



**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations  
and Ombudsmen of ECO Member States**

**FINAL REPORT**

6-7 June 2017  
Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen of ECO Member States was organized by the Anti-Corruption Directorate of the Prosecutor General's Office and Ombudsman of Republic of Azerbaijan on 6-7 June 2017 in Baku. It was attended by delegations from all ECO Member States. Representatives of International Association of Prosecutors (IAP), International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), and International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) also attended the Meeting. ECO Secretariat delegation, headed by ECO Deputy Secretary General participated in the Meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

### **Inauguration of the Meeting**

2. The Meeting was jointly inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Zakir Garalov, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, ECO Deputy Secretary General.

3. In the opening session, Mr. Fuad Alasgrov, Assistant to the President of Republic of Azerbaijan expressed his gratitude to the ECO Member States, regional and international organizations/institutes and ECO Secretariat for participating in the landmark 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen of ECO Member States. Conveying to the participants greetings of the President of Republic of Azerbaijan he said that Republic of Azerbaijan attaches great importance to Muslim Ummah as the President declared 2017 as the Year of Islamic Solidarity. He further highlighted the successful hosting of 4<sup>th</sup> Islamic Games as manifestation of the brotherly relations to the Muslim world. Being an active Member of ECO, Republic of Azerbaijan hosted two ECO Summits and undertook chairmanship of ECO from 2012 to 2017. He also expressed confident that the Meeting would contribute to strengthen the regional cooperation.

4. While welcoming the participants to the Baku H.E. Mr. Zakir Garalov, Prosecutor General of Republic of Azerbaijan underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation among the ECO Member States to fight the menace of corruption and to promote ombudsmen activities. He underlined the need for adopting holistic and pragmatic ways and means in the ECO Region to weed out activities of corruption from the societies across the board. He expressed

the hope that the Meeting would provide ample opportunities to build on existing arrangements to make future plans of action to eliminate the evil of corruption. This exercise would pave the way to justly make the concerned ombudsmen and other agencies stronger to combat the nuisance of corruption, which ultimately will ensure bringing sustainable economic development and prosperity to the peoples of the Region. Copy of his statement is attached as *Annex-II.*

5. In his opening statement, Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Republic of Azerbaijan, particularly the Prosecutor General's Office, the Anti-Corruption Directorate and Ombudsman of Republic of Azerbaijan for graciously hosting this important Meeting and providing warm hospitality and making excellent arrangements for delegations.

6. ECO Deputy Secretary General briefed the Meeting about ECO's profile and recent progress in advancing regional cooperation in formulating the coherent ECO regional policies and actions, including those pursued as regards addressing the menace of corruption and briefed on creation of ECO Regional Centre for Cooperation of Anti Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO) agreed by the ECO Member States in their earlier Meetings. Copy of his statement is attached as *Annex-III.*

7. Ms. Elmira Sulemanov, Ombudsman of Republic of Azerbaijan also welcomed the participants and highlighted the close cooperation of Republic of Azerbaijan with the Organization of Islamic Conference and said that her country has developed National Action Plan for 2016-2018 on Promotion of Open Government taking into account anti-corruption measures, through public consultations and evaluating feedback of several Non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Republic of Azerbaijan greatly suffered from corruption which necessitated the need for preventive measures of governance which would play important role to overcome corruption in the development sector. Azerbaijan's response to corruption is in the form of ASAN whose effectiveness is appreciated by citizenry. She told that Member States of ECO could also benefit from the successful experience of ASAN by emulating it in their countries.

8. Mr. Martin Kreutner, Dean and Executive Secretary of International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) also made remarks in opening session and briefed that IACA was established to address the multifaceted scourge of corruption through an inter-disciplinary, inter-sectoral and international approach. IACA has been recognized by numerous international bodies and other fora for its work in the area of anti-corruption and compliance, education and capacity building. He quoted the words of Malala Yousafzai, the young female Nobel Prize laureate from Pakistan at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in 2015, "Education is hope, education is peace". He assured that IACA stays committed to contributing to this important agenda and looking forward to working more closely with its partners.

