

**Draft Resolution to be adopted by the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly  
Cooperation between the United Nations and the  
Economic Cooperation Organization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling also* its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and Economic Cooperation Organization wherein it encouraged various specialized agencies as well as other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant financial institutions to support the Economic Cooperation Organization in its efforts towards realizing its objectives,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations for the development and implementation of projects and programmes in all priority areas,

*Taking note* of the efforts made by the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations in extending technical and financial assistance to Economic Cooperation Organization for the development and implementation of programmes and projects pertaining to socioeconomic progress and encouraging them to continue their support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of resolution 67/14 of 19 November 2012 and expresses its satisfaction over growing cooperation between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the Baku Declaration, issued at the twelfth Economic Cooperation Organization summit meeting of Heads of State and/or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 16 October 2012 in Baku;

3. *Appreciates* the continuing efforts to strengthen the existing cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and Economic Cooperation Organization especially in the field of trade capacity-building of member States, notes with satisfaction the signing of the project document between the two organizations on March 18, 2014 for implementation of the third phase of their joint programme aimed at enhancing the capacity of Member States in strengthening their Standards, Metrology, Testing and Quality infrastructure, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies to consider supporting implementation of the project;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to develop strategies for the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization for trade liberalization and promotion of foreign direct investment to facilitate the global and regional integration of their economies;

5. *Takes note* of the progress made on the Trade Facilitation Programme of the Economic Cooperation Organization and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, to support the Economic Cooperation Organization in developing its Trade Facilitation Agreement, Single Windows in the member States, Trade-Net Web Portal and a unified visa system for facilitating the region's businessmen and enhancing regional trade;

6. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to implement the ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA) for enhancement of intra regional trade, and invites the World Trade Organization and International Trade Centre to consider extending technical assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for implementing the Trade Agreement and developing and implementing comprehensive strategies to assist the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in trade facilitation process leading to regional and global integration of their economies;

7. *Noting* the basic development needs of landlocked countries, including their need to overcome the limitations arising from their geographical positions, lack of access to open seas and sea port facilities and other challenges hindering their promotion of transit transport cooperation, urges the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and other relevant international and regional bodies to assist and cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization on the proposed study project of the Office and the organization on the possibility of providing concessional services for landlocked countries in selected ports of transit countries of the region, within existing resources;

8. *Notes* with satisfaction the approval of the Economic Cooperation Organization's railway network development plan at the eleventh meeting of Heads of railway authorities of the member States, held in Ankara in June 2012, and the road network development plan at the sixth meeting of the road committee of the transit transport coordination council, held in Tehran in December 2013, and invites all the relevant international financial and specialized institutions to consider participating in the implementation of the plan, taking into account the key role played by the railway and road networks of the region as land bridges between Asia and Europe;

9. *Notes* with satisfaction that the ECO's Third Meeting of the Tripartite Coordination Committee on Construction of Railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran, held in Tehran, on March 2, 2014 decided to inaugurate operation of the train along this route during October 2014, thus contributing to the completion of North-South Corridor;

10. *Notes* the recommendations of the joint workshop of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe on a unified railway law, held in Ankara in June 2012, regarding the formulation of a unified railway law on international freight and passenger traffic by rail with a view to the facilitation of transport by rail in the region, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider implementing the recommendations;

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe and other institutions for the reactivation of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) in Afghanistan and accession of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) in 2013 and expresses satisfaction of the support of the Economic Commission for Europe for implementation of the TIR Pilot project along the Corridor between Pakistan, Iran and Turkey;

12. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop two road transport corridors, between Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey, and between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and invites the relevant international and regional organizations, notably the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Islamic Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Europe, to consider participating in the fields of study, demonstration caravans and other activities envisaged in the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop these corridors, within their respective mandates; Also *noting* the progress on development of the two road transport corridors, invites the Economic Cooperation Organization and the

Economic Commission for Europe to conduct a study on road safety along these corridors and organize capacity building programmes and training courses on road safety and security with support of the relevant institutions;

13. *Encourages* the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization that have not done so to accede to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) and urges the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other international bodies to provide necessary support to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, particularly for capacity building activities and holding of workshops;

14. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization for facilitation of transit trade among the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization and modernization of their border crossing points;

15. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Economic Cooperation Organization to conduct a feasibility study on the needs for development of information and communications technology infrastructure connectivity and services in the region, and invites all relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the International Telecommunication Union, to consider providing capacity building and technical assistance to the organization for conducting and follow-up of the aforementioned study;

16. *Notes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization to prepare a technical assistance project proposal on the implementation of the regional programmes for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme administered by the World Bank, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for preparing and implementing detailed project proposals under the program components suitable to the needs of the Member States;

