

208th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Report

5th **January, 2016** ECO Secretariat-Tehran

Report

The 208th CPR meeting was held on 5th January 2016 at the ECO Secretariat. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Majid Bizmark, Permanent Representative/Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It was attended by the Permanent Representatives/Representatives of all ECO Member States except Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The ECO Secretary General along with concerned officials of the Secretariat also attended the Meeting. The list of participants is attached as <u>Annex-I.</u>

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

- 2. At the outset, the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed deletion of the Agenda Item No.8 (a) "Appointment for the post of Deputy Secretary General" and that it may not to be reflected in upcoming CPRs until finalization by the concerned Member States with consensus.
- 3. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was of the view that as the Representatives of contesting Member States are not present it would be better that a decision is taken in their presence.
- 4. However, after deliberations, the Council decided to adopt the following Agenda of the 208th CPR Meeting by deleting Item No.8 (a) "Appointment for the post of Deputy Secretary General":

Draft Agenda

- 1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the 208th CPR Meeting
- 2. Adoption of the Draft Report of the 207th CPR Meeting
- 3. Report of 26th Meeting of Regional Planning Council (RPC) and Calendar of Events for 2016-2017
- 4. Progress on ECO Vision 2025
- 5. Participation of Turkish Cypriot State in the "ECO Ministerial Meeting on Renewable Energy" in its capacity as ECO Observer
- 6. Allocation of US\$ 50,000/- from the FSGPF in support of the Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region
- 7. Revision of the Modalities for the Utilization of the ECO Special Support Fund
- 8. <u>Administrative matters</u>
 - a) Appointment for the post of Deputy Secretary General (Deleted)
 - b) Continued discussions on the post of Programme Officer of Projects, Economic Research and Statistics
 - c) Recommendations of the Selection Panel
- 9. Any other business
- 10. Date of the next CPR Meeting

Agenda Item No.2

Adoption of the Draft Report of 207th CPR Meetings:

- 5. Draft Report of the 207th CPR Meeting, contained in the document ECO/CPR/207/2 (20th December 2015), was circulated to the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No.CFU/207th CPR/2015/**1851** dated 20th December, 2015.
- 6. The Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan made remarks about Para 25 of Draft Report of 207th CPR Meeting regarding the budget for the financial year 2016 which states that ".....The Legal Adviser clarified that based on the Rules of Procedure, the decision making is based on consensus and when we have the quorum, we can make a decision. However, as per practice the Secretariat will circulate the Report of the meeting to the Member States and will wait for their response." He said that the Embassy of Kazakhstan has not received any response from the capital and would like to record this position and that his remarks "Response is awaited from the capital on the issue" may be included in the 207th CPR Report.
- 7. Deputy Secretary General (Admn) clarified that according to the rules, adoption of budget (size of the budget) and apportionment of costs among Member States (scale of assessments) are separate issues. Paragraph 25 of the Report of the 207th CPR meeting only deals with the adoption of the ECO budget for 2016. As has been the case in the last two years, Kazakhstan reservation deals with scale of assessments which should be reflected in the Report of this CPR meeting rather than report of the 207th CPR meeting.
- 8. Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was of the view that the issue of size of the budget is related to "Scale of Assessments" as if a country does not pay its share of the budget calculated on the basis of Scale of Assessments, how this shortfall in budget will be financed. He was of the view that in such cases the only solution is reduction in the size of budget.
- 9. Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran enquired from the Secretariat if there was any deficit in the financing of the budget in financial year 2015 and if yes how was the shortfall covered.
- 10. The ECO Secretary General informed the Council that there are two main resources which the Secretariat is using to finance the shortfall; loan money of one million dollars from Iran and postponing some of the events/projects. He also informed the Council that we had a decision to have a SOM Meeting on budget and contribution issues and have been working to arrange the meeting to solve the problem permanently before the Summit and/or COM Meeting in 2016. Today we need to approve the budget of the Secretariat and require contributions from the Member States for 2016 in order to run the business of the organization. So we are following the procedure. He said the discussion on budget was held in the last CPR which endorsed it and in the instant CPR we have to adopt the Report of the 207th CPR Meeting.
- 11. Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran appreciated the financial management of ECO Secretariat. However, he was of the view that these temporary arrangements are not a sustainable solution. He was of the opinion that a permanent

solution may be sought and budget needs to be prepared based upon agreed shares of the Member States under "Scale of Assessments".

