



Turkey Reveals Details of National Aerospace Initiative

Boeing, the Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey, and the Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry unveiled the details of the National Aerospace Initiative of Turkey, which was announced during Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's visit to New York in September. Through the strategic partnership established between Boeing and Turkey to expand the Turkish Aerospace Industry, Boeing intends to at least double its economic influence in Turkey over the next 10 years.

ISTANBUL, November 21, 2017 - Boeing, the Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT), and the Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry disclosed the details of the National Aerospace Initiative of Turkey, which had been announced during a press conference held during Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's visit to New York in September. The meeting was hosted by Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry **Prof. Dr. İsmail Demir**, ISPAT President **Arda Ermut**, and Boeing Turkey General Manager and Country Representative **Ayşem Sargin**.

Within the scope of the **National Aerospace Initiative**, Boeing intends to broaden its collaboration and presence in Turkey in many fields by establishing initiatives such as the Aerospace Industry Development Program (AIDP), the Engineering and Technology Development Center (ETDC), the Regional Flight Training Center and Regional Collaboration for Service and Maintenance (RFTCRCSM). One of the key elements of this initiative, **Aerospace Industry Development Program**, is due to be launched by Boeing under the auspices of the Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry **in Istanbul on November 28th**.

The **National Aerospace Initiative** was created by Boeing and its partners in Turkey to develop the Turkish aerospace industry in accordance with Turkey's 2023 vision. The initiative is based on a strategic outline based on mutual interests between Boeing's investments and programs and the Turkish State, Turkish Airlines, aviation service providers, and industrial suppliers.

"A developed and global aerospace industry is among our priorities. It is one of the key elements of Turkey's 2023 vision," says **Prof. Dr. İsmail Demir, the Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry**. And adds, "Boeing's National Aerospace Initiative of Turkey is an innovative way to merge our resources, capabilities, and know-how with Boeing and develop Turkey's aerospace industry. We are glad to have such initiatives that enable Turkey and Boeing to work for a common goal."

Speaking at the introductory meeting of the National Aerospace Industry, **ISPAT President Arda Ermut** emphasized that they expected the initiative to have an important contribution to the Turkish aerospace industry within the scope of Turkey's 2023 vision. *"This initiative of Boeing and the planned investments are an investment in the future of Turkey. The strategic partnership of Turkey and Boeing in this respect intends to make our country one of the leaders in world aviation."* **Ermüt** further stated that ISPAT developed strategies to serve Turkey's 2023 vision by prioritizing value-added investments. *"One thing should be clearly understood: The effect and value-added by this initiative will be much stronger than a conventional factory investment. We pay attention to technology transfer, employment, and export-oriented manufacture in direct investments. From this perspective, the technology transfer that we always highlight will be realized through the technology, engineering, and R&D investments by Boeing under this initiative. Furthermore, the training centers and*



engineering center to be established under this initiative will provide qualified employment in aerospace industry. Also, we believe that the AIDP to be overseen by Boeing and Undersecretary of the Turkish Defense Industry will increase the share of our local industry in the global supply chain and contribute to our exports." Drawing attention to the fact that the number of civil airports in Turkey more than doubled from 26 in 2003 to 55 by the end of 2016, the ISPAT President further said that the ongoing 3rd Airport Project in Istanbul would serve 90 million passengers annually in the first stage and 150 million passengers upon completion. These figures would create a considerable difference in the Turkish aerospace industry, particularly in terms of the capacity and profitability of Turkish Airlines.

Perfect trust in Turkey's long-term development

Emphasizing that Turkey is one of the most important strategic growth markets for Boeing, **Boeing Turkey General Manager and Country Representative Ayşem Sargin** said, "We see that Turkey and its aerospace industry have a high growth potential in the forthcoming period with the opening of the 3rd Airport in Istanbul and Turkish Airlines' visionary growth strategy. Turkey also makes an important contribution to Boeing's productivity with its industry manufacturing at high standards helping to drive our global success, with highly-skilled engineers, and with highly qualified human resources. With this initiative, we aspire to convert our long-term relationship with Turkey into a strategic win-win partnership and to contribute to the competitiveness and sustainability of the aerospace industry. In line with our commitment for extended collaboration with the Turkish industry, we will form partnerships in many new and important fields such as engineering and R&D, sharing technical competencies and developing qualified manpower in aerospace industry. With this multinational program, we intend to at least double our economic impact in Turkey over the next 10 years. This initiative reflects our confidence in Turkey's long-term development, which is a leading global industrial partner and an important market for Boeing." **Sargin** further reminded in her speech that Boeing has had a solid relation with Turkey based on mutual interests since the 1940s.

Contributing to Boeing's objective for strengthening its presence in Turkey, the National Aerospace Initiative focuses on the following high priority fields:

1. Increase the global competitiveness of the Turkish industry and develop the aviation ecosystem with the Aerospace Industry Development Program in order to integrate the Turkish industry into the global aerospace supply chain.
2. Create engineering and R&D assets in Turkey to support Turkey's growth in the field of aerospace.
3. Develop collaboration with the defense and civil aerospace suppliers to leverage the capacity, productivity, and performance of airplanes in Turkey and in the region.
4. Develop collaboration with Turkey to create capacity and an advanced level of capability for the sustainable growth of the rapidly developing Turkish aerospace industry.
5. Expand Boeing's business to make Turkey a "Center of Excellence" for Control Surfaces, and develop a strategic collaboration with the Turkish industry.

For information: Banu Buyurgan (GTC Communication 0533 630 67 69 banu.buyurgan@gtc.com.tr)