

Statement
of the ECO Secretary General Amb. Khusrav Noziri
at the Sixth CICA Summit
Astana, October 13, 2022

Excellency President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev,
Honorable Heads of State/Government,
Distinguished Participants,

It is an honor and privilege for me to participate in the Sixth CICA Summit in the beautiful city of Astana.

I congratulate the Republic of Kazakhstan for making excellent arrangements to organize this important event and facilitating the event's participants.

The invaluable efforts and contribution of Kazakhstan to establish and develop this vital forum are noted with high appreciation and deep acknowledgement at regional and global levels.

I would also like to sincerely acknowledge the application of significant reforms by Kazakhstan that has made CICA a more effective and reputable platform for the promotion of multilateral activism and cooperation to secure durable peace, security and stability in Asia.

Given the severity and complexity of multiple issues and challenges that Asia is confronting today, the necessity of CICA and the tangible Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) agreed upon within the Forum's framework appear to be greater than ever before.

Excellencies,

In the age of rising aggressions and provocative trends, we need to be extra cautious, more collaborative and additionally engaged in the joint pursuit of our shared interests, future and destiny which is possible through increased multilateral nexus.

At present when we lack the feasible alternatives, the most practical and sensible solution is to seriously resort to synergic approaches and actions. Our problems have, quite earlier, transcended national frontiers. Challenges the humanity is facing have gone regional and global in dimensions.

It is neither new nor alien to us that the individual state's isolated efforts to cope with the traditional and non-traditional security challenges do not seem to achieve any sane aim. Regional problems can be addressed only through regional solutions. Within the given context, the multilateralism and platforms like CICA and ECO are of great importance to help reach our collective targets.

The Economic Cooperation Organization is pivoted on same notion. We are committed to deepen regional integration and economic interdependence.

We also recognize the inseparable link between the trio of interdependence, peace and development. We reiterate our firm belief that peace and stability are essential ingredients of economic growth, sustainable development and wellbeing of our peoples.

In this context, the ECO values its cooperative relationship with CICA and strongly believe that the two sides' combined actions will undoubtedly contribute to the efforts for achieving durable peace and sustainable development in the region.

CICA and ECO institutionalized their cooperative relationship with the signing of an MoU in 2008. Based on this MoU, I would like to invite CICA to jointly develop a comprehensive Work Programme for the realization of our shared aspirations in various areas of common interest and advantages.

I am confident that this high level interaction will secure meaningful and productive outcomes to further support and elevate the process of regional integration.

While concluding my remarks, I reiterate that ECO attaches huge importance to deepening its ties with CICA, assuring our maximum reciprocity to meet such an equally beneficial end.

Thank you all.