

The Extraordinary Summit

Report

(Ashgabat, 13-14 May, 1997)

The Extraordinary Summit Meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was held at Ashgabat on 13-14 May, 1997.

The Meeting was participated by H.E. Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, President of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, H.E. Mr. Heider Aliev, President of the Azerbaijan Republic, H.E. Mr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Nursultan Nazarbaev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Mr. A. Jumagulov, Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, H.E. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmonov, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr. Suleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Saparmurat Niyazov, President of Turkmenistan, H.E. Mr. Islam Karimov, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. H.E. Mr. Onder Ozar, Secretary General of ECO also attended the Meeting.

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mohammad Ali, President of the Islamic Development Bank, Mrs. Dunia Pastizzi-Ferencic, Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, and representatives from EBRD, World Bank and IRTO (International Road Traffic Organization) attended the Meeting as special guests. The list of participants is at **Annex I**.

Agenda Item – 1:

Inaugural Ceremony

The Meeting commenced with the playing of the National Anthem of Turkmenistan. H.E. Mr. Saparmurat Niyazov, President of Turkmenistan, in his capacity as the current Chairman of the Summit, inaugurated the Extraordinary ECO Summit Meeting and delivered his inaugural address. Text of his statement is placed at **Annex II**.

Agenda Item – 2:

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda of the Extraordinary ECO Summit Meeting, as adopted is attached at **Annex III**.

Agenda Item – 3:

Statements by the Heads of State/Government

The Heads of Delegations delivered their statements. Texts of the statements as provided to the Secretariat are placed at **Annex IV**.

Mrs. Dunia Pastizzi-Ferencic, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) read out the message of the UN Secretary General, H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan. H.E. Mr. Ahmad Mohamad Ali, President of the Islamic Development Bank also delivered his statement. A copy each of the message / statement are placed at **Annex V**.

Agenda Item - 4 :

Report of the Secretary General of ECO

H.E. Mr. Onder Ozar, Secretary General of ECO presented a Report highlighting the

significance of the agenda of the Extraordinary ECO Summit Meeting and underlining recent developments in pursuance of specific projects and programmes being implemented in the field of transport and communications. The text of the Report of the Secretary General is placed at **Annex VI**.

Agenda Item -5:

Consideration and Adoption of the draft Declaration on the Development of Transport and Transnational Pipelines in the ECO region

The Meeting adopted, with an additional paragraph, the Ashgabat Declaration on the Development of Transport and Transnational Pipelines in the ECO region as recommended by the Council of Ministers during its seventh Meeting held in Tehran on 28-29 April, 1997. The approved Ashgabat Declaration is placed at **Annex VII**.

Agenda Item – 6:

Vote of Thanks and Closing Address by the Chairperson of the Extraordinary ECO Summit Meeting

The Heads of State/Government expressed their profound thanks to the President and the Government of Turkmenistan for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to the delegations. The Heads of State/Government also expressed their appreciation to the Secretary General of ECO and his staff for their valuable services.

Chairman of the Meeting, H.E. Mr. Saparmurat Niyazov, President of Turkmenistan, made his concluding remarks and declared the Meeting closed.