

The 5th RPC Meeting

Report

(Tehran, 7-11 January, 1995)

No. CON/RPC-S/9S/RPT (adopted)

The Fifth Meeting of the Regional Planning council of the Economic cooperation organization (ECO) was held in Tehran on 7-11 January, 1995. The Meeting was attended by the delegations of the Islamic state of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan and the Turkish Muslim community of Cyprus. The list of participants is at [Annex I](#).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

INAUGURATION

2. The meeting was inaugurated by H.E Mr. Mohammad Hashemi, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. A copy of the inaugural speech is at [Annex-II](#).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

3. H.E Mr. Mir Mahmoud Mosavi, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was unanimously elected as Chairman.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

4. The meeting adopted its Agenda which is at [Annex III](#).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

APPOINTMENT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

5. The Council decided to form an open-ended Drafting Committee to prepare the report of the Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

OPENING STATEMENTS

6. Leaders of the delegations attending the meeting made their opening statements which are at [Annex-IV](#).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

7. The Secretary General of ECO presented a report, a copy of which is at [Annex V](#).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORTS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

(A) COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (CECC)

8. The Council adopted the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (CECC) with the following recommendations:

- **Draft ECO Transit Trade Agreement**

9. The Council endorsed the draft ECO Transit Trade Agreement as prepared by the Heads of Customs Departments of ECO countries and revised and adopted by the 4th Meeting of the CECC. In view of the importance of the proposed agreement for trade promotion in the ECO region, the Council recommended that this be approved by the Council of Ministers in their 5th Meeting in Ashgabat and signed in the presence of the Heads of state/government of ECO countries during the Third ECO Summit to be held in Islamabad on 13-15 March, 1995. A copy of the draft Agreement is at Annex VI. The delegation of the Islamic State of Afghanistan placed on record its reservation in respect of certain sections of the Draft Agreement.

- **Draft Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the Businessmen of ECO countries.**

10. The Council endorsed the draft Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the Businessmen of ECO Countries as finalized during the Fourth Meeting of CECC. In view of the importance of the Agreement for the promotion of trade in the ECO region, the Council recommended that this be approved by the Council of Ministers in their Fifth Meeting in Ashgabat and then signed in the presence of the Heads of State/Government of ECO countries during the Third ECO Summit to be held in Islamabad on 13-15 March, 1995. A copy of the draft Agreement is at Annex VII.

11. The delegation of Afghanistan proposed that Article IV of the draft Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the businessmen of ECO countries be revised to read as follows:

"None of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall in any way be prejudicial to the enforcement of the prevailing national, bilateral or multi-lateral regulations and laws of the related ECO member states."

- **ECO Trade and Development Bank**

12. The Council welcomed the positive development as contained in Para 7 of the Report of Fourth Meeting of CECC regarding the establishment of the ECO Trade and Development Bank and recommended that necessary formalities may now be completed to establish this Bank without any further delay in accordance with the decision of the Council of Ministers vide para 27 of the report of their special meeting held in Istanbul on the occasion of the Second Summit in July, 1993. In this regard, the delegation of Kazakhstan while welcoming the progress achieved towards the establishment of the Bank which in their view is of paramount significance for enhancing the effectiveness of ECO, informed the Council that in accordance with an intergovernmental agreement signed by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan a

Central Asian Bank has been established and has already started its operations. The delegation of Kazakhstan proposed that these two banks could become active partners once the ECO Bank starts its operations.

- **Establishment of ECO Supreme Audit**

13. The Council endorsed the recommendation of the Fourth Meeting of CECC to consider the proposal of establishment of ECO Supreme Audit Institution at the next session of CECC after the necessary mandate in this regard had been provided by the ECO Council of Ministers. The Council requested the ECO Council of Ministers to provide the necessary mandate.

- **ECO Protocol on Preferential Tariffs**

14. The Council noted that all necessary formalities required for the implementation of the Protocol on Preferential Tariffs have been completed and urged the member Government's signatory to the Protocol to implement the preferences already agreed upon in the said Protocol. In this regard, the Council desired that wider publicity be accorded by the concerned national governments to the contents of the Protocol for the benefit of prospective traders in their respective countries.

