integrate RH components into service delivery with certain financial and organizational arrangements.

The National Strategic Plan for Women’s Health and Family Planning is an operational device to strengthen the RH care services and to reach Health For All Targets set by WHO. Activities related to MCH/FP have been revised and been made comprehensive in order to cover all RH care components. A regulation supporting the expansion of MCH/FP in terms of infrastructure, training and services has been put into force.

A Special Experts Committee on RH and FP established for the preparation of the Eighth Five Year Development Plan, introduced policy recommendations on adolescent RH and sexual health and elderly RH for integration into the plan for the first time.

Other achievements include the regular training of medical personnel in the provision of RH services and IEC programs; inclusion of RH elements in the undergraduate curriculum of medical schools and midwifery schools; institutionalization of in service training of the health care providers and the conversion of MCH/FP centers into training centers on RH/FP.
In addition, safe-motherhood programs have been implemented in collaboration with NGOs; IEC activities in the field of RH/FP were strengthened. Three training and communication centers have been established by MOH for the purpose of producing IEC materials. Free-standing RH clinics have been established in a number of provinces for pilot testing. National services guidelines on FP were prepared with the aim of providing accessible and affordable quality services. MOH continued strengthening MCH/FP services.

MOH developed strategies for self-reliance on contraceptive commodities and started contraceptive procurement from 1997 onwards.

Through the South-South Initiative, Turkey’s role in RH/FP and population gained a regional dimension with the establishment of the RH International Center of Excellence with the assistance of UNFPA this year.

It is estimated that around 95% of the total resources devoted to population/RH issues are from domestic funding in Turkey. Approximately 0.1% of GNP is devoted for population activities in Turkey. More than two thirds of the total domestic expenditure of US$1.2 billion for population and RH services during the period 1993-1999 originates from the budgets of MOH (56%) and Ministry of the Interior (20.5%).

For the period 1993-1999 Turkey received approximately US $67 million as external assistance in the field of reproductive health and population programs.

5.8.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

Fertility in Turkey has fallen rapidly in the last decades – from 7 in 1950 to 2.6 in 1988 - and should soon reach the replacement level. As a result, population growth will further slow down, the total population (65 million in 2000) reaching some 90 million in 2025, while the size of the productive age population and of the elderly will increase at the expense of the young population that will cease to grow. Parallel to this drop of the rate of total population growth, the rate of urban growth is slowing down, but the urban population is still relatively increasing.

Though these last decades have been marked by many achievements in the population and health field, progress was far from even and much remain to be done as regards Reproductive Health and gender equity and equality; all the more so because regional disparities are still acute.

For instance, according to the 1998 Demographic and Health Survey, one third of all live births resulted from unplanned and unwanted pregnancies, 13.6% of them ended by induced abortions. One out of four married women still uses a traditional method of contraception. One out of three does not receive ante-natal care. Differences according to the level of education, region and place of residence are important. Furthermore, the quality of Reproductive services should be improved, the provision of some services expanded (male and female reproductive cancers screening, STDs, HIV/AIDS, infertility etc.) the delivery of services to some neglected groups (Adolescents, Male, Elderly) further explored.

The impact of the UNFPA assisted program as part of the efforts of the Turkish Government and the civil sector are reflected in the following table:
Table V.8.3.1 Some indicators of Population Dynamics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>1998</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>56.5 million</td>
<td>62.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual population growth rate</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>1.5% (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fertility rate</td>
<td>2.7 (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>2.6 (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality Rate</td>
<td>52.6 (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>42.7 (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U5 Mortality Rate</td>
<td>60.9 (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>52.1 (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal Mortality Rate</td>
<td>132 per 100,000 (1983)</td>
<td>54 per 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>63 years (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>67 years (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>68 years (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>72 years (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraceptive Prevalence Rates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modern methods</td>
<td>34.5% (DHS 1993)</td>
<td>37.7% (DHS 1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traditional methods</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total methods</td>
<td>62.6%</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the implementation of ICPD PoA a number of constraints have been experienced in the field of population and development activities in Turkey. Policies do not always yet reflect human rights approaches both in terms of RH and gender equality and the budgetary allocations for PHC services are limited; efforts for the integration of RH into primary health and referral services are not always bearing fruit as well as institutionalization and standardization efforts. Interregional disparities in the provision of health services and counseling and RH services tailored to the needs of adolescents are lacking. The activities to involve men in RH should be expanded. The dissemination of survey results is sometimes limited.

A number of important lessons can also be drawn from the activities supported by UNFPA and other donors and government programs.

Effective use of national expertise and experience is important, while NGOs/Foundations are able to adopt new approaches to address sensitive/emerging issues. However, some successful programs have not been expanded or discontinued (eg, social marketing, RH through trade unions) before reaching full impact.

