

DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2015-2016

(Based on the decisions of 25th RPC Meeting)

A. TRADE & INVESTMENT

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
1.	Para 24	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for confirming to host the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade in the third quarter of 2015 and requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to announce exact dates of the meeting at the earliest convenience. The Council also requested the Member States to confirm their participation in the meeting at the appropriate level accordingly.	The Islamic Republic of Iran may announce, at the earliest convenience, the exact dates of the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade scheduled in the third quarter of 2015. After the dates have been announced by the I.R. of Iran, the Secretariat will request other Member States to confirm their participation in the meeting at the appropriate level.
2.	Para 25	Noting the importance of completing all legal and procedural requirements for implementation of ECOTA, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Tajikistan to complete all legal and procedural requirements including submission of Product Lists and ratification of the Annexes to ECOTA to pave the way for the start of implementation of the Agreement.	The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Tajikistan may complete all legal and procedural requirements, including submission of Product Lists and ratification of the Annexes to ECOTA, to pave the way for the start of implementation of the Agreement.
3.	Para 26	The Council welcomed the Republic of Turkey for announcing to host the 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council on April 7, 2015 in Ankara. The Council requested the Contracting Parties to ECOTA to confirm their participation in the meeting.	The 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council scheduled on April 7, 2015 in Ankara could not be held due to lack of quorum. The Republic of Turkey may announce the new dates for the 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council at the earliest convenience.
4.	Para 27	The Republic of Turkey stressed the importance of fulfilling legal and procedural requirements for implementation of ECOTA before the 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council, in order to have fruitful deliberations. The Council also welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the Workshop to facilitate the relevant authorities and technical experts of the ECOTA Contracting Parties in the	The Contracting Parties to ECOTA, which have not already done so, may consider to fulfil legal and procedural requirements for implementation of ECOTA before the 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council, in order to have fruitful deliberations. The Republic of Turkey may announce the new

		execution of ECOTA in Ankara on April 8, 2015.	dates for the Workshop to facilitate the relevant authorities and technical experts of the ECOTA Contracting Parties in the execution of ECOTA to be held in Ankara. The Workshop was earlier scheduled on April 8, 2015 but was postponed together with the 6 th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council due to lack of quorum.
5.	Para 28	The Council called on the non-signatory interested Member States to join the ECOTA to fully harness the regional trade potential and enable their business communities to reap the benefits of preferential market access in the region.	The non-signatory interested Member States may join the ECOTA to fully harness the regional trade potential and enable their business communities to reap the benefits of preferential market access in the region. The Secretariat is prepared to provide technical assistance to the interested Member States, if needed, to facilitate their accession to ECOTA.
6.	Para 29	The Council took note of the postponement of the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Trade Promotion Organizations (ECO-TPOs) in 2014 due to lack of quorum. The Council requested the Member States to confirm their participation in the meeting as the host authorities of Turkey have rescheduled the meeting on May 7, 2015 in Ankara.	The Member States, which have not already done so, may confirm their participation in the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Trade Promotion Organizations (ECO-TPOs) scheduled on May 7, 2015 in Ankara
7.	Para 30	Taking into consideration the delay in organizing the Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) established by the 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade to prepare and finalize a ECO multi-dimensional trade and investment strategy and prospects of establishing a Free Trade Area in the region, the Council recommended that in order to avoid further delay the contents of the relevant paper prepared by the ECO Secretariat may be discussed in the 5 th Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade.	The contents of the paper prepared by the ECO Secretariat on ECO multi-dimensional trade and investment strategy and prospects of establishing a Free Trade Area in the region may be discussed in the 5 th Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade to be hosted by I.R. of Iran in the third quarter of 2015. The agenda of the 5 th Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade will be drafted accordingly.
8.	Para 31	The Council welcomed the Republic of Azerbaijan for announcing to host the 4 th ECO Business Forum in Baku in the last quarter of 2015, and requested the country to announce the exact dates for the Forum at	The Republic of Azerbaijan may announce, at the earliest convenience, the exact schedule of the 4 th ECO Business Forum to be held in Baku in the last quarter of 2015.

		the earliest convenience.	
9.	Para 32	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the ECO-ASEAN Joint Business Forum in 2015 and suggested that the exact dates of the Forum may be finalized in coordination with the ASEAN Secretariat. The Council further recommended that accommodation and local hospitality to the delegates of the two organizations may be provided by the host authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, while the cost of air travel may be borne by the participants themselves.	The host authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan may confirm providing accommodation and local hospitality to the delegates of the ECO-ASEAN Joint Business Forum to be held in 2015 in Pakistan. After a decision on local hospitality has been made, the exact dates of the Forum will be finalized in coordination with the hosts and ASEAN Secretariat.
10.	Para 33	Noting that the meeting of the Joint Working Group established by the 4 th Ministerial Meeting to draft an ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement was postponed in the past three occasions due to lack of quorum, the Council requested the Republic of Turkey to consider holding the Meeting of the Joint Working Group in the 2 nd quarter of 2015 and requested the country to announce the exact dates of the meeting at the earliest. The Council requested the Member States to participate in the meeting after the dates have been announced by the Republic of Turkey.	The Republic of Turkey may consider holding the Meeting of the Joint Working Group established by the 4 th Ministerial Meeting to draft an ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement in the 2 nd or 3 rd quarter of 2015 and announce the exact dates of the meeting at the earliest convenience. After the dates have been announced by the Republic of Turkey, the other Member States will be requested to confirm their participation in the meeting.
11.	Para 34	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to announce the schedule of hosting the 3 rd ECO Trade Fair in 2015.	The Islamic Republic of Iran may announce the schedule of hosting the 3 rd ECO Trade Fair in 2015.
12.	Para 35	Taking into account the significance of the 7 th Meeting of the Council of ECO Heads of Customs Administration (CHCA) for strengthening cooperation in customs matters, the Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 7 th Meeting of the Council of ECO Heads of Customs Administration (CHCA) along with the Meeting of Sub-committee of Experts of Customs in May/June 2015.	The Islamic Republic of Iran may announce the schedule of the 7 th Meeting of the Council of ECO Heads of Customs Administration (CHCA) along with the Meeting of Sub-committee of Experts of Customs in June 2015.
13.	Para 36	The Council took note of the proposal of Islamic Republic of Iran to discuss the Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) programme in the 7 th Meeting of CHCA to be held in Tehran in 2015.	For the convenience of other Member States and to facilitate meaningful deliberations during the 7 th Meeting of CHCA to be held in Tehran in 2015, the Islamic Republic of Iran may send a

			detailed note to the Secretariat on Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) programme.
14.	Para 37	The Council appreciated the presentation made by the Republic of Turkey on ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank and requested the non-signatory Member States to sign and the signatory countries (except Iran, Pakistan and Turkey) to ratify the Agreement on the Establishment and Operation of ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank at the earliest. The Council requested the Member States concerned to convey to the Secretariat the status of their accession to the agreement at the earliest convenience.	The Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan may sign the Agreement on the Establishment and Operation of ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank at the earliest. Likewise, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the Republic of Tajikistan may expedite the ratification of the Agreement. All Member States (except Iran, Pakistan and Turkey) may convey to the Secretariat the status of their accession to the Agreement at the earliest convenience.
15.	Para 38	2. The Council took note of the delay in ratification of the Articles of Agreement of the ECO Reinsurance Company by the Republic of Turkey and reiterated its request to the country to complete the ratification process of the Company at the earliest convenience. With a view to accelerating commercial activities in the region, the Council requested the remaining Member States to consider joining the ECO Reinsurance Company on priority basis.	The Republic of Turkey may expedite ratification of the Articles of Agreement of the ECO Reinsurance Company and informed the Secretariat accordingly. The remaining Member States (except I.R. of Iran and I.R. of Pakistan) may consider joining the ECO Reinsurance Company on priority basis.
16.	Para 39	The Council welcomed the assumption of the Chairmanship of the ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry by the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) for three years starting in September 2014 and called upon the ECO-CCI to enhance its role for strengthening private sector cooperation in the region.	The ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECO-CCI) may enhance its role for strengthening private sector cooperation in the region. The Secretariat may be kept informed about the steps being taken for strengthening private sector cooperation in the region.
17.	Para 40	The Council noted with appreciation that the 13 th General Assembly and 19 th Executive Committee meetings of ECO-CCI along with the 6 Specialized Committees were hosted by the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) in September, 2014 in Karachi. The Council requested the Member States to ensure active participation of	The Member States may ensure active participation of their National Chambers in the events organized by the ECO-CCI.

		their National Chambers in the events organized by the ECO-CCI.	
18.	Para 41	The Council acknowledged the importance of putting in place an Arbitration system for ECO region and appreciated the ECO-CCI for hosting the workshop on Arbitration among ECO Member States in December 2014 in Tehran in collaboration with ECO Secretariat. The Council took note of the proposal to establish an ECO-CCI Arbitration Centre. The Council requested the Secretariat to send detailed information to the Member States regarding the establishment of ECO-CCI Arbitration Centre.	The Secretariat will send detailed information to the Member States regarding the establishment of ECO-CCI Arbitration Centre. In this regard, the ECO-CCI has been requested for the input.
19.	Para 42	Keeping in view the importance of promoting cooperation among Member States on E-Commerce, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to announce the dates for hosting the 2 nd Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on E-Trade Cooperation along with the 3 rd Regional event on Trade Facilitation and E-Business in 2015.	The Islamic Republic of Pakistan may announce the dates for hosting the 2 nd Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on E-Trade Cooperation along with the 3 rd Regional event on Trade Facilitation and E-Business in 2015.
20.	Para 43	The Council requested the Member States which have not already done so to sign or ratify the Protocol on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen & Transit Drivers, so that the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen may come into effect without further delay.	Member States (except I.R. Afghanistan, I.R. Iran, and I.R. Pakistan) may sign the Protocol on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen & Transit Drivers, while I.R. Afghanistan, and I.R. Iran, which have signed the Protocol, may ratify it, so that the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen comes into effect without further delay
21.	Para 44	The Council appreciated the Republic of Kazakhstan for hosting the 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Economy and Finance on May 22-23, 2014 in Astana, on the sidelines of the 7 th Astana Economic Forum and invited the Member States to give due consideration to implementing the decisions of the Meeting.	The Member States may give due consideration to implementing the decisions of the 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Economy and Finance held on May 22-23, 2014 in Astana. The Secretariat vide its Note No. T&I/4thMMFE/2014/1829 dated November 27, 2014, circulated a Status Report on Implementation of the Decisions of the Meeting.

22.	Para 45	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the First Meeting of the Experts of Tax Administration on May 26-28, 2014 in Tehran and took note that the Meeting finalized three draft Documents on ECO Tax Cooperation namely, a)-the Charter for Establishment of ECO Tax Administration Cooperation Society (ECOTAX); b)-ECO Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Taxation and Related Matters; and c)-Agreement on the Exchange of Information in Tax Matters among ECO Member States, in accordance with the decisions of the First Meeting of the ECO Heads of Tax Administration.	The Secretariat vide its Note No. T&I/1 st META/2014/831 dated June 02, 2014, circulated the copies of the three documents to Member States. The documents will be submitted to the 2 nd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Tax Administration for endorsement.
23.	Para 46	The Council requested the Member States to volunteer hosting the 2 nd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Tax Administration in 2015 to endorse the three draft documents finalized by the First Meeting of the Experts of Tax Administration and submit these documents to the appropriate forums for approval.	The Member States may volunteer hosting the 2 nd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Tax Administration in 2015 to, <i>inter alia</i> , endorse the three draft documents finalized by the First Meeting of the Experts of Tax Administration and submit these documents to the appropriate forums for approval.
24.	Para 47	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Seminar on "Transfer Pricing: Fundamental Principles and International Developments" on October 6-8, 2014 in Tehran and requested the Member States to take into account the recommendations made by the seminar for enhancing intra ECO cooperation in tax matters.	The Secretariat vide its Note No. T&I/TP/2014/1570 October 14, 2014 circulated the report of the Seminar to the Member States. The Member States may take into account the recommendations made by the seminar for enhancing intra ECO cooperation in tax matters.
25.	Para 48	The Council thanked the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the seminar on Taxpayers Services on November 06-08, 2014 in Baku and requested the Member States to take into account the recommendations made by the seminar for increasing intra ECO cooperation in tax matters.	The Secretariat vide its Note No. T&I/HTA-TS/2014/1703 date November 09, 2014, circulated the report of the Seminar to the Member States. The Member States may take into account the recommendations made by the seminar for enhancing intra ECO cooperation in tax matters.
26.	Para 49	The Council requested the Republic of Turkey to convey new dates to the Secretariat for hosting the Seminar on Risk-Based Analysis Management System in 2015, which could not be held in 2014 due to lack of quorum.	The Republic of Turkey may convey new dates to the Secretariat for hosting the Seminar on Risk-Based Analysis Management System in 2015. After receiving information about the date and programme of the Seminar from the Republic of Turkey, the

			Secretariat will request the Member States to confirm their participation to the Seminar.
27.	Para 50	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Central Banks in the fourth quarter of 2015. Noting that the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Central Banks will go a long way in strengthening regional cooperation in the field of monetary policy, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to convey to the Secretariat, the schedule of the meeting along with the level of hospitality for the delegates at their earliest convenience.	The Islamic Republic of Iran may convey to the Secretariat the dates and schedule of the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Central Banks in the fourth quarter of 2015 along with the level of hospitality for the delegates at the earliest convenience. After receiving information about the schedule of the meeting, the Secretariat will the request the Member States to confirm their participation to the Meeting.
28.	Para 51	The Council took note that the Secretariat prepared and circulated a Note on the Implementation of the Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment (APPI) among the Member States and requested the Member States, which have not already done so, to sign or ratify the Agreement along with the Amendment Protocol at their earliest convenience. The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for signing the Amendment Protocol during the 25 th RPC.	<p>The Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan may sign the Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment (APPI) among the Member States along with the Amendment Protocol at their earliest convenience.</p> <p>The Republic of Azerbaijan, which has signed the original APPI but not the Amendment Protocol, may sign the Amendment Protocol at its earliest convenience.</p> <p>The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Republic of Turkey may expedite the ratification of the APPI.</p>
29.	Para 52	Recalling the decisions of the 3 rd and the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Finance and Economy on setting up an ECO Heads of Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPA) forum on the pattern of ECO Heads of Trade Promotion Organizations, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to	The Islamic Republic of Pakistan may convey the new dates to the Secretariat for hosting the First Meeting of the ECO Heads of Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPA) in 2015. After receiving the dates from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the

		announce the new dates in 2015 for hosting the First Meeting of the ECO-IPAs, which was earlier scheduled on February 19-20, 2015 in Islamabad but was postponed due to lack of quorum. The Council requested the Member States to participate in the Meeting upon confirmation of the new dates by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.	Secretariat will the request the Member States to confirm their participation to the Meeting.
30.	Para 53	The Council thanked the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Turkey for conveying information to the Secretariat regarding the potential of public-private partnership in their countries and requested the other Member States to convey to the ECO Secretariat information highlighting the potential of public-private partnership in the ECO region. The Council agreed that a report on the potential of public-private partnership in the ECO region may be compiled and submitted to the 4 th ECO Investment Conference as well as to the Member States.	The Member States (except the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Turkey) may convey information to the Secretariat regarding the potential of public-private partnership in their countries. The information received from the Member States will be compiled and submitted by the Secretariat to the 4 th ECO Investment Conference as well as to the Member States.
31.	Para 54	The Council requested the Republic of Tajikistan to confirm hosting of the 4 th ECO Investment Conference and announce the dates for the event.	The Republic of Tajikistan may convey to the Secretariat its willingness to host the 4 th ECO Investment Conference along with the schedule of the event and hospitality details for the participants from the Member States at its earliest convenience.
32.	Para 55	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the 3 rd WTO Seminar for ECO Member States as well as thanked the ECO Trade and Development Bank for agreeing to provide financial assistance for the Seminar. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to convey to the Secretariat the dates and venue and other details for hosting the 3 rd WTO Seminar in 2015. The 3 rd WTO Seminar will also include discussions on the relationship between the commitments of the ECO Member States arising out of their membership of WTO and regional trading agreements.	The Islamic Republic of Pakistan may convey to the Secretariat the dates, venue and other details for hosting the 3 rd WTO Seminar in 2015. The list of topics to be covered during the Workshop will be drawn up by the Secretariat in consultation with the hosts.
33.	Para 56	The Council considering the need to support the accession of the remaining ECO Member States to the	The WTO Members of ECO, i.e., the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan may

		WTO reiterated that seminars on WTO may be organized on regular basis. In this respect, the Council requested the other WTO members of the ECO to volunteer hosting such seminars in 2016, as the Republic of Turkey has already hosted two seminars. The Council asked the Secretariat to continue to seek financial and technical support from the relevant international institutions/organizations for arranging the seminars.	consider hosting seminar on WTO accession of the ECO Member States in 2016. The Secretariat will continue to seek financial and technical support from the relevant international institutions/organizations, such as the ECO Trade and Development Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank, for arranging the seminars.
34.	Para 57	The Council referring to the relevant decisions of the meetings of the Council of Minister (COM) and RPC invited Member States not having hosted Trade Policy Review Sessions (TPRS) to consider hosting these Sessions. The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for offering to hold its Trade Policy Review Session in 2015.	The Islamic Republic of Pakistan may convey to the Secretariat the dates and hospitality details for hosting Trade Policy Review Session (TPRS). Other Member States, which have not already done so, may consider hosting their TPRS and inform the Secretariat accordingly.
35.	Para 58	The Council welcomed the membership of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Republic of Azerbaijan to the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECO-TDB).	No further action needed.
36.	Para 59	The Council welcomed the signature of the Articles of Agreement of the ECOTDB by the Kyrgyz Republic on February 12, 2015 in Istanbul and requested the Kyrgyz Government to complete the membership process.	Kyrgyz Republic may complete the membership process to the ECO Trade and Development Bank at the earliest convenience.
37.	Para 60	The Council invited the remaining ECO Member States to start the membership process of the Bank at their earliest convenience.	The Republic of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan may start the membership process of the ECO Trade and Development Bank at their earliest convenience.
38.	Para 61	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkey for conveying views to the Secretariat on the draft Terms of Reference (TORs) prepared by ECO Trade and Development Bank to launch a periodic Regional Partnership Forum (RPF) and requested the Bank to expedite organizing the said forum on project basis. The Council reiterated its request to other Member States to also convey their	The Member States, who did not do so, may convey their views to Secretariat on the draft TORs prepared by ECO Trade and Development Bank to launch a periodic Regional Partnership Forum (RPF). The ECO Trade and Development Bank may finalize the TORs of the Regional Partnership Forum and organize the said forum

		views to the Secretariat on the draft TORs and encourage their relevant national institutions/ organizations to actively participate in the Forum.	on project basis.
39.	Para 62	The Council referring to the decisions made by the Meetings of the Council of Ministers (COM), Ministerial Meetings on Commerce/Foreign Trade and on Finance and Economy requested the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECO-TDB) to create a Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) to assist development projects in the region in close consultation with the ECO Secretariat and the Member States.	The ECO Trade and Development Bank may create a Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) to assist development projects in the region in close consultation with the ECO Secretariat and the Member States.
40.	Para 63	The Council, referring to the project document signed between the ECO and the UNIDO on March 18, 2014, thanked the UNIDO for its commitment to co-finance the 3 rd Phase of ECO-UNIDO Project on Trade Capacity Building of ECO Member States in Standardization and Quality Policy. The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat and UNIDO for the start of the 3 rd Phase of the Project in September 2014 and holding the First Workshop under the Project on February 3-4, 2015 at ECO Secretariat. The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to hold the 2 nd Workshop under the Project in Ankara.	The Secretariat is in close contact with UNIDO for holding the 2 nd Workshop under the ECO-UNIDO Trade Capacity Building Project in Ankara.
41.	Para 64	Noting that the 3 rd Phase of ECO-UNIDO Project on Trade Capacity Building of ECO Member States in Standardization and Quality Policy would go a long way in shoring up export competitiveness of the Member States and reduction of non-tariff barriers in the region, the Council requested the Member States to provide technical and financial support for the remaining amount required for the completion of the Project. The Council also appreciated the efforts of the ECO Secretariat to secure funding from international organizations for the Project.	The Member States may consider providing technical and financial support for the completion of the 3 rd Phase of ECO-UNIDO Project on Trade Capacity Building.
42.	Para 65	The Council reiterated its request to the Member States to ensure regular flow of information to achieve the objectives of the ECO Trade Web Portal	The Member States may provide regular flow of information to the ECO Trade Web Portal (www.tradeeco.org).

