



06 Feb. 2026

**SAYI:** 2026 / 070

**SUBJECT:** The Letter of Remembrance and Appreciation.

Dear colleagues and friends in the INSARAG community,

On the anniversary of 6 February, we pause to remember one of the most devastating disasters in our country's history and to honor the extraordinary solidarity shown by the international urban search and rescue community.

In those darkest hours, teams from distant countries left their homes and families behind and traveled to our nation, ready to risk everything to save lives. You arrived not as strangers, but as brothers and sisters in humanity, united by professionalism, courage, and compassion. Side by side with our national teams, you worked tirelessly in the rubble, bringing hope where hope seemed lost.

We will never forget the heroes who crossed borders and continents to stand with us. Your commitment to the INSARAG principles of cooperation, coordination, and mutual support was not only a demonstration of operational excellence, but also a powerful reminder of what international solidarity truly means.

On behalf of our organization, we extend our deepest thanks to all INSARAG teams and to the INSARAG Secretariat for their leadership, coordination, and unwavering support. The bonds forged during those days remain strong, and they continue to inspire us as we work together to strengthen global preparedness and response capacity.

With sincere respect and appreciation,

Coordination saves lives.



Aybars ÜNEL  
Secretary General  
AKUT Search and Rescue Association



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