

6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment

Preceded by the

**Senior Officials Meeting / 8th Working Group on
Environment**

2-3 June 2026

Samarkand, Republic of Uzbekistan

Silk Road by Minyoun Hotel, West Journey Hall

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Item No. 1

Inauguration of the Meeting

1. The meeting will be inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Asad M. Khan, Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

Agenda Item No. 2

Election of the Chairperson

2. The Chairperson of the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment will be elected in accordance with the ECO Rules of Procedure.

Agenda Item No. 3

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The provisional agenda of the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment and the annotations were prepared by the Secretariat and circulated among the Member States vide ECO Secretariat's Note Verbale No. EME/2026/264 dated 26 March 2026. The provisional agenda is expected to be considered and adopted by the Senior Officials and the Ministerial Meetings.

Agenda Item No. 4

Appointment of the Drafting Committee

4. An open-ended drafting committee will be appointed. The Senior Officials of the Member States and the ECO Secretariat Staff could act as members of the Drafting Committee.

Agenda Item No. 5

Statements and Presentations by the Member States

5. The honourable Ministers/Head of Delegations of the ECO Member States will be kindly requested to deliver their statements or presentations in a maximum of 5 minutes due to the time limit.

Agenda Item No. 6

Report by the Chairperson of the Senior Officials Meeting

6. The Chairperson of the Senior Officials Meeting/8th Working Group on Environment will inform the Ministerial Meeting of the SOM proceeding.

Agenda Item No. 7

Endorsement of the Draft ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment (2026-2030) and its Thematic Annexes:

- a. **ECO Work Program on Climate Change (2026-2030)**
- b. **ECO Work Program on Biodiversity (2026-2030)**

7. The Secretariat in cooperation with the ECO Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ECO-IEST), has examined the former Framework Plan of Action in view of "ECO Vision 2025", recent global and regional environmental patterns, and rapidly evolving global environmental agenda. As an outcome of this process, the draft of the ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment and its annexes have been elaborated and disseminated to the ECO Member States vide ECO Secretariat's Note Verbale No. EME/MM on Environment/2022/995 dated 7 July 2022.
8. It is to be recalled that the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Environment of the ECO Member States was held on 9 December 2023 on the sidelines of COP28 in Dubai noted with appreciation the development of the new "ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment" and its two Annexes as a long-term regional strategy, which streamlines key priorities and action areas in the ECO Region for environmental cooperation in view of the rapidly evolving global environmental and climate agenda, and recommended the subject Cooperation Framework for adoption by the decision-making bodies of ECO.
9. Recognizing the time gap between the initial preparation of the draft Cooperation Framework on the Environment and its thematic annexes and the convening of the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment, the ECO Secretariat has undertaken a comprehensive revision and update of these documents to reflect the evolving regional and global environmental landscape, including emerging policy priorities, and recent developments within key international forums such as the outcomes of Conferences of Parties (COPs).

10. The updated texts of the Framework, the Work Program on Climate Change (2026-2030), and the Work Program on Biodiversity (2026-2030) were circulated among the Member States for seeking their views vide ECO Secretariat's Note Verbale No. EME/2026/264 dated 26 March 2026. These updated draft documents are now submitted for consideration and endorsement, ensuring that the ECO region's environmental agenda remains current, responsive, and positioned for effective implementation.

