

and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

In 1945, having endured two of the most horrific wars in the history of mankind and the resulting global devastation, the representatives of 50 nations assembled in San Francisco to create an organization designed to prevent the recurrence of widespread warfare and to safeguard international peace and security. Today, more than half a century later, the United Nations still proudly stands tall as the only genuinely universal global organization, encompassing almost every state in the world.

The Republic of Turkey is one of the founding members of the UN. Guided by her founder Atatürk's dictum "peace at home, peace in the world", Turkey has a record of staunch and dedicated participation in a wide spectrum of UN activities.

We are firmly resolved to continue upholding the goals and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter as the Organization moves forward in its noble quest for global peace, stability and prosperity. Enhancing the primacy of multilateralism and the central role of the UN in the international system is an important aspect of our foreign policy.

Turkey's proven commitment to the ideals of the UN makes her a natural candidate to be a non-permanent member of the Security Council. Her contributions to the maintenance of international peace and security, her provision of development and humanitarian aid and her regional role as a bulwark of stability all make her amply qualified. However, Turkey has not been represented in the Security Council since 1961 and, after such a long interval, this should now be addressed.

With Turkey represented on the Security Council, the United Nations would be even better equipped to deal with the numerous challenges facing our highly complex and increasingly interdependent world.

