



ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)

**Report of the
First Meeting of Chiefs of Police of ECO Member States
(Tehran: 23-24 November, 2011)**

The ECO Secretariat, Tehran

The First Meeting of Chiefs of Police of ECO Member States (Tehran: 23-24 November, 2011)

Report

1. The First Meeting of Chiefs of Police of ECO Member States was held in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 23 – 24 November, 2011. The meeting was attended by delegates of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Turkey, as well as the ECO Secretary General along with the relevant staff of the Secretariat. The list of participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

2. The Chiefs of Police Meeting was preceded by an Experts Group Meeting for finalizing necessary formalities/documents for establishment of ECOPOL. The EGM was chaired by Colonel Makhdoom, First Deputy Director General of National Central Bureau, Tehran. The EGM was tasked by the 3rd ECO Interior Ministers Meeting (Istanbul, 2010) to exclusively consider necessary structural issues related to the establishment of ECOPOL. Therefore, the EGM held detailed discussions on the draft Statute of ECOPOL by reviewing its each and every paragraph. Addition and deletion proposed by the Member States were incorporated during the meeting and the EGM concluded with a revised version of the Statute of ECOPOL which is attached as **Annex. II**. It was further agreed by the EGM that this Statute needs further consideration by the competent authorities in the Member States according to their national legislation. Therefore the need for holding another Experts Group Meeting before May, 2012 was recommended to the Chiefs of Police Meeting. The Republic of Turkey offered its its readiness to host the 2nd Experts Group Meeting in Turkey.

Inauguration of the Meeting

3. Speaking during the inaugural session, His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Yahya Maroofi, the ECO Secretary General welcomed the delegates and thanked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran particularly the National Central Bureau, Tehran, for hosting this important meeting which would pave the way for institutionalizing cooperation among the police forces of the ECO Member States and ultimately the fight against trafficking, consumption of opiates and trans-national organized crimes. He noted that a deeper cooperation among the Member States to meet challenges of Transnational Organized Crimes is among the priorities set by ECO's highest decision making organs. He gave a gist of recently organized meetings organized by the ECO Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit (DOCCU) and mentioned that the objective of these events was to create awareness, establish cooperative mechanism among the Member States on peace, security and stability of peoples' life. He added that the Economic Cooperation Organization is devoted to the cause of regional economic integration, which would simultaneously supplement the efforts that guarantee security and stability in our region. Referring to the idea of ECOPOL, Mr. Maroofi expressed the hope that ECOPOL, after its establishment, would be very beneficial for all the Member States. A copy of the statement is placed as **Annex-III**.

4. His Excellency General Ismail Ahmadi Moghaddam, Commander In Chief of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran inaugurated the meeting. He said that combat against all forms of transnational crimes including such as illicit drug cultivation, drug smuggling, smuggling of goods, human trafficking and illegal migration, counterfeiting, cyber crimes, money laundering and terrorism are all of global nature and there is a strong need for collective and collaborative measures to eradicate these menaces. He called for rapid exchange of information about crimes in the ECO Member States for ensuring peace and security worldwide. He mentioned that Iran had always fought against terrorism, drugs and trans-national organized crimes and reiterated Iran's readiness to cooperate with all the Member States in a constructive manner to fight against these

crimes. He expressed the hope that the present gathering would help promote sharing of experiences and finding joint solutions to complex issues of regional security. He dilated that the international relations on security issues will play an effective role in redressing the plight of victims of such crimes.

Agenda Item No. 2

Election of the Chairman

5. The working session was coordinated by H.E. Mr. M. Yahya Maroofi, Secretary General of ECO. In accordance with ECO's Rules of Procedure, H.E. Brigadier General Bahram Nourozi, First Deputy Chief of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the Meeting. In his remarks, the Chairman thanked the participants for reposing confidence in him and expressed the hope that the deliberations and decisions made during the meeting would contribute to enhancing regional cooperation among the police forces of the ECO Member States.