The formulation of the comprehensive ‘National Strategies for Women’s Health and Family Planning’ is praiseworthy. However, many proposed strategies are yet to be implemented, others need time to mature before producing expected changes. The National Strategies should be up-dated along with a plan of action identifying precisely the priorities at the implementation level.

Unmet needs (for antenatal care, safe delivery, contraception, menstrual regulation (MR), other RH services) remain significant in some geographical regions or socio-economic groups. The revised National Strategies should pay particular attention to meeting these needs.

Strengthening the management of RH services and the quality of services delivery through supervision and service providers’ pre-service and in-service training are necessary. Initiation of the decentralization process by the Ministry produced positive results: the number of trained RH service providers more than doubled in some provinces. This calls for the establishment of a Provincial Training Team in each province.

The establishment of a core central team of trainers to support the training program at the central level, to monitor and coordinate, should be considered. Number of training centers, particularly MCH/FP centers, should be increased. Developing service providers counseling skills is critical for the improvement of the quality of services.
Strengthening the collaboration among the MOH Directorates, particularly Primary Health Care, Curative Services Medicine, Training and MCH/FP Directorates, under the MCH/FP Directorate coordination have to receive due emphasis. Proper coordination with the Social Security Agency (SSK), NGOs, Private Sector and the Army Medical Service, should also be ensured.

Increasing the use of modern contraceptive methods and re-balancing the current unsatisfactory method mix depends on men’s change of behavior. Advocacy programs to target men have to be specifically devised.

Shift to modern contraceptive methods depends also on adolescents’ attitudes and preferences. RH information should be expended, particularly within the 8 years compulsory education that includes years of puberty and early adolescence.

NGOs should continue to complement the government efforts in experimenting pilot approaches in sensitive domains (adolescent reproductive health (ARH), domestic violence etc.) and difficult settings (South Eastern regions, earthquakes hit provinces, zones of rapid migration etc.).

The enabling environment created for the implementation of ICPD and Beijing Conferences PoA has been revived after the active participation of the national delegations at ICPD+5 and Beijing+5. Recommendations are made to consider further ARH, Sexual Health, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), HIV/AIDS, and RH needs of the elderly. It is also suggested that advocacy, social mobilization and fund-raising strategies involving top-ranking officials, parliamentarians, CSOs, private sector and the public at large be enhanced.

In line with its effort towards decentralization, the MCH/FP Directorate is committed to developing an evaluation and monitoring plan. UNFPA should contribute to support such effort.

To monitor the progress in the implementation of the UN Conferences PoA, in particular ICPD, Beijing and the Children’s Summit, periodic accurate data have to be available. UNFPA should ensure Donors’ support to collect necessary data, in particular through the Demographic & Health Survey (DHS), to develop a data base, gathering data comparable based on international definitions, friendly accessible through e-technology to all users.

Important demographic, health and socio-economic developments are not always properly perceived. Awareness has to be created on the consequences of aging, HIV/AIDS, migration/urbanization, gender gaps, environment, income distribution disparities and poverty to facilitate the design of appropriate strategies and policies.

For several years ‘South-South cooperation’ has been fruitfully established between reputable national institutions and CIS, Balkan States and Middle East countries. This should be strengthened. In that regard UNFPA already initiated and supports inter-regional Center of Excellence – International Training Center in Reproductive Health and Population and Development program and developed training workshop on RH in crisis situation with the International Children Center (ICC).
5.9 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS

The tripartite International Labour Conference has adopted a total number of 182 Conventions and 189 Recommendations, which set international standards in the world of work including certain basic human rights.

5.9.1 General Principles

The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which was adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1998, marks a renewed universal commitment to respect, promote and realize principles inherent in the following seven core labor standards.

**Forced Labour Convention (1930)**
Requires the suppression of forced or compulsory labour in all its forms. Certain exceptions are permitted, such as military service, convict labour properly supervised, emergencies such as wars, fires, earthquakes.

**Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention (1948)**
Establishes the right of all workers and employers to form and join organizations of their own choosing without prior authorization, and lays down a series of guarantees for the free functioning of organizations without interference by the public authorities.

**Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention (1949)**
Provides for protection against anti-union discrimination, for protection of workers' and employers' organizations against acts of interference by each other, and for measures to promote collective bargaining.

**Equal Remuneration Convention (1951)**
Calls for equal pay and benefits for men and women for work of equal value.

**Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (1957)**
Prohibits the use of any form of forced or compulsory labour as a means of political coercion or education, punishment for the expression of political or ideological views, workforce mobilization, labour discipline, punishment for participation in strikes, or discrimination.

**Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (1958)**
Calls for a national policy to eliminate discrimination in access to employment, training and working conditions, on grounds of race, color, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin and to promote equality of opportunity and treatment.

