

Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
and
the Colombo Plan (CP)

With a view to strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the two organizations in the service of their member countries, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and the Colombo Plan (CP) agree to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding, which is concluded taking into account the following:

- Terms of Reference of the ECO;
- Terms of Reference of the CP; and
- The respective responsibilities and mandates of the two organizations.

Accordingly, the ECO and the CP hereby agree, subject to availability of resources, to develop cooperation and collaboration, as practicable, in assisting their respective member countries to:

address development issues and concerns which confront them, and exchange relevant experience through ECDC-TCDC (economic and technical cooperation among developing countries);
enhance their national capacities in identified areas of common interest;
prepare and undertake, as appropriate, joint training programmes and workshops on mutually identified areas of priority concern;
exchange analytical reports and technical publications on aspects of development which are of mutual interest; and
establish linkages through exchanges of relevant data, information, documentation and ideas.

The ECO and the CP also agree to endeavour to cooperate with each other in the following specific areas of mutual interest:

TCDC/South-South Cooperation;
Human resources development;
Small and medium-scale enterprises development;
Trade and investment promotion; and
Drug abuse prevention and control.

To enable more effective and mutually beneficial cooperation, the ECO and the CP

agree, within their resource constraints, to undertake consultations from time to time and to consider participation at each other's meetings which may result in identification and elaboration of joint activities in mutually agreed fields where such cooperation is practical and possible.

This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force upon the signature of the Secretary-General of the ECO and the Secretary-General of the CP.

For the
Economic Cooperation Organization

Ambassador Seyed Mojtaba Arastou

Secretary-General
Economic Cooperation Organization

13 May 2003

For the
Colombo Plan

Dr. U. Sarat Chandran

Secretary-General
Colombo Plan Secretariat

13 May 2003