15. The delegation of Islamic Republic of Iran proposed that there is room for improvement in the agreed form for the certificate of Origin such as inclusion of ECO emblem and introduction of a common coding system. The Council decided that the implementation of the Protocol should go ahead as per the procedures already agreed upon. However, any new proposals including the above-mentioned proposal will be considered in the next meeting of the Committee on Preferential Tariffs.

16. With respect to para 4 of the Report of the Third Meeting of the Committee on Preferential Tariffs, the representative of the Islamic states of Afghanistan stated that his country had some reservation with respect to their accession to the ECO Protocol on Preferential Tariffs. The representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan stated that his delegation required some more time to consider the question of accession of Azerbaijan to the Protocol.

(B) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (CCTC) FIELD

17. The Council considered and adopted report of the CCTC with following observations:

- **Implementation of the Outline Plan for the Development of Transport Sector in the ECO region.**

18. The Council recommended the early establishment of a High Level Experts Group (HLEG) to tackle all aspects of implementation of ECO's objectives in Transport and Communications sector. In this context, the Council proposed that initially the Group operates for a 2-year term starting in May, 1995. The HLEG will comprise the authorized Representatives of the Ministries of Transport and the relevant high level experts. Kazakhstan's offer to host the first meeting of the HLEG in May, 1995 was accepted.

19. The Council recommended that HLEG would be mandated to prepare its own Terms of Reference and meeting calendar keeping in view the following guidelines, which will be submitted to the Council of Deputies for adoption. The Group's reports would be presented to relevant ECO organs in accordance with current practice i.e. CCTC, RPC and to the Ministers for consideration.

- **MANDATE FOR THE HLEG**

- i. To study ways and means of implementing the outline Plan for the development of Transport Sector in the ECO region.
- ii. To make recommendations for amendments which may be necessary in relevant ECO documents.
- iii. To prepare a Plan of Action for the transport sector of the ECO Transport and Communication Decade.
- iv. To consider all relevant documents, identify, formulate and propose projects on the basis of priority.
- v. To discuss and propose modalities for funding and coordinated implementation of projects.

20. While doing its work, the HLEG will have access to all documentation available including the reports which will be prepared by the three IDB experts on Roads, Railways and Multimodal Transport and Telecommunications.

21. With regard to Telecommunication Section of the ECO Decade Programme, the Council asked the Secretariat to include the issue in the agenda of the Directors General of Telecommunications.

22. The Council directed the Secretariat to compile and circulate information on the European Motorway Coordination Unit and the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECAAT) for reference as successful examples of an effective regional cooperation in this sector.

23. The Council proposed that in 1997 the 2nd Meeting of ECO Transport and Communications Ministers be convened to review the progress of work done by the HLEG and take decisions on its recommendations.

24. With reference to para 7.B.2.2. of Working Papers, the Council urged the member states furnish their replies to the questionnaire on road transportation expeditiously.

25. With regard to railways tariffs, the Council directed the CCTC to study the railways tariff structures and rates of the member governments with a view to evolving an effective system to facilitate railway transportation.

26. The Council proposed that a 2nd Meeting of High Railway Authorities be organized at a convenient time following the finalization of the report of the IDB Consultant on railways and the preparation of the draft ECO Railway Map.

27. The Council noted Secretariat's statement regarding three IDB Experts on:

- * Roads
- * Railways and Multimodal Transportation and
- * Telecommunication

who will start their mission tentatively in March, 1995 and asked all member states to offer their fullest cooperation to the experts.

28. The Council proposed that the EGM on Multimodal Transportation holds its 7th meeting in 1995 with special emphasis on maritime and hinterland (road and railways) transportation.

- **Establishment of ECO Shipping Company**

29. The Council endorsed the Agreement (partnership statement) for the establishment of the ECO Shipping Company and the Revised Articles of Association of the ECO Shipping Company as finalized by the meeting of the Heads of the ECO National Shipping Companies/Departments and adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the CCTC.

