

The 70th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – November 5, 2002)

The 70th meeting of Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held in the ECO Secretariat on (Tuesday) November 5, 2002, was chaired by H.E. Mr. Selahattin Alpar, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey in Tehran. 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 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

Opening Statement of the new Chairman

The Chairman, the Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey Mr. Selahattin Alpar, made an opening statement, marking the beginning of the Turkish chairmanship of CPR.

The Chairman, in his statement, also thanked all the member states and the Secretary General as well as ECO staff for the work they have done for the successful of the 7th ECO Summit and 12th COM meetings.

Agenda Item No. 3

Post 7th ECO Summit and 12th COM evaluation

CPR expressed its profound thanks to the Republic of Turkey for the excellent arrangement made in holding the 7th ECO Summit and 12th COM meetings on October 9-14, 2002 in Istanbul.

CPR emphasized on the decisions of the 7th ECO Summit and 12th COM meetings for implementation. Therefore, CPR agreed to have a permanent item in the agenda of the CPR meetings namely "Follow-up implementation of the decisions of the 12th COM and 7th Summit meetings including Istanbul Declaration".

CPR, therefore, asked the Secretary General to prepare a report on the implementation of decisions of the subject meetings for CPR. CPR also asked the Secretariat to publish the Istanbul Declaration 2002 through ECO publication i.e. ECO News Bulletin.

Agenda Item No. 4

Draft Budget of ECO Secretariat for 2003

CPR referred the draft budget of ECO Secretariat for 2003 to the Working Group to assist CPR to study it and submit the result to next CPR for approval. CPR also asked the Working Group to meet at 1000 hours on Tuesday, November 12, 2002 at the Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 5

Preparation for the First ECO Ministerial meeting on Environment

The Permanent Representative of the IR of Iran confirmed that the meeting will be held on December 13-15, 2002 in Tehran and local hospitality will be provided to four representatives from each member state (3+1) while return travel cost to Tehran for two participants from Azerbaijan, Central Asian member states and Afghanistan will be paid from Special Support Fund (SSF). CPR agreed on the proposed agenda of the Senior Officials and the Ministerial meeting with some amendments. The both draft agenda, as agreed by the CPR, would be circulated separately.

Iran offered to prepare the draft Tehran Declaration 2002 of the subject meeting and send it to the Secretariat on November 9, 2002 for onward circulation among the member states.

On the other hand, it was agreed that the Secretariat with the help of the member states, would prepare the draft Programme/Plan of Action on Cooperation in the field of Environment which is an item in the agenda of the Ministerial meeting and circulate the same among the member states as soon as possible.

Agenda Item No. 6

Selection of the Consultant for the Feasibility Study on Power Interconnection of ECO countries power systems [financed under the Technical Assistance (Grant) between IDB and ECO]

CPR appreciated the information submitted by the Secretariat on the status of the project.

Agenda Item No. 7

International Activities Consideration of Draft MOU with UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE)

CPR referred the draft MOU between ECO and UN-ECEC to the Working Group to study it and submit the result to the next CPR meeting. The Working Group would meet at 1000 hours on Wednesday, November 20, 2002 at the Secretariat.

Draft MOU between ECO and Colombo Plan

CPR deferred this sub-item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 8

Administrative matters

a) Establishment of Documentation Centre and Networking System at the ECO Secretariat

Secretary General informed the CPR that a Documentation Centre had been established at the Secretariat and started with new numbering system for the documents using the format of UN and notes verbale.

Secretary General also informed the member states that the Secretariat was deliberating to establish network between the Secretariat and the member states and mentioned that before the next CPR, after having technical aspects for the said network, the member states would be informed officially. He also stated that news of the Secretariat will be e-mailed to member states on daily basis and the Secretariat would circulate a note verbale in this regard.

b) Appointments/Extensions of ECO staff

Upon the recommendation of the Selection Panel which met on the same day (November 5) at 0900 hours:

(i) CPR appointed the following staff to the vacant posts in the Secretariat:

