

# The 4<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting

## Report

( Tehran, 15-18 January, 1994 )

*No. RPC-4/94/Rpt.*

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Regional Planning Council of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was held in Tehran on 15-18 January, 1994. The list of participants is at Annex-I.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 1**

#### **INAUGURATION**

2. The Meeting was inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Mohsen Nourbakhsh, Vice President of "The Islamic Republic of Iran for Economic Affairs. A copy of the inaugural speech is at Annex-II.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 2**

#### **ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

3. Leader of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Firooz Dowlatabadi, Economic Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and President of the Centre for Economic & Strategic Coordination was unanimously elected as Chairman.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 3**

#### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

4. The Council unanimously adopted its Agenda which is at Annex-III.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO.4**

#### **OPENING STATEMENTS**

5. Leaders of the delegations attending the Meeting made their opening statements which are at Annex-IV. The Secretary General of ECO also made a statement.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO.5**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE**

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

### **AGENDA ITE-14 NO.6**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR PREPARING THE ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT**

7. The Council appointed a Working Group for preparing the Annual Economic Report as required under Article XXVI of the Treaty of Izmir.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**  
**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

8. Secretary General of ECO H.E. Mr. Shamshad Ahmad presented his report on the activities of the ECO for 1993-94 which is at Annex-V.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**  
**CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORTS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

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

9. The Council adopted the report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Economic and commercial Cooperation with the following recommendations:

**Protocol on Preferential Tariffs:**

10. The Council agreed that the ECO Secretariat should send through official channels to the Member States the Certificate of Origin, the Application Form, the completed Lists of Commodities and the procedure for availing the tariff preferences as mentioned in Para-9 of the report of the Committee, after approval by the Council of Ministers.

11. The Council emphasized that the next meeting of the Committee on Preferential Tariffs should consider the need to expand the scope of the Protocol to include a larger number of tradable items and supported the proposal that the quantum of tariff reduction should be increased from 10% to 20%. The Council also agreed that the Committee on Preferential Tariffs should consider the proposal that the reduction on tariffs should not be levied only on the import duties but on the total incidence of all duties and taxes on imports under It-he Protocol.

- **Establishment of ECO Trade & Development Bank:**

12. The Council discussed the issue but no consensus could be reached. The respective positions of the delegations are given below. In view of the divergent positions as given below, the Council submitted the matter to the Council of Ministers for a decision.

- **Turkish Position**

13. The Turkish side stated its conviction that all the necessary studies for the establishment of the Bank were finalized and in this respect the draft Articles of Agreement of the ECO Trade and Development Bank should be submitted to the Fourth Meeting of the Council of Ministers for approval and appropriate action. The Turkish Delegation stated that the branches of the said bank should be opened in Iran and Pakistan after six months following the commencement of the operations of the headquarters of the Bank in Turkey.

14. The Turkish side also noted that the possible applications of the new Member States should be considered immediately after the commencement of the

operations of the Bank, with the view that the Articles of Agreement of the Bank will be amended accordingly to reflect the status of new members.

- **Pakistan's Position**

15. The view of Pakistan delegation was that though the Committee of Experts had met and while they had dealt with certain techno-economic aspects they had not submitted a proper techno-economic viability report. It was felt that such an important project could not be launched without such a study in view of the large sums of money involved and the importance of the project. Furthermore, such a study could only be prepared by independent Consultants.

16. The Pakistan delegation further noted that as the establishment of ECO Re., ECO Airline and Shipping Line were being subjected to detailed techno-economic feasibility studies it was essential that the Trade & Development Bank should not be an exception.

17. The Pakistan delegation, therefore, urged that such a study be commissioned and financed, if necessary out of the ECO Fund for Feasibility Studies, and requested the relevant Member States to extend full cooperation to the Consultants.

18. The Pakistan delegation proposed that the issue of the establishment of the Trade and Development Bank may pend until the completion of the techno-economic study. The time consumed in finalising the study would provide some of the new Members an opportunity to consider and opt to become members since they did not have a chance to participate in the earlier deliberations on the subject.

- **Iran's Position**

20. The Iranian side abides to the directions set-forth by the Heads of State and Council of Ministers regarding the headquarters of the Bank.

21. The Iranian side proposed that after the approval of the Articles of Agreement of the Trade & Development Bank by the Council of Ministers, the share holding countries should nominate their Governors in the Board of Governors within a period of six months, and the branches be opened simultaneously with the official operation of the Bank.

- **Conversion of the ECO Reinsurance Pool into ECO Reinsurance Company**

22. The Council discussed the issues but no consensus could be reached. The respective positions of the delegations are given below. In view of the divergent positions as given below, the Council submitted the matter to the Council of Ministers for a decision.

- **Turkish Position**

23 The Turkish side reiterated that the Government of Turkey could not interfere in the business of the Insurance Companies which operate under and according to free market conditions.

24. The Turkish side went on to explain that the Insurance Companies in Turkey were ready to cede business amounting to 5 million US dollars annually to the envisaged ECO Reinsurance Company, on the condition that other parties would cede the same amount and that the location of the headquarters of the said company be Istanbul which

the Turkish Insurance Sector considers as the most advantageous location for the Company.

- **Pakistan's Position**

25. The Pakistani side pointed out that the question of the location of the Reinsurance Company in Karachi and the conversion of the Reinsurance Pool had been agreed by the Heads of States of all ECO countries at the Istanbul Summit and in the Treaty of Izmir, respectively. It was, therefore, obligatory on all Member States to implement this Agreement.

26. Moreover, the question of 6% Compulsory Retrocession was contained in the feasibility study carried out by independent Consultants in 1989 and that Pakistan had accepted their recommendation. However, in view of the Turkish request that instead of 6% Compulsory Retrocession each side provides \$ 5 million as annual premium Pakistan had accepted the Turkish suggestion in the interest of speedy implementation of the proposal.

27. The Pakistan delegation observed that subsequently the Turkish delegation also demanded that the location of the Reinsurance Company be shifted to Istanbul and that unless this was done Private Sector Insurance Companies as well as the Government of Turkey would not participate in the scheme.

28. The Pakistan side reiterated that as the question of Company's location had already been assented to by the Turkish President and final-y incorporated in a document of the Istanbul Summit this question should not be re-opened. The Iranian side expressed an identical view.

29. In view of this stalemate it was proposed by the Pakistan delegation that the two other Founder Members Iran and Pakistan look into the feasibility of establishing an ECO Reinsurance Company without the participation of Turkey and simultaneously, as a prelude to the establishment of ECO Reinsurance, take steps to relocate the ECO Reinsurance Pool in Karachi. The Pakistan delegation expressed the hope that some of the new ECO Member States would be able to join the ECO Reinsurance when established and that at a later date, Turkey would also be able to do so.

- **Iran's Position**

30. The Iranian side abides to the directions set forth by the Heads of State and Council of Ministers regarding the headquarters of the ECO Reinsurance Pool.

31. The statutes of the ECO Reinsurance Company be finalized by the Council of Ministers.

32. The share of the Company and the percentage of the compulsory Reinsurance business ceded to the said Company be as stated by the Iranian side in the previous Boards of Management of the ECO Reinsurance Pool.

- **Implementation of the decisions contained in the Quetta Plan of Action and Istanbul Declaration:**

33. The Council reviewed the progress regarding the implementation of the decisions contained in the Quetta Plan of Action and the Istanbul Declaration and took note of the fact that some of the decisions needed to be considered by the Committee for implementation. In this connection, there was a need for the recruitment of technical experts within the ECO Secretariat to undertake groundwork so that implementation of decisions could be more effectively taken up by the Technical Committees.

- **Necessity for giving more authority to the Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation:**

34. The Council agreed that this recommendation should be considered within the overall context of Enhancing the Effectiveness of ECO. Holding the Meetings of the Ministers of Economy & Finance and Ministers of Tourism of the Member States in 1994:

35. The Council agreed that the meetings of the Ministers for Finance and Economy and Ministers for Tourism would more usefully be convened after the projects have been identified and in this regard agreed that CECC will prepare appropriate draft agenda for the two meetings.

