

204th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Report

27th July 2015 ECO Secretariat, Tehran

<u>Report</u>

The 204th CPR meeting held on 27th July 2015 was chaired by H.E. Mr. Majid Bizmark, Permanent Representative/Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It was attended by the Ambassadors, the Permanent Representatives/Representatives of all ECO Member States except Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The ECO Secretary General along with concerned officials of the Secretariat also attended the Meeting. The list of participants is attached as <u>Annex-I.</u>

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

- 2. The Council adopted the following agenda for deliberations:
 - 1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda
 - 2. Adoption of the Draft Report of the 203rd CPR meeting
 - 3. Scale of Assessments
 - 4. Secretary General's Appointment
 - 5. ECO Vision 2016-2025
 - 6. Holding of Extraordinary COM Meeting
 - 7. Progress made for commencing the studies under the Transport and Communication Sector:
 - i. Customs component of the ECO/IDB Joint Project
 - **ii.** Feasibility Study to identify the needs for development of ICT and Telecommunication infrastructure connectivity and services in the ECO Member States
 - 8. Allocation of US\$ 50,000/- from the FSGPF in support of the Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region
 - 9. Administrative matters
 - 10. Any other business
 - 11. Date of the next CPR Meeting

Agenda Item No.2 Adoption of the Draft Report of 203rd CPR meeting

3. The Council adopted the Draft Report of **203**rd **CPR meeting** circulated among the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/202nd CPR/2015/**931** dated 29th June, 2015.

Agenda Item No.3 New ECO Scale of Assessments

4. In its 203rd Meeting, CPR received a briefing by the Secretariat and the Chairman of the "Working Group on the finalization of the Proposed Outline for Implementation of the EPG Recommendations" on the outcome of the Working Group on the ECO scale of assessments for 2016 onward. According to the briefing, the Working Group had reviewed the EPG relevant recommendations as well as the other possible scenarios for devising new scale rates for the contributions by the Member States to the budget of the Organization. The Working Group had not been able to reach any practical formula for the new scale of assessments.

5. The Working Group in its Meeting of 22nd April 2015 requested the Secretariat to prepare a Report for the Member States on the Working Group discussions on the scale of assessments. The Secretariat submitted the envisaged Report to the Member States on 1st July, 2015(Note Verbale No. ADM/EPG/2015/983). In line with the above mentioned background and taking into account other pertinent issues, among others, the outstanding existing arrears and the decision by Republic of Kazakhstan to drastically cut its annual contribution to the budget of the Organization, the CPR Meeting held lengthy deliberations on the issue of new ECO "Scale of Assessments" in line with the Working Paper developed by the Secretariat.

6. Taking the floor, the Representative of Kazakhstan briefed the Council stating that in 2009 the share of Kazakhstan was fixed at 16% in the Scale of Assessments as approved by the COM in 2009. However, Kazakhstan has revised its contribution rates in number of international organizations including the ECO and the current scale of assessments of ECO is not acceptable to Kazakhstan. He further informed the Council that Kazakhstan's action to revise the Scale of Assessment is due to ineffective activities of the ECO in the past 20 years. He also informed that the proposal prepared by the Working Group on 'Scale of assessments' is not acceptable to Kazakhstan

7. He was of the opinion that the Organization needs transformation which might require review of conceptual documents of ECO i.e. "Treaty of Izmir" and focus on priority sectors such as trade, energy and transport and identification and suspension of non core activities of the Organization. He suggested resolution of the issue through; (i) Reassessing main activities of the Organization in order to reduce costs, (ii) Adoption of new Scale of Assessments and (iii) Payment of arrears of contribution by member countries. 1st September, 2015 8. The Secretary General proposed the Council to consider maintaining the present formula of contribution for at least one more year for smooth functioning of the Organization in 2016 and in due course ECO Secretariat and member countries may work towards an acceptable 'Scale of Assessments' formula. He further informed that the ECO Secretariat has started the process of restructuring and has shared ideas and proposals with the Member States and would appreciate receiving inputs and suggestions from them.

9. The Kazakhstan delegation proposed convening a 'Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)' consisting of Financial Experts from Member States, prior to the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers (COM) in New York, in order to have a decision on the issue of "Scale of Assessments".

