**POSITION PAPER**

**NAME OF CANDIDATE:**Abyanth. S

**COMMITTEE*:*** United Nations

general assembly

**COUNTRY*:*** Turkey

**AGENDA*:*** International Trade and

Development: translating agenda

2030 For sustainable development

into reality and the role of international trade

In September 2015, the UN general assembly adopted 17 highly aspiring development goals supported by 169 targets. The goals are action-oriented, global, and universally applicable to all countries. The goals and targets touch upon a lot of issues from poverty, clean elevation, etc. Their achievement will be supported, in part by the commitments made at the Third Financing for Development conference which took place in Addis Ababa in July 2015.

As regards SDGs with an environmental dimension, Turkey`s SDG actions focus primarily on preserving genetic resources and biodiversity

Turkey was among the 22 countries that submitted their first VNR to the HLPF in 2016. The VNR process commenced with the highest-level political ownership on the Turkish president’s call to all government entities (Government of Turkey, 2016).

Through the VNR process, the Turkish government developed an online ‘National SDG Best Practices Database’ which will be active throughout the period covering the 2030 Agenda. In the first phase, 400 practices were collected from public and private sectors, academia, NGOs, and municipalities, and several of the best examples were included in the VNR (Government of Turkey, 2019).

After the adoption of Agenda 2030, Turkey assigned the responsibility of tracking 218 indicators to relevant institutions. In 2019, the country published its SDG Indicators Set, comprising 83 indicators. While the ratio of indicators produced is higher for SDGs 3, 7, 9, further work is needed for indicators on SDGs 1, 2, 12, 13, and 14 indicators (Government of Turkey, 2019).

The trade-related targets included in the 2030 Development Agenda are not fundamentally new and many, particularly those in the SDGs, tend to repeat earlier commitments included in WTO negotiations. Trade is not considered to be an end in itself under the SDG framework but rather a means of supporting the implementation

As governments start implementing the 2030 Development Agenda, the relevance of these targets must be assessed in light of recent changes in trade policies being applied in several large economies. These policy changes have revealed critical loopholes in international economic governance frameworks or at least areas where existing rules would require further elaboration and updating.