- **EGM on Commercial Banking in 1994:**

36. The Council agreed to hold an EC-M on Commercial- Banking in 1994 in view of the fact that new Republics had joined the organization and there was a need for examining cooperation in Commercial Banking in the light of Quetta Plan of Action and the Istanbul Declaration.

- **Consideration of Pakistan's proposal on establishment of an ECO Supreme Audit Institution (ECOSAI):**

37. The Council agreed that a meeting of the representatives of the Supreme Audit Institutions of the Member States should be convened in 1994 to elaborate on the proposal for the establishment of a permanent institution.

#### **(B) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

38. The Council adopted the report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Cooperation in the field of Transport and Communications (CCTC) with the following observations / recommendations and amendments in the proposed calendar of events:

- **Plan for Cooperation in the Field of Telecommunications:**

39. The Council requested the Member States to submit their specific proposals and projects for inclusion in the draft plan for communications to the Secretariat by 31 January, 1994 as already advised by the Committee. The Council approved the recommendations made by the Sixth Meeting of the Directors General of Telecommunications endorsed by the CCTC. However, the Council deferred the decision on the following proposals:

- (i) to constitute a Working Committee on identification of production of telecommunication components;
- (ii) to establish an EGM to study the question of cooperation in the field of software development.

- **ECO Fiber Optic System:**

40. The Council advised the Member States who have not yet furnished the information on the prescribed questionnaire, to submit the same to the Secretariat by end of April 1994.

- **Establishment of ECO Shipping Company:**

41. The Council requested the Member States who have not yet furnished their completed questionnaires to the coordinator (Islamic Republic of Iran) latest by 15th February, 1994 so that the EGM could be convened to finalise the Terms of Reference for conducting the techno-economic feasibility study of the project including implementation schedule.

- **Establishment of ECO Airline:**

42. The Council took note of the report of the EGM held in Tehran on 25-27 December, 1993. The Council approved the work programme for conducting techno-economic feasibility study of the project. However, the Council did not agree to establish a separate EGM to study the international and domestic law and regulations pertaining to formation and operation of a joint regional airline. The Council recommended that all matters pertaining to establishment of ECO Airline be discussed in detail in the forthcoming EGM on Civil Aviation to be held in Pakistan.

- **Outline Plan for the development of Transport Sector in the ECO Region:**

43. The Council examined the Outline Plan prepared by the ECO Transport Ministers in October, 1993 in Almaty. The Council also endorsed the amendments proposed by the Committee and recommended them to the Council of Ministers for incorporation in the Outline Plan and for a decision and amendments.

- **Terms of Reference for experts from IDB:**

44. The Council recommended for approval by the Council of Ministers the Terms of Reference prepared by the Secretariat for three experts to be provided by IDE for the ECO Road- Network, Railway and Multimodal Transport and Telecommunications. The Azerbaijan delegation would convey their comments before the forthcoming meeting of the Council of Ministers.

- **Implementation-Aspects of Outline Plan for the Development of Transport Sector:**

45. The Council endorsed the recommendations of the Committee to seek international cooperation and assistance for implementation of the Outline Plan. The Council recommended that the Committee should prepare an action plan specifying projects with time schedules and keeping in view the needs of the individual country to implement the provisions of the Outline Plan.

46. The Council agreed that ECO highway and railroad network routes, as recommended by the Committee, should be finalized in accordance with the priorities and characteristics of the ECO region as a whole as well as the preferences of individual member countries.

47. The Council further agreed that those Member States which had not should prepare their national transport maps showing the existing highways and railroad, and their possible inter- connections within the region, for circulation through the ECO Secretariat.

## (C) COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL & INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (CTIC)

48. The Council adopted the report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Technical and Industrial Cooperation with the following recommendations:

- **Cooperation for Production of Active Raw-Materials for Antibiotics/Pharmaceuticals:**

49. The Council recommended that the EGM on Active Raw Materials for Antibiotics and other Pharmaceuticals be held in Pakistan to review and finalize the terms of reference proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran for carrying out feasibility studies of the three specified projects concerning antibiotics basic materials as approved by the RPC and the Council of Ministers last year. The Council also requested the ECO Secretariat to compile the relevant data and information from the Member States and circulate the same for the prior examination of the interested Companies.

