

**297th MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
(CPR)**

*July 28, 2025
ECO Secretariat, Tehran*

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the 297th CPR Meeting

No: CFU /2025/1100

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 16/7/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose the **Draft Agenda and Annotated Draft Agenda of the 297th Meeting of CPR to be convened on July 28, 2025 (10:00 hours) in ECO Secretariat in Tehran.**

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, the assurances of its highest consideration.



All ECO Member States, Tehran



297th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Draft Agenda and Annotated Draft Agenda

July 28, 2025
ECO Secretariat, Tehran

Draft Agenda

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 297th CPR Meeting;
2. Adoption of Draft Report of the 296th CPR Meeting;
3. Follow-up of the outcomes of the 17th ECO Summit and ECO Week in Azerbaijan;
4. Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM):
 - Formulation of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035;
 - Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meetings under one ECO Chairmanship.
5. Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers;
6. ECO side event on the sidelines of LLDC3;
7. Administrative and budgetary matters:
 - Recommendations of the Selection Panel.
8. Any other business;
9. Date of the next CPR Meeting.

Annotated Draft Agenda

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Agenda

1. The Secretariat proposes the following Draft Agenda for adoption:
 - Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 297th CPR Meeting;
 - Adoption of Draft Report of the 296th CPR Meeting;
 - Follow-up of the outcomes of the 17th ECO Summit and ECO Week in Azerbaijan;
 - Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM):
 - Formulation of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035;
 - Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meetings under one ECO Chairmanship.
 - Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers;
 - ECO side event on the sidelines of LLDC3;
 - Administrative and budgetary matters:
 - Recommendations of the Selection Panel.
 - Any other business;
 - Date of the next CPR Meeting.

-
2. The Council may consider the above Draft Agenda for adoption.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of Draft Report of the 295th CPR Meeting

3. The Draft Report of the 296th CPR Meeting held on May 26, 2025 in ECO Secretariat in Tehran was circulated amongst the Member States vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/2025/849 dated May 29, 2025.
4. The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Tehran conveyed their amendments to the Draft Report of 296th CPR Meeting that was circulated among the Member States via Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/2025/951 dated June 11, 2025.
5. The Council may consider the adoption of the Draft Report of 296th CPR Meeting along with the comments proposed by Azerbaijan.

Agenda Item No. 3

Follow-up of the outcomes of the 17th ECO Summit and ECO Week in Azerbaijan

6. The 17th ECO Summit was successfully organized and hosted by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Khankendi on July 3-4, 2025. The Summit convened ECO Heads of States/Government, Ministers, ECO Observers, Special Guests from non-ECO countries and heads of international organizations to achieve development and prosperity through fragile economic integration. The Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit received from the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Tehran was circulated amongst Member States via Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/2025/1045 dated July 6, 2025. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

conveyed their formal position on the Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit that was circulated among the Member States via Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/2025/1058 dated July 8, 2025.

7. The Summit concluded a dynamic and inclusive ECO Week, held from July 1 to 4, 2025, across different cities of the Karabakh region. The ECO Week included a series of thematic forums aimed at advancing youth engagement, gender inclusion and economic connectivity within the region. The ECO Youth Forum with its thematic focus on "Enhancing the Role of Youth for Building a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future" was held in Aghdam on July 1, 2025, meanwhile the ECO Women Forum focused on "Enhancing the Role of Women for Building a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future" was convened in Lachin on July 2, 2025, and the 6th ECO Business Forum gathered business leaders and investors in Shusha on July 2, 2025, under the theme of "Investment and Trade Promotion as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development in the ECO Region." The outcomes of the above forums will be reflected in the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035.

8. Based on the collective wisdom, views and proposals of the highest ECO leadership, ECO Secretariat will prepare a sector-wise plan of action, outlining the procedure to ensuring smooth implementation of the Summit's recommendations and share it with the Member States for consideration in due course.

9. The Council may like to consider and, if desired, make discussions in the matter for any further guidance.

Agenda Item No. 4

Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM)

- Formulation of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035

10. Based on the decision of 296th CPR, the Secretariat via its Note Verbale No. ECO/2025/936 dated June 5, 2025 circulated a revised version of the "Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035" among the Member States for consideration.

11. The Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Tehran conveyed its comments on the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035 that were shared with the Member States via Secretariat's Note Verbale No. ECO/2025/1043 dated July 2, 2025. In the same Note Verbale the Secretariat kindly requested the Member States to share their feedbacks on the above document by July 15, 2025.

12. The Council may consider the establishment of a working group for finalization of the said document prior to the 29th COM Meeting scheduled for November, 2025 in Kazakhstan.

- Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meetings under one ECO Chairmanship

13. As per the decision of 296th CPR, with a view to developing more clarity and consensus among the Member States, the matter of sequencing the ECO Summit and COM meetings under one ECO Chairmanship was deferred to its next session.

14. The Embassies of the Republic of Türkiye and the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran conveyed their comments/proposals regarding sequencing Summit and COM meetings under one Chairmanship that were circulated among the Member States via Notes Verbale No. CFU/2025/208 dated February 17, 2025 and No. ECO/2025/1076 dated July 12, 2025 accordingly.

15. The Council may consider the matter and take necessary decision.

Agenda Item No. 5

Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers

16. Based on the deliberation during the 296th CPR Meeting, with no consensus, the Council agreed to postpone the discussion and urged Member States to promptly submit their responses to prevent any additional delay in the formal adoption of the report.

17. The Council may consider the adoption of the Draft Report of the First HLC meeting along with the amendments/changes proposed by Türkiye and Iran.

Agenda Item No. 6

ECO side event on the sidelines of LLDC3

18. The ECO will organize a side event on 6 August, 2025 on the sidelines of the 3rd UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3). The relevant Note requesting high-level participation, along with the Concept of the event, was circulated on 14 June 2025.

19. In this regard, the Council may request the Member States to actively participate and contribute to an event.

Agenda Item No. 7

Administrative and budgetary matters:

- Recommendations of the Selection Panel

20. The recommendations of the Selection Panel, if any, would be submitted to the Council for making possible decisions.

Agenda Item No. 8

Any other business

21. Under this Agenda Item, the Council may discuss any other relevant issues, if raised.

Agenda Item No. 9

Date of the next CPR Meeting

22. The Council may decide the date of its next (298th) Meeting in consultation with the Member States and the ECO Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of the Draft Report of the 296th CPR Meeting

No: CFU /2025/849

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 29/5/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose herewith the **Draft Report of 296th Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) Meeting held on May 26, 2025 in ECO Secretariat in Tehran.**

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of ECO Member States in Tehran the assurances of its highest consideration



All ECO Member States, Tehran



296th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Draft Report

*May 26, 2025
ECO Secretariat, Tehran*

Draft Report

The 296th Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was held on May 26, 2025 under the Chairmanship of the Republic of **Kazakhstan**. The meeting was attended by the Permanent Representatives/Representatives of Republic of **Azerbaijan**, Islamic Republic of **Iran**, Republic of **Kazakhstan**, **Kyrgyz** Republic, Republic of **Tajikistan**, Republic of **Türkiye**, **Turkmenistan** and Republic of **Uzbekistan**. The ECO Secretary General and the relevant staff of the Secretariat also attended the Meeting. List of participants is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

2. At the outset, the **Council** commended the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting various CPR Sessions in different regions of the country, including the 295th Meeting at Pardis Technology Park and events in Kish. The **ECO Secretary General** emphasized the advantages of holding meetings across different Iranian cities, noting it fosters closer engagement with local authorities and allows delegates to experience the country's cultural and technological diversity. The delegates from **Azerbaijan** and **Uzbekistan** seconded this sentiment, expressing gratitude for Iran's hospitality and encouraging wider participation in future events. The **Iranian representative** welcomed the appreciation and reaffirmed their commitment to decentralized diplomacy, highlighting their dedication to hosting ambassadorial visits across the diverse regions of Iran.

