

**FBCCI Cloud Conference™ with Foreign Economic Relations
Board of Turkey (DEİK) on Bilateral Trade and Investment
Opportunities in the Ongoing Global Pandemic and Beyond and MoU
Signing Ceremony**

26 January 2020, 14.00

**Ambassador of Turkey in Bangladesh Mr. Mustafa Osman Turan,
Ambassador of Bangladesh in Turkey Mr. Masud Mannan,
Chairperson of DEİK Turkey-Bangladesh Business Council Ms.
Hülya Gedik,
President of FBCCI Mr. Sheikh Fazle Fahim,
Dear Participants,**

I wish a healthy day to all of us.

Today is a significant day to increase economic relations between Turkey and our brother country Bangladesh. We are here to sign MoU between DEİK and FBCCI after the successful webinar that has been organized by BIDA and DEİK 4 days ago.

I hope it will be a crucial step to increase our bilateral dialogue and reach 2 \$ billion trade volume target. Also, it takes an important position for “Asia Anew” initiative of our Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu.

We all know that, 2020 was a year to remember. Everyone experienced it differently. We all learn that, there is a paradigm change now. The pandemic indeed presents us with enormous challenges. But it presents us with opportunities, too.

As DEİK, we're using these opportunities and we're working more than ever despite the pandemic for business diplomacy with our 146 Business Council all around the world.

Also we're stronger with our counterpart organization of our Business Councils. At this point, I believe that we'll continue to put our signature under important issues with FBCCI.

Today is an important step for that purpose with signing MoU between DEİK and FBCCI.

- This MoU commits us to work together more closely towards our common goals; to broaden our partnership, create awareness among our business communities.
- Also, the cooperation of the two organizations will increase and our business worlds will get closer to each other.
- Our trade relations, industrial and technological cooperation and investments will increase hopefully.
- It'll be useful for two countries to share knowledge and experiences with supporting and facilitating the advancement of Small and Medium Entrepreneurs (SMEs), startup ecosystem and innovation.

- And, if we implement our agreement properly with organizing more events like sectoral meetings, exhibitions, trade fairs and seminars including the virtual ones and encourage our members to participate at such activities, I'm sure that our trade volume will increase also.
- Although the agreement is symbolic, it provides us a big framework. Thus, we will be able to increase our consultation mechanisms in 2021.

We would like to see a continuation of our joint efforts for building a long-term and strategic partnership between our brotherly countries and institutions. Today's signing comes at an important juncture, where we will use this MoU to further advance our partnership and support.

I look forward to the successful implementation of our MoU, and wish you all good health, happiness and success.

I would like to finish my speech with a Bangladeshi saying: ভাবিয়া করিও কাজ, করিয়া ভাবিও না। (***Babiya koriyo kaj, korio babiyo na***). It means, **“Think before acting, don't act before thinking.”**

As business representatives from two countries, we'll continue to improve our economic relations and act for that aim, as we're doing today.

Thank you for your attention.

Nail OLPAK

President of DEİK