10. After protracted deliberations, the Council, in line with the proposal given by the Kazakhstan delegation, decided to have a 'Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)', two weeks prior to the Extraordinary Session of Council of Ministers (COM) in New York, with full mandate to take decision on the issue of "Scale of Assessment" in September 2015. At this juncture, the Ambassador of Pakistan shared his feelings regarding inability of CPR to handle and resolve the issue of "Scale of Assessments".

Agenda Item No.4

Secretary General's Appointment

11. The 202nd CPR meeting decided that pending the next meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers, the concurrence of honourable Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ECO Member States with the candidacy of Turkish nominee H.E. Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca may be sought through circulation. Accordingly, the Secretariat through its Note Verbale No. ADM/PER/2015/748 dated 14th May 2015, requested the Member States for concurrence of their honourable Ministers of Foreign Affairs with this appointment as per Articles IX-2 and XII-1 of the Treaty of Izmir.

12. The Secretariat informed the Council that all the Member States have formally conveyed their concurrence, except for Kazakhstan, to the ECO Secretariat for the appointment of new Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca. However, the Kazakhstan delegation informed the Council that the approval has been received from the capital and by the end of the day it will be conveyed to the Secretariat formally.

13. Keeping the above position in view, the Council ascertained that all Member States have formally expressed their concurrence through circulation with the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca as the new ECO Secretary General. Endorsement of the decision of the CPR for his appointment will be sought from the forthcoming meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers in accordance with Article IX of the Treaty of Izmir.

Agenda-item No.5 <u>Preparatory Work for ECO Vision 2016-25</u>

14. The ECO Vision 2015 was adopted by the 15th COM Meeting held on 1st Oct 2005 in Astana. The Vision reaffirmed the commitment of the Member States to the objectives of ECO and defined a number of targets in various areas including trade and investment; transport and communications; energy; finance and economy; projects and economic research; industry; agriculture; environment; human resource development; drug control; tourism and external relations.

15. The Secretariat has initiated the process of assessing the implementation of the ECO Vision 2015 and formulating a new vision for the period 2016-25. Prior to the 25th Meeting of the RPC, the Secretariat shared with the Member States a background paper on ECO Vision (*Note verbale No.CFU/25th RPC/2015/255 dated 23rd Feb 2015*). The paper presented a preliminary evaluation of the implementation of the ECO Vision 2015 in various key sectors along with the constraints faced in its implementation and a number of policy proposals for the new Vision.

16. During the 25th Meeting of the RPC, under agenda item 6, the ECO Secretary General and the Heads of Delegation of the Member States discussed various issues pertaining to the ECO Vision. The Member States stressed on the need for a detailed and critical analysis of the weak implementation of the Vision 2015. Important decisions regarding formulation of the new Vision were also reached. In the light of the directions given by the Member States, the Secretariat is currently carrying out a detailed assessment of the implementation of the ECO Vision 2015 which would be shared with the Member States in due course of time. Inputs are also being prepared for the Vision 2016-25.

17. The Secretariat briefed the Council that in line with the recommendation of the 3rd ECO Eminent Persons Group (EPG), the Secretariat has proposed to the Member States to hold national conferences with the participation of leading think-tanks, scholars, academicians, representatives of business communities and media for preparing a set of national inputs for the new Vision (*Note Verbale No. IR/ECO-Vision/2015/984 dated 1st July 2015*). Moreover, later this year, the Secretariat plans to organize a conference with representatives of all Member States in attendance, to finalize the recommendations for the ECO Vision 2016-25 based on and informed by the 'Assessment of implementation of ECO Vision 2005-15', emerging world development agenda (i.e. Sustainable Development Goals), deliberations of the conference, inputs from national conferences and suggestions of the RPC, EPG and Member States. This has also been reflected in the calendar of events approved by the 25th Meeting of the RPC.

Agenda Item No.6 Holding of Extraordinary COM Meeting

18. Earlier, 'Extraordinary COM' was planned on Friday 24th July, 2015 in Tehran, however, due to postponement of NAM Ministerial Meeting, the Extraordinary COM meeting was also postponed. The ECO Secretariat through its Note Verbale No.CFU/Extraordinary COM/2015/982 dated 30th June 2015 expressed the opinion that an Extraordinary COM Meeting during 2015, preferably in August 2015, is necessary to make decisions on pending issues of immediate and important nature, including the issue of "Scale of Assessments".

