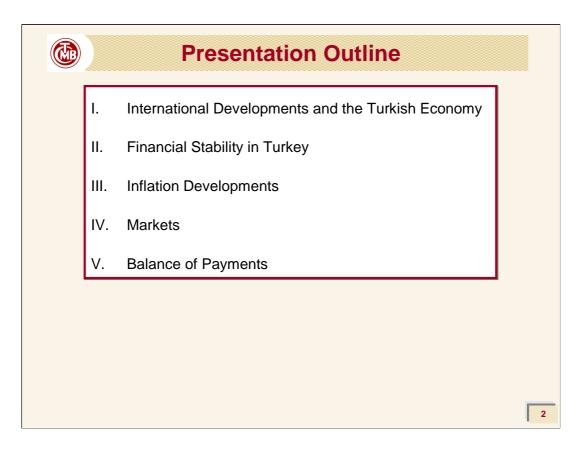


CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

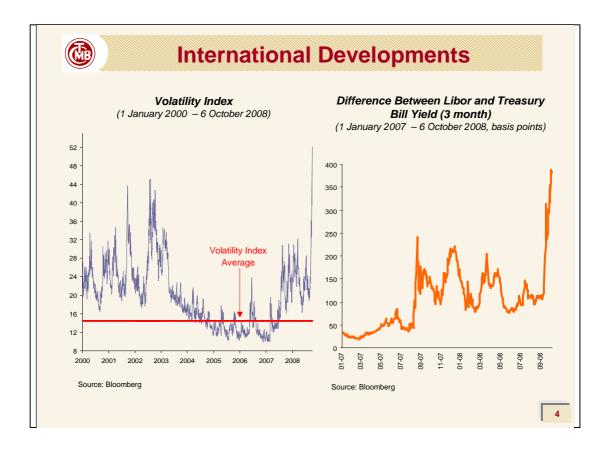
Durmuş YILMAZ Governor

October 2008

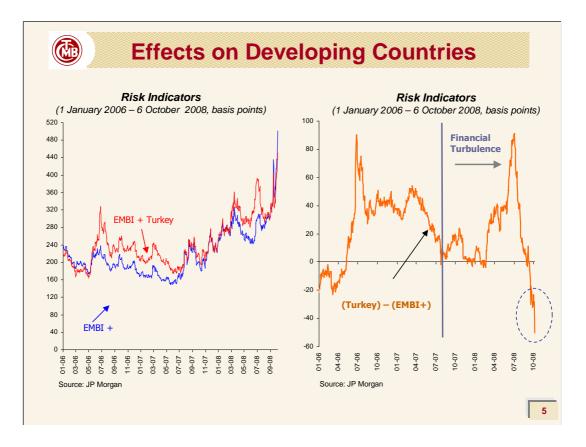
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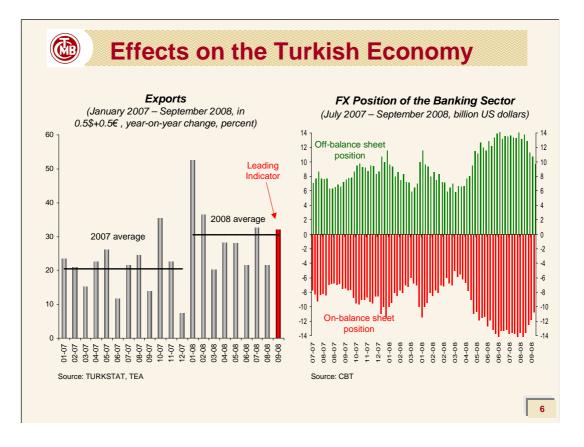




- The global financial turbulence that started in mid-2007, has yet to subside and the Volatility Index, which is an indicator of this uncertainty remains elevated.
- Due to rising credit risk perception banks' reluctance to lend to each other rose significantly and as a result TED spread reached new highs recently.

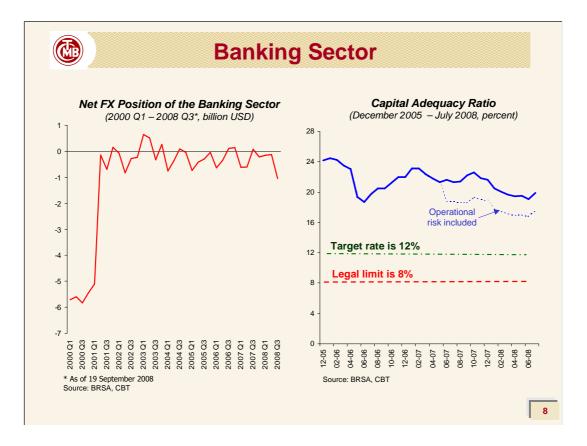


- In the second quarter of 2008 Turkey's risk premium increased more than that of other developing countries.
- Yet, a marked correction has been observed since July 2008.
- As compared to pre-turbulence period, Turkey's risk premium has outperformed the risk premium of emerging markets

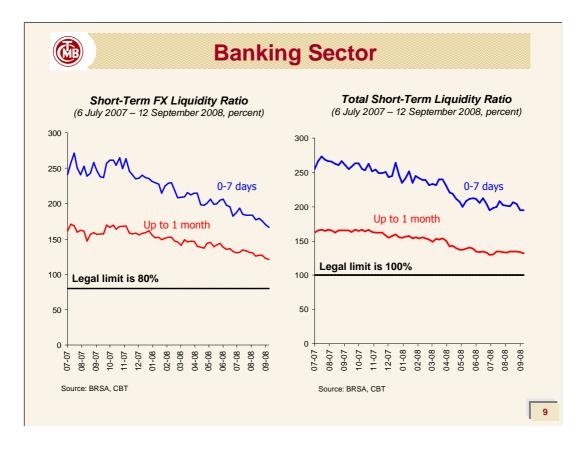


- The economic data for the third quarter of 2008 suggest that the financial fluctuations have not yet had a significant decelerating effect on the export performance of the Turkish economy.
- However, the recent deterioration in risk perceptions seems to curb Turkish banks' borrowing from abroad and lending domestically in local currency.

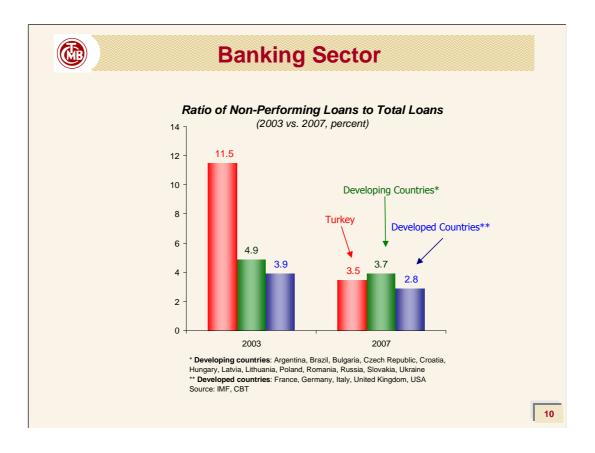




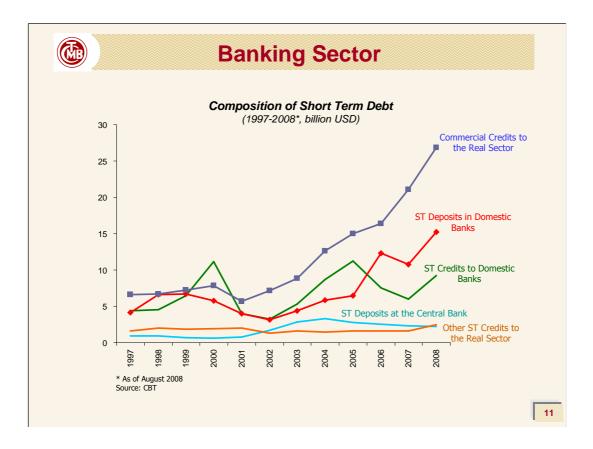
- The sector does not hold a noteworthy FX short position. Net FX positions of the banks are at a low level compared to their equity capital.
- The capital adequacy ratio is well above the legal limit and the EU average of 12.1%.



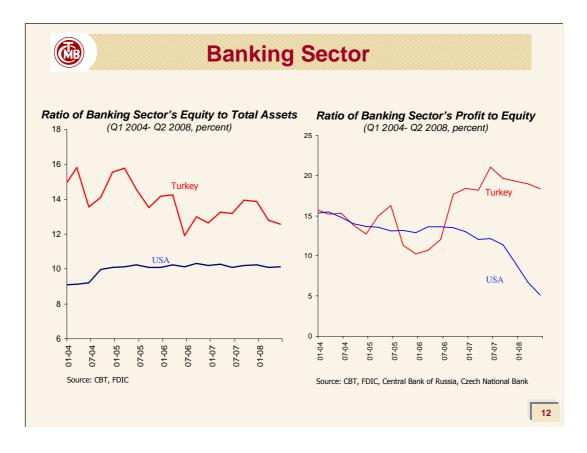
- Recent fluctuations in global financial markets once again highlighted the importance of liquidity risk management.
- Banks' short-term FX liquidity adequacy ratios are well above the legal limit of 80%.
- Total short-term liquidity adequacy ratios remain at high levels, as well.



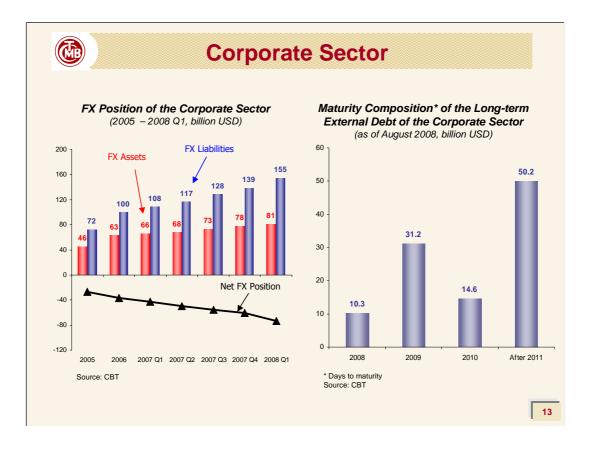
- The ratio of non-performing loans to total loans dropped by 8 points to 3.5% in the 2003-2007 period.
- The current level of the ratio is below the average of other developing countries.



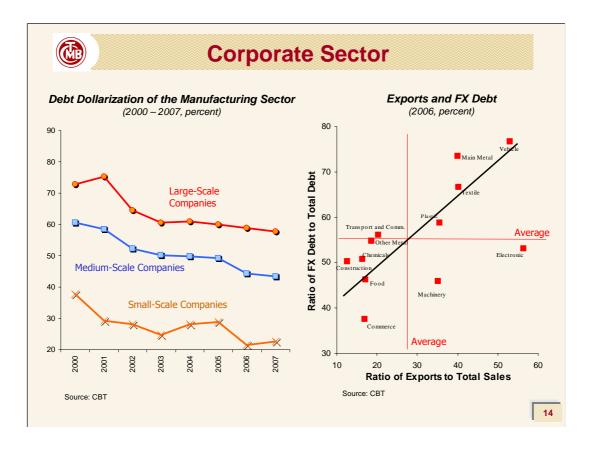
• Short term debt is mainly stemmed from the rise in trade openness and short term deposits in domestic banks (both in FX and local currency).



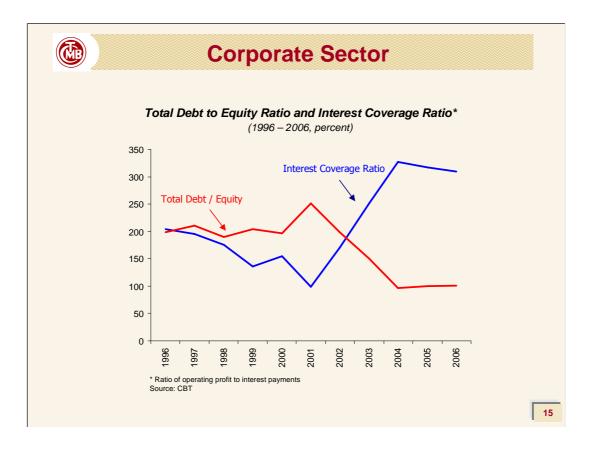
- Banking sector's equity to total assets ratio started to rise mid-2006 but recent unfavorable developments in the financial markets have effected this upward trend.
- Profit to equity ratio of the banking sector is still high, despite a relative decline in recent months..



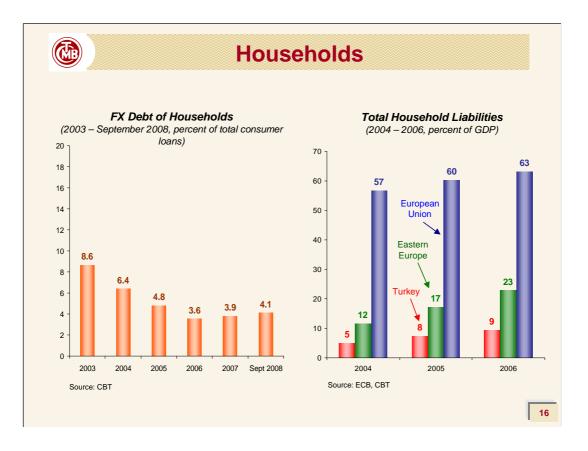
- The FX position of the non-banking sector was USD 73.8 billion as of the first quarter of 2008.
- Short term net FX position of the real sector is about 2 billion USD.
- Maturity composition of the real sector debt has extended considerably.



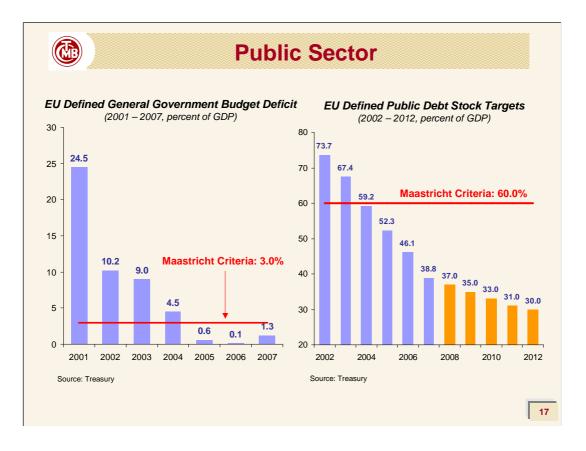
- Although the dollarization of the real sector's debt (i.e. the ratio of FX-denominated loans to total loans) is relatively high in Turkey, it has followed a downward trend in the recent period.
- Debt dollarization is higher for export-oriented companies and large-scale companies, whereas it is lower for companies manufacturing for domestic markets and small-scale companies.
- The sectors where FX loan utilization is high also have large shares of sales to foreign markets, whereas FX loan utilization is below the sector average in the sectors that generally have sales to the domestic market.



