



Delta-Eko

Cinnah Cad. 106/6, Çankaya, 06550 ANKARA

Tel: 0312-440 7940 Fax: 0312-440 1011

www.delta-eko.org

05.02.2009 – 12.02.2009

At long last Turkey signs Kyoto protocol

Turkish Parliament last thursday ratified an agreement to sign the Kyoto Protocol after intense pressure from both the European Union and international environmental organizations. Three voted against as 243 lawmakers voted in favor of the protocol.

"I thank you all. Everyone should embrace this protocol," Veysel Eroğlu, the minister of environment, said to the deputies while addressing Parliament after the vote. He said the government was taking necessary precautions for a better environment in the country.

Analysts said Turkey was late in participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and in ratifying the Kyoto Protocol. Turkey missed the possibility of becoming a "party" to the protocol, so now instead "acceded" to it. Signing the Kyoto Protocol does not put an additional burden on Turkey until 2012, analysts said. Turkey was not a party to the convention adopted in 1992 when the Kyoto Protocol was negotiated, and it is not currently included in the agreement's Annex-B, which includes 39 countries that are obliged to reduce their greenhouse emissions to 1990 levels between 2008-12.

The Kyoto Protocol was open for signatures in 1998, and entered into force in 2005 with the accession of Russia. More than 170 countries have signed the protocol. Governments around the world are trying to shape the next term by holding international meetings and work will be concluded in 2009, analysts said.

Call for environment friendly campaign tools

Environment Minister Veysel Eroğlu calls on the leaders of political parties to have an environment friendly election campaign. He urges the use of electronic technology instead of conventional methods of distributing leaflets and calls for the use of recyclable material.

Calls to leaders of political parties to conduct their election campaigns in an environmentally friendly manner have been made by Environment and Forestry Minister Veysel Eroğlu.

Eroğlu conveyed his wish for an environmentally friendly campaign in a written statement Friday in which he also said he hoped the campaign would take place in an atmosphere of tolerance, love and fraternity.

Eroğlu said he was expecting support from leaders of political parties on the issue and asked them to instruct their party organs to be environmentally sensitive during the campaign.

Eroğlu said any action or behavior that could harm the health of people or the environment should be avoided in campaigns.

The minister said preventing noise pollution, the reduction of propaganda material, such as flyers, brochures, posters, flags and bunting, and preference for the use of recyclable materials would be



Delta-Eko

Cinnah Cad. 106/6, Çankaya, 06550 ANKARA

Tel: 0312-440 7940 Fax: 0312-440 1011

www.delta-eko.org

important for the protection of the environment and developing environmental awareness. When asking leaders to avoid the unnecessary use of bulletins, brochures and envelopes, Eroğlu said electronic means should be used for propaganda.

"Posters and bunting should not be hung or glued anywhere but election offices and locations municipalities allow it. Wall hangings, such as posters, should be hung or glued in spots where election commissions of counties and provinces will see them," said Eroğlu in his statement.

Privately owned buildings and residences, state buildings and official agencies, historic and tourism buildings, schools, temples, monuments, traffic signs, street lamps, streets and sideways, unless owners allowed it, were other places Eroğlu called on leaders to avoid for the use of propaganda.

Eroğlu's written statement called for propaganda material not to be casually thrown out of vehicles or planes onto streets or squares.

The statement also requested announcements that provided the necessary information on environmental awareness to be made by councils that monitor open air conventions.

Materials, such as posters and flags, should be collected at the end of rallies and measures should be taken to collect materials as part of waste removal and recycling systems.

Eroğlu's statement was also sensitive to noise pollution. Eroğlu asked campaigners not to exceed the appropriate limits in the protocol to control noise pollution. Avoiding the use of noisy vehicles and not causing extra noise pollution by horns or similar devices were other requests made by the minister to prevent noise. Minister Eroğlu added that not abiding by the regulations set out in the statement would be punishable by legal means.

Greenpeace hails İzmir for ecology commitment

Drawing attention to the dangers caused by thermal power plants that use coal, Greenpeace Mediterranean General Director Dr. Uygur Özemsî said İzmir Metropolitan Municipality's study on geothermal energy had set an example for future energy use.

Özemsî, attending a symposium on "Damage of Thermal Power stations to Agriculture and the Environment," drew attention to four thermal power plants using coal that were to be built in the Aliğa and Çiğli districts.

People disturbed

"People living in these districts are very disturbed by these new thermal power stations. İzmir has rich natural resources in terms of solar energy, geothermal energy and wind power. If the government wants to invest in energy, they should invest in these natural resources. The study conducted by İzmir Metropolitan Municipality on geothermal energy is a very good example of energy sources we should defend."



Delta-Eko

Cinnah Cad. 106/6, Çankaya, 06550 ANKARA

Tel: 0312-440 7940 Fax: 0312-440 1011

www.delta-eko.org

Özesmi stated that as the Kyoto Protocol had recently been approved by Turkey's Parliament, the country would face environmental burdens after 2012 and Turkey had to avoid thermal power plants that use coal.

Price offer in Turkey's nuclear tender revised down 15.35 cents kWh

The consortium, formed by Russia's state-run Atomstroyexport, Inter RAO and Turkish Park Teknik revised its offer for construction and management of Turkey's first nuclear plant down to 15.35 cents kWh, state-run power company (TETAS) said on Friday, Anatolian Agency reported. (UPDATED)

The consortium, which was the sole bidder in the tender that was held in September, had earlier offered 21.16 cents kWh for the construction and management of the first nuclear power plant.

The new offer will be assessed by Turkey's Atomic Energy Agency (TAEK) in terms of technical requirements.

The tender was described as disappointing by some analysts, because a number of foreign and local companies that had previously expressed interest did not submit bids.

Turkey plans to build three nuclear power plants as part of efforts to reduce a costly dependence on energy imports.

Source: www.hurriyetdailynews.com