

Terms of Reference
for
High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental
Cooperation

I. Purpose and scope of the Platform

The Platform provides a high-level non-binding interactive dialogue forum for consultation and exchange of views and opinions among related stakeholders on environmental challenges of the ECO Region, as defined by the decision-making bodies of ECO

The outcome documents of the forum will be regarded as recommendation during the development of relevant programmes and plans of work within ECO.

II. Chairmanship of the Platform

Chairmanship of the Platform shall rotate annually among the Member States in alphabetical order.

The first Chairmanship will be assumed by the Republic of Uzbekistan as the initiator of the idea of the establishment of the Platform.

The Member State holding the Chairmanship of the Platform in consultation with the ECO Secretariat will provide the technical support and assistance needed for the discharge of the functions of the Platform.

III. Institutional Support for the Platform

1. The ECO Working Group on Environment/ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment will act as intergovernmental support to the Platform.
2. The recommendations of the Platform will be submitted to the ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment through the ECO Working Group on Environment.
3. The Platform will address environmental issues of regional interest as per mandates given by the ECO Member States.
4. The recommendations will be taken based on consensus.

IV. Participants in the Platform and its frequency

1. The Platform is open to governmental authorities, scientists, experts as well as national institutions. Representatives of international organizations/institutions, civil society and other relevant stakeholders in ECO Region can be invited upon the consent of the ECO Member States.
2. The ECO Member States will provide their proposed lists of potential participants in the Platform meetings to the ECO Secretariat.
3. The chairperson in close coordination with the ECO Secretariat shall invite participants for its meetings from the above-mentioned lists.
4. The Platform convenes its meetings at least once a year.

V. Financial Support of the Platform

Activities under the Platform will be funded by the voluntary contributions by the Member States, donations and financial support from the international institutions/organizations, etc.

VI. Rules of Procedure

Except for the procedures specified in the present Terms of Reference the ECO Rules of Procedure will be observed under the Platform.

VII. Summary record and recommendations

Summary record of the Platform meetings will be circulated among the Member States. The ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment as well as other sectoral Ministerial Meetings will be informed of the recommendations, proposals and views shared at the Platform and the follow-up measures will be taken as per the decisions of the respective Meetings.