**Minimum Age Convention (1973)**
Aims at the abolition of child labour, stipulating that the minimum age for admission to employment shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling.

The eighth key Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, adopted in 1999, aims at elimination of child slavery, forced labour, trafficking, debt bondage, serfdom, prostitution, pornography and various forms of hazardous and exploitative work.

5.9.2 Achievement in National Commitment

The Government of Turkey has signed and ratified all the key ILO Conventions pertaining to basic human rights covered by the Declaration. Turkey is a part of the ILO IPEC program since 1992. This has encouraged the Government of Turkey to extend the compulsory
education to eight years and ratify the Convention no. 138 on minimum age in 1998. The ratification by the Government of Turkey of the Convention no. 138 is a sign of the commitment of the Government of Turkey to abolish child labour.

The total number of Conventions ratified to date is 38. Ratification process has started in connection with 14 conventions on Seafarers’ issues.

The Government of Turkey has serious intention to ratify the eighth core convention no 182 on the worst forms of child labour. Since its adoption, ILO is concentrating its efforts for the promotion of this new tool to combat child labour, in Turkey. Currently the issue is on the agenda of the Parliament.

Other Conventions that should be highlighted within the context of advancements at the national level are two below indicated standards:

1. **Convention no. 144** on Tripartite Consultation, ratified by Turkey in 1993. The ratification is of particular importance in view of the targeted social dialog amongst the social partners. As a result of the recent efforts of the ILO such as bringing the social partners including the main civil society organizations, to promote social dialog, a mutual agreement has been reached for establishment of the Economic and Social Council to lead to a reconciliation mechanism amongst the social partners in line with the EU criteria. The draft bill prepared on this issue has been presented to the Board of Ministers.

2. **Convention no. 102**, concerning the minimum standards of social security. The adoption of the unemployment bill in Turkey which became effective on 1 June 2000 brought the national legislation in line with this Convention which was ratified by the Government of Turkey in 1975.

### 5.9.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

Despite the above mentioned advances in the ratification of the core Conventions, serious problems still remain in achieving the full application of some of these Conventions:

Convention no: 98: Any union that does not have 10% or more of the workers in any branch of activity registered by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security cannot represent the interest of the workers in this branch as per the national law on collective bargaining, strikes and lock-outs. This issue has been subject to discussion at the 88th session of the International Labour Conference of June 2000. The amendment to this legislation regarding the 10% threshold is being discussed by the concerned parties.

**Recommendations:**

- National legislation concerning public servants has to be adjusted to the norm in Convention no: 87.
- In line with the Convention no: 138, children under age 15, subject to compulsory education should eventually be withdrawn from work.
- In addition to the key Conventions related issues, problem is faced in the full application of the Convention no. 158 on Termination of Employment (1982). In spite of its ratification in 1994, the national legislation has to be amended for conformity with this Convention.
5.10 HEALTH for All in the 21st CENTURY

The Republic of Turkey, together with all Member States of the European Regional Office of the World Health Organization, signed in May 1998 a World Health Declaration adopting a European Health Policy named Health for All in the 21st Century. This policy is a continuation of the 1977 Alma-Ata Declaration, which aimed ‘the attainment by all people of the world, by the year 2000, of a level of health that would have permitted them to lead a socially and economically productive life’. It thus provided guidance to countries for the adoption of strategies leading to the achievement of better health.

5.10.1 General Principles

All participating states have committed themselves to providing a full health potential for every inhabitant of the country by promoting and protecting the health of people throughout all the stages of their lives and reducing the incidence of diseases and injuries and alleviating the suffering they cause. Equity in health and solidarity between countries, between groups of people within countries and in between genders constitute the basic ethical foundation of the Health for All in the 21st Century policy.

A strategic plan of action has been devised to reach the ultimate goal:

- The adoption of multi-sectoral strategies calling for the participation of all sectors of the society to solve the health problems affecting the population of the country. Such strategies should take into consideration all economic, scientific, social, political, and cultural factors, including the gender perspective;
- The adoption of ‘health outcome oriented’ programs of investments for health development works as well as for clinical care;
- The establishment of integrated family- and community-oriented primary health care services supported by an efficient network of health establishments and laboratory services;
- The introduction and implementation of a participatory approach that will join and get involved into health actions all members of the society, starting from home, school, the work place, the community, reaching the whole country at private or governmental level.

5.10.2 Achievements in National Commitment

Present Health Infrastructure

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is the national institution responsible for the health of the Turkish citizens.

The Ministry uses also the services of two consultative bodies: the Board of Inspectors and the High Council on Health. Health Care services are delivered through a network of state hospitals, health centers and health posts.

