

The 68th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – September 12, 2002)

The 68th meeting of Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held in the ECO Secretariat on (Thursday) September 12, 2002, was chaired by H.E. Mr. Ramazan Mirzoev, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran. The Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Transitional Islamic Government 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

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

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the draft report of the 67th meeting of CPR

CPR adopted the draft report of 67th meeting with a few amendments in some of its annexures. The adopted report would be circulated among the member states separately.

Agenda Item No. 3

Preparation for 12th COM and 7th Summit meetings :

(a) Draft Agendae of SOM of 12th COM, and 7th Summit meetings

(b) Draft Agendae of 4th WGSO and CPR meetings

CPR discussed and agreed on the draft agendae of the meetings referred in (a) and (b) above. The endorsed draft agendae are placed at **Annex-III**.

Draft Istanbul Declaration-2002

The Working Group met on September 11, 2002 and worked on the draft Istanbul Declaration 2002 and submitted the result to CPR.

Since the member states were awaiting the views from capitals, CPR decided to take up the draft in its next meeting for endorsement before submission to COM.

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey informed CPR that the venue of the Senior Officials meeting (SOM) for the 12th COM to be held on October 9-10, 2002, the 12th COM to be held on October 12, 2002 and the 7th ECO Summit meeting to be held on October 14, 2002, was Istanbul Çırağan Palace Kempinski Hotel, Palace Section. He further informed that Turkey would host three (1+2) delegates for SOM during the dates of October 8-14 (inclusive), for COM meeting the Foreign Ministers and one (1) more delegate

(total: 1+4) on October 11-14 (inclusive) and the Heads of State and five (5) more delegates (total: 1+1+9) on the dates of October 13-14 (inclusive). Turkey would also host the ECO Secretary General and 10 members of the ECO Secretariat between October 8-15 (inclusive).

The Turkish Permanent Representative further informed that the ECO Business forum to be held on the sidelines of 12th COM and the 7th ECO Summit meeting would be held on October 11, 2002 in the premises of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce.

The Republic of Turkey distributed detailed informative notes concerning the preparations for the 12th COM and 7th ECO Summit meetings and on ECO Business Forum (EBF) to be organized on the sidelines of the meetings. The copies of the notes have been circulated separately.

CPR asked the Secretary General to send a letter to all member states to highlight the need for participation by the members of the CPR in the Special (69th) CPR meeting to be held in Istanbul on October 09, 2002.

Agenda Item No. 4

Preparation for second ECO Ministerial meeting on Energy/Petroleum

The Permanent Representative of the IR of Iran informed CPR that the Government of the IR of Iran was ready to host the second ECO Ministerial meeting on Energy/Petroleum on either second half of December 2002 or in the second half of January, 2003. The exact date would be intimated to the Secretariat in due course.

Agenda Item No. 5

Reconstruction of Afghanistan

CPR discussed the paper prepared by the Secretariat on ECO's participation in Reconstruction of Afghanistan and made the following observations:

Further consideration of the proposals contained in the ECO Secretariat's paper would take place, if possible, in the next CPR meeting or the paper would be forwarded to SOM for consideration.

In view of the discussion regarding the establishment of joint ECO Fund and organization of the Seminar on Afghanistan, it was considered that decision on these issues would be taken later in the light of the further discussions.

The Afghanistan Government through its Embassy in Tehran, may intimate to the ECO Secretariat the fields in which they would like to benefit in training facilities offered by member states i.e. Iran, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

As mentioned in the paper, prepared by the Secretariat, under Section 'Ongoing ECO Programmes/Projects', the ECO Directorates may review their programmes in a way to give priority to Afghanistan in the programmes/projects as soon as possible. In this regard, CPR also asked the Secretariat to make determination which projects could be implemented utilizing the ECO budget and expertise and submit the result to CPR for a decision.

Information on national training and other facilities may be gathered in the Secretariat for compilation and circulation to member states.

CPR also asked the Secretariat to prepare a revised paper by taking into account the comments made by some member states with regard to paragraphs 2 and 8 (d).

Agenda Item No. 6

International Activities Consideration of Draft MOU with UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) Draft MOU between ECO and Colombo Plan

CPR deferred these two sub-items to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7

ECO Awards

CPR having seen the distribution of the list of ECO Awards, prepared by the Selection Committee met on August 27-28, 2002, agreed as follows;

“ECO Secretariat would invite the winners for receiving their Awards to Istanbul to be done on October 14, 2002 and would prepare the medals, certificate and other needful. The host country, Turkey would make the necessary arrangements and preparations for the ceremony in Istanbul during the 7th ECO Summit meeting. Furthermore, the ECO Secretariat and the host country to grant the ECO Awards, may have consultations bilaterally.”

CPR agreed that while delivering the ECO Awards to the winners, only the name of the Awardees and their field of excellence would be mentioned, without referring to the prize money.

