1. General overview of recent major developments at the National Library of Turkey

- With the improving technology, The National Library has started to digitise the Arabic character Turkish Periodicals to be able to give better service to the researchers via internet. The first step of the project is to digitise a part of the Periodicals and it will be extended to cover the whole collection. The researchers who want to use the system can connect to the National Library web site and query the metadata of the material. They can also investigate the full page image of the periodicals as well as the detailed information on the articles in those periodicals.

- The integration process to The European Library has been completed and, as of the beginning of 2009, the collection of the NLT and Turkish interface are available on The European Library portal.

2. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc.)

- Number of registered users: 128787
- Number of visits: 426223
- Number of loans: 85947
- Collection (total number of units): 2,841,241
  - books: 1,144,898
  - serials: 1,415,142
  - non-books materials: 200,027
  - manuscripts: 27,000
  - Old Turkish books: 56,220
- Number of personnel: 212
  - including 16 librarians
3. The Projects Included in the 2009 Budget

o Project for Transferring the Collection of the National Library into the Video System

It is aimed that the original appearance and bibliographic identity information of the handwritten and rare works in the collection of National Library are transferred to the computer environment and submitted to the science and research circles via internet. Within this scope, all of 26,906 handwritten works were transferred visually to the computer environment together with their identification tags. In addition, digitalization 177 type and 492 volumes of periodicals, written old Turkish, have been completed.

Our internet sites named www.yazmalar.org and http://sureli.mk.gov.tr/ in which the appearances of these works are found has been made multilingual as Turkish, Arabic, English, in the direction of the requests of researchers.

o Project for Transferring the Handwritten and Periodical Collection of the National Library into the Microform Environment

By means of this project, in order to prevent wear of the handwritten and rare works and the periodicals in the collection of national library and to increase the usage rate of them. Within the scope of shooting their microfilms, in the 2008, the transfer of 103,500 poses to the microfilms from 8 type and 312 volume of Turkish newspapers and magazines with Arabic letters in the periodicals collection was completed and this shall continue until transfer of all of handwritten and rare works and periodicals in our collection to the microfilms shall be completed.

o National Library Additional Store Construction

26 Stores of 625 m2 in the building of National Library have become not to meet the needs although the collection expands continuously. In addition to the existing 26 stores of 625 m2, a prudential duplex store building is needed in addition to the existing stores that having the equipments such as the air-conditioners, security cameras, elevators and rail carriage systems aimed at protecting of materials and put them into service underground by taking into consideration the current conditions, the types and number of material to be increased rapidly in the future and the extraordinary hazards (war, terror etc.) to the place that thought as the expanding place. The project and etude studies that exercised to be able to carry out this project which is gradually having importance in terms of the protection of Library collection have been completed.
○ Cultural Activities

NLT has organized a cultural activity named as “Poetry Days” with the collaboration of VEKAM. This activity has become on last Friday of every month for three years. In every meeting, different Turkish Poems are presented and also his/her poets are recited.

Furthermore, with the collaboration of “Eurasian Writers Association” NLT has been holding conferences in 2008. Each month there is a meeting at NLT conference Hall. This meetings focus on different countries’ literature.

○ Inter-library Co-Operation

National Library has agreed on Cultural Exchange Programs with several countries within the context of its Cultural Exchange Program. Published by NLT itself, the "Turkish National Bibliography" and "Bibliography of Articles in Turkish Periodicals" are sent to different libraries, institutes of Oriental Studies and information centers in the other countries.