

1 Haziran 2005

**CD GENEL KURULU'NUN
2 HAZİRAN 2005 TARİHLİ TOPLANTISINDA
YAPILABİLECEK KONUŞMA**

Mr. President,

Since this is the first time Turkey is taking the floor under your Chairmanship, allow me to convey my delegation's full support for your efforts to bring an end to this lengthy period of inertia in the CD. We hope that this second session of the CD, under your able leadership, will herald a new beginning.

Mr. President,

As the distinguished Ambassador of Poland has pointed out, the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) was launched 2 years ago, on 31 May 2003 by 11 countries. It aims to fill the gaps in existing international agreements, control regimes and national export systems relating to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and other related materials. The United Nations Security Council Resolution No: 1540, dated 28 April 2004, that calls upon UN Member States to take the necessary measures to curb trade in weapons of mass destruction, strengthen their national legislation and controls and to develop international cooperation serves to bolster this Initiative.

Since its inception, there have been significant developments related to the PSI. The number of countries that announced their support for the Initiative has exceeded 60. In addition, the "Statement of Interdiction Rules", which constitute

the basic text of the Initiative and outline the measures to be taken, have been adopted.

Turkey announced, on the 2nd of December 2003, its support for the PSI. Since then, Turkey has been following very closely and supports all activities conducted within the framework of this Initiative, including prevention exercises. Turkey, meanwhile, continues to take all the necessary steps, in connection with UNSC Resolution No.1540 and the PSI, including developing coordination between its relevant institutions.

We aim to increase our contribution to this Initiative in the coming years. In this context, it has been decided to hold a joint land, air and sea exercise in 2006 in the East Mediterranean, under Turkey's auspices and lead. The preparatory work for this exercise has commenced through joint efforts of the Turkish General Staff and other relevant institutions.

Mr. President,

Turkey attaches great importance to playing its part in the PSI, which constitutes a noteworthy effort by the international community in its struggle against terrorism. Turkey, knowing all too well the importance of international cooperation in the fight against terrorism, will continue its efforts in this vein in all fora.

Thank you Mr. President.