

The 7th Ministerial Meeting on Transport & Communications

Statement of Kyrgyz

(Antalya-Turkey, 15-17 April, 2008)

Dear Chair,
Dear Secretary General,
Excellencies,

Kyrgyz delegation first expresses its profound appreciation to Turkey for the extended warm hospitality and high-level arrangements made for the seventh Ministerial meeting as well as to the ECO Secretariat for its all-possible support to the meeting. It is a great honour for us to use this opportunity and welcome Ministers of member states and heads of delegations. In particular, we would like to express our gratitude to the People's Republic of China for their consent to participate in this meeting. We hope that such participation will have permanent status. Kyrgyzstan attaches great significance to the efforts of the organisation and member states especially in the field of transport.

Development of regional transport infrastructure has strategic importance for us. Such development brings both increase of transit potential of the countries and solution of major issues of social and economic nature and value, as well as inflow of investment and boost of technical potential. Recently adopted by the country management Development Strategy up to 2010 has a special focus on development of transport, especially railway network.

We wish to emphasize that construction and renovation of transport corridors, in which our country is interested in, as we believe, has both regional and global significance.

In this regard, the «Construction of Chinese-Kyrgyz-Uzbek trunk-railway» railway project, which proposed by our delegation, has first priority for Kyrgyzstan. This project will enable to reduce route distance within the «China-Near East-Turkey» corridor for 1000 km and overall time of transportation of goods and passengers for 7-8 days.

Therefore, we would like to note with satisfaction the unity and generality of our interests.

Excellencies, please accept our wishes in your personal health, as well as well-being and prosperity to fraternal people of the ECO countries.

Thank you.