**Agenda Item No.2**  
**Election of the Chairman**

9. As per ECO rules of procedure, the H.E. Mr. Zakir Garalov, General Prosecutor of Republic of Azerbaijan was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 3**  
**Adoption of the Agenda No. 3**

10. The Meeting unanimously adopted its agenda, which is attached *Annex-IV*

**Agenda Item No. 4:**  
**Report by the ECO Secretariat on the Follow up to the Decisions of the First and Second Meetings of ECO Heads of Anti-corruption and Ombudsmen**

11. Mr. Raheel Ahmad Cheema, Programme Officer of ECO Drugs and Organized Crime Coordination Unit (ECO-DOCCU) briefed the participants about the decisions taken during the last two meetings and the recent developments about the Statute of the ECO Regional Centre for Cooperation of Anti-corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO). He stated that the first Meeting was held in Tehran on 21-22 May 2011 and decided to establish ECO Regional Centre for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO). The Meeting also decided to hold an experts group meeting (EGM) for finalizing the structural issues of this Centre. Accordingly,

the General Inspection Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran hosted the mentioned EGM for finalization of Draft Statute of RCCACO. The Islamic Republic of Iran offered to host the ad-hoc Secretariat of the proposed Center in Tehran, with the requisite financial expenditure. He further informed that the Statute of the Centre has been signed by three countries i.e. Afghanistan, Iran and Tajikistan. Iran is the first country to ratify the Statute while the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Kyrgyz Republic have recently expressed their readiness to join the Center. He also shared further information on the process of entering into force of the Center and requested the signatory countries to share with the Secretariat about the latest status of their internal legislative process of ratification of the Statute. The Center would be functional after ratification by four Member States.

**Agenda Item No. 5**  
**Statements/Reports by Heads of Delegation**

12. While thanking the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the Meeting, the Heads of Delegation delivered their national statements elaborating their national policies and measures regarding judicial aspects of fight against transnational organized crime. They also highlighted the need for establishing mechanisms for promoting judicial cooperation among ECO Member States. Copies of statements are attached in *Annex-V*.

**Agenda Item No. 6**  
**International and Regional Cooperation mechanisms in fight against Corruption**

13. The Senior Officials and Ombudsmen from the ECO Member States delivered their country statements, highlighting national policies and programmes, regarding fight against corruption and underlined the need for formulating synergic regional policies and plans of action to deal with these issues at national, regional and global levels. Copies of their statements are attached as *Annex-VI*.

14. The Meeting discussed in length the preventive measures to fight against corruption and role of Ombudsmen in the fight against corruption. The learned Ombudsmen after sharing history of establishment of their national institutions informed that their institutions aim at ensuring human rights,

freedom and social well being of the poor and needy people against the malpractices of civil servants. They also shared experiences and best practices adopted by their countries as preventive measures. It was highlighted that the importance of the institution of Ombudsmen in protection of freedom and human rights becomes of greater relevance keeping in view the fact that many of the ECO Member States are in transitional phase of democracy. Copies of presentations are attached as *Annex-VII*.

15. The ECO Deputy Secretary General also informed the delegates that during meeting of Attorneys/Prosecutors General of the ECO Member States held on 3-4 November 2015 in Antalya, possible ways and means to enhance regional cooperation in fight against cross-border crimes were discussed. The Attorneys/Prosecutors General considered establishment of a comprehensive regional cooperation mechanism for mutual legal assistance as a prerequisite for combating transnational organized crime and also decided that expert group meeting(s) should be organized to work out concrete measures to realize the above policies. The outcomes of the expert group meetings, to be organized by the ECO Secretariat would be submitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Attorneys/Prosecutors General for consideration and final decisions.

16. After extensive deliberations, the Meeting put forward the following key recommendations:

ECO Member States may:

- a) Expedite their national procedures for signing/ratification of the Statute of RCCACO;
- b) Cooperate to improve their position in global corruption indices;
- c) Agree to work jointly on preventive measures in fight against corruption;
- d) Issue Red Notices for persons suspected/accused in corruption offences sought for prosecution or to serve a sentence;
- e) Raise awareness among masses about forms of corruption and preventive measures;
- f) Establish anti-corruption academy for imparting advanced training at regional level;
- g) Benefit from the database of ECO anti-corruption bodies in conducting investigation and prosecution;
- h) Exchange skills and expertise in formulating anti-corruption strategies through coordinated regional approach.

17. The meeting requested the ECO Secretariat to explore cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the International Anti-corruption Academy, with a view to addressing the capacity building and training needs of the Member States and the Region as a whole. The Meeting also requested the International Anti-Corruption Academy to consider establishment of an Academy for ECO Region.

### **Agenda item No.7**

Any other business:

#### Ceremony for signing of the Statute of RCCACO

18. In a Special Ceremony, the Statute of the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO) was signed by Mr. Zahir Shah of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Republic of Azerbaijan announced that the Statute will be signed following completion of ongoing national procedures.

### **Agenda Item 8**

#### Date and venue of the next Meeting

19. The Meeting requested the ECO Secretariat to identify, in consultations with the interested Member States, the host country of the "Fourth Meeting of the Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen of the ECO Member States". Accordingly, the exact date and venue of the Meeting will be communicated to the Member States in due course.

