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**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum**  
**Concluding Meeting**  
**Opening Session**  
**(Prague, 11-13 September, 2013)**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson

The Delegation of Turkey would like to thank the Ukrainian Chairmanship, Secretary General Zannier, Coordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities Dr. Yiğitgüden, as well as our hosts Foreign Ministry of the Czech Republic for bringing us together for the concluding meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum. We sincerely wish that concrete proposals in regard to the improvement of environmental footprint of energy related activities in the OSCE area will be raised during the Forum.

Global price fluctuations in energy sector, ever increasing demand in developing countries and transition economies, future scenarios concerning the depletion of fossil fuels which are commonly used in energy generation today and climate change caused by global warming are the components of energy security risks throughout the world. This situation has been pushing the countries to avail themselves from renewable energy sources and energy efficiency and to take decisive steps on these issues and Turkey is not an exception of these countries. In this sense, we would like to reiterate our readiness to engage constructively in considering concrete proposals provided to overcome the existing hardships within the framework of OSCE.

Based on the organization's core values, wide geographic platform for dialogue, field presences, unique body of political commitments relating to the concept of comprehensive security and a functional tool box, we believe that the OSCE can provide a new institutional pillar of support for energy security and energy related activities. OSCE's leadership in this field can facilitate international progress in addressing the prevailing situation and will provide an additional impetus for the future efforts not only in the OSCE area but in neighboring regions and beyond as well.

Mr. Chairperson,

The energy policies in Turkey are designed to utilize the limited natural resources with their environmental effects and transforming them to a clean, safe, efficient and affordable energy supply in order to facilitate the economic development of the country and the well being of the citizens. Acting in line with the responsibilities stemming from being an energy corridor and energy terminal; safe and secure transfer of energy resources to the markets is another component of our energy policy. Accordingly, we aim to make use of indigenous and renewable energy sources to the maximum amount. Besides, we desire to make good use of effective and efficient use of energy at every point. In this respect and taking into account the relevant initiatives of a number of major international institutions with greater expertise in the field of promotion of sustainable energy solutions, we fully support the enhancement of dialogue on the energy related activities and projects also within the OSCE.

Mr. Chairperson,

We wish to express our sincere belief once again that the ongoing discussions and exchange of views within the context of “Helsinki+40” can contribute to the goal of further defining the role of our organization in the field of energy security. We think that 2003 OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension lays a solid ground for cooperation and it is the ultimate document for reference in this regard.

To conclude, we hope that the discussions that will take place during the forum will present new opportunities to support the participating States’ efforts to review and promote the implementation of the OSCE commitments in the field of energy and establish the foundation for a Ministerial Council declaration on this subject. The ideas expressed by the Chairmanship in its food-for-thought paper drawing a framework for decisions for the Kyiv Ministerial Council meeting clearly depicts the picture. Furthermore, the works and the projects being developed by the Office of the Coordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities will shed light for our future undertakings on these issues. My delegation is ready to engage in a constructive and substantive dialogue on how best to improve our collective ability to deepen the existing cooperation on this issue, in ways that are in consistent with the OSCE’s comprehensive concept of security across all three dimensions.

Thank you.