



**Statement by
ECO Secretary General H.E. Mr. Khusrav Noziri
at 19th Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs
of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)**

Tehran, Iran, June 24, 2024

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I extend my warmest gratitude to H.E. Mr. Ali Bagheri, Acting Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran for inviting me to attend this very important event.

As the current Chair of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), Iran's steadfast dedication to promoting regional cooperation is commendable and recognized by all member nations.

It is noteworthy that Iran currently holds the Chairmanship of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), guiding the Organization towards further progress and prosperity. Under Iran's hospitable stewardship in Tehran, the ECO has made remarkable strides across various sectors, including energy, transportation and environmental sustainability, significantly bolstering regional socio-economic development.

Today, the ECO stands as one of the oldest and most esteemed regional platforms, renowned for its unwavering commitment to collective advancement.

Distinguished Delegates,

Collaboration across the organizations presents countless opportunities. By uniting our efforts, we can effectively address our common challenges, opening new avenues for cooperation among member nations.

The Economic Cooperation Organization and the Asia Cooperation Dialogue possess immense potential for collaboration. In this spirit, I propose formalizing our relationship through an institutionalized partnership. Let us exchange best practices, consolidate our experiences and establish a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance our joint endeavors. Such a partnership will undoubtedly strengthen our pursuit of shared objectives.

To this end, I am pleased to encourage the Islamic Republic of Iran, in its dual role within the ECO and ACD, to champion this initiative for enhancing collaboration between our two organizations. Together, we can broaden our cooperative scope and engage in mutually beneficial activities.

In conclusion, I am optimistic that this event will yield fruitful outcomes for all participants, advancing our shared interests and fostering deeper regional cooperation and development.

Thank you.