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Following Agenda was unanimously adopted by the Council for discussion during the meeting:

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 296th CPR Meeting;
2. Adoption of Draft Report of the 295th CPR Meeting;
3. Preparation for the ECO Week in Azerbaijan:
 - 17th ECO Summit (*July 3-4, 2025*);
 - 6th ECO Business Forum (*July 2, 2025*);
 - ECO Women Forum (*July 1, 2025*);
 - ECO Youth Forum (*July 1, 2025*).
4. Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM):
 - Formulation of new ECO Vision 2026-2035;
 - Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meetings under one ECO Chairmanship.
5. Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers;
6. Participation of Afghanistan in the 5th Trade Ministers Meeting to be held in Istanbul on June 25, 2025;
7. Administrative and budgetary matters:
 - Recommendations of the Selection Panel.
8. Any other business;
9. Date of the next CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of Draft Report of the 295th CPR Meeting

4. Incorporating some amendments/additions proposed by the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Council adopted the Report of the 295th Meeting of the CPR held on May 6, 2025 in Pardis Technology Park. Initially, this Draft Report was circulated vide Note Verbale No. CFU/2025/706 dated May 12, 2025.

Agenda Item No. 3

Preparation for the ECO Summit Week in Azerbaijan:

- 17th ECO Summit (July 3-4, 2025)
- 6th ECO Business Forum (July 2, 2025)
- ECO Women Forum (July 1, 2025)
- ECO Youth Forum (July 1, 2025)

5. The **ECO Secretary General** provided an update on Summit preparations in coordination with Azerbaijan, noting that most Member States have confirmed participation, with final confirmations due by June 5, 2025. A special briefing for guest countries will be held on May 27, 2025. Member States were urged to ensure strong participation in the upcoming ECO Week, which will be held alongside the Summit. He emphasized the need for (i) Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the Summit (ii) Accelerated confirmation of participation by member countries and ECO bodies (iii) Inclusion of the ECO Trade and Development Bank President in Summit proceedings and (iv) Greater efforts to finalize ECOTA, TTFA and the Bank's Articles of Association. He proposed the Summit be positioned as a "*Summit of Signatures and Ratifications*", and highlighted the importance of the leaders' retreat for strategic dialogue and Organizational direction in a more effective manner.

6. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** endorsed the points highlighted by ECO Secretary General, urging swift ratification of Charters for the ECO Clean Energy and Research Centers, both to be established in Azerbaijan. He noted that Azerbaijan, Pakistan and Türkiye were progressing on these ratifications. He stressed the importance of strong Member State presence at ECO forums to be conducted alongside the Summit and specifically called on Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran to confirm their participation. He added that the weekly online coordination meetings between Azerbaijan's MFA and the ECO Secretariat continue. For promotional efforts, Azerbaijan offered to host the next CPR meeting in Baku on June 16, 2025, including a site visit to the Summit venue, with all costs covered by Azerbaijan. He also conveyed Azerbaijan's concurrence with the ECO subsidiary bodies' participation in the Summit and strongly desired full engagement in the leaders' retreat and ECO Week.

7. The **Chair** expressed appreciation for the cooperation and highlighted the value of the planned site visit and the progress on legal ratifications, encouraging Member States to complete pending signings of these important frameworks.

8. The **Legal Advisor** briefed the Council on ongoing coordination with Azerbaijan regarding the upcoming Summit, highlighting a recent productive online meeting. He confirmed that two official communications have been circulated inviting Member

States to sign/ratify ECO legal instruments during a treaty event to be held at the summit, emphasizing the symbolic value of doing so in the presence of heads of state to boost ECO's visibility. He noted that 21 documents remain pending signature or ratification, and urged Member States to inform the Secretariat promptly of their intentions so that original documents can be prepared and transported to the event's place accordingly. To this end, an additional Note Verbale will be sent shortly, he said. The Legal Advisor stated that the next CPR meeting will focus exclusively on Summit preparations, serving as the final opportunity to address outstanding procedural matters.

9. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** thanked Azerbaijan and the Secretariat, seeking clarifications regarding invited international organizations, Summit event formats and delegation arrangements. Clarifications were provided by **Azerbaijan**, confirming a single Summit day on July 4, 2025, with a preceding informal cultural program and an informal dinner on July 3, 2025, which may be renamed as "leaders' retreat." The outcome document will be a Chairman's Summary to be issued after the Summit. Further details on seating and delegation sizes will be finalized at the Baku CPR meeting, he clarified.

10. Discussions also covered formats and participant coverage for the Business, Youth and Women's Forums. **Azerbaijan** clarified that expenses for 1+4 delegates per Member State are covered, with youth delegates included within this number. Additional participants are welcome at their own cost. The **ECO Secretary General** proposed a dedicated online briefing with organizing teams and Member States' Ministries of Foreign Affairs to address forum-specific details efficiently. The **Chair** welcomed this proposal, emphasizing the need for thorough coordination involving protocol departments to ensure smooth forum and Summit participation.

11. In light of detailed discussions, the **Council** concluded the following:

- I. Summit preparations are on track with strong member engagement and critical deadlines set for early June, 2025.
- II. Finalization of key legal documents and participation confirmations remains urgent to ensure a "Summit of Signatures and Ratifications."
- III. Effective communication, including scheduled briefings and site visits, will be crucial for seamless organization.
- IV. Clear delegation participation formats and logistical details must be finalized promptly, with ongoing discussion encouraged via online interactions between the host and the Secretariat.
- V. The leaders' retreat is recognized as a significant strategic forum and will be formalized in terminology and scheduling.
- VI. Full participation in ECO Week and associated forums is essential to enhance ECO's visibility and impact.

Agenda Item No. 4

Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM)

- Formulation of new ECO Vision 2026-2035

12. The **Council** continued deliberations on the formulation of the new strategic document for ECO, tentatively referred to as "*ECO Vision 2035*", in follow-up to the 28th COM Meeting. Member States acknowledged receipt of the zero draft circulated by the Secretariat and confirmed it is under national review. The delegations, including Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, indicated that further consultation and time are needed to provide structured feedback.

