

The 36th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – Sunday, 31 October, 1999)

1. The 36th Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held in the ECO Secretariat on Sunday, 31st October, 1999. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Abbasali Hasanov, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan and the Secretary General of ECO attended the Meeting. The list of participants is placed at **Annex-I**.

2. The Secretary General and the Permanent Representatives welcomed H.E. Mr. Turan Morali, new Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey.

Agenda Item No.1.

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The agenda proposed by the Secretariat was adopted with the addition of a new item i.e. "Recruitment of two Steno-Secretaries" as the new Agenda Item No. 6 as well as a sub sub-item (iv) under Agenda Item No. 12 titled "Authorization to the Secretary General, ECO to take appropriate action for the registration of ECO Legal Documents with the United Nations". The adopted Agenda is placed at **Annex-II**.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the Report of the 35th Session of CPR

4. The report of the 35th Meeting of the CPR was adopted. The adopted report is being circulated separately.

Agenda Item No. 3

Consideration of the Audit Report for the year 1998

5. The Council recommended the submission of the Audit Report to the next COM Meeting for its adoption. The Council also took note of the Secretary General's observations regarding recommendations of the Audit Board for making two amendments in the Financial Regulations.

Agenda Item No. 4

Consideration of the ECO Secretariat's budget for the year 2000

6. The Council referred this issue to the Working Group. The Working Group will submit its recommendations to the next Session of the CPR, scheduled for 30th November, 1999.

Agenda Item No. 5

Report of the Secretary General on finalizing the Re-organization and Restructuring process of the Secretariat

7. This issue was referred to the Working Group, which will formulate its recommendations to be submitted to CPR.

Agenda Item No. 6Recruitment of two Steno-Secretaries

8. The Secretary General briefed the CPR on recommendations of the Selection Panel, which was held just before the CPR Session for recruitment of the following two nominees:

- I. Mr Rafiq Ahmed from Pakistan (as Steno-Secretary Grade-I);
- II. Ms. Mine Karahan from Turkey (as Steno-Secretary Grade-II).

9. The Council approved the recommendations of the Selection Panel and agreed that the above two Steno-Secretaries may assume their duties in the ECO Secretariat w.e.f.15th November, 1999.

Agenda Item No. 7Matters pertaining to the ECO Cultural Institute

10. The CPR agreed on the following:

- i) Removal of anomalies from the Basic Documents of the ECI;

The Council approved the report on removal of anomalies.

- ii) Emblem of the ECO Cultural Institute;
- iii) Plan of Action of the ECI;

With regard to (ii) & (iii) above, the CPR deferred the matters to its next Session to allow sufficient time for those Member States who had not yet received instructions from their respective Capitals.

Agenda Item No. 8Actionable Points of the Ministerial Statements and the Working Papers for the Mid-Term Review Meetings

11. The CPR deferred this issue to one of its future Meetings.

Agenda Item No. 9Latest Developments regarding the ECO Calendar of Events/ Meetings for the year 1999

12. The CPR took note of the revised Calendar of Events and Meetings, prepared by the Secretariat with the observation that some events, particularly in the fields of Energy, Minerals & Environment, required further clarifications. It was, therefore, agreed to take up this issue at the next CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 10Recent developments concerning External Relations

- a) MOU with OSZhD;
- b) MOU with UIC;
- c) Proposed relationship with SADC;

The CPR considered the above and urged those Member States who had not yet communicated their views and comments to do so expeditiously so that the matter could be finalized at the next Meeting.

d) Relations with WTO;

The Secretary General informed the CPR about ECO's participation in the Third Ministerial Conference of WTO to be held in Seattle end November, 1999.

e) Report of Secretary General on informal COM and ECO-ASEAN Ministerial Meetings in New York;

The Secretary General recalled that the Summary Record of the informal COM which was held on 29th September, 1999 in New York had already been circulated among the Member States. With regard to the joint ECO-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, held in New York on 29th September, 1999, the Secretary General informed the CPR that the Summary Record had not yet been circulated as the usual joint Press Release could not be finalized in time between the two Organizations. The Council, however, expressed the desire that the Summary Record of the said Meeting be circulated as early as possible.

The Secretary General also informed the Council of his scheduled visit to Jeddah to attend the 25th Anniversary Celebrations of IDB and about his scheduled Meeting with the Secretary General of Energy Charter Treaty in Tehran on 6th November, 1999.

Agenda Item No. 11

Preparations for the forthcoming ECO Day on 28th Nov., 1999

13. On preparations for the forthcoming ECO Day on 28th November, 1999, the Secretary General suggested the following activities and programmes:

- a) Heads of States and Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States will kindly issue appropriate Messages.
- b) The Secretary General will pay a courtesy call on H.E. Dr Kamal Kharrazi, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- c) The Secretary General will hold a Press conference.
- d) The Secretary General will host a reception on November 28, 1999 at the ECO Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 12

Any other business

i) Joint ECO - ITC Project on Trade Promotion;

While receiving positive comments from some of the Permanent Representatives, the finalization of the decision on this Project was deferred to the next CPR Meeting.

ii) Proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to separate the issue of Observer Status from Dialogue Partnership;

The Council decided to refer the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Working Group.

iii) ECO's participation in Tehran International Trade Fair.

The Council urged the Member States, especially the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Central Asian Member States, to utilize this opportunity and participate more actively in such events in order to promote trade among the Member States.

The Secretary General also informed the Meeting that the ECO Secretariat will participate in the upcoming Kish International Trade Fair, to be held on 4-12 November, 1999.

iv) Authorization to the Secretary General of ECO to take appropriate action for the Registration of ECO Legal Documents with the United Nations.

The CPR authorized the Secretary General to take necessary steps to register ECO Legal Documents with the United Nations on behalf of the signatory Governments.

Agenda Item No. 13

Date of next Meeting

14. The CPR decided to hold its next meeting at 1000 hours on Tuesday, 30th November, 1999.

[\[Home\]](#) - [\[Back\]](#)