

The 10th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – 8 July, 1997)

Adopted No. CON/CPR-10/97/Rpt Dt. 28-07-1997

1. The Tenth Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held at the Secretariat on 8th July, 1997. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Hossein Kazempour Ardebili, Adviser to the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Representatives of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan and the Secretary General Qf ECO attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

Agenda Item-1:

Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Council adopted the Agenda proposed by the Secretariat for its meeting. The adopted Agenda is attached as **Annex-II**.

Agenda Item-2:

Adoption of the Report of Ninth meeting of CPR

3. The Council adopted the Report of its Ninth meeting held on 28th June, 1997 as prepared by the Secretariat. The adopted Report is being circulated by the Secretariat separately.

Agenda Item-3:

Appointments of the nominees of Category-I and II posts

4. The Secretary General presented a detailed report on the outcome of the discussions of the Panel concerning the selection of candidates for the posts of Categories I & II informing them that the following recommendations have been made to the Council of Permanent Representatives for their consideration and approval:

Category-I posts:

Directors

1. **Mr. Gumar Kassymov** (Kazakhstan) Director (Transport Communications)
2. **Mr. Ahmet Tiktik** (Turkey) Director (Trade)
3. **Mr. Mahmood Khagani**, (Iran) Director (Energy, Minerals and Environment)
4. **Mr. Tauqir Ahmad** (Pakistan) Director (Agriculture & Industry)

Assistant Directors

1. **Mr. Feyyaz Ozer** (Turkey) Assistant Director (Chef de Cabinet)
2. **Mr. Mohammad Naeem Khan** (Pakistan) Assistant Director (Coordination)
3. **Mr. M. Taleh Masouleh** (Iran) Assistant Director (General Affairs)

Category-II posts:

1. **Mr. A. Hossein Latifi** (Iran) Program Officer
2. **Mr. Yadullah Pourjalali** (Iran) Program Officer
3. **Mr. Behman Shushtarian** (Iran) Accountant
4. **Mr. Elmar Baguirzade** (Azerbaijan) Russian Interpreter
5. **Mrs. Jamilya Medetbekova**(Kazakhstan) Accounts Assistant
6. **Mr. Avazbek Abdurrezakov** (Kyrgyz Republic)
Conference Services and Public Relations Assistant
7. **Mohammad Rafiq** {Pakistan} Steno-Secretary
8. **Mr. Zalar Hussain** {Pakistan} Steno-Secretary
9. **Mr. Zahid Hayat** (Pakistan) Steno-Secretary
10. **Mr. Kainar Oralbaev**, (Kazakhstan) Russian Translator
11. **Mr. I. Islamovic Ishankuliev** (Turkmenistan) Russian Translator

5. Secretary General also submitted the following practical arrangements for transitional purposes:

a) The two re-assigned Directors (Mr. Gumar Kassymov and Mr. Tauqir Ahmad) assume their charge under the new set-up with effect from 1st July, 1997.

b) The two newly recruited Directors (Mr. Ahmet Tiktik and Mr. Mahmood Khagani) shall commence their work with effect from 1st August, 1997.

c) The tenure of one seconded Director actually working in the ECO Secretariat will be extended for at least one month till the end of July 1997. The special allowance which is currently being paid to the concerned Director will be paid during the extension.

d) Assistant Directors (Chef de Cabinet and Coordination) could assume their duties with effect from 1st October, 1997, as decided by the Seventh meeting of the Council of Ministers. However, in order to facilitate shifting of ECO Secretariat to new premises, the Assistant Director (General Affairs) may assume his charge from 1st August, 1997.

e) The commencement of the work of the staff Category- II shall be communicated by the Secretary General to the member States in due course.

6. The Council agreed on the practical arrangements proposed by the Secretary General. Appreciating the efforts of the Panel of three and the Secretary General, the Council approved the recommendations for the posts in Categories I & II with the following understandings:

a) The two vacant posts of Directors to be operational during 1998 (Project Research and Economic Research & Statistics) shall be advertised shortly. The nominations received from those Member States who have not been given any Directorate post so far shall be given preference without prejudice to the required qualifications.

b) For the post of Administrative-Assistant, Pakistan would make a suitable nomination at the earliest.

c) The Secretariat shall advertise all those remaining vacant posts in Categories I & II shortly for recruitment process.

Agenda Item-4:

Proposal by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan for amendment in the Article 6.7 of the Staff Regulations

7. The Council agreed to enlarge the membership of the Panel from three to five members. According to the agreed amendment, the new formulation of Article 6.7 shall read as follows:

"6. 7. For recruitment and appointment to Categories I & II, the Secretary General shall be assisted by a Panel comprising five members of the Council of Permanent Representatives to be elected by the CPR for a fixed tenure.

The Secretary General will receive and acknowledge applications, prepare a shortlist of candidates on the basis of job requirement, requisite qualifications and experience as prescribed for each post in Annex-II and arrange for interviews by the Panel at a venue to be determined by the Secretary General. The recommendations of the Panel shall be submitted to the Council of Permanent Representatives for decision in case of posts in Categories I and II including the post of Deputy Secretary General and for recommendation to the Council of Ministers for appointment to the post of Deputy Secretary General."

8. In accordance with Article 31 of the Staff Regulations, the Secretary General was requested to circulate the amended Article for the approval of the Council of Ministers. This shall be done through communication and/or inclusion in the agenda of the Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers planned to be held in New York early October 1997 on the occasion of the 52nd UN General Assembly session.

