ENLARGEMENT: EUROPEAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION ON TURKEY
UNICE REACTION

UNICE takes note of today’s European Commission reports and recommendation to the European Council on Turkey and will study them with all its member federations including TÜSİAD and TISK, UNICE’s members in Turkey.

The Commission’s conclusions are an important new element in the process leading to the European Council decision in December. It is a strong confirmation of the significant progress achieved by Turkey on the road to accession.

In principle, UNICE supports enlargement of the EU when the economic and political conditions, which have been defined by the European Council, are fulfilled. The opening of negotiations with Turkey should not differ or deviate from that principle. Therefore, UNICE supports the opening of accession negotiations with Turkey if the Member States decide that the Copenhagen political criteria are fulfilled as the European Commission recommends them to do.

“UNICE hopes that, when the Member States meet in December, the situation will be such that a consensus will be possible as regards the opening of accession negotiations in the best possible conditions” said UNICE Secretary General Philippe de Buck. “As part of civil society, we are also prepared to play our role in the dialogue between Turkey and the EU. We will do that in close cooperation with our Turkish members”.

Note to the editor:
UNICE represents more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE’s members are 36 central industrial and employers federations from 30 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe

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