- 12. The Representative of the Republic of Turkey also taking part in the discussion mentioned that there is no need to put pressure on the participants today on the issue in spite of the fact that budget is the basic need for the organization. He said that in the past we also faced such a situation. He stated that organization is functioning one way or the other through available resources and the events are being organized. Therefore, he said in his opinion this serious issue may be taken-up in another meeting after feedbacks from capitals are received.
- 13. After lengthy deliberations, the Council adopted the Draft Report of the 207th CPR Meeting which was circulated among the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No.CFU/207th CPR/2015/**1851** dated 20th December 2015 with the decision to include the position of Kazakhstan in the 208th CPR Report i.e. "Response is awaited from the capital on the issue".

Agenda Item No.3

Report of 26th Meeting of Regional Planning Council (RPC) and the Calendar of Events for 2016-2017

- 14. The Report of the 26th RPC Meeting, contained in the document No ECO/RPC/26/3 (17th December 2015), along with Calendar of Events, contained in the document No ECO/CoE/2015/4 has been circulated to the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale CFU/26th RPC/2015/1854 dated 20th December, 2015.
- 15. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed the following amendments in Para 178 of the 26th RPC Report:

"The Iranian focal point on environment related matters is of the view that the participation of ECO Secretariat in international negotiating forums is justifiable only if the Secretariat acts with a clear plan and mandate to coordinate the positions of the Member States in arriving at consensus. Given the above, obtaining observer status in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will not be in the sphere of the ECO Secretariat's functions."

- 16. Deputy Secretary General (Admn) clarified that according to the rules, the Report of RPC should be submitted by the Secretary General to COM for its approval. The CPR is not in a position to change the Report of the RPC.
- 17. After clarification, the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that actually this is not an amendment but are general comments. The general comments were provided, in writing, by the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretariat.
- 18. Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran while highlighting the fact that there are three kinds of events in the Calendar of Events for the year 2016: (i) ECO Events, (ii) ECO Sideline Events and (iii) Non-ECO Events. He noted that in the Non-ECO Events in the Calendar of Events specific topics/subjects and dates are not provided. He said that

keeping into consideration the financial aspects of the Secretariat, decision to attend these events need to be carefully taken based on their usefulness to the objective of ECO. Moreover, approval for attending these events may require approval from CPR individually, based on Secretariat's justification of their usefulness. He gave the following written position of the Islamic Republic of Iran on this issue:

"In view of the principles and guidelines governing the attendance of the ECO Secretariat in the meetings and taking into consideration the non-ECO events contained the Calendar, as well as events that are organized on the sidelines of regional and international conferences and meetings, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposes that to make the best use of financial and human resources of the Organization, the Secretariat shall inform CPR well in advance and provide necessary justification for attending such meetings in order to seek the Council's prior approval. Furthermore, the Secretariat shall circulate the outcome of attending those events/meetings to the Member States in written, along with its practical recommendations and follow-up measures".