Preventing and Controlling Diseases and Injuries

Communicable Diseases

The MOH has been engaged in immunization campaigns since the early 1930’s against vaccine preventable diseases like polio, BCG, DPT, measles and others. Turkey joined the UN Program named ‘Expanded Program of Immunization’ in 1981 and has had a relative success in controlling some of the diseases. The country has also participated in the MECACAR Operation, a program aiming to eradicate polio by the year 2000 in Middle East countries, Central Asia and Caucasian countries.
With the introduction of HIV infections in the country, the subject of sexually transmitted diseases has experienced an expansion in terms of personnel and of activities. The MOH, in collaboration with governmental and NGOs is conducting a program to prevent the spread of HIV and to reduce the social and economic impact of AIDS.

NGO activities have been multi-sectoral in the HIV/AIDS arena, covering both the health care and socio-economic and cultural dimensions. The National AIDS Commission has been established to facilitate the co-operation between the Ministry of Health, NGOs and the United Nations Agencies co-operating with the Government in the control of AIDS.

*Non-communicable Diseases*

Cancer Control is a program that, like Tuberculosis, enjoys some formal of administrative autonomy. It has existed for many decades and has as main objectives the reduction of mortality due to cancer, the reduction of the incidence through effective prevention, and the provision of appropriate treatment and rehabilitation to patients.

The National Diabetes Program started in 1994. Surveys have been made to find out the magnitude of the problem at national level. A large network of diabetes centers has been established covering the country and this network is continually expanding according to the resources made available.

The MOH is aiming to have hypertension and other circulatory diseases under control by the year 2000. It is considered to be one of the major risk factors in the country. The active participation of the PHC services in this permits it to reach a large portion of the country. The strategy of the control program is based on education of the general population, especially of vulnerable groups at high risk and education of the personnel in charge of the control program.

The MOH recognizing the importance of mental health diseases has deployed considerable efforts to integrate the concept of mental health as an important health factor that has to receive attention from all other departments of the Ministry. Hospital and health center personnel, as well as PHC workers have been trained in the prevention, diagnosis and rehabilitation techniques of neurological disorders.

With regard to nutrition, the Food Department of the MOH deals with food safety and nutrition. In order to protect the population against food contamination, quality control inspection is carried out at places where food is produced or sold. Advice to the population on healthy nutritional habits is given through the network of hospitals, health centers and health posts. Special emphasis is given to vulnerable groups such as children and pregnant mothers.

In order to find solutions to health problems at urban level, Turkey is trying to join the WHO International Network of Healthy Cities Project.

### 5.10.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

As detailed above, the national programs in health services delivery have registered notable progress and achievements in the past decades, while new efforts are clearly needed to expand the servicing base of the Ministry of Health. The Social Security Reform Bill, including provisions for universal social security and health insurance coverage, is expected to increase access to health services by the whole the population. However, as successive analyses in this document have pointed out, legislative changes are not in themselves sufficient to affect real changes on the lives and life quality of citizens, and especially vulnerable groups.
In this analysis, several outstanding concerns are relevant to HEALTH21 follow up and to improving the general standard of living of the Turkish population and these are presented with general recommendations.

**National Health Policy**

The present national health care policy is by and large characterized as having a curative orientation. A major challenge to overcome is to direct the national health care policy towards preventive health care services, with appropriate budgetary support and a variety of human resources enough in quantity and in quality, rather than the current concentration on specialized doctors. A sound preventive health care system relies less on specialized doctors than on health professionals, such as: public health and family doctors, general practitioners, parasitologists, bacteriologists, entomologists, nutritionists, laboratory technicians, nurses, midwives, health educators and environmental health staff.

It is of utmost importance to build environmental health care concerns into the national preventive health care policy. The uncontrolled urbanization in recent years, coupled with high rates of rural to urban migration has led to unsafe or inadequately controlled construction practices, while urban infrastructure development has not been commensurate with urban population growth. An increased number of potentially unhygienic manufacturing entities in urban areas has a negative impact on public health and safety.

With regard to the development of human resources for health, the official classification of health personnel should be revised recognizing the relevance of all pertinent health related professions. At professional level, the plans prepared and implemented by the Higher Council of Education (YOK) take into consideration the country future needs of health professional staff. However, at sub-professional level, a comprehensive and effective recruitment and training policy has to be developed. This should be put into practice as soon as possible.

**Improving Access to Basic Health Care Services**

Health centers are regulated by Law 224, which is essentially very progressive in nature, calling for each health center to be managed by a village council of health centers and staffed by a medical doctor and a midwife or more depending on the population of the area serviced.

In line with the recommendations presented above in respect to the national health care policy, it is imperative that the health centers resume the primary health care role they are given by the law. Impediments to this concern human resources as well as the lack of other facilities such as medical supplies and transportation.

