Turkey’s Membership to the COMNAP

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Information Paper submitted by Turkey

Summary

This paper presents information on the membership process of Turkey to The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP).

Background

Turkey's became an observer to the COMNAP with the application in April 2018. Since being granted observer status, Turkey has attended three COMNAP Annual General Meetings (AGM) in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Having significant scientific experience with five Antarctic expeditions, Turkey applied for the membership status to COMNAP in Annual General Meeting in 2021.

COMNAP Membership

Turkey applied for the membership to the COMNAP in 2021 to be involved in the development and promotion of best practices in managing the support of research in Antarctica. As a result of the application made by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) Marmara Research Center (MAM) Polar Research Institute (PRI), Turkey's request for membership was accepted in the 2021 AGM which was held between 12-14 July 2021.

COMNAP, as a forum for increasing the efficiency of operations in Antarctic logistics, is of great importance for Turkey as its purpose is to develop effective practices in an environmentally responsible manner and increase international collaboration in Antarctica.

Conclusion

Turkey considers that this membership will enhance and shape the future of polar research, and expresses its gratitude to all the countries and their representatives who supported it throughout the process.