13. The **ECO Deputy Secretary General (TC & HRSD)** emphasized the need for multi-stakeholder national consultations, involving youth, women and the business sector, with an extended deadline for input submission set for July 15, 2025. It was proposed that a working group be established to review both the content and final title of the document, as well as a sector-specific implementation framework.

14. The Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan referring to the title of the new draft vision document circulated by the Secretariat, recalled its long-standing proposal "*Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035*", originally put forward by the Honourable President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the 16th ECO Summit in Tashkent (November 2023) and asked for it to be used as the title instead of "*ECO Vision 2035*", emphasizing that Uzbekistan had officially submitted the proposed title through Verbal Note and on multiple occasions.

15. The Secretariat explained that the title remained provisional and that final decision rests with the Council. The Member States including Türkiye, Iran and Azerbaijan expressed openness to the Uzbek proposal. Some delegates supported referring the matter to the working group or including both titles in the draft document for broader discussion.

16. The **Council** acknowledged the circulation of the zero draft of the new strategic document and agreed with the proposal to conduct national multi-stakeholder consultations by 15 July, 2025, as well as the establishment of a working group to review the content and develop a sector-specific implementation framework.

17. On the matter of the title, the **Council** took note of Uzbekistan's official proposal "*Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035*", originally put forward by the President of Uzbekistan and formally submitted through official channels. In light of the discussions and broad support expressed, the **Chair** advised the Secretariat to re-circulate the draft document bearing the title proposed by Uzbekistan, for further consideration by Member States.

- Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meetings under one ECO Chairmanship

18. Referring to the previous discussion, the **ECO Secretary General** reiterated that the financial implications of holding two Council of Ministers (COM) meetings annually, including one in Tehran at the Secretariat, were already shared with Member States. He affirmed that, based on the Secretariat's assessment, the additional costs could be managed within existing resources and would not impose any extra financial burden on the Organization. He also noted that while no amendments to the Charter are necessary, some changes will be required in the Rules of Procedure. Also the

proposed revisions to the Rules of Procedure have been circulated for review by the Member States, he said.

19. The Representative of the Republic of **Türkiye** formally supported a two-year chairmanship, aligning the Summit and COM meetings under the same chairing country, which would also host both meetings. The **ECO Secretary General** welcomed the proposal and emphasized that continuity of chairmanship is essential. He suggested the matter be referred back to capitals due to the slight shift in the proposal.

20. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** requested clarity on the sequencing mechanism whether by alphabetical order or other criteria, highlighting the need for procedural details before a decision can be made. The **Chair**, in his capacity as the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan, noted that instructions from his capital had not yet been received and emphasized the need for further consultation before taking a position on the proposal. The **Legal Adviser** noted that upon official receipt of Türkiye's proposal and Council mandate, the Secretariat could begin preparing scenarios for implementation.

21. Based on the discussion, the **Council** concluded that:

- I. No agreement was reached on the proposal for sequencing COM and Summit meetings and the two-year chairmanship.
- II. Further discussion is deferred pending consultations with Member States' capitals.
- III. The Secretariat is authorized to prepare detailed implementation scenarios on the proposal.
- IV. Official circulation of these scenarios will await formal concurrence, particularly from Kazakhstan.

Agenda Item No. 5

Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers

22. During the Council's review of the adoption of the Report of the 1st High-Level Committee (HLC) Meeting, the **Chair** highlighted the urgency of finalizing the report to allow the Council to shift focus to preparations for the upcoming Summit. Acknowledging that discussions have been ongoing since February, the Chair proposed deferring the report's adoption to the next CPR Meeting and encouraged Member States to submit written responses to facilitate consensus. Whereas, the delegations of **Uzbekistan** and **Tajikistan** noted that they were still awaiting guidance from their respective capitals, which delayed their ability to take a definitive position. Meanwhile, the Representative of **Türkiye** proposed initiating a silence procedure to expedite the adoption process, emphasizing that the report is pending for several months and requires prompt resolution.

23. With no consensus, the **Council** agreed to postpone the discussion and urged Member States to promptly submit their responses to prevent any additional delay in the formal adoption of the report.

Agenda Item No. 6

Participation of Afghanistan in the 5th Trade Ministers Meeting to be held in Istanbul on June 25, 2025

24. The **Chair** opened the discussion by reiterating the importance of addressing Afghanistan's participation in ECO events, specifically in the upcoming 5th Meeting of ECO Trade Ministers scheduled for June 25, 2025 in Istanbul. He recalled the previous CPR mandate, which tasked the Secretariat with initiating dialogue with the Afghan Embassy in Tehran. In addition, he acknowledged that Afghanistan had previously participated in Türkiye's technical-level meeting in Erzurum. He recommended the Secretariat to draft a comprehensive document outlining participation levels and protocols to help engage Afghanistan in ECO activities.

25. The **ECO Deputy Secretary General (JPC & EAPA)** informed the Council that ongoing discussions with the Afghan side are in progress, expecting his meeting with Head of the Directorate of Regional Cooperation at the MFA of Afghanistan on June 15, 2025. He informed that the current Afghan administration was not recognized by the United Nations or other Organizations such as the SCO, SAARC and OIC. However, he noted that institutions like the IMF maintain Afghanistan's membership, though with operational limitations and frozen financial reserves. He also emphasized that UN humanitarian operations continue through engagement with de facto authorities, underscoring the practical dimensions of current interactions.

26. The Representative of the Republic of **Türkiye** acknowledged the complexity of the situation and advocated for a practical and flexible approach in engaging Afghanistan. He suggested that ECO should assess how Afghanistan is represented in other international fora to inform its own strategy. He further emphasized that hosting countries should retain the right to invite Afghan representatives to events, provided that participation avoids official symbols such as flags or titles. He re-affirmed Türkiye's intention to invite Afghanistan to the forthcoming Trade Ministers' Meeting under these guidelines.

27. The **ECO Secretary General** provided an overview of ECO's evolving engagement policy with Afghanistan. He noted that while ECO had initially adopted a policy of non-engagement, there has been a gradual shift toward limited and informal contact. Citing examples from other organizations, he observed that Afghanistan has participated in events such as OIC meetings without the use of national symbols. He stressed the need for clear and consistent standards regarding Afghanistan's representation and reiterated the organization's previous "wait and see" policy, as endorsed at the Mashhad Meeting. He supported the Chair's suggestion for a structured framework to guide future interactions, emphasizing the need for clarity and coordination among members.

28. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** reaffirmed their support for Afghanistan's technical-level participation but expressed legal and procedural concerns regarding ministerial-level engagement. He questioned the Secretariat on whether Afghanistan had been involved in preparatory consultations ahead of the Trade Ministers' Meeting and called for clarity on the legal implications of such participation. He urged for clear answers regarding both the legal status of Afghan representation and the nature of their involvement in ECO deliberations.

29. The **Legal Advisor** clarified that Afghanistan remains a full member of the ECO, and that the core issue relates not to membership but to representation. He explained that the CPR and COM have yet to make a definitive decision on the matter, particularly regarding the use of official symbols. He noted that while the Secretariat continues to engage with Afghan counterparts based on CPR's instructions, any decisions on broader representation policies must be made collectively by the Council.

