The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the Latter's Note dated 4 August 2016, concerning the State contributions to the report of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights on the rights of the child, has the honour to enclose herewith an information note compiled by relevant Turkish authorities.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 3 October 2016

Encl: As stated
CONTRIBUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY TO THE REPORT OF HIGH COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN RIGHTS – RESOLUTION 31/7 ON THE RIGHTS OF CHILD

1. What key lessons learned from the experience of implementing the Millennium Development Goals should be taken into account to ensure that the rights of the child are protected in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

The goals of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women should be taken into account to ensure that the rights of the child are protected in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. What approaches to implementing the 2030 Agenda would ensure the protection of the rights of all children, and that no child is left behind? Please define your response in relation to the following areas?

a. Equality and non-discrimination

Equality and non-discrimination are the basic principles of CRC and underlie the human focused development. It is stated in the CRC that state parties shall respect and ensure the rights set forth in the Convention without discrimination. It is crucial to prepare all political documents accordingly and with a focus on child rights. All studies regarding children in Turkey are featured for equality and non-discrimination in line with the principles of the Constitution and CRC. The principle of positive discrimination is envisaged for the access of disadvantaged groups to equal opportunities and is not contrary to equality principle.

b. Investing in children

It is important to prevent intergenerational poverty and inequality as part of a human focused development approach. Principles of the child’s best interest and survival, development and protection rights are developing the view of investing in children. Another investment area for children is democratization and participation of children in the decisions about them.

Turkey’s policies related to the well-being of children are in line with the healthy physical, mental, spiritual, moral, psychological and social development of children.

c. Partnership for implementation

Platforms including state organizations, NGOs, local administrations are established.

Juvenile Protection Law No: 5395 enacted in 2005, aims to guarantee the rights and wellbeing of children in need and children pushed into crime. For an effective implementation of child protection system; Provincial and District Coordination Boards have been established and the Strategy Paper on Coordination in Child Protection Services (2014-2019) has been published.

d. Accountability and monitoring

High level boards have been established to protect and realize child rights in Turkey.
Child Rights Monitoring and Assessment Board was established in 2012 for administrative and legal regulations with the aim of making suggestions for regulations, assessing the studies for information about child rights to the public, have the strategy paper and action plans prepared and ratified, for coordination and cooperation between organizations. Child Rights Monitoring and Assessment Board had a meeting on 15 March 2016 and assessed the implementation of National Child Rights Strategy Paper and Action Plan (2013-2017).