

The 60th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – November 26, 2001)

1. The 60th meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held in the ECO Secretariat on Monday November 26, 2001, was chaired by H.E. Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Deputy Foreign Minister 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 Republic of Uzbekistan and Representatives of ECO Cultural Institute (ECI) & ECO Shipping Company (ESC) as well as the Secretary General alongwith the ECO staff attended the meeting. The list of the participants is placed at **Annex-I**.

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

CPR adopted the proposed agenda which is placed at **Annex-II**.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the draft report of the 59th meeting of the CPR

CPR adopted the report of its 59th meeting with some amendments in paragraph 6. The adopted report will be circulated among Member States separately.

Agenda Item No.3

Draft Budget of ECO Secretariat for 2002

CPR considered the minutes of the Working Group (WG) Meeting, held on November 25, 2001 to work on the draft budget and agreed that WG should meet again to finalize its work on the draft budget and submit its results to the next CPR meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4

Preparations for the 12th Regional Planning Council (RPC)

CPR approved the agenda of the 12th RPC meeting as prepared by the Secretariat.

CPR also welcomed the proposal of the IR of Iran to host the 12th RPC meeting to be held in Tehran on February 17-20, 2002.

The representative of the IR of Iran informed the Council that IR of Iran would extend local hospitality including transportation to five (1+4) representatives from each Member State.

CPR urged the Member States to confirm their participation and furnish the compositions and flight schedule of their delegation to ECO Secretariat as soon as possible.

Agenda Item No. 5Implementation of the Technical Assistance Agreement (Grant) of IDB

Since some member states were still awaiting information from their capitals, CPR deferred this item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 6Matters pertaining to ECO Shipping Company (ESC)

CPR discussed the report, distributed by the Secretariat during the meeting. CPR asked the Secretary General to circulate the said report with note verbale among Member States so that a working group to assist CPR may examine the report and submit the result to CPR for a decision.

Agenda Item No. 7Cooperation between ECO and Free Trade Zones of the Islamic Republic of Iran

The representative of Chahbahar Free Trade & Industrial Zone informed the Council about the Zone and expressed that they would like to host a Seminar on "Cooperation between ECO and Free Trade Zones of IR of Iran" with participation of Ambassadors of ECO Member States in Tehran and representatives of the Secretariat.

CPR, while appreciating the proposal, deferred this item to the next meeting so that Member States could receive instructions from their capitals.

Agenda Item No. 8Draft budget of ECI for 2002

The representative of ECI briefed the Council about the draft budget of ECI for 2002. CPR referred the draft budget to the Working Group to work on it and submit the result to the next meeting of CPR.

Agenda Item No. 9Implementation of Economic Cooperation Strategy for the ECO region

CPR asked the Secretariat to prepare a paper evaluating the achievements and failures of projects/programmes of ECO in pursuing its goals and objectives as laid down in the ECO's Basic Documents alongwith ideas on how to overcome the said deficiencies.

CPR also pointed out that the paper may be submitted to CPR early next year.

Agenda Item No. 10Any other business**i. Preparations for 3rd WGSO Meeting**

CPR pointed out that the informal Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting, held in New York on sidelines of the 56th UNGA session, emphasized on the follow-up of the decisions of the Working Group of Senior Officials' (WGSO) Meetings, especially on setting targets and timeframe. Thus the Member States were urged to deliberate on the decisions of the WGSO Meetings and send their views expeditiously to the Secretariat so that the results could be submitted to the next WGSO Meeting, scheduled to be held next year in Turkey.

ii. Seminar on “Reconstruction of Afghanistan”

The representative of the IR of Iran proposed an ECO Seminar on “Reconstruction of Afghanistan” be organized with the help of donor countries/international organizations.

CPR requested the IR of Iran to send its proposal in written form alongwith its dimensions and parameters to ECO Secretariat for circulation, so that Member States may send the proposal to their respective capitals for instructions.

iii. Matters concerning the Special Support Fund (SSF)

CPR, on the recommendation of ECO Secretariat, agreed to support the Second Training Workshop on Refining Production and Market Study in ECO Region, to be held in January, 2002 in Iran from SSF.

CPR also approved the reimbursement of airfare ticket of two participants (maximum 500/- US\$ for each) from seven new member states for participating in the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points of Economic Research and Statistics of Member States provided that each delegate represent different institute/organization.

Agenda Item No. 11**Date of the next Meeting**

CPR decided that its next meeting be held *tentatively* at 09:30 hours on Wednesday December 19, 2001.

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