- 19. Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan supported the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran and recalled that this was the practice in the past as well but has been discontinued now. He said that in case of any such event, the Secretariat may circulate the report about the event and its benefit to ECO. He further said this issue has been raised a number of times before as well.
- 20. After deliberations on the agenda, the Scretary General said that in fact he cannot see how the Secretariat is going to implement it. Sometimes, it receives information at the last moment and someone from the Secretariat has to attend the event quickly before the CPR. He was of the view that the issue requires to be discussed in detail.
- 21. The Legal Adviser of the Secretariat further clarified the issue from the perspective of existing Guidelines to which the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran had already made a reference. He read out Paragraph 6 of the Principles/Guidelines Governing the Attendance of ECO Secretariat in the Meetings/Events as follows:

"The Secretariat may allocate a maximum of 30% of the Calendar of Events of the organization to the meetings/events relating to its external relations, provided that exact date and venue of such meetings will be mentioned in the calendar and participation of the Secretariat would be upon invitation or to pursue specific cooperation/Programmes."

He explained that the delegation of I.R. of Iran, inter alia, raised a question with respect to the condition set out in this paragraph concerning the date and venue of the meetings. He furthermore, added that, the Guidelines in paragraph 7 provides that "to the extent possible, the Secretariat should avoid to participate (at any level) in the meetings/events outside the headquarters, which are not reflected in the calendar of events. If needed, the Secretariat shall inform CPR well in advance and provide necessary justification for attending such meeting, in order to seek the Council's approval. In any case, the number of such events should not be more than 5 % of total events/meetings in the calendar". By stating this he mentioned that in comparison with the ECO Events upto 35% of ECO-Events can potentially be allocated to the external relations of the organization as Non-ECO Events. Upto 5% of the total events which have not been seen in the colander require

CPR seemingly case by case, approval and the 30% inserted in the Calendar should be approved based on the procedure for approval of the Calendar of events."

- 22. Deputy Secretary General (Admn) clarified that meetings held so far on the sidelines of the global conferences have been <u>ECO Events</u>. ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment in Nairobi (June 2014), ECO Ministerial event on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan (March 2015), ECO Ministerial Meeting on Health in Geneva (May 2015) and ECO Senior Officials Coordinating Meeting on Climate Change in Paris (December 2015) were among successful ECO gatherings and their reports have been already circulated to the Member States.
- 23. The Chairman, after deliberation and on the proposal of the Secretary General proposed to the Council to work more on this proposal and the same issue could be placed on the agenda in the next CPR Meeting in order to discuss in details and to receive response from the Member States on the issue and after that it could be kind of guidelines for the organization that how to convene events on the sidelines or attendance of Non-ECO events by the Secretariat.
- 24. Appreciating the clarification by the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General and the Legal Adviser, the Representative of the Islamic Republe of Iran said that in principle they are not opposing the engagements of the organization in international and regional events. However, due to current financial situation of the organization proposed that today in this CPR we can adopt the ECO Events and the rest could be considered in the upcoming CPR Meetings.
- 25. After detailed deliberations, the Council decided that the Report of 26th RPC Meeting be submitted to the Council of Ministers (COM) for final approval. However, the Non-ECO Events, as well as Events that are organized on the sidelines of regional and international Conferences and Meetings would be discussed in the upcoming CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No.4

Progress on ECO Vision 2025

26. A day-long Brainstorming Session on ECO Vision 2025 entitled "Future Search Conference" was held on 15th December 2015 on sidelines of the 26th RPC Meeting at Azadi Hotel, Tehran. It was attended by the Heads of the Delegation, Permanent Representatives of ECO Member States, Heads of ECO Institutions and Officials from the ECO Secretariat. At the beginning of the Session, the ECO Secretary General ECO apprised the participants about feedbacks received on the first Draft of ECO Vision 2025. He emphasized that the new "Vision" should be developed in light of recommendations of the Member States and incorporating critical elements. Moreover, the Secretariat arranged a Moderator and Mr. Nahit Bingol, Director General (Regional Development and Structural Adjustment), Ministry of Development of the Republic of Turkey was requested for this purpose. After extensive day-long deliberations on possible elements for the new ECO Vision 2025, the participants proposed the following as the new "Vision Statement" for ECO:

"ECO will pave the way to a territory of integrated and sustainable economies as well as free trade achieved by highly educated societies and improved governance through enhanced cooperation."

