**Arçelik strives for a global transition to climate-friendly appliances at COP23 in Bonn, Germany**

***Leading household appliances manufacturer Arçelik is showing continued support with global initiatives surrounding climate change. Arçelik attended COP23 - the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), revealing its continuous commitment since 2011.***

**Germany, 15 November 2017 –** Beko and Grundig parent, Arçelik attended the “Energy Efficient Lighting, Appliances and Equipment: Opportunities for Developing and Emerging Economies” event organized by the UN Environment’s and Global Environment Facility’s “United for Efficiency” initiative during COP23. Erik Solheim, UN Environment Executive Director led-off the event, which featured senior government officials, top business executives, and civil society leaders. Participants highlighted progress on policies and programmes that are being implemented in developing economies. Throughout the conference, Arçelik focused on accelerating the global transition to energy-efficient products.

Arçelik, represented by Chief Commercial Officer - Ragıp Balcıoğlu, shared the company’s vision of a sustainable, low-carbon future in the panel sessionof“Transforming Refrigerator & Air Conditioner Markets through Collaborative Initiatives”. Balcıoğlu talked about Arçelik’s goal of **“ensuring developing countries have access to “affordable” home appliances, which are climate friendly and provide more with less resources.**

“We design highly energy efficient products and invest in sustainability wherever we operate. Particularly in developing countries, where we have solid successes. Following our acquisition of Defy in South Africa in 2011, we have made significant investments in innovation and product energy efficiency. **The average energy efficiency class of our refrigerators in South Africa increased from “E” to “A” in 5 years. This equates to more than 50% decrease in energy consumption”** Balcıoğlu stated.

He explained how Arçelik “believes that sustainability is not just the responsibility of governments or corporations. A better, more sustainable future requires everyone to contribute. Thus, Arçelik strongly believes in collaboration and cooperation across all stakeholders”.

Balcıoğlu also pointed out how the company plans to work with other organisations and explained that Arçelik is currently in discussion with governmental authorities, ministries, and municipalities to initiate energy efficiency policies. He highlighted that to save energy in households, “developing countries will need to have energy labelling schemes, minimum energy performance standards (MEPS), test standards and market surveillance mechanism**s”.**

The scenario that 530 million Africans will be still without electricity by 2040 has triggered Arçelik to develop off-grid refrigerators that run on solar power. A sample of this Beko solar refrigerator was also displayed during the event.

**“How to keep cool without heating up the planet”**

During COP23, Hakan Bulgurlu, Arçelik A.S. CEO, issued a joint statement with Erik Solheim, UN Environment’s Executive Director, and Egel Larsson Grossman, MABE’s Chief Executive Officer, focusing on the role of the [United for Efficiency](http://united4efficiency.org/) initiative in advancing the objectives of the [Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol](http://www.k-cep.org/), which pushes governments and manufacturers to work towards the needed global reduction in the consumption and production of F-gases.

The [declaration](https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/story/how-keep-cool-without-heating-planet) highlights the advantages of making cooling appliances such as refrigerators and air conditioners climate-friendly and establishes that companies incorporating climate change into their business strategies will be winners in the future.

The statement says: **“A global transition to climate-friendly appliances will make it possible for citizens around the world to enjoy the benefits of refrigerators and air conditioners while reducing their impact on the climate. It’s time to cut the vicious cycle, and ensure that while we need to stay cool, so too does our planet”.**

**About Arçelik Group and Beko brand**

Arçelik Group is the third largest company in European home appliances industry, with 11 brands, 30,000 employees, consumers in 145 countries, 18 production facilities in 7 countries including Turkey, Russia, China, South Africa, Romania, and Pakistan. Beko is the second largest home appliances brand in Europe and a global Premium Partner of FC Barcelona. For further information, please visit www.arcelikas.com, [www.beko.com](http://www.beko.com)