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FRENCH OF ADDRESS BY MR. KEMAL SULEYMAN VANER
OF DELEGATION OF TURKEY

Mr. Chairman:

I would like to express the profound regret of the head of our Delegation, Ambassador Sarper that because of the prolongation of the work of the General Assembly, he is unable to attend this meeting.

The Turkish Government, faithful to its policy of international cooperation in all branches of human activity, has accepted with great pleasure the invitation to participate in the work of the International Conference on Trade and Employment. The Turkish Delegation is happy to announce that it will take advantage of all opportunities to contribute modestly to the achievement of the common tasks.

Our Government has followed with great interest the preparatory work which resulted in the setting up of a Draft Charter, which is before us today. Our delegation has been instructed to express the gratitude of our government to all those who have participated in the drafting of the Charter.

The Turkish delegation will present its observations and amendments when the articles of the Charter are discussed. However, I can say now that the Charter has produced generally a favorable impression in my country and that we consider with optimism the future of the International Organization on Trade and Employment.

What we have before us is undoubtedly a work of compromise. One can criticize the Draft on the basis that it contains too many exceptions besides many provisions satisfying our ideas. But how

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could it be different? Was it possible to ignore the real situation created by two destructive wars and by a period between the two world wars during which most of the nations tried to establish completely self-sufficient economic systems? And was it possible to forget the differences which existed between countries of different economic levels?

In the opinion of the Turkish Delegation, the Charter presents a character of completeness precisely because it constitutes a compromise between on one hand the ideal which we want to achieve and which is laid down in precise rules, and on the other hand the numerous restrictions and economic barriers under which we live today and which we hope to see eliminated in a not too distant future.

Our Draft Charter is indeed the result of a decision which was taken in conformity with Article 55 of the United Nations Charter. This Article stipulates that in order to insure peaceful and friendly relations between nations, the organization of the United Nations will promote the raising of standards of living, full employment as well as the development and progress in the economic and social domain. But how could the standard of living in the economically undeveloped countries be raised, if those countries were placed at the same level as the nations economically developed? I don't want to say that the Draft Charter before us is completely satisfactory and that it could be accepted as it is by the Turkish delegation. It can be said however that the fact that it contains the principle of protection and help for the progress of undeveloped nations is a great promise for the future.

We have had many proofs since the first world war of the impossibility for any country, great or small, to isolate itself and to build its prosperity on the miseries of other nations.

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Today, it is a firmly established fact that the well being of every nation depends on the general prosperity.

The Turkish Government has already courageously initiated a trade policy based on the principle of general and multi-lateral equilibrium. You can therefore easily understand our desire to seek the Charter become effective as soon as possible.

There are only two possibilities before us, Gentlemen. Either each of us will have to protect himself through unilateral measures through restrictions of imports, subsidies for exports and through generally bi-lateral agreements. We know very well where this course will lead us. It will bring us to the lowest possible balances of bilateral payments, to a reduction of the standards of living, even for the most powerful countries since it is impossible for any country to reduce its imports without being hurt by similar measures taken by other countries. The other course before us is to accept the spirit of this Charter and thus promote the greatest possible exchange of trade, as well as to increase production in abandoning egoistic and short-sighted policies. This road will lead us towards general prosperity and security. As far as Turkey is concerned, she will do her utmost to achieve the aim laid down in the Charter.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, allow me to express sincerest hope that this conference will succeed.

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