- 27. The Secretary General informed that in light of the proposed Vision Statement, a comprehensive Draft Vision would be developed and would be circulated among Member States for their views.
- 28. The Secretary General briefed the Council and provided some additional information. He said that we are expecting the next Summit and COM to finalize the Vision and Strategy. In this regard, the Secretariat has circulated a first draft and after the Brainstorming Session the Secretariat has new "Vision Statement" and is working to produce a second version of the "Vision and the Strategy" which will be circulated to the Member States for comments after which we may hold high-level meeting(s) for finalization of draft. He further said that the Secretariat is planning to prepare a full strategy paper before the Summit/COM Meeting.
- 29. The Secretary General also proposed that after receiving contributions/inputs from the Member States on the Vision Paper, a high-level Ministerial Meeting of Ministers of Development and Planning, as Special RPC can be organized in order to finalize the "Vision & Strategy" document for submission before the next Summit/COM Meeting.

Agenda Item No.5

Participation of Turkish Cypriot State in the "ECO Ministerial Meeting on Renewable Energy" in its capacity as ECO Observer:

- 30. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkish Cypriot State via its letter dated 1 December 2015, informed the ECO Secretariat that a delegation from the Turkish Cypriot State would like to participate in the "ECO Ministerial Meeting on Renewable Energy" to be held on 15 January 2016, on the sidelines of the 6th Session of the IRENA Assembly in Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- 31. Furthermore, the Ministry had requested the Secretariat to provide the Head of Turkish Cypriot State delegation with the opportunity to address the ECO Member States at an appropriate stage of the deliberations within the framework of the Chapter IV (Rights and Obligations) of "ECO Modalities for Granting Observer and Dialogue Partnership Status at ECO".
- 32. On the query of the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding quorum confirmation at least two weeks in advance, Secretariat clarified that quorum is yet to be achieved as to-date two Member States have formally confirmed their participation.
- 33. Deputy Secretary General (Admn) further clarified that according to information from IRENA Secretariat, seven ECO Member States are attending IRENA meeting, therefore, there is still possibility that the quorum for ECO meeting could be achieved. The deadline for establishment of the quorum is 6 January 2016.

- 34. Turkish Representative was of the view that approval of participation of Turkish Cypriot State and achievement of quorum for the meeting are separate issues and said that if there is no quorum the Observer i.e. Turkish Cypriot State will not participate.
- 35. After deliberations, the Council approved the participation of Turkish Cypriot State in its capacity as "Observer", subject to the convening of the "ECO Ministerial Meeting on Renewable Energy" on 15th January 2016, on the sidelines of the 6th Session of the IRENA Assembly in Abu Dhabi (UAE), in accordance with the ECO Modalities for Granting Observer and Dialogue Partnership Status at ECO.

Agenda Item No.6

Allocation of US\$ 50,000/- from the FSGPF in support of the Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region

- 36. The 4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment (9th June 2011) welcomed the proposal for developing a regional project to combat desertification with a special emphasis on dust haze and sand storm in the region. During bilateral talks between ECO Deputy Secretary General and UNEP officials in Nairobi, UNEP expressed interest to assist ECO in implementation of this project. The ECO-IEST was subsequently requested by 23rd RPC to prepare detailed project proposal/Preliminary Study on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region. The Study prepared by ECO-IEST was circulated among the Member States for comments.
- 37. The Secretariat circulated the comments received from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the Preliminary Study and requested the remaining Member States to convey views/comments at the earliest. The comments of ECO-IEST in response to the Pakistan's comments were also circulated among the Member States. It was further mentioned that feedbacks from other Member States will be collated and consolidated by the Secretariat for further consideration and possible decision.
- 38. The Chairman informed the Council that the Secretariat has received a Note Verbale No. ECO-7/7/2015/68 dated 4th January 2016 from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan which stated that "the response from the relevant authorities is still awaited. Secretariat would be informed in case of any update." This Note Verbale has already been circulated among the Member States.
- 39. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran mentioned Para 44 of the 207th CPR Report in which it was decided that "the agenda would be finalized in the next CPR". He proposed that in order to finalize this issue today since only the Islamic Republic Pakistan is waiting final instructions from the capital, if the Council agree we may principally finalize the issue subject to the concurrence from Pakistan and give them time they may inform the concurrence to the Secretariat anytime. In this way we could finalize the issue in today's meeting.
- 40. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan while appreciating the views expressed by the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that as of now he is not in a position to say "Yes" or "No". He said that this is the official position communicated to the Secretariat through a Note Verbale and till the time any instructions

