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ASSOCIATION OF SECRETARIES
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COMMUNICATION

by

Mr Talip UZUN
Secretary General of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

on

“Environment friendly procedures in the Parliament”

Geneva Session
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COMMUNICATION

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MR. TALİP UZUN,

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ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKİYE IN ASSOCIATION OF
SECRETARIES GENERAL OF PARLIAMENTS (ASGP)**

Dear Colleagues,

- I have the pleasure to address at the meeting of Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments
- As you know, public administration has undergone significant changes in Türkiye and in many other countries around the world in the last two decades. On the purpose of ensuring better services to citizens, policies was implemented to increase the efficiency and productivity of public administrations.
- As of today, we are witnessing that current efforts focus on sustainable approaches to contribute to green transformation through the use of innovative technologies.
- It has paramount importance to implement such policies.

- As the aim of Paris Climate Agreement of handling to increase the global temperature below 2°C for the post-2020 period is only possible if these policies are implemented by parties.
- There are variety of policy sets in this regard; from renewable energy to recycling, from raising environmental awareness to making production and consumption habits environmentally sensitive.
- I would like to briefly explain the activities which have been carried out regarding these policies as the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
- Our institution is located on a campus with an open area of 444,760 m² and a closed area of 260,000 m².
- We have implemented and continue our efforts significant practices to increase the share of renewable energy in the energy we need in our campuses and service buildings.
- Generate electricity from solar energy on the roofs of relevant indoor areas is an important part of these efforts.
- With the solar panels we will install only on the roofs of the restaurants in our campus, we will meet 36% of the annual electricity consumption needed and reduce the carbon footprint of our parliament by approximately 278 tons on an annual basis.
- In service vehicles, TOGG brand vehicles, which are our domestic and national pride, and electric transport vehicles have started to be used for personnel and material transportation

services and emergency response services to technical malfunctions.

- In this way, low carbon emissions are emitted to the atmosphere compared to fossil fuel vehicles, thus contributing to the prevention of air and noise pollution and taking an crucial step towards an environmentally friendly parliament.
- Similarly, we aim to complete the supply of hot water used in service buildings through solar collector systems instead of natural gas in 2024. Thanks to this practice, we expect to save 21,000 cubic meters of natural gas annually.
- On the other hand, using existing resources efficiently and having energy saving awareness is much more important than all the measures we will take.
- With the Building Automation System that have been implemented since 1998, we remotely control all energy-consuming devices and ensure their efficient use.
- Additionally, with the lighting automation system, we can terminate the lighting systems in the rooms of MPs where there is no work after midnight with a turn off signal, thus saving electrical energy.
- Furthermore, we are saving 50 percent energy annually following that replaced 150 400-watt lighting equipment used in the exterior lighting of the Building of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye with 200-watt LED lighting equipment.

- With the Energy Management System certificate we have held since 2015, energy monitoring records have been created for 367 motors and pumps used in service buildings. In this way, we can keep energy consumption records of the relevant machines and measure their efficiency.
- We also act with the awareness of leaving a livable environment for future generations.
- We have been striving to minimize the negative environmental impacts that may arise from our activities with the environmental management system we have had since 2014.
- In this regard, with efforts of our representative of environment, coordinator of environment and waste officer employees in our administrative organization, we are able to closely follow the necessary legislative changes and implementing regulations and make the necessary improvements to increase the effectiveness of the system.
- In the scope of the "zero waste" project, launched in 2017 and carried under the auspices of H.E. Mrs. Emine ERDOĞAN, spouse of H.E. President Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, ensures efficient use of resources and encourages sustainable production and consumption habits.
- As part of project, trainings were provided to 15 thousand public officials across the country and "zero waste" legislation was established through legal regulations. This legislation have been implemented in public institutions, particularly Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye and the Grand National Assembly of

Türkiye.

- Turkey's largest environmental movement in terms of bringing all segments of society together under the same roof, the "Zero Waste" project has gained prominence on international scale.
- In this regard, the project was awarded the "Sustainable Development Goals Action Award" by the UN Development Program (UNDP) in 2021.
- Similarly, as a result of the initiatives in which Turkey was the main sponsor and 105 countries were co-sponsors, "March 30" was declared "International Zero Waste Day" at the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly.
- On the other hand, in line with the instructions of Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, we have started to implement a "paper-free parliament" as of November 2023.
- As part of project, we reduced the number of commission reports printed in 805 copies to be distributed to MPs and administrative organization units before the General Assembly meetings to 195. We provide access to commission reports much more functional through website and mobile applications.
- In this way, we will reduce the 23.2 million pages of paper used only for legislative activities in a legislative period to 5.6 million pages. Thus, we expect to save approximately 17.6 million sheets of paper and reduce paper costs by 76 percent.
- With our "waste management system", we separate all hazardous

and non-hazardous wastes in terms of their type and store them in temporary storage areas. At the final stage, these wastes are delivered to licensed companies.

- In addition, we collect and recycle non-hazardous wastes such as paper, plastic, glass and metal in separate units with waste separation systems in our service buildings.
- As a result of these activities, we recycled 105 tons of paper and cardboard, 2 tons of plastic, 3 tons of glass and 1 ton of metal as of 2023.
- We also recycled 4250 liters of vegetable waste oil, 1500 liters of waste motor oil and 600 kilograms of organic waste.
- We have saved 1768 trees from paper and cardboard recycling alone. In addition, we have saved 530 thousand kilowatt-hours of energy and 4 billion tons of water as a result of all our activities.
- In fact, all these activities have only one major goal: to leave a habitable world for future generations. Climate change is in our lives and its impact is increasing every year. I would like to remind you that using natural resources effectively and efficiently as countries is no longer a choice but a necessity.
- On this occasion, as I conclude my remarks, I greet you all and wish you all the best in your tremendous work.