

Newsletter

Economic Cooperation Organization

March, 2025- No. 7









































Dear readers,

I am delighted to present the March 2025 edition of the ECO Newsletter.

This month, I was doubly privileged to undertake bilateral visits to Azerbaijan and Tajikistan, where I had a series of productive interactions with senior leadership which is deeply committed to enhanced regional trade and economic integration. ECO has a promising future ahead.

We have an ECO moment at hand. By channeling our energies in the right direction, I am confident that increased political attention and engagement from our line ministries will allow the Organization to realize its full potential more effectively and efficiently. ECO doesn't need to reinvent itself; it simply needs to revive old connections.

Historically, ECO has limited itself to government channels, but it is critical to expand our coordination channels. Private sector and multi-stakeholder engagements seem to be missing over the years. We must engage the private sector and other relevant stakeholders. It is encouraging that we are convening the ECO Trade Ministers Meeting after a 14-year hiatus. We plan to hold meetings for transport, interior, and tourism ministers in 2025. These high-level events will culminate in the 17th ECO Summit in Azerbaijan on July 3-4, 2025. It is certainly a significant moment for us.

We are also crafting a new vision document as ECO Vision 2025 is nearing expiry. These upcoming events offer us a unique opportunity and we are motivated to make the most of it. The momentum has been built, we just need to sustain it.

Thank you for your attention to the latest regional developments under the ECO framework.

> Secretary General **Economic Cooperation Organization**

Bilateral Visit to Azerbaijan



Secretary General Calls on President of Azerbaijan

Baku, March 12, 2025

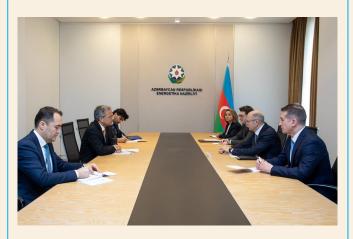
The Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization H.E. Dr. Asad M. Khan called on the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev.

The Honorable President highlighted Azerbaijan's commitment to and active role in advancing ECO's goals and objectives. He shared the state of preparations for the 17th ECO Summit scheduled to be held in Azerbaijan on July 3-4, 2025, while reaffirming his commitment to make it a highly successful event.

Dr. Khan expressed his gratitude to the President for receiving him, appreciated Azerbaijan's important contributions to the work of ECO and its emergence as an international conference and diplomacy hub. He noted that 2025 is a significant year for the ECO, with several ministerial meetings already planned, and expressed the Secretariat's readiness to make the upcoming 17th Summit a landmark event. Additionally, he highlighted Shusha, which has been designated as the ECO Tourism Capital 2026, and the opportunities it presents for promoting tourism and cultural exchanges in the region.



Secretary General Meets Energy Minister



Baku, March 13, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Parviz Shahbazov, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Dr. Khan appreciated Azerbaijan for its successful hosting of the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) and for the soft launch of the ECO Clean Energy Centre (CECECO) on November 15, 2024, which took place on the sidelines of the event.

The meeting discussed Azerbaijan's participation in the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM) project, emphasized expediting the operationalization of the ECO Clean Energy Centre and concluded with the sides reaffirming their commitment to advancing regional energy connectivity and promoting sustainable energy solutions.

Secretary General Meets Minister of Agriculture



March 15, 2025- Baku

Dr. Asad M. Khan met H.E. Majnun Mammadov, Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The two sides exchanged views on enhancing agricultural cooperation, underscored the significance of joint efforts to address food security challenges in the region and explored strategies to promote sustainable agricultural practices in the ECO region.

The discussions also highlighted Azerbaijan's potential to contribute significantly to ECO's broader objectives in agriculture, including knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, and the promotion of regional trade in agricultural goods. The meeting acknowledged the central role that ECO can play in fostering regional partnerships that address common challenges and create opportunities for sustainable development in agriculture and food security.

Secretary General Meets Foreign Minister

March 14, 2025 - Baku

Dr. Asad M. Khan met H.E. Mr. Jeyhun Bayramov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The meeting focused on preparations for the forthcoming 17th ECO Summit, scheduled to take place on July 3-4, 2025, in Azerbaijan.

