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## Conference of the Parties

Twenty-fourth session

Katowice, 2–14 December 2018

Item 5(c) of the provisional agenda

**Consideration of proposals by Parties for amendments to the Convention under Article 15**

**Proposal from Turkey to delete the name of Turkey from the list in Annex I to the Convention**

## Proposal from Turkey to amend the list of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

### Note by the secretariat

1. The procedures for amending the Convention and its annexes, contained in Articles 15 and 16 of the Convention, is as follows:

(a) Article 15, paragraph 1: “Any Party may propose amendments to the Convention”;

(b) Article 15, paragraph 2: “Amendments to the Convention shall be adopted at an ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment to the Convention shall be communicated to the Parties by the secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for adoption. The secretariat shall also communicate proposed amendments to the signatories of the Convention and, for information, to the Depositary”;

(c) Article 16, paragraph 2: “Annexes to the Convention shall be proposed and adopted in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 15, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4”;

(d) Article 16, paragraph 4: “The proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to annexes to the Convention shall be subject to the same procedure as that for the proposal, adoption and entry into force of annexes to the Convention in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 above”.

2. In accordance with the provisions referred to in paragraph 1 above, Turkey, on 31 May 2018, submitted a note verbale containing a proposal to amend the list of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention by deleting the name of Turkey.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the secretariat transmitted the proposal to all Parties and signatories to the Convention by note verbale of 12 June 2018 and, for information, to the Depositary by a note of the same date.

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<sup>1</sup> The Conference of the Parties previously considered an amendment proposed by Azerbaijan and Pakistan to delete the name of Turkey from the list of Parties included in Annex I and Annex II to the Convention. Turkey, which was not a Party at the time, also requested the Conference of the Parties to delete its name from Annex I and Annex II. See documents FCCC/SBI/1997/15 and FCCC/CP/2001/11 and decision 26/CP.7.



3. The note verbale from Turkey, which includes the text of the proposed amendment, is reproduced below as received.

**Note verbale dated 31 May 2018 from the Republic of Turkey to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change proposing an amendment to Annex I to the Convention**

2018/36481099-Berlin BE/13919926

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Germany presents its compliments to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat and has the honour to convey the proposal to amend the list in Annex I to the Convention by deleting the name of “Turkey”, according to the relevant articles of the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and its Subsidiary Bodies and kindly requests the Secretariat, in agreement with the President, to communicate Turkey’s proposal to the Parties, to the signatories to the Convention, and for information to the Depositary.

The Embassy also kindly requests the Secretariat to include this item on the provisional agenda of the Twenty Fourth Session of the Conference of the Parties that will be held in Katowice between 3-14 December 2108. Amendment Proposal and Position Paper is enclosed herewith.

The Embassy would like to underline that this proposal of the Turkish Government is based on the premises that Turkey gives utmost importance to combating climate change and that Turkey can much better contribute by being a Non-Annex I country.

The Embassy of Republic of Turkey in Germany avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat the assurances of its highest considerations.

Berlin, May 31, 2018

(signed and stamped)  
Turkish Berlin  
Embassy

Encl:

- 1) Amendment Proposal
- 2) Position Paper

**AMENDMENT PROPOSAL BY THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY****Amendment to the List in Annex I of the Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* the decisions 26/CP.7, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 1/CP.18 and 21/CP.20,

Having considered the request put forward by Turkey with the proposal presented at the twenty fourth session of the Conference of the Parties that “Turkey”, as a country with negligible historical responsibility in greenhouse gas emissions, should be deleted from the list in Annex I to the Convention with a view to better enabling this country to combat climate change,

1. *Decides* to amend the list in Annex I to the Convention by deleting the name of Turkey;
2. *Notes* that the entry into force of this amendment to the list in Annex I to the Convention shall be subject to the same procedure as that for the entry into force of annexes to the Convention in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 3, of the Convention.

