

The 54th CPR Meeting

Report

(Dushanbe – Wednesday, 02 May, 2001)

1. The 54th meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held in Dushanbe (Tajikistan) on Wednesday, 02nd May, 2001. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. 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 Uzbekistan as well as the Secretary General along with the ECO staff attended the meeting. The list of participants is placed at ***Annex-I***.

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

The Council adopted the proposed Agenda with some amendments. The adopted Agenda is placed at ***Annex-II***.

Agenda Item No.2

Adoption of the report of the 53rd meeting of CPR

The Council adopted the report of its 53rd meeting, held on 18th April, 2001. The adopted report is being circulated separately.

Agenda Item No.3

Preparation for the 11th meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM)

a. Preparation and finalization of the draft Dushanbe Communiqué

The Council decided to refer the draft Dushanbe Communiqué as was prepared by the Working Group of the CPR meeting, held on 24th April, 2001, along with the proposed amendments to the Senior Officials' meeting for finalization and submission to the 11th COM meeting for adoption.

b. The reports of the 1st and 2nd meetings of the Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO)

The Council examined the reports of the 1st and 2nd meetings of WGSO, held on 5-6 February, 2001 in Tehran and 2nd May, 2001 in Dushanbe respectively and decided to submit the same to the 11th COM meeting for adoption.

Agenda Item No. 4

Any other business

i. Appointment for the post of Director (Economic Research & Statistics)

The Secretary General briefed the Council that the Selection Panel, held on 24th April, 2001 had recommended Mr. Ermek Ibraimov nominated by the Kyrgyz Republic for appointment against the vacant post of Director (Economic Research & Statistics).

In supersession of its previous decision regarding this post, the Council approved the recommendation of the Selection Panel and appointed Mr. Ibraimov as Director (Economic Research & Statistics) with immediate effect.

ii. Nomination of Russian-English Translator from Kazakhstan

The Secretary General also briefed the CPR about the results of the Selection Panel held on 24th April, 2001 which had recommended Ms. G. Kanafina, a nominee of the Republic of Kazakhstan, against the remaining tenure of Translator Mr. Talgat, who resigned before the expiry of his contract.

The Council approved that Ms. G. Kanafina could join the ECO Secretariat in Tehran without causing any extra financial burden to the Secretariat.

iii. ECO Secretary General's visit to Brussels and Geneva

The Secretary General informed the Council that he would attend the UN Conference on the least-developed countries to be held in Brussels in May, 2001. The Secretary General also informed the CPR that on his way he would visit the Secretary General, UNCTAD in Geneva as well as WTO, ITC, IRU & UNESCO.

The Council requested the Secretary General to take advantage of this visit and establish contacts with donor agencies to seek funds for ECO projects and programmes. The Council also requested the Secretary General to specifically discuss with UNCTAD the removal of trade barriers within ECO region and later submit a report to CPR.

iv. Azerbaijan's proposal to review the calculation of its annual contribution to the ECO Secretariat's budget

The Council took note of the request of Azerbaijan to consider at the 55th meeting of the CPR the issue of calculation of annual contribution by Azerbaijan to the ECO Secretariat's budget for 2000 and 2001.

Agenda Item No. 5

Adoption of the report

The Council adopted the report of its 54th meeting.

Agenda Item No. 6

Date of the next meeting

The Council decided to hold its next meeting in June, 2001. The exact date will be notified to the Member States in due course.