

The 2nd Council of Ministers

Report

(Ankara, 5-6 February, 1992)

The Second Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers was held in Ankara on 5-6 February 1992. The Meeting was attended by the delegations of the three member countries and representatives of the ECO Secretariat. The list of participants is at [Annex.I](#).

1. INAUGURATION

The Meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Hikmet Cetin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey.

2- ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

His Excellency Mr. Hikmet Cetin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey, was elected Chairman of the Meeting by acclaim.

3- ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Council adopted the Agenda which is at [Annex.II](#).

4- OPENING STATEMENTS BY THE LEADERS OF THE DELEGATIONS

The Meeting was addressed by His Excellency Mr. Hikmet Cetin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey, Dr. Ali Akber Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Siddique Khan Kanju, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and His Excellency Mr. Ali Reza Salari, Secretary General, Economic Cooperation Organization. The texts of their Opening Statements are at [Annexes III, IV, V and VI](#) respectively.

5- APPOINTMENT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

The Council appointed a Drafting Committee for the Meeting consisting of the following:

- i) Mr. Akin Alptuna,
Deputy Director General,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Republic of Turkey
- ii) Mr. Mir Mahmood Musavi,
Director General (West Asia),
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Islamic Republic of Iran
- iii) Mr. Khalid Saleem,

Additional Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

6- REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE ECO ACTIVITIES

The Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization presented a Report on the Activities of the Organization, according to Article XXI(V) of the Treaty of Izmir. Some of the suggestions made in the Report of the Secretary General were discussed by the Council and the following decisions were taken:

- a) Regarding implementation of Article XXIX of the Treaty of Izmir on which a paper was circulated by the Secretariat (*Annex VII*); the Council agreed in principle on the necessity of implementing this Article of the Treaty. It was decided that the Secretariat's proposal would be implemented from March, 1992, subject to confirmation by Turkish authorities.
- b) Regarding the outstanding issues relating to the establishment of the ECO Investment and Development Bank, establishment of ECO Shipping Company and conversion of ECO Reinsurance Pool into ECO Reinsurance Company, the Council decided that the relevant Experts/Committees should meet not later than March 1992 and finalize the three projects.

7- REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES

The Council adopted the Reports of the Sixth and Seventh Meeting of the Council of Deputies. The Council also took the following decisions:

- a) ECO BUDGET
The ECO Budget for 1992-93 examined by the Council of Deputies in their seventh Meeting was approved. The Council appreciated the efforts made by the Secretariat in effecting economy in expenses.
- b) AUDIT
It was decided that the Audit for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 should be held in July 1992.
- c) ECO AWARD
The Council was informed regarding the latest position of the ECO Award for which a ceremony would be held in Tehran at the end of the forthcoming Summit Meeting. It was decided that the next meeting of the ECO Award Committee should be held in Tehran in the last week of September, 1992 to finalize ECO Award for the year.

8- REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

The Council adopted the Report of the Second Meeting of the Regional Planning Council along with the Calendar of Events for the year 1992 and took the following decisions:

- a) The Council took note of the guidelines relating to the working procedure for the Technical Committees approved in their last meeting and further decided that:
 - i) In the Technical Committees Meetings, member countries should ensure that their delegations have the necessary expertise and that they should conform to an appropriate level.
 - ii) As far as possible the dates approved in the Calendar of Events should be adhered to.
 - iii) Member countries should ensure that at least 10 days' notice is given to the host country regarding the confirmation or postponement of an agreed meeting.
- b) The Council approved the Consolidated Calendar of Events (*Annex VIII*) including all activities under the ECO to be undertaken during the next year.

9- ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO ECO

- a) The Council of Ministers welcomed the applications for membership submitted by Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and decided to accept the admission of these three states into the ECO. The Ministers mandated the Council of Deputies assisted by the Secretary General of ECO and legal experts to draw up by 1st June, 1992 the texts of the Agreements to be signed with the new members in accordance with Article XXXVI of the Treaty of Izmir.
- b) Turkey conveyed the request of the Turkish Cypriot authorities for association with the ECO.

The Ministers, while fully appreciating the aspirations of the Turkish Muslim Community in Cyprus and without prejudice to the on-going efforts for a negotiated settlement in Cyprus in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 649, instructed the Council of Deputies to examine this request and to submit a report on the matter to be Summit Meeting in Tehran.

10- PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE ECO SUMMIT

The Council agreed on a Draft Agenda for the forthcoming ECO Summit Meeting which is at *Annex IX*.

11- ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The Council decided to set up a new Committee on Narcotics Abuse Control. In order to discuss the work programme of this Committee, the Council decided that concerned Experts from the three member countries should avail of their presence together in Vienna during the forthcoming Meeting of the International Narcotics Board to be held in May 1992.

- b) The Secretariat had circulated a paper (*Annex X*) regarding reciprocal hospitality by member countries for ECO Meetings. The proposal of the Secretariat was approved.

12- DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The Council decided to have their next meeting in January/February 1993 in Pakistan.

13- ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The Council of Ministers unanimously adopted the Report of their Second Meeting.

14- CLOSING OF THE SESSION

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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