19. The Secretary General briefed the Council regarding importance of holding of 'Extraordinary COM' to address issues of immediate nature soliciting immediate decisions such as "Scale of Assessments", approval of Calendars of Events, formal approval of new Secretary General and three Deputy Secretaries General, guidelines on "ECO Vision 2016 onward" and issue of "arrears". The Secretary General shared his views regarding difficulties in holding Extraordinary COM within short notice, however he suggested utilizing the occasion of UN General Assembly Session being held in September 2015 to have an Extraordinary Session of COM on the sidelines as most of the Foreign Ministers of Member States will be in New York in September 2015, where they can consider and make decisions on the above important issues.

20. The Ambassadors of Pakistan, Turkey and Iranian delegation supported the idea of holding the meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly Session. It was also mentioned that the meeting may be called "Extraordinary Session of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM) instead of "Informal Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM)" as is the practice.

21. After the deliberations, it was decided to change the title of the meeting as *"Extraordinary Session of Council of Ministers (COM)"* to be held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York . The ECO Secretariat and the Permanent Mission of Iran in New York will coordinate the timing and all relevant matters in this regard. However, the Secretary General requested the distinguished Ambassadors to make their utmost efforts in collaboration with their Permanent Missions in New York and capitals for holding of this Extraordinary Session of COM. He stated that the Secretariat will circulate the Draft Agenda of the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers among the Member States very soon.

22. The Council decided to have a special CPR meeting to make decisions regarding the Draft Agenda and other related issues including the recommendations of SOM on "Scale of Assessments" for the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers (COM) in New York.

Agenda Item No.7

<u>Progress made for commencing the studies under the Transport and Communication</u> <u>Sector:</u>

23. The Secretariat briefed the Council on;

i. Customs component of the ECO/IDB Joint Project

During the meeting between ECO and IDB in December 2014 at the headquarters of the IDB for reallocation of undisbursed amount under the ECO/IDB Joint Project for implementation of the remaining component (i.e. Customs), IDB has conveyed its concurrence for re-allocation of the fund to commence the Feasibility Study on custom transit related provisions under TTFA. It has also emphasized on the deadline of March 2016 for completion of all the activities under the framework of the Project

Accordingly, the Secretariat has initiated contacts with the Member States requesting the nomination of their National consultants for collaborating in conducting the Study through its Note Verbale No. TC/Customs/2015/871 of 8th June 2015. As regards International Consultants, communication with relevant international organizations particularly WCO has been initiated to explore areas of collaboration in this regard. A vacancy announcement has also been prepared to this end.

The Council may provide its full support for implementation of this project and take necessary measures to assure the nominations of National Consultants of the Member States. Moreover, the 4th Meeting of the Customs Transit Committee of TTCC is scheduled for 26th August 2015 in Kabul where the details of this study will be considered by the meeting, active participation of the Member States in the Meeting will be highly appreciated.

ii. <u>Feasibility Study to identify the needs for development of ICT and</u> <u>Telecommunication infrastructure connectivity and services in the ECO Member</u> <u>States</u>

As per the decision of 25th Meeting of RPC, the Secretariat has established successful contacts and coordination with International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as the ICT relevant UN Specialized Agency to help ECO by providing the services of an international consultant. The Secretariat has succeeded in getting the concurrence of ITU on its sponsorship of the services of an international consultant who will lead preparation of a Feasibility Study on the ICT infrastructure needs of the ECO Member States. Accordingly, the Secretariat has requested the Member States to provide the Secretariat with their contact persons who will share their respective country's contribution to the Study by 20th June 2015. The contact persons will work in coordination with the Secretariat and the international consultant in preparation and finalization of the Study.

So far, Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kyrgyz Republic and Turkey have provided their competent contact persons. The Council may take note for expeditious nomination of contact persons from the remaining Member.

