

No : 09

Date : 24/04/2015

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ON THE OCCASION OF 89th ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH STATISTICAL INSTITUTE AND NATIONAL STATISTICS DAY

One of the most important components for defining the appropriate policies towards the development of a country is to have accurate and timely data. Without having reliable statistics gathered by scientific methods it would not be possible to take correct decisions or make short and long term plans. From this perspective the first studies on statistics started during the Seljuq Empire and even earlier with the population censuses and continued during the Ottoman Empire mainly with the studies on administrative registers. "Defterhane" (registry office) constituting the core of today's statistical institute was established in 1389.

Aware of the importance and priority of statistics in a contemporary country, "Central Statistical Department" was established in 1926 with a special status under Prime Ministry right after the establishment of the Republic; which laid the foundation of today's statistical institute by authorizing a specialized institution to perform statistical work in a contemporary, scientific manner. In line with constantly changing needs, the structure and duties of the institution were modified by acts or statutory decrees in 1930, 1956, 1962, 1984, 1989 and 1990. With Turkish Statistical Law taking effect in 2005, the Institution was restructured to meet the necessities of the new era and was renamed as Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) whose duties were stated as production of statistics and coordination of Turkish Statistical System.

TurkStat acting in line with the vision; "establishing a user focused and sustainable statistical system based on international standards" and with high sense of responsibility, continues to contribute to Turkey's economic, social and cultural life by producing extensive and high quality statistics using the information obtained from the respondents and also steadily renovate itself either on institutional or methodological perspective.

All these activities are the result of dedicated and vigorous effort of our colleagues who had worked in the past and are still working with us. In each stage of producing statistics, making no compromises in ethics and quality is the key to our dynamism.

On the occasion of the National Statistics Day and 89th anniversary of Turkish Statistical Institute, I would like to congratulate the Statistics Day of the users of statistics and I would like to express my gratitude to my colleagues who have contributed to our studies till now.

Birol AYDEMİR
President