



Business

TOBB to hold assembly, elect new president

The Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) will convene today for its 64th general assembly, during which TOBB members will elect a president to lead the union for the next four years.



Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges President Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu (R) presents a plaque to a member.

At the meeting, which will be held at the TOBB Economy and Technology University (ETÜ) in Ankara, current TOBB President Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu will run for the post for the last time, since Law No. 5174, which covers the establishment and operation of TOBB, allows a person to be elected to the post a maximum of two times, serving four years in each term.

Hisarcıkloğlu took the presidential chair on June 16, 2001, after his predecessor, Fuat Miras, resigned from the post. TOBB board members appointed Hisarcıkloğlu as the new president during a reshuffle of positions within the board. The next election was scheduled to be held in May 2004, but TOBB postponed the election for one year by making a temporary amendment to its founding law. Hisarcıkloğlu gained the approval of the majority of voters in the May 2005 election and is seen by many as the favorite candidate in today's election. If he is elected and retains the position for the next four years, Hisarcıkloğlu will be the longest serving president of TOBB, having remained in office for 12 consecutive years.

In order to run for president of TOBB, a person must be nominated by at least 155 delegates, one-tenth of the total number of delegates in TOBB. In today's election, Hisarcıkloğlu is not expected to face any competitors.

The delegates will first elect a president, and once votes are tallied, they will return to the ballot boxes to select TOBB's 14-member board.

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