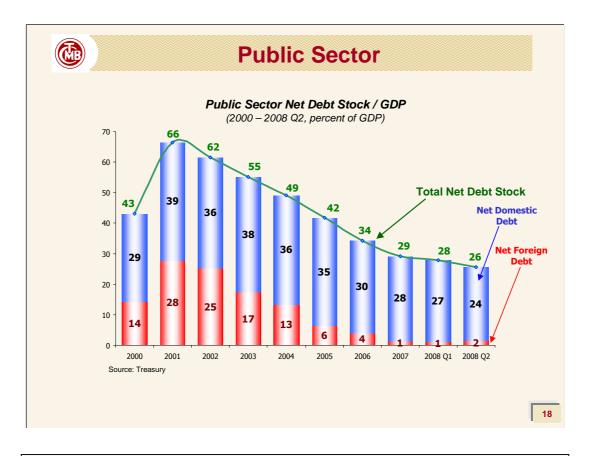
- The financial structure ratios of the corporate sector show that the ratio of total debt to equity declined in the 1996-2006 period, whereas there was a recovery in the interest coverage ratio.
- This situation ensures a considerable degree of safety for creditors.



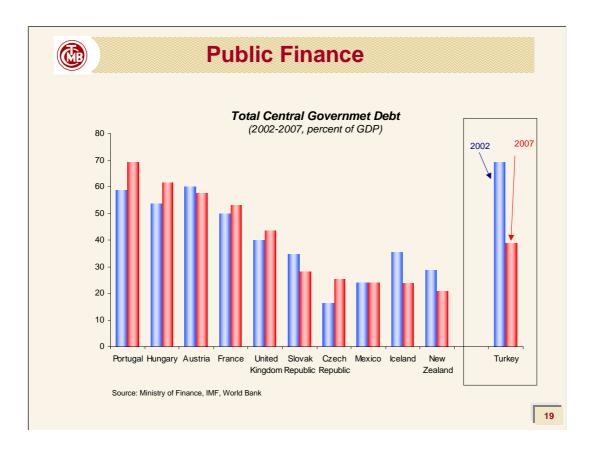
- In Turkey, the practice of variable interest rate for consumer loans is limited.
- FX denominated loans are not extended to consumers and companies with no FX income.
- FX-indexed consumer loans make up only 4.1% of total amount of consumer loans.
- Household indebtedness is at a low level compared to European Union and Eastern European countries.



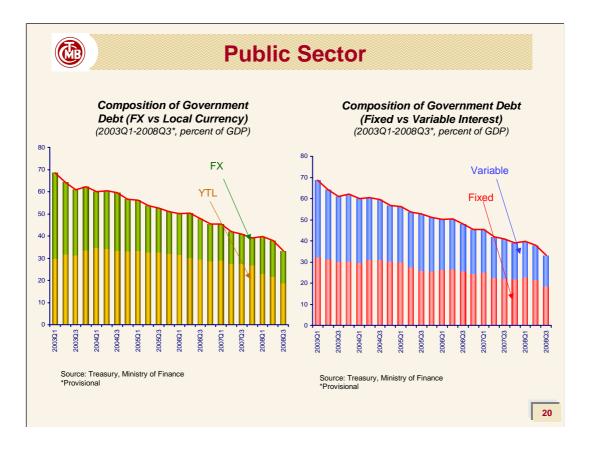
- Thanks to prudent fiscal policy, Turkey has fulfilled the Masstricht criteria since 2005.
- According to the Medium Term Fiscal Program EU defined public debt stock is forecasted to decline to 30 percent of GDP.



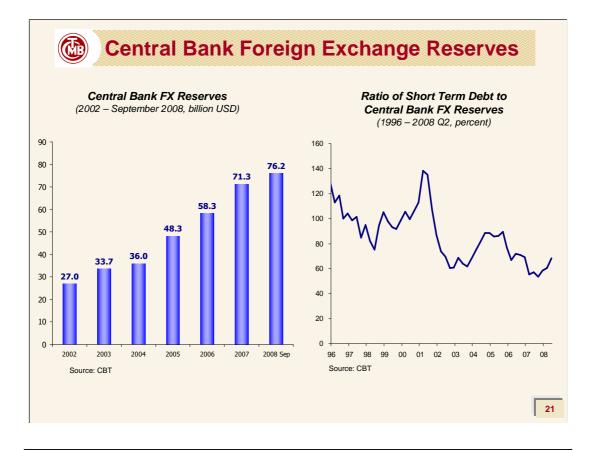
- Since 2001, public sector has become more resilient to external shocks.
- The Treasury maintains a high level of FX reserves with the aim of minimizing any liquidity risk that might arise in cash and debt management.



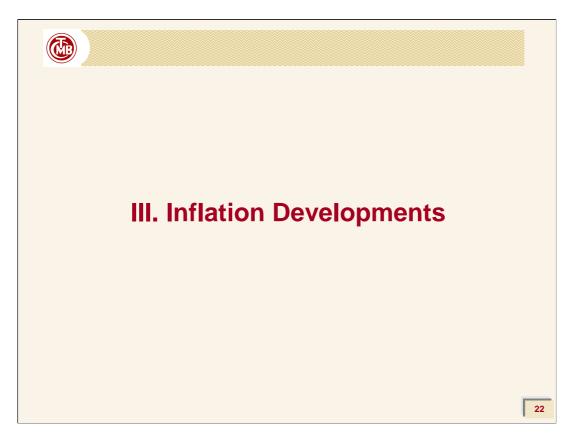
- Tight fiscal policy is one of the main pillars of the economic program.
- Turkey has been one of the best performers among OECD economies in reducing Central Government Debt.
- Central Government Debt decreased from 69% in 2002 to 39% in 2007.

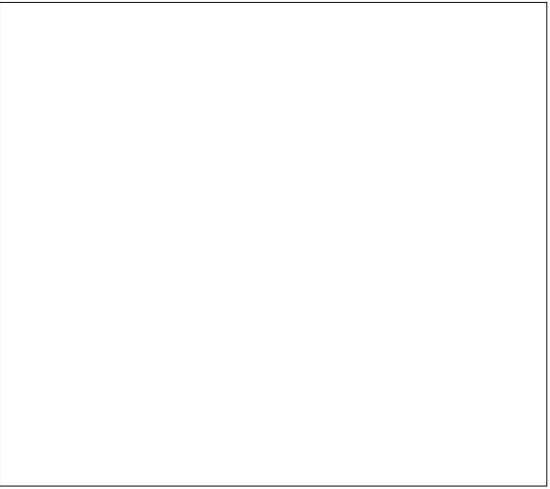


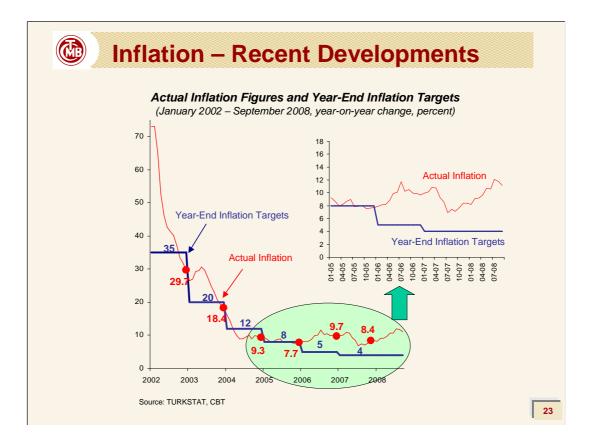
- The ratio of FX-debt within the total central government debt stock is 44% as of August 2008.
- Ratio of net foreign debt stock to GDP declined to 2% in 2008Q1.