1. Mr. Fazli Sak (Turkey), the present incumbent of the post of the Programme Officer (Economic Research & Statistics), Category-II, P3 for another term of four years effective as of the end of his first term, i.e. 4th April 2002.
2. Mr. Hasan Sahin (Turkey) to the post of Programme Officer (Trade & Investment), Category-II, P3 as of 4th January 2003.
3. Dr. As'd Ardalan (Iran) to the post of Legal Adviser, Category-II, P3 with effect from 1st December 2002.
4. Mr. Bakht Baidar (Pakistan) to the post of Research Officer (Trade & Investment), Category-II, P3, with effect from 1st December 2002.
5. Mr. Hafeez Ahmad Shah (Pakistan) and Mr. Asif Ali (Pakistan) to the posts of Steno-Secretaries, Category-II, P1, as of 1st December 2002.
6. Mr. Asghr Hosseinzadeh (Iran) to the post of Librarian, Category-II, P1 as of 1st December 2002.
7. Mr. Talantbek Kasymbekov (Kyrgyz Republic), the present incumbent of the post of Conference Services & Public Relations Assistant, Category-II, P2 for another four-year term with effect as of 4th November 2002.
8. Ms. Gulmira Urazova (Kazakhstan) to the post of Assistant Accountant, Category-II, P2 to serve the remaining period of the term of the previous incumbent of the post Ms. Jamila Medetbekova from the Republic of Kazakhstan, due to mid-term resignation of the latter.
9. Mr. Mahmood Goharpay (Iran) for the post of Steno-Secretary, Category-II, P1 to the post held by the present incumbent Mr. Hasan Sahin as of 4th January 2003.
10. Mr. Mortaza Mirhashemi, presently working as Assistant to Officer, Category-III, to the post of Persian Translator, Category-II, P1, the nominee of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with effect from 6th November 2002.

(ii) CPR extended the tenure of:

1. the present incumbent of the post of Data Base Officer, Category-II, P3, Mr. Aamir Ghani Mir (Pakistan) for two years with effect from 25th July 2002.
2. Mr. Murat Khasenov, the present incumbent of the post of Russian Interpreter, Category-II, P3 for three months i.e. until 1st March 2003.

(iii) For the 2nd Phase of DCCU Project at ECO Secretariat, CPR approved

the recommendations of the Selection Panel to be conveyed to UNDCP for appointments of the following staff w.e.f. December 1, 2002:

1. Mr. Celalettin Martin (Turkey) as Programme Officer, Category-II, P3.
2. Ms. Saltanat Kermalieva (Kyrgyz Republic) as Support Assistant/Tri-lingual Translator (English, Persian, Russian), Category-II, P2.

3. Mr. Mohammad Reza Nabovati (Iran) as Computer Operator-Web Manager, Category-II, P1.

It was also agreed that Ms. Mojgan Golchin (Iran) who had earlier been introduced as candidate for the post of Programme Officer (Trade & Investment) would be appointed to the post of Protocol Assistant, Category-II, P2, presently held by Mr. Moshir Vaziri (Iran), provided that no other candidate is nominated before the expiration of the deadline for the nominations, i.e. 15 November 2002 and this appointment would be effective as of 1st January 2003.

The delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan requested the esteemed CPR and the Secretariat to track more attentively the balance of presence of representatives of the member states in Secretariat's staff.

c) ECO Day

Secretary General informed the CPR that a reception would be hosted by him for the member states as well as diplomatic missions in Tehran on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of ECO falling on November 28 2002. The reception will be held from 1830 hours to 2030 hours at the ECO Secretariat, invitations for which would be issued in due course.

The same day (November 28), an opening ceremony with participation of the member states will be held for the joint exhibition of ECO Cultural Institute (ECI).

CPR agreed that ex-Secretaries General of ECO may be invited by the Secretary General to attend the ECO Day, November 28, 2002 and their air-tickets be paid and hospitality provided by the Secretariat for November 27-30, 2002. To benefit from their experiences, a meeting would be arranged between the ex-Secretaries General of ECO and the incumbent Secretary General as well as a separate informal/social function-cum-working meeting between the ex-Secretaries General of ECO and the Permanent Representatives of ECO during the formers' stay in Tehran.

Secretary General, on the occasion of ECO Day, would arrange a press conference with media/press residing here in Tehran to highlight the importance of ECO and give publicity to the ECO Day.

The Presidents and the Foreign Ministers of the member states may give messages on the Day. Receptions may be arranged in the capitals of the member states to mark the Day.

Agenda Item No. 9

Any other business

a) Secretariat during this meeting, circulated a brief informative notes on:

- First ECO Ministerial meeting on Environment to be held on December 13-15, 2002 in Tehran; and
- First meeting of the ECO Central Insurance Authorities to be held on November 17-19, 2002 in Tehran.

b) CPR asked the Secretariat to invite the Dean of the ECO College of Insurance to come to next CPR and inform on the activities of the College so that CPR may discuss how to support it.

c) CPR asked the member states who did not ratify the Charter of ECI to do so as soon as possible.

- d)** CPR requested the IR of Iran to provide information on the ratification of the Agreement of the ECO Trade & Development Bank.
- e)** CPR pointed out that the date of the meeting of the ECO Shipping Company should be determined.
- f)** CPR requested the member states to confirm their participation in the 1st meeting of the ECO Central Insurance Authorities to be held on November 17-19, 2002 in Tehran.

Agenda Item No. 10

Date of next meeting

CPR decided to have its next meeting at 1000 hours on (Monday) December 02, 2002.

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