50. The Council agreed to conduct the survey of the production of other pharmaceuticals in the same EGM on the basis of the completed questionnaire.

- **Expansion of Turk-Pak Consultancy Joint Venture:**

51. The Council noted the desire of other ECO states to join the Turk-Pak. The Secretariat circulated complete information about Turk-Pak Company. The Council advised the Member States to furnish their views at an early date.

52. Likewise it was agreed that the mode and the criteria required for the information of "The Consultancy and Engineering Company of ECO" will be reviewed and decided upon in the Technical and industrial Committee meeting.

- **ECO Secretariat's Proposals to promote Industrial Cooperation among ECO Countries:**

53. The Council requested -the ECO Secretariat, to prepare an inventory of incentives and concessions available at the national level in Member States and submit it to the next meeting of the for examination and further action (as directed in paragraphs 21 and 22 of the Queta Plan of Action in the next meeting of the CTTC).

54. The council did not agree to establish an EGM on the subject.

- **Seminars on Investment-Promotion:**

55. The Council recommended that the ECO Chamber of Commerce and industry may be advised to organize seminars on promotion of investments as recommended by the Committee.

- **Effects of Industrialization on the Environment:**

56. The Council decided that the topic of the conference should remain as "Regional Conference on industrial Pollution Control" to be held in Tehran. The Council advised the Member States to furnish comprehensive papers on the suggested topics to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

57. Since the condition for convening of this Conference is the provision of financial resources thereof, on behalf of the relevant International organizations, the date of holding the Conference will be fixed upon the announcement of the actions taken by the Secretariat on the provisions of the required funds.

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

58. The Council- did not agree with the recommendations of the Committee to establish an expert group to initiate the process of institutionalization of its Terms of Reference. The Council recommended that Committee should conduct its activities within the mandate given to it by the RPC and the Council of Ministers.

- **Three feasibility studies in the Industrial Sector, Para 18 of ECO Long-Term Perspectives:**

59. The Council accepted the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to prepare the detailed Terms of Reference for conducting the sectoral surveys in Automotive, Telecommunications, and Power Equipment industries. These terms of reference will be circulated to the Member States for ascertaining their comments before the next meeting of the Committee.

- **Establishment of Industrial and Technical Data Bank:**

60. The Council did not agree with the proposal to establish a separate Industrial and Technical Data Bank- in the ECO Secretariat. The Council decided that Industrial and Technical Data would be included in the proposed Data Bank to be established in the Secretariat for all sectors of the economy.

#### (D) COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

61. The Council adopted the report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Agricultural Cooperation and adopted it with the following observations/recommendations:

- **Establishment of the Buffer Zones:**

62. Regarding the establishment of the Zones, the Council agreed that :

(a) The new Member States who wish to take part in this project will notify the Secretariat by the end of April 1994.

(b) The task force be created to visit the Member States, review the situation and the requirements be established conditional to the provision of external assistance from FAO and other International organizations.

(c) The Secretariat makes necessary contacts with the International Organizations to attract the financial and Technical assistance.

(d) Project outline on the financial requirements and technical aspects be submitted to the Committee in its next meeting.

- **Expansion of technical cooperation through study visits of Experts in ECO region:**

63. All new Member States are requested to provide information on their agricultural training and research institutions by the end of March 1994. (The Committee took note that Azerbaijan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus furnished preliminary information on the subject).

- **Establishment of ECO Agricultural Training Institute:**

64. The Meeting requested the government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan -to furnish a background paper and a draft project outline plan on Possible collective use the National Agricultural Research Centre in Islamabad as ECO Agricultural training Centre.



- **Selected Farmers Training Project:**

65. The Islamic Republic of Iran will prepare a programme for visit and training beginning in end of May 1994 as the first phase. Future programmes will be drawn collectively based on the experience of the first phase.

- **Prevention of Post Harvest Losses of Agricultural Products:**

66. The creation of experts group will be conditional on the submission of the required data from at least- five Member States. Meanwhile, all Member States are advised to furnish their situation reports on post harvest losses latest by the beginning of June 1994.