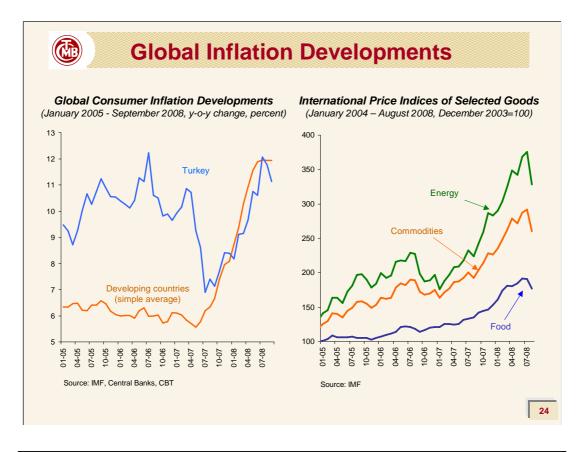
- Even in floating exchange rate regime, keeping a strong foreign exchange reserve position is very important for the economies of developing countries like Turkey in order to eliminate the unfavorable effects of potential shocks and to boost confidence in the country's economy.
- Foreign exchange reserves of the Central Bank amounts to USD 76.2 billion as of September 2008.
- All in all, current indicators show that endurance of the Turkish economy in the face of fluctuations in global markets has relatively increased compared to the previous years. Having said that, the decline in fragilities in comparison to the previous periods should not be interpreted as the absence of risks.



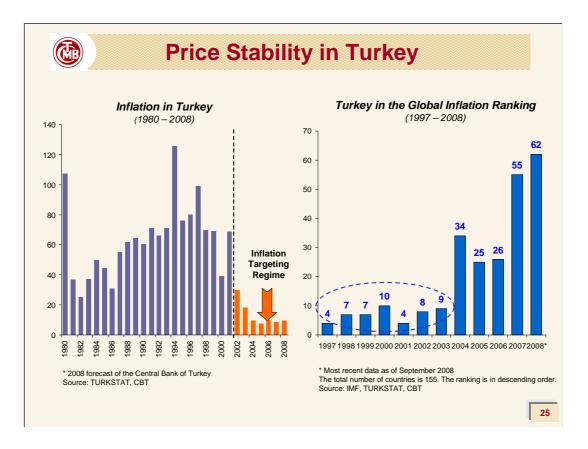




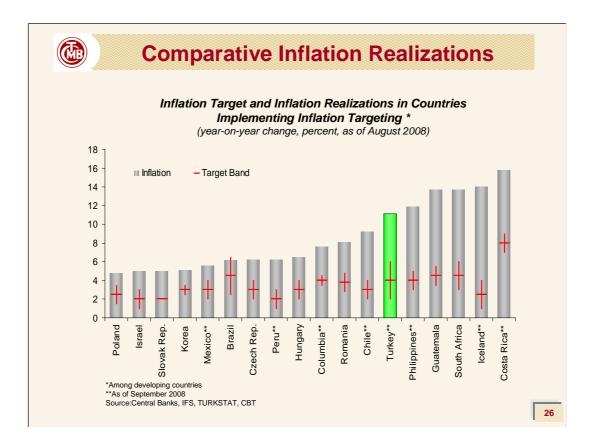
- The introduction of free floationg exchange rate regime, Central bank independence and inflation targeting regime in 2002 were the key steps for the disinflation process that we have experienced since 2001.
- Consumer price index came down from 68.5 percent in 2001 to 8.4 in 2007.



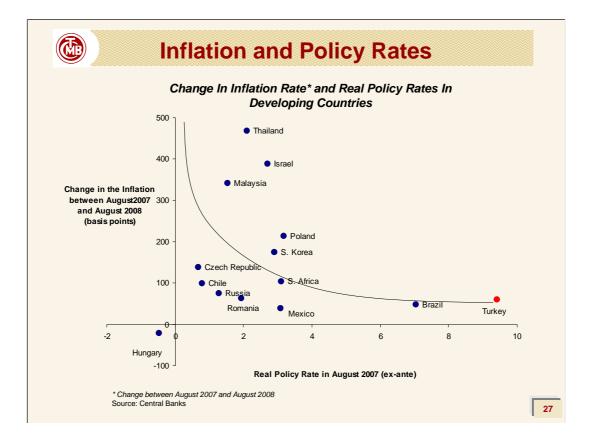
- Since 2007 marked increases in inflation rates have been observed all over the world.
- Developments in food, metal and energy prices rank the top in this development.
- Countries like Turkey that have large shares of food expenditures within total expenditures and are net commodity exporters are highly affected by the hikes in food and energy prices.



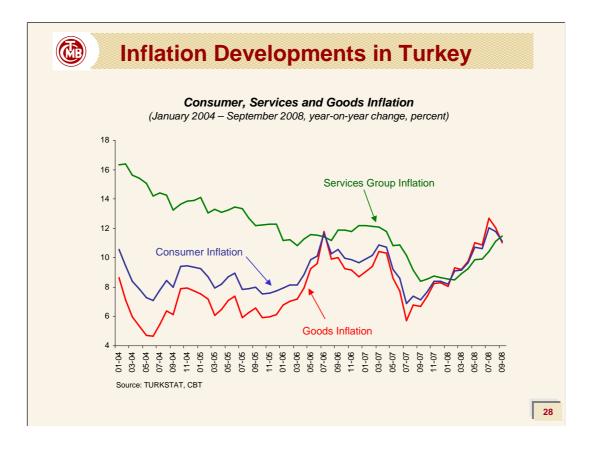
- Thanks to achievements in price stability, Turkey's ranking in terms of inflation has improved.
- In the 1997-2003 period, Turkey was among the 10 countries with highest inflation in the world. She declined to the 26th position in 2006.
- Despite exogenous shocks in 2007, Turkey moved down to the 62st place as of June 2008.



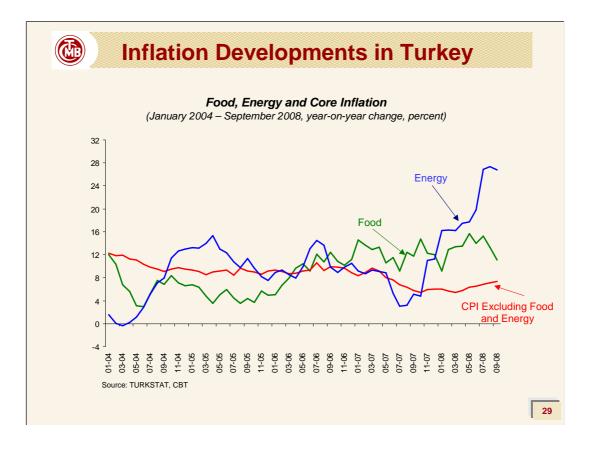
• As of August 2008, inflation rate remained outside the inflation target band in 18 developing countries implementing inflation targeting except Brazil.