30. The Council decided to refer the Agreement (partnership statement) and the Articles of Association to the Fifth Meeting of the Council of Ministers for formal approval following which the Company would come into operation. The said Articles of Association and the Agreement (partnership statement) are attached as Annex VIII.

31. The Council noted that seven Member states initialed the Agreement (partnership statement) and the Articles of Association. The Council desired that the remaining three country which have not yet joined the Company may consider doing so at an early date.

- **ESTABLISHMENT OF ECO-AIR**

32. The Council adopted the Report of the Second Meeting of the Heads of ECO National Airlines held in Tehran on 9-10 January, 1995 and endorsed the Articles of Association and Agreement as well as the MOU for the establishment of the ECO-Air which were finalized and initialed at the Meeting. The Council referred the Agreement and Articles of Association for establishment of ECO-Air to the Fifth Meeting of the Council of Ministers for formal approval. The Articles of Association, Agreement and MOU are placed at Annex IX. The Turkish Delegation stated that the Turkish Airlines has initialed the Articles of Association, the Agreement and signed the MOU in order not to delay or obstruct the establishment of ECO-Air. The Turkish delegation further stated that this should not mean that Turkish Airlines will be joining ECO Air, and that Turkey's contribution to the effort will be limited with the capacity and willingness of the various Turkish air Companies.

- **Other Matters**

33. With reference to para 23 of the report of the 7th meeting of the Directors General of Telecommunications and with regard to the proposal to launch an ECO Communications Satellite as proposed in the Istanbul Declaration, the Council expressed its continued interest and requested the delegation of Turkey to provide information based on their TURKSAT experience, on the technical and financial aspects of the feasibility study of the project.

34. With reference to the Iranian proposal to establish an ECO Telecommunications College, the Council noted the proposal to amend the name as "ECO College for Telecommunications and Post".

35. With regard to cooperation in postal field, the Council invited those ECO member states who have not become members of SWAPU to consider acceding to the Union.

36. The Council noted a proposal by the Turkmenistan delegation to create an ECO Transit Transportation Centre in Ashgabat. The Turkmen Delegation offered to provide a detailed proposal on the subject.

37. The Council recommended that the draft ECO Road and Railways Maps, once prepared by the Islamic Republic of Iran, be presented to the HLEG for consideration.

(C) COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (CTIC)

38. The council adopted the report of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee for Technical and Industrial cooperation with the following recommendations:

- **Cooperation for Production of Active Raw Materials Antibiotics/pharmaceuticals.**

39. The Council while endorsing the terms of reference for conducting the feasibility studies prepared by the EGM recommended that IDB and other international donor agencies be approached for financing these feasibility studies. The council also noted the proposal of Islamic Republic of Iran to explore the possibility of arranging similar technical/ financial assistance for other industrial projects from international donor agencies.

40. The Council advised the member states to furnish the list of companies engaged in the production of active raw materials for pharmaceuticals to the Secretariat by 15 April, 1995.

41. The Council noted the proposal of the Islamic State of Afghanistan and Republic of Tajikistan for the establishment of joint ventures in various fields including production of medicines. Detail of the proposal would be furnished to the Secretariat for consideration during the next meeting of the Committee.

42. The Council recommended that in view of the progress reported by the committee, this item may be deleted from the agenda of the CTIC.

- **ECO Consultancy and Engineering services Company**

43. The Council noted with satisfaction the progress made for participation of Islamic Republic of Iran in the existing Turk-Pak Company and advised that the new Joint Venture be renamed as ECO Consultancy and Engineering Services Company and be launched expeditiously. Thereafter, the prospects of its financial support and assistance from IOB and other International Agencies could be explored. The Council advised other member states to participate in the new company.

- **The ECO Secretariat's proposal to promote Industrial Cooperation among ECO Member Countries.**

44. The Council advised the member states to furnish the latest information on industrial incentives policies to the Secretariat by 30 June, 1995, so that a compendium of incentives and concessions available in the member states could be prepared.