Dr. Khan expressed his gratitude to the Honourable Minister for Azerbaijan's strong commitment to the ECO's objectives. He acknowledged Azerbaijan's pivotal role and contributions to fostering regional integration and cooperation among ECO Member States.



The discussions reaffirmed the shared commitment of ECO and Azerbaijan to furthering the Organization's goals and ensuring that the 17th ECO Summit serves as a milestone in deepening collaboration for sustainable development and prosperity in the region.



Secretary General Meets Finance Minister



Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Sahil Babayev, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Dr. Khan commended Azerbaijan's active participation in ECO initiatives and expressed optimism about the country's enhanced involvement in the Organization's programs.



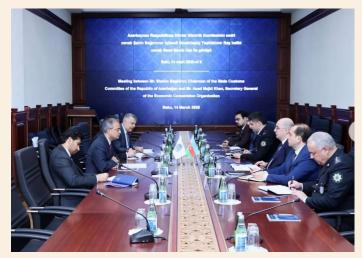
The meeting focused on strengthening ECO's role as a platform for regional cooperation and enhancing the engagement of line ministries in its activities. It reaffirmed ECO's commitment to deepening collaboration with its member states and leveraging collective expertise to achieve regional prosperity and integration.

Secretary General Meets Chairman State Customs Committee

Baku, March 14, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Shahin Baghirov, Chairman of the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Dr. Khan acknowledged Azerbaijan's important contributions in advancing the ECO agenda, particularly in modernizing customs practices and in fostering regional connectivity. He underscored the importance of promoting trade facilitation, harmonizing customs procedures, and enhancing cross-border collaboration as key to ECO's trade integration strategies for the region.

The Chairman reaffirmed Azerbaijan's commitment to deepening customs cooperation among ECO Member States. He emphasized that



Azerbaijan remains dedicated to implementing advanced customs practices and facilitating seamless trade across the region, which aligns with the broader ECO objectives of economic growth and regional prosperity. The meeting emphasized the critical role of customs modernization and harmonization in boosting trade and connectivity across ECO countries, paving the way for greater regional economic integration.

Secretary General Meets Deputy Chairman State Tourism Agency



Baku, March 14, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan met Ms. Azada Huseynova, Deputy Chairman of the State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Secretary General appreciated Azerbaijan for promoting regional tourism and hosting key events under ECO framework. He highlighted the cultural significance of Shusha, which has been designated as the ECO Cultural Capital-2026. Additionally, he encouraged Azerbaijan to undertake a series of activities throughout 2026 to showcase Shusha's rich heritage and enhance the visibility of the ECO Tourism Capital initiative.

The Deputy Chairman provided an overview of Azerbaijan's recent initiatives to attract tourists and reaffirmed the country's commitment to making Shusha's designation a success. The meeting acknowledged the critical role the tourism sector plays in fostering regional cooperation, prosperity, and connectivity and it also committed to further strengthen collaboration within the ECO framework to further develop the tourism industry in the region.

Secretary General Meets Deputy Minister of Economy



Baku, March 14, 2025

The ECO Secretary General Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Samad Bashirli, Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Dr. Khan emphasized the need for greater involvement of the trade and finance ministries of Member States in ECO's work. He also briefed on the forthcoming ECO Ministerial meetings and encouraged Azerbaijan to actively participate in these events.

The Deputy Minister assured of his country's continued support for ECO initiatives and its willingness to contribute to the ECO's development agenda, particularly in areas such as trade, investment, and infrastructure development. The meeting reaffirmed the commitment to strengthening regional trade, investment, and connectivity through active collaboration under the ECO framework.

Secretary General Speaks at 12th Global Baku Forum

March 13, 2025-Baku

Dr. Asad M. Khan participated as a panelist in a high-level discussion on "The UN Pact for the Future: Building a New Global Consensus" at the 12th Global Baku Forum. The panel focused on the vision and pathways outlined in the UN Pact for the Future, the outcome document of the UN Summit of the Future held in New York on September 22-23, 2024.

Dr. Khan emphasized the pivotal role of the United Nations as the most viable platform for fostering development, ensuring peace, and addressing shared global challenges. While underscoring the indispensability of the UN, he highlighted the need to address gaps that have hindered its ability to meet the expectations of the international community.