Agenda Item No. 3

Adoption of the Agenda

6. The meeting adopted the following agenda for its proceedings:

- 1) Inauguration of the Meeting:
 - Statement by the ECO Secretary General
 - Statement by the Commander In Chief of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- 2) Election of the Chairman.
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda.
- 4) Appointment of the Drafting Committee.
- 5) Country Reports/statements by the representatives of the Member States
- 6) Establishment of a Regional Training Center for Police Forces of the ECO Member States

- 7) Training courses for raising the technical level of Police of the ECO Member States
- 8) Organizing sports events among the Police Forces of the ECO Member States
- 9) Consideration and finalization of the Statute of ECOPOL
- 10) Any other business.
- 11) Date and Venue of the next Meeting
- 12) Adoption of the Report.
- 13) Vote of Thanks.

Agenda Item No. 4

Appointment of the Drafting Committee

7. An open-ended Drafting Committee for preparation of the draft report of the Meeting was constituted, comprising representatives from the Secretariat and the host country.

Agenda Item No. 5

Country Reports/statements by the representatives of the Member States

8. The Heads of delegation delivered their statements, focusing on different issues of security related problems including, drugs, terrorism and transnational organized crime, and elaborated the activities of the related police organizations in their respective countries. They expressed their commitment to enhance joint cooperation to eradicate the above menaces within the regional context. The statements also highlighted that in order to contribute effectively to regional and global efforts for combating drugs, terrorism and transnational organized crime, there was a strong need for exchange of information and sharing best practices among all the stakeholders of the police organizations of the ECO Member States. Copies of the presentations made available to the Secretariat are attached as **Annex. IV**

Agenda Item No. 6

Establishment of a Regional Training Center for Police Forces of the ECO Member States

Agenda Item No. 7

Training courses for raising the technical level of Police of the ECO Member States

9. Because of the similarity of agenda item Nos. 6 and 7, the meeting discussed both items as one agenda for its deliberations.

10. **Colonel Makhdoom**, 1st Deputy Director General of NCB, Tehran briefed the meeting that an International Police Training Center under the management of Law Enforcement University, Tehran, has been established in Iran. So far, this center has organized 10 training programmes for the police forces of neighbouring countries. These training courses were mainly related to the areas such drug control, drug-trafficking, criminal police and other specialized police areas of concern. He also mentioned the details of recently held training programme titled drug concealment methods and searching techniques in Tehran on 5-8 September, 2011, in cooperation with the ECO-DOCCU. This course was organized for law enforcement and customs officials of the ECO member states. He announced readiness of Iranian Police to organize more training courses in the framework of ECO to share their experiences with other member states.

11. The representative of Turkey briefed the meeting (***Annex. V***) that their government has strong belief in international cooperation and Turkey has supported every initiative aimed at combating drug trafficking at the international level. In line with this understanding, the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC) is working since 2000. With its experienced trainers, international subject experts, state of the art facilities and equipment, different training programs have been developed according to the needs of the region. He declared Turkey's readiness to continue more training courses for the benefits of the law enforcement officials of the Member States. He informed the meeting that in view of

increased demands in providing police training from the TNP, another International Police Training Center (IPTC) project has been initiated this year which will be completed in 2014. The aim of this project is to establish an international police training center which will serve both national and international police forces. The total cost of the project is 110 Million Euros. Together with the services already being provided by TADOC, the IPTC will also be available for providing training facilities to the member states.

12. The participants of the meeting agreed that organizing training courses in order to be acquainted with the latest technical and scientific equipments is an important and pressing prerequisite for enhancing capacities of their respective police forces. Holding of such training programmes also facilitate exchange of information among themselves and in this regard establishment of a regional training center was considered as a good initiative. It was also mentioned that establishment of a training center would be helpful in order to reinforce the police forces for the simple and equal performance and eventually reaching to a level of an efficacious security in the region.

Agenda Item No. 8

Organizing sports events among the Police Forces of the ECO Member States

13. The possibility of organizing cultural, scientific and athletics competitions among police forces of the member states was considered in detail by the meeting. The participants welcomed the idea of organizing different types of competitions exclusively for police officials. The representative of Iran announced to organize the first ECO Police Forces Marksmanship Competition subject to the condition that ECO Secretariat provides the required assistance and other countries also offer their readiness to organize such competitions in future. He stated that such events would greatly contribution for enhancing interaction among the police forces of Member States. The representative of Turkey mentioned that TADOC has previously been organizing different training courses internationally and announced Turkey's readiness to continue holding such events for the Member States in future also. He also pointed out

that Turkey is already part of two international sports associations Koshishis and EUROPOL and have held so many sports events. He expressed Turkey's readiness to share their experiences with other member states of ECO.

