

THE JOINT STATEMENT ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY [FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE] OF JUSTICE
OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
AND
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

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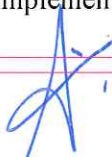
AND

**THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

Shall be hereinafter referred to as the “Ministries”.

The Ministries, by appreciating the successful cooperation in the field of justice until so far and recognizing the need for improving such cooperation, have emphasized their firm intention to intensify the existing cooperation within the international and national legal framework. This cooperation shall encompass activities in the following fields:

- 1- The relevant representatives from the Ministries shall continue to hold mutual technical consultations with the aim of solving problems emerging in the international cooperation especially in the area of legal assistance. With regard to the legal assistance in criminal matters, the Ministries shall endeavour to enhance the efficiency of mutual legal assistance and extradition in particular regarding terrorism and organized crime related offences.
- 2- The Ministries shall promote direct contacts between the central authorities especially for the exchange of information and documents before and during ongoing legal assistance procedures. To that end, an official from each Ministry shall be appointed as a contact point to follow up the implementation of cooperation activities.



- 3- The Ministries further endeavour to increase the effectiveness of the cooperation by, inter alia, improving the quality of translations, exchanging information about their respective procedures and practices and organizing workshops to facilitate the procedures of mutual legal assistance and extradition.
- 4- The Ministries intend to conduct coordination meetings within the scope of this Joint Statement.

Implementation of this Joint Statement shall be coordinated by the General Directorate of International Law and Foreign Relations of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Turkey, and the Directorate General Legislation, Fundamental Rights and Liberties of Ministry [Federal Public Service] of Justice of the Kingdom of Belgium.

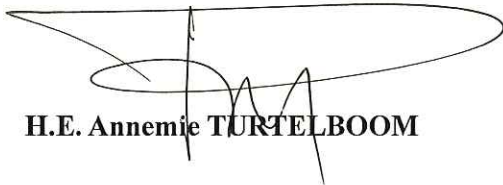
This Joint Statement is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the Ministries and does not constitute an agreement under international law. No provision of this Joint Statement shall be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or obligations for the States of the Ministries.

Any Ministry may denounce this Joint Statement at any time by giving prior notice to the other Ministry.

SIGNED in Brussels on 22 January 2013, in two copies in English and Turkish, both texts being equally authentic.

**On Behalf of the Ministry of Justice
THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM:**

**On Behalf of the Ministry of Justice
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY:**



H.E. Annemie TURTELBOOM



H.E. Sadullah ERGIN