Dr. Khan also explored the relationship between regionalism and multilateralism, dispelling the notion that they are mutually exclusive. He argued that regionalism complements multilateralism, citing the successes of regional organizations such as the African Union, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the European Union as valuable models for the UN to draw lessons from.

Bilateral Visit to Tajikistan

Secretary General Calls on President of Tajikistan

Dushanbe, March 25, 2025

The Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization H.E. Dr. Asad M. Khan, called on the H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan. The Honourable President reaffirmed Tajikistan's strong commitment to advancing ECO's goals and highlighted the country's active role in fostering regional cooperation.

Dr. Khan expressed gratitude to the President for his warm reception and acknowledged Tajikistan's significant contributions to ECO's initiatives. He congratulated the President on the successful finalization of the State Border Treaty between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.



The Secretary General also welcomed the upcoming International Conference on Glaciers Preservation, scheduled for May in Dushanbe, and confirmed ECO's active participation in this event. He highlighted 2025 as a milestone year for ECO, with several ministerial meetings planned, and reaffirmed the Organization's commitment to supporting Tajikistan's national priorities through mutual cooperation.

Secretary General Meets Foreign Minister

Dushanbe – March 25, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan met H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhriddin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan and briefed the Minister on key regional issues and shared his priorities for addressing them through collective efforts. He also highlighted upcoming important ECO Ministerial Meetings in Trade, Finance, Tourism and Transport, as well as the 17th ECO Summit, scheduled for July3-4, 2025. Both sides reaffirming their commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and advancing the shared goals of the ECO.



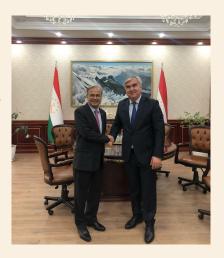


Secretary General Meets Finance Minister

Dushanbe - March 26, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Fayziddin Kakhorzoda, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan. He underlined the necessity for strengthening economic, trade, financial and investment ties amongst the Member States. He also stressed the importance of creating seamless payment mechanisms through enhanced banking collaboration and securing funding flows from the International Financial Institutions (IFIs).

The Honorable Minister informed about Tajikistan's ongoing close collaboration with the IFIs. He emphasized the importance of cooperation in digitalization of the economy and sharing best practices with ECO Member States. In this context, he mentioned the newly established Agency for Innovation and Digital Technologies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan responsible for implementing the unified state policy in the field of innovation and digital technologies.



Secretary General Meets Minister of Agriculture

Dushanbe - March 25, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Qurbon Hakimzoda, Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan in Dushanbe and appreciated Tajikistan's key role and active efforts in strengthening cooperation for economic development in the region. He invited Tajikistan to actively participate in the forthcoming ECO events on agriculture. He requested to provide continued support and engagement in the implementation of the ECO Regional Program for Food Security (RPFS), the ECO Regional Coordination Centre for Food Security (ECO-RCCFS) and ECO Seed Association (ECOSA) to strengthen agricultural productivity and seed supply in the region.

The Honorable Minister expressed readiness for collaboration and stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation in the agricultural sector and for the implementation of innovative projects in support of agrifood systems transformation.



Secretary General Meets Minister of Energy and Water Resources

Dushanbe – March 25, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Daler Juma Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan in Dushanbe. Dr. Khan acknowledged Tajikistan's energy potential and thanked for its contributions to revive the ECO's Regional Energy Market Initiative. He also appreciated Tajikistan's leadership in its global advocacy on water and glacier preservation and assured of ECO's active participation in the forthcoming conference.

The Honourable Minister emphasized about the hydropower potential of Tajikistan, country's largest project – the Rogun Hydropower Plant, which will not only ensure the energy security of Tajikistan, but will also contribute to increasing the electricity export supplies to neighboring countries.

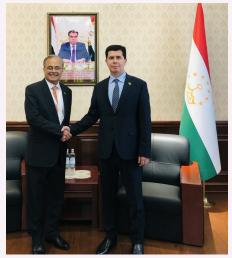


Secretary General Meets Minister of Economic Development and Trade

March 24, 2025, Dushanbe

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Zavqizoda Zavqi Amin, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan. The Minister highlighted Tajikistan's commitment to developing cooperation within the ECO, noting that over 35% of the country's annual trade turnover is linked to the ECO region. He emphasized that Tajikistan's National Development Strategy 2030 focuses on sustainable growth through energy security, improved communication, food security, and expanded employment.

