JAG Meeting Intervention
By Turkey

First of all,

I would like to thank to the International Trade Center Executive Director Mrs. Patricia Francis and her staff for all their efforts by preparing several comprehensive reports, plans and also doing an extensive organizational works in preparing this meeting.

Mr Chairman,

Turkey attaches great importance to the ITC’s activities because of its well-defined Mission, its right focus on developing capacities of SMEs, TSIs in developing countries (DCs), transition economies and especially LDCs.

In fulfilling its Mission ITC concentrates on developing and implementing practical aspects of trade policy-making. It tries to tackle the problem of asymmetry for trade information by improving the level of commercial intelligence, It also tries to strengthen export capacity of Trade Support Institution (TSIs), and to mainframe the principles of inclusiveness and sustainable development into trade promotion and development policies in DCs.

In ITC’s 2012-2015 Strategic Plan, It was underlined that Institutions affirms its above mentioned Mission to enhance SMEs export capacities in DCs by providing solutions to policy-makers and TSIs and to the private sector by taking into account of its inclusiveness and development perspectives.

Mr Chairman,

In ITC’s 2012 Operational Plan, we are also witnessing that ITC continues to target Least Developed Countries (LDCs), DCs, AND Sub-saharan Africa. In this context, I would like to mention that, Turkey is very much interested in and closely following of the activities of ITC towards LDCs in general and Sub-Saharan Africa Region in particular.

In fact, this year we have intensified our work to enhance our co-operation towards LDCs and Sub-Saharan Africa. One senior official from the ITC has paid an official visit to Ankara to discuss a possible frame work for co-operation between Turkey and ITC towards LDCs. We want to develop our co-operation with the ITC in implement our commitments for the Economic and Technical Co-operation Package that we developed after hosting UN Conference on LDCs last year in Istanbul. The Package includes several areas for co-operation such as trade, investment, technology, water, climate change, education, tourism, agriculture, energy, water, technical and policy level co-operation with LDCs.

Finally, I would like to underline that, in line with these issues, we are working closely with ITC to enhance our co-operation towards LDCs and Sub Saharan Africa Region.

Thank you.