



**241st Meeting of the
Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)
Report**

4th September 2019
ECO Secretariat - Tehran

Draft Report

The 241st Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR), held on September 4, 2019 at the ECO Secretariat, was chaired by H.E. Mr. Nizomiddin Zohidi, Ambassador of the Republic of **Tajikistan** to the Islamic Republic of Iran and Permanent Representative to ECO. The Meeting was attended by Permanent Representatives/Representatives of Islamic Republic of **Afghanistan**, Republic of **Azerbaijan**, Islamic Republic of **Iran**, Republic of **Kazakhstan**, **Kyrgyz** Republic, Islamic Republic of **Pakistan**, Republic of **Tajikistan**, Republic of **Turkey**, **Turkmenistan** and Republic of **Uzbekistan**. The ECO Secretary General along with concerned officials of the Secretariat also attended the Meeting. The list of participants is enclosed as *Annex-I*.

2. Before adoption of the agenda, the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** pointing to the low presence of the Permanent Representatives at the meeting of the Council (four out of ten) raised a point of order about the quorum of the meeting. He continued that participation of the Permanent Representatives in the meetings of the Council of Permanent Representatives shall be observed. Hence, taking into account the insufficient presence of the Permanent Representatives, the postponement of the meeting was requested. He continued that the participation of Permanent Representatives was necessary especially considering that some agenda items, for instance, agenda item No. 3 regarding ongoing process of reform containing reallocation of posts, are needed to be decided at the meeting. He sought legal clarification from the Secretariat on the participation in the Meetings of the Permanent Representatives and the possibility of attendance of alternate representatives. He also inquired about the changing the date of the 240th CPR meeting and reason based on which the change took place.

3. The **Chair** thanked the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran for bringing up the important issue of the need for holding the meetings of the Council of Permanent Representatives by participation of its members. However, he proposed the possibility of holding this meeting as per the practice, considering that some permanent representatives are represented by their colleagues from the embassy. He referred to the presence of four permanent representatives at the meeting and added that two permanent representative informed him that they would not be able to participate. Therefore, the meeting may be convened for today.

4. The **Chair** concluded that for the next meetings of the CPR, presence of sufficient Permanent Representatives would be sought. He underlined that the Permanent Representatives would inform the Secretariat about their presence at the meeting of the Council and in case of their absence the name of accredited representative would be communicated to the Secretariat.

5. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** expressed that they may as well go in line with the views of the Chair. Hence, as for the draft agenda items, he requested the deletion of the agenda item No. 3 i.e Follow-up to the decisions of the 23rd Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting; ECO Reforms etc. from the agenda, in view of the fact that the presence of Permanent Representatives was necessary for discussion with respect to this regard.

6. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** stated that though the Permanent Representative of Pakistan was not present in the meeting, he had clear instructions as far as negotiations on reform process were concerned.

7. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Uzbekistan** stated that the participating Representatives had the authority to discuss the agenda items and make decisions thereon. He further said that the deferral of the matter would further delay the issue.

8. As for the query made on the need for the changes of the date of 241st CPR meeting, the **Deputy Secretary General (T&C, PERS and CFU)** explained that the main reason for changing the date of the meeting was the receipt of two Note Verbales dated 25 August 2019 and 27 August 2019 respectively, from the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey and also Note Verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran for inclusion of some new agenda item(s) on the agenda of the 241th CPR meeting. He informed that the items proposed by Turkey and Iran required some time to be analyzed by Member States as well as for inclusion in the CPR's agenda.

9. The Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** stated that although the Permanent Representatives had been attending earlier meetings of CPR, no outcome was seen to be achieved. As regards attendance of CPR by deputies, he said that sitting behind his flag meant he had the authority to represent his country.

10. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** underscored that the reform process had so far become complicated involving different issues. He requested the Secretary General and the Chair to bifurcate the issues as to address the request of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan as well as explore the possibility to deal with Kazakhstan's request in phases, enabling the Council to achieve some fruitful and tangible outcome.