Dr. Asad M. Khan underscored the region's unique blend of geography, culture, and economy, calling for enhanced regional trade, transport integration, and tourism promotion. He stressed the importance of engaging trade and finance ministries in ECO's initiatives and encouraged Tajikistan's active participation in upcoming ECO Ministerial meetings.



Secretary General Meets Minister of Industry and New Technologies

March 24, 2025, Dushanbe

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Sherali Kabir, Minister of Industry and New Technologies of Tajikistan.

The Minister emphasized Tajikistan's strong commitment to enhancing regional cooperation within the ECO framework, particularly in the industrial sector with a focus on new technologies.

Dr. Asad M. Khan, ECO Secretary General, briefed the Minister on upcoming key ECO Ministerial Meetings and the 17th ECO Summit in Azerbaijan on July 3-4, 2025. Highlighting industrialization as a priority for ECO, he expressed the Secretariat's readiness to collaborate with Tajikistan's Ministry of Industry and New Technologies to advance the regional industrialization agenda in line with Tajikistan's development strategy.



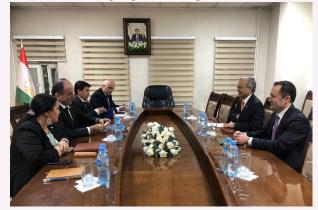
Secretary General Meets Minister of Transport

Dushanbe – March 24, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Azim Ibrohim, Minister of Transport of the Republic of Tajikistan. Dr. Khan highlighted Tajikistan's geostrategic importance in fostering regional integration and stressed

the need for stronger political ownership to unlock the region's full potential. He emphasized the development of transport corridors, including rail and road networks, and the growing significance of digitalization in the transport sector.

The Minister described the ECO region as a hub for international transit corridors, reflecting the organization's vast potential. He introduced the newly established Regional Centre for Transport Diplomacy at the Ministry of Transport, which offers digital services to national and international transport companies, further supporting regional connectivity initiatives.





Secretary General Meets Chairman Tourism Development Committee

Dushanbe - March 26, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Jamshed Jumakhonzoda, Chairman of the Committee for Tourism Development of Tajikistan. Dr. Khan acknowledged Tajikistan's rich history as a pivotal point on the Silk Road, facilitating trade and cultural exchange, and emphasized the importance of preserving this cultural heritage while promoting it as a key aspect of tourism cooperation within the ECO framework.

Mr. Jumakhanzoda reaffirmed Tajikistan's readiness for cooperation in promoting tourism industry within ECO region and expressed interest in exchanging experiences and expanding of cooperation in this field.



Secretary General Participates in International Jewelry Forum and Exhibition

March 24, 2025-Dushanbe

Dr. Asad M. Khan attended the International Jewelry Forum and Exhibition titled "At the Origins of the Oxus Treasure." During the opening session, Dr. Khan emphasized the importance of showcasing Tajikistan's rich traditional jewelry designs on the global stage.

He highlighted the Forum as a valuable platform to enhance intra-ECO trade in the jewelry sector through regional trade facilitation, investment promotion, and policy support under ECO's framework. Dr. Khan also underscored the historical significance of the Silk Route in fostering trade, connectivity, and the movement of goods, services, capital, and people—key elements for driving prosperity in the region today.



Secretary General Meets Minister of

Secretary General Meets Minister of Roads and Urban Development Iran

Tehran – March 10, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan met H.E. Dr. Farzaneh Sadegh Malvajerd, Iran's Minister of Roads and Urban Development, to discuss advancing regional transport cooperation. He praised Iran's strong commitment and expressed confidence that the upcoming 13th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Transport, hosted by Iran, would be a milestone for connectivity across the ECO region.

Both sides agreed to establish a working group to streamline preparations for the meeting and emphasized the critical role of connectivity in driving regional economic growth and sustainable

connectivity in driving regional economic growth and sustainable development. The discussions highlighted ECO's strategic importance in facilitating seamless transport linkages and trade among Member States.



