

The 64th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – 8 May, 2002)

No. CON/CPR-64/02-Rpt. (Adopted)

1. The 64th meeting of Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held in the ECO Secretariat on Wednesday May 08, 2002, was chaired by H.E. Mr. Mirzoev Ramazan Zaripovitch, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran. The Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Interim Administration 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 as well as ECO Secretary General alongwith ECO staff attended the meeting. The list of participants is placed at ***Annex-I***.

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

2. CPR adopted the proposed agenda with some additions/amendments. The adopted agenda is placed at ***Annex-II***.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the draft reports of the 62nd and 63rd meetings of the CPR

3. CPR discussed and adopted the draft reports of 62nd and 63rd CPR meetings.

4. The adopted reports will be circulated among Member States separately.

Agenda Item No. 3

Preparation for 12th COM and 7th ECO Summit meetings

5. CPR requested Member States to confirm their participation in the 12th COM and 7th Summit meetings to be held in Turkey on October 9-14, 2002.

6. CPR asked the Secretariat to prepare draft agenda of the meetings in consultation with the host authorities and circulate the same to the Member States for consideration.

Agenda Item No. 4

Preparation for 3rd meeting of Working Group of Senior Officials (WGSO)

7. CPR agreed that the meeting may be held in Tehran on May 28-29, 2002 as proposed by the host Member State, IR of Iran. Although some Member States confirmed that their countries would participate in the meeting at the highest possible level, CPR requested the Member States to confirm their participation in written form and convey the composition of their delegations alongwith flight schedule **latest by May 18, 2002**.

8. CPR also decided that **by May 18, 2002** if enough number of Member States did not confirm participation formally, the meeting would again be postponed.

Agenda Item No. 5Matters pertaining to ECO Shipping Company (ESC)

9. CPR asked the concerned Member States to nominate their representatives for establishment of the Committee and have its meeting on May 26-27, 2002 to take up the assigned issues as proposed by the Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 6Free Trade Zones in Member States

10. CPR decided to defer this item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7Reconstruction of Afghanistana. Seminar/Projects

11. Since some Member States were still awaiting advice from their capitals regarding the proposal of organizing an ECO Seminar on "Reconstruction of Afghanistan", CPR decided to take up the issue in its next meeting.

12. CPR decided to request the Ambassador of Afghanistan to inform the Secretariat about the priority projects of Afghanistan which ECO should adopt. CPR decided to deliberate on this issue further in the light of the response from Afghanistan.

b. Joint ECO Fund

13. CPR considered the proposal of IR of Iran for establishment of ECO Fund and requested other Member States to furnish their views in this regard.

Agenda Item No. 8Issues pertaining to ECO Passenger Train

14. Secretary General informed the CPR that due to technical and legal issues Almaty-Tehran-Istanbul passenger and container train project was delayed. Secretary General, furthermore, underlined the negative impact of the high visa fees for potential passengers and requested Member States to reach a consensus on reducing the transit visa fees.

15. CPR, while agreeing with Secretary General's request, decided to take up the issue in its next meeting. Member States said that matter required a decision at capitals.

Agenda Item No. 9Implementation of Economic Cooperation Strategy for ECO Region (Strategic Paper by the Secretariat)

16. CPR asked those Member States who did not do so to send their views on subject paper, prepared by the Secretariat, as soon as possible. CPR would take up the paper in its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 10Matters pertaining to ECO Special Support Fund (SSF)

17. CPR approved a list of priority events for 2002 to be supported by SSF. A copy of the list alongwith detailed explanations is placed at ***Annex-III***.

Agenda Item No. 11

Updated reports on the follow up of the three Ministerial meetings on Transport & Communications, First Ministerial meeting on Commerce/Foreign Trade and First Ministerial meeting on Energy/Petroleum

18. CPR pointed out that Iran and Turkey had conveyed their views/comments on the report on the follow-up of the said Ministerial meetings and urged others to do the same so that an appropriate decision could be taken in the next CPR meeting.

Agenda Item No. 12

Consideration of draft MOU with UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE)

19. Since some Member States were still awaiting views from their capitals on the draft MOU circulated on March 10, 2002, CPR decided to defer this item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 13

ECO Awards

20. CPR extended the deadline for nominations for ECO Awards till the end of May 2002 and urged the Member States to convey nominations for the Selection Committee/Panel.

Agenda Item No. 14

Administrative matters

i. Appointment of the posts of Social Secretary to Secretary General (Cat.2, P2); Persian Translator (Cat.2, P1) and Computer/Telex Operator (Cat.2, P1)

ii. Appointment for the posts of two Programme Officers (Trade & Investment and Economic Research & Statistics), (Cat.2, P3)

iii. Appointment for the posts of Russian Translator (Category-II, P2)

21. The Secretary General informed the CPR that the Selection Panel could not meet to make the necessary recommendations to CPR for the appointment of the posts to be vacant by 3rd July 2002. Thus CPR decided to extend for two months the tenure of incumbent officials holding the posts listed in (i) and (ii) above.

22. With regard to the post of Russian Translator, the Republic of Kazakhstan informed CPR that it had submitted a new nominee to substitute Ms. Gulnara Kanafina the previous nominee for this post.

23. The CPR requested the Secretariat to circulate a list of the posts to fall vacant in next few months.

iv. Hiring of a local Persian-English-Russian Interpreter

24. The Secretariat informed CPR that the new Ambassador of Afghanistan had requested that a local Persian-English-Russian Interpreter be hired for two years to interpret for him during ECO sessions. Most countries supported the idea and one Member State said that they will announce their position by next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 15

Preparation for 1st Ministerial meeting on Agriculture

25. CPR urged the Member States to confirm their participation in the meeting to be held in Islamabad (Pakistan) on July 23-25, 2002 as soon as possible and furnish the composition of their delegations alongwith flight schedules.

26. CPR requested that the Secretary General to send an official letter highlighting the need for an appropriate level participation at the meeting. CPR agreed to discuss the follow-up action for the preparation of the meeting at its next meeting. It was also decided that the ECO Secretariat would circulate updated working papers for the Ministerial meeting on Agriculture among the Member States.

Agenda Item No. 16

Any other business

27. Secretary General urged the Member States to pay their outstanding contributions for the budget of ECO Secretariat for the current year as well as for years 2001, 2000 and 1999.

Agenda Item No. 17

Date of next Meeting

28. CPR decided that its next meeting be held at 1000 hours on June 03, 2002 (Monday).

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