24. The Chairman appreciated the briefing by the Secretariat on the above mentioned sub-items of the Agenda and requested the Member States, who have not yet done so, for early nomination of their Focal Persons enabling the Secretariat to initiate actions on conducting both the Feasibility Studies at the earliest possible.

Agenda Item No. 8

Allocation of US\$ 50,000/- from the FSGPF in support of the Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region

25. The 4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment welcomed the proposal for developing a regional project to combat desertification with a special emphasis on dust haze and sand storm in the region. The 23rd Meeting of Regional Planning Council (RPC) (6-8 May, 2013, Tehran) requested the ECO Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ECO IEST) to cooperate with the ECO Secretariat in preparation of a Project proposal on combating desertification with a special emphasis on dust haze and sand storm in the region. RPC also requested all Member States to contribute to the mentioned proposal with their possible technical and financial assistance. The 24th RPC Meeting (23-26 February 2014, ECO Secretariat), acknowledged the negative impacts of the desertification and deforestation on the overall environmental situation of the ECO Region and requested the ECO-IEST to provide the Secretariat with detailed project proposal in order to enable the Secretariat to embark on necessary preparations. In line with RPC recommendations, the ECO Secretariat through its Note Verbale dated 16th March 2014 requested the ECO IEST authorities to provide the Secretariat with the detailed project proposal.

26. During bilateral talks between ECO Deputy Secretary General and UNEP officials on the sidelines of the "United Nations Environment Assembly" on 26-27 June 2014 in Nairobi, UNEP expressed interest to assist ECO in implementation of this project. The ECO IEST was subsequently requested to make preliminary coordination with the UNEP and provide the Secretariat with the detailed project proposal for possible decision by CPR. In October 2014, the ECO IEST provided the Secretariat with the draft outline for that project and also made a presentation during the 2nd Experts Group Meeting on Biodiversity, held on 4-5 November 2014 in Antalya, Turkey.

27. The 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment (15-17 December 2014, Istanbul), while acknowledging the importance of combating desertification in the Member States and the ECO Region as a whole, requested the ECO Secretariat to allocate 50,000 USD from the Feasibility and General Purpose Fund (FSGPF), for implementation of a project with the objective of preparation of a detailed needs assessment of the ECO Member States along with the design of the pertinent training/capacity buildings programs and

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contents. The ECO-IEST was mandated with the above project implementation, including a number of pilot training/workshop sessions.

28. During the 200th CPR Meeting (18th February 2015, Qazvin), the Secretariat briefed the Council on the outline and key action areas of the project, as well as on estimated cost, scope of works and tentative timeline. It was emphasized that the several workshops and focal point meetings will be held with involvement of national as well as international consultants. It was stated that requested 50,000 USD covers a very small portion of the whole project and will serve to reaffirm the previous commitments that ECO Region is ready to be involved in this domain and allow ECO-IEST to elaborate comprehensive project proposal in line with globally accepted international standards. Furthermore it was mentioned that 21st Session of the Conference of Parties of the Climate Change Convention (COP 21) will be held in Paris, France in 2015 with the participation of key regional players and major stakeholder groups and hopefully the parties will adopt new global climate regime for post-2015. At this crucial time the proposed Project might be helpful to reach major stakeholder groups, as well as to increase ECO's visibility during and after COP 21. It was noted that upon submission of the project proposal by ECO IEST, the possibilities for financing from appropriate multilateral financing mechanisms may be explored. After deliberations, the 200th CPR Meeting decided to defer decision on this agenda item to its next meeting and recommended to arrange project presentation by ECO-IEST.

29. Moreover, during the 25th Meeting of ECO Regional Planning Council (1-5 March 2015, ECO Secretariat), the Council appreciated ECO-IEST for presenting outline of the regional project on Combat Desertification with Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO region and requested the ECO Secretariat to allocate 50,000 USD from the Feasibility General Purpose Fund (FGPF), which will allow for ECO-IEST to prepare further elaborated project proposal for submission to relevant financial institutions/donors. A pre-CPR meeting convened in the ECO Secretariat on 7th April 2015, Member States requested the ECO IEST to submit detailed information about the Project, particularly to elaborate on its funding aspects.