Agenda Item-5:

Preparation of draft Resolution on "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization" for Fifty-second Session of the UN General Assembly

9. The Council considered and endorsed, with minor amendments, the draft Resolution prepared by the ECO Secretariat. The text of the amended draft Resolution will be circulated separately. ECO Contact Group in New York may wish to finalize the draft Resolution prior to the Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers.

Agenda Item-6:

Any Other Business

10. Under this item the following issues were discussed:

a) Utilization of ECO Reserve Fund:

11. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed that the Secretary General be authorized to utilize the Fund available in the ECO Reserve Fund to meet the additional expenditures arising from shifting of ECO Secretariat to the new building.

12. The Council while favouring this proposal, in principle, requested the Secretary General to prepare an expenditures involved in moving to the new building and present it to the next meeting of the CPR decision.

b) Request of the Embassy of Pakistan to circulate an official statement on the "formal recognition of the new Government of the Islamic State of Afghanistan".

13. The Secretary General reported the meeting that the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan requested to circulate the statement made by H.E. Mr. Gohar Ayub Khan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan, on the "formal recognition of the new Government of the Islamic State of Afghanistan" and asked the Council for the consideration of this matter. The Council decided to defer it to its next meeting.

c) Request of the Embassy of Russian Federation:

14. The Secretary General informed the meeting that the Charge d' Affaires of the Russian Embassy in Tehran paid a visit to the Secretariat on 31st May, 1997 to follow-up the Russian Federation's application for an observer status in ECO. He also proposed that a visit of the Head of International Organizations Department of Russian Foreign Ministry to the ECO Secretariat be arranged to discuss possible areas of cooperation between Federation.

15. Secretary General suggested that if CPR agrees to give a favourable reply to Russian request, the visit be confined only to "Exchange of information and views between ECO and the Russian Federation".

16. While favouring the suggestion made by Secretary General, the Council decided to make a final decision on the issue in its next meeting after due consultations of the Permanent Representatives with their respective Governments.

17. In response to the question raised by the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan on the outcome of the meeting of Open-Ended Working Group on the modalities, scope and nature of the observer and dialogue partner status, the Secretary General informed the Council that the Group had met twice and some progress has already been made. He informed the Council that the third meeting of the said group is planned to take place on 7th September, 1997.

d) Visit by ECO delegation of senior officials to some ASEAN member countries:

18. Secretary General informed the meeting that the second half of August 1997 had been suggested by ASEAN Secretary General for the visit to take place and requested the concerned Member States (Iran, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan) to make necessary arrangements in this regard.

19. The Chairman emphasized that it was necessary for the visit to take place latest by the second half of August so that the outcome could be presented to the joint ECO-ASEAN Ministerial meeting to be held in New York.

e) Fifty-second UN General Assembly session:

20. The Secretary General for the sake of a timely preparation for the activities during and on the sideline of 52nd UN General Assembly meeting, requested the following actions may be taken by the respective Governments (Ministers of Foreign Affairs):

- to include relevant paragraph concerning their ECO in their statements to be delivered at the Assembly,
- to co-sponsor the draft Resolution to be submitted to the General Assembly,

- to participate in the Meeting of ECO Council of Ministers to be held at UN headquarters in New York. As the IR of Iran is the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Permanent Representative of IR of Iran to the United Nations will host a working luncheon in this respect. Upon consultations held with the current Chairman and Ministers of Foreign Affairs of some member countries, the Secretary General proposes Thursday, 2nd October, 1997 for the meeting of ECO Council of Ministers to take place,
- third joint meeting of ECO-ASEAN Ministers of Foreign Affairs, like previous years has to be organized on the sidelines of General Assembly of the United Nations. After having held consultations with the current Chairman, the Secretary General proposed the date 3rd October, Friday, for holding the said joint meeting.

f) Presentation of Credentials and alternate Representatives for the meetings of CPR:

21. The Secretary General informed the meeting that H.E. Mr. Aman-Geldi Bairamov, Ambassador of Turkmenistan, presented his credentials today (8th July) and the Embassies of the Azerbaijan Republic, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan have informed to the Secretariat that their respective Ambassadors will represent them in the CPR meetings.

22. Secretary General added that a Note Verbale had been received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran stating that H.E. Mr. Hossein Kazempour Ardebili, Adviser to the Foreign Minister, is nominated as the current Chairman of the CPR.

g) Payment of contribution by Member States for EGO Budget 1997:

23. The Secretary General while thanking Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Turkey and Republic of Uzbekistan who have paid their contributions for the Secretariat's Budget for 1997, requested the remaining Member States to take the required action as soon as possible.

h) Approval of Ashgabat Declaration:

24. In response to the question raised by the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan about the finalization of Ashgabat Declaration, the Secretary General informed the meeting that according to the rules of Procedure, a consensus is required for proposed additional paragraph for finalization of Ashgabat Declaration. To this end, the Secretariat has already taken necessary action.

25. In the course of the discussions. the Council agreed with a minor amendment to the proposed para-16 of the Ashgabat Declaration. The new paragraph reads as follows:

"16. To establish the Permanent Conference of the Economic Cooperation Organization on transport and communications. The mechanism of functioning of this permanent body with the venue in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan be worked out and adopted by the Council of Ministers of ECO member states."

26. It was agreed that the Ashgabat Declaration be finalized by the next meeting of CPR.

Agenda Item-6:

Date of the next Meeting

27. The Council decided that its next meeting shall be held on 22nd July, 1997 at 1030 hours at ECO Secretariat.

Agenda Item-7:

Adoption of the Report

34. The Report of Eleventh Meeting of the CPR shall be ubmitted to the CPR for adoption.

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