In improving access of vulnerable groups, including the very poor, to basic health services, the universal social security coverage scheme will make a contribution. However, the facilities and the services must first be strengthened with appropriate budgetary and human resources allocations in line with a national health policy oriented towards both, preventive and health care services.

**Decentralization and Municipal Health Care Responsibilities**

While great deal of responsibility and autonomy is deferred to municipal authorities in areas related to public health, many municipalities do not posses the adequate capacity to develop and implement these health programs. Capacity building projects must be made available to municipalities in this regard.

Environmental health policies are decided by the central Government, while the provision of adequate financial and human resources should accompany delegated authority to the municipal level. To deal with this challenge, the MOH should consider the establishment of an authoritative and well-funded Department of Environment and Health Services, at the level of General Directorate.
With decentralization and privatization, control of vectors is vested under municipal authorities, but many of them have little knowledge of appropriate methods of control and thus private companies are taking advantage of this situation to sell pesticides and spraying equipment sometimes inappropriate to local conditions. There is clear need for the GoT to integrate the relevant central level vector control responsibilities of MOH with those at municipal levels.

Demographic Changes and Challenges
Turkey has a young population, yet, with increases in life expectancy registered in the past decade, it will also have to reckon with the needs of an aging population. For the young, the national health policy must take note of the recreational and physical development needs through sports facilities and promoting youth associations.

The Social Security Reform process will also have to take adequate measures to respond to the varied health care needs of the retired and elderly population. Finally, promotion of recreational facilities and programs catering to the entire age ranges and based at community levels will have positive impacts on promotion of healthy lifestyles, including a healthy diet, sportive life, avoidance of alcohol and smoking and social solidarity.

Health in the Workplace
With growing enterprises in the informal and non-registered economies, abidance with the relevant conventions governing safety in the work place has been an issue of concern both to the labor force affected and to the GoT. Improved workplace inspections and more stringent enforcement of workplace safety regulations will add to general improvements in the health situation of the population.

The GoT must also foresee, in its labor regulations, the 'more advanced' problems, which will be enjoined to technological advancement. In an immediate future, the work force of Turkey, both, employee and employer alike will need to consider issues such as ergonomics, mental stress and productivity, mental health, hygiene.

Road and Domestic Accidents
Alcohol abuse is the major factor leading to the production of violent behavior and accidents, particularly traffic accidents. Violence at home, as mentioned in previous chapters, is most of the time unreported, as well as abuses on children, the elderly or disable people.

National authorities dealing with accidents and injuries are mainly concerned with the provision of ‘emergency care services’ once the accident has occurred, instead of developing programs aiming at preventing the occurrence of accidents. Such a program will require the participation of all sectors of the Turkish society in massive educational programs.

Health Information
The introduction of the proposed health reform implies a global revision of the present information system. This revision is already on its way and it aims at developing two major components. The first one will make available information on the health status of the population as well as on identified health risks. The second component refers to the monitoring and rationalization of the resources of the Ministry of Health.

However, even if at the macro level, the introduction of the above mentioned information system will undoubtedly permit a better management of the Ministry of Health resources, at the micro level, there is still a need for a similar total revision and reform of the present information system used in health establishments, including state hospitals. New forms, new filing system and data processing using a computerized network is needed.
5.11 UN CONVENTIONS AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

Turkey is party to all the three UN Conventions Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances which are mainly based on limiting exclusively to medical and scientific purposes the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution of, trade in, use and possession of drugs.

5.11.1 General Principles

5.11.1.1 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, was adopted following a conference that replaced with a single instrument the existing multilateral treaties in the field. This convention reduces the number of international treaty organs exclusively concerned with control of narcotic drugs, and makes provisions for the control of the production of raw materials of narcotic drugs. This Convention was amended by the 1972 Protocol.

Under this Convention the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) are recognized as the International Control Organs.

The Governments party to the Convention should report annually to the Secretary-General on to follow-up to this Convention. They should also keep the INCB informed, inter alia on the quantities, movements, cultivation, production etc. of drugs and other substances concerned by this convention.

The Government parties should ensure that adequate measures are taken at the national level to prevent and repress any illicit act foreseen by the convention. The convention also foresees preventive, rehabilitation and other measures related to the abuse of drugs.

5.11.1.2 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971

The Parties recognize that the use of psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes is indispensable and that their availability for such purposes should not be unduly restricted. Effective measures against the abuse of such substances require coordination and universal action.

The governments should take all practicable measures for the prevention of abuse of psychotropic substances and for the early identification, treatment, education, after-care, rehabilitation and social integration of the persons involved. They should also make arrangements at the national level for the co-ordination of preventive and repressive action against the illicit traffic. At the international level, governments should ensure international co-operation between the appropriate agencies in an expeditious manner.

