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Turkey Contact Point

Year: 4 Issue: 20 Sep 23-Oct 4, 2013

NEWS

Turkey-Kosovo Free Trade Agreement (FTA)



Turkey-Kosovo FTA, the negotiations of which was initiated in September 2012, is signed by Turkish Ministry of Economy H.E. Zafer Çağlayan and Kosovo Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade and Industry H.E. Mimoza Kusari Lila on September 27th, 2013 in Ankara. It is aimed that the Parties will complete their internal ratification procedures and put the Agreement in force within the year 2014. In accordance with the Agreement, Turkey will eliminate customs duties on all industrial goods and on 850 tariff lines (8 digit HS) regarding agricultural goods of Kosovo origin. Kosovo, on the other hand, will eliminate the customs duties on all industrial goods and 846 tariff lines regarding agricultural goods of Turkish origin, incrementally, in 9 years, the latest, following the entry into force of the Agreement. Moreover, as foreseen by the Agreement, the Parties will immediately start the negotiations on trade in services.

Source: *Ministry of Economy*

I. Period Meeting of Turkish-Arab Economic, Trade and Investment Ministers Was Held



1. Period Meeting of Turkish-Arab Economic, Trade and Investment Ministers was held in Mersin on September 25, 2013 under the chairmanship of H.E. Zafer Çağlayan. 16 Ministers from 15 countries and Deputy Secretary General of the Arab League participated in the meeting. In his opening remarks, Minister Çağlayan stated that this meeting had been so far the most comprehensive and well-attended one between Turkey and the Arab countries in the economic sphere.

Source: *Ministry of Economy*

[Read the rest of this entry »](#)

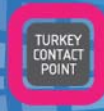



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Turkey Wants More of Its Goods In Asia-Pacific

Turkish Minister of Economy Zafer Çağlayan said his country wants to see more "Made in Turkey" tagged products in Asia-Pacific market that has a trade volume of \$7 trillion. Speaking at the opening of the Asia-Pacific Retail Convention & Exhibition (APRC) in Istanbul, Mr. Çağlayan stated around 7,000 retailers that serve 3.5 billion people at 600,000 sale points have participated in the convention. Saying that it is the first time Istanbul is hosting this meeting, Mr. Çağlayan added: "Istanbul is the western door of the Silk Road that lies in a point of intersection of Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and means a total of 1.5 billion people and \$25 trillion trade volume." Mr. Çağlayan said they supported firms that aim to increase trade volume between Asia-Pacific and Turkey to \$200 billion in the next decade and noted that Turkish companies have reached 92 different countries.

To view the news report, please visit [Ministry of Economy website](#).

Turkey and T-TIP

US Trade Representative Michael Froman met with Turkish Minister of Economy Zafer Çağlayan to launch work under the newly established US-Turkey High Level Committee. The bilateral committee was announced by President Obama in May during the visit of Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan to Washington as a means to explore how Turkey might be affected by the US-EU Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) negotiations and to assess ways to liberalize US-Turkey trade and investment. During their meeting, Ambassador Froman and Minister Çağlayan discussed the organization of the high-level committee and possible issues both countries could examine in the near term. They instructed their technical teams – to be headed by Assistant US Trade Representative for Europe and the Middle East L. Daniel Mullaney and Deputy Under Secretary of the Ministry of Economy Cemalettin Damlaci – to continue work on identifying priority areas for cooperation.

To view the news report, please visit [Ministry of Economy website](#).

New Incentive System Increases Investments In Turkish Economy

The Economy Ministry has certificated 5,567 incentive documents, which is expected to bring 84 billion Turkish Liras (\$42 billion) in investments, within the framework of the new incentive system. Speaking during a meeting of the Independent Industrialists and Businessmen's Association (MÜSİAD) on Sept. 28, Deputy Economy Minister Mustafa Sever said that within the incentive documents, the government foresees investments worth 84 billion Liras, creating employment for 205,000 people. He also stressed that 776 of these incentive documents were certificated for the Southeastern Anatolia Region.

To view the news report, please visit [Ministry of Economy website](#).

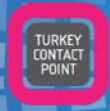



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EVENTS

Turkish Companies To Participate In Canton Fair 2013



Canton Fair 2013 (the 114th China Import and Export Fair) – Phase 1 will be held in Guangzhou, China on October 15-19, 2013. Turkey will participate in the event at national level. Turkish companies operating in various

sectors will be present at the fair.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

Turkish Companies To Participate In MICAM Shanghai

the **MICAM**shanghai

MICAM Shanghai, the Exhibition for Leather Footwear, Accessories and Garments be held in Shanghai, China on October 11-13, 2013.

Turkey will participate in the event at national level. Turkish companies operating in shoes sector will be present at the fair.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

Turkish Companies To Participate In Lagos Fashion



Lagos International Fashion Exhibition will be held in Lagos, Nigeria on October 8-10, 2013. Turkey will participate in the event at national level. Turkish companies operating in clothing sector will be present at the fair.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

Door Fair Turkey, Istanbul



The 7th International Door & Door Hardware Fair will be held on January 17-20, 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey. At last year's fair, 18,873 professional visitors from 41 different countries made their way to Istanbul. In addition, 164 exhibitor companies exhibited their products, mostly from Turkey and United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy, Romania, Belgium, Poland, China, Hong-Kong, Bolivia, Greece, Ukraine, Brazil, Egypt.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

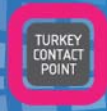


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SECTORS

An Industry With A Promising Future: Toys



The toy market in Turkey exhibited growth of over 6%, with that for branded toys growing by more than 10%. Turkey's toy industry can be traced back far into the past, but it took until the early 1990s for it to be an exporter. Today, Turkey exports a range of toys to a wide set of countries across the world. Plastic toys make up the majority of Turkey's toy exports. According to data provided by the International Council of Toy Industries, the toy industry was worth roughly \$120 billion in 2012, and average toy spending per child worldwide was \$175. The Turkish toy industry, whose top export customer is Germany, is worth around TRY 1 billion. In 2013, to date, Turkey's toy exports total \$98.44 million, a figure that represents an increase over 2012.

Source: *The Turkish Perspective*, September-October 2013, Issue: 18

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