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May 6th, 2020

Honorable Larry Hogan, Governor of Maryland
Chairman of the National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street NW Suite 267
Washington DC, 20001

Dear Governor Hogan,

I write to extend a hand of friendship from the Turkish business community to the governors of the United States. As leaders on the front lines of managing the response to this pandemic, America's governors feel the strain of the global supply chain interruptions for medical equipment more than any. In their continued efforts to source the globe for medical equipment suppliers, I encourage members of the National Governor's Association to look to Turkish companies as willing, able and available partners who can meet their needs in a timely manner with quality products.

The Turkey-US Business Council (TAİK) is Turkey's oldest business organization and our mission is to enhance the longstanding trade and investment relationship between the United States and Turkey. As Chairman of TAIK, I represent some of the most prominent companies in Turkey including many in the manufacturing, textile and machine parts sectors.

These firms are leading Turkey's efforts to supply our country's health system with much-needed personal protective equipment, ventilators and other medical devices critical to our pandemic response. Their products far surpass the quality of those produced by competing firms in China and elsewhere and our companies have continued to keep their production processes active, which means orders are being fulfilled without delay. This is part of the reason why Turkey has not experienced shortages of devices or personal protective equipment.

Our government's recent decision to lift temporary export restrictions on Turkish-made medical devices places a number of TAIK members in prime positions to assist the United States in



acquiring the medical equipment it needs to fight this virus. And given the Turkish government's large donation of medical supplies to the US federal government last week, it is clear that our country is committed to helping our friends in America. For these reasons, I strongly encourage governors to work with Turkish medical suppliers to fulfill their equipment needs for the remainder of this crisis.

This unprecedented global pandemic has created challenges for every government across the globe. Please know that the Turkish business community stands in strong solidarity with you and your constituents and that TAIK members are eager to explore partnerships that can keep the people of your states healthy and save lives. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if you are interested in exploring opportunities or if you would like to discuss further. I am happy to facilitate connections to Turkish firms who can meet your members' needs or answer any questions you may have.

Additionally, I am pleased to invite you to participate as a featured speaker in TAIK's Transatlantic Talks Webinar series. This would be a terrific opportunity to share the needs and experiences of your state directly to the TAIK business community. Recent guests have included New York Times columnist, Tom Friedman and founding member of Mobius Capital Partners, Dr. Mark Mobius. We would be honored to have you. Please let me know if you are interested.

On both matters, you can reach me directly at (taik@deik.org.tr). I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Mehmet Ali Yalçındağ

Chairman

Turkey-US Business Council



DIŞ EKONOMİK İLİŞKİLER KURULU | FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS BOARD
River Plaza, Büyükdere Caddesi Bahar Sokak No:13/9-10 Levent 34394 İstanbul, Turkey
T +90 212 339 50 00 F +90 212 270 30 92 www.deik.org.tr | www.taik.org.tr