CPR also agreed that the ECO Secretariat would provide the return air ticket for shortest route i.e. from home-country to Istanbul and vice-versa (Economy Class). The cost of the air-ticket would be reimbursed by the Secretariat upon presentation of the voucher of air-tickets.

Agenda Item No. 8

Preparation for the informal meeting of ECO Council of Ministers (COM) to be held on the sidelines of 57th session of UNGA

- Draft UNGA resolution between ECO and UN

CPR agreed that the Secretary General may present the draft Resolution prepared by the Secretariat to the informal meeting of COM for onward submission to UNGA. However, the Republic of Uzbekistan wanted “pilot train” to be inserted in the paragraph 10 of the said draft Resolution. It was decided that this would be noted in the CPR report as its reservation.

- Draft Agenda of Joint ECO-ASEAN Ministerial meeting

CPR agreed on the agenda with a change in the sequence of two items namely “Discussion on the ASEAN-ECO Cooperation” and “Exchange of Views on Regional Development”. The agreed draft agenda is placed at **Annex-IV**.

Agenda Item No. 9

Consideration of the Work Programme of ECO for 2002

CPR, while endorsing the Work Programme of ECO 2002, agreed that the Workshop on Waste Water Management and Treatment Technology to be hosted by Turkey at the East Mediterranean University, Magosa on November 21-23, 2002, be included in the Work Programme for 2002 as done in the ECO Calendar of Events/Meetings for 2002 of 12th RPC meeting. The Permanent Representative of the IR of Pakistan also asked for slight amendment in the activity at Serial No. 5 under Coordination Unit sector. The *revised* Work Programme of ECO for 2002, after making the said amendments, is placed below at **Annex-V**.

Agenda Item No. 10

Administrative matters

CPR extended the tenure of the Secretariat staff as follows:

- Legal Adviser to SG Mr. Bijan Izadi (from Iran) and Research Officer Mr. Alipour Tehrany (from Iran) for two months i.e. from October 1, 2002 to November 30, 2002.
- Data Base Officer Mr. Aamir Ghani Mir (from Pakistan) for two months i.e. w.e.f. September 26, 2002.
- Steno-Secretaries M/s Mohammad Javed and M. Hamid Raza Malik (from Pakistan) from October 1, 2002 to November 30, 2002. However, as it was requested by Pakistan authorities if the Selection Panel finalized their replacements before November 2002, they would be relieved of their duties on November 9, 2002.
- Russian Interpreter Mr. Murat Khasenov (from Kazakhstan) for two months i.e. from October 1, 2002 to November 30, 2002.
- Librarian Ms. Malak Pourjam (from Iran) for two months i.e. from October 1 to November 30, 2002.
- For the incumbents Public Relations & Conference Services Assistant Mr. Talantbek Kasymbekov (from Kyrgyzstan) and Programme Officers M/s Fazli Sak (from Turkey) and Kubat Umurzakov (from Kyrgyzstan) who are going to complete their tenure on November 3, 2002, CPR decided if no CPR meeting could be held before November 3, 2002, then the tenure of M/s Talantbek Kasymbekov, Fazli Sak and Kubat Umurzakov would be automatically extended for two months i.e. from November 4, 2002 to January 3, 2003.

The Secretary General stated that the delay in finalizing the appointment to the subject posts was adversely affecting the efficiency of the Secretariat. Therefore, he requested the member states to finalize the appointments without further delay.

Agenda Item No. 11

Any other business

The Secretariat, during this meeting, circulated brief information notes on the following ECO events/meetings:

- 4th ECO Ministerial meeting on Transport & Communications, (September 26-27, 2002, Izmir, Turkey);
- 7th ECO Summit meeting (October 14, 2002, Istanbul, Turkey);
- 12th COM meeting (October 12, 2002);
- SOM of 12th COM (October 9-10, 2002);
- and 4th WGSO & Special CPR meetings (October 9, 2002);
- 1st ECO Ministerial meeting on Environment (December 14-15, Tehran, Iran);
- ECO Business Forum (EBF) to be held on the sidelines of 7th ECO Summit meeting (October 11, 2002);

- 13th meeting of DsG of National Telecom. Companies and Postal Authorities of the ECO member states (October 28-30, 2002, Almaty, Kazakhstan).

In addition, the Secretariat also circulated, during the meeting, brief information on the documents circulated among member states for 12th COM and 7th ECO Summit meetings. All the above referred brief information is placed at ***Annex-VI***.

The Secretary General urged the member states who had not done so to confirm their participation in SOM, 12th COM, 7th ECO Summit, 4th WGSO and Special CPR (69th) meetings to be held in Istanbul on October 9-14, 2002 and furnish the composition of their delegations alongwith their flight schedule as soon as possible to the Secretariat so that the host authorities could make the appropriate arrangements.

Agenda Item No. 12

Date of next meeting

27. CPR, while agreeing to discuss only the Draft Istanbul Declaration 2002, decided to have its next meeting at 1000 hours on (Thursday) October 03, 2002.

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