

Message of
H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of OIC
(Herat, Afghanistan – 20 October 2007)

Annex. IX

Additional Protocol to the Charter of the ECO Science Foundation 1995

The Member States hereby agree that in the light of the ratification already made by five Member States, the Charter of the Foundation has entered into force. Pursuant to Article 19 of the Charter, the Member States further agree to adopt the following additional Protocol to be annexed to the Charter:

1. DEFINITION, SHORT TITLE, EXTENT AND COMMENCEMENT

- a. The Charter of ECO Science Foundation hereafter is referred to as the “Charter”.
- b. It extends to the whole of ECO Region.
- c. The ECO Science Foundation means the Foundation established under this Charter, as an ECO Specialized Agency, represented by its Board of Trustees and herein after referred to as “the Foundation”.
Article 2 of the Charter has been merged with Article 1.

2. FUNCTIONS OF THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation shall function as a coordinating, financing and monitoring agency for the promotion and support of following activities in the Member States:

- a. Evaluation of the existing training facilities in the region and formulation of training programmes for building up highly skilled scientific and technical manpower.
- b. Designing programmes to strengthen the scientific, engineering and research and development institutions.
- c. Survey of problem areas faced by the member countries in technology, and technology assessment for the individual Member States facilitating technology transfer and know-how.
- d. Promotion of goal oriented research projects, including joint research programmes, thematic calls and specific actions related to priority areas of concern to the Member States, promotion of scientific projects of economic or commercial value contributing to the development plans or projects of the member states or any individual researcher from any Member State.
- e. Exchange of Science and Technology information through designated Centres and Institutions working as a network.
- f. Strengthening of scientific cooperation through institutional linkages, exchange of scientists and holding of collaborative seminars and conferences on major science and technology issues in the Member States.
- g. Promotion of improved methods in the teaching of science.
- h. Publication of quarterly scientific bulletin which will contain the research papers and articles of the scholars of the member countries in the fields of natural and fundamental, social, human, medical and applied sciences and technology.

- i. Holding of science and technology fairs and exhibitions in collaboration with the Member States.
- j. Grant of awards and prizes to eminent scientists in the field of science and technology in ECO region.
- k. Identification of elite science and technology organizations as focal points in the ECO Member States.
- l. Strengthening of the scientific and technological libraries in the Member States.
- m. Emphasizing on collaboration with concerned ECO and national institutions for strengthening and harmonizing regional patents and intellectual property rights regimes and safeguarding the innovations.
- n. Functions and activities of the Foundation shall be in harmony with the objectives and functions of the existing ECO Specialized Agencies and the ECO Regional Institutions.

3. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The policy guidelines and funding of the Foundation shall vest in a Board of Trustees (BOT) which will consist of the following:

- All the ministers responsible for science and technology of the member countries or the authorities of the relevant national institutions designated by the ministers.
- Secretary General, ECO.
- Chairman, ECO Science Foundation, as its Member/Secretary.
- One representative of the scientific community from each member state nominated by the relevant scientific authority.
- The first meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held in Pakistan chaired by Pakistan's Minister of Science and Technology. Subsequently, the meetings will be held and chaired by the member countries by rotation.
- The Board will meet biennially.

4. **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Articles 6 to 10 of the Charter would stand deleted.

5. **THE CHAIRMAN OF ECO SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

The Chairman of the Foundation shall be nominated from amongst the eminent scientists of the Member States having adequate experience of planning and management of Science and Technology and appointed by the ECO Council of Ministers on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, for a non-renewable term of three years. The first Chairman of the Foundation shall be a national of the Member State hosting the Headquarters of the Foundation. Subsequent appointments shall be made on a rotational basis in alphabetical order amongst the interested Member States. The Chairman-designate shall get acquainted with

functions of his/her office at least two months prior to termination date of the in-service Chairman.

The Chairman of the Foundation shall be responsible for carrying the general policies and decisions of the Board of Trustees and taking appropriate measures for implementation of the approved programmes of the Foundation.

The Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) on behalf of the Council of Ministers (COM) may, at any time, terminate the appointment of the Chairman on the recommendations of the Board of Trustees without notice and without assigning any reason.

The remuneration and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairman shall be determined by the BOT in accordance with the regulations decided by the ECO Council of Ministers.

6. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

There shall be an Executive Committee of the Foundation consisting of the Chairman and one scientist from each Member State as appointed by their relevant scientific authorities. The members of the Executive Committee shall hold the office for a term of two years and shall be eligible for re-nomination, however, not more than two consecutive terms with the approval of the BOT.

The structure and duties of the Executive Committee will be defined in the Rules of Procedure of the Foundation.

a. **MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- (i) The meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held at least twice a year and shall be presided over by the Chairman or in his absence, by a senior member, nominated by the Chairman.
- (ii) All decisions at a meeting of the Committee shall be taken by consensus. However, in case of difference of opinion the decision will be by a simple majority of votes of the Member States.

b. **QUORUM AT THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

To constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Committee, no less than 2/3rd members shall be present.

7. **DELEGATION OF POWERS**

Article 12 stands deleted.

8. **FUNDS**

The funds of the Foundation shall consist of:

- a. Mandatory contributions made by the ECO Member States for running the ECO Science Foundation and its projects.
- b. Donations, endowments, voluntary contributions from Member States, and extra resources from International Organizations to establish a Science and Technology fund to finance the projects of the Foundation.

9. **BUDGET**

The Foundation shall prepare a statement of its receipt and expenditure for each financial year which will be approved by the Executive Committee.

10. **ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT**

- a. The funds of the Foundation shall be kept in scheduled bank(s) of repute approved by the Executive Committee.
- b. The accounts of the Foundation shall be maintained in such form and manner as the Board of Trustees may determine.
- c. The accounts of the Foundation shall be audited by a Board of Auditors of ECO.

11. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS AND STAFF**

- a. The Executive Committee may with the approval of the BOT propose to the ECO Secretariat the appointment of such officers and staff and engage such consultants or experts, as it may consider necessary, for the efficient performance of its functions on such terms and conditions as it may deem fit.
- b. The Foundation shall formulate its own staff regulations and procedures which shall be approved by the Board of Trustees within one year of its commencement.
- c. In fixing the terms and conditions of service of its officers and staff, the Foundation shall conform to the scales of pay, allowances and conditions of service as specified in the service regulations of the Foundation.
- d. Local staff consisting of administrative, secretarial, and lower employees must be nationals of the Member States but residents and locally recruited in Pakistan.

12. **ANNUAL REPORTS**

The Foundation through ECO Secretariat shall submit annual or periodic reports covering a review of the activities and future projects of the Foundation duly approved by the Executive Committee along with the audited accounts to the ECO Council of Ministers (COM).

13. **AMENDMENTS OF THE CHARTER**

The Charter may be reviewed as and when required on the basis of proposals either by Executive Committee, a Member State or Chairman. The amended Charter of ECO Science Foundation shall require approval of the ECO Council of Ministers”.

Done at Islamabad on this fourth day of September in the year Two Thousand and Seven, in one single copy in English which shall remain deposited with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and duly certified copies shall be transmitted by that Government to all the signatory States within thirty days from today.

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