

The 25th CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – 23 September, 1998)

Adopted No. CON/CPR-25/98/Rpt(A) Dated: 20-10-1998

1. The Twenty-fifth Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held in the ECO Secretariat on 23 September, 1998. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Nasrullah Kamyab, Director General, ECO Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Representatives of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan -and the Secretary General of ECO attended tile Meeting. The list of participants is placed at Annex-I.

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Agenda

2. The draft Agenda proposed by the Secretariat was adopted. The adopted Agenda is placed at Annex-II.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the Report of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of CPR.

3. The Report of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of CPR was adopted with some amendments to para 22. The text of the Report has been circulated vide Secretariat's Note No. CON/CPR-24(A) dated 23 September 1998.

Agenda Item No. 3

Latest preparations about the ECO activities in New York including the Report of Secretary General.

4. The CPR finalized the draft Resolution on "Cooperation between ECO and UN". The Secretariat will convey the draft Resolution to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the UN for submission to it to UN General Assembly according to the established procedure.

5. The CPR took note of the Report of the Secretary General to be submitted to the Informal Meeting of COM in New York. The said Report has already been circulated vide Secretariat's Note No. UNGA/98/137 dated 02 September, 1998.

6. The CPR was informed about ASEAN proposal that the ECO/ASEAN Joint Ministerial Meeting to be held on 1st October, 1998 in New York at 11:30-13 hours. The CPR while agreeing with the proposed schedule, stated that the matter may be finalized by the Contact Group in New York.

7. The CPR agreed to include in the agenda of the Informal Meeting of the COM an item regarding the recruitment of II Assistants to Officers" by modifying the Annex-I and II of the ECO Staff Regulations. It was also agreed that after receiving the blessing of the COM Meeting in New York, the Secretariat would include the required provisions ill--the draft Budget for the year 1999.

8. The CPR took note of the proposal that in view of time limitation, envisaged for the COM Meeting in New York, the Ministers may authorize the ECO Contact Group to study the possibility of adopting a common position on certain economic issues in the Agenda of

UN General Assembly for presentation at the relevant Assembly Meetings. The CPR decided to submit the proposal to the Informal - Meeting of- COM in New York on 30 September to be considered under item 6 of its Agenda.

Agenda Item No. 4

Kazakhstan's proposal to amend Article 18 of the ECO Rules of Procedure.

9. The CPR decided to defer this agenda item to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 5

Administrative Matters:

- a) Proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to replace the nomination of Mr. Mohammad Javad Tarokh for the post of Research Officer by Mr. Behzad Alipour Tehrani.

10. Upon the recommendation made by the Selection Panel, the Council approved the appointment of Mr. Behzad Alipour Tehrani from Islamic Republic of Iran against the post of Research Officer to replace Mr. Mohammad Javad Tarokh.

- b) Consideration of the needs assessment report for computerization of the Secretariat.

11. The Council decided to defer this item of agenda -to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 6

Consideration of the list of Projects and (feasibility) studies with possible sources of finance.

12. The Council decided to defer this item of agenda to its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7

Recent Developments concerning External Relations of ECO:

- a) Consideration of the draft MOU between ECO and UNCTAD.

13. The Council decided to form an open-ended Working Group to meet on 5th October 1998 to work on the draft of MOU and submit its recommendations to the next CPR for approval.

- b) Briefing on the- International Conference on Transport Corridors held on 7-8 September, 1998, in Baku.

14. The Secretary General briefed the Council on the Conference proceedings. A short report of the meeting along with the copies of all documents signed at the Conference will be circulated.

15. The CPR while thanking the Secretary General for the information, requested the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive report on the development of the transport sector in the ECO region so far and submit the same to the CPR in November 1998.

- c) "UNDP Regional Project for the Silk Road Countries".

16. The Secretary General informed the Council that the Secretariat had received the draft Silk Road Project which in addition to Peoples~ Republic of China include six ECO Member States namely, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The draft project has been circulated vide Secretariat Note No. INT/UNDP/98 dated 23 September, 1998.

d) Secretary General's visit to Rome.

17. Secretary General informed the CPR about his recent mission to the FAO Headquarters in Rome. During his talks with Director General and Senior Staff of FAO, the Secretary General discussed the possible ways and means of cooperation in the context of MOU signed between the two organizations last December. He also made courtesy calls on the President of IFAD and Executive Director of WFP. The Secretary General's Report of his visit to Rome will be circulated separately.

e) Workshop on the "Role of Men in Population and Reproduction Health Programmes" held in Baku on 20-24 September 1998.

18. The Secretary General briefed the Council on the Workshop proceedings and expressed his thanks to the Government of Azerbaijan Republic for the excellent arrangements made for the workshop and to Dr. Nafis Sadik, UNFPA Executive Director for the efficient participation of UNFPA in the workshop and her positive approach regarding the future ECO-UNFPA cooperation.

f) Visit of Director UN Statistical Institute for Asia and Pacific.

19. The meeting was informed that the Director UN Statistical Institute for Asia and Pacific (SIAP) visited the Secretariat on 21st September, 1998 to discuss possible cooperation between the two organizations. A short note on this visit will be circulated separately.

Agenda Item No. 8

Any other business

a) Third HLEG Meeting to finalize the Annexures of TTFA.

20. Since this meeting could not be held on 27-30 September, 1998 due-to lack of quorum, it was tentatively decided to hold the said meeting either in the ECO Secretariat or in one of the Member States volunteering to host it on 26-28 October, 1995. However, the Kazakhstan delegation indicated that they may host this meeting for which they will inform the Secretariat in due course.

b) Kazakhstan Permanent Representative's Proposal to form a Working Group to assist CPR.

21. Kazakhstan Permanent Representative requested the meeting that their proposal on the establishment of a Working Group on the level of Deputy Permanent Representatives to assist CPR in the disposal of its business may be included in the agenda of next CPR Meeting.

22. It was agreed that the secretariat will prepare a paper on the said proposal.

c) Replacement of Mr. A. Abdurazakov, Conf. Assistant.

23. Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan informed the meeting that the incumbent Conference Assistant from Kyrgyzstan (Mr. A. Abdurazakov) is being transferred to the Embassy of Kyrgyzstan in Tehran. Therefore, he will relinquish his duties in the ECO Secretariat with effect from October 1, 1998. The Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan expressed his wish to replace Mr. Abdurazakov with another nominee from Kyrgyzstan and requested that this issue may be taken up in the next CPR Meeting.

d) International Trade Fair to be held in Tehran

24. The Secretary General mentioned about the participation of ECO Secretariat in the International Trade Fair to be held in Tehran in the first half of October 1998 and called upon the Member States to provide display materials e.g. samples of their products, books, handicrafts, etc., to be exhibited at the ECO Stall in the Fair.

Agenda Item No. 9

Date of Next Meeting

25. The Council decided to hold its 26th Meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 1998 at 0930 hours at the Secretariat.

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