are received from capital, he is not in a position to comment on the issue and said that we need to wait instructions from the capital. The Representative further mentioned that previously Pakistan gave a detailed response basically which was not in favour of this project and surely now it will take some time to convince people in the capital – he said please do understand this.

41. The Chairman said that the same agenda would be placed in the next CPR.

Agenda Item No.7

Revision of the Modalities for the Utilization of the ECO Special Support Fund

- 42. Following request by some Member States and based on the practical experience on implementation of the existing SSF Modalities, including the scope and coverage of the Fund, the Council of Permanent Representatives at its 206th meeting held on 19th October 2015 requested the Secretariat to prepare revised "Modalities for the Utilization of ECO Special Support Fund" for consideration of the CPR.
- 43. Accordingly, Deputy Secretary General (Admn) gave a detailed briefing through presentation on the state of play of the current Modalities as well as the possible areas of their improvement as well as the CPR instructions which are needed. Presentation is attached.
- 44. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan while appreciating the presentation given by the Deputy Secretary General (Admn) said that presently there is no percentage fixed for this fund and the EPG has recommended for 7% annual allocation for SS Fund. He asked if 7% is adopted what would be the amount required for allocation every year and how the Secretariat is planning to finance it.
- 45. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran also raised a question to the Secretariat to be informed that whether any amount has been allocated from other resources to SS Fund or do we have any modality. He also said that it is hoped that the Secretariat will provide the Proposed Revised Modalities of the SS Fund to the Member States and hopefully it will be finalized in the next CPR Meeting.
- 46. The Secretary General clarified that these are not the Secretariat's proposals instead these are the EPG's recommendations and the 7% allocation will translate to estimated US\$260,000 as against current allocation of US\$60,000. He further explained that currently there is no limitation for the SS Fund allocation and CPR may decide to allocate any amount in SS Fund.
- 47. After deliberations the Secretary General informed the Council that based on the presentation, the Secretariat would provide Revised Modalities of the SS Fund to the Member States before the next CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No.7

Administrative matters

a) Appointment for the post of Deputy Secretary General

- 48. The Extraordinary COM Session held in New York on 2nd October, 2015 considered the two nominations by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Republic of Azerbaijan for the vacant post of Deputy Secretary General in ECO Secretariat and agreed that consultations between Azerbaijan and Afghanistan on the issue of appointment of Deputy Secretary General to continue and be further discussed within CPR framework. Keeping the position in view, the Chairperson proposed that in accordance with the guidelines given by the Ministers in New York, the two Member States may continue consultations between them and reach a consensus on the issue.
- 49. The Chairman informed and proposed the Council that as no progress has been achieved on the matter and, therefore, the matter may be deferred until the time a mutual consensus is reached between the two nominating countries (Afghanistan and Azerbaijan). Once the agreement is reached, the item will be put in Agenda for the CPR meeting.
- 50. The Council agreed with the proposal of the Chairman.

b) <u>Continued discussions on the post of Programme Officer of Projects, Economic Research and Statistics (PERS)</u>