- **Regional Conference on Industrial Pollution Control**

45. The Council noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretariat in organizing the conference with the technical and financial support of UNIDO, UNDP, UNDP and IDB and asked the Secretariat to recirculate the paper prepared by Islamic Republic of Iran for organizing the conference to enable the member states to furnish comprehensive papers on the assigned topics by 30 June, 1995.

- **Review of the Terms of Reference for the Committee**

46. The Council revised the first item of the Term of Reference adopted by the Committee to read as follows:

"Preparation of regional industrial investment studies based on the regional market

Studies/ feasibilities."

- **Regional Treaty for Promotion and Protection of Investments among the ECO member states.**

47. The Council appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat for proposing a Regional Treaty on promotion of investments and directed the Committee to finalize the same during its next meeting.

- **Committee Activities in 1995.**

48. Pakistan agreed to consider the recommendation of the Council that it would host the Fifth Meeting of CTIC in 1995 in view of the fact that no other Member State had agreed to host the Meeting.

(D) COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION (CAC)

49. The Council adopted the report of the Meeting of the Committee for Agriculture Cooperation 4th Meeting of the Committee for Agriculture Cooperation.

(E) COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION SCIENTIFIC AND AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION (CESCC)

50. The Council considered and adopted the report of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation held in Ashgabat on 23-24 November, 1994, with the following recommendations:

- **Work Programmes in the Fields of Education, Culture, science and Sports Cooperation.**

51. The Council endorsed the work programmes prepared by the EGMs in the fields of education, science, culture and sports cooperation as adopted by the Committee. The Council decided that these work programmes be titled as "Guidelines for work programmes" with the understanding that the principles contained in these documents should be strictly followed by the member countries.

- **Educational Cooperation, Exchange Programmes and Scholarships.**

52. The Council noted with appreciation the offers for extending scholarships and students exchange programmes initiated by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey.

53. In pursuance of para 27 (a) of the Quetta Plan of Action regarding provision of facilities for vocational training the Iranian Technical and Vocational Training Organization offered vocational training courses and services in a wide range of trades as well as training of trainers, producing training softwares like module standards, training modules, etc. The details of the Iranian proposals are attached as Annex X.

- **Sports cooperation**

54. The Council welcomed the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran for preparation of a 5-year calendar (1995-2000) of activities in selected disciplines of sports. The Council also appreciated the invitation of Turkmenistan for participation in international sports competitions to be organized during 1995-2000.

55. The Council accepted the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to hold a meeting of representatives of relevant sports organizations of ECO countries in Tehran on 26-27 April, 1995 to finalize the calendar of sports events in order to formulate a viable programme of sports events to ensure the participation of member states.

- **ECO Cultural Institute**

56. The Council discussed the recommendations of the First EGM on Cultural Cooperation and ECO Cultural Institute and the Committee. The Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkmenistan reiterated their earlier position with regard to the location of the ECO Cultural Institute in their respective countries as reflected in the report of the CESCC. The location of the Institute's Headquarters (Whether to be in Tehran or Ashgabat) will be finalized after consultation between Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran during the Fifth annual Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers for decision.

57. The Council noted that following the deliberations carried out at the relevant EGM and the Committee Meeting held in Tehran and Ashgabat on the revised version of the Institute's constitution, the Islamic Republic of Iran agreed that the submitted written views of Turkey and Kazakhstan be also incorporated in the constitution.

58. The delegations of Turkey and Kazakhstan taking into consideration the expansion of the ECO from 3 to 10 Member States and in order to encourage their active participation in ECO activities supported the proposal of Turkmenistan.

59. The Council noted the proposal of the Republic of Turkey to review the Charter of the proposed ECO Cultural Institute after the decision of the Council of Ministers regarding its location.

- **Cooperation in the filed of Science and Technology**

60. The Council considered the report of the Fourth meeting of the CESCC regarding the establishment of the ECO Science Foundation in Islamabad. After incorporating the amendments in the draft charter of the ECO Science Foundation proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkey, the Council adopted the draft charter of the ECO Science foundation and recommended it to the Council of Ministers for approval in Ashgabat. (Annex-XI)

61. In pursuance of para 5(e) of the report of the First EGM on Science and Technology and ECO Science Foundation, the Islamic Republic of Iran furnished a project proposal on Regional Network in biotechnology (*Annex XII*) for consideration of the Member States.