11. After deliberations, the **Chairman** based on the views expressed and his views on the participation of the Permanent Representatives at the CPR meetings proposed the adoption of the following draft agenda under agenda item No. 1 which was adopted by the Council:

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the Agenda

12. The Secretariat proposed the following Draft Agenda of the 241st CPR Meeting for adoption:

Draft Agenda

1. Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the 241st CPR Meeting
2. Adoption of the Draft Report of the 240th CPR Meeting
3. Follow-up to the decisions of the 23rd Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting; ECO Reforms etc. (*continued*)
4. Extension of the period set by the BoT of ECO Science Foundation for Nomination the Candidates for the Post of Next President of ECO Science Foundation

5. Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM), New York
6. Participation of Turkish Cypriot State in the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM), New York
7. Administrative matters:
 - Recommendations of the Selection Panel
8. Any other business
9. Date of the next CPR Meeting

Agenda Item No.2

Adoption of the Draft Report of the 240th CPR Meeting

13. The **Council** adopted the Draft Report of the 240th CPR Meeting circulated amongst the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/CPR/240th Meeting/2019/608 dated 28 July 2019.

Agenda Item No. 3

Follow-up to the decisions of the 23rd Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting; ECO Reforms etc. (continued)

14. The **Chair** briefed the Council that the 240th Meeting of CPR, with the aim of creation of a further convergence of views concerning the reform proposal (s), decided to defer discussions on issue to its next meeting. In this regard, it was agreed to hold unofficial meetings and consultations for developing consensus in the matter.

15. The **Secretary General** briefed the Council regarding latest up-date on reform process. He said that two days delay for convening the 241st CPR Meeting was made after consultations with the Chair and Permanent Representatives. He said that consensus was yet to be made on position (s) to be offered to the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan as non-represented Member States in the last two CPR Meetings. While expecting some substantive progress on positions to be offered to those countries, the Secretary General stated that issue of Kazakhstan would be considered in next rounds of CPRs meetings.

16. The **Secretary General** conveyed that the Secretariat forwarded a Note Verbale No. CFU/CPR/Reform/2019/545 dated 2 July 2019 to Member States regarding draft proposal for addressing the issue of representation of non-represented Member States in the Secretariat within the framework of Reform. He briefed the Council that under the given proposal the post of Research Officer of the Directorate of Agriculture, Industry and Tourism (Category-II, P3) relinquished by the Islamic Republic of Iran would be upgraded in (Category-I, D2) as Director of Tourism Directorate and offered to the Republic of Uzbekistan along with the post of Research Officer of the Directorate of Trade & Investment in (Category-II, P3) released by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. However, he added that the occupation of such posts by Uzbekistan would take effect only after the materialization of contribution in accordance with their new scale of assessment, that is, 4%. The Secretary General also clarified that the existing Directorate of Agriculture, Industry and Tourism was proposed to be re-titled as Directorate of Agriculture and Industry.

17. The **Secretary General** further said that the post of Program Officer for Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit (Category-II, P3) released by the Islamic

Republic of Pakistan would be upgraded (Category-I, D2) as Economic Advisor and offered to Turkmenistan. The post of Librarian in (Category-II, P1) to be released by the Islamic Republic of Iran would be re-titled as Program Officer for Transport and Communications and offered to Turkmenistan. He said that the post of Transport and Communications might be filled by Turkmenistan upon materialization of contribution in accordance with their new scale of assessment, that is, 4%.

18. The **Secretary General** said that after approval of the proposal by the Council, the approval of COM may be sought through 15 days' silence procedure, enabling the representation of these two Member States in the Secretariat.

19. The **Chair** stated that the proposal mentioned by the Secretary General was the result of consultations conducted by the Secretary General between and amongst the Member States in accordance with the mandate given to him and invited the Member States to express their views on the draft proposal.

20. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** said that draft proposal contains references to the new scale of assessments. He underlined that acceptance of the proposal implies to reaffirming the acceptance of the new scale on the part of the Member States. He further said that as all the Member States were agreed on this item, it should be reflected in the report as they accepted the new scale of assessments. He reiterated that in future Member States would not discuss the new scale of assessments. He stated that the concurrence on the proposal implies if this proposal was accepted by all MS, the concerned Member States would pay their future contributions according to the new scale of assessments.

21. The **Secretary General** stated that in the previous CPR Meetings, there were discussions on the scale of assessment for 2019 which was approved. He added that budget for the year 2019 has been prepared on the basis of the new scale of assessments and contributions made by the Member States accordingly. He desired the matter to be finalized at CPR's level, noting that the alternation/change, if any, may be made by the next COM.

22. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** stated that reform process was initiated with a comprehensive approach on scale of assessments and allocation of the posts. He reminded intensive consultations, which were realized to discuss to uphold this approach. He said that, in principle, Republic of Turkey supports the allocation of new posts to non-represented Member States and welcome the representation of Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the ECO Secretariat.

23. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** informed that he received instructions from capital reiterating on adoption of a comprehensive approach towards ECO Reforms. He added that his country was not against separating one issue from another to find some solution. He asked the Secretary General to consult with all Member States. He asked the Secretary General to review the new portfolios of the Directorates with a broader and more comprehensive vision. He said that he had not received instruction from the capital in this regard.

24. The Representative of the Republic of **Kazakhstan** stated that he had new instructions on the proposal as Kazakhstan suspended negotiations on scale of assessment giving 16% share instead of proposed 18%.

25. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** stated that his country has already declared the readiness for realizing posts under the reform process which are offered to Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, as mentioned in the text according to scale of assessments. He also mentioned that Republic of Kazakhstan would be paying 16% as their Representative stated. He also said that percentage of the contribution of the countries within the ECO should be 100% and if there was some kind of deficit i.e 2% then how this shortfall could be adjusted. He stressed on the need to make a decision for giving posts and accepting the new scale of assessments.

26. The **Secretary General** by referring to the issue of the scale of assessments stated that he understands that the Member States are keen to avoid any future uncertainty on the issue. He pointed out that there is a decision on the new scale of assessment, which is subject to the approval of COM. Turning to the views expressed on the title of directorates under the reform process, he drew attention of the Council that the proposal on the allocation of posts to non-represented Member States containing the suggested titles of directorates has already been circulated two month ago. However, in case that the Member States need more time for the consideration of the titles, the issue of the title may remain open for further consideration by the Member States later on. In this context, he said that by the endorsement of the Council a specific time limit may be given to MS for receiving their views on the matter.

27. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** stated that he was not comfortable with the methodology, which was being followed in the reform process. He underlined that all the MS were very much exhausted with the current deadlock about the reform process and desirous of moving forward and focusing on some genuine issues. He said that Turkey was in consultation with the Republic of Kazakhstan to encourage solution. He further added that both the SoAs, division of the Directorate and giving new posts to MS were interconnected with each other. He said that according to the Secretary General the contribution should be 100% but currently it is 98% and who was going to pay for 2% of the share. He stated that this was not the issue of 2019 but the issue of last five years i.e from 2014-2018. He said that just a day before CPR, there was lot of changes leaving no time to consult with capital as time and contents of the CPR changed and all the issues under discussion were very important. He stressed that more coordination was needed among Member States on the reform process and a constructive approach was needed to avoid further mistakes and problems in future.

28. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** stated that the discussions had been quite effective so far, as every issue is linked with one and other while dealing with multilateral issues. He noted that reform process was not carried out thoughtfully from the very beginning. He said that promulgated area focused by Member States blindly on percentage/share of each MS, which actually was fine but the problem became more complicated when each individual appeared to disagree with its own share or some country decided to unilaterally reduce its share. He further stated that the discussed issues are important but Member States have to realize that there are few other problems which need more attention e.g. issue of the Republic of Uzbekistan as it has expressed willingness to start

contributing and start supporting to ECO productively and intends to engage actively participating in the affairs of ECO which is welcome step. Likewise, Turkmenistan has always been very helpful and also wants to participate actively. He said that all Member States welcome these initiatives instead of adopting an approach which will discourage not only these countries but also other countries not to be pro-actively engaged with the organization.

29. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** suggested being open-hearted on all issues since Iran already gave up three posts and Pakistan also expressed its position to give up its positions as great gesture. He said that without waiting for the outcome of these proceedings Pakistan and Iran had already given up their positions and confirmed their scale of assessments as well as expressed willingness to pro-actively engage and involve with all other Member States. He further noted that if the Council were not allowed to step forward it would waste the current year focusing on the arrears of 2018 and 2019 without any result, increasing the burden of arrears.

30. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** added that if we wanted to make the ECO more effective in terms of economic and connectivity issue, the non-represented Member States should be welcomed and allowed to contribute, giving them the posts and thereafter to be actively engaged with ECO. In case of shortfall, we may highlight those countries who do not contribute their share considering the ways of downsizing. He said that if we did not go with some productive approach then we would waste the year 2019 as well, increasing the level of distress amongst all the Member States with no results.

31. The **Chair** noted that none of the Member States opposed on the allocation of these posts to non-represented Member States. He said that this segment may be considered as approved. He drew the attention of the Council to the fact that in case of non-addressing this issue timely we would observe the higher rate of deficit around 10% in scale of assessments. As no Member States opposed the draft proposal with regard to posts offered to non-represented Member States, he suggested the silence procedure to be adopted as proposed by the Secretary General.

32. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** stated that all the Member States had constructive approach on reform process. He said that Turkey had no opposition to giving these posts to the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on the contrary his country would welcome their representation in the ECO. However he conveyed his disagreement on linking of budgetary contribution with allocation of posts. The Representative of the Republic of Turkey reiterated an earlier request from the Secretariat about the details of contributions of each Member State and the wages of their representatives, which is yet to be delivered to the Member States. The Secretary General instructed the Secretariat officials to prepare it before the next Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR).

33. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** added that Turkey's budgetary contribution was given unconditionally expecting other Member States to also transfer their contributions without linking it with other issues to move forward. He stressed that every Member State should pay their contributions on time and thereafter the Council should focus on the issues of reform. He said that there were

some problems in the reform process i.e scale of assessments, distribution of posts, fair representation of the countries and participation of non-represented Member States. He further said that his Ambassador has already promised that he would support the allocation of proposed posts to the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, adding that if we took one wrong step, it would create a lot of problems in the future which was neither a right approach nor a way to deal in an international organization.

34. The **Chair** requested the Representative of the Republic of Turkey to provide some concrete proposal on this issue.

35. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** stated that (i) all the Member States in principle agreed to allocating these posts to Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan; (ii) Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan would ask their capitals to pay their budgetary contributions at the earliest possible and (iii) the other Member States would ask their capitals whether this new re-allocation of posts of Directorates were acceptable to them.

36. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** endorsed the views of his Turkish counterpart. He said that Pakistan supports re-allocation of posts to Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan and agrees with the proposal made by the Secretariat. He further stated that these positions given to those countries would only be realized after they accept their scale of assessment and start payment of contributions. He said that the posts are filled by the said countries after the realization of the annual contributions. Hence, the the payment of contributions and occupation of their posts are considered simultaneously by these Member States.

37. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Uzbekistan** stated that he agreed with the proposal mentioned by Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that after materialization of contribution, Uzbekistan would take the offered positions.

38. The Permanent Representative of **Turkmenistan** stated that his country already paid their contribution to the ECO Secretariat. He said that his country had no representation in the Secretariat and their contribution used on the salaries of staff and other activities of ECO whereas he never raised any question on this issue in the past. He further stressed that his country may stop contributing their share by next year, if their posts were not materialized.

39. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** underlined that Turkmenistan may fill the allocated post (economic advisor) upon the approval of the proposal on the creation of the post as reflected in the proposal. Filling of the second post requires payment of contribution by Turkmenistan based on the new scale.