		(www.tradeeco.org). Flow of information to the Web Portal is required mainly for the pages under the title of Member Countries i.e. economic indicators, regulatory regimes, policies, events, contacts/references, enquiries, trademarks, bilateral/multilateral arrangements, WTO related activities of the Member States, and companies forms and links.	
43.	Para 66	The Council took note that the Secretariat has initiated the process of upgrading the existing trade web-portal and establishing an ECO Data Base of Traders and Manufacturers and requested the Member States to provide their full support for setting up the data base, which will serve as an effective source of business match-making in the region.	The Member States may provide their full support to the Secretariat for upgrading the existing trade web-portal and establishing an ECO Data Base of Traders and Manufacturers.
44.	Para 67	The Council noted that since the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade could not be held in 2014, the TORs for conducting the 2 nd Phase of the Study on Trading Patterns in ECO Region could not be approved. The Council also noted that the Secretariat had so far not received an appropriate response from the relevant international organizations, namely UNCTAD, ITC and IDB as well as from the Member States for assistance to conduct the Study. The Council requested the Secretariat to submit the status of these developments to the CPR for a final decision on conducting the Study.	The Secretariat will submit a note on the status of the 2 nd Phase of the Study on Trading Patterns in ECO Region to one of the CPR Meetings to decide on conducting the Study.
45.	Para 68	The Council welcomed the offer of the Iranian Mercantile Exchange Company to host “the First Meeting of the Heads of the Commodity Exchange of ECO Member States” in Tehran in August 2015. The exact date, venue and agenda of the meeting will be communicated to the Secretariat in due course.	The Iranian Mercantile Exchange Company (IME) has announced to host the First Meeting of ECO Heads of Commodity Exchanges on August 01-02, 2015 in Tehran. The host authorities will provide local hospitality (board & lodging) for two participants from each Member State. The information along with the concept paper received from the IME was circulated by the Secretariat to the Member States vide its Note Verbale No.

			T&I/CE/2015/373, dated March 17, 2015. The Member States are requested to confirm their participation in the meeting. The agenda of the meeting will be circulated in due course.
46.	Para 69	<p>Considering that many of the meetings/events planned in 2014-15 in the T&I Directorate could not be held due to such reasons as the non-availability of a host country, failure to announce the schedule of the meeting, delay in announcing hospitality details, and lack of quorum, the Council in order to ensure the implementation of the calendar of events of the Directorate for 2015-2016 recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the host Member States may announce the schedule of the events/meetings along with the details of hospitality for the delegates well in advance; the Member States may convey their confirmation to attend the meetings/events well before an event is scheduled; the Secretariat as per the ECO Rules of Procedure may consider hosting the meetings/events in case no Member State is willing to be the host. 	The Member States may volunteer hosting events/meetings approved for 2015 during the 25th RPC Meeting. The Secretariat as per the ECO Rules of Procedure, will consider hosting the meetings/events in case no Member State is willing to be the host.

B. TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
1.	Para 70	The Council asked the ECO Secretariat to approach ECO Member States for hosting the 9 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Transport in 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat may contact the Member States for hosting the Meeting. • The interested member states may offer hosting the Meeting.
2.	Para 71	Turkmenistan is requested to expedite ratification of the TTFA. Uzbekistan is invited to expedite signing and ratifying the Agreement. The council requested Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to inform the 9 th ECO Ministerial Meeting thereon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkmenistan may expedite ratifying the TTFA. • Uzbekistan may expedite signing and ratifying the TTFA. • 9th ECO Ministerial Meeting will be informed on latest status of accession to the TTFA.

3.	Para 72	The Council appreciated the Republic of Turkey for having organized the 6 th meeting of the Insurance Committee of the TTCC/5 th Meeting of ECO Council of Bureaux (ECO-CB) preceded by the Training Workshop on the ECO White Card (Istanbul, 1-2 September 2014).	-
4.	Para 73	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing proposals regarding Financial Guarantee Mechanism as contained in the Annex-II of the White Card Scheme and requested the Member States to convey their comments and views on the proposals to the Secretariat.	The Member States except Turkey may kindly expedite providing their comments and views in this regard.
5.	Para 74	Iran informed and provided the details of the Web Site for White Card in the Meeting. The information will be circulated to the Member States for their comments and views as soon as it is received by the Secretariat officially. The concerned National Bureaus of the Member States except Turkey are requested to convey to the Secretariat their tariffs table for the Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability insurance in their respective territories for onward submission to the concerned authorities of Iran for their placing on the Web Site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat may circulate the details of the Web Site for White Card to the Member States for their comments and views as soon as it is received by the Secretariat officially. • The concerned National Bureaus of the Member States except Turkey are requested to convey to the Secretariat their tariffs table for the Motor Vehicle Third Party Liability insurance
6.	Para 75	The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan informed that its sample print of the White Card will be conveyed to the Secretariat shortly.	Afghanistan is expected to provide its sample print of the White Card
7.	Para 76	The Council requested the National Bureaus of the Member States enroute ITI and KTAI corridors to take necessary measures for facilitating the movement of trucks along these two corridors.	The National Bureaus of the Member States enroute ITI and KTAI corridors may take necessary measures for facilitating the movement of trucks along these two corridors.
8.	Para 77	The Council recommended the 7 th Meeting of the Insurance Committee/6 th Meeting of the ECO-CB to be held in consultation with Member States, once the issue of Financial Guarantee Mechanism is adequately dealt with. The Meeting will be covered by SSF and TTFA Fund.	The Secretariat may organize the Meeting in consultation with Member States, once the issue of Financial Guarantee Mechanism is adequately dealt with.
9.	Para 78	The Council requested the Member States to expedite confirming their participation at the level of the Head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Member States may expedite confirming their participation at the level of the Head of Railway

		of Railway Administration in 12 th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6 th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC scheduled for 17-18 May 2015 in Tehran. Local hospitality will be provided by host authorities on 1+1 basis. The round-trip airfare for the head of railway administration plus one delegate (on 1+1 basis) from each Member State will be covered by the ECO Secretariat from SSF and TTFA Fund. The Council also asked the Secretariat to encourage participation of the People's Republic of China in the upcoming Meeting and all relevant transport related meetings of the ECO.	Administration in 12th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat has already encouraged participation of the People's Republic of China in the Meeting and will continue to do so concerning other relevant meetings
10.	Para 79	Iran informed that the “3 rd EXPO International Exhibition on Rail Transport and related Industries” will be organized from 17 to 20 May 2015 in Tehran and invited the participating delegations of the Member States in the 12 th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6 th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC to attend the inauguration ceremony of the Exhibition.	The participating delegations will attend the inauguration ceremony of the Exhibition.
11.	Para 80	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for circulating the blueprint of the ECO Railway Transit Routes Map, prepared according to the information provided by the Member States notably, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic and Pakistan. So far, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkmenistan have provided their comments and views on the blueprint. Turkey will convey its comments and views on the blueprint shortly. As the deadline of 20 th February 2015 for submission of the modifications to the blueprint has already passed, the Council asked the Secretariat to distribute the final version of the blueprint among the Member States for approval by the 12 th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6 th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC (Tehran, 17-18 May 2015). The Council asked the ECO Secretariat to take appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revised version of the blueprint has been distributed based on the comments and views of the Member States on the first draft of the map. • The 12th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC (Tehran, 17-18 May 2015) may approve the final version of the map. • The Secretariat will take necessary measures to publish the map for public distribution.

		measures to publish the map for public distribution accordingly.	
12.	Para 81	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways for organizing the Training Course for Afghan Railway Staff (Yazd, 30 th May- 19 th June 2014). Afghanistan is requested to expedite conveying to the Secretariat the requisite information on its training needs for onward submission to Turkey for organizing a training course for their railway staff. The concerned authorities of Turkey are requested to convey the dates, venue and details of hospitality concerning the training course for the Afghan Railway staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghanistan may expedite conveying to the Secretariat the requisite information on its training needs for onward submission to Turkey for organizing a training course for their railway staff. • The concerned authorities of Turkey may convey the dates, venue and details of hospitality concerning the training course for the Afghan Railway staff
13.	Para 82	The Council expressed hope that the accession of Azerbaijan to the COTIF would be finalized in 2015.	Azerbaijan may convey to the Secretariat the latest status of accession to COTIF.
14.	Para 83	The Council noted with satisfaction the organization of the OTIF/UIC/ECO Conference on COTIF (Tehran, 11-12 November 2014) and requested the Member States, the ECO Secretariat, OTIF and UIC to implement the recommendations of the Conference.	The Member States, the ECO Secretariat, OTIF and UIC may take appropriate measures to implement the recommendations of the Conference
15.	Para 84	In line with the decision of 6 th Meeting of Road Committee, the Member States except Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Turkey are requested to provide their information regarding the situation of permit exchange with the Member States together with some relevant information on taxes, duties and other charges such as insurance, visa, parking and fuel charges applied during transit operation to the ECO Member States.	The Member States, except Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Turkey, may expedite providing their information in this regard.
16.	Para 85	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for circulating the blueprint of the ECO Road Transit Routes Map, prepared according to the information provided by the concerned authorities of the Member States notably Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Turkey. Subsequently, Turkmenistan provided its comments and views on the blueprint. Turkey will convey its comments and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat will distribute the final version of the blueprint of the ECO Road Transit Routes Map among the Member States prepared based on the received comments and views. • The 7th Meeting of Road Committee of TTC, to be held in Turkey in November 2015 may approve the final version of the map. .

		views on the blueprint shortly. As the deadline of 20 th February 2015 for submission of the modifications to the blueprint has already passed, the Council asked the Secretariat to distribute the final version of the blueprint among the Member States for approval by the 7 th Meeting of Road Committee of TTCC to be held in Turkey in 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat will take necessary measures to publish the map for public distribution.
17.	Para 86	The 7 th Meeting of Road Committee of TTCC will be held at the last quarter of 2015 in the Republic of Turkey. The Republic of Turkey is requested to provide the exact dates of the Meeting together with details of hospitality. The Member States are requested to actively participate in the 7 th Meeting of the Road Committee of TTCC. The Meeting will be covered from SSF and TTFA Fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey has specified the exact dates for the 7th Meeting of Road Committee of TTCC which is scheduled for 11 November 2015. • The Member States may actively participate in the Meeting.
18.	Para 87	The Council welcomed the signing of a five year action plan (2015) between ECO and IRU to strengthen mutual cooperation and develop joint plans for transit development by road in the region in line with the MoU signed between the two entities.	ECO may retain its contact with IRU for fulfillment the five year action plan (2015) between the two entities
19.	Para 88	The 4 th Meeting of Customs Transit Committee of TTCC will be held on 23 rd April 2015 in Kabul, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan preceded by the National Capacity Building Workshops on the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), ADR agreement, and TIR Convention for Afghan officials, scheduled for 21-22 April 2015 with the assistance of UNECE and IRU. The host authorities will provide venue, meals, conference room facilities and local transfer. The Meeting will be covered from SSF and TTFA Fund. Given the significance of the Customs Transit for the full implementation of the TTFA and the converging support of international entities such as IDB and IRU to the Customs Transit component of the TTFA, the Member States are requested to actively participate in this important Meeting. The Council asked the Secretariat to invite the relevant International Organizations such as	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 4th Meeting of Customs Transit Committee of TTCC and the National Capacity Building Workshops on the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), ADR agreement, and TIR Convention for Afghan officials have been rescheduled for 7-8 June 2015 upon the request of the host country. • The Member States who have already confirmed their participation may kindly provide their flight details according to the fresh dates. • Other Member States may expedite confirming their participation in the Meeting.

		UNECE, IDB and WCO to the Meeting.	
20.	Para 89	The Council requested the Member States that are contracting parties to the said conventions/agreements, (CMR, ADR, TIR) and willing or in a position to share their expertise, to provide resource persons for the National Workshops organized for Afghan officials and inform the Secretariat accordingly.	The Member States that are contracting parties to the said conventions/agreements, (CMR, ADR, TIR) and willing or in a position to share their expertise may kindly provide resource persons for the National Workshops.
21.	Para 90	The Member States, except Iran and Turkey, were requested to provide the 4 th Meeting of Customs Transit Committee with latest developments concerning the status of their accession to the international Convention on Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (revised Kyoto Convention).	The Member States, except Iran and Turkey, may kindly provide the status of their accession to this Convention in 4 th Customs transit Committee.
22.	Para 91	The Council noted with satisfaction the three one day National Capacity Building Workshops on TIR Convention, 1975, in Pakistan, in August 2014 and the 3 rd ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Facilitation of Transit by Road and TIR Convention in Tehran, 26 October 2014, organized by the ECO Secretariat in collaboration with IRU.	-
23.	Para 92	The Council asked the Member States and the ECO Secretariat to actively participate in the Meetings of UNECE's Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport, WP.30 and AC.2 to be held in 2015.	The Member States and the ECO Secretariat may continue participating in the Meetings of UNECE's Working Party.
24.	Para 93	The Council was informed by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that its accession to the TIR Convention is in the final stage and a decision in this regard will be conveyed accordingly.	The Islamic Republic of Pakistan may kindly provide the latest development on its accession to the TIR Convention
25.	Para 94	The Council decided that the 4 th ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Facilitation of Transit by Road and TIR Convention will be held in consultation with IRU in 2015.	The ECO may keep contacts with IRU to organize the 4 th ECO/IRU Regional Conference on Facilitation of Transit by Road and TIR Convention
26.	Para 95	The workshop on ADR, modernization of border-crossing points and digital tachograph will be held back to back with 7 th Meeting of Road Committee of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turkey has specified the exact dates for Workshop which is scheduled for 10th November 2015.

		TTCC in the Republic of Turkey at the 4 th quarter of 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Member States may actively participate in the Workshop.
27.	Para 96	The 7 th Meeting of the TTCC will be held at the fourth quarter of 2015 in the Republic of Turkey preceded by the 7 th Meeting of Road Committee. The Republic of Turkey is requested to provide the exact date of the Meeting together with details of hospitality. The Member States are requested to actively participate in the 7 th Meeting of the TTCC. The Meeting will be covered from SSF and TTFA Fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turkey has specified the exact dates for Meeting which is scheduled for 12th November 2015. The Member States may actively participate in the Meeting
28.	Para 97	Since the 7 th Meeting of the TTCC will be held at the last quarter of 2015, the Council agreed that the Work Programme of the TTFA Fund for 2014 to be carried over to 2015.	The Secretariat may follow up the activities mentioned in Work Programme of TTFA Fund.
29.	Para 98	The Council expressed satisfaction with publication and circulation of the final reports on road, railway and insurance components of the ECO/IDB Joint Project among the Member States.	-
30.	Para 99	The Council asked the ECO-TDB to specify the dates and venue of the regional partnership forum for implementation of the ECO Railway and Road Network Development Plans (ECORNDP). The Member States were requested to inform the Secretariat about the possible contributions of their respective countries in organizing this Forum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECO-TDB may expedite specifying the dates and venue of the regional partnership forum. The Member States may inform the Secretariat about the possible contributions of their respective countries in organizing this Forum.
31.	Para 100	The Member States were requested to take necessary actions to prepare comprehensive descriptions of their projects envisaged in the ECO Road and Railway Network Development Plans to be presented at the Forum.	The Member States may prepare comprehensive descriptions of their projects envisaged in the ECO Road and Railway Network Development Plans
32.	Para 101	The Council asked the ECO-TDB/Secretariat to contact and invite all relevant stakeholders and potential financiers including relevant national, regional and international organizations as well as funding institutions, including IDB, ADB, and WB to the forum with a view to start exploring the possibility and encouraging financing of the projects	The ECO-TDB/Secretariat may take necessary measures to contact and invite all relevant stakeholders and potential financiers to the forum.

		envisaged in the ECORNDP.	
33.	Para 102	The Meeting was briefed on the results of the interagency meeting, held between ECO and IDB in December 2014 at the head-quarters of IDB, where the parties discussed future actions on the remaining component of the ECO/IDB Joint Project on implementation of TTFA to cover customs related provisions of TTFA.	The Secretariat may keep contacts with the IDB to follow up this issue.
34.	Para 103	The Council requested the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to convey the final status of internal process for commencement of Customs Component "preparation of a new regional program for customs transit and modernization of border crossing points in the region" of ECO/IDB Joint Project for implementation of TTFA.	IDB may kindly expedite conveying final status of internal process for commencement of Customs Component
35.	Para 104	It also requested Member States and ECO Secretariat to pursue required measures in order to implement feasibility study on implementation of the TTFA's customs related provisions once it is finalized, in a time-bound manner.	The Member States and ECO Secretariat may pursue required measures in order to implement feasibility study.
36.	Para 105	The Council took note that this study will be undertaken based on the international standards and best practices geared towards promotion of functional and technical solutions and shall be based on inputs provided by the Customs Administrations of the Member States. Noting the successful experience of the Republic of Turkey in modernization of its border crossing points, Turkey's best practice may be utilized as a model for this Study.	-
37.	Para 106	The Council welcomed the initiative for utilizing the experience of Turkey and requested the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey to provide their assistance for conducting this study inter alia through organizing a workshop/field visit on cross-border points Customs best practices.	Turkey may kindly provide any assistance for conducting this study.
38.	Para 107	The Republic of Turkey expressed its readiness to organize a field visit to its border crossing points for	The Secretariat may keep contacts with concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey

		the ECO Member States once it receives an official Note from the Secretariat.	to organize this event.
39.	Para 108	The Republic of Turkey provided the details of information on the Silk Road Customs Cooperation Initiative (SRCCI) and invited the Member States to involve in the process to stimulate our common goals and benefit from the experience of customs modernization and international supply chain security.	The Member States may involve in the process to stimulate our common goals and benefit from the experience of customs modernization and international supply chain security.
40.	Para 109	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for organizing the 3 rd meeting of the Trilateral Coordination Committee (TCC) on construction of Railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran (Tehran, 2 nd March 2014), 1 st High Level Working Group (HLWG) Meetings of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty (Tehran, 2-3 March 2014), and the 8 th High Level Working Group Meeting on ECO Container Train on ITI route (Tehran, 4 th March 2014).	-
41.	Para 110	The Council took note of the status of implementation of the MoU between Great Anatolia Logistic Organization (BALO) and Pakistan Railways regarding the freight transport services of Istanbul-Tehran-Islamabad ECO Container Train. The enroute Member States were requested to make concerted efforts for regular operations of the train.	The ITI enroute Member States may make concerted efforts for regular operations of the ITI train.
42.	Para 111	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to convey to the Secretariat the exact dates and details of hospitality for 9 th HLWGM of the ITI train in one month through diplomatic channel.	Pakistan may kindly convey to the Secretariat the exact dates and details of hospitality for 9 th HLGM of the ITI train
43.	Para 112	Turkey proposed that the issue of possibility of extension of the ITI Train to south Asia will be included in the Agenda of the forthcoming HLWG of the ITI train to facilitate and keep the route operational.	Turkish proposal may be included in the draft agenda of the next meeting of HLWG on ITI.
44.	Para 113	The Council asked the ECO-CCI to facilitate and promote their activities on the trilateral MoU on marketing and promotion of ITI train.	ECO-CCI may expedite facilitating and promoting its activities on the trilateral MoU on marketing and promotion of ITI train

45.	Para 114	The Council welcomed the decisions of the 1 st Meeting of the HLWG of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty on functioning of HLWG as the coordinating body of the Trains with the assistance of the ECO Secretariat and expressed satisfaction with the adoption of the report of the Feasibility Study on the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty routes which shall serve to facilitate regular and smooth functioning of the Container Trains.	-
46.	Para 115	The Council appreciated Turkmenistan for providing time table and tariff rates for the ECO Container Train on Istanbul-Almaty route. Turkey and Iran have already provided their revised time table for this route. Since no changes in the time table were introduced by the concerned authorities of Turkmenistan, the other two enroute Member States (Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan) were requested to provide their concurrence with previously agreed timetable.	Uzbekistan may kindly provide its time table for the ECO Container Train on Istanbul-Almaty route based on time table provided by Turkmenistan to onward submission to Kazakhstan.
47.	Para 116	The enroute Member States were requested to provide their support to the enhanced transportation of goods from China to Turkey through the Istanbul-Almaty route. In this regard and further to the assistance sought by the Istanbul based private company (Demiryolu Logistics), the Council, while appreciating Turkey for its readiness to extend support to the business industry on the subject, encouraged serious involvement of the private sector dealing with transportation of goods in all ECO Routes including the one from China to Turkey through the Istanbul-Almaty route and asked the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey to keep in contact with its private sector to provide the detailed information on technical and other arrangements including tentative dates of dispatching train along this route. The enroute Member States were requested to provide the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey may keep in contact with its private sector to provide the detailed information on technical and other arrangements including tentative dates of dispatching train along this route. • The enroute Member States may provide the Secretariat with their focal points and their contact details in this regard.

		Secretariat with their focal points and their contact details in this regard.	
48.	Para 117	The Council asked the Secretariat to coordinate with the enroute Member States on holding the 2 nd HLWG Meeting of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty routes. Local hospitality will be provided by the host country. The airfare will be covered from SSF and the Fund for the Feasibility Study of the said train.	The Secretariat may coordinate with the enroute Member States on holding the 2 nd HLWG Meeting of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty routes.
49.	Para 118	The enroute Member States updated the meeting on the latest developments in their respective territories of the railway connecting China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan informed the meeting that as the first phase, feasibility study of KTAI railroad (about 300 KM) is being conducted and the second phase from Mazar-e-Sharif to Kunduz and Sherkhan Bandar with Tajik border (about 210 KM) is also expected to be completed in 2015. 60% of the KTAI route in the territory of Afghanistan will be completed once these studies are finalized. The Kyrgyz Republic informed that they are taking measures to attract Chinese Company to undertake the Feasibility Study in the territory of Kyrgyzstan. According to the agreement between the two parties, this study would be finalized in 2016. Once the study is finalized, the ECO Secretariat may help the Kyrgyz Republic to explore the possibility of finding the funding resources for the Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghanistan and Kyrgyz Republic may inform the latest development in their respective territories for this railway project. • The ECO Secretariat may help the Kyrgyz Republic to explore the possibility of finding the funding resources for the Project once the study is finalized.
50.	Para 119	Tajikistan informed that an expert level meeting of Railway authorities of Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran and China was held in December 2014. A steering working committee was decided to be established and will be held in 1 st half of this year in Bishkek. The date of the ECO Senior Officials' meeting of enroute countries/Ministerial Meeting of the Project on construction of railway from China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date of the ECO Senior Officials' meeting of enroute countries/Ministerial Meeting of the Project on construction of railway from China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran may kindly be informed. • The enroute Member States may support the ECO Secretariat in fulfilling its function and mandates concerning the Project.

		Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran will be specified in this Committee. The airfare will be covered from SSF for the ECO Senior Officials' meeting. Local hospitality will be provided by the host authorities. The Council stressed the role and the continued relevance of ECO in coordinating this Project and requested all the enroute Member States to support the ECO Secretariat in fulfilling its function and mandates concerning the Project.	
51.	Para 120	The Council expressed satisfaction with the inauguration of the railway between Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran (KTI) by the honorable Presidents of the enroute Member States on 3 rd December 2014 in Inche Boroon/Akyayla border.	-
52.	Para 121	The Islamic Republic of Iran informed that the agreement on development of the regulations for technological process of operation of Akyayla-Inche Boroon stations would be signed soon. Issues on technical matters such as harmonization of tariff rates along this route will be discussed by the enroute Member States.	Iran or Turkmenistan may provide the latest status of the agreement on development of the regulations for technological process of operation of Akyayla-Inche Boroon stations. Issues on technical matters such as harmonization of tariff rates will be included in the agenda of the 1 st HLWG meeting.
53.	Para 122	The Council asked the Secretariat to coordinate with Turkmenistan for holding the 1 st High Level Working Group of KTI railway in 2015. Local hospitality will be provided by the host authorities. Air fare will be covered from SSF.	The Secretariat may coordinate with Turkmenistan the holding of the 1 st High Level Working Group of KTI railway in 2015.
54.	Para 123	The Council urged expeditious establishment of a commercial working group which will be convened every six months through ECO-CCI in order to study the problems and situation of cargo transport and offer guidelines to attract and increase cargo for KTI Train and report back to 12 th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railway Authorities/6th Meeting of the Railway Committee of the TTCC, scheduled for 17-18 May 2015 in Tehran and regularly report to its HLWG Meeting.	The ECO-CCI may inform the latest development in establishment of a commercial working group to be convened every six months in order to study the problems and situation of cargo transport and offer guidelines to attract and increase cargo for KTI Train
55.	Para 124	The Council appreciated the enroute Member States for conveying business plans on their projects in their	The ECO Secretariat will coordinate the holding of the 3 rd HLWG Meeting of the project with the enroute

		respective territories along Qazvin-Rasht- Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) Railway. The ECO Secretariat will coordinate holding of the 3 rd HLWG Meeting of the project with the enroute Member States through diplomatic channel.	Member States through diplomatic channel.
56.	Para 125	The Council welcomed the decisions of 3 rd High Level Working Group (HLWG) meeting of the Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan- Afghanistan- Iran (KTAI) Road Transport Corridor (Tehran, 27 October 2014) and expressed with satisfaction the adoption of the Terms of Reference (TOR), prepared by the ECO Secretariat for field study along this Corridor. The Council asked the Secretariat to approach the CPR in case an extra amount would be required to undertake the study.	The Secretariat may approach the CPR in case an extra amount would be required to undertake the study.
57.	Para 126	The enroute Member States, except Tajikistan, are requested to take necessary measures to accede to the ADR Agreement and, except Iran and Tajikistan, to the Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods to ease the customs clearance procedures at the border crossing points. Afghanistan is also requested to take necessary measures to accede to the two conventions i.e. Road Traffic, 1968 and Road Signs and Signals, 1968.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The enroute Member States, except Tajikistan, are requested to take necessary measures to accede to the ADR Agreement. • The enroute Member States, except Iran and Tajikistan, may take necessary measures to accede to the Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods • Afghanistan may take necessary measures to accede to the two conventions i.e. Road Traffic, 1968 and Road Signs and Signals, 1968
58.	Para 127	The enroute Member States were requested to provide the Secretariat with regular updates on the infrastructural developments in their territories. Afghanistan was requested to keep the Secretariat abreast of the progress report for the remaining 231 KM missing link between Heart and Mazar-e-Sharif by providing quarterly updates. The enroute Member States were requested to perform the requirements of developing the TIR Park places along KTAI corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The enroute Member States may provide the Secretariat with regular updates on the infrastructural developments in their territories. • Afghanistan may keep the Secretariat abreast of the progress report for the remaining 231 KM missing link between Heart and Mazar-e-Sharif. • The enroute Member States may perform the requirements of developing the TIR Park places.
59.	Para 128	The 4 th HLWG Meeting of the KTAI Road Corridor will be held in Tajikistan. The concerned authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan were requested to convey the exact dates of the Meeting together with	Tajikistan may kindly convey the exact dates of the 4 th HLWG Meeting of the KTAI Road Corridor together with details of hospitality.

		details of hospitality.	
60.	Para 129	While stressing the importance of utilizing the common ToR for conducting the field study along ITI and KTAI Road Corridors, the Council requested the Republic of Turkey to expedite providing its comments and views on the revised ToR, keeping the views and comments of the International Consultant into account.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey provided its comments and views on the revised ToR. • The Secretariat may take appropriate measures to finalize ToR.
61.	Para 130	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to communicate with the Secretariat about the exact dates of the 4 th Meeting of the HLWG on ITI Road Corridor by the end of March 2015. Local hospitality will be provided by the host authority.	Pakistan may kindly communicate with the Secretariat about the exact dates of the 4 th Meeting of the HLWG on ITI Road Corridor
62.	Para 131	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to take necessary measures to accede to the ADR Agreement and Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods.	Pakistan may take necessary measures to accede to the ADR Agreement and Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods.
63.	Para 132	The Council, while expressing its regrets for losing the international consultant, who accomplished the Study under ECO/IDB Joint Project on implementation of TFA and was mandated to conduct the field study along the ITI and KTAI Road Corridors, asked the Secretariat to follow the previously exercised practice for recruiting a new international consultant for conducting the field study along these two corridors.	The Secretariat will follow the previously exercised practice for recruiting a new international consultant for conducting the field study along ITI and KTAI corridors.
64.	Para 133	Afghanistan, while expressing satisfaction for reactivation of TIR Convention in Afghanistan, informed about difficulties in obtaining visas by its own drivers for passage through the ECO Member States, the same issue was raised by Iran. The Council emphasized the importance of the visa acquisition facilitation for drivers of all Member States as well as the issue of safety and security and requested the Member States to take necessary measures in this regard in their respective territories. The 1 st ECO senior consular officials meeting will be held in May/June 2015 in Tehran. The local hospitality will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The issue of easing up visa regime or lifting visa requirements with each other for drivers and persons involved in transit, including the issue of safety and security in their respective territories will be included in the agenda of the 1st ECO senior consular meeting. • Iran may kindly specify the exact dates of the 1st ECO senior consular officials meeting.

		be provided by host authority. The airfare will be covered from SSF. The Member States were requested to actively participate in the Meeting.	
65.	Para 134	The Council was briefed on the latest status of providing the required documents by associations from Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan and requested the Republic of Turkey to accelerate finalizing the registration process of the ECO Logistics Providers Associations Federation (ECOLPAF) in Istanbul. National Associations of other Member States, who have not yet provided requisite documents, were requested to expedite doing so. The Council asked the ad hoc committee comprising of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, to inform the Secretariat on the preparatory work and organizational documents enlisted in the Statutes and provide the proposed agenda for the General Assembly meeting. First meeting of the General Assembly of ECOLPAF will be held in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, once all related arrangements are finalized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey may accelerate finalizing the registration process of the ECO Logistics Providers Associations Federation (ECOLPAF) in Istanbul. • National Associations of other Member States, who have not yet provided requisite documents, may expedite doing so. • The ad hoc committee comprising of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, may inform the Secretariat on the preparatory work and organizational documents enlisted in the Statutes and provide the proposed agenda for the General Assembly meeting.
66.	Para 135	The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed their concurrence with the proposal of Turkey for establishment of a Working Group on Civil Aviation. The Council asked the other Member States except Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey to convey their comments and views on this proposal at the earliest.	Other Member States except Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan may kindly convey their comments and views on this proposal.
67.	Para 136	The landlocked Member States are requested to expedite conveying to the Secretariat their specific needs and proposals for utilizing facilities of the ECO Zone in Chabahar. Subsequently, the concerned authorities of Iran may provide the Secretariat with the action plan for activating the ECO Zone in Chabahar at the earliest. Pakistan delegation requested the Secretariat to provide the 'specific information' about the forum/meeting where it was decided that the ECO Zone would be established in	<p>The landlocked Member States may expedite conveying to the Secretariat their specific needs and proposals for utilizing facilities of the ECO Zone in Chabahar.</p> <p>Subsequently, the concerned authorities of Iran may provide the Secretariat with the action plan for activating the ECO Zone in Chabahar at the earliest.</p>

		Chabahar.	
68.	Para 137	The Council appreciated the ECO Postal Staff College (ECO PSC) for the two weeks international course organized on “Managing Post as a Business (Opportunity and Challenges)” (Islamabad, 7 th to 25 th April 2014) and the offer to organize a one week course for the ECO Member States on “Postal Aviation and Mail Security” (Islamabad, 16-20 March 2015) and a three week course on Award of Fellowships on “Operations Management” (Islamabad, 6-24 April 2015). The Member States were requested to actively participate in the training courses proposed by ECO PSC.	One week course for the ECO Member States on “Postal Aviation and Mail Security” was held in Islamabad on 16-20 March 2015.
69.	Para 138	The Council requested the Republic of Tajikistan to consider hosting the 6 th Meeting of the ECO Postal Authorities in consultation with its relevant authorities. The interested Member States were invited to sign the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) through postal services for Online Money Order System on the sidelines of the Meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tajikistan may consider hosting the 6th Meeting of the ECO Postal Authorities in consultation with its relevant authorities. • The interested Member States will be invited to sign SOP through postal services for Online Money Order System on the sidelines of the Meeting
70.	Para 139	The Council requested the Member States, except Azerbaijan and the Kyrgyz Republic, to expedite providing their comments and views on the draft Terms of Reference for conducting the Feasibility Study for development of the ICT and Telecommunications infrastructure connectivity and services in the ECO Member States.	Based on the concurrence or a no comment position on the draft ToR received from some member states, and noting the passage of deadline for providing comments, the Secretariat will collaborate with ITU and other relevant organizations on this matter.
71.	Para 140	The Council asked the ECO Secretariat to start preparatory arrangements to recruit the international consultant according to the exercised practice at the Secretariat and commence this study with support and technical assistance of international organizations such as ITU and ESCAP. The Council recommended the CPR to allocate additional funds from FSGP Fund in case the extra cost will be required for conducting the Feasibility Study.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECO Secretariat may commence this study with support and technical assistance of ITU and other relevant organizations. • The Secretariat may approach the CPR in case of need for extra amount.
72.	Para 141	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to convey the response of its concerned	Pakistan may kindly convey the response of its concerned authorities to the Secretariat regarding the

		authorities to the Secretariat regarding the interconnectivity of the Optic Fiber Cable at Mirjaveh border point with Iran.	interconnectivity of the Optic Fiber Cable at Mirjaveh border point with Iran.
73.	Para 142	Upon the suggestion of the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the meeting agreed to hold the "1 st Meeting of the HLWG of ICT Communication Regulatory Authorities", the "1 st ECO Expert Group Meeting on ICT Security and Cyber Crime" and the "1 st Preparatory Meeting for establishment of the ECO ICT Provider Association", subject to finalization of the Feasibility Study for development of the ICT and Telecommunications infrastructure.	The Secretariat will take appropriate measures in this regard accordingly.
74.	Para 143	The Member States, except Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic and Turkey, are requested to provide their comments and views on the "Preliminary Report on Joint ECO Telecommunication Satellite" which will be considered by the 2 nd ICT Ministerial Meeting.	Member States, except Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic and Turkey, may kindly expedite providing their comments and views on the "Preliminary Report on Joint ECO Telecommunication Satellite"
75.	Para 144	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to communicate to the Secretariat the dates for holding the 2 nd ICT Ministerial Meeting.	Islamic Republic of Pakistan may kindly provide Secretariat with the dates of the 2 nd ICT Ministerial Meeting
76.	Para 145	The Council welcomed the presentation made and acknowledged the information provided by the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Trans Eurasian Information Super Highway Project (TASIM) in the Meeting.	-
77.	Para 146	The Council asked the ECO Secretariat to keep its contacts and enhance its cooperation with international organizations. It also asked to expedite finalization of the Action Plan in the context of the trilateral MoUs among ECO-IDB-UNESCAP and ECO-IDB-UNECE for implementation of the Trilateral MoUs.	The ECO Secretariat may retain its contacts with international organizations to enhance its cooperation.

C. ENERGY, MINERALS & ENVIRONMENT

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
<u>Energy</u>			

1.	Para 147	The Council welcomed the readiness of the Republic of Turkey to host the 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum in November 2015 in Ankara, and requested the Member States to participate in the event at the highest possible level.	Secretariat via its Note Verbale (No. EME/4th MMEP/2015/459 dated 1 April 2015) requested the concerned Turkish authorities to communicate the exact dates and venue for the Meeting, as well as format of hospitality to be extended to the participants.
2.	Para 148	The Council requested the Member States (except Afghanistan and Turkey) to submit feedbacks on the implementation of the ECO Plan of Action (PoA) on Energy/Petroleum Cooperation (2011-2015) by the end of May 2015. The Council also requested the Secretariat to prepare an evaluation report (within one month after getting feedbacks) of the PoA on the basis of received feedbacks with a view of its possible extension and/or revision.	<p>The Member States (except Afghanistan and Turkey) were requested (No. EME/ERPoA/2015/381 dated 17 March 2015) to submit their feedbacks on the implementation of the ECO Plan of Action (PoA) for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation (2011-2015) at the earliest.</p> <p>Based on received feedbacks the Secretariat will prepare Evaluation Report reflecting on progress done in key action areas, pros and cons for implementation arrangements for PoA, including engagement framework for ECO Secretariat and its interactions with major stakeholder groups.</p>
3.	Para 149	The Council noted the importance of the High Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meetings on Energy in advancement of ECO's energy agenda and welcomed the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 3rd HLEG Meeting on Energy on 25-26 May 2015 in Tehran. The Council further requested the host to inform about hospitality details for the event and called on all Member States to participate in this preparatory event for the 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Energy scheduled to be held in November 2015 in Turkey.	<p>In coordination with the host authorities, relevant documents (Draft Agenda, Annotated draft Agenda and Background Document), as well as information on hospitality details were circulated to the Member States (No. EME/3rd HLEG/2015/479 dated 5 April 2015 and No. EME/3rd HLEG/2015/517 dated 12 April 2015, respectively).</p> <p>Primary task is to ensure active participation from the Member States.</p>
4.	Para 150	The Council appreciated the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 1 st Trilateral Meeting (Iran-Turkey-Secretariat) on "ECO Regional Electricity Market" (REM) on 25-26 September 2014 in Ankara and requested concerned Member States to continue regular dialogue within existing framework, as well as, through new platforms for dialogue to be introduced by the ECO Secretariat.	The Secretariat follows up the decisions of the 1 st Trilateral Meeting (Iran-Turkey-Secretariat) on "ECO Regional Electricity Market", with the concerned Member States on regular bases.

5.	Para 151	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 2 nd Iran-Turkey Bilateral Meeting (in line with the agreement during the Council, the title of the Meeting has been changed) on ECO REM on 19-20 April 2015 with coordination of the ECO Secretariat.	The 2 nd Iran-Turkey Bilateral Meeting on ECO REM, initially scheduled for 19-20 April 2015 was postponed as per suggestion by the Republic of Turkey. The goal is to set-up new dates and convene the meeting with active representation from concerned parties.
6.	Para 152	The Council also welcomed the readiness of the Republic of Turkey to host the 2 nd Experts Meeting on "Establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market" in 2016, and called for active participation of interested Member States in the event.	In coordination with the host authorities, setting-up exact dates, preparation of working papers/background documents . It is important to ensure active participation from the Member States.
7.	Para 153	The Council while reiterating its support to the elaboration of "Feasibility Study for establishment of ECO REM through harmonizing and merging the electricity markets of Iran and Turkey", mandated the ECO Secretariat to explore the possibilities of funding feasibility study through submission to pertinent financial/development agencies, seed financing from concerned Member States, as well as through ECO Feasibility and General Purpose Fund (FGPF).	This issue is on the agenda of the Iran-Turkey Bilateral Meeting on ECO REM.
8.	Para 154	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for hosting the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Experts Group and 5 th Workshop on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) on 15-17 September 2014 in Kabul and requested the Member States and the ECO Secretariat to implement the recommendations of these events, in particular project-oriented elements. The Council requested the Member States to consider hosting the 4 th Meeting of the ECO Experts Group and 6 th Workshop on RES in 2015/16.	The Secretariat ensures regular follow up with the Member States on decisions and recommendations of the 3 rd Meeting of ECO Experts Group on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and the 5 th Workshop on RES. The Secretariat follows up (latter Note Verbale No. EME/4th EGM&6th WSh/RES/2015/471 dated 1 April 2015) with the Member States the issue of hosting the 4 th Meeting of ECO Experts Group on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and 6 th Workshop on RES (back-to-back) in 2015/16.
9.	Para 155	In line with the report of the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Experts Group on RES, the Council requested the Member States to consider establishment of "Virtual	The Secretariat via its Note Verbale (No. EME/VUN/RES/2015/506 dated 9 April 2015) requested the concerned authorities of the Islamic

		University Network" (VUN) on renewable energy among the relevant academic circles of the Member States which would contribute to awareness raising and knowledge sharing among the Member States.	<p>Republic of Afghanistan to communicate elaborated proposal on establishment of VUN on renewable energy.</p> <p>The rest of Member States were also requested to submit their proposals and insights on establishment of VUN which may serve as a regional knowledge platform for bridging information gaps, capacity building and awareness-raising, as well as for integrating sustainable energy solutions.</p>
10.	Para 156	The Council commended efforts on knowledge sharing and capacity building on RES and urged the Member States (except Iran) to submit national data on renewable, as well as to provide (except Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Tajikistan and Turkey) relevant Country Report/Questionnaire on RES, for further integration into the (http://abemda.az/eco) "ECO Data Information Network on RES" (ECO DIN on RES) portal established by the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources (SAARES) of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Council also welcomed the idea of possible merging of ECO DIN on RES with IRENA's Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA) portal in the future. The Council requested the Republic of Azerbaijan to upload submitted RES data to ECO DIN portal and make it operational as soon as possible.	<p>Regular correspondence with the Member States (latter Note: No. EME/ND/Questionnaire/RES/2015/509 dated 9 April 2015) to submit information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national data on renewable; • relevant Country Report/Questionnaire/Factsheet on RES <p>Continuous work and coordination with SAARES in order to ensure uploading of submitted data by Member States to RES portal and for making this portal operational.</p>
11.	Para 157	The Council welcomed recent reinvigoration of ECO-IRENA interaction and mandated the Secretariat to continue this dialogue to create synergies and benefit from complementarities. Furthermore, the Council mandated the Secretariat to explore the possibility of organizing ECO Ministerial Roundtable on Renewable Energy on the sidelines of the next IRENA Assembly in January 2016 in Abu Dhabi.	<p>The Secretariat communicates with the IRENA for potential partnership frameworks.</p> <p>The Secretariat will look into the possibilities of organizing ECO Ministerial Roundtable on Renewable Energy on the sidelines of the next IRENA Assembly in January 2016.</p>
12.	Para 158	The Council while appreciating the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host training courses on Oil and Gas in the second half of 2015 based on list of	Secretariat requested the Iranian authorities (latter Note No. EME/Calendar/Oil&Gas/2015/380 dated 17 March 2015) to set up dates and venues for the

		priority courses submitted by the Member States, requested Iranian authorities to provide the Secretariat with their elaborated proposal including trainings dates, venues and hospitality details by end of May 2015.	Training Courses.
13.	Para 159	The Council welcomed the offer of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) to host the "1 st Meeting of the ECO Public and Private Sector Energy/Petrochemical Consortium/Companies" in cooperation with ECO-CCI and ECO Secretariat in Tehran in December 2015, and agreed that this event may further facilitate B2B energy dialogue within the region and beyond. The Council also called the Member States to submit to the Secretariat lists of their capable companies active in the field of energy and petrochemical (except Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Turkey) and provide feedbacks on Roadmap for Establishment of the ECO Energy Consortium (except Tajikistan and Turkey) by end of April 2015.	<p>Primary task is to confirm with the ICCIMA the dates and venue for this Meeting.</p> <p>To coordinate with the rest Member States to provide their list of capable companies active in the fields of Energy and Petrochemical and feedbacks on Roadmap for Establishment of the ECO Energy Consortium.</p>
14.	Para 160	The Council took note of the information given by the ECO Secretariat regarding the establishment of a Trust Fund for financing the high priority ECO regional energy projects and since four Member States (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran and Turkey) have already provided their views/comments on this idea, requested the rest Member Countries to submit the same by the end of September 2015 and mandated the Secretariat to prepare the tentative modalities/concept paper for this fund.	The Secretariat follows up this issue with the Member States, and will prepare the tentative concept paper/modalities for mentioned fund in due course.
15.	Para 161	The Council took note of the proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Meeting on proposal to establish the refinery association in ECO region in December 2015 in Tehran and requested the Member States to actively participate in the meeting and requested Iran to submit to the Secretariat elaborated proposal on the subject in compliance with the Secretariat's Project Profile Form through official	<p>To confirm with the Iranian authorities the exact dates and venue for the Meeting, preparation of Working Papers, as well as facilitation of active participation of ECO Member States in the Meeting.</p> <p>To follow up with the concerned Iranian authorities on submission of the mentioned proposal in compliance with the Secretariat's Project Profile</p>