- **Cooperation in the field of Journalism**

62. The Council decided that the title of cooperation in this field may be changed to "Cooperation in the field of Mass Media".

63. The Council also accepted the offer of the Republic of Turkey to hold a workshop on national mass media institutions in Istanbul in the first half of June, 1995. The exact dates would be intimated soon.

- **Finalization of the modalities for ECO Awards**

64. The Council suspended action on the recommendations of the committee regarding the continuation of the present modalities for ECO Awards.

- **Other Matters**

65. The Council noted with appreciation the initiative taken by the I.R. of Iran for organizing the 1st ECO Mathematics Olympiad in Tehran. The Council recommended that similar Olympiads in the fields of physics, chemistry, computer sciences in addition to mathematics be organized in future. The Council asked the Secretariat to ascertain the possibility of holding second ECO Mathematics Olympiad during 1995 in one of the member states

66. The Council noted the invitation of Islamic Republic of Iran for participation of ECO member states in international Khawarzimi Scientific Symposium to be held in Iran in February, 1995.

67. Regarding the proposal to organize an EGM on preparation of a comprehensive ECO Scholarship and Students' Exchange Program in the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus, the Council in view of the decision of the Council of Ministers on the provision of Chapter IV of Rules of Procedure on the venue of the ECO Meetings and the decision of the Council of Ministers on the Modalities for the participation of Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus in ECO activities, noticed that under the current regulations holding of ECO meetings in the Community was not possible. The Council therefore decided to refer the matter and the related provisions to the Council of Ministers for a decision.

68. The Council recommended that the statute of the ECO College of Insurance be approved by the Council of Ministers in their Fifth Meeting in Ashgabat (*Annex XIII*).

69. The Turkish delegation informed the RPC that the Higher Educational Council of the Republic of Turkey has recognized the legal statute of the ECO College of Insurance as a Higher Educational Institution having 4 academic years.

70. The Council appreciated the proposal on the establishment of an Educational Training Foundation submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran and requested the member states to furnish their comments on the proposal as soon as possible.

(F) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY (CCE)

71. The Council adopted the Report of 4th Committee of the CCE with the following recommendations:

Establishment of ECO Publications Fund

72. The Council noted the proposal of the Committee for establishing an ECO Publications Fund and in view of the fact that the question of publication is related to the work of all technical committees, it was decided that this issue be discussed separately under "Any Other Business".

- **Publication of Quarterly ECO Energy News Bulletin.**

73. The Council endorsed the recommendation of the Committee to combine the publication of Quarterly ECO Energy Newsletters with the News Bulletin and accordingly decided that it will be named as Quarterly ECO Energy News Bulletin. As regards the proposal of Pakistan to arrange publishing of the News Bulletin, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that the cost estimate provided by the Pakistani side needed to be revised and if that was not possible, the Iranian side was willing to cooperate with Pakistan to offer alternative price proposal.

- **Joint study Analysis for Long-term Development of ECO Energy Demand and Supply.**

74. The Council decided that the joint study analysis proposed by the EGM on Power should focus on long-term development of ECO energy demand and supply.

- **Data on Manufacturing of Electrical and Mechanical Equipment.**

75. The Council noted that the data on manufacture of electrical and mechanical equipment, called for in the report of the Third EGM on Power had been furnished by only a few member countries. The Council desired that all member Governments may furnish the requisite data at the earliest.

- **Publication of Energy Booklet**

76. The Council urged the member states which had not yet submitted relevant data regarding Energy Booklet to expedite the provision of the requisite material to the ECO Secretariat to enable the Turkish side to publish the Booklet as early as possible.

- **Routes for the oil, Gas Pipeline Network for the ECO Region.**

77. The Council observed that the Committee had identified certain indicative routes for the oil and gas pipeline network for the ECO region. However, *in view of the provisional nature of these routes*, it was agreed that for any technical reasons other possible routes could also be considered. The Pakistan delegation proposed that at the appropriate time the question of the "right of way" should also be taken up for consideration on the proposed routes of the regional network.

