PAB TÜRK DELEGASYONU BAŞKANI SAYIN RAVZA KAVAKCI KAN'IN

GENEL KURUL TEMASI "GETTING TO ZERO: MOBILIZING PARLIAMENTS TO ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE" KONUSUNDA YAPACAĞI KONUŞMA NOTU

Climate change has become one of the most challenging global crisis our World has to face. Regardless of the development level, no country is immune from the negative effects of this global challenge. The science is unequivocal: climate change is about to become the greatest challenge faced by humanity. The second part of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report outlines that if global warming exceeds 1.5°C in the near-term, there would be unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and risks to ecosystems and humans.

There is no vaccine for climate change. The only way to combat this challenge is to act together and establish close cooperation globally in a sincere manner.

We need to decarbonize our world immediately. It is crystal-clear that achieving net zero target requires a comprehensive transformation. (However, countries are not on equal footing as regards to the means needed for this transformation) We should keep in mind that no country or sector could bear this burden alone. In this regard, climate finance and technology transfer are vital for achieving net zero.

Developed countries should support developing countries with adequate financial and technical means for their transition process to ensure that no one is left behind. As committed by developed countries, achieving 100 billion dollars annual climate finance target and stepping up this target in the years ahead will pave the way for reaching net zero target. We need to ensure that all the developing countries must have access to the climate-related finance, programmes and technology transfer without any obstacles.

On the other hand, we should bear in mind that this transition should not constitute an impediment for the sustainable development of countries. With this understanding, this transition should be made in a fair, sustainable and affordable manner. As the Parliaments, we have a crucial role in establishing a fair legislative framework for achieving net zero target. The Parliaments can also actively contribute to the establishment of close cooperation and partnership among countries in exchanging experience in reaching this target.

Being aware of the urgency of climate crisis, Türkiye is determined to fight against this challenge. We ratified the Paris Agreement as a testimony of our sincere determination to this end. Our President announced our net zero target for 2053 and our new green development reform. We started the necessary preparations of the long-term strategies and action plans to be adopted in accordance with our net zero emission target for 2030 and 2053. We adopted the Green Deal Action Plan aiming to facilitate our transition to a more sustainable and greener economy, in line with the European Green Deal objectives. I also would like to underline that we have a very strong agenda to deploy renewables into our electricity generation mix. Türkiye is currently ranking the 5th in Europe and the 12th in the world in terms of renewable installed capacity. Our share of renewable resources in our installed capacity in electricity generation is currently 54%.

Forests are crucial instruments for reaching net zero target. We attach utmost importance to increasing and preserving our forests. In the last 18 years, we have increased our forest areas from 20.8 million hectares to 23 million hectares by planting 5.2 billion seedlings. We have initiated the "Breath for the Future" campaign for a greener future on 11 November 2019, which was declared as National Forestation Day. In 2019, 13,5 million trees were planted simultaneously across the country, which carried Turkey into the Guinness Book of Records in terms of planting the highest number of saplings in an hour. We are organizing this campaign with the participation of other countries every year. In addition, Türkiye initiated

2019 Guiness Book of Records Planting

the "Zero Waste" project under the auspices of the First Lady H.E. Emine Erdoğan in 2017. Within the context of Zero Waste Project, we aim to increase the recycling rate of waste to 60% by 2035.

Our national efforts will give momentum to global climate action efforts. As a responsible member of international community, we are ready to work in close cooperation with our partners in reaching net zero target.

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