Agenda Item No. 9

Consideration and finalization of the Statute of ECOPOL

14. Colonel Makhdoom briefly apprised the Chiefs of Police meeting about the outcomes of the Experts Group Meeting held on 21-22 November, 2011 attended by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Turkey. The meeting held detailed discussions on the draft Statute of ECOPOL by reviewing its each and every paragraph. Additions and deletions proposed by the Member States were incorporated during the meeting and the EGM concluded with a revised version of the Statute of ECOPOL. The EGM has further agreed that this Statute needs further consideration by the competent authorities in the Member States according to their national legislation. Therefore, the EGM recommends holding another Experts Group Meeting before May, 2012.

15. The meeting while appreciating the hard work done by the Experts Group Meeting, decided that the revised draft Statute of ECOPOL, as annexed to this decision **(Annex. II)**, be developed by the Experts Group at further meeting. Other important decisions by the Chiefs of Police Meeting are as follows:

- i) As proposed by the Republic of Turkey for their offer to host the second Experts Group Meeting, it was agreed to hold the mentioned EGM before May, 2012, to consider additional views on the revised draft Statute of ECOPOL from the Member States and ECO Secretariat. Upon reaching the final draft version of the said document, it will be submitted to the 20th ECO Council of Ministers Meeting for approval.

- ii) Pending decision on the headquarters of the Secretariat, the ECO-Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit (DOCCU) is mandated to carry on coordinating activities and work related to the ECOPOL.
- iii) The headquarters of the ECOPOL will be decided by the Member States at the ECO Council of Ministers Meeting. The Member States are invited to communicate their interest to the ECO Secretariat on a possible hosting for the ECOPOL headquarters.
- iv) To facilitate operationalization of ECOPOL, an ad-hoc ECOPOL Fund will be established. The ad-hoc fund will be financed through voluntary grants by the Member States as well as from the ECO Feasibility and General Purpose Fund (FGPF). The draft Terms of Reference of the Fund, prepared by the ECO in consultations with the donor member countries, will be communicated to the Member States for their views.
- v) The representative of Iran announced to organize the first ECO Police Forces Marksmanship Competition subject to the condition that ECO Secretariat provides the required assistance and other countries also offer their readiness to organize such competitions in future.

Agenda Item No. 10

Any other business

16. The participants visited the Emergency Police Center, Tehran. Colonel Karimi, Deputy for Operational and Administrative of the Commandership Police of Tehran welcomed the delegates in the Center. He briefed the participants that the purpose of establishing this center is to facilitate interconnection between police forces and the citizens especially in terms of reporting to the police for incidents. All the incidents reported by the citizens are dealt with within two minutes and information is sent to the relevant police station and then in seven minutes the officer reaches on the spot for investigation. He also noted that three years ago, the feed back time

from the police was 15 minutes. Apart from providing emergency services, this center is also providing counseling services, social and legal services, services in case there is fire somewhere in the city and Hilal Ahmar services.

Agenda Item No. 11

Date and Venue of the next Meeting

17. It was decided that the Secretariat may approach the Member States for their offers to host the second meeting of Chiefs of Police of ECO Member States and inform the remaining Member States.

Agenda Item No. 12

Adoption of the report

18. The participants unanimously adopted this report.

Agenda Item No. 13

Vote of Thanks.

19. The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks by the Head of delegation of the Republic of Turkey, on behalf of all the delegations. He expressed deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended by the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting. He also expressed his warm appreciation to the Chairman H.E. Brigadier General Bahram Nourozi, First Deputy Chief of the Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran, for guiding the deliberations to a successful conclusion. He also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the ECO Secretary General and other members of the ECO Secretariat for the preparation of the relevant documents and other valuable services to facilitate the work of the meeting.