

NATIONAL REPORT OF TAA

SUMMARIZATIONS THE WORK OF THE TURKISH AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION FROM TRAINING PILOTS FOR TURKEY'S NATIONAL AIRLINES TO GIVING FREE-OF-CHARGE COURSES TO THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS IN SEVERAL BRANCHES OF AIR SPORTS

LAST YEAR, THE TAA TRAINED MORE THAN SIXTY PILOTS FOR THE TURKISH AIRLINES AND PROVIDED GLIDER TRAINING TO TWO HUNDRED FIFTY MILITARY CADETS, MORE THAN ELEVEN THOUSAND STUDENTS ALSO RECEIVED VARIOUS AVIATION COURSES INCLUDING PARACHUTING, BALLOONING AND AEROMODELLING.

THE TAA ALSO SUPPORTS TWENTY-ONE AERO-CLUBS AND THEY ARE EXPECTED TO COMPETE IN THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE BRANCHES OF HANGGLIDING, PARAGLIDING, AEROMODELLING AND PARACHUTING.

THE TAA IS PLANNING TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO WILL RECEIVE TRAINING IN AIR SPORTS TO AROUND TWENTY THOUSAND THIS YEAR. I SHOULD STRESS AGAIN THAT THE TAA IS PROVIDING ALL COURSES FREE-OF-CHARGE.

SEPARATELY, THE TAA IS PLANNING TO TRAIN SCHOOL TEACHERS IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION MINISTRY TO EXPAND ITS ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE NATION. AS PART OF THE PROJECT, PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL BE TAUGHT HOW TO MAKE A PLANE BY FOLDING A PAPER WITH THE AIM OF REACHING CHILDREN IN REMOTE VILLAGES WHO HAVE NOT SEEN A PLANE IN THEIR LIFE

THE TAA RUNS AN AVIATION MUSEUM IN THE TURKISH CAPITAL ALONG WITH THREE OTHER AIR FORCE OPEN-AIR AVIATION MUSEUMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. WE ALSO RUN TWO PARACHUTING TOWERS TO ENCOURAGE PARACHUTING.

THE TAA WORKS TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF AIR SPORTS THROUGH ITS MAGAZINES, ONE OF WHICH IS TARGETING CHILDREN, AND THE WEBSITE. IT ALSO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ACTIVITIES.

ONE OF THE FIVE SPACE CAMPS IN THE WORLD IS LOCATED IN THE AEGEAN PORT CITY OF IZMIR. THE CAMP HAS ATTRACTED MORE THAN FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE FROM TWENTY-FIVE COUNTRIES SINCE ITS OPENING IN NINETEEN-EIGHTY-TWO. THE CAMP AIMS TO TRAIN EAGER MINDS IN THE SPACE SCIENCES, PROMOTE TEAMWORK THROUGH SPACE SIMULATIONS AND CULTIVATE UNDERSTANDING OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY.

AS PART OF AIR CADET EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN 2008, THE TAA WILL HOST AROUND 25 FOREIGN STUDENTS. WE WILL BE SENDING AROUND 20 STUDENTS ABROAD.

I SHOULD ALSO MENTION THAT, FAI YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION HAS BEEN EXTREMELY POPULAR IN TURKEY. THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES HAVE EXCEEDED FIVE THOUSANDS. WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE CHILDREN ARE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE AVIATION WORLD THROUGH THEIR OWN CREATIVE WAY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH,