A Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Science and Innovation of the Kingdom of Spain and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey

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Information Paper submitted by Spain and Turkey

***Summary***

This paper gives information about the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between “the Ministry of Science and Innovation (MCIN) of the Kingdom of Spain” and “the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)” within the context of cooperation on polar sciences and logistics.

***Introduction***

The signing process of the MoU between the MCIN and the TUBITAK has been completed on behalf of the Parties on November 17, 2021 by the signatures of H.E. Jose Manuel ALBARES BUENO, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation and H.E. Mustafa VARANK, Minister of Industry and Technology. The signing ceremony was held at the Presidential Complex in Ankara during the “Turkey-Spain 7th Intergovernmental Summit” in the presence of President Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN and President Pedro SANCHEZ of the Government of Spain with the participation of the relevant ministers.

In the context of developing, promoting and strengthening the cooperation in the area of polar research, based on equality and mutual benefit the MCIN and the TUBITAK within the framework of this MoU express a common interest to reinforce the cooperation between Participants to jointly develop a close working relationship in the fields of polar sciences and logistics.

The main aims of this MoU include cooperation in the study of polar sciences by coordinating and sharing resources and data, coordination of mutual intellectual activities to enable more efficient operations and better utilization of resources and exploring opportunities for cooperation and collaboration in polar logistics. The priority areas of cooperation under this MoU include facilitation of the exchange of personnel and data, integration of research programs and cooperation in polar logistics. The cooperation between the Participants will be carried out through the exchange of early career researchers, access to the other Country’s Antarctic infrastructures, international joint projects, interaction for joint initiatives in international forums and organization of joint polar expeditions.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey would like to thank the Ministry of Science and Innovation of the Kingdom of Spain for this opportunity. Such cooperation is extremely important for both Participants in their aspiration to provide high quality polar research to address global issues for the benefit of mankind and to strengthen international cooperation in the field of science and logistics.

The Spanish Polar Committee of the Ministry of Science and Innovation express his grateful to TUBITAK to mutual collaboration according its commitment to promote the scientific and logistic collaboration in polar regions.