30. The **ECO Deputy Secretary General (TC & AI)** offered the background context, pointing out that Afghanistan's participation in certain meetings, such as the ECOTA Council, was previously not agreed by CPR. He highlighted that Afghanistan engagements in technical-level meetings have been decided on the basis of non-objection principle, a practice that minimized the need for political recognition. He stressed that participation at ministerial level involves an indication of recognition issues, and should therefore be left to the discretion of Member States. He also suggested that Afghanistan's engagement could gradually resume through technical-level meetings.

31. The Representative of **Kyrgyz Republic** supported for Afghanistan's continued engagement, particularly at the technical level. He emphasized that several ECO Member States maintain bilateral economic relations with Afghanistan and that practical cooperation should not be hindered by unresolved political questions. He noted, however, that ultimate decisions on recognition rest with each country's foreign ministry.

32. Expressing similar sentiments, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** affirmed that bilateral cooperation with Afghanistan does not amount to formal political recognition. He argued that hosting countries should be free to manage invitations and representations as they see fit, including decisions on flag display and titles. He further noted that there is no binding CPR resolution prohibiting the invitation of Afghan representatives, indicating that the current arrangement is based more on informal understanding than formal policy.

33. Stressing that the use of official flags and titles remains contingent on broader international recognition, the **Chair** proposed that the issue be revisited at the Council's next session following the outcome of the Secretariat's consultations with Afghan counterparts.

Agenda Item No. 7

Administrative and budgetary matters:

- Recommendations of the Selection Panel

34. The **ECO Deputy Secretary General (Administration)** informed about the upcoming end (June 19, 2025) of service tenure of Mr. Mamatmusa Ukubaev, a Kyrgyz national serving as Programme Officer for Energy, Minerals and Environment in Category-II, P2. He mentioned that the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic formally requested a 4-year extension in his service, which was circulated on May 11, 2025.

35. The Council considered and approved the requested extension/renewal of service tenure of Mr. Mamatmusa Ukubaev.

- ECO Budget 2025

36. The **Chair**/Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Kazakhstan** confirmed their approval of the ECO Budget for 2025, assuring payment of Kazakhstan's current year contribution at the earliest opportunity.

37. The **ECO Secretary General** expressed appreciation to the Chair for their concurrence on the budget and emphasized the importance of timely contributions from all Member States, preferably before the upcoming Summit, to enable the Organization to meet its financial obligations. He highlighted this point for the attention of all permanent representatives.

38. In addition, the **ECO Deputy Secretary General (Administration)** informed the Council that the Republic of **Azerbaijan** had made its budgetary contribution for the current year, amounting to approximately 3.3%. He further announced that Azerbaijan had approved an increase in its budgetary share to 4%, effective from next year.

39. The **Council** welcomed Azerbaijan's increased contribution, noting that the Ambassador of Azerbaijan had previously indicated this intention.

Agenda Item No. 8

Any other business

- **3rd Shusha Global Media Forum**

40. The **ECO Deputy Secretary General (Administration)** informed the Council of an invitation from the Government of Azerbaijan to participate in the 3rd Shusha Global Media Forum, themed "Digital Pathways: Strengthening Information and Media Resilience in the Age of AI." The forum will address key issues such as media literacy, disinformation, public trust and information security. Given the current limitations in the Secretariat's media outreach, the event presents a valuable opportunity to enhance visibility and expand the media network. He requested the Council to consider the participation of Mr. Osman Selçuk Gündoğdu, Chef de Cabinet in the event. His travel and accommodation will be covered by the organizers, with only Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) covered by the Secretariat.

- **3rd United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3)**

41. The Representative of **Turkmenistan** informed that an official note had been sent to the Secretariat two days earlier, with an invitation from H.E. Mr. Serdar Berdimuhamedov, Honourable President of Turkmenistan, addressed to the Distinguished ECO Secretary General for participation in the Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3). The conference will be held from August 5-8, 2025 in the Awaza National Tourist Zone, on the Turkmen coast of the Caspian Sea. It will take place at the level of Heads of State and Government under the theme: "Driving Progress through Partnerships." He emphasized the importance of the event in supporting sustainable development for landlocked developing countries and requested the Council's approval for the ECO Secretary General's participation either during this session or the upcoming CPR meeting in Baku.

42. The **ECO Secretary General** confirmed receipt of the invitation and acknowledged Turkmenistan's leadership in hosting such significant international events. He noted his personal connection to the LLDC process, having attended the first conference in Almaty in 2003, and expressed enthusiasm for attending the upcoming summit in Awaza. He emphasized the importance of this event for ECO, given that seven of its Member States are landlocked and three are transit countries.

43. The **Council** approved the participation of the ECO Secretary General in the 3rd United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) to be held from August 5-8, 2025, in Awaza, Turkmenistan, recognizing its importance for sustainable development of landlocked member states.

44. The **Council** also approved the participation of Mr. Osman Selçuk Gündoğdu in the 3rd Shusha Global Media Forum July 20-22, 2025, appreciating Azerbaijan's offer to cover travel and accommodation expenses and recognizing the event's value for enhancing ECO's media outreach.

- **Kazakhstan's Project Proposal**

45. The Chair/Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Kazakhstan**, recalled the Council's support for Kazakhstan's KTI project and proposed the approval of a second project, highlighting that the projects are similar in format but differ in specifics. He noted that the Ambassador of Uzbekistan had supported one of the projects previously. He expressed his intention to seek approval for one-by-one project from CPR meetings leading up to the Summit in June.

46. Having no objections, the **Council** approved Kazakhstan's second project proposal, requesting the Secretariat to coordinate with Kazakhstan Embassy to determine the specific project detail.

Agenda Item No. 9

Date of the next CPR Meeting

47. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of **Azerbaijan** proposed to host the next CPR meeting on June 16, 2025 in Baku, extending a formal invitation to all Member States. He mentioned that details of the visit would be shared shortly, adding that Azerbaijan would cover all expenses of the delegates, including airfare.

48. Supporting the proposal, the **ECO Secretary General** suggested that the CPR meeting in Azerbaijan should focus exclusively on preparations for the upcoming Summit, to allow careful deliberation and a possible visit to the Summit venue.

49. The **Chair** welcomed Azerbaijan's proposal and requested members to confirm their participation and submit the composition of their delegations to the Secretariat.