		channels by end of March 2015. The Council also took note of intervention from one Member State on advising to refrain from establishment of new associations till completion of the reform process within the Organization.	Form.
16.	Para 162	The Council while expressing its concern over lack of interest and proper coordination from relevant national focal points, as well as failed reporting and feedback mechanism requested the Member States to update/nominate their National Focal Points (NFPs) in relevant fields.	The Secretariat periodically requests the Member States to designate/update their NFPs in the relevant fields on Energy (Latter Note Verbale No. EME/NFP's/Energy/RES/REM/2015/499 dated 8 April 2015) for facilitating coordination and implementation of events in relevant fields on time.
17.	Para 163	The Council recommended the Secretariat to maximize its efforts to strengthen its cooperation with relevant international and financial entities, including but not limited to, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECO-TDB), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), as well as relevant regional and international financial/development cooperation agencies.	As per recommendations of the relevant ECO bodies, the Secretariat communicates on regular basis with the relevant Regional/International and financial institutions/organizations/agencies.
Minerals			
18.	Para 164	The Council appreciated the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations on 8-9 May 2014 in Ankara, and called for Member States and the ECO Secretariat to follow-up with decisions and recommendations of the event. The Council recommended the Secretariat to communicate with the Member States on hosting the 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations in 2015/16.	The Secretariat follows up with the Member States the matters related decisions and recommendations of the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations, including the issue of hosting the 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations in 2015/16. (latter Note Verbale No. No. EME/3 rd Meeting HSMO/2015/500 dated 8 April 2015)
19.	Para 165	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 5 th ECO Minerals Experts Group	The Secretariat follows up with the Member States the matters related to decisions and

		meeting on 16-18 November 2014, and took note of the decisions of the Meeting. The Council also welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 6 th ECO Minerals Experts Group Meeting back-to-back with the ECO Mining and Geosciences Conference in the second half of 2016.	recommendations of the 5 th ECO Minerals Experts Group meeting.
20.	Para 166	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 1 st Meeting of ECO Geomatics Committee on 20-21 October 2015, and called for active participation of all Member States in the event by the fully authorized representatives of the Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations of the Member States to review/approve the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of "ECO Geomatics Committee" prepared by Iranian National Cartographic Centre (NCC).	To coordinate with the Iranian authorities on convening this Meeting as scheduled and facilitate active participation of ECO Member States. To follow up with the rest of Member States (Note Verbale No. EME/1st GC/2015/512 dated 12 April 2015) for their feedbacks on Terms of Reference of "ECO Geomatics Committee" and headlines for ECO Economic Atlas.
21.	Para 167	The Council while appreciating the work done by the Project Manager (Geological Survey of Iran) within the Contract agreement on ECO Seismic Hazard Reduction Programme (ECO-SHARP), welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 1 st Workshop on ECO Seismic Hazard Reduction Programme (ECO-SHARP) on 10-12 May 2015 in Tehran and requested the Member States to ensure participation in this important event. The Council also welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 2 nd Workshop on ECO Seismic Hazard Reduction Programme (ECO-SHARP) in 2016. The Council requested the Iranian side to provide all Member States with the comprehensive information about ECO-SHARP well in advance of the Workshop.	The Secretariat is engaged in regular contacts with the Project Manager, for necessary coordination and supervision on the implementation of the Project within the agreed timeframes as per signed Contract. To coordinate with the host authorities on convening of this Workshop as scheduled and facilitate active participation of ECO Member States. Seismicity Map of ECO Region along with auxiliary Report, compiled by the Project Manager-Geological Survey of Iran, in conformity with implementation of the 1st phase of the ECO Seismic Hazard Reduction Program (ECO SHARP) has been circulated by the Secretariat (No. EME/ECO-SHARP/2015/407 dated 19 March 2015) to all member States.
22.	Para 168	While appreciating the Iran Minerals Processing Research Center (IMPRC) for hosting the Workshop on "Ferrous and Base Metal Mineral Processing" on 9-10 September 2014 in Karaj, the Council requested the Member States to volunteer hosting the 2 nd Workshop on "Ferrous and Base Metal Mineral	To coordinate with the host authorities on convening this event as scheduled and facilitate active participation of ECO Member States.

		Processing" by June 2015, otherwise the IMPRC would host the event on 8-9 September 2015.	
23.	Para 169	The Council while expressing its concern over lack of interest and proper coordination from relevant national focal points, as well as failed reporting and feedback mechanism requested the Member States to update/nominate their National Focal Points (NFPs) in relevant fields of Secretariat's Minerals domain.	The Secretariat periodically requests the Member States to designate/update their NFPs in the relevant fields on Minerals (Latter Note Verbale No. EME/NFP's/Minerals/GC/EA/2015/504 dated 9 April 2015) for facilitating coordination and communication.
<u>Environment</u>			
24.	Para 170	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for organizing the ECO Consultative Ministerial Meeting on Environment on the sidelines of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in June 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya and requested the Member States and the ECO Secretariat to follow up the recommendations of the Meeting. The Council mandated the Secretariat to explore the possibilities of organizing the similar sideline gathering for the next UNEA in 2016.	The ECO Secretariat in cooperation with Member States will follow up the recommendations of the Meeting. The ECO Secretariat with the assistance of the ECO contact group will explore the possibilities of organizing the similar sideline gathering for the next UNEA in 2016.
25.	Para 171	The Council appreciated the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Urbanization for hosting the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment in December 2014 in Istanbul and urged all member states and the ECO Secretariat to pursue the implementation of key outcomes/recommendations and key action points envisaged in the Istanbul Declaration.	The ECO Secretariat with cooperation of its Member States will follow up the implementation of key outcomes/recommendations and key action points envisaged in the Istanbul Declaration.
26.	Para 172	The Council took note of the Report of the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment and asked the ECO Secretariat to submit the formal request along with provisional agenda to the Republic of Azerbaijan on hosting the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment for further consideration and decision by the relevant authorities of Azerbaijan.	During the 6 th Working Group Meeting on Environment, the Meeting may prepare the agenda for the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment. The ECO Secretariat will follow up with the relevant authorities of Azerbaijan and inform the Member States concerning the exact date, venue and the format of hospitality to be extended to the participants.
27.	Para 173	The Council requested all Member States to consider	In case of the inability of the Republic of Azerbaijan

		hosting the forthcoming ECO Ministerial Meetings on Environment to ensure proper follow up to the decisions of the previous Ministerial meetings.	to host the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment, the ECO Secretariat will request other Member States to consider hosting this important gathering.
28.	Para 174	The Council requested the Member States to consider hosting the 6 th Working Group Meeting on Environment (pending from 2009) to elaborate the agenda and other modalities for the Ministerial Meeting in coordination with the ECO Secretariat and ECO-IEST sometime in 2015/16.	The Secretariat will follow up and provide all Member States with information such as exact date, venue, etc. of the mentioned Working Group. To ensure active participation from Member States.
29.	Para 175	In line with the outcome recommendations of the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment (15-17 December 2014, Istanbul), the Council commended the Republic of Turkey for hosting the proposed "ECO Safranbolu Ministerial Conference on Climate Change" (on 27 March), preceded by a preparatory Conference of experts on 25-26 March 2015 in order to make tentative preparations and to develop a climate change agenda of the ECO region before new legally binding agreement on climate change, which is expected to be adopted in 2015 in Paris and requested the Member States to ensure their high level participation in the Conference.	ECO Safranbolu Ministerial Conference on Climate Change was held on 27 March 2015 in Safranbolu, Turkey. It was preceded by the Experts Meeting on 25-26 March 2015. The Meeting was attended by high-level delegations from ECO Member States and observers as well as Balkan countries and international organizations. The "Safranbolu Declaration on Enhancing Regional pre-COP 21 Ambition on Climate Change" adopted at the mentioned conference circulated to the ECO member States via the Note Verbale No. EME/MCENV/2015/ 444 dated 30 March 2015.
30.	Para 176	The Council mandated the ECO Secretariat to introduce, in cooperation with the UNEP and ECO-IEST, the most appropriate outline/format for the State of Environment (SoE) report for ECO region by mid-2015, taking into account the existing national, regional and international models, including recently introduced and globally accepted UNEP Live model in line with the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment. The Member States are requested to cooperate with the ECO Secretariat and ECO-IEST for preparation of the first SoE report through submitting regular national reports.	On 14 th April 2015 and on the sidelines of the European Regional Environmental Information Network Conference (REIN) (13-17 April 2015, Istanbul), the ECO-IEST authorities organized ECO Consultation Meeting on the State of Environment Report (SOEr) with participation of delegates from Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey. Consultation Meeting focused on the most appropriate format for the ECO SOEr and the best approach for initiating the process of developing this report in cooperation with UNEP. The Secretariat will follow up this issue in cooperation with ECO Member States, UNEP and the ECO-IEST.

31.	Para 177	<p>The Council welcomed and appreciated the recent activities of the Secretariat for reinvigoration of ECO-UNEP interaction and called on the Secretariat to proceed with the mandate given by the Ministers of Environment in Istanbul to enhance cooperation with UNEP, to make necessary endeavours to secure observer status with UNEP, as well as to pursue enhanced synergy with UNEP in key areas of mutual engagement like preparation of the State of Environment (SoE) Report for ECO region, air pollution and dust haze, management of ecosystem services, capacity building and knowledge sharing, energy efficiency and relevant cross-cutting issues, as well as revision of the Framework Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2011-2015) for ECO Member States.</p>	<p>The ECO Secretariat had convened bilateral consultations with UNEP Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Mr. Kaveh Zahedi on 19 January 2015. The parties discussed the state of affairs of cooperation between two organizations where both sides agreed on the frameworks to enhance cooperation and interactions.</p> <p>As a result of enhanced ECO-UNEP interaction, the UNEP Executive Director, Mr. Achim Steiner, in a letter addressed to the ECO Secretary General, extended a standing invitation to ECO to participate as Observer in the sessions and work of the UNEA and its subsidiary organs.</p> <p>The ECO Secretariat will follow up the envisaged issues with UNEP officials and inform the Member States about the results.</p>
32.	Para 178	<p>The Council deliberated the issue of change of status of the ECO-IEST from project based into an ECO Regional Category (B) Centre and acknowledged the important and proactive role of ECO-IEST in implementation of ECO's environmental agenda and supplementing the Secretariat's expertise and activities in relevant domain. The Council further agreed that the change of status of the Institute into an ECO Regional Category (B) Centre will be considered in line with the outcomes of the ongoing reform process within the ECO.</p>	<p>The issue of change of status of the ECO-IEST from project based into an ECO Regional Category (B) will be followed up as soon as the outcomes of the ongoing reform process within the ECO would be finalized.</p>
33.	Para 179	<p>The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for reaffirming their readiness to pay its voluntary contribution of 100,000 USD for the implementation of project profile Framework Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2011-2015) and requested Iran, ECO Secretariat and ECO-IEST to complete the legal and fiscal/financial adjustments/requirements by end of June this year and proceed with the implementation of this project</p>	<p>The legal and fiscal/financial adjustments/requirements would be finalized by end of June 2015.</p> <p>The ECO Member States are to cooperate with ECO Secretariat and the ECO-IEST during implementation of this project profile.</p>

		as envisaged in the Report of the 5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment.	
34.	Para 180	The Council appreciated ECO-IEST for presenting outline of the regional project on Combat Desertification with Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO region and requested the ECO Secretariat to allocate 50,000 USD from the Feasibility General Purpose Fund (FGPF), which will allow for ECO-IEST to prepare elaborated project proposal for further submission to relevant financial institutions/donors. The Council requested the Member States to cooperate actively with the Secretariat and ECO-IEST during the implementation phase of this project.	<p>The ECO Secretariat will follow up the allocation of 50,000 USD from the Feasibility General Purpose Fund (FGPF) with the ECO Council of Permanent Representative (CPR).</p> <p>The ECO Member States are to cooperate actively with the ECO-IEST during implementation phase of this project profile.</p>
35.	Para 181	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for submitting two reports of the Feasibility Study on "Development and Harmonization of Environmental Standards in ECO Region" and requested the latter to submit the remaining project reports to the Secretariat in line with indicated timeframe reflected in the Contract signed between the ECO Secretariat and the Iranian authorities. The Council requested the Member States to cooperate actively with the Project Manager for effective implementation of the Study.	<p>The third report of the mentioned Feasibility Study prepared by the Department of Environment of Iran has been circulated to the ECO Member States via the Note Verbale No. EME/ENV/DHES/2015/538 dated 14 April 2015 for their views/comments.</p> <p>To avoid delays in implementation of this Study, Iranian authorities are requested to submit the remaining Projects Reports to the Secretariat in time.</p> <p>All Member States are called on for active engagement with the Project Manager.</p>
36.	Para 182	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for organizing ECO-UNFF the Tehran Workshop on Harnessing Climate Change Financing for Sustainable Forest Management in the ECO Region in April/May 2014 and commended the Member States, namely, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, as well as Tehran Process Secretariat for Low Forest Cover Countries (TPS LFCC) and ECO-IEST, for providing specific proposals on sustainable forest management, which were submitted for further consideration by UNFF. The Council also welcomed recent dialogue	<p>ECO-UNFF consultations was held at the ECO Secretariat on 8-9 March 2015 to follow up to the key recommendations of the "Tehran Workshop on Harnessing Climate Change Financing for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the ECO Region" and to elaborate on the Regional Strategy for mobilizing climate financing for SFM in the ECO Region.</p> <p>Two sides also elaborated on three project proposals prepared by UNFF consultant team encompassing outcomes of Tehran Workshop and inputs from</p>

		between ECO Secretariat and UNFF and while taking note on upcoming visit of the UNFF consultant team from New York and Geneva to the ECO Secretariat in March for preparing regional strategy on sustainable forest management, requested the Secretariat to pursue the outcomes and recommendations of this visit. The Council requested the Member States to coordinate with the Secretariat and ensure provision of proper feedbacks/reporting mechanism for smooth and efficient implementation of envisaged regional strategy.	national focal points. These projects, being exact Project Identification Forms (PIFs), titled: 1-Data Generation and Sharing System for SFM to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change 2-Strengthening the position of forests in national climate and development agendas 3-Managing Agro-biodiversity in Forests of the ECO Region have been submitted by UNFF to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for possible funding through GEF-6 cycle. Response from GEF is awaited. The Secretariat will follow up this issue with UNFF/GEF and inform Member States on outcomes.
37.	Para 183	The Council appreciated the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 2 nd Experts Group Meeting on Biodiversity (4-5 November 2014, Antalya) and called upon the member States (except Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Iran) to furnish their views/comments on the draft "Work Plan on Biodiversity in ECO Region (2016-2020)". The Council requested the Member States and the Secretariat to consider recommendations of Antalya Meeting for further implementation and facilitation.	So far, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran and Pakistan have provided the ECO Secretariat with their views/comments on the draft "Work Plan on Biodiversity in ECO Region (2016-2020)". The other Member States are requested to do the same at the earliest.
38.	Para 184	The Council noted that pivotal role of the National Focal Points (NFPs) in respective fields related to environment, such as climate change, biodiversity etc. in transmitting necessary data on fast-track basis to enable the ECO Secretariat to ensure enhanced communication system. For this purpose, the Member States are to provide to the Secretariat corresponding details of their NFPs dealing with respective subjects upon request from the Secretariat.	The ECO Secretariat will remind the Member States regularly to introduce/update/assign their Focal Points.
39.	Para 185	The Council while appreciating the Republic of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Turkey for providing their National Progress Reports (NPRs) on Environment for 2013, requested the other Member States to do the same at the earliest based on	The Member States (excluding the Republic of Turkey) will be requested to provide their NPRs for 2014. All Member States are to contribute to the

		the submitted format. Moreover, the Council agreed that NPRs should be submitted to the ECO Secretariat annually within the first quarter of each calendar year to help identify weaknesses and gaps to be addressed. The Council also noted the importance of ECO Bulletin on Environment in raising environmental awareness in the region and requested the Member States to provide to the ECO Secretariat with their contribution for the next issues on a timely manner.	environmental awareness raising activities by the Secretariat, including through timely submission of scholarly contributions to "ECO Bulletin on Environment".
40.	Para 186	The Council appreciated a short briefing given by President of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) regarding its observer membership with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and called upon the ECO and Member States to establish interaction with the IPBES in order to avail maximum dividends from the latter's experience and best practices in the relevant fields of environment and climate change and biodiversity.	The ECO Secretariat in cooperation with Member States will follow up this issue.

D. AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & TOURISM

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
<u>Agriculture</u>			
1.	Para 187	The Council requested the Member States to consider hosting the 6 th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture, preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in their respective countries, in 2015.	The Member States were requested to host the 6 th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture preceded by the Senior Officials Meetings (SOM). (NV. No. AIT/01.80/2015/521 dated April 12, 2015)
2.	Para 188	The Council requested the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey to announce the exact date for the 2 nd Meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of the ECO Regional Coordination Centre (ECO-RCC) for Implementation of the ECO Regional Programme for Food Security (ECO-RPFS), scheduled to be held in May 2015 in Ankara. The Council requested from the Steering Committee to consider the revision of the ECO-RPFS, if necessary,	The concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey has already announced the date of 5 th June, 2015 for the said Meeting. (NV. No. AIT/01.80/2015/495 dated April 07, 2015) The Secretariat will make close cooperation with the said Centre and Member States for revision of the ECO-RPFS' project proposal.

		during its second meeting.	
3.	Para 189	The Council requested the Member States which have not yet done so, to nominate their ECO-RCC Programme Steering Committee Members. The Council also requested the Member States to participate and extend their support to the ECO-RCC's forthcoming activities. In this context, the Member States are requested to prepare Project Proposals on Food Security within the framework of RPFS and convey the same for coordination to the said Centre.	<p>The Member States which have not yet done so, are requested to nominate their ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS Programme Steering Committee Members.</p> <p>The Member States were requested to prepare Project Proposals on Food Security within the framework of RPFS and convey the same for coordination to the ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS.</p> <p>ECO Secretariat, in cooperation with ECO-RCC to keep in touch with the Member States for receiving such project proposals.</p>
4.	Para 190	The Council while appreciating the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 1 st Workshop on Food Security, welcomed the offer for organizing of the 2 nd Workshop on Enhancing Food Security in the ECO Region scheduled to be held in May 2015, in Ankara, and requested to send the exact date to the Secretariat.	The concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey has already announced the date as June 4, 2015 for the said workshop. (NV. No. AIT/01.80/2015/522 dated April 12, 2015)
5.	Para 191	The Council thanked the ECO-RCC for preparing the "Working Principles of the ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS and requested its finalization during the 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting of the ECO-RCC scheduled to be held in May 2015, in Ankara, the Republic of Turkey.	The "Working Principles of the ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS will be discussed during the forthcoming 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting of the ECO-RCC for finalization.
6.	Para 192	The Council thanked the Member States and the ECO Secretariat for including ECO-RPFS issue under agenda item of the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Finance and Economy held on May 22-23, 2014 in Astana-Kazakhstan and requested the Member States to consider providing funds for implementation of the ECO-RPFS, so as to facilitate securing financial assistance from the donor institutions/organizations.	The Member States will be communicated for considering to provide funds for implementation of the ECO-RPFS.
7.	Para 193	The Council requested the ECO-RCC to cooperate with the ECO Secretariat for preparing bankable project documents for the components of the ECO-	The ECO Secretariat will be in touch with ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS and try to provide financial support from the ECO-FGFP in this

		RPFS.	regard. The ECO-RCC for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS is requested to cooperate on preparing bankable projects. (NV. No. AIT/01.80/2015/611 dated April 22, 2015)
8.	Para 194	The Council thanked the ECO Seed Association (ECOSA) for its activities carried out so far and requested concerned authorities of Azerbaijan/Pakistan to consider organizing the 7 th ECOSA International Seed Trade Conference and Seed Trade Fairs and 5 th General Assembly Meeting in their respective countries, in 2015.	The Azerbaijan/Pakistan concerned authorities were requested to consider organizing those ECOSA related events in their respective countries, in 2015. (NV. No. AIT/ECOSA/2015/502 dated April 08, 2015)
9.	Para 195	The Council also requested the Republic of Azerbaijan to send new date for organizing the Workshops on Field Control, which was postponed due to lack of quorum. The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to organize the Workshop on Plant Variety Protection (PVP) in July 2015 in Karaj. The Council requested the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to send the exact date and venue for the Workshop on Seed Testing scheduled to be held in 2015, Pakistan. The Council requested the Member States to prepare Project Proposal in collaboration with ECO Secretariat for providing the financial assistance for the said Workshops.	The concerned authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Iran were requested to send exact dates and venue for the said events. (NV No. AIT/ECOSA-PVP/2015/477 dated April 05, 2015) & (NV No. AIT/ECOSA-PVP/2015/628 dated April 23, 2015)
10.	Para 196	The Council thanked the FAO, concerned Member States and the ECO Secretariat for the successful implementation of the ECO/FAO-SEC Project on Seed Sector Development in the region, which will be completed in April 2015. The Council also thanked the Republic of Turkey for organizing Regional Seed Workshop and Seed Fair held on 5-10, January, 2015 in Istanbul.	The exact date and venue for the 2 nd Regional Seed Workshop and Seed Fair is waiting from concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey as the last closing session for the ECO/FAO-SEC Project.
11.	Para 197	The Council appreciated signing an agreement by the ECO Secretariat and the Ministry of National Food Security and Research of the Islamic Republic of	Member States were requested to confirm their participation in the 2 nd Working Group Meeting on the Establishment of the ECO-CEUW, scheduled to