Secretary General Bids Farewell to Kyrgyz Permanent Representative



Tehran - March 18, 2025

Dr. Asad M. Khan bid farewell to H.E. Ambassador Turdakun Sydykov, the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to ECO, who completed his tenure as the Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Ambassador Sydykov thanked the Secretary General for the smooth collaboration and important contributions to the Organization. Appreciating Kyrgyzstan's importance for the Organization, the Secretary General thanked Ambassador Sydykov for his support and strong cooperation in the work of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives, and wished him best success in his next assignment.

Secretary General Meets Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan

March 9, 2025-Tehran

Dr. Asad M. Khan held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Ilyas Gaipov, Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the Economic Cooperation Organization and Ambassador of Turkeminstan in Tehran. The meeting discussed preparations for the forthcoming ECO Sustainable Development Forum in Arkadag, which is scheduled for April 28-29, 2025. The Permanent Representative also extended invitation for the International Conference on Neutrality, which will take place in December 2025 in Turkmenistan.



ECO Hosts Students from Imam Sadegh University

March 5, 2025-Tehran

A group of students and researchers from Imam Sadegh University visited the ECO Secretariat for a briefing session. The session covered ECO activities and initiatives in priority areas of cooperation. Dr. Khan delivered the inaugural remarks, followed by a question-and-answer session.







Secretary General Interviews with Tehran Times

March 4, 2025-Tehran

Dr. Asad M. Khan visited the Tehran Times and Mehr News Agency of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also engaged in discussions with the Chief Executive Officers of the media outlets. During the interview, Dr. Khan spoke about the goals and objectives of the ECO and the actionable strategies to achieve them.



ECO and IOFS Partner to Strengthen Regional Food Security

Tehran - March 9, 2025

The ECO Secretary General, Dr. Asad M. Khan, and the Director General of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), H.E. Ambassador Berik Aryn, met at the ECO Secretariat to strengthen collaboration on agricultural development and food security across the region.

Dr. Khan emphasized ECO's commitment to food security through



initiatives like the ECO Regional Program for Food Security and projects in veterinary sciences, agricultural biotechnology, and seed trade cooperation. Ambassador Aryn highlighted IOFS's capacity-building programs in gene banks and water management, stressing the importance of collaboration with ECO.

The meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that outlines key areas of cooperation and establishes a framework for joint action plans to address regional challenges. Both sides agreed to deepen inter-organizational cooperation on sustainable agriculture and food security to foster mutually beneficial partnerships in the future.

Online Technical Meeting on Fiber-Optic Networks

Tehran – March 3, 2025

The ECO Secretariat organized a virtual session featuring Dr. Asset Durmagambetov, a Kazakh applied scientist, to discuss the deployment of a fiber-optic line along the Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran (KTI) railway using advanced data-squeezing technology. The presentation covered theoretical foundations, followed by technical discussions among participants from Kazakhstan, Iran, and Turkmenistan on innovative algorithms. Once implemented, the technology is expected to reduce energy consumption, increase data transmission speeds, and lower costs.



Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction and ECO Winter Drill

Erzurum - March 5, 2025

The ECO Secretariat, in collaboration with AFAD Türkiye, organized a Technical Expert Group Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) from March 4-7, 2025, in Erzurum, the ECO Tourism Capital 2025. Delegates from ECO Member States, including Iran, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, and Türkiye, as well as the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Asian and Pacific Centre for



the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM), participated in the event.

The meeting focused on enhancing regional collaboration in disaster risk management, reviewing the implementation of the ECO Regional Framework on DRR (2021-2025), and gathering feedback for its updated version (2025-2030) aligned with the Sendai Framework. Discussions also explored the establishment of ECO Funds for DRR to boost cooperation and innovation. The event concluded with the ECO Winter Drill, which provided practical field experience in winter conditions and strengthened regional preparedness and cooperation.

Sub-Working Group on ECO Joint Trade Zones

Tehran - March 5, 2025

The ECO Secretariat hosted the First Bilateral Meeting of the Sub-Working Group under the Working Group on establishing ECO Joint Trade Zones (JTZ). Representatives from Turkmenistan and Iran participated in the meeting to discuss the legal framework, cross-border trade promotion, and a roadmap for the Joint Trade Zone initiative.

