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STUDIES TOWARDS ATTRACTING INVESTMENTS IN TURKEY

Attracting international investments has especially gain importance after the global financial crisis in 2008. Decreasing global investment flows have increased the race and countries accelerated their efforts towards attracting investors. Turkey has also given momentum to its efforts in line with the global trends.

The studies for attracting investments in Turkey are conducted under three main pillars. The first pillar is the studies towards improving investment environment. A country's ability to attract international investors is strongly related with the conditions offered for investors and its willingness to reduce bureaucratic procedures, as well as its political and macroeconomic stability and strategic position. Enhancing the investment climate in a country needs long lasting commitment in structuring the reform agenda and implementing the planned actions respectively. This process is a long-running and never ending process, in which the critical role of detailed planning has been proved by the implementations of many countries. The process requires adopting the concrete measures on time and in strong coordination with all the stakeholders.

Turkey has started its studies towards improving investment environment, by diagnosing the major obstacles in front of the investors and launched a comprehensive reform program in 2001. Within the Reform Program, the Coordination Council for the Improvement of Investment Environment, YOİKK in Turkish abbreviation, was established based on public-private dialogue. YOİKK, aims to rationalize the regulations on investments in Turkey, develop policies by determining the necessary arrangements that will enhance the competitiveness of the investment environment and generate solutions to the administrative barriers encountered by the investors. Also the perspectives of multinational investors are reflected on the efforts to improve the investment environment via the Investment Advisory Council (IAC) which was established in 2004 under the chair of Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN.

Turkey's investment environment has improved substantially in the last 10 years period, since the initiation of the reform program. The country has been moved closely into micro and macro level reforms to ensure an investor friendly regulatory framework. In this regard, pro-business foreign direct investment regime has been adopted. The current legislation provides a secure environment for foreign investors by providing support through several bilateral and multilateral agreements and organizations; assuring national treatment such as granting foreign entrepreneurs the same rights and obligations as local