

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu: Turkey's first agenda topic shall be "the economy"

The election process which has continued with general and local elections is drawn to a close. We now enter a four-year-non-election period. Henceforth, Turkey's first agenda topic shall be the economy since there are many steps to be taken and a whole lot more work to be done in economy. We need to turn this period into an uninterrupted performance period.

This period during which we can focus on economy, thus we can put the structural reforms one after the other to further develop the basis of economy, is of vital importance for our country. Economy administration had given the related signals. We are waiting to be acted promptly after the election.

While the uncertainties in world economies have increased, we first need to



reduce the uncertainties within the country, leave the impression as a country at which anything can happen anytime and establish the dominance of the order. This way, everyone would be reassured and negative perceptions would be avoided.

Later on, we need to realize a comprehensive, consistent and well-timed program in order to subside domestic and foreign markets about Turkey. That is to say, it is required to have a new Turkey story and a new growth model.



Road map for reforms is ready

Berat Albayrak, the Minister of Treasury and Finance, unveiled the "New Economic Program Structural Transformation Stages 2019" at a press conference. Minister Albayrak stated that they convened in relation to an agenda that is important for economy policies. Pointing out that economic reforms are the main agenda of

Turkey, Albayrak said, "Necessary structural transformations must be introduced in economy in order to reach our ideal of a great and strong Turkey. The process we will start today is not merely the introduction of a package. Today, we will share with you a series of reforms which we will complete in 2019. However, this process of change and

reform will continue decisively in the next 4.5 years". Albayrak explained the arrangements and the steps they undertake to launch in 2019 to reach the stated goals, and provided details regarding the reforms they will introduce in relation to banking, inflation, Personal Retirement Insurance, severance pay, and real economy.

“TRY 20,000 support for one additional employment”

Employment Campaign 2019 Denizli Meeting was hosted by Denizli Chamber of Commerce, Denizli Chamber of Industry, Acıpayam Chamber of Commerce, Babadağ Chamber of Commerce, Tavas Chamber of Commerce, Sarayköy Chamber of Commerce and Buldan Chamber of Commerce with the participation of M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu, the President of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk, the Minister of Family, Labor and Social Services, and Hasan Karahan, the Governor of Denizli. TOBB President stated that President



Recep Tayyip Erdoğan had invited the business world to join a new employment campaign at the TOBB Turkey Economy Summit, adding “We worked with the Minister of Labor for many days, until very late hours. Our Minister prepared a comprehensive and brave incentive package.” TOBB President Hisarcıkloğlu

said, “The wage, tax and premium for every new employment to be created until 30 April will be paid by the Government. And your company will not pay tax and premium for another nine months. In other words, about TRY 20,000 support will be provided for every additional employment opportunity you will create.”



“Negotiations to modernize Customs Union must start”

M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu, the President of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) and the Vice President of Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Eurochambers) spoke at the opening ceremony of Turkey-EU Joint Advisory Committee meeting held in Brussels which he co-chaired.

TOBB President Hisarcıkloğlu said he

hoped the meeting would contribute to the development of the Turkey-EU relations, adding, “Turkey-EU relations have become more important than ever. Turkey and all EU countries face common problems like refugee and illegal migrant influx, terrorism, cyber-attacks, rising protectionism in international trade, climate change and energy safety. No country can fight all of these problems

alone. This is true for both Turkey and EU. Therefore, Turkey and EU are obligated to work together and to fight these global problems together.”

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu also said, “Negotiations to modernize the Customs Union must start now. This subject should not be postponed due to political reasons, for this modernization is beneficial for both Turkey and EU.”



Turkey steers towards solar energy

Accelerating its efforts to reduce foreign dependency in energy, Turkey continues its investments, particularly in renewable energy. Government incentives and resolutions concerning energy policies helped the solar energy industry grow. Turkey's total installed solar power capacity reached 5,238 MW, and the industry continues to grow at a higher rate thanks to support from Renewable Energy Resources Support Mechanism (YEKDEM).

Experts state that YEKDEM, which will continue until the end of 2020 according to the current laws, and which provides incentives for 10 years, is very important for the development of the industry, and that the new course which will be set for this project in 2021 is to be one of the most important factors determining the future of the industry.

Experts also state that such a mechanism has been a guiding light for both the financial sector and the investors for making renewable energy investments, which Turkey has been systematically supporting since 2005, within the framework of the foreseen target.

Known as the "Apricot Capital" around the world, Malatya plans to increase the quality of its symbol fruit and the variety of its agricultural products. The city aims to attract financial investors by having a developed apricot exchange. With its social and economic structure, geography, natural and human texture, Malatya is one of the leading centers of attraction in the region.

A member of Board of Directors of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey, and the President of Malatya Chamber of Commerce and Trade, Oğuzhan Ata Sadıkoğlu says, "As a city, Malatya which supports the economy and exports of our country is our Chamber's greatest dream."

Ramazan Özcan, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Malatya Commodity Exchange, says, "Malatya must have a developed apricot exchange and financial instruments like product certificates which are traded in this exchange."



Malatya offers excellent opportunities to investors