5.11.1.3 Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988

This Convention considers various aspects of the drug problem as a whole and in particular those not envisaged in existing international instruments. It foresees measures to establish as criminal offenses the production, manufacture, extraction, preparation, offering, distribution, sale, delivery on any terms etc. of any narcotic drugs or any psychotropic substance for
commercial purposes or personal consumption. These offenses are deemed to be included as extraditable offenses.

The convention also covers the confiscation of property derived from offenses and promotes the largest possible level of cooperation between the governments concerned. It also addresses the need to support developing countries in their efforts against drug traffic and production.

Chart V.11.1.1  Seizure of controlled drugs

5.11.2 Achievements in National Implementation

The Turkish Government has made serious attempts and changes in the administrative and legislative sectors in order to avail the application of the provisions set forth in the three Conventions related to drugs.

5.11.2.1 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

In accordance with the article 17 of the Convention the Turkish government has identified the agencies that have to apply the provisions of this Convention. Under the coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, these agencies are the Directorate General of Security, Gendarmerie General Command and the Coast Guard Command under the Ministry of Interior. Also included are the Directorate General of Pharmaceuticals and AMATEM (Alcoholic and Drug Addiction Treatment Center) of the Ministry of Health, the Soil Products Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs; the Family Research Center of the Ministry of State, as well as the Undersecretariat of Customs and DAREM of the Istanbul University.

The Soil Production Office established in 1938 is to enforce the cultivation, control and production of narcotic substances. The government’s efforts have been commendable as the controlled production of drugs has prevented the diversion of licit production to illicit channels.

The GoT has signed bilateral agreements with forty-eight countries in order to promote international cooperation and has been participating in the works of the relevant international organizations, namely UNDCP, INCB, CND, Sub-commission, HONLEA, the Pompidou Group, INTERPOL, ECO, BSEC, FATF, SECI, JICA and PFI.

5.11.2.2 Convention on Psychotropic Substances

The international trade of narcotic and psychotropic substances and chemicals is permitted under special licenses issued by the Ministry of Health.

The government keeps records on the manufacturers, wholesale distributors, exporters, importers of such substances and all products and substances concerned. Prescriptions are mandatory for the procurement of substances for medical treatment.

5.11.2.3 Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988

On 1st August 1999, the Turkish authorities enacted a law (no: 4412), which already covers the provisions of the draft "UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime", currently under elaboration.
The law enforcement agencies have established computerized networks to enable the systematic exchange of information, documentation and data at the national level. At the international level, existing bilateral agreements enable the respective governments to cooperate on international investigations. Moreover, six Drug Liaison Officers (DLOs) have been appointed in European capitals, as required by article 9 (e).

In line with article 9(2) educational institutes, providing training to their own staff and to the staff of other law enforcement agencies, have been established. Furthermore, training is being provided to law enforcement personnel from countries members of inter alia ECO, SECI and BSEC. A law enforcement academy (TADOC) has been established in co-operation with UNDCP to provide training to law enforcement officials of the countries belonging to the Black Sea and the Balkan regions, the CIS and the Middle East. In the national context, it is envisaged that training for Turkish officials on money laundering, drug trafficking and organized crime will be provided by international experts.

In accordance with article 11(3), in 1996, the Turkish government passed a law on money laundering and narcotic drugs. This law, followed by several preventive regulations, introduced controlled deliveries into the legislation and allowed the Ministry of Finance to establish a specialized Department responsible for the investigation of financial crimes. Furthermore, the Turkish government has established a tight control of the movement of substance across its borders.

5.11.3 Challenges, Conclusions and Recommendations

The GoT has proven its commitment to fully implement the three conventions it has ratified. While law and order measures are strengthened, the cultivation of poppy under legal control has been very successful as recognized by the INCB. However, poppy seeds used in Turkey need to be improved in order to contain 1% of opium.

The GoT has yet to ratify the 1972 Protocol that amends the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs. Moreover, while relevant legislation has been enacted in most cases, judges, prosecutors and other relevant law enforcement officers require adequate training and familiarization with the concerned instruments.

Law enforcement agencies, in spite of the increasing level of expertise and experience they have accumulated, require a significant improvement of their technical equipment. Despite the fact that about US $ 30 million are earmarked every year to activities foreseen and implied by the three conventions, the GoT resources alone are not sufficient to cope with an increasingly sophisticated criminality.

While there is no indication that drug abuse is a problem of major proportion, the threat remains and increases. The geographic location of Turkey and the ever increasing movement of people and goods imply that the risks are of importance and that preventive and preparedness measures are a must.

Chart V.11.3.1 Number of deaths due to drug consumption
CONCLUSION
CONCLUSION

The CCA has identified the key development challenges and opportunities facing Turkey by analyzing the progress the country has made towards implementing the provisions of eighteen UN Conventions and through its participation in conferences and summits.

