

The 91st CPR Meeting

Report

(Tehran – August 31, 2004)

_No. CPR/91st/2004/3 August 31, 2004

The 91st Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held at the ECO Secretariat on August 31, 2004, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Medet Sadyrkulov, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Permanent Representatives/Representatives of the Transitional 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 as well as the ECO Secretary General along with the ECO staff attended the meeting. (List of participants attached as **Annex-I**).

2. The CPR congratulated the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the occasion of their respective independence days. The CPR also congratulated the member states who had won medals in the Athens Olympics and wished them similar success in future.

Item No. 1.

Adoption of the Agenda.

3. CPR adopted the following agenda for its 91st meeting.

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Adoption of the draft report of the 90th Meeting of CPR
3. Preparation for the 14th COM and 8th Summit meetings to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, September 10-14, 2004:
 - a. Draft Agendas
 - b. Draft Dushanbe Declaration
 - c. Confirmation for participation
 - d. Any other issue for the preparations
 - i) ECO Awards
 - ii) Implementation of decision of 5th Ministerial Meeting on Transport and Communications
4. Any other business
 - a. Informal Meeting of Ministers of Finance/Economy to be held in Washington D.C.
 - b. Draft Resolution on Cooperation between the UN and ECO
5. Adoption of the Report of the Meeting
6. Date of the next meeting

Item No. 2

Adoption of the draft report of the 90th Meeting of CPR

4. The CPR adopted the report of the 90th CPR meeting, which was circulated by the ECO Secretariat vide its note No. SG/CPR/2004/1608 dated August 19, 2004, with some amendments in para 14 related to Agenda Item No. 7 “IDB’s letter on the selection of the Consultant for the preparation of the Feasibility Study for Interconnection of the Power System of the Member States”, as proposed by Pakistan. The Secretariat will circulate the adopted report to member states separately.

Item No. 3

Preparations for the 14th COM and 8th Summit meetings to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, September 10-14, 2004:

a. **Draft Agendas**

5. The CPR discussed the agendas and since the consensus was not reached on the inclusion of the item on “Terrorism”, the CPR agreed that the draft agendas should be submitted to Senior Officials Meeting for consideration and inclusion of “Terrorism” in the agendas should be reflected as a *footnote* in the draft agendas of the meetings.

6. The revised draft agendas will be circulated by the Secretariat separately.

b. **Draft Dushanbe Declaration**

7. Within the framework of the views of the member states received in writing form and expressed during the meeting, the CPR discussed the draft Dushanbe Declaration as circulated vide Secretariat’s note No. SG/Summit/2004/1491 dated August 5, 2004.

8. It was agreed that:

(a) Turkey will propose a paragraph on cooperation in the field of transport for inclusion in the draft declaration;

(b) Iran will provide a text on sub-item (ii) on ECOTA which was also agreed to be placed as sub-para (i) in the draft declaration and a para with regard to formalizing SOM.

9. With regard to para 5 on Terrorism, it was agreed that this should be put in parenthesis with asterisk giving explanation that the CPR did not reach consensus and the matter will be taken up by the Senior Officials meeting. With regard to para 4 (iii) on ECO’s participation in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, Turkey withdrew its reservation conveyed vide their note verbale dated August 29, 2004.

10. The CPR also agreed that para 6 regarding EPG also should be redrafted and be placed after para 4 and Iran may give a text in this regard to be placed in draft Dushanbe Declaration.

11. After receiving the aforesaid proposed paragraphs from Turkey and Iran and inclusion of the amendments as agreed by the meeting, the revised draft Dushanbe Declaration will be circulated by the Secretariat separately.

c. **Confirmation for participation**

12. The Secretariat circulated status of confirmation for participation in the 14th COM and 8th Summit meetings. A copy of the status of confirmation is placed as **Annex-II**.

13. The Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan have informed that the Chairman of the Parliament of Uzbekistan will participate in the Summit meeting.

14. The Permanent Representative of Tajikistan requested the member states to furnish their composition of delegations including their Permanent Representatives in Tehran, if any, along with their flight schedule as soon as possible for his country to make necessary arrangements smoothly.

d. **Any other issue for the preparations**

i. **ECO Awards**

15. The CPR discussed the issue and urged the member states to confirm participation of Award winners in the 8th ECO Summit in Dushanbe on September 14, 2004, to receive ECO Awards and provide resume of the winners so that the Secretariat and the host country should make necessary arrangements accordingly.

16. It was clarified that the winners who will participate in the presentation will be given US\$ 100 per diem for maximum three days. The CPR also recalled that the Secretariat was authorized to pay for the round trip tickets economy class to the winners for shortest route from their home country to Dushanbe, upon receipt of vouchers of air-

tickets from the relevant head of account.

ii. **Implementation of decision of the 5th Ministerial Meeting on Transport and Communications**

17. The CPR agreed that the following text, which circulated by the Secretariat vide its note No. TC/5th MM/2004/1669 dated August 26, 2004, may be submitted to the Council of Ministers for consideration and approval. However, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan will inform their position on the text after they receive necessary instructions from their capitals:

“Council of Ministers reviewed the report of the 5th Ministerial Meeting on Transport and Communications and while welcoming the proposals and decisions of the Meeting took note of paras 11 and 12 of that report, in which it has been recommended that a collective political appeal may be made to the concerned member states to take all necessary steps to facilitate implementation of the Trans-Asian Railway mainline project. Furthermore, the Council emphasized that since the success of the Organization totally depended on tangible achievements of the ECO projects especially in the fields of transport and trade, all member states are urged to extend their whole hearted support and cooperation for the implementation of the said projects”.

Item No. 4

Any other business

a. **Informal Meeting of Ministers of Finance/Economy to be held in Washington on the sidelines of the IMF/World Bank Annual Meeting**

18. Turkey informed the CPR that they received positive response from their capital with regard to hosting the informal meeting in Turkish Embassy in Washington. However, they will intimate the details on hosting the meeting after they receive final confirmation from the concerned Minister i.e. Finance/Economy.

19. Pakistan informed that they were still waiting response from their capital with regard to coordinating the meeting. However, Permanent Representative of Pakistan will inform its capital that Turkey agreed to coordinate and host the said meeting.

b. **Draft Resolution on Cooperation between the UN and ECO**

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20. The CPR did not discuss this matter.

Item No. 5

Adoption of the Report of the Meeting

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21. The CPR adopted the report of the 91st CPR Meeting. The report will be circulated among member states separately.

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22. Since Tajikistan will take over the Chairmanship of ECO in the 14th Council of Ministers (COM), the meetings of CPR will be chaired by Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Tajikistan in Tehran. The CPR unanimously expressed its sincere gratitude and thanks to the outgoing Chairman H.E. Mr. Medet Sadyrkulov, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic for successfully conducting the CPR meetings in an exemplary manner with his diplomatic skill and foresight. The CPR noted that ECO had made forward steps during his Chairmanship and that he would continue to play a meaningful role in the next CPR meetings.

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Item No. 6

Date of the next meeting

23. The CPR decided to hold its next meeting on Monday, October 11, 2004, at 10:00 hours.

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