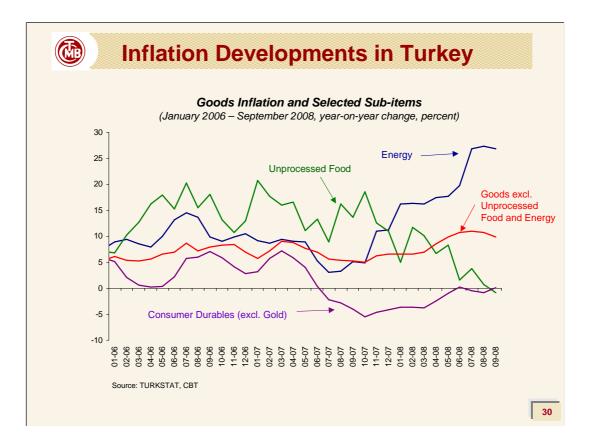
 Developing countries that followed a tight monetary policy in 2007 were in better position to resist inflationary pressures in 2008 as compared to countries that followed accomodative monetary policies.



- In the first three quarters of 2007, inflation gradually declined, as projected.
- In the last quarter of 2007, supply-side shocks such as drought and hikes in energy prices as well as adjustments in administered prices interrupted the slowdown in inflation.
- Services inflation, which remained below goods inflation during the first 8 months of 2008, exceeded the goods inflation in September as a result of delayed effects of supply shocks.
- Goods inflation follows a rather volatile course due to exogenous and supply-side factor.

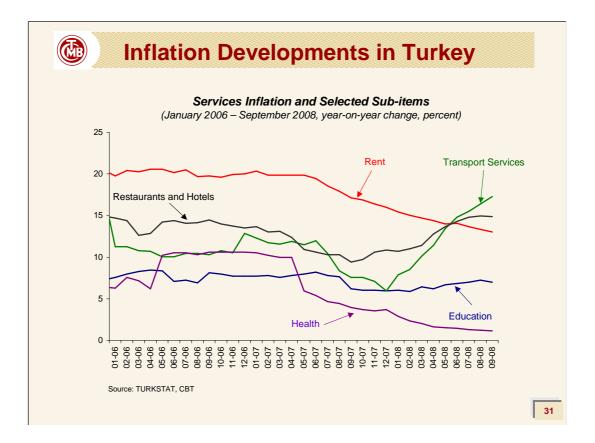


- We experienced a marked rise in the food and energy inflation due to supply shocks.
- Energy inflation which had came down to 4 percent in mid-2007 bounced afterwards and together with rise in the food inflation had distorted the disinflationary process.



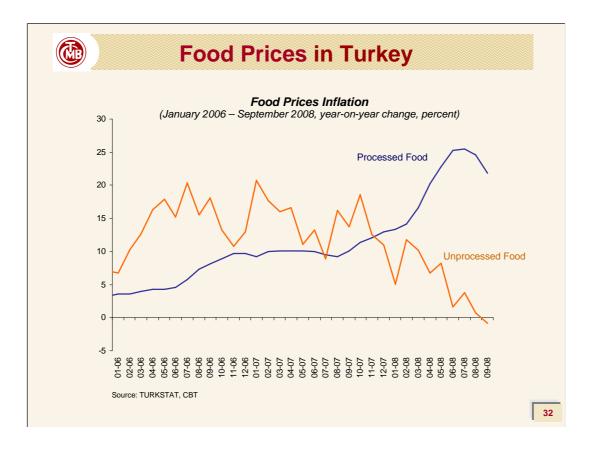
Goods Inflation:

 Year-on-year goods inflation, which started to decelerate in March 2007 and reached its lowest point at 5.7% in July 2007, rebounded to 11.0% in September 2008 due to increased food and energy prices along with adjustments to administered prices.

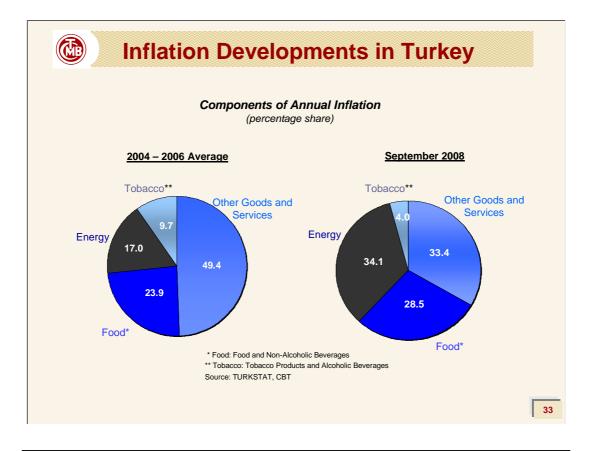


Services Inflation:

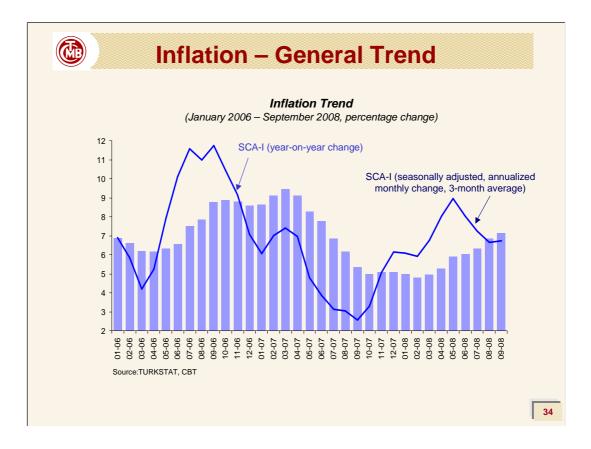
- Services inflation stood at 11.5% as of September 2008.
 - Price hikes in transport services due to soaring energy prices and sharp rise in communication services' prices curbed the downtrend in services inflation.
 - The deceleration in rent inflation is noteworthy.
 Year-on-year increase, which was 20% at end-2006, decreased to 13% in September 2008.



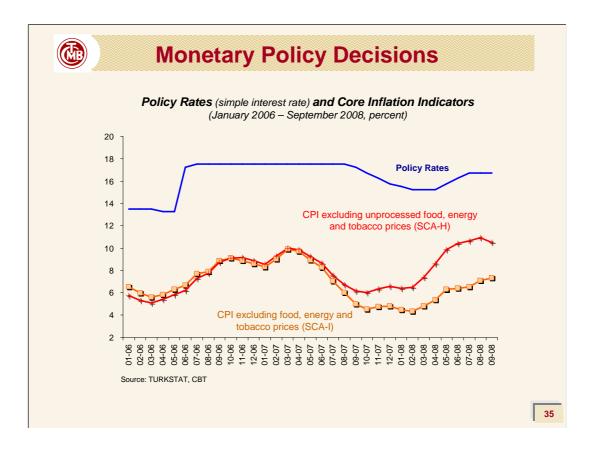
 It is anticipated that processed food inflation will gradually fall thanks to recent declines in commodity and import prices, while unprocessed food inflation will maintain its current favorable course.



