# Preface

Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey, **a non-profit NGO**, was established within the framework of "the Law on Turkish Union of Chambers Engineer and Architect”. According to this Law, the Main Regulation of the Chamber of Forest Engineers and amendments made in this Regulation must be published in the Official Gazette (OG) of the Republic of Turkey.

In this book, an English translation of the “Main Regulation of the Chamber of Forest Engineers-OMO” is provided. The Main Regulation establishes the structure, working principles and procedures of OMO. Since the OMO was established by law, there is no separate declaration of establishment or charter. This “Main Regulation” replaces “Charter of OMO”

In line with above mentioned information Certificate of registry of this Organization as follows: (original and translated into English)

a. **Original:** 4 Şubat 1954 tarih ve 8625 Sayılı Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Resmi Gazetesi- <http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/main.aspx?home=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/arsiv/8625.pdf&main=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/arsiv/8625.pdf>

b. **English:** **4 February 1954** (Posted February 4, 1954 and numbered 8625, Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey)

After several years of its foundation by Law, Main Regulation of the Chamber of Forest Engineers was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey dated **July 12, 2006** and No. 26226[[1]](#footnote-1). Various changes have been made thereafter. The text presented here is the latest and most current version of the Regulation as of 2018.

The Official Gazette (OG) of Turkey’s web page can be accessed free of charge, with no obligation for subscription. All the editions as of the first edition dated 7/2/1921 can be found at this following web site. <http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/default.aspx>

In accordance with the regulation on the “Publication and the Procedures of the Official Gazette” which was put into effect with the Cabinet Decision no: 5335, dated June 22, 1927, it has been determined with decrees that “laws, interpretations, Grand National Assembly decisions, **regulations**, decrees, instructions, state council decisions and notices that belong to ministries, official treaties and announcements”; and in accordance with the law no 1322 on the Publication and Announcement and Enforcement Date of Laws and Regulations dated May 23, 1928, “laws, mutually signed treaties, contracts and any other agreements between states, exclusive and financial contracts and privileges, interpretations of laws, pardon notices, mitigation, conversion or deferral of penalties and also in accordance with the Law on Regulations To be Published in the Official Gazette No.3011 dated 24/5/1984, the regulations governing the provisions on cooperation among the Prime Minister, ministries **and public legal entities** and their powers provided that they are not related to national security and safety and are not confidential and the regulations on the public personnel **have been obliged to be published in the Official Gazette.**

In addition to the above information, it will be useful to give the following summary information about the Chamber of Forest Engineers.

1. The Chamber of Forest Engineers is a professional organization established under the "Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (TMMOB)".- <https://www.tmmob.org.tr/en/page/about> by “6235 Numbered Turkish Engineer and Architect Chambers Union Law” -[https://www.tmmob.org.tr/en/hukuk/legal-framework/6235-numbered-turkish-engineer-and-architect-chambers-union-law](https://www.tmmob.org.tr/en/hukuk/legal-framework/6235-numbered-turkish-engineer-and-architect-chambers-union-law%20%20)
2. Article 16 of 6235 as follows – “***Forest*** *and agriculture professional engineers can be included in the Union by establishing a chamber with the resolution by Board of Directors of the guilds they belong to*”
3. TMMOB is a corporate body and a professional organization defined in the form of a public institution as stated in the Article 135 of the Constitution.
4. ARTICLE 135 of Turkish Constitution as follows- “*Professional organizations having the characteristics of public institutions and their higher bodies are public corporate bodies established by law, with the objectives of meeting the common needs of the members of a given profession, to facilitate their professional activities, to ensure the development of the profession in keeping with common interests, to safeguard professional discipline and ethics in order to ensure integrity and trust in relations among its members and with the public; their organs shall be elected by secret ballot by their members in accordance with the procedure set forth in the law, and under judicial supervision*- <https://global.tbmm.gov.tr/docs/constitution_en.pdf>
5. TMMOB is maintaining its activities with its 24 Chambers, which the Chamber of Forest Engineers is one of them.

