

**Plan of Action of the Working Group on Mining and Minerals**  
**Views of the Turkish Authorities**

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- In order to maximize the benefits of cooperation in the field of mining among the D-8 member countries, it would be useful to determine the definitions at the early stages of the studies by the Working Group on Mining and Minerals. Therefore, Turkey suggests the use of the definitions stated in the UN statistical classification (ISIC Rev.3).

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- The paragraph titled as “**Objective**” with the article number 4, could be improved as follows:

**“Objectives**

4. The objectives of the D-8 Minerals Cooperation Action Plan are;

a) to create a resonant D-8 minerals sector by enhancing trade and investment and strengthening cooperation and capacity for sustainable mineral development in the region,

b) to establish common principles and technical standards in searching, extracting, refining, manufacturing and transporting of minerals,

c) to develop means to protect human, animal and plant health and to safeguard the environment.”

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- Under the part titled as “**Strategy 1: Facilitating and Enhancing Trade and Investment in Minerals**” with the paragraph number **TI 2**, the establishment of “One Stop Mineral Trade and Investment Center” is recommended. However, the purpose of the establishment of this center or its functions are not explained in the Action Plan. It would be better to have a clarification about the proposal and a further discussion after the clarification.

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- Under the part titled as “**Strategy 2: Promoting Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Mineral Development**” with the paragraph numbers **ES 1**, **ES 2** and **ES 3**; the actions of “supporting” and “promoting” should be clearly identified. Reviewing of existing incentives, facilitating dialogue between stakeholders or exchanging knowledge on good or bad practices on sustainable management and rational utilization of mineral resources are favorable actions and should be supported. On the other hand, if the intention is generating new direct subsidies, the additional burden of these subsidies to the budget will have to be determined before agreeing on that action, as well as the action “**IH 4 iv)** request for multilateral/bilateral aid”.

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- Under the part titled as “**Strategy 2: Promoting Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Mineral Development**” with the paragraph number **ES 2** and the item **TI 1 i)**, there are references to the harmonisation of mineral policies of D-8 member countries. It is important to bring the following information to the attention of the D-8 member countries: While discussing

the harmonization of mineral policies of the D-8 member countries, Turkey will take into consideration the mining policies stated in the IX. Development Plan (for 2007-2013; approved by the Turkish Grand National Assembly), in the Annual Program and other sectoral plans and strategies, as well as the ongoing harmonization program with the EU Legislation and commitments to other organizations.

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- Under the items **TI 4** and **TI 5**, developing a mineral database network and establishing a web-based directory is proposed. There is a similar study in the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) called as "ECO Geosciences Database" which has a web-site at: [www.ecogeodb.com](http://www.ecogeodb.com). It can present an example for further studies, in order to avoid duplication.