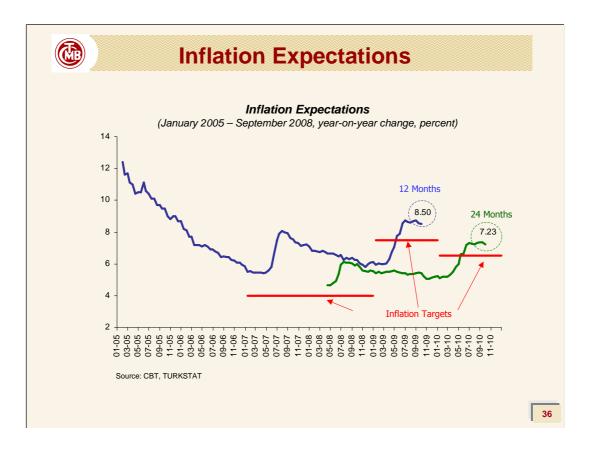
 The items outside the domain of monetary policy such as food prices, energy prices and administered prices contributed to annual inflation by 51% in 2004-2006 period, whereas their contribution rose to 67% in September 2008.



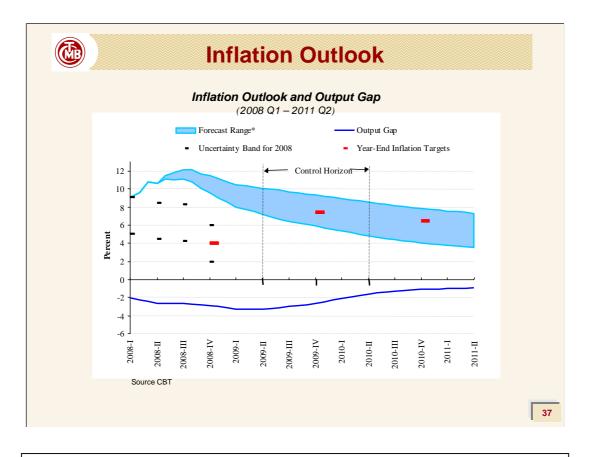
• Seasonally adjusted rate of increase of the I index, which is one of the main core inflation indicators, points to a slowdown in the general trend of inflation.



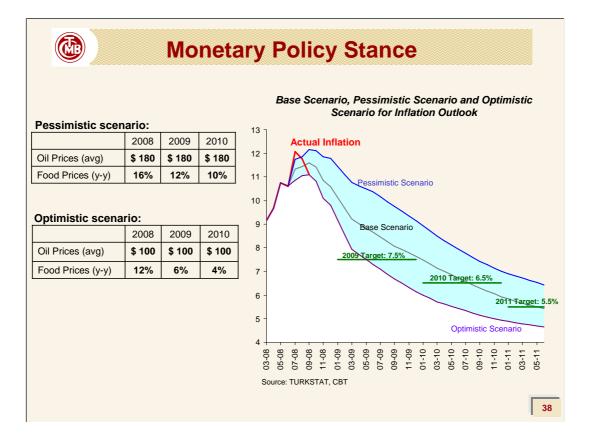
- Prolonged supply-side shocks have delayed the disinflation.
- However, oil prices remaining below the projections in the July inflation Report and the declining trend observed in other commodity prices will have a positive effect on inflation in the upcoming period. In this framework, it is projected that inflation will undergo a trend of gradual decline.
- The current level of policy interest rates following the monetary tightening since May 2008 continues to support the disinflation process.



- Deterioration inflation expectations has stopped in recent months..
 - Year-end expectations: 10.70 %
 - 12-month expectations: 8.50 %
 - 24-month expectations: 7.23 %
- Accumulated impact of the hikes in food and energy prices not only puts delay on the disinflation process but also impedes the improvement in inflation expectations.
- Besides, the movements in exchange rates and the deterioration in risk perceptions had an adverse effect on inflation expectations, particularly in the second quarter of the year.
- Monetary tightening seems to have stopped the recent deterioration in expectations.

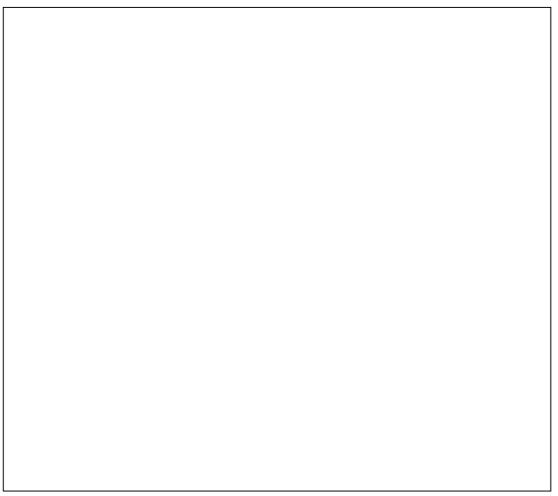


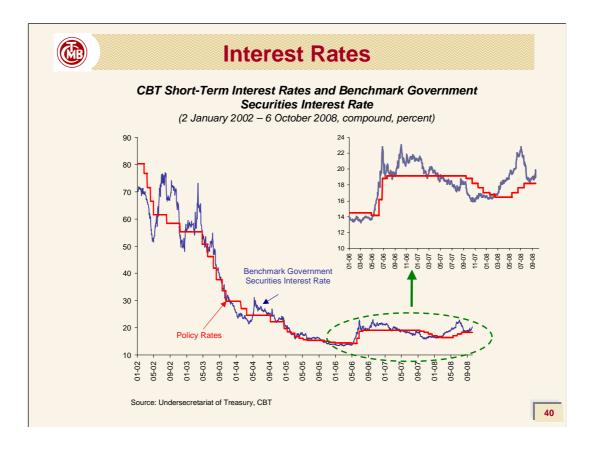
- Inflation targets for 2009, 2010 and 2011 have been set at 7.5 %, 6.5 % and 5.5 % respectively.
- It was stated in the July Inflation Report that the above-given revised targets were attainable.



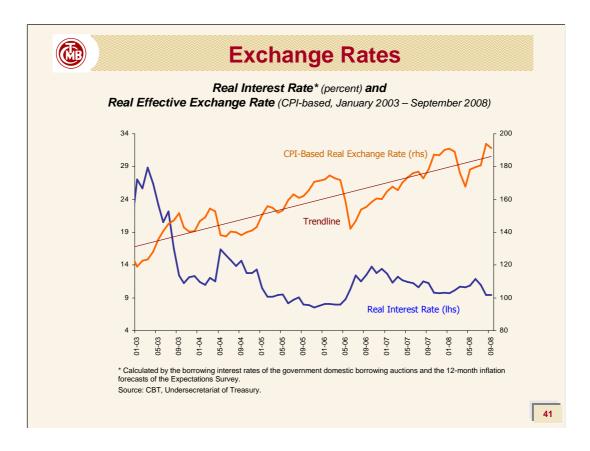
 Correction in commodity prices and the current inflation outlook suggest that inflation may follow a course close to the optimistic scenario presented in the Inflation Report of July 2008.



