

# The 27<sup>th</sup> CPR Meeting

## Report

(Tehran – 21 December, 1998)

Adopted. No. CON/CPR-27/98/Rpt(A) Dated. 27-1-1999

1. The Twenty-seventh Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held in the ECO Secretariat on 21 December, 1998. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Vyacheslav Gizzatov, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the first half and in the second half by 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, 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 the Meeting. The list of participants is placed at [Annex-I](#).

### **Agenda. Item No. 1**

#### Adoption of the Agenda

2. The revised 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-sixth Meeting of CPR.

3. The draft Report of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of CPR was adopted as prepared by the Secretariat. The text of the Report has been circulated vide Secretariat's Note No. CON/CPR-26/98(A) dated 22 December 1998.

### **Agenda Item No. 3**

#### Consideration of the draft MOU between ECO and UNCTAD.

4. The CPR approved the draft MOU between UNCTAD and ECO and authorized the Secretary General to sign it. However, the CPR observed that the assistance from UNCTAD may be confined to technical assistance and all joint ECO-UNCTAD projects will be approved by consensus of ECO Member States.

### **Agenda Item No. 4**

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

5. The CPR agreed to defer the consideration of the proposal to one of its next meetings to give enough time to Member States to thoroughly work on it.

### **Agenda Item No.5**

#### Administrative Matters:

- Consideration of the draft Budget of the Secretariat for the year 1999

6. The CPR discussed the draft Budget and decided that the Working Group shall meet again to finalize it and submit the outcome to the next CPR Meeting for approval.

7. The date of the meeting of the Working Group will be notified by the Secretariat.

8. Since the Budget for 1999 will be approved in its next meeting after the beginning of the financial year, the CPR authorized the Secretary General to make payments to sustain the Secretariat's essential functioning until the 1999 Budget is approved in accordance with the Article 7.2 of ECO Financial Regulations.

9. The Representative of Kazakhstan informed the meeting that their proposal regarding the total contribution of 7 new Member States is withdrawn, therefore they will follow the agreed payment ratio for 1999 and 2000 i.e. 25 percent.

10. The Permanent Representative of Islamic Republic of Iran suggested that a travel plan may be prepared by the Secretariat regarding the allocation for travel expenses. The Secretariat took note of this request.

- The proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to replace the nomination of Mr. Majid Raesi Nia by Mr. Bijan Moshirvaziri for the post of Protocol Assistant (Category-II)

11. Upon the recommendation made by the Selection Panel, the CPR approved the appointment of Mr. Bijan Moshirvaziri from the Islamic Republic of Iran against the post of Protocol Assistant (Category-II) to replace Mr. Majid Raesi Nia.

12. Mr. Bijan Moshirvaziri will assume his duties in the Secretariat w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1999.

#### **Agenda Item No. 6**

##### Finalization of the draft "Brochure of ECO Awards"

13. In order to take into consideration the amendments proposed by some of the Member States in the draft, the finalization of the Brochure was deferred to next meeting of CPR.

#### **Agenda Item No. 7**

##### Consideration of the list of Projects and (Feasibility) Studies with possible sources of finance.

14. The CPR decided that the list of Projects and (Feasibility) Studies will be considered by a Working Group before the next meeting of CPR. The date of the meeting of the Working Group will be notified by the Secretariat.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8**

##### Proposal of ECO-CCI regarding the issuance of multiple entry visas to Executives/National Committee and Staff Members of ECO.

15. The CPR deferred the above proposal to enable some Member States to be equipped with necessary instructions from their Capitals on this issue.

