New Legislation for Turkish Polar Scientific Expeditions

New Legislation for Turkish Polar Scientific Expeditions

Information Paper submitted by Turkey

Summary

This paper gives a brief report on Turkey’s new legislation for Turkish Polar Scientific Expeditions titled “Procedures and Principles on Turkish Polar Science Expeditions and Activities”.

Introduction

The polar regions are home to a scientific research environment that will shed light on the past and future of the world. In order to benefit from this efficient research environment, countries organize scientific expeditions to the polar regions at regular intervals. The fact that logistical and technical support was extremely limited during the science expeditions resulted in the emergence of certain rules and flows to be applied at the expedition.

On 15 September 2020, “Procedures and Principles on Turkish Polar Science Expeditions and Activities” was issued and entered into force as a part of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) legislation.

The purpose of these Procedures and Principles is to determine the procedures and principles of any activities, studies, transactions and operations about the on-site conduct of Turkish Polar Scientific Expeditions, in the Antarctic Treaty Zone and the Arctic, under the coordination of TUBITAK Marmara Research Center (MAM) Polar Research Institute (PRI). In line with these procedures, principles and planned targets, the scope of the new legislation covers the authorities, duties and responsibilities of the persons participating in expeditions to ensure a safe operation.