40. The **Council** considered the aforesaid reform proposal and decided, as suggested in the last paragraph of the draft proposal provided to Member States during the 241st CPR Meeting i.e “**draft reform proposal for addressing the status of non-represented Member States at the ECO Secretariat within the framework of Reform**” to seek the approval of the COM with respect to the proposal through silent

procedure within a time-limit of two weeks. In case of no objection within this period the draft proposal will be considered as approved.

41. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** while welcoming the allocation of the new posts to the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan asked the Secretary General to review the new portfolios of the Directorates with a broader and more comprehensive vision.

Agenda Item No.4

Extension of the period set by the BoT of ECO Science Foundation for Nomination of the Candidates for the Post of Next President of ECO Science Foundation

42. Deputy Secretary General (**T&I, AIT & IR**) briefed the Council that the tenure of present President of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro (Pakistani national), expired on September 2, 2019. The BoT of ECO Science Foundation, in its 4th Meeting on July 09, 2019 in Isfahan, extended the tenure of the incumbent President till joining of his successor.

43. The 4th meeting of BoT also considered the matter of nomination process of the candidates for appointment of next President of ECOSF and decided:

- a) To give one month time from the date of 4th Meeting of ECOSF BoT, to Afghanistan, to pay its arrears of mandatory contribution to ECOSF in order to recommend its candidate as next President of ECOSF;
- b) Iranian side to nominate its candidate for the Presidency of ECOSF parallel within one month;
- c) If both Afghanistan and Iran fail nominating their candidates within one month, the other Member States may nominate their candidates;

44. The Deputy Secretary General (**T&I, AIT & IR**) added that the period of one month which was set forth by the BoT of ECOSF for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran to nominate their candidate(s) for the next President of ECOSF has already been expired on 9 August 2019. However, the Islamic Republic of Iran through its Note Verbale No. 531/362/172510, dated August 27, 2019, informed that since the process of nominating its candidate for the next President of ECOSF is still in process, the given timeline of one month may be extended to some certain time period.

45. The Secretariat already circulated the Iranian proposal through the Note Verbale No. IR/ECOSF/2019/703 dated 28 August 2019. The issue has been put on the agenda of CPR for its consideration as per the request of the Islamic Republic of Iran and in accordance with Rules of Procedure of the ECO Science Foundation (last paragraph of section A) which provides that in the absence of the Board of Trustees, the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives shall decide on matters of certain urgency, the DSG added.

46. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** requested for two months' extension as of the date of the deadline.

47. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Pakistan** stated that regarding the Specialized Agencies of ECO, Pakistan supports the policy of involving more and

more Member States for an extensive representation in these specialized agencies, making them more resourceful. He said that participation of Iran would definitely bring more strength to these specialized agencies. He further said that through this way the Member States would be able to assist the organization and clearing its arrears, which are at the moment pending by some Member States. He added that the current President was on extension and after nomination of the new President from the Islamic Republic of Iran; his appointment would be made to replace the incumbent President.

48. The **Council** extended the deadline set by 4th BoT of ECO Science Foundation for two more months as of 9 August 2019 to receive the nominations for the next President of ECOSF.

Agenda Item No.5

Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM), New York

49. The Secretariat received a Note Verbale No. 2019/99530379-Tehran BE/23810608 dated 25 August 2019 from the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey regarding convening of the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York on 27 September 2019. The Secretariat circulated the aforesaid Note Verbale amongst the Member States through the Note Verbale CFU/COM/2019/695 dated August 27, 2018.

50. The **Chair** informed the Council that after consultations with the Republic of Turkey, the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York would be held under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Turkey as the Co-Chairman on 27 September 2019.

51. The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** stated that Agenda of the Informal COM should be clear and usually was about exchange of views amongst the Member States. He asked the Secretariat to find out about the level of participation in the COM's Informal Meeting. He said that level of participation in this meeting on the sidelines of the UNGA had not been satisfactory as normally the Representatives of the Members States based in their Permanent Missions at New York participated in the past informal sessions of the COM. He further said during the informal meetings, the Ministers will be briefed on ECO main activities and exchange of views amongst the Member States.

