EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECURITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF DEFENCE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

# **Title of Agreement**

 Security Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Turkey concerning the Protection of Defence Classified Information.

Command Paper Number: 9376

## **Subject Matter**

- 2. This bilateral Security Agreement concerns the mutual protection of defence classified information exchanged between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Republic of Turkey, or passed to commercial and industrial organisations in either of the two countries. The Agreement was signed in Ankara on 25 February 2016 by Richard Moore Her Majesty's Ambassador Ankara and Major General Saban UMUT, Deputy Undersecretary Minister of National Defence.
- 3. The Security Agreement addresses the following subjects: equivalent markings and security standards for the protection of defence classified information; restrictions on how and when such information can be used, transmitted or disclosed; rules and notification procedures governing access to defence classified material by contractors and visitors; reciprocal industrial security arrangements; protocols following the loss or compromise of defence classified material; and dispute resolution procedures.

## Ministerial Responsibility

4. The Minister responsible for the subject matter of this Treaty is the Secretary of State for Defence. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs has overall responsibility for policy concerning the United Kingdom's relations with the Republic of Turkey; the Cabinet Office has responsibility for the implementation of protective security policy in the United Kingdom.

## **Policy Considerations**

#### General

- 5. This Security Agreement will provide a legal basis for the protection for all defence classified information exchanged between the United Kingdom and the Republic of Turkey. The Agreement does not oblige either Party to exchange defence classified information with the other, it only provides a legal mechanism for Government authorities, and Government authorised companies, to facilitate any exchanges.
- 6. The Security Agreement will allow UK companies to bid for the Republic of Turkey defence classified contracts, and vice-versa.

## **Financial**

7. There are no significant direct financial implications for the United Kingdom. Any costs incurred by either Party in the application of the security provisions of this Security Agreement will be borne by that Party.

#### **Reservations and Declarations**

8. Not applicable.

# Implementation

- 9. The Security Agreement will enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last written notification by which the Parties notify each other of the completion of their internal legal procedures required for the Security Agreement to enter into force.
- 10. No new legislation is required in the UK to implement the Security Agreement.

## **Consultations**

11. The relevant Government departments and Agencies were consulted throughout the negotiations.

Minister of State for the Armed Forces Ministry of Defence