

# The 40<sup>th</sup> CPR Meeting

## Report

( Tehran – Monday, 31 January, 2000 )

1. The 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held in the ECO Secretariat on Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2000. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Abbasali Hasanov, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Islamic State 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 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 Agenda, proposed by the Secretariat, was adopted with the following amendments and is enclosed as ***Annex-II*** :

“Finalization of the Basic Documents of ECO Science Foundation” to be discussed under “Any other Business” while “Consideration of ECI Budget for the year 2000” was removed from the Agenda due to approval of the budget by the Institute’s Board of Trustees.

### **Agenda Item No. 2**

#### Adoption of the Report of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of CPR.

3. The adoption of the Report of the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CPR was deferred to the next CPR meeting, due to lack of consensus on para 5.

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

#### Preparations for the 10<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting.

a) Briefing by the host Representative (of IRI) on the programme, logistical matters, etc.

4. The Islamic Republic of Iran informed that the Meeting will be held as scheduled and the Preparatory and Review Meetings of the 10<sup>th</sup> RPC will be held at the ECO Secretariat and the Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) and his country will provide hospitality to 5 delegates from each Member State including the head of delegation.

5. The Secretary General briefed the Meeting regarding the status of confirmations so far received regarding participation in the 10<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting. The Chairman requested all the Permanent Representatives to clarify their positions in this regard. The Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan confirmed their participation. Therefore, necessary quorum for the Meeting has been reached and the same will be held as scheduled on 7-10<sup>th</sup> February, 2000 in Tehran.

**b) Calendar of Events/Meetings for the year 2000.**

6. The CPR endorsed the draft calendar of events for the year 2000 with minor changes, which has been circulated separately among the Member States, vide Sectt.'s Note Verbale No. CON/CoE/(Rev.)/2000 dated 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2000. The calendar will be finally approved by the RPC.

**Agenda Item No. 4****Adoption of the ECO Secretariat's Budget for the year 2000.**

7. The Secretariat's budget for the year 2000 was adopted. The Secretary General, while thanking the CPR, asked for authorization to utilize the Special Support Fund to be used for the Meeting on Finalization of TTFA Annexes to be held on the sidelines of the 10<sup>th</sup> RPC Meeting.

8. The CPR authorized the Secretary General to pay for the cost of air-tickets for one expert each from seven ACAMs out of the Special Support Fund to attend the said meeting.

9. The final adoption of the ECO Secretariat Budget for the year 2000, on behalf of the COM, will be made in the next Session of the CPR as per relevant articles of the Financial Regulations.

**Agenda Item No. 5****Selection/Appointment of the next Secretary General of ECO**

10. The Chairman of the CPR invited the Permanent Representatives to participate in an informal meeting to be held on February 20, 2000 at his residence. As agreed, during the last COM Meeting, held in Baku in May, 1999, the issue of Selection of new Secretary General of ECO, shall be discussed together with ECO's new Scale of Assessment.

**Agenda Item No. 6****Renewal of the Selection Panel.**

11. The CPR agreed on the composition of the Selection Panel to comprise the three founding-Members as well as the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Representative of the Islamic State of Afghanistan expressed his reservation in this regard.

**Agenda Item No. 7****Developments in the External Relations of ECO.**

a) MOU with OSZhD;

b) MOU with UIC;

12. On signing the MOUs with OSZhD and UIC respectively, there was a lack of consensus since some Member States had not yet received instructions from their respective capitals. The concerned Member States were requested to intimate their views/confirmation as soon as possible.

c) Proposed relationship with SADC;

13. The Council was informed that, so far, six Member States had formally intimated their approval. It was, therefore, agreed that the Secretary General would prepare a draft letter addressed to his Counterpart in SADC expressing desire for cooperative relationship on matters exclusively confined to economic cooperation. Such a draft letter will be circulated to the Member States for any possible comment.

d) Joint ECO-ITC Project for trade promotion;

14. The CPR was in favour of allocating a modest amount from the Feasibility Fund for this project, which will be decided later on.

e) Working relationship with the Energy Charter Treaty;

15. Since some delegations needed more time to receive instructions from their respective Governments, the issue was, therefore, deferred to the next Meeting.

f) ECO/UNDP Joint Symposium on Promoting Sustainable Development of Desert Communities;

16. The CPR observed that ECO was not in a position to co-sponsor such an event. However, UNDP's assistance in the form of air fares and per diem for participants from ECO Member States, would be welcomed.

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

#### Any other Business.

a) Finalization of Basic Documents of ECO Science Foundation

17. The Council desired that the ECO Secretariat (relevant Assistant Director and Legal Adviser) may look into the Documents of ECO Science Foundation and identify the anomalies, if any, and reflect them in a report, which will be submitted to the next CPR for consideration.

b) The First ECO Ministerial Meeting on Trade, 4-6 March, 2000 Tehran.

18. The Secretary General reiterated his call on the concerned Member States to confirm their participation in the said Meeting expeditiously.

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

#### Date of next Meeting

18. The CPR decided to hold its next Session at 1000 hours on 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2000.

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