Ambassador Silapberdi Nurberdiyev, Deputy Secretary General of ECO, highlighted the economic significance of the initiative proposed by Turkmenistan, emphasizing its potential to strengthen economic ties among ECO member



states. The delegations reaffirmed their commitment to advancing regional trade by developing a structured legal framework, attracting investment, enhancing logistics, and facilitating cross-border commerce. The meeting concluded with an agreement to finalize the ECO Framework Agreement, paving the way for a bilateral agreement and identifying a potential joint trade zone on the Iran-Turkmenistan border.

Draft Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters

Tehran – March 12, 2025

The ECO Secretariat held an online technical consultation meeting to review and discuss proposed amendments to the Draft ECO Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters. Representatives from nine ECO Member States participated in the meeting.

Key discussions revolved around the inclusion of provisions for customs data exchange aligned with international best practices, such as the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The



such as the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The consultation served as a platform for detailed deliberations, resulting in progress on the draft text. The finalized Agreement is expected to be signed during the 5th Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade, scheduled to take place in Istanbul on June 25, 2025.

Once adopted, this landmark Agreement will streamline customs operations, reduce trade barriers, and foster deeper economic integration across the ECO region, further strengthening regional trade connectivity.



Experts Finalize ECO Tourism Capital Selection Criteria

Tehran - March 18, 2025

Experts from the national tourism authorities of ECO Member States convened via video conference to review the updated ECO Tourism Capital Selection Criteria. The ECO Secretariat's Tourism Directorate emphasized the importance of revising the criteria to ensure a more standardized and streamlined approach.

Key updates include improvements to the criteria categories, a refined nomination process, and the introduction of a common application form. Participants shared insights and provided feedback on critical sections of the document. The

2nd Expert Meeting on Revision of ECO Tourism Capital Selection Criteria

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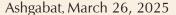
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18 March 2025

finalized criteria will be submitted to ECO's decision-making bodies for approval.

Working Meeting on Legal and Technical Aspects of the TTFA





A working meeting was held in Ashgabat with officials and representatives from various ministries and agencies of Turkmenistan. ECO Secretariat representatives presented the key legal and technical aspects of the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA).

The meeting was attended by senior officials, including the Deputy Director of the Transport and Communications Agency, Deputy Ministers of Finance, Economy, Trade, and Foreign Economic Relations, as well as representatives from the State



Customs and Migration Services. The ECO Deputy Secretary General for Transport and Communication, alongside the ECO Legal Advisor, provided an indepth overview of the TTFA's structure, annexes, implementation status, and its benefits for all Member States, including those yet to join the agreement.

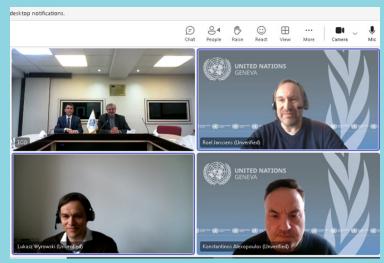
The TTFA, serving as ECO's framework for regional transit and transport, was highlighted as a critical tool for fostering trade, investment, and connectivity. The discussions underscored the importance of enhancing regional resilience and growth amidst global uncertainties, while revitalizing the region's historical and economic linkages.

ECO Secretariat and UNECE Review Progress on Key Transport Corridors

Tehran, March 18, 2025

The ECO Secretariat and the United Nations desktop notifications Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) reviewed the progress of the UNECE-ECO Coordination Committee on the Trans-Caspian and Almaty-Tehran-Istanbul Corridors. Discussions focused on implementing the Committee's 2023-2025 work program and exploring opportunities for cooperation beyond 2025. The Coordination Committee was established during the 35th Annual Session of UNECE's Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics (WP.5) on September 6, 2022, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Alireza Mahmoudi, ECO Director for Transport and Communication, reiterated ECO's strong commitment to the Committee's objectives



and readiness to take necessary actions for their successful implementation. Both sides reaffirmed their dedication to fostering sustainable and efficient transport links that promote regional economic integration.























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