- 51. As per instructions of the 205th CPR meeting, the Working Group on the post of "Programme Officer for Project, Economic Research and Statistics" convened its meeting on 14th October, 2015 to discuss future distribution of the post of "Programme Officer for Project & Economic Research and Statistics (PERS)". The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan proposed that the post may be circulated among the Member States for nomination of suitable candidates. The Iranian delegate did not agree to circulate the post among the Member States and proposed that the tenure of Mr. Amini be extended or another appropriate Iranian nominee may be appointed until the conclusion of the new distribution formula under the reform process. However, during 207th Meeting of the Council, the concerned Member States (Iran and Pakistan) agreed to have informal consultations and expressed the hope that an agreement would be reached between them before the next CPR (208).
- 52. The Chairman enquired from the concerned Member States (Iran & Pakistan) about any development in this regard. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Council that due to engagements in Regional Planning Council (RPC) Meeting, consultations could not be held but hoped that the matter will be resolved soon. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan confirmed its readiness to discuss and finalize the issue before the next CPR meeting.

c) Recommendations of the Selection Panel

53. The Council was informed that no Selection Panel meeting had been held.

Agenda Item No.8

Any other business

54. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran mentioned that in the last CPR Meeting (207th), the Secretariat was requested to participate in the ECOSF Eminent

Scientists Meeting in Islamabad for observing the process and reporting back to next CPR Meeting. He requested the Secretariat for briefing of the said meeting or provision of a report to the Member States.

- 55. The Secretariat informed that the Assistant Director (International Relations) of the Secretariat Mr. Muquet Asim Shah attended the said meeting in Islamabad and a Report in this regard will be circulated among the Member States soon.
- 56. Under the same agenda item, the Secretary General again reminded about hosting of Summit/COM Meeting by the concerned Member State (Pakistan).
- 57. On enquiry by the Chairman on question of holding of next Summit/COM Meeting, the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan informed the Council that they are still waiting a response in this regard.

Agenda Item No.9

Date of the next CPR meeting

- 58. The Chairman informed that for the next CPR meeting, though he was not consulted for fixing the date of the next CPR meeting, however, he said for the ease of ECO Secretariat the date for next CPR Meeting (209th) is acceptable for the time being which will be held on <u>Tuesday 17th February, 2016</u> at the ECO Secretariat. He said that if there is any change in his commitment he will inform the Secretariat for onward communication to the Member States accordingly.
- 59. The Chairman extended his best wishes to the all the distinguished delegates of the Member States for their participation and contribution in CPR Meeting.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

- H.E. Mr. Majid Bizmark, Permanent Representative/Director General
- Mr. Abulfazl Mohammad Alikhani, Director of ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Ahmad Safari, Deputy Director of ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Tofigh Sedigh Mostahkam, Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Mohammad Hashemi, Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Sadegh Sadeghi, Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

Mr. Serik Zhumabekov, Minister-Counsellor

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

Mr. Kochorbaev Musa, First Secretary

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Ahmad, Counsellor

Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Ms. Manizha Rahimi, Third Secretary
- Mr. Aminjon Andaliev, Attaché

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey:

- Mr. Baris Saygin, Counsellor
- Ms. Sevgi Ilhan, Second Secretary

The ECO Secretariat:

- H.E. Mr. Halil Ibrahim Akça, Secretary General
- Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Ahsan Ali Mangi, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Orkhan Zeynalov, Director (EME)
- Dr. Mohammad Adnan, Director (T&I)
- Mr. Bahodur Rahmonov, Assistant Director (CFU)
- Mr. Muhammad Mugeet Asim Shah, Assistant Director (IR)
- Mr. Gaffar Erbek, Chef de Cabinet
- Mr. Mahmoud Khoubkar, Legal Adviser
- Mr. Farhad Najafzadeh, Chief Accountant
- Mr. Muhammad Adnan Afridi, Administrative Assistant
- Mr. Israr Ahmad Khan, Steno-Secretary
- Ms. Aynur Mammadova, Russian Translator
- Mr. Berik Buzauov, Russian Translator
- Mr. Amir Mohammad Javaheri, Persian Translator
