

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-eighth session
Geneva, 7-11 April 2025**

Diversifying economies in a world of accelerated digitalization

Statement by

Ministry of Industry and Technology
Türkiye

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the UN Trade and Development.

**Statement of the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the
Republic of Türkiye**

**Theme 1: “Diversifying Economies in a World of Accelerated
Digitalization” (07.04.2025)**

Mr. Chair/Madam Chair,

Ladies and gentlemen,

As the Ministry of Industry and Technology, we are committed to fostering innovative policies that not only drive economic growth but also accelerate the digital transformation essential for inclusive development.

We recognize that digitalization presents a tremendous opportunity to enhance the competitiveness of our industry, although we also acknowledge the considerable challenges we face in adapting to emerging technologies. As Türkiye endeavours to embrace advancements such as artificial intelligence, big data, the Internet of Things, and blockchain, our top priorities remain focused on increasing investments in digital public infrastructure and ensuring that our industry is effectively integrated into these transformative processes.

In Türkiye, we have deliberately positioned digital transformation as a pivotal element of our national development strategy. Through the National Technology Initiative, we aim to cultivate a vibrant ecosystem that encourages the growth of startups, advances deep-tech solutions, and promotes sustainable innovation. This initiative not only seeks to reduce our reliance on foreign technology but also aims to strengthen our domestic production capabilities, ultimately contributing to a resilient and thriving economy.

Furthermore, we remain steadfast in our commitment to aligning our industrial and digital policies with sustainable development goals, ensuring that our economic diversification is not only inclusive but also environmentally responsible.

In this regard, we have strategically implemented the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy to nurture the development of our AI ecosystem. Since the inception of this

Check against Delivery

initiative in 2021, we have made substantial progress in fostering innovation and inclusivity. Notably, we have provided AI education to 50,000 students through MAKERLAB Technology Workshops across all provinces, organized AI-themed competitions at TEKNOFEST, and launched various strategic initiatives aimed at making emerging technologies accessible to everyone. These initiatives underscore our dedication to empowering the next generation of innovators and promoting equitable access to technology.

Our Technology Development Zones in Türkiye serve as catalysts for accelerating knowledge transfer and fostering innovation by bridging the gap between industry and academia. Through collaboration projects between universities and industry, we are enhancing our high-tech production capacity. Furthermore, by engaging in public-private partnerships, we are actively promoting investments in areas such as big data analytics, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things to strengthen our digital economy.

To further advance this digital economy, we have established support programs designed to facilitate the adaptation of SMEs and industrial enterprises to new technologies. These programs enhance digital competencies and inspire innovative projects. Additionally, through the Model Factories we have established in Türkiye, we are providing guidance to our industrial sector in areas such as digital transformation, lean production, and energy efficiency.

We firmly believe that international cooperation is essential to addressing the global challenges posed by the rapid development of digitalization. By actively engaging in platforms such as the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), we will continue to develop global collaborations on artificial intelligence and advanced technologies, facilitate knowledge transfer among countries, and make the digital economy more inclusive.

Thank you.