52. The **Chair** informed that seven out of ten ECO Ministers participated in the last Informal Meeting of the COM on the sidelines of UN General Assembly in New York. He hoped an active participation in the COM's Informal Session if the Member States would make a proper coordination with their relevant authorities. He further said that a draft agenda had already been prepared. The Chair added that as suggested by the Republic of Turkey and some other Member States, there were some other important meetings fixed on the day and Informal COM Meeting on September 27, 2019 might be rescheduled. He requested the Member States to instruct their Permanent Missions in New York to coordinate regarding the new

timings and date of this meeting and also urged the Member States to ensure participation of their Ministers.

53. The Representative of the Republic of the Republic of **Turkey** clarified that since Tajikistan (current chair of the ECO) was not ready to hold the meeting this year, Turkey expressed its willingness to host this meeting on the margin of the UN General Assembly.. He stated that this Informal Meeting was held every year in New York and usually Secretary General also attended it. He said that this was good opportunity for all the Ministers of the Member States to interact with each other and have dialogues as well as share views on the ECO and the activities of ECO, urging them to coordinate with their authorities for active participation of their Ministers in this Informal Meeting.

54. The Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** expressed his gratitude to the Republic of Turkey for the initiative to host the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) on the sidelines of the 74th Session of UNGA in New York on 27 September 2019. He requested the Secretariat to distribute the agenda and programme of the Informal Meeting at the earliest possible amongst the Member States.

55. The **Council** requested the Secretariat to circulate the draft agenda of the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) on 27 September 2019 in New York to all Member States.

Agenda Item No.6

Participation of Turkish Cypriot State in the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM), New York

56. The Secretariat received a Note Verbale No. 2019/99530379-Tehran BE/23815980 dated 27 August 2019 from the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Tehran regarding participation of Turkish Cypriot State in the Informal Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) to be held on 27 September 2019 in New York on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly, which was circulated amongst Member States by Secretariat`s Note Verbale CFU/COM/2019/700 dated 27 August 2019.

57. The **Council** considered and approved, in accordance with the ECO Modalities for Granting Observer and Dialogue Partnership Status at ECO, the participation of Turkish Cypriot State, in its capacity as “Observer” without right to vote in inaugural and closing ceremonies of Informal COM Meeting, scheduled to be held on 27 September 2019 in New York.

Agenda Item No.7

Administrative matters:

Recommendations of the Selection Panel

58. The Selection Panel met on September 4, 2019. The Meeting was coordinated by Mr. Huseyin Avni Bicakli, ECO Deputy Secretary General for Administration and chaired by the Representative of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The Representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey, also attended the meeting.

59. The Selection Panel made the following recommendation (s) for consideration by the CPR:

Network Administrator (Category-II, P1)

The term of service in respect of Ms. Maryam Eslami (**Iranian national**) may be extended till the joining of her successor.

60. The **Council** approved the above mentioned appointment as recommended by the Selection Panel.

Agenda Item No.8

Any other business:

61. The Representative of the Republic of **Turkey** requested to use country's official name as "Turkey or the Republic of Turkey" and not the Turkish Republic during the course of interpretation/translation in the meetings, because this might cause confusion in the floor. He underlined that there were other Turkish Republics in the ECO.