50. The **Council** agreed to hold its next (297th) meeting in Baku on 16 June 2025, endorsing that the meeting will be a single-item agenda event dedicated to the Summit-related issues.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

The Republic of Azerbaijan:

- H.E. Mr. Ali Alizade, **Permanent Representative**
- Mr. Asgar Asgarov, Counselor

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

- Mr. Behzad Azarsa, Head of Department, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation
- Mr. Soheil Kheiri, Senior Expert, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation
- Mr. Musa Khosravi Moghadam, ECO Expert, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- H.E. Mr. Ontalap Onalbayev, **Permanent Representative**

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- Mr. Ermek Eraliev, Chargé d'Affaires

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

-

The Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Mr. Bahodur Nazir, Counselor
- Mr. Alisher Azamzoda, First Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye:

- Mr. Murat Sogangoz, Counselor
- Mr. Emin Cagri Kaya, Third Secretary

The Embassy of Turkmenistan:

- Mr. Kemal Atayev, Third Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- H.E. Mr. Fariddin Nasriev, **Permanent Representative**
- Mr. Dilmurod Makhmudov, Attaché

The ECO Secretariat:

- H.E. Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, Secretary General
- Amb. Mohsen Esperi, Deputy Secretary General
- Amb. Jandos Asanov, Deputy Secretary General
- Amb. Silapberdi Nurberdiyev, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Cagatay Emrah Ongut, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Sukhrob Mirzoaliev, Head of CFU
- Mr. Hojjat Moghavem, Legal Adviser
- Mr. Muhammad Ahmed Raza, Senior Desk Officer

No: CFU /2025/951

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 11/6/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose the Note Verbale No. 5-062/25 dated June 5, 2025 received from the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Tehran along with their amendments to the Draft Report of 296th Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) Meeting held on May 26, 2025 in ECO Secretariat in Tehran.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of ECO Member States in Tehran the assurances of its highest consideration



All ECO Member States, Tehran





№ 5-062/25

Tehran

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and with reference to the latter's Note Verbale No CFU/2025/849, dated May 29, 2025, regarding the Draft Report of 296th Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) Meeting held on May 26, 2025 in ECO Secretariat, Tehran, has the honor to enclose herewith the amendments to the said Draft Report with track change version (marked) made by the Embassy for further consideration (next final edition) of esteemed Secretariat.

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization the assurances of its highest consideration

Attachment: 11 pages

June 5, 2025

Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization
Tehran



Agenda Item No. 3

Follow-up of the outcomes of the 17th ECO Summit and ECO Week in Azerbaijan

No: CFU /2025/1045

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 6/7/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose a Note Verbale No. 5-065/25 dated July 5, 2025 received from the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, along with the Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit held in Khankendi, Azerbaijan on July 3-4, 2025.

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, the assurances of its highest consideration.

All ECO Member States - Tehran



**AZƏRBAYCAN RESPUBLİKASININ
İRAN İSLAM RESPUBLİKASINDAKI
SƏFİRLİYİ**



**EMBASSY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

№ 5-065/25

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization and has the honour to present the Chair's Summary (non-negotiable) of the 17th ECO Summit held in Khankendi, Azerbaijan, on 3-4 July, 2025

The Embassy kindly requests the above document be circulated among the Member States and posted on the official website of ECO

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization the assurances of its highest consideration

Enclosure: 4 pages

July 5, 2025

**Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization
Tehran**



KHANKENDI COMMUNIQUE
New ECO Vision for a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future
Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit
July 4, 2025, Khankendi, the Republic of Azerbaijan

Upon the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Heads of State and Government of the ECO Member States convened for the 17th ECO Summit on July 4, 2025, in Khankendi, the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Summit was preceded, upon the initiative of H E Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, by broader ECO Week events taking place in different cities of the Republic of Azerbaijan that included ECO Youth Forum on July 1, 2025 in Aghdam, ECO Women Forum on July 2, 2025 in Lachin and 6th ECO Business Forum on July 2, 2025 in Shusha.

The participants of the Summit commended the unprecedented large-scale recovery and reconstruction activities undertaken by the Republic of Azerbaijan in its liberated territories which made it possible for the liberated cities to host ECO Week events in a high-level and well-organized manner. Further, they recalled the Istanbul Declaration and the relevant resolution adopted at the 51st session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the plight of hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis forcibly and systematically expelled from the territory of the present-day Armenia, and reaffirmed the inalienable right of these expelled Azerbaijanis for a peaceful, safe, and dignified return to their places of origin.

The participants of the Summit embraced its theme - "New ECO Vision for a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future" as a call to renew the strategic agenda of the ECO.

Proceeding from the national statements of the heads of delegations of ECO Member States, as well as the outcomes of the ECO Week events, the Chair of the 17th ECO Summit concluded that we

- Reaffirmed our commitment to the Treaty of Izmir and all previous outcome documents of ECO Summits,
- Noted that this Summit comes at a pivotal moment as ECO Vision 2025 reaches its culmination and agreed to launch work on a visionary strategic framework for 2026-2035 that will harness the region's vast human capital and natural resources for shared prosperity,
- In line with the Summit theme, made clear that economic sustainability and climate resilience must be central to ECO's future,

- **Recognized**, in this regard, the significance of intensifying efforts for transition to low-carbon development by expanding renewable capacity and jointly developing renewable energy infrastructure,
- **Stressed** the importance of protecting the region's ecosystem through sustainable water management, biodiversity protection, and climate-smart agriculture,
- **Underscored** that a healthy environment is an essential requirement for prosperity, and in this regard invited collectively to incorporate shared priorities on climate and environment into all our future policies,
- **In this respect, welcomed** relevant initiatives and high level events organized recently by ECO Member States to tackle the negative impact of climate change on sustainable development in the ECO region, including the ones on Caspian Sea level depletion by Azerbaijan, mountain ecosystems by Kyrgyzstan and preservation of the glaciers by Tajikistan,
- **Highly appreciated** environmental initiatives, put forward by H.E. Mehriban Aliyeva, First Vice-President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and H.E. Emine Erdogan, First Lady of the Republic of Türkiye and other women leaders in the ECO region, such as Zero-Waste initiative by Emine Erdogan that gained global significance. All these initiatives testified to the growing influential role of women in advancing the green transition across the ECO region,
- **Welcomed** the successful hosting by the Republic of Azerbaijan of the 29th session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku – first ever Climate Change COP hosted in the ECO region – and the historic breakthroughs achieved therein,
- **Supported** the bid by the Republic of Türkiye to host COP31 in 2026;
- **Welcomed** the establishment of the ECO Clean Energy Center and the completion of the process of ratification by a sufficient number of Member States enabling its full operationalization,
- **Highlighted** that, physical and digital connectivity is vital for inclusive growth and in this regard, called to expand and modernize transport corridors across the region,
- **Stressed** the importance of robust digital infrastructure and **supported** the creation of a single digital platform to streamline Middle Corridor logistics and foster wider e-commerce and e-governance integration,
- **Noted**, in this regard, the need for proceeding with the process of trade liberalization in the ECO region as a driving force for full realization of its development potential,
- **Emphasized** in particular, the importance of taking decisive measures aimed at removing customs and other administrative barriers in mutual trade,

