

### **Modalities for the Utilization of ECO Special Support Fund**<sup>1</sup>

- i. The amount allocated for Special Support Fund would be approved by the CPR as a part of the annual budget of ECO Secretariat.
- ii. The CPR shall approve the meetings, which would utilize the Fund for their participants in advance. Every year, the Secretariat after the RPC (Regional Planning Council) meeting will propose a list of meetings from amongst the Annual ECO Calendar of Meetings/Events and submit it to the CPR for its approval. The use of SSF shall be limited to meetings in the main priority areas, i.e. Trade, Transport & Energy. Priority shall be given to Trade related meetings. However, other important areas to be proposed may also be given priority. To the extent possible, workshops, training courses etc. which do not involve decision making will not be included in the list. Furthermore, the Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting, Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), Regional Planning Council (RPC) Meeting, Sectoral Ministerial Meetings and their related SOMs shall not use the Fund.
- iii. The SS Fund may be utilized by the ECO Secretariat for round trip air ticket (least expensive economy class) expenses up to US\$900/- for one participant from all Member States of ECO.<sup>2</sup>
- iv. Those member states that are in the arrears of their assessed contribution to the ECO budget for more than two years will not be entitled to utilize SSF.
- v. The Secretary General is authorized in exceptional cases, to pay up to US\$1,200/- to one participant each from a maximum of three Member States

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by 111th CPR Meeting on 10th April 2006

<sup>2</sup> Amended and approved by the 160<sup>th</sup> meeting of CPR on 28 June, 2010, on behalf of the COM.

for each meeting who have to pay more due to higher cost of air ticket or non-availability of direct connecting flights to the venue.<sup>3</sup>

- vi. If so required due to unexpected developments within the subject year, the Secretariat may submit a revised list to CPR for re-approval.

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<sup>3</sup> Amended and approved by the 160<sup>th</sup> meeting of CPR on 28 June, 2010, on behalf of the COM.

