

Dear Guests,  
Dear cocoa representatives  
Coming from all over the world,  
170 delegates from,  
Middle East, Europe, America, Africa and Asia

It is a great pleasure for me  
to welcome you today  
to the European Cocoa Association Conference  
on behalf of Turkish Exporters Assembly.

I hope this conference will bring new dimensions  
to the Cocoa sector in Turkey and in the world.

Dear Guest,  
Turkish Exporters Assembly represents  
fifty seven thousand active exporters in Turkey,

We represent,  
sixty regional and sectorial exporter associations,  
twenty-six sectors and thirteen secretariat offices  
serving exporters and exporter associations.

Turkish Exporters Assembly

was established in 1993.

So, this year, we are celebrating our twentieth anniversary.

With the vision;

“to render the change is to design the future”

we assure coordination between public and private sector organizations, exporters and policy-makers.

We pay great attention to market diversification.

Each year,

In order to enhance business connections, we organize many exclusive procurement committees and trade missions.

We promote Turkey abroad.

We cooperate with all the world for mutual goals.

Dear guests,

Turkish economy has shown great performance over the last decade.

GDP of Turkey almost tripled in ten years.

Turkish economy is boosted by foreign trade.

And exports have been a key platform of growth.

Our exports reached  
one hundred fifty three billion dollars  
by the end of 2012.

And Turkey reached to four hundred billion dollars  
foreign trade volume in 2012.

Turkish economy attracted 123 billion dollars  
foreign direct investment in the past decade.

Turkey is the sixteenth largest economy  
in the world, and sixth largest economy  
in European countries.

With its unique geo-strategic position,  
dynamic and young population,  
well-trained work force  
and competitive industrial sectors.

Turkey has enormous advantages for investors  
and great investment potentials.

Turkey has great potential  
And huge long-term targets.

Our twenty-twenty three target is five hundred billion dollars export, one point one trillion dollars foreign trade volume, Being one of the top ten economies in the world.

We focus on innovation, branding, research and development and added value to order to reach our targets.

Dear guests,  
Turkish coffee first introduced to Europe in the sixteenth century is very important for our promotion. Turkish delight and chocolate are also very important for us. And hazelnut is essential input for chocolate industry. Since the sixth century, Turkey is exporter of hazelnut and now realizes 80 percent of the world hazelnut production and exports. Turkey is a big market by itself as well.

We invite all of you to invest Turkey.

We are willing to develop partnerships  
with top cocoa exporters.

I believe that our trade relations will become  
more cooperative in a near future...

I again welcome all of you to Turkey,  
Have a nice conference day.

***450 kelime / 5 dk.***