30. During the 201st CPR Meeting, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan requested the ECO Secretariat to provide more information concerning the state of desertification/dust problems in the ECO region as well as the fund raising mechanisms of the main project. Based on the above mentioned, the 201st CPR Meeting defer decision on this agenda item to its forthcoming meeting.

31. Based on aforementioned the Secretariat via its Note Verbale No. EME/ENV/IEST/RPCD/2015/1003 dated 5th July, 2015 circulated the "Preliminary Study on the Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region" prepared by the ECO Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ECO IEST) among the Member States. The Study included an overview of status of desertification in the ECO Member States, as well as the accessibility and eligibility of funding sources currently available for the Project.

32. The Secretariat briefed the Council about the "Preliminary Study on the Regional Project to combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region" and emphasized that study reflects general overview of status of desertification in the region, common transboundary challenges and climate threats. It was also stated that Green Climate Fund (GCF) would be operational by next year with already pledged amount of US\$10bn and in order to be eligible for GCF financing the ECO Region should prepare and submit feasible regional projects aimed at enhancing collective synergy and coherence for climate resilient pathways in the context of Post COP21 new climate regime.

33. The Ambassador of Pakistan informed the Council that they are still waiting feedback from the Capital regarding the "Preliminary Study on the Regional Project to combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region".

34. The Iranian delegation pointed out that the issue has been recommended by the Ministers and has been endorsed by several RPCs and is a long pending issue which only require the allocation of amount for the sake of continuity and follow up.

35. The Ambassador of Pakistan explained that the Ministers, the Senior Officials and RPC gave approval only for the programme and in this case also the Ministers have given approval only for the project. There is a need for the CPR to examine how the money is being arranged and spent. The Member States should also be aware of the contribution and percentage of share.

36. After deliberations, the Council decided to defer the decision on allocation of US\$50,000 till feedbacks from concerned Capitals of the Member States are received.

Agenda Item No.9

Administrative matters

37. The ECO Secretariat placed the report of its Selection Panel's meeting held on 26th July, 2015, before the Council. The Panel had deferred consideration of the four nominations/extension to its next meeting to be held prior to the next CPR regular meeting. The Secretary General intervened and requested the Council for extension in the tenure of Chief Accountant. On the suggestions of the Ambassadors of Pakistan and Turkey, the Council decided to approve the following nominations/extension:

(a) <u>Director (Trade & Investment) (Category-I, D2)</u>

38. Dr. Muhammad Adnan (**Pakistan national**) was appointed as Director of Trade and Investment (Category-I, D2) for a term of three years effective from the date of his joining the Secretariat replacing Mr. Hussain Haider who has already completed his tenure.

(c) <u>Chief Accountant (Category-II, P3)</u>

39. The tenure of Mr. Farhad Najafzadeh Khoei **(Iranian national)** Chief Accountant (Category-II, P3) was extended until the joining of his replacement.

(d) <u>Russian Translator (Category-II, P2)</u>

40. Mr. Berik Buzauov (**Kazakh national**) was appointed as Russian Translator (Category-II, P2) for a term of four years effective from the date of his joining the Secretariat.

(e) <u>IT Expert/Network Administrator (Category-II, P1)</u>

41. Ms. Maryam Eslami Chalandar **(Iranian national)** was appointed as IT Expert/Network Administrator (Category-II, P1) for a term of four years effective from the date of her joining the Secretariat replacing Mr. M. Reza Malakooti.

Agenda Item No.10

Any other business

42. The Iranian delegation informed the Council about holding of the following two events:

- i. A meeting which is being organized by the Cultural and Heritage Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 3rd of August, 2015 in Tehran regarding cultural heritage and handicrafts in the ECO Region. The consent was sought by the Council enabling the concerned Organization to issue invitations, through the ECO Secretariat, to the distinguished Ambassadors of Member States, Secretary General of ECO and the President of ECI.
- ii. A meeting is being organized by the Mayor of Tehran and Mayor of Qazvin in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Asian Mayors Association on 29th August to 1st September 2015 in Tehran and Qazvin respectively. The said event was already proposed in the CPR meeting held in Qazvin (18th February 2015). The Secretariat of the Asian Mayors Association has already extended invitations to its Member States. However, invitations will also be extended to those Mayors who are not the members of this Association.

