

Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey

“Message for International Day of Forests”

21 March 2019

From 11:00 AM- to 12:30 AM

National Forest Administration - Romsilva

Petricani Street, nr. 9A, sector 2

023841 Bucharest

Romania

On behalf of **Mr. Hasan Türkyılmaz**, The President

(İsmail Belen-Adviser)

Mr. Minister,

Valuable Participants,

Dear Colleagues,

Before starting my remarks, I would like to greet you personally and on behalf of Mr. Hasan TÜRKYILMAZ, the President of Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey.

I congratulate you for his wonderful and meaningful event and I would like to thank to Mr. Silviu Geana, the Leader of Silva Trade Union Federation for his kind invitation.

Distinguished Participants

Turkey and Romania have strong political, economic, cultural relations and humanitarian bonds based on deep-rooted historical ties. Turkey and Romania maintain their close relations through high-level dialogue and friendship.

Depending on the mutual commitment to enhance bilateral relations in every field, the level of our relations were raised to strategic partnership with the signing of Strategic Partnership Declaration in December 2011. The Action Plan on the implementation of the said document was signed in March 2013.

Civil society organisations play vital role on the continuity and sustainability of the relationship established between the States. In this context the Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkey gives great importance to partnership between Romanian NGOs and state organisations.

The Chamber of Forest Engineer is a member of Council of European Foresters which the current Presidency is being carried out by a Romanian Forester.

We signed “Declaration of Intention” with the Silva Trade Union Federation-Federatia Silva and The “Forest Progress” Society in 2018.

Likewise, we have cooperation and collaboration with several NGOs including from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, France, and Hungary.

I am pleased to see that one of the collaborator, The Trade Union of Forestry and Wood Industry Workers of Hungary is here with us now.

OMO is also member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature-IUCN. It has close relationship with FAO and participates to United Nations Forum Forestry and several other processes as “accredited NGO” Status.

Beside international relations, the Chamber of Forest Engineers has close cooperation with State Agencies and NGOs to protect its member’s rights and to do good things for the benefit of people of Turkey and forests.

In this context, I am pleased to see Mr. Settar Aslan, the President of Öz Orman-İş Trade Union here with us and his team. This Agriculture&Forestry Workers Union has crucial role on Turkish forestry and Mr. Settar Aslan the President has respect among Turkish forestry society.

I also thank to Turkish Embassy to Bucharest, especially to Her Excellency for sharing our feelings and for supporting us.

Dear Participants,

The day 21st of March has been considered as an important day for several years among foresters.

The UN General Assembly proclaimed 21 March the International Day of Forests in 2012. On each International Day of Forests, countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities different activities.

The theme for each International Day of Forests is chosen to highlight specific forest contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2019, the International Day of Forests (IDF) will address the theme, ‘Forests and Education.’ It will seek to raise awareness on how sustainably managed forests provide a wide array of contributions in this area. This afternoon we will submit a presentation to explain Turkish Experience forest and education.

Likewise, I would like to share with my pleasure that, in Turkey, the Ministry of Agriculture of Forestry is organising a national Day of Forests with the presence of President of Turkey, HE Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

When I finish my conversation with these feelings and thoughts I would like to congratulate you once more for organising this wonderful event and thanks a lot for inviting and giving us this possibility to be part of this international event.

Yours truly.

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