Country: Turkey
Agenda Item: Increasing the Use of Renewable Energy Sources in Developing Countries

Turkey is a country located at the crucial intersection of Asia and Europe, hosting diverse cultures and abundant natural resources. With a population of approximately 85 million and a growing economy, Turkey holds significant potential for the utilization of renewable energy sources. Its geographical location offers key advantages for both solar and wind energy, while its rivers and geothermal fields provide considerable renewable energy resources.

Increasing the use of renewable energy sources in developing countries is critically important for supporting economic growth and addressing global environmental challenges. Energy consumption based on fossil fuels contributes to environmental pollution and climate change, while causing economic burdens for energy-import-dependent countries. Renewable energy provides solutions to these issues, becoming a cornerstone of sustainable development. In particular, sources like solar and wind energy are becoming increasingly cost-effective over time.

Turkey considers the increase in renewable energy utilization as a strategic priority. Aiming to reduce dependency on energy imports and ensure energy supply security, Turkey has accelerated investments in renewable energy. In the field of solar energy, Turkey has achieved significant progress through the Renewable Energy Resource Areas (YEKA) projects initiated in 2017 (Ozcan, 2021). Wind energy installed capacity has also shown remarkable growth over the past decade. Additionally, Turkey ranks among the leading countries in geothermal energy production in Europe and is open to encouraging both national and international investors to further develop this potential (Melikoglu, 2017). On the international stage, Turkey has set sustainable energy targets and committed to policies aimed at reducing carbon emissions under the Paris Agreement signed in 2016. While enhancing its renewable energy capacities, Turkey believes in the necessity of strengthening technology transfer and financial support mechanisms and expects support from developed countries in this regard.

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