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Climate Law No. 7552: Core Provisions and Implementation Framework

Rising temperatures, prolonged droughts, sudden and severe rainfall, floods, wildfires, and sea-level rise are directly threatening life and economies worldwide. Climate change is no longer merely an environmental issue; it is a systemic risk and a multifaceted crisis on a global scale. Scientific evidence shows that the climate emergency has profound impacts not only on natural ecosystems but also on human health, food security, and economic development.

According to the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2025, extreme weather ranks second among the biggest risks facing the world over the next two years; over a ten-year horizon, extreme weather, biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse, and natural resource scarcity are among the top risks. This picture demonstrates that the climate crisis is not just a short-term threat but also a long-term structural problem affecting global stability.

Türkiye formally ratified the Paris Agreement—adopted in 2015—in October 2021, thereby making its commitment to align with global climate goals legally binding. In this context, the country adopted a 2053 net-zero emissions target and announced a green development vision. These developments accelerated Türkiye's efforts to strengthen national legislation and to place its climate policies under legal protection through binding regulations.

Within the framework of the Paris Agreement, many countries have begun integrating their commitments into national law. Binding climate laws now commonly address areas such as greenhouse-gas (GHG) mitigation, emissions trading systems (ETS), carbon border adjustment mechanisms, and green finance. The European Union's codification of its 2050 net-zero objective in the European Climate Law is one of the most prominent examples of this trend.

In line with these global developments, the Climate Law No. 7552, published in the Official Gazette on 9 July 2025, for the first time provides a holistic legal framework for Türkiye's core strategies to combat climate change.

Scope and Core Principles of the Climate Law

Scope

The Climate Law is the foundational statute that approaches climate-change mitigation and adaptation within an integrated framework. It introduces regulations on GHG emissions reduction, adaptation activities, carbon pricing and the establishment of carbon markets, emissions permitting, financing instruments, a green taxonomy, institutional mandates, supervision, and sanctions.
All activities that cause greenhouse-gas emissions fall within the scope of this Law, without sectoral exception.

Core Principles

In efforts to reduce GHG emissions and advance climate adaptation, the Law is based on the following principles:

- Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities are taken into account.
- Equity, climate justice, and the precautionary principle are observed.
- Participation, integration, sustainability, and transparency are foundational.
- Just transition and progress-oriented approaches are considered.

Both the public and private sectors are obliged to comply with the prescribed measures and obligations. In preparing the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), development priorities are taken into consideration.

Climate Law		
Part One: General Provisions	Part Two: Combating Climate Change	Part Three: Revenues, Sanctions, and Miscellaneous Provisions
Chapter One: Introductory Provisions	Chapter One: Climate-Change Mitigation and Adaptation Activities	Chapter One: Use of Revenues and Supports
Purpose and scope (Article 1)	Greenhouse-gas emissions reduction activities (Article 5)	Revenues and revolving funds (Article 12)
Definitions (Article 2)	Climate-change adaptation activities (Article 6)	Use of supports for green transition and climate-change mitigation (Article 13)
Chapter Two: General Principles and Fundamentals	Chapter Two: Planning and Implementation Instruments	Chapter Two: Penal Provisions
Principles (Article 3)	Planning instruments (Article 7)	Administrative sanctions (Article 14)
Fundamentals (Article 4)	Implementation instruments (Article 8)	Authority in supervision and sanctions (Article 15)
		Implementation, collection, and legal remedies for administrative sanctions (Article 16)
	Chapter Three: Carbon Pricing	Chapter Three: Miscellaneous and Final Provisions
	Establishment of the Emissions Trading System and principles of allocation (Article 9)	Regulatory transactions and miscellaneous provisions (Article 17)
	Duties, powers, and responsibilities (Article 10)	Repealed or amended provisions (Article 18)
	Voluntary carbon markets and offsetting (Article 11)	
		Transitional Provisions
		Provisional Article 1
		Provisional Article 2
		Entry into Force
		Article 19
		Article 20

Basic Structure and Regulatory Domains of the Climate Law

Law No. 7552 aims to legally govern all activities that lead to GHG emissions, regardless of sector. Structured in three main parts, the Law spans a wide array of provisions—from mitigation and adaptation policies to carbon markets, support mechanisms, and sanctions. Prepared in line with Türkiye's 2053 net-zero target, it establishes the core legal basis for emissions reduction, adaptation planning, and climate finance.

What Areas Does the Law Regulate?