- **Highlighted** importance of enhancing trade and investment scope of ECO and in this regard **resolved** to at least double intra-regional trade by 2035 through trade facilitation, trade promotion and investment attraction, by realization of the initiatives as "ECO Invest", ECO Council of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, unified ECO information space and by the strengthened mandate of the ECO Trade and Development Bank,
- **Underlined** that innovation drives future prosperity and called for strengthened cooperation in advanced technologies, including cryptocurrency and blockchain technologies, ICT, AI and space applications, and in this regard **took note** initiative on establishment of ECO AI Center,
- **Highlighted** importance of full operationalization of ECO Research Center, as a regional hub for economic research and innovations
- **Endorsed** closer regional cooperation on disaster-risk reduction and resilient infrastructure, including shared early-warning systems for floods, droughts and earthquakes, and the systematic application of resilience standards to all new transport, energy and urban projects;
- **Acknowledged** the importance of sustainable urbanization which is crucial for creating economically prosperous, socially equitable and environmentally responsible urban areas and welcomed, in this regard, the decision on the 13th Session of World Urban Forum (WUF13) to be hosted by the Republic of Azerbaijan – first-ever WUF in the ECO region – from 17 to 22 May 2026 under the theme *"Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities"*;
- **Acknowledged** the growing role of tourism as one of the means of economic development for the ECO Member States and expressed our resolve to continue to promote the tourism potential of ECO Region,
- **Highly appreciated** successful organization of 6th Ministerial Meeting on Tourism on April 26, 2025 held in ECO Tourism Capital of Erzurum, Türkiye and welcomed the designation of city of Shusha, Azerbaijan; city of Lahore, Pakistan; city of Mary Turkmenistan and city of Karakol, Kyrgyzstan respectively in 2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029 as Tourism Capitals of ECO,
- **Reiterated** commitment to engage youth, women and business constituencies of ECO region in the elaboration and implementation of ECO strategic documents,
- In this line **highly appreciated** the organization of Aghdam Youth Forum, Lachin Women Forum and Shusha Business Forum, as part of broader first ever ECO Week organized in the Republic of Azerbaijan, and **noted with appreciation** the recommendations issued therein,
- **Welcomed** ongoing efforts to streamline ECO's institutional architecture and **requested** the Secretariat in consultation with Member States, to develop concrete roadmap and regularly report on progress,
- **Encouraged** deeper cooperation with the United Nations, international organizations and financial institutions to amplify ECO's collective voice on sustainable economic development issues,

- **Emphasized** that lasting regional peace and stability in Afghanistan remain prerequisites for sustainable development and **reaffirmed** support for its gradual engagement into the activities of ECO to ensure the integrity of the Organization;
- **Expressed** concern over the ongoing deteriorating situation in Gaza, particularly on significant number of civilian casualties and call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire and unrestricted access to relief and essential humanitarian assistance;
- **Expressed** also concern by the recent military operation carried out by the State of Israel against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and called to resolve any differences through dialogue and diplomatic means, in accordance with the norms and principles of international law and express concern over civilian casualties;
- **Conveyed** concern regarding the recent escalation of tensions between India and Pakistan that resulted in civilian casualties and while expressing our solidarity with Pakistan called on parties to resolve the differences between them through diplomatic means.

The Chair of the 17th ECO Summit expressed gratitude to the Republic of Kazakhstan for its able chairmanship in the Organization for the year 2025 under the motto "*Promoting Regional Transport Connectivity and Sustainable Development*" and welcomed the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 18th ECO Summit in 2027.

The Chair of the 17th ECO Summit also thanked ECO Secretary General Ambassador Asad M Khan and his team at the Secretariat for their outstanding support in assisting with the preparations and successful holding of the 17th ECO Summit and ECO Week events.

The Heads of State/Government took note of this Chair's Summary as a guide for concrete follow-up. The ECO Secretariat will coordinate implementation and report regularly on results.

Issued in Khankendi, Republic of Azerbaijan, July 4, 2025.

No: CFU /2025/1058

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 8/7/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose the self-explanatory Note Verbale No. 531/2549986 dated 7 July 2025 received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding their formal position on the Chair's summary of the 17th ECO Summit.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the esteemed Ministry and the Embassies the assurances of its highest consideration.



All ECO Member States, Tehran





**Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Unofficial translation

MOST URGENT

In the Name of God

Note

No: 531/2549986

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Secretariat of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in Tehran and has the honour to enclose herewith "Observations by the Islamic Republic of Iran on Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit".

It is requested that these observations be 1) circulated among the ECO Member States, 2) uploaded in the ECO website in the same place where the "Chair's Summary" is already uploaded, and 3) included in the Summit outcome documents.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ECO Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

7 July 2025

Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) - Tehran

شماره : ۵۳۱/۲۵۴۹۹۸۶
تاریخ : ۱۴۰۴/۰۴/۱۶
پیوست : دارد



خیلی فوری

به نام خدا

یادداشت

وزارت امور خارجه جمهوری اسلامی ایران با اظهار تعارفات خود به دبیرخانه سازمان همکاریهای اقتصادی (اگو) در تهران احتراماً اشعار می‌دارد:

به پیوست، ملاحظات جمهوری اسلامی ایران نسبت به سند "جمع بندی رئیس" هفدهمین اجلاس سران اگو ارسال می‌گردد.

موجب امتنان خواهد بود چنانچه این ملاحظات ۱. بین کشورهای عضو اگو توزیع گردد. ۲. در تارنمای اگو و در همان بخشی که جمع بندی رئیس قلا پارگذاری شده بارگذاری شود. ۳. در اسناد پایانی اجلاس سران گنجانده شود.

موقع را مغتنم شمرده، احترامات فائقه را تجدید می‌نماید.
دبیرخانه سازمان همکاریهای اقتصادی (اگو) - تهران



Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Observations by the Islamic Republic of Iran on
Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Secretariat of Economic Cooperation Organization in Tehran and wishes to express its strong dissatisfaction over the distribution of a document entitled "KHANKENDI COMMUNIQUE Chair's Summary of the 17th ECO Summit" and requests for appropriate correction and necessary changes as per following observations:

1. As per proposal by the host country before the Summit, there was an agreement among Member States to have a chair's summary instead of summit final declaration. While the structure of the issued text is formulated in a way that portrays an agreed negotiated text, it is not reflecting the expressed positions of the Heads of State/Government during the Summit.
2. The language and concepts used in the first part of the text and the incomplete and selective narrative of the Istanbul Declaration is not acceptable and shall not imply unanimous view by all participating Heads of State/Government in the Summit.
3. The second part of the text onward, starting with "Proceeding from the national statements of the heads of delegation of ECO Member States" does not reflect the correct account of the views expressed by the distinguished Heads of State/Government.

4. It is very regrettable that the paragraph on Israeli's regime aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran is drafted in a way that does not reflect the realities of the Israeli aggression to an ECO Member State and has not condemned the blatant violation of international law and the United Nations Charter by the Israeli Regime. This paragraph has ignored totally the categorical condemnation and rejection expressed by honourable Heads of State/Government in the Summit.
5. Moreover, the reference to the Israeli Zionist aggressor regime in the same paragraph as the "State" is neither acceptable to this delegation nor consistent with the language used in similar documents in other Organizations, including Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC), where all ECO Member States are members.
6. Therefore, we strongly request revision of the whole paragraph related to the brutal and unlawful attacks by Israeli regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran in accordance with the statements in the Summit as well as the language used in the resolution adopted unanimously at the recent meeting of the OIC Foreign Ministers, held on 21-22 June 2025 in Istanbul, which strongly condemned the aggression.
7. The reference to taking note by the Heads of State/Government of "a guide for concrete follow-up" in the last paragraph does not reflect the proceedings of the Summit.

