



Economic Cooperation Organization

Secretariat

SUM-3/95/COM-S.

REPORT
OF
THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
(ISLAMABAD, 13 MARCH, 1995)

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE ECO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
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The Special Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was held in Islamabad on 13 March 1995. The representatives of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as Annex-I.

OPENING OF THE MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 1):

2. The Meeting was opened by H.E. Mr. Boris O. Shikmuradov, Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan and Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 2):

3. H.E. Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (AGENDA ITEM 3):

4. The Council adopted the agenda for its Special Meeting which is at Annex-II.

APPOINTMENT OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 4):

5. The Council appointed an open-ended Drafting Committee to prepare the Report of the Meeting.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRD ECO SUMMIT MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 5):

(i) Resume of decisions taken at the 5th Meeting of the Council of Ministers -Report of the Secretary General:

6. The Secretary General of ECO, Mr. Shamshad Ahmad, presented a Report to the Council containing a resume of decisions taken at the Fifth Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers held at Ashgabat in January, 1995. A copy of the Report of the Secretary General is at Annex-III.

ii) Report of the Chairman of the Meeting of Senior Officials:

7. Mr. Najmuddin Shaikh, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Chairman of the Meeting of the Senior Officials held in Islamabad on 11-13 March 1995 presented a report of the Meeting to the Council. A copy of the Report of the Meeting of Senior Officials is at Annex-IV.

8. The Council adopted the Report of the Meeting of Senior Officials alongwith the following decisions:

- (a) Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan would also initial the Charter of ECO Science Foundation.
- (b) Islamic State of Afghanistan would also sign the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the Businessmen of ECO countries.
- (c) The Fourth ECO Summit Meeting and Sixth Annual Meeting of the Council of Ministers would be held in Turkmenistan. While welcoming the generous offer of Turkmenistan to host the next Summit and Council of Ministers Meetings, the Council requested the Secretary General to coordinate mutually convenient dates for the meeting.

iii) Four ECO Projects:

9. The Council noted that the following instruments were ready for signature/initialling:

(a) Articles of Agreement of the ECO Trade and Development Bank by the delegations of:

- Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- Republic of Turkey.

(The representative of Azerbaijan indicated the desire of his country to join the Bank in the near future).

(b) MOU on ECO Reinsurance Company by the delegations of:

- Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- Republic of Turkey.

(c) Agreement and Articles of Association for the Establishment of ECO Shipping Company:

The Council agreed to the addition of the following article in the Agreement, besides some minor editorial changes:

"Each ECO Member State Party to this Agreement shall have the right to transfer any part of its shares to the national flag carrier and/or commercial shipping companies registered in the Member State.

The representation at the General Assembly and the Board of Directors of the ECO Shipping Company will, however, always be by the nationals of the respective Member State."

The Council noted that the Agreement, as amended, will be signed by the delegations of:

- Islamic State of Afghanistan,
- Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Republic of Kazakhstan,
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- Turkmenistan,
- Kyrgyz Republic.

(d) Agreement and Articles of Association of ECO AIR:

The Council agreed to the addition of the following article in the Agreement:

"Each ECO member state, party to this Agreement, shall have the right to transfer all or any part of its shares to the private sector.

The representation at the plenary meeting of the shareholders and the Board of Directors of the ECO Air, will, however, always be by the nationals of the respective member state."

The Council noted that the Agreement, as amended will be signed by the delegations of:

- Islamic State of Afghanistan,
- Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- Turkmenistan.

iv) Draft Agenda for the Third ECO Summit Meeting:

10. The Council considered and agreed to recommend the draft Agenda for the Third ECO Summit Meeting as at Annex-V.

v) Consideration of the draft Joint Communique and draft Islamabad Declaration:

11. The Council considered the draft Joint Communique prepared by the Senior Officials and recommended to the Third ECO Summit Meeting, for consideration and adoption, the agreed draft Joint Communique at Annex-VI.

12. The Council considered the draft Islamabad Declaration prepared by the Senior Officials and recommended to the Third ECO Summit Meeting, for consideration and adoption, the agreed draft Islamabad Declaration at Annex-VII.

FORMATION OF GROUP OF EMINENT PERSONS ON ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ECO (AGENDA ITEM 6):

13. The Council approved the recommendations of the Senior Officials regarding the Eminent Persons Group as contained in the Report of the Meeting of Senior Officials. The Council also approved that the Eminent Persons Group should submit its report to it for a final decision and that the report submitted by the Eminent Persons Group may be considered by the Council of Ministers in an Extraordinary Session with a single agenda item "Enhancing the Effectiveness of ECO".

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 7):

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (AGENDA ITEM 8)

14. The Council unanimously adopted the Report of its meeting.

VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSING OF THE MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 9):

15. The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.