The report reveals that the Government of Turkey is committed to implementing the UN Conventions to which it has been party since the UN was established. The report shows that there have been considerable legislative undertakings in order to bring Turkey in line with these Conventions. In many cases, relevant national institutions have established appropriate structures to, *inter alia*, implement these laws, set targets and draw up relevant national plans.

However, the report highlights some constraints in the implementation of the Conventions. The centralization of decision making, lack of relevant data, the insufficient level of involvement of private and voluntary sectors and inadequate coordination between government agencies, appear to be the most commonplace and anticipated barriers.

The CCA process has identified areas in which the UN system has a comparative advantage and leverage, and thus can work closely with the national entities concerned, towards consolidating the implementation of the relevant UN Conventions. The areas identified include embedded issues relevant to the UN agencies’ mandate and specific points of intervention within the system.

The priority areas identified have been grouped under four headings:

**1. PROMOTING GOVERNANCE and PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT**

Much of the legislative and judicial framework is in place. The legislative environment has been established for a wide spectrum of issues addressing governance as well as decentralization, local administrations and participatory development (e.g., children and women’s rights, health, education and drugs). However, some legislative provisions relating for example to child and birth registration, as well as discriminatory provisions in the Civil and Penal Codes with respect to women, human rights, money laundering or confiscation of assets, still need amendments. Moreover, the legislative framework remains to be established for areas that have so far been left behind, such as housing and urbanization and the prevention of land degradation and devastation.

The legislative framework has been complemented with tools such as National Plans of Action. In many cases, the national authorities have formulated such plans and put them into practice. However, there are still areas that require a relevant Plan of Action, amongst which are elimination of child labor, disaster management and food and nutrition. Others, such as the National Plan of Action for the Environment and the National Report and Plan of Action for Habitat II have been formulated, but as yet not implemented.

An analysis of the country’s situation requires comprehensive and detailed data. Data is absent or unreliable in areas concerning birth registration, maternal mortality rates and perinatal mortality, nutrition, urban poverty, environment and health. Data available is also insufficient in areas concerning disability and drug abuse and the employment of women in economic and agricultural sectors. Reliable data on varying forms of violence against women and girls, both domestic and tradition bound, need to be more systematically collected. HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases are also areas that require utmost attention. In
the prevailing circumstances, it is difficult to undertake an accurate analysis of the situation in these and other important areas.

In the light of information available however, a number of areas where the present situation of the country warrants attention have been identified. The issues specified below encompass the priorities identified by the UN system and the expertise of its member agencies.

Training and research needs still exist. Training in new technologies and techniques is mainly needed in the agricultural and health sectors. Research capacities need to be improved to enable surveys and research to be carried out in these fields. Research is also currently needed in the field of diseases linked with nutritional deficiencies.

In order to enhance participatory development, there is need to strengthen the social communication system, the know-how and the management capacity of local authorities and the role of non-governmental voluntary institutions. Moreover, community volunteers should be part of the development process. The full participation of these and other civil organizations will ultimately lead to people's empowerment and the creation of demand for better services. Public awareness needs to be raised on issues such as combating poverty – both urban and rural –, protecting the environment, ensuring the proper handling of natural resources and the management of natural disasters. The focus is also on nutrition, child development, aging, drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, migration, domestic violence and gender gaps.

Alongside public awareness, a number of recommendations can be made to address developmental needs in these areas.

In the area of urbanization, infrastructure development has fallen short of urban population growth and needs attention. The 1999 earthquakes have also brought back to light the need to factor natural disasters in urban settlement planning.

The promotion of poverty alleviation and sustainable human development should give adequate consideration to the seven million forest villagers and three million vulnerable small farmers.

Agro-industries need to be encouraged and international quality standards for agricultural commodities need to be adopted. In this context, environmentally friendly attitudes and acquiring technical knowledge should be promoted, while appropriate legal measures are adopted and enforced.

The utilization, management and conservation of natural resources and protection of biodiversity need to be harmonized and made sustainable. Measures and practices that ensure minimal adverse environmental impact need to be adopted. Such measures should include the reduction of subsidies for industrial, agricultural and power generation activities with adverse environmental effects. An environmental impact assessment of small and medium enterprises (SME) needs to be carried out and relevant action taken.

Adopting an integrated approach to survival and development is necessary. This is especially relevant in the framework of early childhood care for survival, growth and psychosocial development. Issues related to child protection from abuse and exploitation should be more effectively handled. Inefficiencies in institutions dealing with children and adolescents, such as childcare centers, juvenile courts and detention centers need to be addressed. Child labor below the age of 15 and its worst manifestation between the ages of 15 and 18 should be eliminated.

