

Translation of the circular

Republic of Turkey
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION
Chairmanship of the Education and Instruction Board

No: B.08.0.TTK.0.01.01.01/

28.08.2007*007997

Re: Global Warming

CIRCULAR
(2007/66)

Reference: Cooperation protocol dated 21.12.2005 between the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, and Regional Environmental for Central and Eastern Europe concerning the implementation of the project “Supporting Education for Sustainable Development Activities in Turkey – the Turkish Green Pack”.

As is well known, in recent years global warming has had a deep impact on the world and on our country. In conjunction with the climate change, while droughts are observed in some parts of the world, floods due to excessive rains are seen in others; and water resources are depleted because of the disruption of the balance in precipitation. Because of insufficient awareness concerning issues of sustainable environment, water sources and basins become rapidly polluted; and this situation poses a serious threat to our environmental, individual, and public health.

In order to prevent the negative consequences of global warming or to minimise its results and leave future generations a habitable environment, it is an undeniable fact that individuals, institutions, in short, all elements of society bear significant responsibility.

For this purpose, during the first week of 2007-2008 school year, in all classes of all public and private elementary and secondary schools affiliated to our Ministry; draughts, rapid depletion of water resources, water pollution, saving water, health, and the environment shall be studied.

Within this context, subjects and model activities enclosed from the Green Pack environmental education set prepared by our Ministry, Ministry of the Environment and Forestry and the REC shall be taught under the coordination of the school administration:

- In grades 1-8 of elementary schools by class teachers and subject teachers in life sciences, social sciences and science and technology lessons.
- By chemistry, biology, and geography teachers in all grades of secondary schools.
- Moreover, all teachers and staff shall be informed about the subject and activities.

Activities which have been prepared as recommendation shall be made relevant to daily life and enriched by the teacher according to the level of the students and class as well as the environmental situation, and made suitable for the level. At least two of the activities shall be

undertaken considering the geographical region of the school, climate, and environmental conditions.

It will be possible to access electronic versions of activities organised under four main headings on <http://ttkb.meb.gov.tr>, and other materials on Regional Environmental Center's (REC) website www.yesilkutu.net.

I kindly ask all our Ministry's central and countrywide organisational units to display the necessary sensitivity in teaching these subjects.

Ass. Prof. Dr. Hüseyin ÇELİK
Minister of National Education

ANNEXES:

- 1 – Water – Fundamental Source of Life (13 pages)
- 2 – Our World is Warming (6 pages)
- 3 – Water Pollution (4 pages)
- 4 – Let's Protect our Seas (4 pages)

DISTRIBUTION:

Further action:
Plan B

Information:
Plan A

The appendices have been published on the Education and Instruction Board website (<http://ttkb.meb.gov.tr>)