

# The 71<sup>st</sup> CPR Meeting

## Report

( Tehran – December 2, 2002 )

The 71<sup>st</sup> meeting of Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held at the ECO Secretariat on December 2, 2002, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Selahattin Alpar, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey, 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 the Secretary General alongwith the 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 70<sup>th</sup> meeting of CPR

3. CPR adopted the amended report of the 70<sup>th</sup> meeting of CPR. The adopted report was circulated separately.

### **Agenda Item No. 3**

#### Follow-up of the implemenation of the decisions of 12<sup>th</sup> COM, 7<sup>th</sup> Summit and Istanbul Declaration

4. CPR appreciated the follow-up report circulated by the Secretariat on the implemenation of the decisions of 12<sup>th</sup> COM, 7<sup>th</sup> Summit and Istanbul Declaration.

The Secretary General informed CPR that the matter would be placed regularly on the agenda of CPR and the report would be updated for each meeting of CPRs.

### **Agenda Item No. 4**

#### The views of the former ECO Secretary General on the efficiency and effectiveness of ECO

6. H.E. Mr. Onder Ozar, the former Secretary General of ECO, who had been invited by the ECO Secretary General to attend the ECO Day on November 28, 2002 in Tehran, was requested to address the 71<sup>st</sup> meeting of CPR on efficiency and effectiveness of ECO. The summary of the views is placed at **Annex-III**.

7. CPR agreed to consider the views of the former Secretary General in one of its meeting.

### **Agenda Item No. 5**

#### Draft Budget of ECO Secretariat for 2003

8. The Working Group briefed CPR on the conclusions of its two meetings held in December, 2002 about the draft budget. Since some member states still awaited instructions from their capitals, CPR deferred this item to its next meeting and asked the Working Group to meet at 1000 hours on (Tuesday) December 17, 2002.

9. Pending the approval of the budget as per the Article 7.3 of ECO Financial Regulations, CPR authorized the Secretary General to make payments in the year 2003 to sustain the Secretariat's essential functioning on provisional basis for a maximum period of three months on the basis of the budget approved for 2002.

### **Agenda Item No. 6**

#### Harmonization of the timeframe of various ECO meetings and schedules.

##### a. Preparation for the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Regional Planning Council (RPC).

10. CPR deferred the issue on harmonization of the timeframe of various ECO meetings and schedules to the next meeting because some member states still awaited instructions from their capitals.

11. CPR will decide on the venue and the exact date of the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of RPC in its next meeting so the Secretariat may start preparation i.e. draft agenda, working papers.

12. CPR concurred that the Secretariat, Chairman and the host country Kyrgyzstan may consult on determining the date of the 13<sup>th</sup> COM meeting and inform the result to the CPR.

### **Agenda Item No. 7**

#### International Activities Consideration of Draft MoU with UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE);

13. The Working Group submitted to CPR the report of its meeting on the draft MoU held on November 20, 2002. However, some member states proposed additional amendments after the meeting of the Working Group. Therefore, CPR asked the Working Group to meet and work again on the draft MoU in the light of additional proposals and submit the result to CPR for approval. The working Group will meet at 1000 hours on (Tuesday) December 17, 2002 to work on the draft MoU.

#### Draft MoU between ECO and Colombo Plan.

14. CPR approved the draft MoU of the Colombo Plan and authorized the Secretary General to sign the same with the Colombo Plan at his convenience.

### **Agenda Item No. 8**

#### Establishment of an electronic network between the Secretariat and the member states

15. CPR appreciated the alertcity with which the Secretary General prepared the document on the establishment of electronic network between the Secretariat and the member states and introduced to each member state a code number of e-mail. Secretary General informed CPR that the Secretariat started sending documents to member states using the mentioned code numbers in December 1, 2002.

16. CPR furthermore agreed on the implementation of option 1 and option 2 as envisaged in the document of the electronic network as they do not have financial implications. However, the member states will confirm their concurrence for option 3 after they receive

instructions from their capitals.

### **Agenda Item No. 9**

#### Presentation by the Dean of the ECO College of Insurance on the activities of ECO

17. Upon the invitation of CPR, Dean of the ECO College of Insurance (Tehran) Dr. Hamid Zargham, attended the meeting and presented a paper on the activities of the College and expectations of the College from the ECO member states.

18. CPR took note of the presentation and raised some questions on the operation of the decision-making procedures regarding the management of College as well as its admission policy. Some member states emphasized further elaboration on the links of the College with ECO in the light of full sponsorship of the College by an Iranian University. The Dean of the College undertook to convey the requisite information in due course. CPR decided to take up the matter again in the next meeting and for this invited the Dean to attend the meeting for further elaboration.

### **Agenda Item No. 10**

#### Draft Budget of ECO Cultural Institute for 2003

19. Executive Director of Cultural Institute, Mr. Ali Aref, briefed CPR on the draft budget of the ECO Cultural Institute for the year 2003 and the result of the meeting of the Working Group of the contributing member states held earlier on the issue. Since some of the contributing member states still awaited instructions from their capitals on the draft budget, CPR deferred this item to its next meeting.

20. Moreover, since CPR may be unable to meet or adopt the budget before the beginning of the new financial year, it authorized the ECI Executive Director to make payments to sustain the Institute's essential functioning on provisional basis for a maximum period of three month on the basis of the budget approved for 2002.

21. CPR appreciated ECI's role in arranging photo exhibition and hoped that it would organize more cultural activities with the participation of non-contributing members to promote cooperation among ECO member states. Also, CPR requested the member states to look into the possibility of joining ECI by ratifying/signing the Charter of the Institute.

### **Agenda Item No. 11**

#### Administrative matter

22. Upon the recommendation of the Selection Panel, which met on December 2, 2002 at 0930 hours, CPR appointed the following staff to the vacant posts at the Secretariat:

- Ms. Mojgan Golchin (Iran), to the post of Protocol Assistant (category-II, P2) for a term of four years w.e.f. January 1, 2003 and
- Mr. Shiragha Hamidy (Afghanistan), to the post of Steno Secretary (category-II, P1) for a term of four years w.e.f. December 1, 2003.

### **Agenda Item No. 12**

#### Any other business

23. The Secretary General informed the member states about the following ECO events/meeting which could not be held. He requested the member states to seriously work for promotion of scheduling ECO meetings/events listed in the annual ECO Calendar.

**A-**

- i. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ECO Civil Aviation Authorities and Heads of National Airlines, Mashad, November 21, 2002.
- ii. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the ECO Central Insurance Authorities, Tehran, November 17-19, 2002.
- iii. Seminar on Economic benefit and the need for developing strategic action plans for promotion of ECO priority projects, Tehran, November 13-14, 2002.
- iv. Training Programme on automation, combating against customs fraud/smuggling and transit, Ankara, Turkey, October 2002.
- v. The proposed Workshop on Waste Water Management and Treatment Technology, East Mediterranean University, Magosa, November 21-23, 2002.

**B-** Furthermore, brief information on the following meetings was circulated during the meeting.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ministerial meeting on Environment to be held on December 13-15, 2002 in Tehran
- 4<sup>th</sup> ECO Coordination meeting of National Focal Points (NFPs) on Economic Research and Statistics, Baku, Azerbaijan, December 12, 13, 2002.

### **Agenda Item No. 13**

#### Date of next meeting

24. CPR decided to have its next meeting at 1000 hours on (Sunday) January 12, 2003.

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