

Hisarcıklioğlu elected as B-20 Turkey President



Preparations are underway as Turkey will be hosting the B-20 (Business20) Summit as a part of its G-20 term presidency next year. The B-20 Turkey Executive Council has been formed by the government, comprised of prominent members of the business

community in order to direct the efforts for the B-20 Summit, which will aid in promoting Turkey.

The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu has been elected as

the President of the B-20 Turkey Executive Council. B-20 Turkey Executive Council President will work together and cooperate with the G-20 Steering Committee throughout the preparations for the term presidency and the term presidency.

ICC in 10 topics

The foundations of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) were laid by foresighted business people down during an international conference taking place in Atlanta, USA, in 1919 with the goal of bringing balance to economy following the upheavals of WWI and rectify the negative effects of war on international commerce. In 1920, the first president elected for the organization, headquartered in Paris, was the French Trade Minister Etienne Clemental. Stating that trade is the most important factor in ensuring peace and prosperity, founders of the ICC called themselves the Merchants of Peace. Since then ICC has supported international trade,



overseas investments and cooperation, aiming to increase living standards and prosperity.

Since its founding, ICC has grown to acquire thousands of members in over 130 countries, representing the business community at the highest

level as a "Business World Organization". The organization represents private enterprise at the global platform with all of its sectors. The ICC seeks solutions to problems concerning the business world at the UN, WTO, OECD, G20 and other international arenas and generates policy.

The business world **targets Italy**



Foreign Economic Relations Council (DEİK) Turkey – Italy Business Council held the “Target Italy, Invest in Italy” meeting as a part of the “Destinazione Italia” project which aims to draw in foreign investment into Italy on April 16th, 2014, in İstanbul, held in cooperation by the Italian Embassy and the Italy Investment Agency

Invitalia. Attending the meeting were TOBB/DEİK President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu, DEİK Turkish – Italian Business Council President Zeynep Bodur Okyay and Italy’s Ambassador to Ankara Gianpaolo Scarante as well as many Turkish and Italian businesspeople.

During his speech at the meeting, TOBB/DEİK President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu said, “The lifting of the transportation quota and mutual deregulation of transportation will render the economic relations between us very strong.”



YOİKK 2014-2015 Action Plans announced to the public

The Coordination Council for the Improvement of Investment Environment in Turkey (YOİKK aims to rationalize the regulations on investments in Turkey, develop policies by determining the necessary arrangements that will enhance the competitiveness of the investment environment, generate solutions to the administrative barriers encountered by the domestic and international investors in all phases of the investment process including the operating period.

The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) is a member of YOİKK which was established in accordance to a Ministerial Council decision made on December 11th, 2011. All public institutions and the private sector (TOBB, TÜSİAD, TİM, YASED) are represented on the YOİKK platform.

YOİKK’s most recent action plans, the first of which was formed in 2007, were announced to the public during a meeting on July 3rd 2014 presided by Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekçi. TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu said, “If we are to achieve our 2023 goals we must enact YOİKK’s action plans with all due haste.”

Crossroads of life-long alumni status: **TOBB ETÜ MED**



The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey University of Economics and Technology Alumni Association (TOBB ETÜ MED) was established in 2008 yılında kuruldu. Established in order to keep the TOBB ETÜ community together and to enable the alumni to continue their relationships with the university, TOBB ETÜ MED’s Board of Directors is comprised of 5 alumni. TOBB ETÜ School of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business 2008

graduate Burak Tolga Terzi is the current President of the TOBB ETÜ MED Board of Directors.

Speaking in regards to TOBB ETÜ MED’s aim, activities and future goals Terzi said, “The goal of our activities is to contribute to the social, cultural, sportive, occupational and scientific aspects of the lives of our members as well as increasing solidarity among them, create job opportunities - acting as a bridge between the students, alumni and the university.”

İSO 500 list announced, TÜPRAŞ still no. 1 in Turkey



The latest iteration of the study conducted by the İstanbul Chamber of Industry (İSO) every year for the last 46 years to determine the 500 largest industry establishments in Turkey was announced to the public in June 23rd, 2014. According to the study acting as a mirror for Turkey's economy, Turkey Petroleum Refineries Inc. (TÜPRAŞ) with its 39.7 billion TRY in production sales, is in the first place among 500 large industry establishments. Production sales of the 500 largest

industry establishments increased by 8.3%, reaching 383 billion TRY while 0.7% drop in exports brought the volume back to 63.3 billion USD.

İSO Board Chairman Erdal Bahçivan, announcing the results of the study with Vice Chairs Adnan Dalgakıran and İrfan Özhamaratlı, stated that according to the study, the 500 largest industry establishments of Turkey had increased net sales by 7.4% in regards to 2014, reaching 454.99 billion TRY.



EU-Turkey Customs Union has increased trade but needs reinforcement

Financed by the European Commission and prepared by the World Bank experts, the EU – Turkey Customs Union Assessment Report, the results of the Customs Union since the time was it was started in almost the 20 year span of time since it had gone into effect are reviewed. According to the report a Free Trade Agreement would decrease EU's Turkey exports by 7.2% and Turkey's EU exports by 4.2%. Additionally, despite the fact that bilateral trade has increased, due to the changes in global economics the Customs Union must address new issues. In this regard, it is necessary to extend trade regulations which cover most industrial products specific to the Customs Union to agriculture and service industries as well as making parallel negotiations to FTAs with third countries official.

Hisarcıkloğlu urges EU and Customs Union to “prevent unfair competition”

Attending the announcement meeting of the Turkey-EU Customs Union Assessment Report in İstanbul were TOBB President and Eurochambres Vice President M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu, EU Turkey Delegation Vice Representative Bela Szambodi, World Bank Turkey Director Martin Raiser, Economy Ministry

EU General Director Murat Yapıcı and many representatives of the business world.

Giving the opening speech of the meeting TOBB President and Eurochambres Vice President M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu stated that the Customs Union of Turkey and the EU was founded 18 years ago, in 1996, the scope of which was agreed upon

via a Partnership Council decision and went on:

“The Customs Union is a phase of Turkey – EU partnership relationship. It is the end of the transitional process as defined in the Ankara Agreement in regards to full membership. Unfortunately this ‘end’ has failed to end, and the Customs Union, designed to be just one phase, has lasted almost 20 years.”

