STOCKTAKING SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA-

(New York, 19-21 January 2015)

Opening Statement of Turkey-19.1.2015

Honorable Co-facilitators,

Distinguished Delegates,

We are in a historic process to shape the post-2015 development agenda as a follow up to the Millennium Development Goals. A global thinking was initiated on how to transform our world to better meet human needs while protecting our planet. To frame a new agenda, Distinguished Secretary General has facilitated a multi-layered dialogue process which enabled us to hear different voices asking for transformative shifts and to receive valuable inputs from a wide range of stakeholders. We also commend the efforts of the cofacilitators to conduct this process in a participatory, open and inclusive manner.

Turkey believes that the new set of development goals should reinforce the global commitment to the unfinished MDGs and place poverty eradication and human-centered sustainable development at the center. In this vein, challenges faced by countries most in need should be given special attention while drafting post-2015 goals. However the new set of sustainable development goals should go beyond MDGs and address global challenges which require urgent action.

Distinguished delegates,

Turkey welcomes the outcome document of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as a valuable basis for intergovernmental negotiations. We are generally satisfied with the coverage of goals and targets.

Achievement of new development goals will depend on revitalized global partnership and solidarity. Strengthened cooperation among all development partners, including traditional donor countries, emerging donors and other international financial institutions is essential in mobilizing all means of implementation, including all forms of financial resources, trade, know-how, technology transfer, capacity building and development policy.

We hope that a consensus on sharing the benefits of growth will emerge from Addis Ababa Conference on development financing in July for the sake of global sustainability. All financing streams need to be optimized towards sustainable development, and coordinated for the greatest impact.

In terms of development financing, Turkey, as an emerging donor country, believes that, if used smartly, Official Development Assistance (ODA) is still a major source of external financing in many countries and a critical tool in assisting development efforts especially in the most fragile low income countries.

Non- financial means of implementation such as trade and facilitated access to technology are also important. In this vein, we believe that a Technology Bank and Science, Technology and Innovation Supporting Mechanism dedicated to the Least Developed Countries, which we propose to host in Turkey, can contribute to their sustainable development.

During our G-20 Presidency this year, development issues will have a central place in the G-20 agenda. Turkey is ready to be the voice of developing and low income countries and to reflect their development challenges in the G-20 platform. We have framed the G-20 work on the role of the private sector in development around building inclusiveness in business. Turkey also welcomes increasing dialogue between the G-20 and the UN on global economic matters and development.

Turkey, as the chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) as of 1 July 2014, acknowledges the positive impact of migration on development and believes that human mobility should be a key element of the post-2015 development agenda.

Distinguished delegates,

I would like to reiterate our commitment to contribute constructively to post 2015 agenda and its implemention and want to express my wishes for the success of this important negotiation process that will pave the way to human dignity by ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet by 2030.

I thank you.