- **Energy Training Facilities**

78. The delegation of Afghanistan reiterated their request for training facilities and technical assistance in the energy sector.

- **Meeting of Chief Executive of Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals and Electrical Power Companies.**

79. The Council discussed the proposal to hold a meeting of the Chief Executives of Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals and Electrical Power companies of the relevant ECO

countries and decided that to provide for useful discussions in different areas to which the Chief Executive belonged, four different meetings were required to be held. In this regard, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran offered to host the meeting of the Chief Executive of national Oil, Gas and petrochemical companies in the second half of 1995 provided that the proposal for draft agenda and relevant suggestions are sent by the member countries to the Secretariat before the end of June, 1995.

- **Parallel Functioning of the ECO Member States Power System**

80. The delegation of Azerbaijan, recalling their earlier proposal regarding the parallel functioning of the ECO member states power system, offered to host the Fourth EGM on Power in Baku, which, inter alia, would also formulate recommendations for studying technical and economic aspects of parallel functioning of the power system of ECO member states. The Council, while accepting the offer, decided to include it in the Calendar of Events for 1995-6.

- **Preparation of Implementation Schedules for the Identified Projects.**

81. Recalling Pakistan's proposal regarding preparation of the implementation schedules for the identified projects and the estimated costs for the approved projects including studies, the delegation of Iran stated that Iranian Research Institute for Energy Studies would be willing to cooperate in preparing the cost estimate for the approved projects.

- **Training Programme in natural gas sector.**

82. The delegation of Turkey informed Council that Turkey has arranged training programme in natural gas sector from 3 to 14 April, 1995. The member governments wishing to participate in the training programme; may inform the ECO Secretariat well in advance.

- **Establishment of a Joint Venture Company for oil Exploration**

83. The delegation of Islamic Republic of Iran proposed the establishment of a Joint Venture Company for Oil and Gas Projects in ECO region (Exploration, Production, Engineering, etc). The Council welcomed this proposal and recommended the matter to be considered by the next EGM on Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals.

(G) COMMITTEE FOR CONTROL OF NARCOTICS ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING (CNAC)

84. The Council adopted the Report of the CNAC with following recommendations:

85. The Council adopted the ECO Plan on Drug Control and referred it to the Council of Ministers for approval.

86. The Council decided that an open ended EGM be formed to prepare plans of action on the three sectors contained in the mandate of the Committee;

- * Control of Supply
- * Suppression of Illicit Trafficking
- * Demand Reduction, Treatment and Rehabilitation

87. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran offered to host the EGM in May 1995. The delegations of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey expressed their readiness to take part in the EGM. It was agreed that the founding members provide detailed inputs on the subject at least one month before the EGM in accordance with the earlier division

of Labour by subjects, i.e. Control of Supply (Pakistan), Suppression of Illicit Trafficking (Turkey) and Demand Reduction, Treatment and Rehabilitation (Iran).

88. with regard to the establishment of a Specialized Coordination Unit within ECO secretariat as proposed in item 1, section III of the Drug Control Plan, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that pending the restructuring of the ECO, the creation of a specialized unit within the Secretariat would be premature. It would not only set a precedent for other Committees, but would also incur additional financial costs to the limited budgetary resources. They proposed the postponement of the implementation of this provision until a general policy decision is made by the Governments on ECO's overall restructuring.

89. The delegation of Turkey was of the opinion that it was necessary to start implementing the plan expeditiously. In order to keep the financial implications of the establishment of the Unit at modest level, the experts could be seconded from the respective departments of their Governments. Turkey on its part was ready to nominate such an expert to the ECO Secretariat.

90. The Council decided to refer the matter to the Council of Ministers for consideration.

91. With reference to para 12 of the Report of the Committee, the Council felt that the member states who have not taken action on the following issues may do so expeditiously:

- i. Communication of national Focal Points to the ECO Secretariat.
- ii. Nomination of Drug Liaison Officers at the member states' Embassies in all ECO capitals.
- iii. Accession to 1988 UN Convention Against Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances.
- iv. Membership to ICPO Interpol.
- v. Accession to other relevant international conventions.

