

The 1st CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – 7 January, 1997)

Adopted. No. CPR-1/97/Rpt
Dt. 22-01-1997

1. The first meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held at the Secretariat on 7th January, 1997. In accordance with the Article-VII of the Treaty of Emir, the meeting was to be chaired by the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan being the current Chairman of the ECO Council of Ministers. As the Ambassador of Turkmenistan was not in Tehran, it was agreed that H. E. Mr. Khalid Mahmood, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to ECO will chair the meeting.

The Representatives of the Azerbaijan Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Turkey, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Uzbekistan and the Secretary General of ECO attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as [Annex-I](#).

Agenda Item-1:

Adoption of Agenda

2. The Council adopted the agenda proposed by the Secretariat for the meeting which is attached as [Annex-II](#).

Agenda Item-2:

Adoption of the Report of 41st meeting of COD.

3. The Council adopted the Report of the 41st meeting of the Council of Deputies held on 28th December, 1996. The adopted Report is being circulated by the Secretariat separately.

Agenda Item-3:

Approval of draft Revised Budget for 1997

4. The Council approved the draft Budget for 1997 amounting to US\$1,128,771/- as revised in the light of the discussions of 40th and 41st meetings of the Council of Deputies.

5. After the approval of the Budget, the Secretary General thanked the Council and assured that the Secretariat will exercise utmost caution and economy in utilizing the allocations made in the approved budget. While celebrating the inter-relation between the new Budget and the Re-organizational set up, the Secretary General stated that as a consequence of the procedural requirements, the new recruitment will be effective as of 1st July, 1997.

6. The Council took note of the observations of the Secretary General and with regard to other aspects of the Budget decided as follows:

a) The Secretariat will provide a status report to the founding Members about the Reserve Fund as of 31st December, 1996. It was further agreed that the Secretariat may utilize this Fund during 1997, with the prior approval of CPR, if an unavoidable expenditure was required to be incurred under any Head of Account.

b)The Council asked the Secretariat to work out the unutilized amounts (exceptthe Reserve Fund) from the last year's Budget for the overlapping period from January to March 1997 and on that basis inform the founding Members about their respective contributions against their total share of 90 percent for 1997.

c) The council also decided that the Secretary General, in consultation with Turkmenistan's Permanent Representative, will convene a meeting of the new Members expeditiously to determine the contributions to be made by them against their 10 percent contribution for the Budget of 1997.

7. The Permanent Representative of Pakistan pointed out that the' ECO Secretariat's budget for 1997 finally approved by the Council of Permanent Representatives had duly taken into account the requirements arising from the reorganization and restructuring of the ECO and shifting of the ECO headquarters to a new building. He emphasized that accordingly every effort should be made to ensure that the expenditure did not exceed the approved allocations under the various heads of account.

Agenda Item-4:

ECO-EU Cooperation

8. . While appreciating the efforts of the ECO Secretariat to establish a comprehensive cooperative relationship with EU, the Council requested that the Member .States may, in pursuance of the above, furnish written suggestions on the Agreed Minutes regarding ECO-EU Cooperation circulated by the Secretariat vide its Note No. INT/OEU/96 dated 20th November, 1996.

9. The Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic expressed the need for establishing an Expert Panel from among the experts of the Member states involved in the Planning and discussion of joint projects and proposals in the field of ECO cooperation with other regional and international organizations such as UNDP,EU, ASEAN, UNCTAD, ESCAP etc.

Agenda Item-5;

Any Other Business

10. The following matters were discussed under this item of agenda:

(a) Recruitment of Staff in Categories I & II:

(i) The Council agreed upon a Panel of three PRs comprising the Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Turkey to assist the Secretary General in recruitment/appointment of staff in Categories-I and II. The Panel will put up its final recommendations to the CPR/COM for approval. (Para-6.7 of Chapter-III, Article-6 of the Staff Regulations)

(ii) The Council decided that the Secretariat General shall review the individual performance of the existing staff in Category-II and submit a consolidated list of officials to the Panel of CPR for retention under the new system. After its approval by CPR, the remaining posts will be circulated among the Member States for nominations against the vacant positions.

(b) Message exchanged by the Member States on ECO Day:

11. The PR of Pakistan observed that this years the felicitation messages on ECO Day were sent at different levels. He underlined the need for the Member States to follow a uniform pattern. The council agreed to take up this matter in one of its future meetings.

(c) Extraordinary Summit Meeting

12. Regarding the proposal of Turkmenistan to host an Extraordinary Summit Meeting in May 1997, it was agreed that upon the receipt of detailed information (program, agenda, venue and time), the Secretariat will circulate the same to the Member States.

(d) Extension of hospitality by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the meetings of the Technical Committees and Seventh meeting of the Regional Planning Council.

13. Upon the request of the Secretary General, the PR of the Islamic Republic of Iran agreed to extend hospitality to the delegates upon 5-days as per the following schedule:

- Meetings of the Technical committee = 23-25 February
- Seventh meeting of the RPC = 26-27 February

(e) Offer of Turkmenistan to host the Sixth Meeting of CCTC

14. The Secretary General informed the Council that Turkmenistan had offered to host the Sixth Meeting of the CCTC at Ashgabat in the first week of February 1997. The Council appreciated the offer and asked the Secretariat to circulate the firm dates to member states.

(f) Drug Control Coordination Unit (DCCU)

15. After exchange of views on the subject, it was agreed that the issue pertaining to the location and the status of DCCU may be included as separate item of agenda of next meeting for final consideration.

(g) Seventh meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers.

16. the PR of the Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Council that the Seventh Meeting of the Council of Ministers shall be held on 27-29 April, 1997 in Tehran.

(h) Accreditation of Permanent Representatives to ECO

17. The Council noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Turkey had sent the requisite Note Verbale regarding the nominations of their PRs and asked the remaining Member States to have the needful done expeditiously.

Agenda Item 6**Date of the next Meeting**

18. The Council decided that its next meeting shall be held on Wednesday, 22 January, 1997 at 1400 hours.

Agenda Item 7**Adoption of the Report**

19. The report of the CPR shall be submitted to the second meeting of the CPR for adoptio

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