		Pakistan for provision of USD 50 000 support from the ECO-FGFP for conducting the activities for establishment of the ECO Center for Efficient Utilization of Water for Agriculture (ECO-CEUW). The Council also requested the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to officially confirm the dates for the 2 nd Working Group Meeting on the Establishment of the ECO-CEUW preliminarily scheduled to be held on April 14-15, 2015, Islamabad and the Member States to confirm their participation in the said meeting.	be held on July 29-30, 2015 in Islamabad, Pakistan.
12.	Para 198	The Council appreciated the finalization of the Draft Statute of the ECO Regional Center for Risk Management of Natural Disasters (ECO-RCRM), included the views of some Member States, which to be submitted to one of the CPR Meetings for endorsement/finalization. The said Statute will be submitted to the next COM Meeting for final approval. All the Member States (except Iran and Turkey) are also requested to contribute and designate their focal points for the Working Group to draw up Project Proposals for cooperation, as per decisions made by the 2 nd Heads of Meteorological Organizations.	The finalized Draft Statute of the ECO-RCRM, which reflected with the views of the Member States is under consideration of the Legal Advisor of ECO for his views/comments. The said Statute to be submitted to the one of next CPRs for endorsement/finalization.
13.	Para 199	The Council welcomed the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the establishment of Natural Disaster Data System and requested to send the detailed project proposal to the ECO Secretariat for consideration by the CPR.	The concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran were requested to send the detailed project proposal for necessary action.
14.	Para 200	The Council requested the Member States to volunteer for hosting the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Heads of Meteorological Organizations scheduled to be held in 2015, in their respective countries.	Member States were requested to volunteer hosting the said 3 rd Meeting in their respective countries in 2015. (NV No.AIT/01.70/2015/638 dated April 23, 2015)
15.	Para 201	The Council welcomed the offer by the ECO-RCRM to organize the Workshop/Training Course on Drought Monitoring and Prediction in the ECO Region, in October 2015, Mashhad, the Islamic Republic of Iran.	The concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran were requested to send the exact date for the said Workshop/Training Course. (NV No. AIT/01.70/2015/520 dated April 12, 2015)

16.	Para 202	The Council thanked the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey for preparing the Draft Statute for the establishment of the ECO Meteorological Calibration Center (ECO-MCC) and requested the Member States to send their views/comments on the said document after circulation, by the Secretariat.	The Draft Statute for the establishment of the ECO-MCC will be sent to the Member States for their views/comments soon.
17.	Para 203	The Council thanked the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey for organization of the training programmes in the field of calibration and metrology so far. The Council also requested the Republic of Turkey to send the exact dates and venue for the Training Programme on the Basics of Calibration scheduled to be held in 2015.	The exact date and venue for the said 2 nd Training Programme is waiting from the concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey and the reminder to be sent soon.
18.	Para 204	The Council requested the Member States (except Iran) to expedite signing/ratifying the Statute of the ECO Veterinary Commission (ECO-VECO).	Other Member States are requested to do so. (NV No. AIT/01.70/2015/610 dated April 22, 2015)
19.	Para 205	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for sending the Plan of Action containing the activities within the ECO-VECO in Tehran for its implementation in 2015 and for its interest to organize the activities indicated in the said Plan in the 2 nd half of 2015. Iranian concerned authorities are also requested to announce the exact date and venue for the following activities scheduled to be held in 2015. The Member States are requested to collaborate for implementation of the said Plan. a. 3 rd ECO Heads of Veterinary Organizations Meeting; b. Workshop on Management of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Training Workshop on Central Veterinary Laboratories (CVL); and c. 1 st Technical Steering Committee for early establishment/ operationalization of the ECO-VECO.	The concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran were requested to send exact dates and venue for the said activities. (NV No. No. AIT/01.70/2015/496 dated April 07, 2015)
20.	Para 206	The Council thanked the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran for redesigning and updating a new dynamic website for ECO-ABN at www.eco-abn.net and registration of a new domain	The actions to be taken continuously in this regard.

		www.eco-abn.org for better communication with the National Focal Points as well as Biotechnologists and Researchers in all Member Countries and also requested the Member States to provide information in this regard and nominate Focal Points for the Network.	
21.	Para 207	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to organize the 2nd Expert Group Meeting of the ECO-ABN and its Joint Workshop on “Biotechnology, and Biosafety Issues of GMOs”, on May 26-28, 2015, immediately after the 1 st International and 9 th National Biotechnology Congress of Iran, which will be held from May 23-25, 2015, in Iran. Round trip air-ticket (the most direct route, economy class), registration fee of the biotechnology congress, board and lodging for one participant from each Member State (national focal point) will be provided by the host authority, ECO-ABN.	All member States are requested to confirm their participation in the said events. The reminder was also sent to expedition this issue. (NV No. AIT/03.70/2015/570 dated April 20, 2015)
22.	Para 208	The Council also requested the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to consider the following proposals for reviewing during the 2 nd Expert Group Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establishment of a platform for harmonization of bio-safety regulations and capacity building for GMO detection. (Iran, Pakistan and Turkey); ➤ Establishment of an intellectual property rights network and capacity building program in this field. (Pakistan and Iran); and ➤ Using bio-technology tools for characterization and utilization of agricultural genetic resources for sustainable agriculture and food security (Iran). 	The issue to be reviewed and considered during the 2 nd Expert Group Meeting on the establishment of the ECO-ABN. (NV No. AIT/03.70/2015/570 dated April 20, 2015)
23.	Para 209	The Council thanked the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran for submitting the ECO-ABN report and full justification about the benefits of the ECO-ABN to the Member States for allocation of an extra US\$ 50,000/- from ECO Feasibility Study and	The detailed informative note is expected from the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran for submitting to one of next CPR.

		General Purposes Fund for holding the 2 nd EGM and establishment of ECO-ABN as indicated in Para-196 of the Report of 24 th RPC Meeting.	
24.	Para 210	The Council requested the Member States and other ECO Networks to kindly conduct their Regional Research and Training Activities in the area of Genetic Engineering, Biotechnology and Biosafety under the umbrella of ECO, through ECO-ABN as considering the mission and objectives of the ECO Agricultural Biotechnology Network in order to boost this network in achieving its objectives and to enhance cooperation among the ECO Member States.	During the 2 nd EGM on the Establishment of the ECO-ABN, the issue will be considered for necessary action.
25.	Para 211	The Council welcomed the information of the ECO Secretariat regarding the Project Proposal on Technical Assistance for the Formulation of Strategies for the Control of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) at Global and Regional Levels, prepared by the technical services of FAO, and requested the Member States to communicate their technical views/comments on the said Project to the Secretariat.	The Secretariat will follow up this with Member States.
26.	Para 212	The Council requested the Member States to confirm their participation in the International Conference on Technical assistance for the formulation of strategies for the control of PPR scheduled to be held on 31 March - 02 April, 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.	The said event has been organized as scheduled.
27.	Para 213	The Council requested the Member States to host the ECO/FAO Regional Workshop for the PPR Road Map formulation as well as TCP implementation in September/October, 2015 in their respective countries.	Member States were requested to host the said event in their respective countries. (NV No. AIT/FAO-TCP/PPR/2015/627 dated April 23, 2015).
28.	Para 214	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to actively participate in the related International Conferences to be organized in 2015 and prepare the project proposals on the events/activities for provision of financial assistance in this regard.	The ECO Secretariat to follow up and make necessary arrangements for these issues.
29.	Para 215	The Council welcomed the proposal on organizing Buyers/Sellers meetings/forums on wheat, cotton,	The issue to be considered during the forthcoming Steering Committee Meeting of the

		bean and other Agricultural commodities to improve intra-regional trade.	Regional Coordination Centre for implementation of the ECO-RPFS.
Industry			
30.	Para 216	The Council stressed the need for reviewing the industrial cooperation in the region and redrawing the new approach toward future collaboration and requested the Member States to consider hosting the 4 th ECO Ministerial and 3 rd HLEG Meetings on Industry in 2015 and inform the ECO Secretariat by June 2015.	A follow up Note along with a concept note will be circulated to the MS requesting them to consider hosting the Meeting. MS are required to volunteer for hosting the Meeting.
31.	Para 217	The Council requested the Member States to sign (except Afghanistan and Turkey) and ratify (except Iran) the Statute of RISCAM to pave the way for early operationalization of the Institute.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to sign and ratify the Statute of RISCAM.
32.	Para 218	The Council requested the Member States to provide the ICU (Interim Coordination Unit) of RISCAM with the relevant data and documents according to the questionnaire which has been circulated to the Member States by the Secretariat required for the establishment of a database on Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation and Metrology and related website in 2015.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to submit the required information to the Secretariat. MS are required to expedite forwarding the info to the Secretariat.
33.	Para 219	The Council appreciated the ICU (RISCAM) for finalizing drafting basic documents i.e. Rules of Procedure, Financial Regulations and Staff Regulations and requested the Member States to reflect their views and comments on the said documents by mid 2015.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to submit their views and comments on the documents to the Secretariat. MS are required to expedite forwarding their views to the Secretariat.
34.	Para 220	The Council called on the Member States to appoint at least two focal points to the Interim Coordination Unit (ICU) and support the activities of this Unit for operationalization of the RISCAM. The Meeting also emphasized the host countries of the Secretariats of the Technical Management Boards of RISCAM to start operating on interim basis.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to appoint 2 focal points to the ICU- RISCAM. MS are required to expedite informing the focal points to the Secretariat.
35.	Para 221	The Council requested the Secretariat to communicate with Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Pakistan to reconfirm their interest to participation in	A follow up Note is circulated to the mentioned MS requesting them to reconfirm their intention to join the RISCAM. Those MS are required to expedite

		the activities of ICU RISCAM.	forwarding their views to the Secretariat.
36.	Para 222	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 6 th High Level Working Group on Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation and Metrology on the 1 st February, 2015 and requested the Member States to implement the decisions of the Meeting.	The MS are required to implement the decisions and recommendations of the Meeting.
37.	Para 223	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Workshop on Conformity Assessment on 2 nd February, 2015 and requested the Member States to consider hosting such workshops.	The MS are requested to consider hosting such workshops.
38.	Para 224	The Council welcomed the willingness of the Republic of Turkey for extending training services and technical assistance to the Member States on privatization practices.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to inform their training needs in the area of privatization. The MS are required to expedite forwarding their views to the Secretariat.
39.	Para 225	The Council appreciated with thanks the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the 2 nd Meeting of Coordination Committee on Industrial Property Rights on 16 June 2014.	-
40.	Para 226	The Council thanked Islamic Republic of Iran for offering to host the 3 rd Meeting of Coordination Committee on Industrial Property Rights in August 2015 and requested the latter to announce exact date and details of hospitality for the Meeting.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting to convey exact date and details of hospitality. Iran is required to expedite forwarding its views to the Secretariat.
41.	Para 227	The Council also appreciated Islamic Republic of Iran for offering to host a Joint Workshop on Industrial Property Rights in cooperation with WIPO back to back with the 3 rd Meeting of Coordination Committee in August 2015.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting to convey exact date and details of hospitality. Iran is required to expedite forwarding its views to the Secretariat
42.	Para 228	The Council appreciated the Secretariat for approaching the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to conclude a cooperative agreement.	-
43.	Para 229	The Council requested the Member States to inform the Secretariat on their relevant programs/plans on Industrial Property Rights.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting to convey their programs to the Secretariat.
44.	Para 230	The Council thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for renewing its offer to host the 4 th Steering Committee	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting to convey their list of participants to the Meeting exact

		Meeting on Entrepreneurship and SMEs Development on 24-25 May, 2015. It reiterated its previous request to the Member States for their active participation in SMEs Development Cooperation.	date and details of hospitality. MS are required to expedite informing their list of delegations to the Secretariat.
45.	Para 231	The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to share its experiences in the field of SMEs Development with the interested Member States and requested to share their views and needs on the SMEs Development in due course with the Secretariat.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to inform their training needs in the area of SME Development. The MS are required to expedite forwarding their needs to the Secretariat.
46.	Para 232	The Member States were requested to organize Training/Workshops for SMEs Development for introducing the latest trends and best practices.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to inform their training courses/ workshops in the area of SMEs. The MS are required to expedite forwarding their views to the Secretariat.
47.	Para 233	The Council thanked the Islamic republic of Iran for renewing its offer to host the 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting on Establishment of the ECO Nanotechnology Network (ECONAN), and Workshop on NANO-technology activities in the region in October 2015 and requested for active participation of the Member States in the Meeting and the Workshop, informing three months in advance of their confirmation of participation.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting to convey exact date and details of hospitality to the Secretariat. Iran is required to convey the exact date and details of hospitality.
48.	Para 234	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for submitting the Project titled Pre-Feasibility Study of Removal of Arsenic Water Pollution in ECO Region using Nanotechnology Methods with the target of enhancing the regional cooperation in the field and implementation of the ECONAN and requested the Member States to reflect their views and comments on the Project by May 2015 to the Secretariat.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to submit their views and comments on the project proposal by end of May 2015 to the Secretariat. Member States are required to convey their views and comments regarding the said project to this Secretariat not later than May, 2015.
49.	Para 235	The Council reiterated its request to the interested Member States to offer their project proposals to develop and enhance the nanotechnology in the region.	A follow up Note is circulated to the MS requesting them to submit their project proposals for this purpose to the Secretariat. Member States are required to convey their views and comments in this regard to this Secretariat.
50.	Para 236	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting the

		submit the Project Proposals on (1) identifying potential transferors and transferees in the ECO region and (2) identifying supporters of Technology Transfer process in the region.	latter to submit the project proposals on (1) identifying potential transferors and transferees in the ECO region and (2) identifying supporters of Technology Transfer process in the region. Iran is requested to submit its proposals to the Secretariat.
51.	Para 237	The Council also welcomed invitations by the Islamic Republic of Iran Pardis Technology Park extended to the ECO Member States to participate in the Innovation and Technology Exhibition (INOTEX 2015) on 9-12 June 2015 in Tehran as well as a Workshop on Technology Parks of the ECO Member States and visit to Fanamooz Educational Park in October 2015. The ECO Member States will enjoy a considerable discount on accommodation expenses and a free stall at the exhibition. In this regard, ICCIMA can distribute this information through ECO-CCI and publish on the website www.ecocci.org in order to encourage interested companies from the ECO Member States to participate at the INOTEX exhibition to be held on June 9-12, 2015 and in the year 2016.	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting them to inform the relevant authorities and furnish this Secretariat with the names of participants by May 15, 2015. The Islamic Republic of Iran is also requested to provide further details regarding visa, accommodation and local transfer arrangements for the participants. at the earliest.
52.	Para 238	The Council appreciated the Secretariat for initiating cooperation with relevant international organizations, development agencies and financial institutions with (but not limited to) UNIDO, JICA, WIPO, RCSTT for the purpose of regional development and encouraged it to do so with other international and regional organizations, institutions and agencies.	The Secretariat is in constant contact with international bodies to promote international relations of the Organization.
<u>Tourism</u>			
53.	Para 239	The Council appreciated the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Tourism Ministers and the 5 th HLEG Meeting on Tourism in October/November 2015 in Antalya and called upon the ECO Members to actively participate in these events.	The Republic of Turkey has officially informed that the Meetings will be organized in 2016.
54.	Para 240	The Meeting appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat for drafting the document titled "Elaboration of ECO	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting them to convey their views and comments regarding the

		Tourism Development Strategy" and requested the Member States to convey their views and comments on the document before end of May, 2015 to be used in drafting the ECO Tourism Development Strategy. The Council welcomed the suggestion of the ECO Secretariat to form a Working Group for preparation of the strategy and requested the Member States to host 1 st meeting of the Working Group. In this regard, Republic of Turkey informed the Council that it will consider hosting the meeting along with the Ministerial Meeting to be held in October/November 2015 in Antalya.	said document to this Secretariat by end of May, 2015. The Republic of Turkey is also requested to confirm hosting the First Meeting of the Working Group for Preparation of the ECO Tourism Strategy and inform this Secretariat at the earliest. However due to postponement of the Ministerial Meeting on Tourism, the First Working Group Meeting may also be postponed. Turkish authorities and MS will be informed accordingly.
55.	Para 241	The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the ASEAN-ECO Joint Forum on Tourism on the sidelines of the 3 rd Meeting of the ECO Tourism Ministers, to be held in October/November 2015 in Antalya and called upon the Member Countries to actively participate in this event.	The Republic of Turkey has officially informed that this Meeting will also be organized in 2016 along with Ministerial Meeting on Tourism.
56.	Para 242	The Republic of Turkey informed the Council that the legal procedures for transferring their pledged contribution to the Tourism Promotion Fund are finalized and the amount will be transferred to the ECO Secretariat as soon as possible.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran and Turkey (Cc to remaining MS) requesting them to transfer their pledged contribution to the "Tourism Promotion Fund". The remaining Member States are also requested to consider contribution to the said Fund, designed to promote tourism industry in the ECO Region. The MS particularly Iran and Turkey are required to transfer their pledged amount to the Secretariat.
57.	Para 243	The Islamic Republic of Iran also informed the Council that their pledged amount will be transferred as soon as possible to the ECO Tourism Promotion Fund.	Iran is required to transfer their pledged amount to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will follow up the subject.
58.	Para 244	The Council requested the Member States to consider contributing to the Tourism Promotion Fund.	Turkey is required to transfer their pledged amount to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will follow up the subject.
59.	Para 245	The Council requested the Secretariat to develop working program and operational arrangements for utilizing the ECO Promotion Tourism Fund upon	The Secretariat will prepare working plans and programs once the contributions are transferred to its accounts.

		receipt of contributions.	
60.	Para 246	The Council reiterated its request to the Member Countries, except Iran, to provide the necessary information for the “Ecotourism Catalogue for the ECO Region” to be prepared by the Republic of Turkey.	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting them to provide information for the “Ecotourism Catalogue for the ECO Region” to be prepared by the Republic of Turkey. So far only Iran has provided the required photos and information for the said catalogue. Member States are required to convey their inputs in this regard to this Secretariat .
61.	Para 247	The Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Council that it has developed a questionnaire for collecting tourism information of the Member States to establish the ECO ecotourism database. The Council requested the Secretariat to circulate the questionnaire to the Member States as early as possible.	Iran is required to submit the questionnaire to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
62.	Para 248	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to invite the ECO Member States to actively participate in the 1 st Asia Cooperation Dialogue Tourism Ministerial Meeting (ACD-TMM) and its sideline Workshops on E-Tourism and Health Tourism, which will be held in June 2015, in Shiraz.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting the latter to inform the program, exact date and details of hospitality for the First Asia Cooperation Dialogue Tourism Ministerial Meeting (ACD- TMM) in June 2015. Iran is required to submit the detailed information to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
63.	Para 249	The Council appreciated with thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ECO-CCI for hosting the 1 st ECO Confobition (conference+ exhibition) on Health Tourism in August 18-20, 2014 and requested the Member States to consider hosting the 2 nd Confobition on Health Tourism.	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting request the Member States (except Iran) to consider hosting the Second ECO Confobition (conference+ exhibition) on Health Tourism. The MS are required to inform their interest to host the 2nd event.
64.	Para 250	The Council requested the ECO-CCI to inform the date and details of hospitality for the 3 rd Coordination Committee Meeting on Health Tourism Cooperation in the ECO region, which will be held in Mashhad in 2015 on the sidelines of the 5 th Conference on Health Tourism of the Islamic Countries. The Council further requested the ECO-CCI to provide the Member States with an implementation report of the 1 st and 2 nd Coordination Committee Meeting as well as the 1 st Confobition held in Ramsar, in August 2014.	A follow up Note is circulated to ECO-CCI requesting the Chamber to inform the date and details of hospitality for the 3rd Coordination Committee Meeting on Health Tourism Cooperation in ECO Region on the sidelines of the 5th Conference on Health Tourism in Islamic Countries. The Chamber is also requested to kindly provide an implementation report of the First and Second Coordination Committee Meetings as well as the First ECO Confobition on Health Tourism held in Ramsar (Iran) in August, 2014. The Chamber is

			required to conduct as advised before.
65.	Para 251	The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the Workshop on Health Tourism in 2015 and requested the ECO Member Countries to actively participate in this event.	A follow up Note is circulated to Turkey requesting the latter to inform the details of hospitality for the Workshop on Health Tourism in 2015. Turkey is required to inform the needed info as soon as possible.
66.	Para 252	The Council requested the Member States to actively participate in the Workshop on Tourism to be organized on 28-30 April 2015 in Girne.	The Workshop will be held at the confirmed date.
67.	Para 253	The council reiterated its request to the Member States to encourage the private sector involvement in the regional tourism activities through participation in the relevant meetings/events/initiatives. And in this connection, the ECO CCI is requested to explore the possibility of setting up regional cooperation modality on tourism to strengthen cooperation among the national private sector associations/forums/federations with the purpose of sustainable tourism promotion and propose its study to the 3 rd ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in October/November 2015.	A follow up Note is circulated to ECO-CCI requesting the Chamber to inform this Secretariat of its activities and programs to implement the above decision of the Council.
68.	Para 254	The council requested the Member States to form a contact group on the sidelines of Silk Road related meetings, conferences and events to effectively pursue the collective interests of ECO Region and enhance the role of ECO in international tourism market.	A follow up Note is circulated to MS requesting them to form contact groups on the sidelines of the national and international Silk Road related meetings/conferences/and events to effectively pursue the collective interests of ECO Region and enhance the role of this Region in international tourism market. Iran as the current Chair of the ECO is particularly requested to organize such contact groups in coordination with this Secretariat.
69.	Para 255	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran for organizing the First ECO-SILK Road Food Festival in May 2015, in Zanjan and requested the Member States particularly ECO Embassies in Tehran to actively participate in the event.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting to furnish this Secretariat with the exact date, details of hospitality and any other arrangements for the First ECO- Silk Road Food Festival in Zanjan in May, 2015. Iran is required to send the info to the Secretariat ASAP.
70.	Para 256	The Council appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat for establishing ties with UNWTO, JICA and ASEAN	The Secretariat is in constant contact with international bodies to promote international

		and requested it to intensify activities to approach national and international development agencies like ECOTDB, IDB, OPEC Fund, and etc for securing fund for tourism related projects in the region.	relations of the Organization.
71.	Para 257	The Council appreciated with thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the First Periodic Exhibition on Tourism and Handicrafts of the ECO Member States in June, 2014 and welcomed its offer to host the 2 nd Exhibition in June, 2015 in Tehran.	A follow up Note is circulated to Iran requesting to furnish this Secretariat with the exact dates, details of hospitality, regulations and contact details of the Second Periodic Exhibition on Tourism and Handicrafts of the ECO Member States in June, 2015 at the earliest. . Iran is required to send the info to the Secretariat ASAP.
72.	Para 258	The Council appreciated the efforts the Secretariat for introducing regional activities with regard to tourism promotion in international forums.	-
73.	Para 259	The Council voiced that many of the meetings/events planned in the AIT Directorate in 2014-15 could not be held / postponed due to such reasons as the lack of quorum, lack of a host country, failure to announce the schedule of the meeting, delay in announcing hospitality details. The Council, in order to ensure the implementation of the calendar of events of the Directorate for 2015-2016 recommended that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the host Member States may announce the schedule of the events/meetings along with the details of hospitality for the delegates well in advance; b. the Member States may convey their confirmation and ensure active participation in the meetings/events in due time an event is scheduled; c. the Secretariat as per the ECO Rules of Procedure may consider hosting the meetings/events in case no Member State is willing to be the host. 	The MS are required to follow the recommended procedures of the Council regarding organization of meetings and events.