Beside the Foundation Law Numbered 6235, there is another Law No. 5531 entitled “**The Law on Forest Engineers, Forest Industrial Engineers and Woodworking Industrial Engineers**.” dated July 8, 2006 has been published in Turkish Official Gazette.

According to this Law Numbered 5531, OMO is the legal representative of three different professional groups as follows: Forest Engineers, Forest Industrial Engineers, and Woodworking Industrial Engineers.

Currently the Chamber of Forest Engineers has about 17 thousand active members. A large number of its members work in forestry related departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

These Institutes are as follows;

a) General Directorate of Forests

b) General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks,

c) General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion.

In addition, there are members working in public institutions such as General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works and General Directorate of Highways. On the other hand, there are members working in their own workplace and working in private sector companies.

The main management mechanism of the Chamber of Forest Engineers is "**General Assembly**" held every two years. The executive body is the "Board of Directors". The last General Assembly was held in April 2018 and the Board of Directors Chaired by Hasan Türkyılmaz was elected. Existing Members of the Board of Directors and their duties are as follows. In addition to their work in the Chamber of Forest Engineers, members of the Board of Directors also work in the public or private sector.

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| No | Name | Position at OMO | Position Outside of OMO | Graduate Program |
| 1 | Hasan TÜRKYILMAZ | President | Chief Inspector-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Engineer |
| 2 | Ahmet KARA | Vice President | Chief Inspector-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Engineer |
| 3 | Mehmet ÜSTÜNYER | Secretary | Director-Sub-Regional Directorate of Ankara | Forest Engineer |
| 4 | İsmail Hakkı GÜNEY | Accountant | Engineer-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Engineer |
| 5 | Özgür BALCI | Member of the Board | Deputy Head of Department-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Engineer |
| 6 | Mesut GÜLER | Member of the Board | Deputy Head of Department-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Industrial Engineers |
| 7 | İsmail Cengiz METİN | Member of the Board | Division Director-General Directorate of Forests | Forest Engineer |

In addition to the Board of Directors there is the Board of Honour and the Board of Auditors.

The Headquarter (the Center) of Chamber of Forest Engineers is in Ankara, which is the capital city of Turkey as well. In addition to headquarters (Center) of OMO, there are several "branches" located in different places of Turkey. These branches are established or removed by the OMO General Assembly according to regional situations and the number of members. The management of each branch is determined by its members in a completely democratic election.

As of the end of 2018, OMO has branches as follows: <https://www.ormuh.org.tr/subeler>

1. Ankara
2. Istanbul
3. East Black Sea- Trabzon
4. Izmir
5. West Mediterranean
6. East Mediterranean
7. Elaziğ
8. West Black Sea
9. Bursa
10. Denizli
11. Amasya
12. Erzurum
13. Sakarya

In addition to the branches, there are OMO representatives in the relevant Faculties, regions and provinces. These representatives are assigned by the OMO Board of Directors.

OMO meets all expenses with its own means. The main source of income is the membership fees. OMO has its own web page <https://www.ormuh.org.tr/> and periodicals. <https://www.ormuh.org.tr/post/yeni-dergimiz-cikti>

OMO has close cooperation with the State Institutions including the General Directorate of Forests. The Director General of Forest, himself is a member of OMO as well as all deputies, heads of departments, all regional workers.

In Turkey OMO organise several meetings, conferences and training programmes. It has its own building in Ankara with branches offices in overall of Turkey.

In addition to the activities in Turkey, OMO, is working extremely active in the international arena. It has close cooperation with United Nations agencies including FAO.

As of 2018, OMO is the chair of the Council of European Foresters. OMO Participates in "Forest Europe" meetings. It’s is an active member of the Union of European Foresters (<http://european-foresters.eu/meetings/gcm/74,6>)

With the official invitation of The UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, OMO participated to the Seventy-sixth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry organised Vancouver, Canada, 5-9 November 2018. <https://www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018.html>

It is also an accredited Non-Governmental Organisation to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. (UNCCD) <https://knowledge.unccd.int/cso/turkish-chamber-forest-engineers>

OMO is planning to be a member of **“The International Union for Conservation of Nature**- <https://www.iucn.org/> which is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. As the end of 2018, it has applied for becoming a member to the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Recently OMO organized “The Fifth International Symposium of the Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey: The Role of “Public-Civil Society-Private Sector Cooperation and International Partnerships” in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Global Forest Goals, from 2 to 5 December of 2018 in Antalya.