Reproductive health services for men and women need to be improved and expanded. Areas where improvement is needed include family planning, adolescent reproductive health, cancer screening, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, infertility, etc.
Abuse of alcohol is also a serious problem in the country and may instigate drug addiction. It is a major cause of violent behavior and domestic violence. Also, traffic accidents, which are at alarming levels, are mainly caused by the abuse of alcohol.

2. REDUCTION of SOCIO-ECONOMIC and REGIONAL DISPARITIES

Significant geographical and intra-urban disparities prevail and constitute one important dimension of the country’s social and economic situation. Here, too, recommendations are made to address what the UN system commonly perceives as key aspects of the situation.

The development of a sound national employment strategy is a crucial issue. Taking into account the fact that 45.1% of the work force is engaged in the agricultural sector, the most direct way of reducing disparities in the country is to develop its farming sector. This would ensure sustainable social and economic development in lagging regions. In order to enhance the productivity of rural populations and diversify agricultural patterns, occupational training programs and projects need to be promoted. A system of support and incentives for new business ventures in rural areas should be considered.

In the area of social services, the delivery mechanisms to the poor and to low-income groups need to be improved.

Educational facilities, in particular, need to be upgraded. Human resources in educational services should be further developed. New institutional mechanisms remain to be set up for enhancing the productivity, efficiency and harmonization of occupational, technical and higher education parallel to the competitive demands of the labor market. Innovative methods such as information technologies should be used in educational services and opportunities for distance learning should be enhanced.

There is also need for improvement in health services and counseling. Services for vulnerable and poor segments of the population should be strengthened and the provision of specific services for neglected groups such as adolescents, males and the elderly should be explored. There still remains a significant need for reproductive health services, including antenatal care, safe delivery, contraception and menstrual regulation, in some geographical regions or socio-economic groups. Pre-service and in-service training is necessary and the number of training centers needs to be increased. Current information systems at health establishments also require attention.

Housing and home financing projects targeting poor and low-income groups need to be implemented.

3. GENDER EQUALITY

Elimination of gender disparities at management and decision making levels and in the fields of employment, health and reproductive health and education constitute the priority issues for gender mainstreaming. This includes support for women’s enhanced participation in politics and election processes as well as in local government and administrations. Progress should be achieved in sustaining and further developing women’s entrepreneurship. Furthermore, the access of girls and illiterate female adults to income generating facilities in rural and urban areas should be increased.

The value of women’s invisible contribution to the national economy in the informal sector needs to be recognized and matched with social security schemes. Vocational training needs to be made available to women in less developed regions and to those migrating from rural
to urban areas. At the same time, extension programs and technical services should support women producers who wish to remain in their field of activity.

After graduation access to best income generating opportunities for girls also needs to be enhanced.

Women’s rights should be regarded as an integral part of human rights and should be protected and promoted through continued efforts to improve legislation relating to gender concerns and women’s reproductive rights. This effort should focus on eliminating all remaining discriminatory articles in the existing legislation; as foreseen in Turkey’s National Plan of Action for Women and reflected in the objectives of CEDAW.

4. INCREASED AWARENESS of the UN CONVENTIONS and INCREASED MOBILIZATION of HUMAN and FINANCIAL RESOURCES for THEIR IMPLEMENTATION

Activities in this field should concentrate on parliamentarians and high-level decision-makers to enable better allocation of resources to be used in development endeavors at a national level.

For example, policies and specific indicators to analyze the national education system from a gender perspective are needed. More specifically, the design and implementation of policies that are based on ensuring families’ cooperation in sending girls to school need to be prioritized. These types of policy issues are best addressed by senior officials at national level. Other examples of action can be found in many of the thematic areas previously mentioned. Among these, the following can be highlighted:

- Formulation and enforcement of policies addressing participatory and sustainable food; agriculture; fishery; forestry and rural development;
- Promotion and implementation of measures ensuring public awareness of environmental priorities as well as environmentally sensitive policies and practices;
- Advocacy programs targeting men, including high-level decision-makers;
- National health policy directed towards preventive health care services rather than curative ones;
- Promotion of reproductive health for adolescents and promotion of women’s empowerment.

These challenges have been identified with regard to the UN System’s objectives and existing capacity to support the socio-economic development of Turkey by means of ensuring further implementation of the UN Conventions. These challenges, grouped under the four areas of Promoting Governance and Participatory Development, Reduction of Socio-economic and Regional Disparities, Gender Equality, and Increased Awareness of the UN Conventions and Increased Mobilization of Human and Financial Resources for Their Implementation will constitute the basis for the elaboration of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). The UNDAF will then provide a comprehensive framework, identifying the areas of joint intervention for the UN System in Turkey.

Ankara, December 2000