43. The Council concurred to the proposals made by the Iranian delegation for holding of the above two events and issuance of invitations to the Member States for participation. However, the Ambassador of Azerbaijan requested if the detailed information is also circulated among the Member States through a Note Verbale.

44. The Secretary General requested the Council to take a decision to put a deadline for submission of nominations for the post of Deputy Secretary General to replace Mr. Hayri Maraslioglu, Deputy Secretary General (T&I, AIT & IR), who is going to complete his tenure by November, 2015. This will allow for timely placement of recommendations for the appointment before the Extraordinary Session of COM in New York.

45. After deliberations, the Council decided to put the deadline of <u>10th August, 2015</u> for submission of nominations. CPR will prepare recommendations and submit them to the COM for endorsement during the 'Extraordinary Session of COM'. In this regard the ECO Secretariat will circulate a Note Verbale among the Member States mentioning the deadline of 10th August 2015 for nomination of new DSG.

46. Under this agenda item, the Afghan delegation also informed the Council that 4th Meeting of the Customs Transit Committee of the Transit Transport Coordination Council (TTCC) is going to be held in Kabul on 26th of August, 2015. He requested all the Member States to actively participate in the said meeting.

Word of Thanks to the outgoing Secretary General

47. The Chairman and the members of the Council paid rich tributes to the out-going Secretary General H.E. Mr. Shamil Aleskerov for his hard work and efforts to promote ECO's objectives.

48. The Secretary General reciprocated the sentiments of the distinguished members of the Council. He thanked the Council for their cooperation and support in order to achieve ECO's objectives. Appreciating the support and guidance of the Member States, he described his stay in Tehran as most rewarding. Counting his achievements, he particularly mentioned expansion of ECO Trade and Development Bank, which in his opinion, will help ECO make more progress and increased cooperation with the UN agencies. He expressed his gratitude to colleagues in the ECO Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry of Iran and the Embassies of the Member States. He acknowledged the support and cooperation of all his colleagues in ECO Secretariat who helped him during his tenure in the Secretariat and wished them every success. He also wished success for the new incoming Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca. The outgoing Secretary General also mentioned that one of his colleagues Mr. Hayri Maraslioglu, Deputy Secretary General will also leave the Secretariat on completion of his assignment in the ECO Secretariat in November. He appreciated his good work, active role and performance.

Agenda Item No.11

Date of the next CPR meeting

49. The Council decided to convene its next (**205**th) Meeting <u>on Tuesday 1st</u> <u>September, 2015</u> at 1000 hours at the ECO Secretariat.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

- H.E. Dr. Nasser Ahmad Noor, Ambassador
- Mr. Mohammad Ebrahim Barekzai, Counsellor
- Ms. Zahra Badaghi, Administrative Assistant

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- H.E. Mr. Javanshir Akhundov, Ambassador

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

- H.E. Mr. Majid Bizmark, Permanent Representative/Director General
- Mr. Abulfazl Mohammad Alikhani, Director of ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Ahmad Safari, Deputy Director of ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Tofigh Sedigh Mostahkam, Senior Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Mohammad Hashemi, Senior Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- Mr. Serik Zhumabekov, Minister/Counsellor
- Mr. Ermek Sadykbekov, Second Secretary

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- Mr. Kochorbaev Musa, First Secretary

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- H.E. Mr. Noor Muhammad Jadmani, Ambassador
- Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Ahmad, Counsellor

Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Mr. Zaurov Sangmuhamad, Minister Counsellor
- Mrs. Manizha Rahimi, Third Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey:

- H.E. Mr. Riza Hakan TEKİN, Ambassador
- Ms. Sevgi Ilhan, Second Secretary

The ECO Secretariat:

- H.E. Mr. Shamil Aleskerov, Secretary General
- Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Ahsan Ali Mangi, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Mohsen Esperi, Director (TC)
- Mr. Orkhan Zeynalov, Director (EME)
- Mr. Bahodur Rahmonov, Assistant Director (CFU)
- Mr. Gaffar Erbek, Chef de Cabinet
- Mr. Mahmoud Khoubkar, Legal Adviser
- Mr. Israr Ahmad Khan, Steno-Secretary