17. *Recognizes* the growing importance of tourism in sustainable development of the region and its potential in promotion of green economy and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other organizations, especially the United Nations World Tourism Organization, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank to consider extending financial and technical support to the Economic Cooperation Organization for developing regional projects related to tourism promotion and to support its programmes;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the recent efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at underlining the special and increasing role of renewable energy in complementing conventional energy in order to support sustainable energy development and requests the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, to consider rendering financial and technical support for regional projects in the fields of energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy, as well as for capacity building of the Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

19. *Welcomes* the idea of development of a joint programme by the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization for sustainable energy and as its outcome, the establishment of a regional energy centre and calls the relevant United Nations agencies and international financial institutions to extend their financial and technical support for the development and implementation stages of this programme;

20. *Recognizing* the significance of mutual cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in addressing the global challenges (referred to in the UNGA Resolution No. 66/288 on Sustainable Development entitled The Future We Want), emphasizes on the necessity of regular cooperation between the two organizations for achieving the goals envisaged in the aforementioned Resolution;

21. *Appreciates* the success of the consultative ministerial meeting on environment of the Economic Cooperation Organization held on the sidelines of the United Nations Environment Assembly in June 2014 in Nairobi and calls all donor-designated agencies and the United Nations Environment Programme to extend financial and technical assistance for regional projects, workshops and high-level group meetings in the field of environment;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the success of the workshop jointly held by the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Economic Cooperation Organization on harnessing climate financing for sustainable forest management in the region, held in Tehran on 29 April - 1 May 2014 and highly appreciates the key recommendation of the workshop to establish an interagency coordination group with involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility, as well as the possibility of granting an observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the United Nations Forum on Forests meetings for enhanced inter-regional coordination on climate change issues, including sustainable forest management;

23. *Highlights* the importance of enhanced cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations specialized agencies concerning the Health Related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and encourages the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and post 2015 Millennium Development Goals;

24. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to enhance cooperation in the field of health in the region in collaboration with international organizations and specialized agencies, especially the World Health Organization, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and United Nations Population Fund, and encourages their continued support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of health;

25. *Notes* the vulnerability of the member states of the Economic Cooperation Organization to natural disasters and urges the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, including the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, to take appropriate measures in expanding their cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in the area of disaster risk reduction and to consider extending their technical and financial support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of natural disaster risk management in

the region to develop special programs for financing risk reduction projects for tangible outputs in the ECO region;

26. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Statistics Division in conducting the training workshop on supporting statistics for member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization in September 2013 and invites the Statistics Division to consider extending technical and financial support for the design and implementation of a programmes for the development of statistics in the region;

27. *Highlights* the importance of high quality statistics as a tool for accountability and good governance; and the importance of future cooperation and partnership between the Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations Statistics Division in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals indicators as well as in implementing the indicators for the post-2015 agenda in adaptation of global goals, targets and indicators to the national circumstances and priorities of ECO countries and encourages the United Nations Statistics Division to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of statistics, as appropriate;

28. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation between Economic Cooperation Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for conducting the first training course on “Development of CountryStat Programme” for implementation of the project on “Support for the Implementation and Development of the CountryStat Framework in the Economic Cooperation Organization Countries” in October 2013 and acknowledges the progress made in implementation of first phase of the said project in Afghanistan, and supports the efforts made by the two sides for implementation of the project across the region;

29. *Welcomes* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics for conducting training workshop on “Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators” for member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization in December 2013 and invites the Institute for Statistics to consider extending of technical assistance for the development of statistical activities in the area of research and development and innovation statistics in the region;

30. *Also appreciates* the efforts and activities of the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit of the Economic Cooperation Organization to compile and disseminate drug-related data, especially for publishing the report on regional drug situation for the period 2008-2012, to organize workshops and training programmes aimed at enhancing the technical and professional expertise of the officials working in the relevant anti-narcotics forces and agencies of its member States, to take measures to harmonize the policies and drug-related laws and regulations of the three member States namely Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran and to contribute to the alternative development policies and programs in Afghanistan; and *welcomes* the extension of the European-Union funded project in the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization and encourages the donor agencies, such as the European Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Unit in its efforts against drug related and other related crimes;

31. *Takes note with appreciation* of the activities of the Cultural Institute, the Science Foundation and the Educational Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization as specialized arms of the organization to foster regional cooperation among its member States in the fields of culture, science and education, respectively, and encourages the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to cooperate with these bodies, within the scope of their mandate and existing resources, in order to develop and implement appropriate projects for the promotion of science and education in the region;

32. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of Economic Cooperation Organization as an affiliated body of the Economic Cooperation Organization and encourages the Parliamentary Assembly to contribute to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

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