E. PROJECTS, ECONOMIC RESEARCH & STATISTICS

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
Project			
1.	Para 260	Considering the financial and budgetary constraints of the organization for project implementation, the Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish a mechanism for fund-raising of ECO Projects in collaboration with the international financial institutions.	The Secretariat should work on the draft proposal on the new mechanism for fund-raising of ECO projects in collaboration with international financial institutions and submit the draft to the Project Monitoring Group for inter-agency coordination of the Secretariat. In the next step and before submitting to the CPR, the draft proposal should be circulated to Member States for their views and proposals.
2.	Para 261	The Council expressed its satisfaction on the functioning of the ECO Project Monitoring Group for supervision of the Secretariat and Member States for more effective implementation of the ECO projects through holding its meetings at the Secretariat. It supported the Secretariat's initiative for establishment of Project Management Information System (PMIS) within the organization in order to obtain progress reports and outcomes of the ECO projects. The Council underlined the importance of regular holding of the Project Monitoring Group meetings by the Secretariat in collaboration with the Member States for achievement of its responsibilities and proper implementation of projects which is essential for socio-economic development of the region.	The Secretariat should make necessary arrangements for establishment of Project Management Information System (PMIS) in the organization through consultation with professional and qualified institutions in the related area. Based on these arrangements, the Secretariat should prepare a draft proposal, containing comprehensive information on the technical and financial aspects of installation of the PMIS system at the Secretariat and submit for consideration of the CPR through ECO Project Monitoring Group Meeting.
3.	Para 262	The Council appreciated IRTI and SESRIC for organization of the Regional Training Workshop on "Project Assessment and Evaluation for ECO Member States" on 12-16 May 2014 in Ankara, Turkey. The Council welcomed the Secretariat for preparation to hold the next Regional Project Training on "Project Management Information System (PMIS)" for ECO member countries in 2015, as agreed by the participants of the last project training. This regional training workshop will be organized in joint cooperation with IRTI that has contributed to strengthening institutional capacity of	The Secretariat through its note No. PERS/Workshop/2015/433 dated 26 March 2015 has requested Kazakhstan to provide exact date and details of hospitality for organizing this regional training.

		the Member States on projects in previous years.	
4.	Para 263	Appreciating the presentation made by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of Reconstruction Projects in Afghanistan, the Council took note of the financial and executive issues of the completed and ongoing projects. The Council requested the Member States that have not transferred their pledges to the ECO Special Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan yet, to do so, enabling the Secretariat to complete the ongoing projects and to initiate new projects, as submitted and followed up by relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The Council also requested the remaining Member States to make their relevant contributions to SFRA - to express solidarity with the people of Afghanistan.	The Secretariat should continue to communicate with Member States to encourage them for payment of their pledged money and their contribution to the ECO Special Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan for completion of ongoing projects and initiating new projects in Afghanistan.
5.	Para 264	The Council, while appreciating the generous contribution of ECO Member States for implementation of projects in Afghanistan, requested the Secretariat, ECO countries and TIKA to take the difficult situation of Afghanistan into consideration and to support the Fund/fulfill their commitments by utmost contribution for betterment of socio-economic conditions in Afghanistan.	The Secretariat should continue its efforts for support of implementation of Reconstruction projects in Afghanistan in consultation with Member States and regional donors for their possible contribution to the Fund.
6.	Para 265	Having in mind the ongoing projects/programmes/initiatives by international community for Afghanistan, the Council acknowledged the need for revisiting the terms of reference of the ECO Special Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan with a view to contributing more effectively to the development-related activities in Afghanistan. Accordingly, the Council requested the Secretariat to convene a special meeting on Afghanistan with the participation of Afghan authorities, Fund's donors and other interested ECO Member States to review the Fund's performance and to develop a new ECO advocacy approach/policy for Afghanistan including new possible missions for	The Secretariat should make necessary arrangements for organizing an event related to implementation of reconstruction projects in Afghanistan in collaboration with Afghan authorities, international financial donors and interested Member States and inviting them for consultation on effective implementation of development projects in Afghanistan.

		Fund. Potential partners from outside the Region may also be involved in this exercise.	
<u>Economic Research</u>			
7.	Para 266	The Council appreciated implementation of the ECO Joint Economic Research Programme (JERP) which received full support of the 21 st COM for development of economic research studies in the ECO region that contributes to recognition of socio-economic potentialities and needs of the countries of the region. The Council was briefed by the delegation of Azerbaijan on progress of implementation of two economic research projects, coordinated by the Republic of Azerbaijan titled <i>“Exchange of Experiences and Strengthening Inter-agency Cooperation on the Development of Ecologically Clean Agriculture in ECO Member Countries”</i> and <i>“Study on Applicability of General Equilibrium (CGE) Model in ECO Countries and Capacity Building”</i> .	The Secretariat through its note No. PERS/Projects/2015/287 dated 26 February 2015 has already forwarded the mid-term report of the project on <i>“Exchange of Experiences and Strengthening Inter-agency Cooperation on the Development of Ecologically Clean Agriculture in ECO Member Countries”</i> to the Member States for their views. The Secretariat should take necessary measures, in collaboration with the project implementing agency, for implementation of the projects according to the project time schedule.
8.	Para 267	The Council also considered the status of implementation of two ongoing research project proposals, coordinated by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, namely <i>“Economic Management Modeling for the ECO region”</i> and <i>“Trade Liberalization and Food Security in the ECO Region”</i> and requested the Secretariat to submit these project proposals for consideration by the CPR.	The Secretariat should make further follow up for submission of the economic research projects <i>“Economic Management Modeling for the ECO region”</i> and <i>“Trade Liberalization and Food Security in the ECO Region”</i> that have been adopted by Member States in expert level meetings for consideration and approval by CPR through Project Monitoring Group Meeting.
9.	Para 268	The Council requested the Member States to cooperate actively with the Secretariat in implementation of the ECO Joint Economic Research Programme (JEPR) through proposing new economic research project proposals in line with the objective of the organization for strengthening financial development and trade markets in the region.	The Secretariat through communication and consultation with the ECO Economic Think Tanks should encourage Member States to cooperate actively with the Secretariat for formulating economic research project proposals related to the main challenging issues in the area of socio-economic studies in the region.
10.	Para 269	The Council reaffirmed its continuous support for implementation of the ECO Plan of Action on Economic Research which was adopted by the first meeting of the Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research, held in Astana in 2010. The	The Secretariat should make necessary arrangements, in collaboration with the relevant authorities of the Republic of Turkey, for organizing the 4 th Meeting of Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research that is scheduled to be convened in

		<p>Council also welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 4th Meeting of the Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research in December, 2015 in Turkey. The Council requested the 4th PSCER Meeting to propose thematic topics for future RPC Meetings and in this regard one for the upcoming 26th RPC Meeting was suggested as “Enhancing Infrastructure Development in the ECO Region”. The Council also requested the Member States to provide their inputs regarding the thematic topic of the 26th RPC Meeting, to be consolidated by the Secretariat.</p>	<p>December 2015 in Turkey. In this regard, the Secretariat also should request for views and inputs of Member States for preparing the draft report on “Enhancing Infrastructure Development in the ECO Region” that was approved by the 25th RPC Meeting as the thematic topic for the future RPC Meeting to be presented for discussion in this meeting.</p>
11.	Para 270	<p>The Council stressed on regular publication of ECO Annual Economic Report and appreciated the Member States (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Turkey) that have already submitted their country report on economic performance of their respective countries in 2013 to the Secretariat for compilation of ECO Annual Economic Report (AER) for the year 2013. As included in the Report of the 24th RPC Meeting (Para 245) and following the correspondence with the Member States in the matter, the Secretariat had forwarded two reminders to the Member States for submission of country report 2013 in order to compile the Report. In this regard, the Council urged the remaining Member States to provide their country reports on economic performance in 2013 to the Secretariat as soon as possible, enabling the Secretariat for compilation and publication of the AER 2013. The council also called for active cooperation of the Member States with the Secretariat for compilation and publication of ECO Annual Economic Report for the year 2014.</p>	<p>The Secretariat through its note No. PERS/AER/2015/436 dated 26 March 2015 has forwarded another reminder to Member States that have not provided their country report on economic performance for year 2013 (Iran, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) to do so at the earliest. Through this note, the Secretariat also has requested the Member States for cooperation with the Secretariat on compilation of the Annual Economic Report for year 2014 through submission of their country report on economic performance of their respective country in 2014.</p>
12.	Para 271	<p>The Council appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan and EcoMod for their contribution to organizing the First Training Course on “Practical CGE Modeling with GAMS for ECO Member States” held on 21-25</p>	<p>The Secretariat through its note No. PERS/Workshop/2015/437 dated 26 March 2015 has communicated with Kyrgyz Republic for providing the exact date and details of hospitality for</p>

		<p>April 2014 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The council expressed its satisfaction for initiating the capacity building on Economic Management Modelling in the region by the Secretariat and encouraged Member States for active participation in such productive training programme that benefit the economic research institutions of the region on development of knowledge on Economic Modeling. The Council welcomed the offer of Kyrgyz Republic for hosting the 2nd training course on Economic Modeling for ECO Member States in August 2015 which is included in the ECO Calendar of Events for 2015-2016.</p>	<p>conducting the 2nd training course on Economic Modeling for ECO Member States in 2015 in Kyrgyz Republic.</p>
13.	Para 272	<p>The Council noted with satisfaction the Report of the 2nd Meeting of Editorial Board of ECO Economic Journal, held on 26 April 2014 in Baku and appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting this event. The Council also welcomed the compilation of the 5th issue of ECO Economic Journal that was prepared in close cooperation with Member States by submission of analytical papers/articles/reviews pertaining to regional socio-economic development. The issue will be presented to the 3rd Meeting of the Editorial Board of ECO Economic Journal, to be hosted by the Republic of Turkey in December 2015 whereas the 4th Meeting of the Board will be held in Tajikistan in 2016. The Council was briefed on biannual publication of ECO Economic Journal in the coming year and requested Member States to support the Journal with submission of analytical papers/articles/abstracts related to key socio-economic development of the Region.</p>	<p>The Secretariat should make necessary arrangements, in collaboration with the relevant authorities of the Republic of Turkey, for organizing the 3rd Meeting of the Editorial Board of ECO Economic Journal that is scheduled to be convened in December 2015 in Turkey.</p>
14.	Para 273	<p>The Council appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the 2nd Forum of ECO Economic Think Tanks, held on 1-3 October 2014 in Baku with active participation of the ECO Member States in which deliberated the issues relating to economic strategy</p>	<p>The Secretariat should make necessary coordination with relevant authorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan for conducting the 3rd Forum of ECO Economic Think Tanks in 2015.</p>

		and policies for sustainable economic development of the region. The Council also noted with satisfaction the outcomes of the 2 nd International conference on “Energy, Regional Integration and Socio-economic Development” held on the sidelines of the Forum that considered analytical papers/abstracts/reviews concerning the theme of the Forum. The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Kazakhstan for considering to host the 3 rd Forum of ECO Economic Think Tanks in 2015 and encouraged Member States to actively participate in the event.	
15.	Para 274	The Council was briefed by the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the basic formalities for operationalization of newly established ECO Research Centre in Baku and attached great importance to the functioning of the Centre as the ECO Economic Think Tank of the Region. The Council was informed by the Secretariat that the Basic document (Strategy) of the ECO Research Centre, submitted by the Republic of Azerbaijan, was circulated to the Member States on 9 February 2015 for their consideration and feedback. The Council reiterated the contribution of Member States on shaping this regional Centre through provision of their feedback and requested Member States to provide their views/comments/proposals on the basic document of the Centre for consideration by host country of the Centre, latest by the end of April 2015.” The Council also requested the Member States to sign/ratify the Charter of the ECO Research Centre for its early operationalization.	The Secretariat through its note No. PERS/ERC/2015/421 dated 25 March 2015 has reminded Member States to provide their feedback on the documents of the ECO Research Centre that has already been forwarded by the Secretariat to them. Deadline for feedback of Member States was set as end of April 2015. The Secretariat also through another note No. PERS/ERC/2015/422 dated 25 March 2015 has forwarded the basic documents of two ECO related bodies to the Republic of Azerbaijan for re-drafting the basic documents of the ECO Research Centre.
16.	Para 275	Welcoming the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Council requested the Secretariat to update the Roaster of Leading Economic Research Institutions/Experts in consultation with the Economic Think-Tanks of ECO Member States.	In line with the approval of the 25 th RPC Meeting, the Secretariat through its note No. PERS/ER/2015/438 dated 26 March 2015 forwarded the format of Roster of Leading Economic Research Institutions/Experts to Member States to be filled in by the ECO Economic Think Tanks and submitted to the Secretariat.
Statistics			

17.	Para 276	<p>The Council welcomed the proposal of the delegation of Turkey for hosting two ECO statistical events possibly back-to-back in 2016 in Turkey, including the Meeting of the Heads of ECO National Offices and High Level Expert Group Meeting on Statistics. Acknowledging the importance for holding the 4th Meeting of the Heads of ECO National Statistical Officers in 2015, the Council requested the interested Member States to host the subject meeting, which was not convened since 2011. In the same line, the Council also requested Member States to pay more attention for regular holding of the meetings of High Level Expert Group on Statistics, especially the 6th Meeting which was not held since 2013.</p>	<p>With hosting the 5th Meeting of the Heads of ECO National Statistical Officers in 2016 by the Republic of Turkey and due to importance of holding the 4th HNSOM in 2015, the Secretariat is consulting with other Member States for possible hosting of the 4th HNSOM in 2015 by them.</p>
18.	Para 277	<p>The Council expressed its appreciation to the Statistical Centre of Iran for its continuous support in provision of regular updates for ECO Statistical Network (ECOSTAT). While appreciating the Member States namely Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey for submission of their completed Compendium 2013 to the Secretariat, the Council strongly urged the remaining Member States to provide the requisite data for Compendium 2013 at the earliest possible for dissemination to the ECOSTAT. The Council also urged the Member States to cooperate with the Secretariat actively to provide their filled-in Compendium 2014 in order to enable the Secretariat to make updates on the ECOSTAT for new data of 2014.</p>	<p>To follow the matter, the Secretariat through its note No. PERS/Compendium/2015/425 dated 26 March 2015 forwarded another reminder to Member States that have not provided their completed compendium for 2013 (Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) to do so at the earliest. Through this note, the Secretariat also forwarded the original Compendium files for 2014 to Member States and requested them for filling in the Compendium with data for 2014 to be disseminated on the ECOSAT.</p>
19.	Para 278	<p>The Council appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat for compilation of the ECO Key Statistical Indicators (ECOKSI) 2013, prepared on the information provided by the Member States, for disseminating the updated ECOKSI on the ECOSTAT. The Council requested those Member States, who yet to provide their requisite data for 2013, to do so at the earliest for filling-up the missing data in ECOKSI 2013. It also urged the Member States to provide the Secretariat</p>	<p>Upon receipt of new data for 2013 and 2014 from the Member States, the Secretariat should update the ECO Key Statistical Indicators (ECOKSI) and disseminate it on the ECOSTAT.</p>

		with the new statistical data for 2014, required for compilation of updated ECOKSI 2014 for disseminating on the ECOSTAT by the Secretariat.	
20.	Para 279	The Council appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat for publication of the new Statistical Report under the title of “ECO Trade” and its publication on the ECOSTAT. The Council noted that two statistical reports including “ECO Population” and “ECO Economy” have already been compiled and published on the ECOSTAT in 2013. The Council requested the Secretariat to continue its work for compilation and publication of such informative statistical report for development of statistical information and publications of the Organization.	In continuation of compilation of statistical publications, the PERS Directorate has worked out and compiled the new statistical publication titled “ECO Statistical Review 2015” that consists of the last updated data for demography, economy and foreign trade of ECO Member States that will be posted on the ECOSTAT.
21.	Para 280	The Council appreciated the PERS Directorate for sustained efforts in implementation of the statistical capacity building programme for the Member States in 2014. The Council appreciated the generous contributions from the international partners for co-organizing the training workshops. The Council also expressed its thanks to the Member States for active participation in the training workshops/courses and requested them to provide their statistical needs for development of statistical training programme to the Secretariat. The Council welcomed the proposal of the Statistical Centre of Iran for hosting a Regional Training Workshop in September/October 2015 in Tehran. The topic of the training workshop will be identified jointly by the co-organizers of the events based on the statistical training needs of the Member States.	In line with implementation of ECO Calendar of Events for 2015/2016, the Secretariat has already initiated to communicate with Member States and international partners for organizing statistical trainings for the ECO National Statistical Offices.
22.	Para 281	Acknowledging the continuous support by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Council expressed its satisfaction for the report of the “Regional Training on Statistical Methods and Information System Technologies for Implementing CountrySTAT in the ECO Countries” for ECO Member States which was held within 10-13	The CountrySTAT system of Afghanistan was launched officially on 11 March 2015 in official ceremony in the Central Statistics Organization of Afghanistan in Kabul. The Secretariat is working jointly with the FAO for organizing a workshop on “CountrySTAT for the ECO Countries: Stocktaking and Lessons Learnt” with participation of ECO

		November 2014 at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran. It was also informed that the training workshop was a component of the ECO-FAO joint project on "Support for the Implementation and Development of the CountryStat Framework in the ECO Countries" which has been implemented, in the first step, in Afghanistan as the pilot country. With completion of the first phase of this project, ECO and FAO are jointly working for continuation of implementing the CountrySTAT project in the other countries of the Region.	Member States and international donors in June 2015 in Rome to prepare for continuation of implementation of CountrySTAT in other countries of the region.
23.	Para 282	The Council acknowledged the continuous support of the Statistical Centre of Iran and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) for conducting the regional training workshop on "Compilation of Quarterly National Accounts for ECO Member States" on 8-11 March 2015 in Tehran. The Council was informed that the main objective of this regional workshop is to provide the trainees with the knowledge and expertise on compilation of Quarterly National Accounts which provide a set of key economic indicators in short term basis at national level for decision-making authorities, economists and economic research institutions. The UNSD will provide training documents and materials whereas the Statistical Centre of Iran will host the event and provide local hospitality and facilities to participants.	The regional training workshop on "Compilation of Quarterly National Accounts for ECO Member States" was successfully conducted on 8-11 March 2015 in Tehran, hosted by the Statistical Centre of Iran. Report of this workshop was circulated to Member States through note No. PERS/Workshop/2015/371 dated 17 March 2015.
24.	Para 283	Referring to the Terms of Reference for Harmonization of Regional Statistical Methodology, adopted by the 5 th High Level Expert Group Meeting on Statistics (December 2012, Ankara), the Council was informed that the first Meeting of the Committee on Regional Harmonized Statistical Methodology (CRHSM) is included in the PERS Calendar of Events for 2015-2016. With regard to importance of this event for initiating the process for establishment of harmonized statistical system in the region, the Council requested the Member States to offer for	The Secretariat should continue to consult with Member States for hosting the first Meeting of the Committee on Regional Harmonized Statistical Methodology (CRHSM) in 2015 which is included in the ECO Calendar of Events for 2015/2016.

		hosting the said event in 2015 and to provide Metadata along with completion of annual Compendium to the Secretariat.	
25.	Para 284	Considering the continuous efforts of PERS Directorate in seeking technical and financial assistance from regional and international organizations, the Council expressed its satisfaction for constructive cooperation of PERS Directorate with the UNSD, FAO, SESRIC, IRTI and EcoMod for implementation of capacity building programme of the Organization by conducting several training workshops for Member States in 2014. Keeping in view, the Council further encouraged the Secretariat to continue its efforts for development of knowledge, expertise and proficiency in the region in close cooperation with regional and international organizations including the UN bodies.	The Secretariat is making necessary coordination for implementation of capacity building programme for ECO Member States through communication and consultation with regional and international partners.