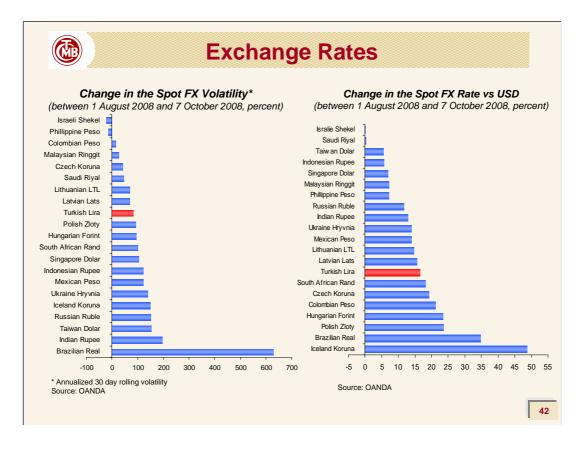




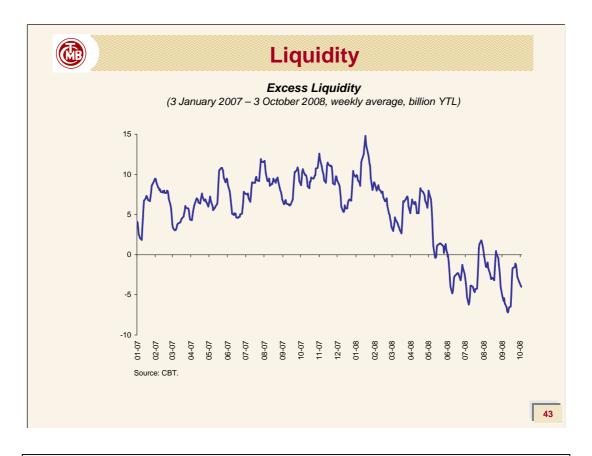
- Coupled with the increasing risk premium, inflation expectations which deteriorated due to supply-side shocks in food and energy prices in the first half of 2008, led to a rise in the general level of interest rates.
- Market interest rates re-entered a downward trend starting from July, due to tightening in monetary policy, improved inflation outlook and reduced risk premium.
- In line with the progress in macroeconomic stability since 2002, nominal and real interest rates have declined significantly.



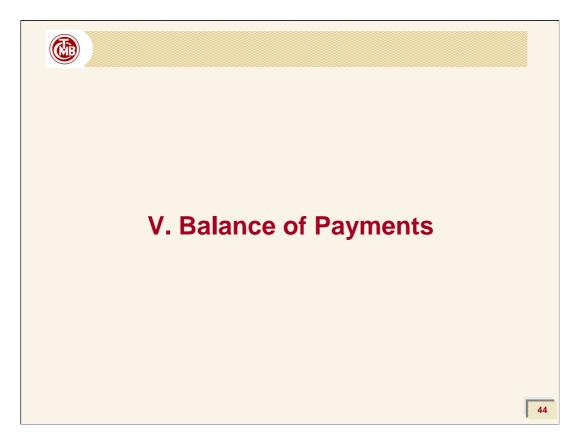
- Real interest rates and the value of the Turkish currency have moved in opposite directions since 2001.
- The course of the risk premium of the Turkish economy was the main determinant of this movement.
- With the declining risk premium in the post-2002 period, real interest rates have dropped and the Turkish currency has appreciated.

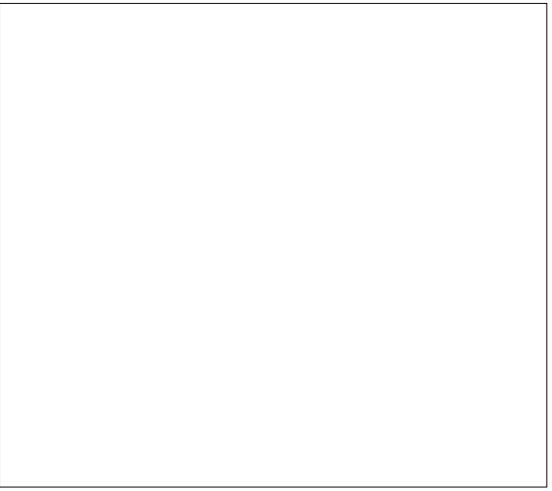


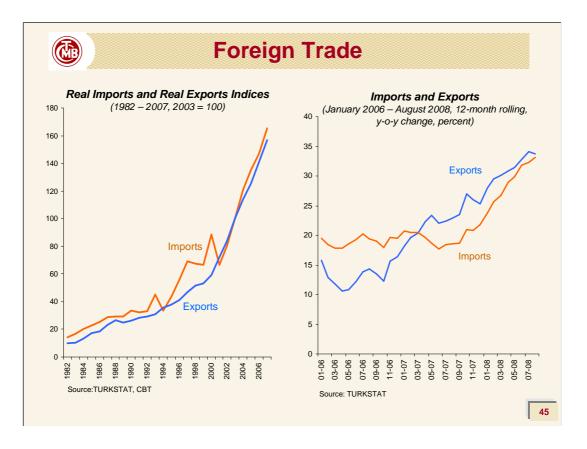
- Recent rise in the volatility of the US Dollar/Turkish Lira exchange rate is low compared to increases in other developing countries' foreign exchange rates.
- Turkish Lira's depreciation against US Dollar is close to the average depreciation rate of the developing countries' exchange rate.



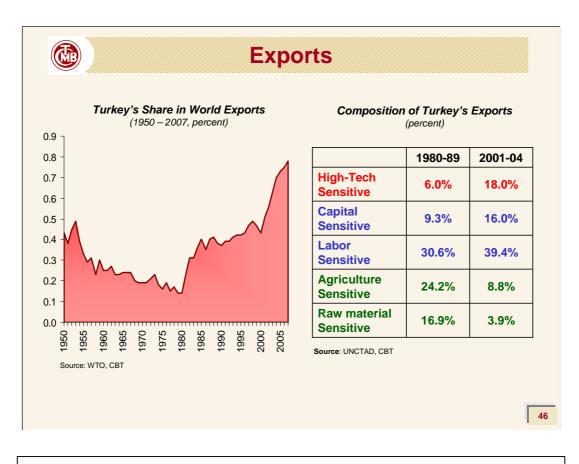
- The CBT has been injecting Turkish lira liquidity into the markets via repo operations to alleviate the tightening in liquidity conditions since May.
- Recent developments suggest that tight liquidity conditions may last through 2009 and onwards.
- Liquidity conditions may call for a technical adjustment in short term interest rates.
- Accordingly, the Monetary Policy Committee decided to initiate the preparations for the redesign of the operational framework of liquidity management in 2009, details of which will be announced in December.