## POSITION PAPER OF TURKEY

Turkey desires to amend Annex I to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by deleting the name of "Turkey", according to the relevant articles of the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and its Subsidiary Bodies. Turkey kindly requests the Secretariat to include this item on the provisional agenda of the Twenty Fourth Session of the Conference of the Parties that will be held in Katowice between 3-14 December 2018,

This proposal is based on the premises that Turkey gives utmost importance to combating climate change and that Turkey can much better contribute to combating climate change by being a Non-Annex I country.

Despite being included in Annex-I<sup>1</sup>, Turkey had no historical responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions, in 1992. Indeed, by that time, Turkey was in the last row of the Annex I list among 36 countries in terms of greenhouse gas emission with per capita ratio of 3,88 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, while the average greenhouse gas emission per capita of the Annex I countries was 14,37 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per capita<sup>2</sup>. These figures alone demonstrate that Turkey should have been better placed as a Non-Annex I Party rather than Annex I.

With a view to finding an interim solution, special circumstances of Turkey were recognized by several decisions<sup>3</sup> of the Conference of the Parties starting from Cancun COP 16<sup>4</sup>. However, these decisions have not provided workable solutions.

Turkey joined the consensus in Paris, upon the assurances given for finding a viable solution to the special situation of Turkey. Indeed, Turkey had spent efforts to accommodate her special situation during the Paris Agreement negotiations.

Turkey's quest during the recent years within the framework of the UNFCCC negotiations to find a viable solution to its demand was based on paragraph 71 and 73 of the COP 21 Report. An agreement could not be reached and that the process was concluded at the end of the COP 23. In the closing plenary of the COP 23, it was highlighted that Turkey would continue her efforts to provide an equitable stance in this platform.

The adoption of the Paris Agreement, which Turkey signed in New York on 22 April 2016, has brought a new approach to address climate change. The Agreement paves the way for a new framework to reach ambitious long terms goals. The Paris Agreement establishes a system of collective action and universal application. It is

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*1 Turkey was included in Annex I and Annex II at the start of the process in 1992. Turkey joined the Convention in 2004, after being deleted from Annex II with the decision adopted in the first Marrakesh Conference of the Parties (COP) in 2001. That decision also invited the Parties to recognize the special circumstances of Turkey, which place Turkey, in a situation different from other Annex I Parties to the Convention.*

*2 Greenhouse gas emission data is taken from UNFCCC, 2017 [http://unfccc.int/ghg\\_data/new\\_reporting\\_requirements/items/9560.php](http://unfccc.int/ghg_data/new_reporting_requirements/items/9560.php), while population data is from World Bank database.*

*3 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 1/CP.18, 21/CP.20*

*4 Turkey's special circumstances were recognized in Cancun in 2010, followed by decisions of Durban, Doha and Lima COP's. The latest decision from the Lima COP in 2014, urges Annex II Parties to provide financial, technological, technical and capacity building support to Turkey.*

built on progression based on the principles equity as well as common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances.

With the implementation of the Paris Agreement, many different avenues will be opened to tackle climate change. Our sincere aim is to achieve progress through those avenues. Turkey believes that the role of emerging economies, including Turkey, in combating climate change is indispensable. Turkey, as a country with negligible historical responsibility in greenhouse gas emissions, will be able to maximize its efforts with better access to climate finance and technology transfer mechanisms.

As a country in the Mediterranean region, which is severely affected by the adverse effects of climate change, Turkey is determined to further her efforts in combating climate change and is at present taking considerable steps in this direction. In 2017, approximately 65% of its additional installed power investments were renewable electricity generation facilities. Turkey became second country in Europe with additional installed renewable power development and became the first in Europe in additional solar installed capacity last year. Turkey has announced its National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for the 2017-2023 period. The Action Plan outlines 55 actions involving buildings, energy, transport industry and technology, agriculture and other issues for cross-cutting areas. Being considered as a Non-Annex I Party, Turkey will be in a better position in combatting climate change and take further steps.

Thus, it is deemed that the deletion of Turkey from the list in Annex I of the Convention, will be a comprehensive solution which will enable Turkey to contribute to combating climate change in a much efficient way.

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