Key areas regulated under Climate Law No. 7552 include:

- Monitoring, reporting, and reduction of GHG emissions,
- Identification and implementation of climate-change adaptation measures,
- Preparation and periodic updating of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC),
- Institutional architecture: duties and powers of the Climate Change Presidency, the Carbon Market Board, and related bodies,
- Emissions permitting processes and supervisory obligations,
- Establishment of an Emissions Trading System (ETS) and carbon markets,
- Creation of a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM),
- Türkiye's Green Taxonomy and the definition of green-finance and incentive mechanisms,
- Carbon pricing and the regulation of carbon crediting systems,
- Development of circular-economy and zero-waste practices,

- Principles for developing and using climate-finance resources,
- Provisions on supervision, sanctions, and administrative fines.

What Are the Core Measures Introduced by the Law?

- Climate strategy documents will be prepared at national and local levels.
- Businesses are required to obtain GHG emissions permits.
- Annual monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of emissions is mandatory.
- Allocation of emissions allowances and the launch of emissions trading under the ETS are regulated.
- The establishment of a CBAM to regulate carbon on imported goods is envisaged.
- Revenues related to climate-change mitigation will be collected in a dedicated account.
- Energy efficiency, clean-technology deployment, and resource efficiency are incentivized.

The Law stipulates that implementation details will be set out in secondary legislation through forthcoming regulations.

Implementation and Monitoring Obligations

Under Law No. 7552, businesses are assigned direct obligations to reduce GHG emissions and to carry out adaptation activities. The Law governs implementation, monitoring, and reporting processes.

- Businesses that cause GHG emissions must obtain an emissions permit within the specified timeframe.
- Annual emissions allowances will be allocated to entities covered by the ETS.
- Energy, water, and raw-material efficiency; the use of renewable energy; and clean technologies are encouraged.
- Businesses must monitor, report, and have their GHG emissions independently verified on an annual basis.
- Monitoring and supervision will be conducted by the Climate Change Presidency and other authorized institutions.

Sanctions and Supervision

- Administrative fines will be imposed on businesses that fail to obtain emissions permits, do not fulfill reporting obligations, or submit false declarations.
- For breaches of ETS obligations, the following may apply:
    - Blocking the delivery (surrender) of allowances,
    - Revocation of operating permits,

    - Graduated increases in administrative fines.
- During the pilot phase, administrative fines will be applied with an 80% reduction.
- Supervisory authority rests with the Climate Change Presidency, which issues administrative sanction decisions.

Regulatory Bodies and Institutional Architecture

The Law defines the duties, powers, and responsibilities of regulatory and supervisory bodies at both central and local levels.

1. Climate Change Presidency

    - Lead authority responsible for implementing the Law,
    - Manages permitting, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV),
    - Coordinates national climate strategies and establishes the ETS,
    - Regulates carbon markets,
    - Holds authority over carbon pricing and data management.

2. Carbon Market Board

    - Sets core policies and decisions for the ETS market,
    - Approves allocation plans and determines free-allocation ratios,
    - Adopts decisions on market rules and functioning.

3. Climate Change Coordination Boards

    - Established within provincial governorships,
    - Responsible for preparing and implementing adaptation plans at the provincial level.

4. Capital Markets Board (CMB)

    - Authorized to regulate and supervise green-finance instruments,
    - Sets rules for products such as green bonds and green sukuk.

5. Market Operator (Borsa İstanbul or an authorized institution)

    - Establishes and operates the market where carbon credits and allowances are traded,
    - Manages the trade-recording system.

6. Central Clearing Institution

    - Conducts collateral management and cash settlement in the ETS market.

7. National Geospatial Information Platform

    - The Presidency manages data through this platform,
    - Data obtained are shared with other public institutions.

8. Delegation of Authority

    - The Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change may expressly and in writing delegate its powers to the Presidency.

Conclusion

Entering into force on 9 July 2025, Climate Law No. 7552 is the foundational regulation that, for the first time, places Türkiye's long-term climate policies under legal guarantee in the fight against climate change. Aligned with the 2053 net-zero target, the Law establishes a long-term and binding legal framework for mitigation and adaptation policies.

Within the scope of the Law:

- Obligations are introduced for obtaining emissions permits as well as for MRV (monitoring, reporting, verification),
- The establishment and operation of an Emissions Trading System (ETS) are codified,
- The creation of a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is enabled,
- Türkiye's Green Taxonomy and green-finance instruments are defined,
- A dedicated, special-budget resource is created to collect revenues for climate-action measures,
- Non-compliance with obligations stipulated by the Law will result in administrative fines and other sanctions.

The Climate Law covers all activities that result in GHG emissions. Implementation details and sector-specific rules will be clarified through secondary legislation and regulations to be issued.