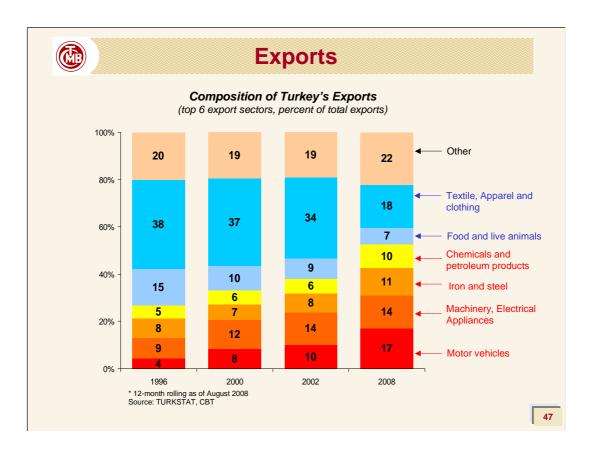




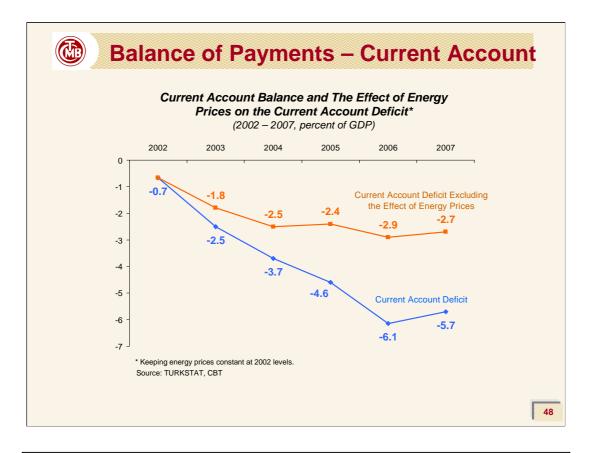
- The openness of the Turkish economy has increased since 2001 and foreign trade has posted high growth rates.
- According to quantity indices adjusted for exchange rate and price movements, real exports and real imports have grown in parallel to each other, contrary to the 1995-2000 period.
- As of August 2008 exports posted a 33.7% increase over the last 12 months, while that of imports stood at 33.1%.
- The expected slowdown in developed economies poses a downside risk for the export performance in the upcoming period.



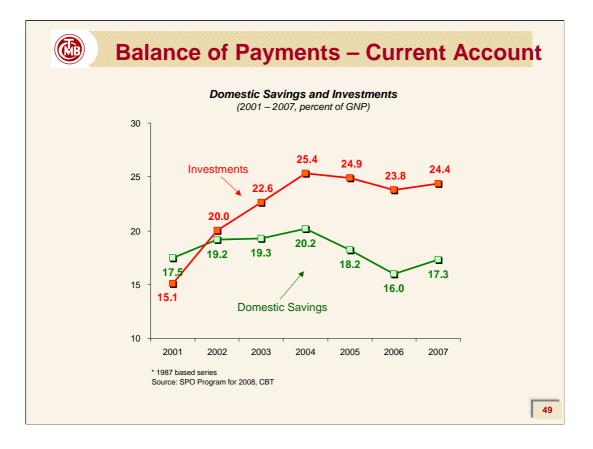
- 1980s witnessed the liberalization of trade and capital accounts and Turkey's export share in the world export market started to increase in this period.
- Shift of the export composition from agriculture and raw material sensitive products to high-tech and capital sensitive products realized after early 2000s has contributed to the rise in the export volume and Turkey's standing in the global economy.



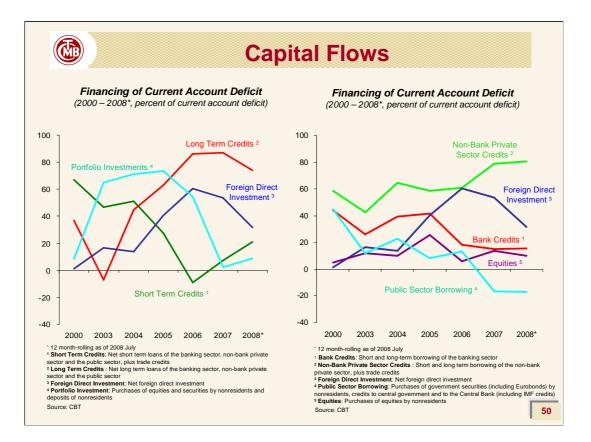
- Composition of Turkey's exports has changed significantly in recent years.
- Turkey's traditional sector, textile, has lost its place in the composition of exports by decreasing from 38% in 1996 to 18% in 2008.
- Export of motor vehicles has increased significantly since 1996.



- Current account deficit in 2007 rose by 18.0% compared to 2006 and reached USD 38 billion.
- In 2007, the ratio of current account deficit to GDP declined by 0.4 points compared to 2006 and stood at 5.7%.
- The adverse effect of high energy prices on current account deficit continues.
- High energy prices contributed around 3 percentage points to current account deficit/GDP ratio in 2007.



- There is a direct and strong relationship between current account deficit and economic growth rates.
- The high increase in investments is the primary reason of the deficit.
- Current account deficit is a structural problem. Macroeconomic stability and falling interest rates lead to an increase in consumption and investment demand. The structural characteristics of the economy necessitate the imports of intermediate goods in order to meet the increase in aggregate demand.
- Current account deficit should be controlled via supply and demand-side macro and micro policies with a medium and longterm perspective.



- Long-term credits, along with foreign direct investments, are crucial for the financing quality of current account deficit as well as for reducing fragility of the economy to external shocks.
- Short-term capital and portfolio inflows have substantially declined in 2007.
- In this period, current account deficit has been financed via longterm credits and foreign direct investments.
- The ratio of foreign direct investment and long-term capital to GDP, which was 7.5% in 2006, fell to 3.4% in 2007.
- The ratio of portfolio investments and short-term capital to GDP declined from 3.3% to 1.3%.

Capital Flows

Billion USD	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008*
Current Account Deficit	14.4	22.1	31.9	37.7	47.1
Short Term Credits	7.4	6.1	-2.8	2.7	9.9
Long Term Credits	6.4	14.0	27.6	32.8	34.9
FDI	2.0	9.0	19.1	20.2	15.0
Portfolio Investments	10.3	16.3	17.3	0.9	4.2
Investments Abroad	-2.4	-0.6	-7.2	-3.4	-3.4
Banks' FX Assets	-6.0	-0.3	-10.3	-3.5	-7.2
Official Reserves	-0.8	-17.8	-6.1	-8.0	-0.8
Other	-2.5	-4.6	-5.7	-3.9	-4.2
Note:					
Bank Credits	5.7	9.2	5.8	5.6	7.3
Non-Bank Private Sector	9.3	13.0	19.7	29.8	38.0
Public Borrowing	3.3	1.8	4.2	-6.3	-8.1
Equities	1.4	5.7	1.9	5.2	4.7

 Equitties
 1.4
 5.7
 1.9
 5.2
 4.7

 '12 month-rolling as of 2008 July

 Short Term Credits: Net short term loans of the banking sector, non-bank private sector and the public sector, plus trade credits

 Long Term Credits: Net short term loans of the banking sector, non-bank private sector and the public sector

 Portfolio Investment: Purchases of equities and securities by nonresidents and deposits of nonresidents

 Investment: Purchases of equities and securities by residents, plus credits extended abroad

 Other: Net error and omission, deposits in Central Bank, other assets and liabilities

 Bank Credits: Short and long-term borrowing of the banking sector

 Non-Bank Private Sector Credits : Short and long term borrowing of the non-bank private sector, plus trade credits

 Foreign Direct Investment: Net foreign direct investment

 Public Sector Borrowing: Purchases of equities by nonresidents

 Foreign Direct Investment: Net foreign direct investment

 Public Sector Borrowing: Purchases of equities locurities (including Eurobonds) by nonresidents, credits to central government and to the Central Bank (including IMF credits

 Equities: Purchases of equities by nonresidents

 Source: CBT

