

The 14th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – 09 November, 1997)

1. The Fourteenth Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held at the IPIS Building on 09 November, 1997. The meeting was chaired by H. E. Mr. H. Kazempour Ardebili, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs 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 of ECO attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

Agenda Item No. 1.

Adoption of the Agenda

2. The Agenda was adopted with some amendments. The adopted Agenda is attached as **Annex-II**.

Agenda Item No.2

Adoption of the Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the CPR

3. The Council adopted the Report of its Thirteenth meeting held on 16 September, 1997 with two amendments. The adopted Report has been circulated separately vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No.CON/CPR- 13/97, dated 10 November, 1997.

Recommendation to hold an Extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers on the sidelines of the OIC Summit to be held in Tehran and consideration of its agenda.

4. The Council took note of the decision taken by the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) held in New York on 2nd October, 1997 to hold an Extraordinary Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers on the sidelines of the OIC Summit to be held in Tehran in December, 1997 to finalize the amendment in Article 6.7 of ECO Staff Regulations and to grant authorization to the Secretary General to use the General Reserve Fund. The draft Agenda will be circulated separately by the Secretariat.

Agenda Item No.4

Adoption of the Draft Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers to be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in 1998.

5. The Council considered and adopted the draft Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers, which is enclosed as **Annex-III**.

Agenda Item No.5

Preparations for the Fifth ECO Summit Meeting to be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in 1998.

i) Draft Agenda of the meeting

6. The Council adopted the draft Agenda for the Fifth ECO Summit Meeting to be held in Almaty in 1998 which is enclosed as **Annex-IV**. The Council suggested that the Press Conference may be included in the Work Programme to be prepared by the host authorities of

the Republic of Kazakhstan.

ii) Constitution of High-Level Experts Committee to work on the Almaty Declaration

7. The Council decided that in order to prepare the draft text of the Almaty Declaration to be issued at the end of the Fifth ECO Summit Meeting, a High-Level Experts Committee composed of Senior officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and other concerned Ministries of the Member States shall meet well in time before the Summit. The Secretariat was asked to draft the text of the Declaration -in consultation with the Kazakhstan authorities and present it to the High-Level Experts Committee. The date and venue of the Meeting will be notified later in consultation with the host country.

iii) The list of the International Organizations to be invited to the Summit.

8. The Council approved the list of the International Organizations to be invited to the Fifth ECO Summit Meeting, which is enclosed as **Annex V**. It was also agreed that only high level representatives of UN and the OIC will be given the floor to make statements. Any omission or addition to the approved list may be considered by CPR.

Agenda Item No.6

Consideration of the draft Budget of ECO Secretariat for the financial Year 1998.

9. The Council decided that a Working Group will meet on Monday, 17 November, 1997 at 1000 hours at the Secretariat, to work on the Draft Budget for 1998 prepared by the Secretariat. The final draft will be submitted to the next meeting of the CPR.

Agenda Item No.7

Report of the Secretary General on his activities in New York on the sidelines of 52nd Session of the UN General Assembly:

10. The Council decided to defer this item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No.8

Consideration of the report of the UNDP's Consultant _and the Preparatory Assistance Document of UNDP on the capacity building of the ECO Secretariat.

11. The UNDP's Consultant briefed the Council about his report on capacity building of the ECO Secretariat during the working luncheon hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Resident Representative of the UNDP, Tehran was also present in the lunch.

12. The Council called upon the Member states to communicate their views to the Secretariat about the UNDP Consultant's Report on Capacity Building of ECO Secretariat within one month. The findings and the proposals envisaged in the final report of the UNDP's Consultant will be considered by the CPR.

Agenda Item No.9

preparation for the Eighth RPC Meeting to be held in Tehran in 1998.

13. The Council agreed on the draft Agenda for the Eighth RPC meeting and decided that the meeting shall be held on 19-21 April, 1998 at Tehran. The adopted draft Agenda is enclosed as **Annex-VI**.

Agenda Item No. 10

The Secretary General's proposals related to the restructuring: of ECO Secretariat as mentioned in his report to the Meeting of COM held on 2nd October, 1997 in New York.

14. The Council decided to defer this item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No.11

Any other Business

i) The extension of the term of the two Seconded Directors.

5. The Secretary General proposed to extend the term of the two seconded Directors until the end of 1998 and he explained the rationale and the need of this extension in view of the ongoing process of implementation of reorganization and restructuring of the ECO Secretariat. The Council agreed to extend the term of the two Directors until 1st July, 1998 and to reconsider the proposal of the Secretary General for further extension at the expiry of this date.

ii) Amendment in Article No. 21.1 of the ECO staff Regulations.

16. The Council observed that to amend Article No.21.1 of the ECO Staff Regulations aiming to increase the Secretariat's share to the Provident Fund is rather premature at this stage.

iii) The nomination of Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi from Pakistan for the post of Assistant Director (Coordination)

17. On the proposal of the Government of Pakistan, the Council accepted the replacement of Mr. Mohammad Naeem Khan with Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi for the post of Assistant Director (Coordination). Mr. Naeem Khan's selection was approved earlier by the CPR for this post but he was unable to join the Secretariat due to exigencies of service.

18. The Council also took note of the following:

(a) Kazakhstan's Permanent Representative brought to the attention of the Council that the notice of the postponement of an ECO Air Pollution Seminar in Turkey was received by Kazakhstan Embassy on 2nd November 1997 whereas the Kazakhstan delegation had already left for the meeting to be held on 3rd November, 1997. The Council requested the Secretariat to develop an appropriate mechanism to inform the Member States about the holding/postponement of the ECO Events at least 10 days before meeting date. Turkmenistan Permanent Representative proposed that the adoption of the Reports of the CPR should be made as early as possible to avoid delay in implementing the decisions taken.

It was decided to recruit the Director for Research and statistics with effect from January 1998, in accordance with regular selection procedure. It was also decided to recruit Director (Project Research) w.e.f. July 1998.

Agenda Item No.12

Date of the next meeting

19. The Council decided to hold its next meeting on 24th November, 1997 at 0930 hours.

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