- **Meeting of Agricultural Bank Representatives and Presidents/Governors:**

67. The Council agreed that the preparatory meeting be held in the form of a one day senior officials meeting before the Governors meeting and the two events be incorporated into one.

- **Sugar Beet Seeds Development:**

68. The necessary information be furnished by all Member States by 30 April, 1994 on the capacity to produce different varieties of sugar beets.

- **Project on Desertification and Forestry and Environment:**

69. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran volunteered to host a meeting of Experts on the scheduled date.

- **Proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Establishment of Agricultural Common Market:**

70. The Council noted the paper circulated by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and requested that background papers on objectives, scope, modalities and sectoral inter relations of such a proposal be furnished for consideration in the next CAA meeting.

#### **E) COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION**

71. The Council adopted the report- of Third Meeting of the Committee for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation (CESCC) with the following recommendations:

72. The number of the Experts Groups Meetings will be reduced to three, namely EGM on Science, EGM on Culture, EGM on Education with the understanding that Sports and Press & Information-related issues be incorporated in the Agenda of the EGM on Culture.

73. The Council noted the proposal of the Committee to prepare separate action plans for each main area of cooperation and decided to name these plans as "Work-Programme".

74 .The Council recommended that- the subject of renewable sources of energy be transferred to the Committee for Cooperation in Field of Energy.

#### **(F) COOPERATION TLN TFLE FIELD OF ENERGY (CCE)**

75. The Council adopted the Report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Cooperation in the field of Energy held in Islamabad on 30 November - 2 December,

1993, with the following observations/recommendations and amendments 'in the proposed calendar of events:

- **Publication of Energy Booklet:**

76. The Council recommended that a comprehensive Energy Booklet comprising data from all Member States be published. The Member States should furnish the information on the prescribed format to the Secretariat in accordance with the time frame recommended by the Committee.

- **Consideration of Proposals for Cooperation in the Field of Power:**

77. The Council took note of the proposals made by the delegations of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan regarding their exportable surpluses of power and standardization of power systems. The Council agreed that these proposals be discussed in the next meeting of the EGM on Power and the Committee.

78. The Turkish side proposed that the subject of power equipment industry may be transferred from the purview of CTTIC to the CCE. The Council decided that for the present the Industrial Committee should continue to deal with the subject. However, the Energy Committee may also discuss the issues relating to power equipment.

- **Preparation of a plan for network of Pipelines to meet the requirements of the ECO region (Quetta Plan of Action Para 20 and Para 14 of the ECO Long-Terms Perspectives (Istanbul Declaration):**

79. The Council noted the proposals of Azerbaijan delegation and decided to include the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee for cooperation in the field of Energy, the following questions:

Coordination of the functioning of energy systems of ECO countries to identify technical proposals for ensuring the parallel functioning of energy systems with a view to use effectively the existing generation capacities power.

Using of the existing possibilities of gas transportation systems for receipt and conservation of natural gas from some ECO countries in order to ensure its regular and viable transportation and transmit inside and out--side of ECO region.

80. The Council also endorsed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that the EGMs and the Committee should draw out the implementation schedules of the identified projects indicating costs, financial- resources and time frame for completion of the projects.

81. On the request of Azerbaijan's delegation, the Council agreed to withdraw the following sentence from para 1-2 of the report of the Committee:

"The Azerbaijan Delegation agreed to circulate the feasibility report after its completion."

- **Consideration of the proposals for cooperation in the fields of oil, gas and petrochemicals:**

82. The Council decided to reconsider the proposal of holding a meeting of Chief Executives of oil, gas and petrochemicals Companies of the ECO countries in 1994 at its next meeting.

