

DRAFT PROPOSAL - OUTLINE – As an NGO led program at the United Nations

Date: Feb. 2, 2010, Istanbul (1st Draft Jan. 15, 2010)

[Entry Note: *This proposal will be possible to be realized only if it is supported by the Permanent Missions of the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations, and the UN-Political Affairs for projected venues and collaborations at the United Nations. Until related venues are obtained and a date and time is confirmed by the UN, this proposal is and will remain as a projected draft proposal. Therefore, it will not bind any of the given names and institutions below for projected collaborations, partnerships, and sponsorships until then. Depending on approval of this project by the two Missions and the UN, based on the Missions' requirements and the UN regulations, collaborators, partners and co-sponsors of this project will jointly work on each projected section based on the logistic support of the two Missions. B.Ü. Feb.2, 2010]*

Suggestions for the Title:

“A NEW ERA FOR DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF TURKISH & ARMENIAN RELATIONS in the WORLD”

**or “REHABILITATION PROCESS OF TURKEY & ARMENIA:
REVISITING THE 900 YEARS of A SHARED CULTURE and RECONNECTING IT
WITH TODAY & the FUTURE”**

**or “HOW TO RECONSTRUCT THE SHARED CULTURE OF TURKS and
ARMENIANS”**

SUMMARY (Projected):

For an international recognition and celebration of the Turkish-Armenian Synergy Initiative's launching program at the United Nations in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary of the Light Millennium, in collaboration with an Armenian NGO, Turkish-Armenian Business Development Council (TABDC), Black Sea Economic Cooperation Business Council (BSEC), Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK), and potentially more collaborators and partners.

Proposed by: The Light Millennium – Associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations (December 2005), New York.

Concept and written by: Bircan Ünver, Light Millennium

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Web site: <http://lightmillennium.org>

Targeted Venue/s: United Nations Headquarters, NYC (*General Assembly Hall or ECOSOC Chamber*)

Proposed date: The 1st or 2nd week of May, 2010; preferably Thursday or Wednesday. Or the 3rd or 4th week of September 2010.

Time / duration of the program: Full day, from 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Language: English (*Translation should be provided for Turkish and Armenian speakers*).

Main Sponsors to the United Nations (projected):

Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations &

Permanent Mission of Republic of Armenia to the United Nations

United Nations Political Affairs

“Associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations effective on December 12, 2005”

The Light Millennium, is a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt and Public Benefit Organization and member of the Non-Profit Coordination Committee of New York
Mailing address: 87-82 115th Street, Richmond Hill, NY, 11418, USA E-mail: contact@lightmillennium.org
Web sites: <http://lightmillennium.org> - <http://isikbinyili.org> - <http://turkishgreesynergy.net>

Co-sponsors (projected)

- UN associated NGOs
- Turkish-Armenian Business Development Council
- An Armenian NGO based in NY or US
- An Armenian NGO based in Armenia
- Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK)
- The Hagop Kevorkian Foundation
- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- National Endowments for Humanities
- Ford Foundation
- Rockefeller Brothers
- Turkish American Coalition, DC
- TACCI, NY
- UMMA
- TOBB, DEIK, TUSIAD
- Universities (in NY, Turkey, and Yerevan). Potential universities in Turkey: Istanbul Aydin University, Istanbul Bilgi University, Bosphorus University, Marmara University, Isik University.
- Other potential governmental and UN agencies, private sector and NGOs.
- Corporate Sponsors in the U.S., Turkey and Armenia.
- Media partners: In the U.S., in Turkey and in Armenia

(Financial, logistic, in-kinds, or any form of supporters of this program will be listed on all promotional materials based on the definition of the support. It will be promoted on the web extensively, also in print, and electronic media in the 3 key countries and globally. The quality of prints and promotional materials and distribution will be based on availability of related funds.)

VISION:

This full day program aims to bring together and present some universal key issues and visions of common needs and mutual goals of all times and quests for **Reconciliation and Global Peace and Cultural Diversity within the context of Turkish Armenian Relations**. The program also aims to contribute to **“removing prejudices”, “cultural exchange”, “fostering positive connectivity,”** and to promote **“better understanding”** of one another as well as **“social, economic, educational and technological”** developments and partnerships between Turkey and Armenia and the region. This will potentially serve to securing peace in the region and globally. It aims to make a conceptual, cultural, educational, philosophical, and historical revisiting, finding connections from the 11th century to the beginning of the 20th Century, which will also tie the present to the future. As an overall goal, the program will present some of the crucial issues from the viewpoint of high level government and UN representatives, experts, business representatives, economist, academicians/educators, cultural/literary and art representatives. This will help bridging and weaving new ways, potentials, and collaborations in all levels between the peoples of Turkey and Armenia as well as the people of Turkish and Armenian descent all around the world.

DEFINITION OF THE PROJECT:

An international quest for obtaining support and collaboration to **Rehabilitation, Reconciliation, Normalization, Restructuring, and Developments of the Turkish & Armenian Relations** in both countries in the region, in both communities in the United States as well as in the world. The full day program aims to contribute to development of relations and securing peace in the region as well as exploring opportunities and potentials through the presentation of related ideas and projects by high-level representatives in various areas. As an outcome of the program, new partnerships, collaborations, friendships will be formed and this will lead to a cultural synergy between the two countries, also setting up a role model towards the Global Peace Culture.

