

Statement of the ECO Secretary General
Train-the-Trainers Programme for ECO Member States on International
Standards and International Standardisation
May 13, 2024

Esteemed Representatives of 10K Consulting, and
Distinguished Colleagues from the ECO Secretariat,

I am honored to welcome all of you to the kick-off meeting of our new project, the **“Train the Trainers Programme for ECO Member States on International Standards and International Standardisation.”**

As the Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization, I am deeply encouraged by the collaboration and dedication shown by all parties involved in this endeavor.

This project marks a significant milestone in our collective efforts to promote economic cooperation and integration among our Member States. The importance of standardization in today’s globalized economy cannot be overstated. Standards serve as the foundation for ensuring the safety, reliability, and quality of products and services, thereby facilitating trade and fostering economic growth.

Through this programme, we aim to enhance the capacity of ECO Member States in the field of standardization, enabling them to effectively participate in and contribute to national, regional and international standardization activities. By equipping trainers with the necessary knowledge and skills, we not only empower experts individually, but also strengthen the standardization infrastructure of our region as a whole.

I am also delighted to note that the ECO Regional Institute for Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation, and Metrology, or briefly, ECO-RISCAM, is also among the participants of this project. Their participation underscores the importance of regional cooperation in advancing our standardisation objectives as well as the full implementation of the ECO Trade Agreement.

Accordingly, I would like to express my appreciation to all my staff who have been involved in turning this project from an idea into a reality today. I would like to thank Mr. Zahid Abbasi, who sits on my side_as the Director of Trade and Investment, and Mr. Mehmet Çetik, the Program Officer, for their sincere commitment and professional efforts.

I also would like to thank Mr. Polat, the Director of Industry and Agriculture and his team for their useful inputs in the process. Our both Directorates have been showing an exemplary coordination for the realization of this project. Your collaboration will still be instrumental in ensuring the success of this initiative.

To be sure, I would like to extend my gratitude to our esteemed contractor, 10k Consulting, for their commitment to this project. Your expertise and dedication will play a crucial role in the successful implementation of this training programme. I am confident that together, we will achieve our objectives and deliver tangible benefits to our Member States.

On a personal note, I would also like to take this opportunity to express my eagerness to get to know the contractor's team of experts better through this kick-off meeting. Your technical knowledge and experience will undoubtedly enrich our discussions and contribute to the success of this project.

As we embark on this journey together, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to promoting economic cooperation and integration within the ECO region. I would like to finish my words by noting that only through such effective cooperation, we can create a brighter future for all our Member States.

With that being said, I now would like to leave the floor to Mr. Korkut Yavuz, the CEO of our esteemed contractor, 10k Consulting to introduce himself and his team.

Thank you.