

## TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu: A lot needs to be done before we weather this storm

**W**e visited Indonesia with the Islam Trade – Industry – Agriculture Chamber to attend a meeting and were surprised to see how they overtook Turkey as a manufacturing industry production center, a fact proven with numbers. Between 1970 and 2016, the share of the developed companies in the total manufacturing industry production decreased in general. However, the share of some Asian countries in this production increased. This situation demonstrates how global manufacturing shifted towards the East.

In 1970s, manufacturing industry accounted for only 0.5 percent of the industrial production in Turkey. Today, it is above 1 percent. Korea, on the other hand, increased this percentage from 0.5 to 3, becoming a true center of global manufacturing industry.

It is no time to respite. A lot needs to be done to weather this storm. The general framework of the New Economic Plan is realistic. Accordingly, Turkey will grow less than its long-term average, whereas inflation and unemployment rates will be above long-term averages in the next three years. With this plan, it is intended that the economy will slow down and reach a state of balance smoothly.



## Turkey's local products meet their consumers

**L**aunched in 2010 with the slogan "Which Product is Your Region Famous For?", YÖREX Regional Products Fair, supported by the Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) and led by Antalya Commodity Exchange, attracted a great deal of attention again this year.

485 companies and organizations from 72 provinces and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the fair,

which was held at Antalya ANFAŞ Expo Center. More than 200 thousand visitors attended the event which lasted for 5 days and where multitudes of regional products were exhibited.

In his opening speech, TOBB President Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu said they attached great importance to YÖREX and supported it since the beginning. He added, "Regional flavors from all provinces which carry geo-

graphical signs are exhibited here. YÖREX enables products with geographical signs to meet with their buyers both from Turkey and abroad. Moreover, YÖREX is a symbol of unity and solidarity."

TOBB President Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu thanked Ali Çandır, the President of Antalya Commodity Exchange and the father of the YÖREX idea, and congratulated him for this extraordinary achievement.

## "We have to kiss the hands of those who work, those who open new workplaces"



**M**. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) participated in the opening ceremony of Kütahya Seramik's 225th store. Speaking at the ceremony TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu expressed his happiness to be at the opening of a workplace, and continued, "We have to kiss the hands of those who work. We have to kiss the

hands of those who open new workplaces. We have to kiss hands of those who provide employment even for person. You cannot be enemies with these people. If someone employs one person and earns an extra one lira and pays taxes, we should be happy. That is the richness of this country. Turkey

does not have any oil, natural gas. But God bestowed us entrepreneurial spirit".

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu congratulated Mehmet Bal, the store owner and told that they have been neighbors at work with Mehmet Bal and his siblings since 1982.

## "Do more business"



**M**. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) got together with the participants of the Speaking Entrepreneurs Program and told that he believed in the program and emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship. 50 business people from 20 countries participated in

the program which will be held in Ankara, Edirne, Tekirdağ and Istanbul.

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu expressed his happiness to meet with the committee of Turkish speaking business people and pointed out to the fact that he could travel speaking Turkish within a big area stretching from Atlantic Ocean to Pacific Ocean.

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu told, "Do more business. Loss cannot be separated from profit. Don't be afraid because you have lost, will lose money. Try again, do again. This is how you achieve wealth". TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu stressed that only with trade and production wealth can be achieved.





## Manisa's goal is Industry 4.0 and leadership in national defense

**M**anisa, the city of shahzadahs (Ottoman princes), has a continuous strategic significance, and is one of those rare cities rich in every aspect spanning economic volume grown so far through agriculture and industry; accumulated historical value; and cultural diversity the city sustains.

Manisa Chamber of Commerce and Industry Board Chairman, Mehmet Yılmaz, says "I think, as Manisa, it must be our biggest dream to be "the Brand City Manisa with Industry 4.0, and National Defense Industry," which would be enabled through the synergy of projects MASTEK, and AKÜM; and would contribute to "Domestic and National Production Initiative," which is considered a significant national process until 2023."

Manisa Commodity Exchange Market Chairman Sadık Özkasap, also remarks that "Manisa's agro-industrial export, and minimum import, set one of the best examples for domestic production model which, should be extended for the improvement of Turkey's economy, and particularly for removal of current deficit."

**M**. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) stated that they endorse Anti-Inflation Program announced by Berat Albayrak, Ministry of Treasury and Finance and added, "All our chambers and commodity exchanges in 81 cities and 160 districts will join in and own the Fight Against Inflation and we will work to include as many companies as possible in the program."

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu in his written statement declared, "Turkey has again started an all-in economic fight through a collaboration of private, public and community organizations. We believe that the Anti-Inflation Program initiated under the leadership of Berat Albayrak, Ministry of Treasury and Finance is critical for macro-economic stability and we give our full support to the program."

Because surging inflation increases our input and financing costs and negatively affects on our companies. Neither the public nor the private sector can alone fight against inflation. The work and the responsibility rest with us".



## TOBB joined in the "Fight Against Inflation"