

The 15th Council of Ministers

**Welcoming Statement by by Mr.K.Tokaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of
Kazakhstan**

(Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, 01 October, 2005)

Annex-II

*Mr. Secretary General,
Distinguished Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan I extend a very warm welcome to you. We are honored to have our friends here in the new building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan to create a new vision for cooperation within the ECO.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to H.E. Mr. Talbak Nazarov, Foreign Minister of Tajikistan for his valuable contribution to our Organization's progress as Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the ECO.

I express my gratitude to the participants of the ECO Senior Officials Meeting for their productive preparatory work.

As Chairman of the ECO COM I do rely on your cooperation and wish you fruitful deliberations.

I avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate our colleague H.E. Mr. Manucehr Mottaki on his appointment as Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to wish him every success in his high government assignment.

Thank you