

The 1st Council of Ministers

Memorandum of Understanding

(Tehran, 22-23 May , 1991)

Annex-XVII

The Heads of Delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey, during the First Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers in Tehran on 1-2 Khordad 1370 corresponding with 22-23 May 1991 have reached a common understanding on the following:

- (1) In view of the willingness of the Heads of the three countries, the Council of Ministers proposed the last quarter of the current year as the time of convening the Summit meeting. They also agreed that a preparatory meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers be held prior to the Summit meeting.
- (2) The meetings of the seven Technical Committees shall be advanced to the extent possible so as to end not later than 1st November 1991.
- (3) The Ministers approved the establishment of the ECO Investment & Development Bank to provide financing for the implementation of common ECO projects in accordance with the internationally accepted financial rules, procedures and standards. The Bank shall be operational after legal authorization.
- (4) The Ministers signed the Protocol on the establishment of Preferential Tariffs Arrangement, which constitutes Annex I of this Memorandum of Understanding. They agreed that the Annexes I, II and III of the said Protocol concerning the List of Commodities will be signed during the Summit Meeting by the Ministers. They also agreed within this framework to provide a 10% tariff reduction on goods listed in the Annexes to the said Protocol or on all goods traded between the member countries.

The Ministers reaffirmed their willingness to eventually reduce the tariff barriers among the member countries to the fullest extent possible.

Done in Tehran on 02 Khordad 1370 corresponding to 23rd May 1991 in four original copies in English, all the four texts being equally authentic.

For: The Islamic Republic of Iran	For: The Islamic Republic of Pakistan	For: The Republic of Turkey
Sd/- (Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati) Foreign Minister	Sd/- (M. Akram Zaki) Secretary General Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Sd/- (Isin Celebi) Minister of State