### **Agenda Item 9**

#### Adoption of final Report and Declaration

20. The Meeting adopted its Report as well as "Baku Declaration on Anti-Corruption Cooperation among ECO Member States". A copy of Declaration is placed as **Annex-VIII**.

### **Agenda Item 10**

#### Closing Remarks

21. The participants thanked the Chairman for conducting the Meeting in a smooth and professional manner. The delegations also expressed their

heartiest gratitude to the Government of Republic of Azerbaijan, particularly the Prosecutor General's Office, the Anti-Corruption Directorate and Ombudsman of Republic of Azerbaijan for their munificent hospitality and excellent arrangements made for this important meeting.

22. The Chairman and Member States also expressed their gratitude to the ECO Secretariat for the preparation of the relevant documents and other valuable services to facilitate the work of the Meeting.

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**List of Participants**

**ECO Member States**

**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**

1. Mr. Wahidullah Zahed,  
Director of Information Inspection of High Office of Oversight and Anti-Corruption

**Republic of Azerbaijan**

1. Mr. Zakir Garalov, Prosecutor General
2. Mr. Elmira Suleymanova, Ombudsman
3. Mr. Kamran Aliyev, Deputy Prosecutor General - Head of the Anticorruption Directorate
4. Mr. Kamal Jafarov, Secretary of the Commission on Combating Corruption

**Islamic Republic of Iran**

1. Mr. Naser Seraj, President, General Inspection Organization
2. Mr. Mansour Aghamohamadi, Director for International Affairs, General Inspection Organization
3. Mr. Mahdi FIROUZI, General Inspection Organization

**Republic of Khazakhstan**

1. Mr. Azbergenov Dulat Baydalinovich, Deputy Head of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Agency for Civil Service Affairs and Anti-Corruption
2. Mr. Rakhimov Rishat Akhmetovich, Head of the Department of Citizens; Appeals of the National Centre for Human Rights
3. Mr. Shermahanbetuly, Dinmukhamed, Deputy Leader of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Agency for Civil Service Affairs and Anti-Corruption
4. Mr. Smagulov Rizat Bolatovich, Head of Department of Legal Protection of the Prosecutor General's Office

### **Kyrgyz Republic**

1. Mr. Kulatbek Otorbayev, Ombudsman
2. Mr. Asan Kangeldiyev, Deputy Prosecutor of the Bishkek City Prosecutor's Office
3. Mr. Telek Cokmorov, Deputy Head of the Anticorruption Department of the Ministry of National Security

### **Islamic Republic of Pakistan**

1. Mr. Zahir Shah, Director General (Operations), National Accountability Bureau(NAB)
2. Mr. Amir Sial, Additional Secretary (Federal Ombudsman)
3. Mr. Sohail Mehmood, Deputy Attorney General

### **Republic of Tajikistan**

1. Mr. Solaimon Soltonzadeh, Head of the Agency for State Financial Control and fight with Corruption
2. Mr. Firuz Kamalzadeh, Assistant to the Head of the Agency
3. Mr. Bibirajab Umarova, Senior Prosecutor of the General Prosecutor Office
4. Mr. Rajabmo Badriddinava, Deputy to Ombudsman
5. Mr. Surkhrab Tavaraliyev, Accompanying person

### **Republic of Turkey**

1. Mr. Burhan Akcay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Chief of Police, Turkish National Police
2. Mr. Halil Adiguzel, Deputy Chief Prosecutor
3. Mr. Mustafa Aslan Bati, Prosecutor

### **Turkmenistan**

1. Mr. Charyyev Merdan, Head of Division, General Prosecutor's Office
2. Mr. Meredov Amanmyrat, Senior Prosecutor General Prosecutor's Office
3. Mr. Baysahedov Gurbanberdi, Head of Investigation Division of Ahal District Prosecutor's Office

### **Republic of Uzbekistan**

1. Mr. Ergashkhojayev Islamjan Jasurovich, Deputy Prosecutor General
2. Mr. Muhammediyev Uluqbek Nasriddinovich, Ombudsman
3. Mr. Kobilov Bakhrom Abduvakhobovich, Deputy Head of Department for Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime of the Prosecutor General's Office

## **International organizations**

### **International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)**

1. Mr. Martin Kreutner, Dean and Executive Secretary
2. Ms. Simona Marin, Senior Officer for External Relations and Protocol

### **International Association of Prosecutors (IAP)**

1. Mr. Gerhard Jarosch, President

## **ECO Secretariat**

1. Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, Deputy Secretary General
2. Mr. Raheel Ahmad Cheema, Programme Officer (DOCCU)
3. Mr. Ghulam Nabi, Steno-Secretary
4. Mr. Yasir Ebrahimi, Assistant (DOCCU)