Dear President,

Dear General Secretary,

Dear Executive Board members of OATUU,

Distinguished Guests & Friends,

Ladies and Gentleman,

First of all I would like to greet each and every one of you on behalf of the Turkish Confederation of Public Servants Trade Union, MEMUR-SEN, and convey the best regards of its leadership.

It is an immense pleasure and a prestigious honour to be attending the 42nd General Council of OATUU and I would like to thank you all very warmly for this great opportunity.

As you may know Memur-Sen Confederation attaches a great importance to all OATUU gatherings, because here we share our experiences, challenges and at the same time we are strengthening our bilateral ties and interactions with OATUU and of course, with its affiliated trade union organizations.

The Memur-Sen Confederation will always be supporting the cohesion, the integration and the unity of the OATUU family and will always reject any attempts to divide it.

We are all aware that the practice of trade unionism is a holy duty, a permanent mission. We aim to protect the workers' rights, improve their life conditions and fight against inequalities, poverty, unemployment and injustices.

Protecting labour rights also means, by extension, to protect the rights and the dignity of Humanity.

Unfortunately, we are living in such a world in which trade unions and labour forces are being weakened.

It is not enough to say that there are inequalities in the world, our role is to unite and to influence powerful changes in labour rights!!

It is pointless to talk about social justice and fair distribution of income unless we discuss the reasons that are behind them.

Our world is changing very fast, from climate change to the migrant crisis, from the threat of terrorism to internal conflicts, the globalized world faces many challenges.

Due to our growing interconnection, what happens in the global South will directly or indirectly affect the global North, and vice-versa. This is part of the globalization process. And that is why we should be ready to face those problems by creating sustainable solutions, that could minimize the consequences of the problem (or even prevent them from happening).

Even with our differences, I believe that we can find solutions for our challenges if we work together. Different perspectives working together under the same goal will only create better solutions for a sustainable development.

Trade Unions also have an important role to play as international organizations are not able to reach all individuals due to its lack of effectiveness.

For a more sustainable world, world leaders need to hear the voice of the trade unions,

our actions will change the world, because all together we can create goals and tools that will create a more sustainable world.

By “empowering trade unions globally we will be better prepared to face the consequences of today’s problems.

The Memur-Sen Confederation is fully committed for a better world.

Long live our struggle!

Long live our solidarity!

Long live OATUU!

Thank you for your attention.