Agenda Item No. 8

ECO High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation:

11. The Informal Ministerial Meeting on Environment of the ECO Member States in Dubai on 9 December 2023 emphasized the importance of the High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation (HLDPE), which was established in the course of the 26th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM) held on 24 January 2023 in Tashkent, as a promising advisory mechanism involving academia and contributing to environmental sustainability in the ECO Region, and underscored that the subject Platform may find solutions to environmental challenges, explore ways to enhance cooperation on environment and determine the scope of regional collaboration in the ECO Region.
12. The first meeting of the ECO High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation was organized by the National Committee on Ecology and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan in cooperation with the ECO Secretariat, on the margins of the Regional Ecological Summit (RES-2026) in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 23 April 2026.
13. In accordance with the Terms of Reference, the Chair's Summary of the first meeting of the Platform, provided by the National Committee on Ecology and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan, along with a copy of the draft Roadmap for the HLDPE, which was revised by the Secretariat in accordance with the components of the Chair's Summary via ECO Secretariat's Note Verbale No. EME/2026/408 dated 19 May 2026, were circulated among the Member States. The HLDPE Chairman will briefly inform the Meeting of the views and proposals raised at the first meeting, while the draft Roadmap is due to be finalized by the Senior Officials Meeting / 8th Working Group Meeting on Environment and submitted to the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment for endorsement.

Agenda Item No. 9

Follow-up on the Implementation of the Regional Initiative on Resource Efficiency, Sustainability, and Circular Economy in the ECO Region (RESCUE)

14. Following the endorsement of the “Joint Statement on Launching the Regional Initiative on Resource Efficiency, Sustainability, and Circular Economy in the ECO Region (RESCUE)” as presented during the Ministerial Meeting on Circular Economy on the margins of the COP29 in Baku on 16 November 2024, the ECO Secretariat and the Member States could use this opportunity to collectively update on the latest state of affairs of circular economy in the region in general and implementation of the RESCUE Initiative in particular. The Joint Statement marked the launch of RESCUE as a joint initiative of the ECO Secretariat and COP29 Presidency aimed at creating a regional cooperation platform that advocates for a just transition to a resource-efficient and circular economy.
15. The Joint Statement called upon the ECO Member States and potential international development partners to engage in some collaborative activities within the RESCUE in a short and mid-term perspective. The first activity is “to initiate and develop the low-budget project on preparation of needs assessment/feasibility study of the ECO region for a just transition to a resource-efficient and circular economy.
16. The ECO Secretariat and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) managed to convene an accelerator session during the World Circular Economy Forum 2025 (WCEF2025) on 15 May 2025 regarding the RESCUE Initiative, bringing global experts together to drive circular economy solutions. UNIDO reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the ECO region’s transition to a low-carbon, resource-efficient economy.
17. After a series of online coordination meetings, UNIDO shared a copy of its approved concept note for a project titled ‘Strategic Foresight for Circular Economy Transition in the ECO Region’. The concept note was circulated among the Member States for seeking their views, comments, and observations vide ECO Secretariat’s Note Verbale No. EME/2026/369 dated 9 May 2026. The Secretariat while suggesting that UNIDO be invited to participate in both the Senior Officials Meeting and the Ministerial Meeting, articulated should Member States find the concept agreeable, the proposal could subsequently be taken up under agenda item 9 of the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment as a potential means to advance our regional circular economy objectives.

Agenda Item No. 10

Adoption of the Samarkand Declaration on Regional Environmental Cooperation

18. The Ministerial Meeting is expected to adopt an outcome document as a unified political statement of our commitment to environmental action. The Secretariat circulated the zero draft of ‘Samarkand Declaration on Regional Environmental Cooperation’ among the Member States for seeking their feedback prior to further

discussion during the Senior Officials Meeting vide ECO Secretariat's Note Verbale No. EME/2026/403 dated 16 May 2026.

Agenda Item No. 11

Date and venue of the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment

19. The honourable Ministers/Head of Delegations may wish to express the initial interest to host the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment and other related meetings on the environment in 2027.

Agenda Item No. 12

Adoption of the Report

20. The Ministerial Meeting may adopt its report by consensus.

Agenda Item No. 13

Any other business

21. The honourable Ministers/Head of Delegations may wish to raise any matter which they deem appropriate at this meeting.

Agenda Item No. 14

Closing Remarks

18. The Chairperson of the Meeting and the ECO Secretary-General may wish to deliver the closing remarks.