In the light of the above, it is requested that these observations be:

- 1) circulated among the ECO Member States;
- 2) uploaded in the ECO website in the same place where the above "Chair's Summary" is already uploaded, and
- 3) included in the Summit outcome documents.

Tehran-7 July 2025

Agenda Item No. 4

Follow-up of the outcomes of 28th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM)

- Formulation of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035
- Sequencing of the ECO Summit and COM Meeting under one ECO Chairmanship

No: ECO /2025/936

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 5/6/2025

Attachment: No

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tehran and, with reference to the latter's Note Verbale No. 011/889 dated 24 May 2025, has the honour to recall that the title "**Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035**", as proposed by the Republic of Uzbekistan for the Organization's new ten-year strategic document, was discussed and endorsed during the 296th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held on 26 May 2025.

Accordingly, the Secretariat vide Note Verbale No. ECO-2025/841 dated 28 May 2025, circulated a revised version of the document bearing the agreed title. Furthermore, during a recent telephone conversation between the ECO Secretary General and the distinguished Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan, it was mutually acknowledged that the matter had already been addressed, requiring no further action.

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tehran, the assurances of its highest consideration.



Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan - Tehran



No: ECO /2025/841

Priority: Urgent

Date: 28/5/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and with reference to the former's Note Verbale No. 781 dated 21.5.2025, and based on the conclusion of the **296th** CPR Meeting held on May 26, 2025, has the honour to rename the earlier circulated draft ECO Vision 2035 as the Draft Strategic Goals of the Economic Cooperation-2035 in line with the proposal of the Honorable President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, the assurances of its highest consideration.



All ECO Member States - Tehran



No: ECO /2025/1043

Priority: Urgent

Date: 2/7/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose a copy of Note Verbale No. /2025/99530379/40225152 dated June 28, 2025, received from the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye, containing comments on the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2025. These comments have been submitted by the Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Family and Social Services and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Türkiye.

In view of the approaching deadline for submitting comments on the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2025, the Secretariat kindly requests the esteemed Member States to share their feedback, if any, by July 15, 2025. The compiled document, along with all received comments, will be reviewed by the Working Group at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure its finalization prior to the next Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM), scheduled for November 28, 2025, in Astana, Kazakhstan.

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, the assurance of its highest consideration.



All ECO Member States - Tehran



DRAFT Strategic Goals of the Economic Cooperation - 2035





ECO VISION 2025

BRIEF BACKGROUND

Adopted in 2017, ECO Vision 2025 served as a strategic framework guiding the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) toward sustainable economic growth, enhanced regional connectivity, and deeper socio-economic development. It focused on key sectors such as trade & investment, transport & connectivity, energy & environment, tourism, economic growth & productivity, and social welfare. The Vision aimed to align regional efforts with global sustainable development goals, supported by structured monitoring mechanisms.

While implementation remained uneven across sectors, moderate progress was witnessed in trade sector, whereas notable advancements were seen in regional energy cooperation, corridors development, agriculture & food security, tourism promotion, etc. Financial constraints and insufficient engagement by Member States emerged as recurring challenges. The ECO Vision Midterm Review in 2021 and the ECO Vision Review Committee in 2024 identified both accomplishments and gaps, leading to prioritized efforts in the final phase.

The deliberative process laid the foundation for formulating a more inclusive, responsive and target-based strategy for the upcoming decade, with stronger ownership, realistic goals and enhanced regional collaboration at its core.



STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION - 2035

OVERVIEW

The formulation of Strategic Goals of the Economic Cooperation - 2035 represents a renewed opportunity to articulate a forward-looking regional strategy that is both ambitious and grounded in practical realities.

Building on the experiences and outcomes of Vision 2025, the new document is designed to address the evolving socio-economic landscape, regional and global dynamics. Mandated by the 28th Council of Ministers Meeting, ECO Strategy 2035 aims to guide the Organization toward a future characterized by sustainable development, deeper regional integration and equitable prosperity for all member states.

Central to the development of this document is a strong commitment to inclusivity and participatory governance. While Vision 2025 largely emerged from intergovernmental dialogues, the new strategic process places greater emphasis on engaging various societal groups to ensure a multidimensional and responsive approach. To broaden the ownership of the new roadmap, an inclusive approach to formulate the document has been developed.

In addition to reaffirming ongoing priorities, the new document incorporates several emerging areas that were not featured in ECO Vision 2025 but have been actively pursued in the years since. These include economic research & statistics (ERS), international relations (IR), judicial and parliamentary cooperation (JPC), the ECO Advocacy Program for Afghanistan (EAPA) and human resources and sustainable development (HRSD). This reflects the Organization's broader and more integrated strategic outlook for the coming decade.



CORE PILLARS

Advancing Sustainability

- ECO is committed to fostering sustainable, inclusive growth by aligning regional efforts with global development goals. The focus will be on addressing regional priorities while ensuring that progress is balanced with environmental responsibility, social equity and long-term economic resilience. A stable and peaceful environment remains a fundamental pillar for this sustainable development.

Strengthening Regional Integration

- Our diverse region holds immense potential for economic cooperation. ECO will work to deepen regional integration through enhanced infrastructure, harmonized policies and collaborative initiatives. By building on cultural ties and shared interests, ECO aims to create a more cohesive economic space that benefits all member states, encouraging mutual growth and stability.

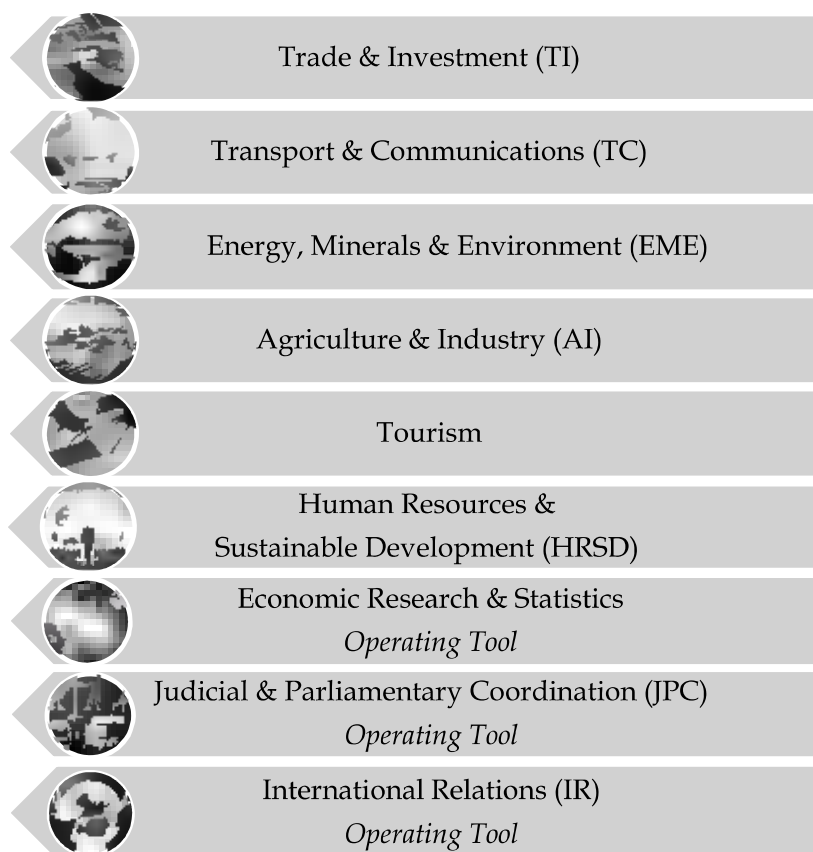
Fostering Innovation and Inclusive Growth