Together with public institutions’ representatives like General Directorate of Forests and General Directorate of Nature Protection and National Parks from Turkey, as well as representatives of FAOSEC, several non-governmental organizations from Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and France participated in this international symposium. During the symposium, Cooperation agreements with these NGOs signed.

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| No | Country | Name of the NGO | Web Page |
| 1 | Albania | ALBAFOREST CENTER | [www.albaforest.com](http://www.albaforest.com/) |
| 2 | Azerbaijan | Natural Wealth and Ecology Workers Trade Union Republic Committee | [http://ahik.org](http://ahik.org/) |
| 3 | Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina | The Association of Hunting Organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina | <http://www.slobih.ba/> |
| 4 | Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina | The Independent Trade Union of Forestry, Wood Processing and Paper of Bosnia and Herzegovina- | <http://ssspdp.ba/> |
| 5 | Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina | Forestry Association of  Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina | <http://usitfbih.ba/> |
| 6 | Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina | Beekeepers Union of Sarajevo |  |
| 7 | France | The International Association for Mediterranean Forests (AIFM) | <http://aifm.org/en> |
| 8 | Kyrgyzstan | KYRGYZ ASSOCIATION OF FOREST AND LAND USERS | <http://www.landuse-association.kg/> |
| 9 | Hungary | The Trade Union of Forestry and Wood  Industry Workers | <http://efdsz.hu/> |
| 10 | Romania | SILVA TRADE UNION FEDERATION | <https://federatiasilva.ro/> |
| 11 | Romania | The “Forest Progress” Society | <http://progresulsilvic.ro/> |
| 12 | Turkey | Association of Forestry Faculties | <http://www.orfamder.org/> |
| 13 | Turkey | ÖZ ORMAN-İŞ TRADE UNION OF FOREST, AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FISHERY of the Republic of Turkey | [http://www.ozorman-is.org.tr](http://www.ozorman-is.org.tr/) |
| 14 | Turkey | TOÇ BİR-SEN | Trade Union of Agriculture and Forest Civil Servants Association | <https://www.tocbirsen.org.tr/> |

An example of the signed cooperation agreements between the Chamber of Forest Engineers and the other NGOs as follows:

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| The Chamber of Forest Engineers of | DECLARATION  OF  INTENTION | * Natural Wealth and Ecology Workers Trade Union Republic Committee of |
| Turkey |  | * Azerbaijan |
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**Preamble**

Forests, which are the common assets of the whole world, are vital for many issues such as the well-being and happiness of humanity, conservation of biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, energy, and water and food security.

Forests are one of the key sectors in achieving the “***2030******Sustainable******Development Goals*”** adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

**“*The United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF)***” and “***The Six Global Forest Goals and 26 Associated Targets* ”** adopted in 2017 have set a global road map for forests and forestry in achieving sustainable development goals.

Achieving these goals requires a common understanding and cooperation at national and international level between all sectors, including the public, private sector, academic circles and non-governmental organizations.

In this context, Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey and the Natural Wealth and Ecology Workers Trade Union Republic Committee of Azerbaijan (*hereinafter referred to as Parties*) have signed this Declaration of Intention to cooperate with the principles and procedures set out below.

Article 1: Purpose

The purpose of this Declaration of Intention is to determine the principles and procedures of co-operation.

Article 2: Scope

This “Declaration of Intention” encompasses the matters contained in this text. Additional agreements may be made if the Parties agreed upon them.

Article 3: Issues to be cooperated

The Parties have agreed to cooperate on the following issues.

* Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
* “The United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF)” and “The Six Global Forest Goals”
* EU Forest Strategy, Ministerial Commitments of Forest Europe
* Sustainable land management
* Sustainable forest management
* Coordinating activities to increase cooperation between members of the Parties such as student exchange, internship support and job search support,
* Other issues agreed by the Parties

Article 4: Ways of Cooperation

The Parties may cooperate with one or more of the forms listed below.

* To organize events such as joint meetings, workshops, conferences, symposia etc.
* To participate in activities organized by one of the Parties and to represent each other upon request,
* To prepare projects jointly or separately, to be a partner in projects prepared by one of the Parties,
* To submit project proposal jointly to international and regional institutions and organisations such European Commission, the World Bank, the Global Environment Agency (GEF), the European Environment Agency etc..
* To submit project proposal to national agencies of any countries.
* To prepare publication , report and working document in digital media and other platforms together,
* To establish international platforms, to join the existing ones.
* To cooperate with any method not to be written here, to be agreed by the Parties.

Article 5: Responsibilities of the Parties

This Declaration of Intention was prepared and signed within the framework of mutual goodwill. It does not bring any legal or economic responsibility to any of the Parties. Each party is liable to comply with its national legislation and responsibilities.

The Parties undertake the necessary efforts in the framework of the principles of mutual goodwill in order to announce this cooperation and to ensure its continuity.

Article 6: Dispute of the Resolutions

In the event of a dispute within the framework of this Declaration of Intention, a solution will be sought in the framework of mutual goodwill. In case of cooperation within a project or activity, each activity will be dealt with and solved independently.

Article 7: Termination

The Parties may cancel this agreement – without assigning any reason – at any time upon informing the other party in writing.

Article 8: Language

This Declaration of Intention was prepared in English. The Parties may translate and publish in their national languages. In case of dispute, the English text shall prevail.

Article 9: Entry into force

This Declaration of Intention shall enter into force on the date of signature.

This Declaration of Intention is composed of 9 Articles signed in Antalya/Turkey. 03.12.2018

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| The Chamber of Forest Engineers of  TURKEY | * Natural Wealth and Ecology Workers Trade Union Republic Committee of * AZERBAIJAN |
| Hasan TÜRKYILMAZ  President | **Telman QULIYEV**  **Chairman** |

Through the “Union of Chamber of Turkish Engineers and Architects- [https://www.tmmob.org.tr](https://www.tmmob.org.tr/) ”  OMO has ability to contact with “FEANI-European Federation of National Engineering Associations- <https://www.feani.org/> “. FEANI is a founding member of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) <http://www.wfeo.org/> and collaborates with many other organizations dealing with engineering and technology issues and engineering education.

FEANI is officially recognized by the European Commission as representing the engineering profession in Europe. The federation also has consultative status with UNESCO, UNIDO and the Council of Europe.

As mentioned above, OMO plans to continue its national and international cooperation. OMO will continue to organize events such as various projects, conferences, meetings, competitions.

Priority will be given to organizing training programs with domestic and foreign partners. For this purpose, cooperation protocols were signed with the relevant units of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

We will work together with other international partners, especially FAO, on trainings and other subjects.

“The Main Regulation of the Chamber of Forest Engineers (OMO)” in this booklet has been translated under the responsibility of the Chamber of Forest Engineer. According to the Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey, this is the official English version written by İsmail Belen, the Adviser to the President of OMO for International Affairs. The Directive on the Organisation, Duties, Working Procedures and Principles of the Foreign Relations Service of the Chamber of Forest Engineers which was entered into force with the decision dated 24/06/2011 and numbered 24/4 of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Forest Engineers is also included.

You will find also the English version “6235 Numbered Turkish Engineer and Architect Chambers Union Law”, which has been received from <https://www.tmmob.org.tr/en/hukuk/legal-framework/6235-numbered-turkish-engineer-and-architect-chambers-union-law> without any changes on it.

Please kindly be informed that the abbreviations used in this text refer the following meaning:

* OG: Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey
* OMO: Chamber of Forest Engineers
* TMMOB: Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects

I wish this booklet to be useful, I thank those who contributed.

1. <http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/main.aspx?home=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2006/07/20060712.htm&main=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2006/07/20060712.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)