92. With regard to the MOU for cooperation to be signed with the UN Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the Council noted that the Council of Deputies was in the process of finalizing the Draft MOU.

93. For practical purposes the council proposed that the name of the Committee be amended as "Committee for Drug Control" (CDC).

94. The Council heard a verbal report by the Secretariat on the prospects of cooperation between ECO and UNDCP, the European Commission, Colombo Plan Bureau and other similar organizations.

(H) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH (CCEH)

95. The Council adopted the report of the First Meeting of the CCEH with the following recommendations:

96. The Council decided that a new topic, "Mother and Child Health and Family Planning" be incorporated as "Para 12" in Annex-III, page 1 of the Terms of Reference for CCEH titled "Cooperation in the field of Health".

97. The council, having considered para 5 of the Report, directed the Committee to use the revised Terms of Reference as provisional guidelines in its activities and review them at its 2nd Meeting for refinement and adoption.

98. The Council appreciated Pakistan's offer to organize an ECO Seminar on the Montreal Protocol, and asked the Secretariat to set the dates in consultation with the host government and communicate them to the member states. The Council also requested those member states who had not yet confirmed their participation in the Seminar to do so expeditiously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

FINALIZATION OF THE DRAFT CALENDER OF EVENTS FOR 1995-96

99. The Council finalized a draft Calendar of ECO Events for 1995-96 (attached as *Annex XIV*) and recommended it to the Fifth meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF EOC ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ECO DATA BANK

100. The Council referred the two proposals for further consideration by the Council of Deputies.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

PREPRATION OF THE ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT (ARTICLE-XXVI OF THE REATY OF IZMIR)

101. The Council observed that for the preparation of a useful and comprehensive Annual Economic Report, the Secretariat should compile a document after collecting the available data from the ECO member governments, and also simultaneously, explore the assistance of the concerned International Agencies like the IDB, OIC, Economic Research Centre in Ankara and IMF etc. to prepare a draft of the Report. This draft would subsequently be sent to the concerned experts in the member governments who would ultimately facilitate the RPC to fulfil its Treaty obligation for the preparation of the Annual Economic Report.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

102. The Council noted a proposal of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU), which has since been circulated by the Secretariat, inviting the Non-ACU members of ECO to consider joining ACU and avail of the facilities available within their mechanism for expanding

their multilateral trade relations. The Council noted the proposal and asked the concerned governments to consider the proposal and convey their response to the Secretariat.

103. Having considered the extensive proliferation of ECO projects and proposals in recent years, the Council emphasized the need to streamline and delete several unrealistic and infeasible projects from the Agendas of various Committees. In order to allow such an exercise, the Council directed the Secretariat to prepare and circulate a simple item-wise list of all the projects which are currently being considered by ECO's organs.

104. The Council adopted and referred to the Council of Ministers the report of the First Meeting of the Heads and Representatives of the Red Crescent societies of the member states of ECO held in Baku on 17-18 May 1994. Considering the contents of the Final Document of the meeting, the Council decided that the subject be dealt with by the Committee for Cooperation in Health and Environment (CCEH).

105. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan confirmed that arrangements were underway to host the Third ECO Summit meeting in Islamabad on the scheduled dates of 13- 15 March 1995, and requested those member governments which had not formally confirmed their participation to do so at the earliest.

106. The Council noted the request of the delegation of Republic of Azerbaijan for provision of all possible assistance for resolving their current economic problems. The Council recommended that this matter be referred to the Council of Ministers for further consideration.

107. With regard to the question of ECO Publications Fund 1-mentioned in para 70, the Council decided to refer the matter to the Council of Deputy for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

108. The Council decided to hold the 6th Meeting on 23-27 December, 1995.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

109. The Report of the Fifth Meeting Regional Planning council was adopted unanimously

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

VOTE OF THANKS

110. The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair for the warm hospitality extended to all participating delegations and the excellent arrangements made for the

meeting. The Meeting also recorded its appreciation for the tireless efforts made by the Secretariat in facilitating the work of the Council.

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