## **PRESS RELEASE**

## **TİSK 2014 CSR AWARDS HAVE BEEN GIVEN**

17th September 2014

TİSK has granted the "TISK 2014 CSR Awards" at the National Conference took place in Istanbul Le Meridien Otel on September 17, 2014 within the scope of the "Corporate Social Responsibility for All Project (CSR for ALL)", which is financed by the European Commission and implemented under the leadership of TİSK.

## **Enterprises Awarded:**

	Large Scale Company	SME
Grand Award	Koç Holding - Vocational Education: A Crucial Matter For The Nation (Meslek Lisesi Memleket Meselesi)	Çevreci Eczacılar Kooperatifi - Engelsiz İlaç
Effectiveness Award	Opet - The Clean Toilet Campaign (Temiz Tuvalet Kampanyası)	Friterm A.Ş – Kids of Our Street (Bizim Sokağın Çocukları)
Best Practice Award	<b>Boyner</b> - Pomegranate Arils: Stronger Young Women, Happier Futures (Nar Taneleri)	
Inclusion Award	Borusan - My Mom's Job is My Future (Annemin İşi Benim Geleceğim Ödülü)	
Sustainability Award	Anadolu Cam - Glass Again Glass (Cam Yeniden Cam)	
Innovation Award	IBM - On Demand Community	

Yağız Eyüboğlu, president of TİSK, stated in his speech at the conference which took place with the participation of Mr Halil Etyemez, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security and François Begeot, Counsellor, Head of the Economic and Social Development Section, Delegation of the European Union to Turkey, that everyone has to do more in order to carry Turkey forward in today's conditions of competition. Mr. Eyüpoğlu stated in his opening speech that, in today's competitive condition, everyone has to do more if we wish to move Turkey forward. Mr. Eyüboğlu also stated that this approach is the basis of corporate citizenship and social responsibility concepts. He continued his words as follow:

"Our Confederation cooperated and will continue to cooperate notably with trade unions and employer organizations, public sector, NGOs; the European Commission, International Organization of Employers (IOE), Montenegrin Employers Federation (UPCG/MEF), The Business Confederation of Macedonia (BCM), Croatian Employers' Association (HUP-CEA) and The National Council of Private Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in Romania (CNIPMMR). CSR

Awards are simultaneously granted in 5 partner countries. Although we are still at the beginning journey of our Project, various countries have already shared their interests to become our new partners. The first phase of the Project will be completed by the end of 2014 and second phase will be implemented between 2015 and 2016. The number of the partners will increase in the second phase: National Employers Organizations from Serbia and Bulgaria will join the Project. We aim to repeat CSR contest every year and to give awards. Thus, we do hope that our effort would contribute to the effectiveness of the corporate social responsibility activities."

Mr. Eyüboğlu, also highlighted major contributions that TISK has taken for the competitiveness of Turkey for the past 51 years in every possible area such as social and economic issues by especially adapting the industrial relations of TİSK and labor legislation to the conditions of the day:

"Working to ensure peace, sustaining the peace and deepening of the culture of reconciliation brings a great value for all our stakeholders. What happens if we compromise? If we compromise, we will start working together for a better common future where we use our energy/efforts to make our dream come true instead of wasting it. As in the past, this approach has many nice examples. As we all know, dedicated and visionary efforts of employers and workers played a great role throughout the path from Turkey, trying to self-sufficiency 50 years ago, to Turkey of which products are demanded in many countries of the world today. We are determined to sustain this effort thereafter."

Mr. Halil Etyemez, on the other hand thanked TİSK for its activities in the area of CSR in his speech at the Award Ceremony. "The concept of social responsibility, of which history pasts only 200 years in the West, was exist in this land with foundations, Ahilik organizations and guild system for centuries and it continues to exist. The social responsibility activities carried out by our private sector, play a vital role to complete the approach which cares and prioritizes people, and promote it."

François Begeot, stated in his speech that the CSR for ALL Project, which goes beyond the borders of Turkey and includes many employer organizations in South East Europe countries, is a very important and pilot project. Mr. Begeot added that "The enterprises act with a sense of citizenship based on the concept of CSR. Thus, CSR became a concept which integrated in many EU's policies. I congratulate all enterprises which received awards today. They have implemented the best practices and entitled to receive this award."

Right after the opening speeches, Ms Nil Mit, CSR for ALL Project Coordinator shared the results of the project to the different stakeholders of the society and highlighted the importance of an individual: "TISK with the motto of "sustainability is possible only if we consider the trade profit together with the human and nature" as the backbone is creating awareness and also building a capacity within the Employer Organizations. Responsible stakeholder's starts by having responsible individuals: socially responsible companies need to have individuals who can implement socially responsible legislations within in the company. Therefore by naturalizing this notion and creating human resources, we are hoping to reach more companies that implement CSR and a better society."

"The Path Towards the Sustainable and Responsible Society" panel took place following the award ceremony where senior managers from 68 enterprises, composed of 58 large-scale and 10 SMEs, attended. The Panel, which was moderated by Dr. Yılmaz Argüden,

Chairman, Arge Consulting & Chairman, Global Compact Turkey & Chairman, Global Compact Local Networks Advisory Group, gathered respected experts from different shareholders: Serdar Dinler CSR Turkey Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gresi Sanje, Chairman of Communication Management Department, Bilgi University, Aysun Sayın, Boyner Group, Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Senior Manager. The panelists shared different approaches to CSR; discussed the importance of collaboration through CSR activities, having responsible business while investing the society, the motivation of giving out CSR awards to promote, the vitality of volunteerism in CSR, innovation, CSR reporting, transparency. Panelists agreed on that CSR is transforming something nice to do to something must to do in today's world.