F. HUMAN RESOURCES & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
1.	Para 285	The Council reiterated the strong need for regional cooperation to improve the human centered development. The Council further requested the ECO Secretariat to give special focus in the ECO Vision 2016-2025 to human development and its associated sectors and areas as well as disaster risk reduction.	ECO Secretariat will ensure proper follow-up to this Council request when ECO Vision is drafted.
Health and Human Development			
2.	Para 286	The Council requested the Member States to enhance cooperation in capacity-building activities, as well as sharing experiences, best practices and knowledge on human development in ECO Region.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/HDR/2015/626 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the enhancement of cooperation on human development. Responses from Member States are awaited.
3.	Para 287	The Council requested the Member States to offer new topics and specific activities for cooperation in the field of human development and positively consider hosting the training programmes, workshops, experts group meetings and study tours	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/HDR/2015/626 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue and requested the interested Member States to host events in this field. Responses from Member States are awaited.

		in HD priority areas, including health, in 2015/2016.	Secretariat will also seek assistance from relevant UN and other agencies.
4.	Para 288	The Council appreciated the offer of the Republic of Turkey to share its experience within the framework of COMCEC regarding new project implementation mechanism, including in human development.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/HDR/2015/625 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue. The Secretariat will be in contact with the concerned Turkish authorities for details information.
5.	Para 289	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat efforts regarding the cooperation with international and regional organizations and called on the Secretariat to approach the relevant regional and international organizations, including IDB, UNESCAP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNICEF and WHO for their support for preparation and implementation of the projects on human development.	The Secretariat followed up this subject with relevant UN Agencies including UNFPA, UNESCAP and WHO for their support. The ECO Secretariat would also utilize opportunity of holding the 2 nd ECO Health Ministerial Meeting on the sidelines of 68 th world Health Assembly in Geneva for establishing relations with WHO Secretariat. The Secretariat will also seek cooperation with other concerned organizations.
6.	Para 290	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the "3 rd ECO High Level Experts Group Meeting on Health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Post MDGs era" (21-22 January 2015) and requested the other Member States to consider hosting the 4 th ECO High Level Experts Group Meeting on Post MDGs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Council also requested the Member States to implement the recommendations of the 3 rd ECO High Level Experts Group Meeting.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/HDR/2015/624 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue. Responses from Member States are awaited. The implementation of the recommendations of the 3 rd ECO High Level Experts Group Meeting will also be ensured in the process of implementation of the decisions of the 2 nd ECO Health Ministerial Meeting on the sidelines of 68 th world Health Assembly in Geneva.
7.	Para 291	The Council welcomed the renewed offer by Republic of Turkey to host the 2 nd Meeting of the ECO Heads of National Organizations/Centers for Civil Registration in September/October 2015.	Secretariat will ensure through coordination with the host country a well prepared Meeting. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting will also be prepared by the Secretariat covering issues of interest to all Member States building on the outcomes of the first Meeting of the ECO Heads of National Organizations/Centers for Civil Registration.
8.	Para 292	The Council requested the Member States to provide the Secretariat with the web-addresses (English version) of their relevant main State HRD bodies in order to link them with the Human Resource	ECO Secretariat will continue to upgrade its webpage on human resource development with a view to making it more attractive to Member States.

		Development webpage in the official website of the ECO Secretariat.	
9.	Para 293	The Council requested the Member States to introduce/regularly update the information of their focal points on health related MDGs, civil registration and human development.	ECO Secretariat would regularly communicate this request to the Member States.
10.	Para 294	The Council requested the Member States to strengthen cooperation in health area and accord priority to health in the larger scheme of regional cooperation within ECO and to propose holding events/conferences/seminars/workshops on health issues in 2015/16.	This overall objective would be pursued in the light of implementation of the decisions of the second ECO Ministerial Meeting on Health, including through drafting the ECO Plan of Action on Health.
11.	Para 295	The Council welcomed the recommendation of the "3 rd ECO High Level Experts Group Meeting on Health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Post MDGs era" for organizing the Second ECO Ministerial meeting on Health on the sidelines of upcoming World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 2015. The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to make necessary coordination with the Member States and the WHO organizers to make proposed ECO event a success.	ECO Secretariat would organize the Meeting in Geneva through coordination with WHO and the Islamic Republic of Iran (host country).
12.	Para 296	The Council requested the Member States to convey their views and inputs on the proposed outline for "Plan of Action on Health Cooperation in ECO Region" by the end of March 2015 for further discussions, including in the Second ECO Health Ministerial Meeting on the sidelines of upcoming World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 2015.	ECO Secretariat through different notes verbale (rested with the note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/550 dated 16 April 2015). Turkey submitted its inputs on outline for "Plan of Action on Health Cooperation in ECO Region". The Outline, as finally approved by the ECO Ministerial Meeting on Health in Geneva, would make the basis for drafting the Plan of Action.
13.	Para 297	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the High Level Experts Group Meeting on Human Resource in Health (HRH) in 2015 in Tehran. The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to prepare, in coordination with the host authorities, the proposed agenda and programme of the Meeting for consideration by the Member States.	The Secretariat will be in contact with the concerned Iranian authorities for exact date and details information regarding the Meeting.
14.	Para 298	The Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No.

		Republic of Iran to submit a project proposal on HIV in the ECO Region. The Council requested the concerned Iranian authorities to convey more information about the proposed project as well as financial resources for its implementation for further consideration by Member States.	HRSD/Health/2015/565 dated 20 April 2015 followed up the issue. The Secretariat is in contact with the concerned Iranian authorities for comprehensive information about the proposed project on HIV including on the financial resources for its implementation.
15.	Para 299	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the High Level Experts Group Meeting on International Health Regulations (IHR) in 2015 in Tehran. The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to prepare, in coordination with the host authorities, the proposed agenda and programme of the Meeting for consideration by the Member States.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/564 dated 20 April 2015 followed up the issue. The Secretariat is in contact with the concerned Iranian authorities for exact date and details information regarding the Meeting.
16.	Para 300	The Council appreciated Republic of Turkey for hosting the workshop on "Drug Registration and Licensing, Counterfeit Medicines and Good Manufacturing Practices" on 8-9 May 2014 in Ankara. The Council also welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the workshop on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in 2015 in Tehran.	The Secretariat is in contact with the concerned Iranian authorities for exact date and details information regarding the Meeting.
17.	Para 301	The Council recognized the usefulness of organizing study tours for health authorities of the Member States and invited the interested Member States to host similar tours in 2015/16.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/621 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue and requested the interested Member States to host study tours in health related issues. Secretariat needs to elaborate on a unified format of study tours.
18.	Para 302	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing academic scholarships in Master of Public Health in 2014 and requested the Member States to exchange academic scholarship in health related areas.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/619 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue and requested the interested Member States to exchange of academic scholarships in health related areas.
19.	Para 303	The Council requested the Member States to implement the recommendations of the 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads/Authorities of Blood Transfusion Organizations (14-15 February 2013-Baku), including to host training courses/workshops, seminars on the	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/620 dated 23 April 2015 followed up the issue and requested the interested Member States to host training courses/workshops, seminars on the blood priority areas.

		blood priority areas.	
20.	Para 304	The Council welcomed the offer by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the 4 th Meeting of the ECO Heads/Authorities of Blood Transfusion Organizations in Islamabad in October 2015 and requested the ECO Secretariat to prepare, in coordination with the host authorities, the draft agenda and programme of the Meeting for consideration of the Member States.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/562 dated 20 April 2015 followed up the issue. The Secretariat is in contact with the concerned Pakistani authorities for exact date and details information regarding the Meeting.
21.	Para 305	The Council requested the Member States to nominate designated accredited representatives to be granted access to the Blood Safety Network.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/Health/2015/657 dated 27 April 2015 followed up the issue.
22.	Para 306	The Council requested the Member States to provide the Secretariat with the information on their pharmaceutical websites (English version) in order to link them with the Pharmaceutical webpage in the ECO official website (www.ecosecretariat.org/pharmaceutical).	ECO Secretariat will upgrade its webpage on pharmaceutical with a view to make it more functional and attractive.
23.	Para 307	The Council requested the Member States to introduce/regularly update the information of their focal points on drug (pharmaceutical) and blood transfusion cooperation.	ECO Secretariat would regularly communicate this request to the Member States.
<u>Disaster Risk Management</u>			
24.	Para 308	The Council requested the Member States to strengthen cooperation on disasters management involving all stakeholders including local communities, non-governmental organizations and private enterprises, and to propose holding events/conferences/seminars/ workshops on disaster risk reduction issues in 2015/16.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/DRM/2015/659 dated 27 April 2015 followed up the issue and requested the interested Member States to host training courses/workshops, seminars on Disaster Risk Management areas. Secretariat may also seek possible assistance from relevant outside organizations in this regard.
25.	Para 309	The Council requested the Member States for regular dissemination among themselves of information on their activities and regulations on disaster risk reduction through ECO Secretariat.	ECO Secretariat through note verbale No. HRSD/DRM/2015/650 dated 27 April 2015 has already followed up the issue and requested the Member States to disseminate among themselves information on their activities and regulations on disaster risk reduction through ECO Secretariat.
26.	Para 310	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat efforts regarding the cooperation with international and	The ECO Secretary General on 17 March 2015, had a very fruitful meeting with Ms. Margareta Wahlström,

		<p>regional organizations and requested ECO Secretariat to continue cooperation on disaster risk management with relevant international and regional organizations, particularly UN-ISDR, UN/OCHA, UN-HABITAT, UNDP, UNESCAP and APDIM for their technical and financial support.</p>	<p>the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) on the sidelines of the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (14-18 March 2015) in Sendai, Japan. Both sides discussed about enhanced UNISDR and ECO cooperation for the period to come, particularly in implementation of the Sendai outcomes.</p> <p>ECO Secretary General also attended the Asian Ministerial Roundtable on 16 March 2015 where ministers from India, Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, Kazakhstan, China and officials from Asian regional organizations including ECO, SAARC and ASEAN exchanged views on the Asian approach to disaster risk reduction in the Post Sendai era.</p> <p>ECO and Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) also reviewed possible cooperation on the sidelines of Sendai Conference.</p> <p>ECO Deputy Secretary General will also participate in International Seminar on Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Tehran on 4-7 May 2015.</p>
27.	Para 311	<p>The Council took note of the offer of ECO Secretariat for organizing a side meeting/event on the sidelines of the "Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction" scheduled to be held on 14-18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan and requested the Member States to participate actively in above meeting/event which will consider possible regional strategy/approach to disaster risk reduction.</p>	<p>The "ECO Ministerial Lunch" was held on 15 March 2015 on the sidelines of the "Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction" in Sendai, Japan under hospitality of Republic of Turkey. Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations from Republic of Azerbaijan; Minister of Emergency Situations and from Kyrgyz Republic; Special Assistant to Prime Minister from Pakistan; Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey (host) and ECO Secretary General participated in the ECO Lunch.</p>
28.	Para 312	<p>The Council appreciated Republic of Azerbaijan for holding the "7th ECO International Conference on Disaster Risk Management" in Gabala on 4-5 June 2014 and welcomed the offer by Republic of Turkey to host the "8th ECO International Conference on Disaster Risk Management" in September 2015. The</p>	<p>The Secretariat is in contact with the concerned Turkish authorities for details information. Secretariat will soon develop draft agenda for the Meeting keeping in view the immediate needs of the Region, particularly a post Sendai regional implementation plan.</p>

		Council called on the Member States to actively participate in the Conference.	
29.	Para 313	The Council appreciated the invitation by the Islamic Republic of Iran extended to the Member States to participate in the "International Exhibition and Conference on Safety, Security and Disaster Management in Natural Disasters" scheduled for May 2015 and requested the concerned Iranian authorities to convey more information to the Secretariat.	ECO Secretariat has already followed up the issue in contact with the concerned Iranian authorities for details information of the event through telephone.
30.	Para 314	The Council requested the Member States to nominate/regularly update the information regarding their related focal points on disaster risk management cooperation.	ECO Secretariat would regularly communicate this request to the Member States.
31.	Para 315	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to enhance its institutional capacities to support regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction. The Council also requested the ECO-RCRM to actively contribute to the regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction.	Secretariat enhanced capacity in disaster issues will be part of any institutional changes in the reform process. ECO-RCRM will also be approached for enhanced role to play in the Region.
32.	Para 316	The Council requested the Member States to provide the Secretariat with the information on the websites (English version) of their disaster risk management bodies in order to link them with the webpage of Disaster Risk Management in the official website of the ECO Secretariat. (http://www.ecosecretariat.org/DRM)	ECO Secretariat will upgrade its webpage of Disaster Risk Management.

G. DRUG & ORGANIZED CRIME COORDINATION

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
1.	Para 317	The Council acknowledged the need for strong support by ECO Member States for ECO activities in addressing the menace of drugs and organized crimes in the Region.	-
2.	Para 318	The Council also acknowledged the need for regional networking among relevant anti drugs and crimes bodies/authorities of the Member States and	Online Secure system for sharing of information between DLOs is in place. The member states may be encouraged to make use of it and to share their

		requested the Member States to actively contribute to existing networks such as Drug Liaison Officers (DLOs), including through timely exchange of information and submission of statistics, as well as active participation in the relevant meetings.	information through it. The invitation letter for DLOs meeting will be issued in due course of time.
3.	Para 319	The Council requested Member States to expedite nomination/update of their National Focal Points on drugs; terrorism; transnational organized crime; and human trafficking; as well as liaison officers for police cooperation; and anti corruption agencies.	The Secretariat is in contact with the Member states to nominate/update their National Focal Points on drugs; terrorism; transnational organized crime; and human trafficking; as well as liaison officers for police cooperation; and anti-corruption agencies. Secretariat has issued a Note Verbale No. DOCCU/NFP/2015/449 dated 30th March, 2015 for following-up the subject.
4.	Para 320	The Council authorized the ECO Secretariat, in the absence of an interested Member State, to host the first Drug Liaison Officers (DLOs) Meeting and the 2 nd Meeting of the National Focal Points on Drug Control Matters on 9-10 September 2015. The Republic of Azerbaijan will also consider possibility of hosting the 2 nd DLOs Meeting in 2016.	A note verbale in this regard will be issued in due course of time. Accordingly, the preparatory work will begin.
5.	Para 321	Considering the importance of ECOPOL for effective fight against trans-boundary crimes in the Region, the Council reauthorized the ECO Secretariat to host the 2 nd Experts Group Meeting (EGM) in July 2015 for finalizing necessary formalities/documents for establishment of ECOPOL, and requested the interested Member States to actively participate in the Meeting. Given the ongoing reform process within the ECO, the Republic of Azerbaijan also reiterated its request to the ECO Secretariat to prepare an updated background paper about ECOPOL.	Secretariat has sent a Note Verbale No. DOCCU/ECOPOL/2015/446 dated 30th March, 2015 to follow-up the subject. The Secretariat is preparing a background paper for “2 nd Experts Group Meeting for Finalizing Necessary Documents/Formalities for Establishment of ECOPOL” scheduled to be held on 28-29 July 2015. The paper will be circulated to all member states.
6.	Para 322	Recalling that the Statute of the ECO Regional Centre for Cooperation of Anti Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO) has been signed by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Tajikistan, the Council	Vide Note Verbale No. DOCCU/RCCACO/2015/450 of 30 th March 2015, requested the signatory countries (Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Tajikistan) to ratify and other interested Member States to sign

		requested these countries to ratify other interested Member States to sign/ratify the Statute so that the RCCACO could start functioning.	and ratify the Statute of the ECO Regional Centre for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO).
7.	Para 323	The Council was informed by the Secretariat about the preparatory process of the "Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on World Drug Problem in 2016". Given the importance of UN event, the Council mandated the Secretariat to explore possible ECO contribution, including through regional preparatory meeting/sideline events.	The matter can be discussed on the sidelines of DLOs meeting. Necessary NV will be issued in due course of time.
8.	Para 324	The Council recalled that due to absence of interested host countries, some important meetings, such as 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads of Anti Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen; 2 nd Meeting of ECO Chiefs of Police and 2 nd Meeting of ECO Attorneys/ Prosecutors General are still pending. The Council requested the interested Member States to seriously consider hosting these meetings. The Council also requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to formally convey to the Secretariat the exact dates for hosting the 4 th Meeting of ECO Interior Ministers and the 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Interpol.	Due to importance of police and judicial cooperation among the member states, the secretariat requested the interested member states to convey their willingness to host the following important meetings to the secretariat before next RPC: 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen; 2 nd Meeting of ECO Chiefs of Police and 2 nd Meeting of ECO Attorneys/ Prosecutors General. Secretariat has sent a Note Verbale No. DOCCU/follow-up RPC/2015/453 dated 30 th March, 2015 to follow-up the subject. Note Verbale No. DOCCU/4 th IMM- 2 nd Interpol/2015/447 of 30 th March 2015, has been sent requesting the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to convey to the secretariat the information about exact date, hospitality arrangement and contact information of the focal points for 4 th Interior Ministers Meeting and 2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Interpol at the earliest.
9.	Para 325	The Council welcomed the renewed offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an Experts Group Meeting for preparation of an ECO Plan of Action on Terrorism in August 2015. The Council further requested the Iranian relevant authorities to submit for the consideration of Member States the proposed	Secretariat is in contact with the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and they have informed the Secretariat that they are preparing the draft plan of action on terrorism and which will be sent to the Secretariat at the earliest.

		Draft Plan of Action to the Secretariat by the end of June, 2015.	
10.	Para 326	The Council welcomed the DOCCU proposal for expanding training and capacity building programmes for the experts/officials of the relevant Member States utilizing the training facilities/trainers from within the Region. Accordingly, the ECO Secretariat will prepare a roster list of institutions and trainers nominated by the interested Member States.	ECO Secretariat requested the Member States to provide the list of national training institutions/ facilities as well as the name of professional trainers in field of drugs and transnational organized crime via Note Verbale No. DOCCU/ Capacity Building prog/2015/451 dated 30 th March 2015. Secretariat will prepare Roster based on the information received from the Member States.
11.	Para 327	The Council also welcomed the training courses offered by the Islamic Republic of Iran, namely, training course on “Crisis Management” on 18-20 May 2015; and training workshop on “Best Practices on Drug Demand Reduction” in June 2015. The Council requested the organizing authorities to convey to the Secretariat the proposed training syllabi and tentative programmes of the courses/workshops.	Secretariat has issued two Note Verbales No. DOCCU/Crisis M/2015/445 and No. DOCCU/Best Practices/ 2015/ 448 dated 30 th March 2015, for following- up the subject matters.
12.	Para 328	The Council was informed about meetings/events organized/co-organized by DOCCU since last RPC, including workshops on “Countering Cybercrime”; “Identifying Legal and Operational Obstacles for Regional Cooperation in the Fight against Trafficking”; “Drug Interdiction at Airports”; as well as "Regional Training on Legal Migration, Labour Migration and Integration"; “briefing for Tehran-based diplomatic corps on EU-funded Project on fight against trafficking from/to Afghanistan” and closing conference of the EU-funded Project. The Council appreciated DOCCU and its partners, namely, the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC), Interpol of Iran, UNODC, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), GIZ and EU for co-organizing/financing above events.	Secretariat, and Member States, need to ensure that the existing momentum will remain and will be further enhanced for such activities.

