Thank you Madam Chairperson,

Distinguished delegates, we wish to thank Chairman for his draft negotiating paper.

Turkey which has introduced the sustainable development concept into its national planning process since 1990's believes that the most important issue is to integrate the 3 pillars of SD into policies and to ensure the internal coherence among them.

Within that perspective, I would like to inform you that Turkey, in cooperation with UN and EU, is implementing a project namely Integration of Sustainable Development Principles into Sectoral policies. We will share this experience with the participants of this meeting on the 3rd of May, tomorrow evening, in the side evens session. We hope that our experience will contribute to the efforts of other countries as well.

National sustainable development strategies can play a key role towards SD. However efficient and effective implementation of the strategies, and monitoring and evaluation of the implementation are also important or even more important than the strategies. Having said this, the particular emphasis should be given to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and procedures of the SD strategies as an outcome of this meeting.

Financial and technical support for capacity building, R&D, technology cooperation and transfer, and regional cooperation play crucial role in implementing SD policies, as well as poverty reduction strategies for the developing countries. Therefore Turkey believes that these issues should be strengthening in the Chairman's text.

Thank you