#### **(G) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS ABUSE CONTROL (CMAC)**

83. The Council adopted the Report of the First Meeting of the Committee for Narcotics Abuse Control with the following modifications/recommendations:

- a) There should be Expert Group Meetings in 1994 on the areas which have already been identified in the Committee, namely supply, demand reduction and trafficking.
- b) The Azerbaijan delegation elaborated on their proposal regarding the establishment of an ECO Association against illicit Drug Trafficking. The Council appreciated the proposal and recommended that it should be circulated to the national focal points for through consideration in the next meeting of the Committee.
- c) The delegation of Kazakhstan introduced a draft Agreement on the control of illicit drug trafficking for consideration. The Council agreed that this draft should also be circulated to the Member States and be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee.

#### **(H) COMMITTEE FOR COOPERATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS (CCIPW)**

84. The Council adopted the report of the Third Meeting of the Committee for Cooperation in Infrastructure and Public Works. The Council also agreed that the Committee may review its terms of reference to avoid any duplication of work with the other Committees.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

#### **FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS FOR ECO PROJECTS**

85. The Council- approved a format for submitting proposals for ECO projects which is at Annex-VI.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

#### **PROPOSAL FOR CREATION OF ECO ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE**

86. The Council decided that the creation of the ECO Economic Research Centre would be further discussed under the topic "Enhancing the Effectiveness of ECO".

87. The Council appreciated the growing need in the Secretariat to have specialized expertise on economy and project related issues and endorsed "the proposal for speedy appointment by the Member States of Directors with sufficient economic/technical background and expertise within the Secretariat.

38. In light of para 28 of Istanbul Declaration regarding the need for a separate ECO Economic Research Centre, the Iranian side offered to undertake a study on the matter.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

#### **ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ECO**

89. It was observed by the RPC that an important element in enhancing the effectiveness of ECO would necessarily involve such efforts as would ensure that its deliberations begin to crystallize in tangible outputs and results.

90. To enhance the effectiveness of ECO the COD may assign priority to the following activities:

distil from the work done by various committees so far, such projects and activities as may result in quick and tangible results. Towards this end the may explore the possibilities of engaging a Consultant financed by the UNDP and other Organizations to formulate a specific prioritized plan for consideration by the next meeting of the RPC.

ECO should strengthen Focus on policy coordination amongst Member States as was being done in the case of Preferential Tariffs. Since Member States have a general budgetary resource constraint such policy coordination should-d endeavors to involve the private sector in the area of investments, joint ventures and other development activities.

91. The RPC discussed various aspects of enhancing the effectiveness of ECO and welcomed the holding of the Seminar in May 1994 and the efforts of the Council of Deputies in this regard. The Council proposed to meet one month after the Seminar to consider the recommendations of the Seminar. The Council requested the Member States to send their comments on the topics of the Seminar at least one month before the Seminar date.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP AND ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT**

92. The Council adopted the report of the Working Group for the preparation of the Annual Economic Report which is at Annex-VII. The Council agreed that this year the Secretariat should be supplied by the Member States with necessary data and information by 15 June, 1994 for compilation of the report. The Council stressed the need for the ECO Secretariat to have an in-house capacity and expertise for the analysis of such data and to prepare draft regional economic report for the RPC. Until such time that this capability is built up, the Council agreed to set up a Working Group in the Secretariat comprising Experts from Member States of which Iran, Pakistan and Turkey has already committed to meet on dates to be determined by the Secretariat. All expenses will be borne by the countries sending their Experts.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

## FINALIZATION OF THE DRAFT CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 1994-95

93. The Council considered the draft calendar of Events and after thorough discussion made certain modifications in order to reduce the number of activities to a meaningful and manageable Level. The draft Calendar approved by the Council is at Annex-VII.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 14** ANY OTHER BUSINESS

94. The Council appreciated the outcome of First ECO-UNICEF Consultation Workshop on Rights of the Child held in Tehran on 15-16 January, 1994 and in view of the forthcoming ECO Health Ministers meeting recommended that the Council of Ministers draw an outline for cooperation in Health Sector, issue necessary directives regarding the mechanism to be created and future action to be taken.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 15** DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

95. The Council decided to hold its 5th Meeting in mid 1994 and 6th meeting in January, 1995.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 16** ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

96. The report of the 4th Meeting of the Regional Planning Council was adopted unanimously.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17** VOTE OF THANKS

97. The Meeting of the Council ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.