Bulgaria-Turkey Scientific and Logistic Collaboration in Antarctica

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Information Paper submitted by Bulgaria and Turkey

Summary

This paper presents information on the collaboration between Bulgaria and Turkey in the 30th Bulgarian Antarctic Expedition (30 BAE) and the 6th Turkish Antarctic Expedition (TAE-VI).

Bulgaria-Turkey Scientific Collaboration

Within the scope of the 30th Bulgarian Antarctic Expedition (30 BAE) and the 6th Turkish Antarctic Expedition (TAE-VI), field studies of the bilateral research project “Glacier Monitoring and 3D Modelling in Horseshoe Island Antarctica Based on UAV-GPR Observations”, between the Bulgarian Antarctic Institute and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) Marmara Research Center (MAM), Polar Research Institute (PRI), were conducted in the Horseshoe Island which hosts Turkish Scientific Research Camp.

The applications were made with joint projects to the bilateral cooperation project call between TUBITAK and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The international research project prepared by Assist. Prof. Dr. Mahmut Oguz Selbesoglu and Assist. Prof. Dr. Anna Veselinova Lazarova- Georgieva was accepted to be supported. The depth of glaciers and the topographic structure were observed by comprehensive data collection methods including UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) Photogrammetry and UAV GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) technologies within the project.

In addition to the scientific collaboration, logistic capabilities were shared with Bulgarian scientists within the TAE-VI on the way back to King George Island and Punta Arenas. This logistical support not only enhanced the international collaboration but also reduced the carbon footprint of both states in the Antarctic region. It was a mutual pleasure to work together during the last season and we hope that this collaboration will continue in the future years.