A Memorandum of Understanding between the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Marmara Research Center, Polar Research Institute and the State Institution National Antarctic Scientific Centre of Ukraine

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Information Paper submitted by Turkey and Ukraine

Summary

This paper gives information about the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Marmara Research Center (MAM), Polar Research Institute (PRI) and the State Institution National Antarctic Scientific Centre of Ukraine (SI NASC) within the context of international scientific cooperation in Antarctic research.

Introduction

The signing process of the MoU between the TUBITAK MAM PRI and SI NASC has been completed on behalf of the Parties on 29.12.2020 by the signatures of Burcu ÖZSOY, Director of the TUBITAK MAM PRI and Evgen DYKYI, Director of the SI NASC.

In the context of the development of scientific cooperation in Antarctic research, the TUBITAK MAM PRI and SI NASC within the framework of this MoU express a mutual interest in studies related to Antarctica and emphasize their commitment to strengthen, promote and develop cooperation in Antarctic research on the basis of mutual benefit.

The areas of cooperation under this MoU include logistic support, joint studies in the field of natural sciences, protection of the Antarctic environment and exchange of information on the domestic laws and regulations on Antarctica.

The cooperation between the Participants will be carried out through visits of the representatives of competent authorities, exchange of scientists and scholars, joint planning and implementation of research projects, scientific experiments and expeditions to Antarctica, exchange of scientific information and research results as may be agreed and joint organizations of symposiums, training and safety courses and scientific seminars.

It is notable that both Participants have already had an excellent example of mutual fruitful cooperation. In accordance with previously reached agreements, there was organized the joint Ukrainian-Turkish Antarctic expedition to Vernadsky station in 2016. This expedition has brought important experience for both Parties. For Ukraine, it was not just an exchange of scientists but hosting at the station a full team of 13 Turkish scientists from various institutions involved in Antarctic research. The mentioned experience was also great for the Turkish side. Turkey started organizing annual national expeditions under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey in the following years.

The TUBITAK MAM PRI would like to thank the SI NASC for this opportunity. Such cooperation is extremely important for both Parties in their aspiration to strengthen international scientific cooperation in Antarctic research.