H. ECO REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS/SPECIALIZED AGENCIES/AFFILIATED BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
a) <u>Intra-Regional ECO Activities</u>			
i. <u>ECO Specialized Agencies/Regional Institutions/Affiliated Bodies</u>			
1.	Para 329	The Council took note of the outcomes of the meeting of the ECO Secretary General with Heads of delegation on the reforming process of ECO and recommended to the Member States to consider every initiative on establishment of new bodies and upgrading the status of already existing ones in line with the reform process.	The Secretariat in coordination with the Member States to ensure implementation of this decision.
2.	Para 330	In order to support the broad objectives of the Organization, especially in the fields of science, culture and education, the Council encouraged the ECO Specialized Agencies to synergize their activities to promote cooperation in the relevant areas.	The ECO Specialized Agencies, specifically ECI, ECOSF and ECOEI to take necessary actions in this regard.
3.	Para 331	Taking note of the proposal made by the Republic of Turkey, the Council requested the ECO Science Foundation and the ECO Educational Institute to develop and work on innovation-based initiatives that can result in practical benefits for the Member States.	The ECO Science Foundation and the ECO Educational Institute to develop and initiate work on the initiatives.
4.	Para 332	The Council encouraged the Member States to join the ECO Specialized Agencies/Regional Institutions/Affiliated Bodies and Centres and support their activities in different areas.	The Member States to take necessary actions in the light of the decision.
5.	Para 333	The Council encouraged the Secretariat to facilitate and assist the Specialized Agencies in developing cooperation with the relevant regional and international organizations in the Educational, Scientific and Cultural fields, specifically UNESCO, within the framework of the MoU signed between the ECO and UNESCO.	The Secretariat, in collaboration with the Specialized Agencies, to take necessary measures in this regard.
<u>ECO Cultural Institute (ECI)</u>			
6.	Para 334	The Council appreciated the Institute for organizing	The ECI to take necessary actions in the light of this

		a broad range of events and activities in the fields of culture, literature and arts aimed at promoting greater cooperation among the Member States in these areas. The Council encouraged the Institute to further expand the cooperation in the relevant fields for realizing the core objectives of ECI.	decision.
7.	Para 335	Noting that the 6 th Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the ECI is being held in Khojand, Tajikistan on 21 March 2015, preceded by the High Level Experts Group Meeting on 20 March 2015, the Council encouraged the ECI Member States to actively participate in the BoT Meeting.	The 6 th Meeting of Board of Trustees (BoT) of the ECI was held in Khujand, Tajikistan on 22 March 2015 preceded by the 5 th High Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meeting on 21 March 2015. The meeting was attended by the delegations of the four ECI Member States i.e. Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan.
8.	Para 336	Taking note of the successful holding of the first ECO Poetry Night, the Council encouraged the Member States to organize the second ECO Poetry night in the region in collaboration with ECI.	The Member States in collaboration with the ECI to organize the second ECO Poetry night in the region.
9.	Para 337	The Council appreciated the Institute for holding the First ECO Chess Tournament which was attended by players from all ECO Member States and created awareness about the activities of ECI in the region. The Council encouraged the Member States to consider holding similar sports events in collaboration with the ECI in the coming period.	The Member States to consider organizing sporting events in collaboration with the ECI.
10.	Para 338	The Council asked the ECO Member States that have not yet joined the Institute to ratify the ECI's Charter and support its initiatives for promoting the rich cultural heritage of the Region.	The concerned Member States to take necessary actions in this regard.
11.	Para 339	The Council appreciated the announcement made by the Republic of Turkey that it has initiated the procedure for ratification of the ECI Charter and expressed the hope that the procedure would be completed at an early time.	No Action. The ECI may follow-up the case with the Republic of Turkey.
12.	Para 340	The Council appreciated the nomination of national focal points to the Institute by Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan and requested the other ECO Member States to nominate their Focal Points. The Council expressed the hope that this would help in ensuring effective coordination between the ECI and	The concerned Member States to take necessary measures in this regard. The ECI may follow-up on the matter.

		Member States in relevant matters.	
13.	Para 341	The Council asked the Member States to consider extending necessary support to ECI in holding cultural weeks and other events for creating awareness about ECO region and its culture.	The Member States to take necessary actions in collaboration with the ECI. The ECI may prepare a detailed proposal for holding the cultural weeks and follow-up with the Member States.
14.	Para 342	The Council appreciated the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing extra-budgetary contribution for the year 2014 and supporting the initiatives of the Institute through the relevant cultural institutions. The Council encouraged the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue its support for ECI and to favourably consider the issue of the ECI premises.	The concerned Member State to take necessary actions in this regard.
15.	Para 343	The Council appreciated the Tehran Municipality for offering its assistance for the construction of ECO Park in Tehran. Noting that the Tehran Municipality has expressed its readiness to celebrate events in the fields of culture and arts in order to increase public awareness about the Institute and its Member States, the Council requested the Member States to provide proposals to showcase their national and cultural heritage at the ECO Park. The Council encouraged the ECI to follow-up the matter with the relevant authorities of the Member States.	The Member States to provide proposals to showcase their national and cultural heritage at the ECO Park. The ECI to convey information about the proposals to the Member States; and follow-up the matter with the relevant authorities of the Member States.
16.	Para 344	Keeping in view the financial problems being faced by the ECI, the Council requested the Member States to pay their annual budgetary contributions to the Institute as per the agreed scale of assessment. The Council also expressed the hope that the outstanding financial and budgetary problems of the Institute would be discussed and resolved in the upcoming BoT meeting of ECI, scheduled to take place later this year.	The concerned Member States to take actions in the light of this decision.
ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)			
17.	Para 345	The Council appreciated the activities and initiatives of the Foundation for developing and promoting cooperation among the Member States in the field of science and technology and for the promotion of	-

		scientific research in the region. The Council also appreciated the Annual Report published by the ECOSF for 2014.	
18.	Para 346	The Council appreciated the ratification of the ECOSF Charter by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the announcement made by the Republic of Turkey concerning the initiation of the ratification process. The Council also requested the Member States that have not ratified the ECOSF Charter to do so at their earliest convenience.	The concerned Member States to take necessary actions for ratification of the ECOSF Charter.
19.	Para 347	The Council appreciated the payment of annual mandatory contributions made so far by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan to the ECOSF. The Council also requested the remaining concerned Member States to make their contributions at the earliest. The Council further requested the ECOSF to present its financial report for the period 2013-14.	The concerned Member States to make their contributions to the Foundation. The ECOSF to prepare and share its financial report for the period 2013-14.
20.	Para 348	The Council requested the Member States to fulfill their pledges towards the 'Science and Technology Fund' in order to support research projects in relevant areas.	The concerned Member States to take necessary actions in this respect.
21.	Para 349	The Council requested the member states to nominate their focal points in order to facilitate coordination between the Foundation and the Member States on relevant issues. The Council also asked the concerned Member States to nominate their eminent scientists for the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of ECOSF, who will formulate the future Action Plan of the Foundation for the coming period.	The concerned Member States to nominate their focal points eminent scientists for the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of ECOSF. The ECOSF to follow-up on the matter with the Member States.
22.	Para 350	As informed by the ECOSF, the draft host country agreement, to be concluded by the ECOSF and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, has been sent to the relevant authorities in Pakistan. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to expedite the finalization and conclusion of the Agreement.	The concerned Member State to take necessary action in this regard. The ECOSF to follow-up the issue with the Member State.
23.	Para 351	Noting that the 2 nd BoT meeting of the ECOSF has	The ECOSF to convey new dates for holding the 2 nd

		twice been postponed due to lack of quorum, the Council asked the ECOSF to convey new dates for holding the BoT meeting, preceded by the Executive Committee meeting. The Council also requested the Member States to confirm their participation in the 2 nd BoT meeting when the new dates are announced by the ECOSF.	BoT meeting.
24.	Para 352	The Council appreciated the efforts of the ECOSF to hold regular consultations with the Ambassadors/Permanent Representatives of the Member States based in Islamabad to discuss issues of importance. The Council also asked the Secretariat to assist the Foundation in devising a mechanism for holding such consultations.	The Secretariat in collaboration with the ECOSF to devise a mechanism for holding regular consultations with the Ambassadors/Permanent Representatives of the Member States based in Islamabad.
25.	Para 353	The Council requested the Host Country to expedite the allocation of the appropriate premises to the ECOSF.	The concerned Member State to take necessary action in this respect.
ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI)			
26.	Para 354	The Council welcomed the ratification of the Charter of the Institute by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and requested the non-ratifying members to ratify/accede to its Charter to further promote cooperation in the field of education.	The concerned Member States to take necessary actions for the ratification/accession of the Charter. The ECOEI to follow-up on the matter.
27.	Para 355	The Council requested the concerned Member States to pay their mandatory contributions for the period 2012-14 and asked the ECOEI to actively follow-up on the matter.	The concerned Member States to take necessary actions. The ECOEI to follow-up on the matter.
28.	Para 356	In line with the recommendations of the 22 nd and 23 rd RPC Meetings, the Council proposed the establishment of an ECO Educational Trust Fund with voluntary contributions (cash and/or kind) of the Member States. This Fund would be in line with Article VII of the Charter and would support the Institute to finance its programmes for educational development. The Council also asked the Institute to prepare and finalize the Draft Terms of Reference for the Fund which would be shared with the Member	The ECOEI to prepare and share the Draft Terms of Reference for the Fund for views of the Member States.

		States for their views and comments.	
29.	Para 357	In accordance with Article III (3) of the Charter and as decided in the First BoT Meeting, the Council asked the Member States to appoint experts to the Academic Council of the ECOEI that would organize, monitor and evaluate the training projects and activities of the Institute. The Council also asked the ECOEI to follow-up on the matter.	The concerned Member States to appoint experts to the Academic Council of the ECOEI. The ECOEI to follow-up on the issue.
30.	Para 358	Reiterating the decision made by the 1 st BoT meeting held in 2012, and the recommendations of the previous RPC meetings, the Council asked the Member States to introduce their national focal points to the Educational Institute to ensure regular coordination/consultations between the Institute and its members.	The concerned Member States to nominate their national focal points to the ECOEI.
31.	Para 359	The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 2 nd BOT Meeting of the Institute in 2015, and called on the concerned Member States to actively participate in this important event.	-
32.	Para 360	The Council agreed that the following proposals of the Islamic Republic of Iran would be considered by the Institute and would specifically be taken up by the Academic Council of the ECOEI in its first meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Regional Conference on Pre-primary, Primary and Middle Education; ii. Establishment of Communication and information network of regional educational institutes in collaboration with the Secretariat; iii. Festivals of story-telling and local and native games of the ECO region. 	The ECOEI to consider the proposals for holding relevant activities and events.
<u>ECO Consultancy & Engineering Company (ECO-CEC)</u>			
33.	Para 361	The Council requested the Member States to support ECO-CEC in becoming an active regional institution of ECO. The Council also asked the Member States and the Secretariat to utilize the expertise of the ECO-CEC in providing consultancy services for projects having regional character.	The Member States to take necessary actions for supporting the ECO-CEC.

34.	Para 362	The Council asked the member states to facilitate effective participation of ECO-CEC in the bidding process for the projects financed from ECO resources and for other national projects, specifically, by timely exchange of information related to the bidding process.	The Member States to take necessary actions.
35.	Para 363	In order to promote a more direct and effective approach in securing new projects, the Council encouraged the representatives of Petrochemical Industries Design and Engineering Company (PIDEC), which is a founding company of ECO-CEC and has one-thirds share in ECO-CEC, to organize meetings of the Board of Directors with the relevant agencies in Tehran for pursuing new business opportunities. The Council also asked the Secretariat to extend necessary assistance to the ECO-CEC and PIDEC in this regard.	The ECO-CEC to take necessary actions in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders. The Secretariat to extend necessary assistance to the ECO-CEC and PIDEC.
36.	Para 364	The Council stressed on the need for effective communication and coordination between ECO-CEC and the ECO Secretariat for exploiting the emerging opportunities in the region. The Council asked the Secretariat to share the relevant reports and publications issued by the Secretariat, especially in the transport and energy sectors, with the ECO-CEC on a regular basis.	The Secretariat to share relevant reports and publications, especially in the transport and energy sectors, with the ECO-CEC on a regular basis.
37.	Para 365	The Council took note of the request made by the some Member States indicating that the ECO-CEC should prepare a report highlighting its core competencies in the field of engineering, which would be shared with the relevant agencies and authorities in the Member States for creating awareness about the company.	The ECO-CEC to take necessary actions in this regard.
ECO College of Insurance			
38.	Para 366	The Council asked the College to share information pertaining to the academic sessions, recognition of degrees within the region and scholarship programs for the ECO region so that the information may be shared with the Member States. In this regard, the	The College share the requisite information with the Member States.

		Council took note of the website developed by the College for dissemination of information.	
39.	Para 367	The Council requested the Member States to share proposals/recommendations for improving the educational standards and performance of the College. The Council also asked the Member States to encourage their talented students to avail scholarship opportunities offered by the College.	The Member States to share the proposals and take necessary actions in this regard. The College to follow-up on the matter with the Member States.
40.	Para 368	The Council asked the College to initiate preparations for the 2 nd BoT Meeting and convey the proposed dates to the Secretariat and the Member States.	The College to take necessary actions in this regard.
Parliamentary Assembly of the ECO Countries (PAECO)			
41.	Para 369	During the First Meeting of the Executive Council of PAECO held on 12 February 2013 at Islamabad, it was decided that Afghanistan would host the 2 nd Conference of the PAECO in Kabul. In line with this decision, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to propose the dates for the 2 nd Conference of the PAECO in the coming period.	The concerned Member State to propose the dates for the 2 nd Conference of the PAECO.
42.	Para 370	The Council also took note of the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Iran to hold the 2 nd Conference of the PAECO on the sidelines of the upcoming meetings being attended by the Parliamentarians/Speakers of the Member States, in case the Conference cannot be held in Kabul.	The Secretariat of the PAECO to take necessary actions in this regard.
43.	Para 371	The Council also requested the six Member States that have signed the PAECO Charter (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey) to update the Secretariat about the status of ratifications.	The concerned Member States to update the Secretariat about the status of ratifications.
ii. ECO's External Relations			
44.	Para 372	The Council encouraged the Secretariat to take further steps in accordance with the Treaty of Izmir and the relevant decisions reached at different fora to strengthen the existing cooperation with the regional and international partners, including those within the UN system. The Council also asked the Member	The Secretariat with the support of the Member States to take necessary steps in the light of the decision.

		States to support the Secretariat in its efforts in this regard.	
45.	Para 373	The Council requested the Member States to send instructions to their Permanent Missions based in New York, Vienna, Geneva, Rome, Bangkok, Nairobi and Jeddah to actively participate in the consultations/meetings of the Contact Groups at these places. The Permanent Missions may be encouraged to play active roles within the framework of the ECO Contact Groups for enlisting support of the UN specialized agencies and other organizations for ECO's activities and programmes in various key sectors.	The Member States to take necessary actions in this regard. The Secretariat to support the Member States.
46.	Para 374	In view of the decision reached at the 14 th ASEAN-ECO Joint Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 25 September 2014, and the proposals to hold the ASEAN-ECO Joint Tourism and Business Forums in Turkey and Pakistan respectively, the Council requested the concerned Member States to approach the relevant authorities to hold these events in the coming time. The Council also requested the Member States to actively participate in the events and to confirm their participation at an early time.	The ASEAN-ECO Joint Tourism Forum will be held on the sidelines of the 3rd ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in Antalya-Turkey in early 2016. The ASEAN-ECO Joint Business Forums will be held in Pakistan in 2015. The relevant authorities of the Member States (Turkey and Pakistan) to take necessary steps for holding these Forums.
47.	Para 375	Taking note of the cooperation between ECO and the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in the field of legal and labour migration, the Council encouraged the Secretariat to expand its cooperative relations with the ICMPD in relevant areas.	The Secretariat to take necessary actions in this regard with the support of the Member States.
48.	Para 376	The Council requested the Member States to share substantive proposals for promoting ECO's cooperative relationship with the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes.	The Member States to share the relevant proposals in this regard.
49.	Para 377	The Council encouraged the Secretariat to develop and promote project-based cooperation with its regional and international partners and also asked the Member States to consider giving strategic direction to the Secretariat for undertaking such	The Secretariat in collaboration with the Member States to take necessary steps in the light of this decision.

		collaboration.	
50.	Para 378	With the objective to develop and enhance interaction with ASEAN Ambassadors in Tehran the Council encouraged the Secretariat to take necessary measures for the accreditation of the ASEAN Ambassadors in Tehran to the ECO.	The Secretariat to take necessary measures in the light of the decision.

Evaluation of ECO Programmes and Projects and the New ECO Vision 2016-2025

S. NO.	REFERENCE	EVENTS/ACTIVITIES	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
a) Implementation of ECO programmes/projects and ECO Vision 2015			
1.	Para 11	Under this agenda item, the ECO Secretary General and the Heads of Delegation (HODs) of the Member States thoroughly discussed the state of play of the Organization in terms of implementation of the its projects and programmes as well as the ECO Vision 2015. The Heads of Delegation were briefed by the Secretary General on major factors hampering full implementation of the ECO projects and Vision 2015.	
2.	Para 12	Addressing the areas of common concerns in the ECO Region, the participating officials highlighted the low rate of intra-regional trade; environmental challenges such as climate change; and resources scarcity such as water scarcity and energy poverty; as well as the transit challenges. They underscored the importance of projects/activities such as ECOTA; and the ECO road and rail corridors and environmental projects for bringing enhanced trade and economic development and prosperity to the whole ECO Region. They also emphasized that any new project/area of cooperation should be result-oriented, regionally important, and related to economic development which also ensures the availability of resources from within and outside the Organization. The idea of creation of special funds for specific projects/activities, as well as	The Secretariat with necessary support of the Member States to keep these recommendations in view while initiating any new projects/area of cooperation. Necessary steps also to be taken to bring ongoing activities in line with this decision.

		involvement of international financial institutions and the ECO-TDB in the ECO projects was also raised by the participants. The need for careful project selection process as well as strong project monitoring system was also raised.	
3. s	Para 13	On the state of affairs of the ECO specialized agencies/institutions, the participants emphasized the need for evaluation of their performance in the context of the ongoing reform process in ECO with a view to making necessary fine-tuning. Secretariat was requested to prepare an evaluation report. As regards the establishment of the new bodies within ECO, some participants were of the view that no more bodies should be created before reform process comes to an end.	As part of the ongoing deliberations concerning the EPG recommendations, the Secretariat is discussing proposals with Member States for enhancement of performance of the ECO Specialized Agencies/Institutions. A detailed report on the current status and performance of the Specialized Agencies/Institutions was shared by the Secretariat on 26 February 2015 (No.IR/25 th RPC/2015/288)
4.	Para 14	The participants also identified budgetary constraints, emanating particularly from the outstanding arrears; and the inadequate professional human resources in the Secretariat as critical factors seriously affecting the ECO effectiveness and performance. The Secretary General reminded the Heads of Delegation that ECO is in the hands of its Member States who provide Secretariat with their financial and human resources. He also mentioned that the ECO had also approached the regional and international donors, including the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and ECO-Trade and Development Bank (TDB) for their possible financial and technical assistance.	Continued efforts will be done to bring the critical issue of the outstanding barriers to a solution, preventing further adverse impacts on the performance of the Secretariat. This is also pursued by the Member States in the ongoing discussions on EPG recommendations and the reform process. The human resource efficiency of the Secretariat and ways and means to improve it is also under discussions in the reform process.
5.	Para 15	It was also highlighted that the sense of ownership towards the Organization should be strengthened through more incentives.	This may be ensured through more inclusive ECO projects and activities focusing more on areas/topics which interest majority of the Member States. More equitable distribution of the Secretariat posts is also a step forward to this direction.
b) <u>New ECO Vision 2016-2025 and Reform Process</u>			
6.	Para 16	The participants appreciated the ECO Secretariat for preparing a non-paper on the major problems	During the process of formulating the ECO Vision 2016-25, the Secretariat would further

		encountering proper implementation of the ECO Vision 2015. While discussing the possible elements for the new ECO Vision 2016-2025, the need for further scrutiny and critical analysis on the weak implementation/failure of the Vision 2015 was raised.	critically analyze the non-implementation of the Vision 2015 and share the results with the Member States.
7.	Para 17	<p>For a pragmatic and focused Vision for 2016-2025, the participants believed that lessons learnt from the implementation of the current Vision 2015 shall be taken into consideration. To that end, the following course of action was agreed by participants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Secretariat will further enrich the non-paper with more analytical accounts of the strengths and weaknesses of the Vision 2015 and its implementation. ii. The Secretariat will prepare the preliminary draft of the ECO Vision 2016-2025 taking into account findings/recommendations of the EPG. If needed, Secretariat may also utilize expertise of relevant institutions from within and outside the Region. iii. The draft will be shared with the Member States. Upon feedback from the capitals, a new draft text will be prepared by the Secretariat. A working group may then be established by CPR to further elaborate the draft Vision. iv. The draft Vision will be developed in line with the trending international issues, including the global post-2015 development agenda and the emerging sustainable development goals (SDGs). v. In developing the draft Vision, views of the ECO regional centers, specialized agencies and affiliated bodies should also be sought. vi. A meeting(s) of capital based representatives at the appropriate level will then be called for finalization of the draft Vision 2016-2025. vii. Secretariat should propose a reasonable 	Secretariat will follow the staged actions decided by RPC.

		timetable for the above process ensuring timely decision by COM.	
8.	Para 18	The Republic of Turkey offered to share its experiences within the framework of COMCEC especially its new project implementation mechanism during the preparation of ECO Vision 2016-2025 as well.	The Secretariat to approach Republic of Turkey to share its mentioned experiences with ECO while drafting new Vision.
9.	Para 19	Upon request by some Member States, an overview was given by the ECO Deputy Secretary General on the state of play of the ongoing reform process within ECO as well as the implementation of the EPG recommendations. He briefed the Heads of Delegation on the activities of the Working Group established for finalization of the outline for the implementation of the EPG recommendations. He said that the Working Group has so far drafted almost 40 decisions for implementation of the EPG recommendations and will continue its work to cover all 91 recommendations. He further informed the participants that EPG recommendations on ECO Vision will be addressed in the process of drafting the ECO Vision 2016-2025.	
10.	Para 20	Recalling the mandate given to CPR by the 21 st COM meeting, the Heads of Delegation encouraged the Secretariat to submit to CPR the already drafted decisions for approval, expediting the implementation of some EPG recommendations.	The Secretariat will submit to the Member States the outcome of the "Working Group on EPG Recommendations" in different packages for their consideration and final approval. (The first package was submitted following the RPC meeting.)
11.	Para 21	The Council noted that during the reform process the prioritization of the ECO activities and consolidation and streamlining the functioning of the ECO bodies as well as necessary amendments to the ECO legal documents should be given due attention.	As part of the ongoing reform process, the Secretariat with the support and guidance of the Member States to define priority areas for ECO and to streamline the functioning of the ECO bodies in order to enhance their performance. A review of the ECO legal documents to be initiated as part of the reform process in pursuance of this decision.
