Establishment of ECO Center of Excellence for Efficient Water Utilizations for Agriculture (ECO-CEEWUA)

The 4th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture (September 2008, Baku) approved the establishment of the ECO Center of Excellence for Efficient Water Utilizations for Agriculture (ECO-CEEWUA) and requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to prepare, in collaboration with member states, the Secretariat, FAO and other concerned international organizations, a project proposal for establishment of the Center. The 19th RPC welcomed the approval by the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture on the establishment of the Centre in Pakistan and called on Member States for the support of its activities. The 18th and 19th COM approved the establishment of *ECO Centre of Excellence for Efficient Water Utilization for Agriculture (ECO-CEEWUA)*in Islamabad, Pakistan.

The 3rd Working Group Meeting for the Establishment of Centre was held virtually on February 9, 2021 under the chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The amended Draft Plan of Action and Draft Statute for the establishment of the ECO-CEEUWA has been circulated among member states for their views/comments for finalization. Subsequently, due to absence of any input from the Member States within the set time limit, the forwarded draft report, Draft Plan of Action and Draft Statute were considered as "FINAL".

Following the 33rd RPC Meeting, the Secretariat urged the Member States to cooperate in creation of a network among their relevant organizations and also nominate national focal points/institutions for expediting the process of Establishment of the Centre. As the next step, feasibility study for establishment of the center will be done.