#### **Agenda Item No. 9**

##### Preparations for the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of RPC (22-23 February, 1999, Istanbul, Turkey)

###### a) Consideration of Draft Agenda

16. The CPR agreed to recommend the draft Agenda of the 9<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting as prepared by the Secretariat with a minor editorial change proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

###### b) Consideration of the Draft Calendar of Events for the year 1999

17. The CPR decided to postpone the consideration of the Draft Calendar of Events for 1999 to its next meeting and requested the Secretariat to prepare a status report on the current year's Calendar of Events to be used as a guideline regarding the finalization of the Calendar of Events for 1999. The status report, inter-alia, may incorporate the number of events held during 1998, the reasons of the not holding some of the events and indicate the main outcomes of the said events.

c) Information on arrangements regarding the Review/RPC Meetings

18. The Secretary General confirmed that the Preparatory and Review Meetings of 9<sup>th</sup> RPC will be held on 19-20 February, 1999 and the 9<sup>th</sup> RPC itself will be held on 22-23 February, 1999 in Istanbul, Turkey. Therefore, the delegates for the pre/review meetings are required to arrive in Istanbul on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1999 and the delegates for the 9<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting are required to arrive in Istanbul on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1999.

19. The Permanent Representative of Turkey confirmed that the Government of the Republic of Turkey will provide hospitality for 5 delegates from each Member State.

20. The Representative of Kazakhstan proposed that the Fourth Meeting of the HLEG on Transit Transport Framework Agreement may be held in Istanbul on the sidelines of the 9<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting. However, the Secretariat proposed to hold the said meeting on 10-11 February 1999 at the Secretariat. If due to lack of quorum the meeting can not be held on these dates at the Secretariat, it may be held at Istanbul, Turkey, on the sidelines of 9<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 10**

Consideration of the draft Budget of ECO Cultural Institute for the year 1999.

21. The CPR agreed that a Working Group including a representative from ECO Cultural Institute will consider the draft Budget of ECO Cultural Institute and submit the outcome to the next meeting of CPR. The date of the meeting of the Working Group will be notified by the Secretariat.

22. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey informed that since the Charter of the Institute had not yet been ratified by Turkey, no budgetary allocation could be made for the Institute by the Turkish Government.

**Agenda Item No. 11**

Recent Developments concerning External Relations of ECO.

23. The Secretary General briefed the Council on participation of the Secretariat in some important international events/meetings held since the last meeting of the CPR. He also informed the meeting about the participation of UNIDO, FAO, IDB and UIC in different technical ECO events/meetings held recently.

24. The Secretary General also informed the CPR that he had already sent a letter to the President of the World Bank referring to the recent meetings held between ECO and World Bank officials in Washington and urging him to adopt a favourable approach to the ECO regional projects. The said letter will be circulated to the Member States to be conveyed to their Governors in the World Bank so that the Governors may lobby in favour of ECO Projects to get assistance from the World Bank.

25. The Secretary General also informed that a delegation from IDB visited the Secretariat recently and discussed some ongoing joint ECO-IDB Projects.

### **Agenda Item No. 12**

#### Any other business.

a) Pakistan's proposal to form a Working Group of ECO Ambassadors at various international for a where economic issues are discussed (decision of the 24<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting);

26. During the discussion of this issue a consensus emerged on some points regarding the informal and consultative nature of the Contact Group which will exchange views on economic issues related to ECO region. However, it was agreed that the Member States will intimate their views/comments to the Secretariat in order to finalize this issue in next meeting of the CPR.

b) Preparation of a comprehensive report by the Secretariat on the development of transport sector in the ECO region so far (decision of the 25<sup>th</sup> CPR meeting);

c) Preparation of a study by the Trade Directorate of the ECO Secretariat on the possibility of establishment of Free Trade Area in the ECO Region (decision of the E.B).

27. CPR appreciated the reports prepared by the Secretariat on the subjects mentioned in sub-items (b) and (c) above. However, since both the issues required detailed discussions, the Council decided to defer their consideration to one of its future meetings.

d) The way of preparing the Terms of Reference with regard to the Working Group to assist the CPR

28. It was agreed that the Secretariat will prepare the draft Terms of Reference which will be discussed by the Working Group.

### **Agenda Item No. 13**

#### Date of Next Meeting

29. The Council decided to hold its 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Wednesday, January 27, 1999 at 0930 hours at the Secretariat.

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