62. The **Secretary General** briefed the Council about the latest activities of the organization. In this context he informed the Council on the convening of: the 8th Meeting of ECOTA Cooperation Council held on 17-18 August 2019 at the ECO Secretariat, Tehran; 1st Caspian Sea Economic Forum held on 12 August 2019 in Turkmenistan; 10th High Level Working Group Meeting on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Container Train held on 20-21 August 2019 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

63. He further informed the Council on his recent visit to the Republic of Tajikistan, which was scheduled from 20 to 22 August 2019. It was added that he had a call on the President of the Republic of Tajikistan H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon and he also met Mr. Nematullo Hikmatullozoda, Minister of Economic Development and Trade and Mr. Nu'mon Abdugafforzoda, Chairman of the Committee for Tourism Development under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

64. The **Secretary General** also briefed the Council about the upcoming events of the organization: Ministerial Meeting on Tourism, Republic of Tajikistan, 3-4 October 2019; Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture, Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku, 23-24 October 2019; Ministerial Meeting on Economy, Republic of Tajikistan, first half of 2020. He requested the Member States to actively participate in the meetings and to inform the Secretariat about their participation. He continued that unfortunately despite the efforts put for convening the Second Meeting of the Heads of Central Banks of ECO Member States in August 2019, the meeting was not convened due to lack of quorum. He hoped that the meeting could be held in near future.

65. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Afghanistan** requested the Secretariat to brief regarding the latest update of transferring bank account of ECO Fund for Afghanistan from Habib Bank London to the National Bank of Pakistan in Kabul.

66. **Deputy Secretary General (HRSD, EME, DOCCU, Admin)** briefed the Council that the Secretariat in coordination with the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was preparing the information regarding the previous transactions and also preparing documents such as authority letter for the account purpose, as requested by the Manager of the National Bank of Pakistan in Kabul. He further said that since the ECO Secretariat had no office in London, the Council may like to assign any Member State to represent the ECO in London and Kabul until the transfer of fund was finally made. DSG asked the Council to appoint Representative on behalf of ECO to take this amount as a cheque or cash from the Habib Bank London. He also proposed the Council to assign Ambassadors of Tajikistan or Islamic Republic of Afghanistan or Islamic Republic of Pakistan based in London to take this amount from Habib Bank London and transfer it to the National Bank of Pakistan in Kabul.

67. The **Council** asked the Secretariat to solve this issue within the Secretariat and inform the Council on the latest updates in the next CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No.9

Date of the next CPR Meeting

68. While adjourning the Meeting, the CPR Chairman expressed his sincere thanks to the distinguished Permanent Representatives/Representatives of all ECO Member States for their participation and valuable contribution in the Meeting.

69. The Council decided to convene its next (242nd) Meeting on **Monday, 21st October 2019 at 10:00 hours at the ECO Secretariat-Tehran.**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

- Mr. Abdulmuqaddas Hadi, Counsellor
- Ms. Zahra Badaghi, Administrative Assistant

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- Mr. Javid Musayev, Counsellor

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

- H.E. Mr. Majid Bizmark, Permanent Representative/Director General
- Mr. Sayed A. Shabibi, Senior Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- Mr. Gamzat Khairov, Counsellor

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- Mr. Akilbek Kilichev, Minister, Counsellor

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- Mr. Mian Azmat Farooq, First Secretary

Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- H.E. Mr. Nizomiddin Zohidi, Ambassador
- Mr. Firdavs Yusupov, Second Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey:

- Mr. Emirhan Yorulmazlar, Deputy Head of Mission
- Mr. Ozgur Murat, Second Secretary

The Embassy of Turkmenistan:

- H.E. Mr. Ahmed Qurbanov, Ambassador
- Ms. Selbi Mukhammedova, Attache

The Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- H.E. Mr. Bakhodir Abdullaev, Ambassador

The ECO Secretariat:

- H.E. Mr. Hadi Soleimanpur, Secretary General
- Mr. Kanan Nazarov, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Huseyin Avni Bicakli, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Sayed Yahya Akhlaqi, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Salohiddin Kiromov, Assistant Director (AD CFU)
- Mr. Mahmoud Khoubkar, Legal Adviser
- Mr. Mohammed Ahmad Raza, Steno-Secretary
- Mr. Chaudhry Hadees Muhammad, Steno-Secretary
- Ms. Aynur Mammadova, English-Russian Interpreter/Translator
- Ms. Nurgul Duissenova, English-Russian Interpreter/Translator
- Mr. Amir Javaheri, English-Persian Interpreter/Translator