Within this general context via a full day program, a series of programs will explore similarities of the two

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cultures, and common needs and goals of the peoples of both countries. This will serve to better understanding of and respecting to one another, helping the normalization of the relations and cross-cultural relations that will lead in further investment in development projects, cultural, economic, educational, touristic, energy, environment, and technological partnerships in the region.

The program will deliberately leave out any outstanding conflicted issues between the countries that might potentially hurt or block the existing positive process in this respect.

By and large, this full day program will explore different aspects of the above mentioned concepts extensively by high level presentations, where each section will have an interactive section. Each Q & A session will serve to promoting the concept of the “**Turkish-Armenian Synergy**” and “**rehabilitation, normalization and reconstruction**” process in an interactive form at the most effective and powerful global institution. The essence of the program will also be directly contributing to the Visions of the United Nations and Universal Declaration of the Human Rights.

Tentative outline of the envisioned program, which will have minimum 3 to 4 parts (depending on the availability of collaborations and funds):

- a) **Inaugural Meeting:** Time: 10:30-12:00 PM
Chair: From the UN Secretariat – a high-rank UN Rep.
 - b) Two High-Rank Government Profiles from both Turkey and Armenia such as President, Prime Minister, or Minister of Foreign Affairs, or Ambassadors.
 - c) Secretary General of the UN or the President of the General Assembly or the Director of the ECOSOC or the UNDP or the UNDP.
 - d) U.S. Ambassador to the UN, and Swedish or Russian Federation Ambassador to the UN.
 - e) Two presentations from international and Intergovernmental organizations such as the TABDC, World Bank, International Atomic Energy Agency - <http://www.iaea.org/>, and/or a rep. from other forms of International Energy Institutions such as NABUCCO or such as [International Development Law Organization](#).
 - f) 1 or 2 speakers from the EU on potential economic developments within the context of the Turkish-Armenian Relations’ normalization.
- Q & A about 20 to 30minutes.
- g) **Two Plenary Meetings:** Times) 1:45-2:45PM and 3:15 to 4:45PM
 - g1) On business, economic developments, investment, energy and environment
 - g2) On cultural exchanges, revisiting and focusing mainly on the shared-coexisting time period through arts, culture, literature, and impacts of one community on the other that are traceable today through archival documents, arts, architecture, monuments, music, handcrafts, decorative arts, etc. from the 11th Century to the beginning of the 20th Century. This will be connected to today by culture, tourism, education, language, and exchange programs, and the future. *(This plenary meeting potentially may lead to the “Digital Humanities” project which is mentioned in the combined notes.)*
 - h) **In the above projected two plenary meetings, along with the government, UN, economic/business (private sector), intergovernmental, academic and exchange program representatives,** NGO representatives from both sides will be present in order to promote partnerships and collaborations with NGOs in Armenia, Turkey, and the United States, as well as with other forms of civil society organizations and educational institutions. Each selected theme/idea will be equally presented from both perspectives by each speaker in equal

duration (max.10min). This will serve to reflect on the two sides of each idea/project , exploring how it will be developed and implemented.

Presentations might be in written/ oral form, via Power Point, video, or a combination of these. Projected duration for the Q & A session in both plenary meetings is about 20 to 30minutes.

i) **Performances – Cultural Exchange: Time: 5:30 – 7:00PM**

Performances such as a joint music-concert, folk dance, ballet, or opera will mainly be a combination of high quality artists/performances, which will be matched from both countries in terms of style/type of music or songs and performances.

Explanatory note: *For this sort of performances, as far as I know, there are 2 available venue options at the present time at the UN: The ideal one is the UN-GA Hall, which will be the best and most effective option if we are able to obtain it. The second option could be the Ambassador Diner on the 4th Floor of the UN.*

Our targeted audience will be to reach all the Missions-Diplomats, all the UN Staff, UN Intergovernmental Agencies, Academicians/Universities, Foreign Policy Makers, UN accredited media members, representatives of the private sector and major NY based international institutions, which may not be associated with the UN (for this, RSVP option will be used until a previously announced deadline.)

Reception – Projected Time: 7:30 to 9:00PM.

A reception will take place either at the Ambassadors Diner of the UN – 4th Floor, or at the UN/Main Lobby, or at the Penthouse of the UN/Library (this one is smaller compared to other options at the UN), or at the Turkish Center.

About the Light Millennium (LM): LM is a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt and Public Benefit Multi-Media and Culture Organization, which provides an international platform for the free expression of ideas and experiences in order to foster a global dialog and better understanding among all people, as well as a channel aiming to remove prejudices between various culture and countries. As an innovative alternative multi-media (such as Internet, TV, public events) and arts-culture organization, LM uses the Internet to cross borders in order to conduct research and to compile and publish information concerning art, literature and global issues regardless of age, gender, disciplines, ethnic, and cultural differences with an overall aim to create an archive for our current common consciousness. LM is on the Web since August 1999, and celebrating its 10th Anniversary based on its multi-participatory first e-publication, and launching the LMTV programs at QPTV in January 2000.

LM is associated with the **Department of Public Information of the United Nations/UNDPI** effective on December 12, 2005, and member of the Non Profit Coordination Committee of New York. Officially formed on July 17, 2001, based in Queens, New York. - **YOU ARE THE SOUL OF THIS GLOBAL PLATFORM & WE ARE FOR THE GREATNESS IN HUMANITY."**

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