The Letter of Endorsement between the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) and APECS National Committee of Turkey

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Information Paper submitted by Turkey

Summary

This paper presents information on the signing of the letter of endorsement (LoE) between the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) and the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists National Committee of Turkey (APECS Turkey).

Background

The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists Turkey (APECS Turkey) was founded by Dr. Burcu Özsoy in 2013 and taken under the umbrella of İstanbul Technical University Polar Research Center (ITU PolReC) in 2015. Since then, Turkey has carried out education & outreach activities in cooperation with the Turkish Students’ Polar Research Team (PolSTeam) which also has an organic connection with APECS Turkey. The activities of APECS Turkey and PolSTeam included the foundation of more than 100 Polar Clubs in primary and high schools, while seminars, workshops, exhibitions, street interviews, contests have been carried out reaching 1 million people. In 2018, the Education and Outreach Workshop has been organized in İstanbul with APECS and APECS Turkey to increase partnership and share experiences. The workshop focused on “Educators Supporting Collaboration on Polar Regions Project (ESCoP)” and future collaborations.

Letter of Endorsement (LoE) between APECS and APECS Turkey

Based on the above information and mentioned activities, APECS and APECS Turkey have signed an LoE in March 2021 to increase potential cooperation and strengthen the relationship. The LoE covers representation, communication, membership, partnership, and finance headlines. Within the scope of this agreement, APECS endorses the initiative of several APECS members in Turkey to establish an APECS National Committee in Turkey with the name APECS Turkey. APECS Turkey ensures to regularly update APECS about its establishment process, activities, and the conducted activities will comply with the goals of APECS, terms of reference, and rules of procedure.

Conclusion

The duration of the LoE was designated as 6 months. After the completion of this period, parties will revisit the letter either to discuss a more detailed partnership or to extend the duration of the current letter.