

Revised Terms of Reference of The Contact Group of ECO Ambassadors at Various Regional/ International Fora Where Economic Issues Are Discussed¹

With an objective to support ECO's efforts in the sphere of external relations and to enhance its visibility, Contact Groups of ECO Ambassadors/Permanent Representatives shall be reactivated/established at various important international/regional fora where economic issues are discussed. Such a Contact Group may be reactivated/established in first stage among the Permanent Representatives/the Ambassadors of the Member States to UN in New York, WTO and UNCTAD in Geneva, UNIDO in Vienna, ESCAP in Bangkok, FAO in Rome, OIC and IDB in Jeddah. The Terms of Reference of the Contact Group shall be as follows:

1. The Contact Group while being consultative in nature, shall endeavor to:
 - a. Harmonize the positions of ECO Member States on important economic issues of common interest in the UN and other Regional/International Organizations
 - b. Mobilize financial and technical assistance for implementation of ECO's regional projects.
2. The Contact Group shall meet informally and conduct its work on ad-hoc basis.
3. The Contact Group shall meet under the Chairmanship of the country holding Chairmanship of the Council of Ministers (COM). The agenda of the Contact Group meetings shall be confined to:

¹ As approved by the 19th COM (22nd Dec, 2010-Istanbul)

i.) Economic issues concerning the ECO Region.

ii.) ECO's project-proposals on which technical/financial support of International/regional organization is required.

The said agenda may be prepared by the Chairman of the Group in consultation with other members of the Group and the ECO Secretariat. The Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) through the ECO Secretariat may also suggest item/items to be included in the agenda of the said group.

4. The Contact Group may inform the CPR through the Secretariat about the outcome of its meetings. This information will be included in the agenda of the CPR for the kind attention of the Permanent Representatives for follow-up action, if so required.
5. After approval of CPR/COM, the respected Foreign Ministries of the ECO Member States will send the necessary instructions to their Permanent Representatives/Ambassadors in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Bangkok, Rome and Jeddah for the reactivation/establishment of such groups. The Secretary General of ECO will follow-up the matter through the respective Chairman of the Contact Group.
6. The CPR shall periodically consider the list of Contact Groups mentioned in paragraph 5 above, with the view to enlarge it, if required.