- To promote entrepreneurship, job creation and innovation, ECO will create an enabling environment supported by transparent governance and equitable access. This includes empowering local businesses, enhancing education and skills development and fostering technological advancements. By nurturing a business-friendly climate, ECO seeks to drive inclusive development that benefits all sectors of society.

SECTORAL APPROACH

In formulating Strategic Goals of the Economic Cooperation - 2035, a structured and comprehensive approach has been applied to develop sector-specific strategies that align with the Organization's long-term goals. This approach ensures that each sector's role is clearly defined within the broader framework of ECO, building on the lessons and achievements of Vision 2025 while addressing the challenges encountered during its implementation. By reflecting on the past, the new document provides a target-specific strategy for regional cooperation and development, with a sharper focus on inclusivity, sustainability and innovation.

The process involved developing clear and forward-looking statements for each sector, ensuring that these are realistic, measurable and impactful. Strategic objectives have been identified to guide each sector, with a focus on achievable outcomes by 2035. Priority areas and policy focus, along with expected outcomes are outlined to ensure that each sector addresses areas requiring immediate and sustained attention. The following sectors form the foundation for the targeted actions of the new document:



TRADE & INVESTMENT

Introduction

Trade is the main driver of economic growth. While the ECO region has made notable strides, challenges such as the absence of a fully operational preferential trading system, high trade costs due to high intra regional tariffs and non-tariff barriers, banking and payment issues, and inadequate financing continue to hinder progress. Global shifts toward protectionism and re-defined trade norms further impact the region's trade performance. Despite contributing over USD 1 trillion to global trade for three consecutive years, intra-regional trade remains low at just 8.8%, signaling untapped potential.

To realize this potential, the region must accelerate efforts for implement preferential trade under ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA), implement effective trade facilitation framework, harmonize standards, ensuring efficient trade payment systems, and promoting FDI in priority sectors.

Noteworthy progress has been made under ECO Vision 2025, with ongoing negotiations to amend and update ECOTA, finalize the Trade Facilitation Strategy/ Agreement, and launch joint trade promotion events—laying the foundation for a more integrated, resilient and dynamic trade and investment landscape by 2035

Statement

To achieve sustainable growth with greater and greener intra-regional trade in the ECO region and contribute to the global trade commensurate to the potential of the region.

Strategic Objectives

To ensure sustainable increase in intra-regional trade with an efficient and operational preferential trading system under ECOTA and its progressive liberalization to a Free Trade Area, and increase ECO share in the global trade by diversifying the regions' exports.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Enhanced Intra Regional Trade through:
 - Operationalization of Preferential Trade in the region under ECOTA and expanding its coverage to an ECO Free Trade Area.
 - Strengthening Trade Facilitation by implementing Trade Facilitation Strategy/Agreement. with a view to reduce non-tariff costs through automation of procedures, harmonization of policies, and create incentives for FDI into flow into the region
 - Implement Joint Trade Promotion activities in the ECO by organizing meaningful trade promotion events in the region.
 - Adopting regional quality policy drafted by ECO-UNIDO Joint Trade Capacity Building Project, and fully operationalizing the ECO-RISCAM to promote harmonized standards, conformity assessment procedures and best practices in the region for risk free, predictable and cost effective intra-regional trade.
 - Strengthen the role of ECO Trade Development Bank, to bolster project funding in trade sector. To build collaborative relationships with relevant international and



regional organizations for financing the priority projects in priority areas with active role of ECO TDB.

- To set up financing for infrastructure development to create strategic partnerships with other international and regional organization and address shared challenges and goals by 2035.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Operationalization of the updated ECOTA, and its progressive liberalization into a Free Trade Area to significantly increase intra-regional trade.
- ii. Implementation of the ECO Trade Facilitation Strategy / Agreement.
- iii. Implementation of ECO agreements in Customs cooperation for harmonization of customs procedures, use of EDI and digital trade, mutual administrative assistance etc.
- iv. Full operationalization of ECO-RISCAM and adoption of a regional quality policy to streamline conformity assessment and boost trade in industrial and agricultural products.
- v. Implementation of APPI to attract FDI in priority sectors.
- vi. Enhanced role of the ECO TDB in financing trade and investment projects, supported by Member States and development partners for financial sustainability.
- vii. Development of regionally connected value chains through improved FTZs/ SEZs and infrastructure and strategic partnerships, enhancing trade competitiveness and resilience.
- viii. To operationalize the ECO Re-insurance Company for secure trade in the region.
- ix. Stronger coordination mechanisms involving the ECO Secretariat, Member States, and private sector stakeholders for effective policy implementation and initiative ownership.
- x. Inclusion of trade in services, such as tourism, within future free trade agreements, contributing to a broader and more dynamic regional trade ecosystem.

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Introduction

The transport and ICT sectors are vital enablers of regional integration, economic growth, and sustainable development in the ECO region. They are both self-completed and overwhelming, thus fairly suggested to be divided operationally by decision of ECO Foreign Ministers at their last meeting (Mashhad Communiqué). In the meantime, until the division is completed the Secretariat's Transport and Communications Directorate will keep working in this unified domain. Enhancing physical connectivity through efficient regional transport systems and boosting digital integration via harmonized ICT policies are central goals. Notable progress has been made in operationalizing transport corridors and upgrading infrastructure, though challenges remain in customs inefficiencies, policy harmonization, and limited private sector engagement. Together, transport facilitates trade and mobility, while ICT drives innovation, competitiveness, and digital connectivity across member states.

Statement

To establish a seamlessly connected and integrated ECO region by enhancing road, rail, air and maritime transport networks, supported by smart ICT systems. This comprehensive approach to regional connectivity aims to facilitate efficient cross-border movement of goods and people, strengthen economic interdependence and promote sustainable development. By aligning infrastructure and policy frameworks, the initiative seeks to deepen regional integration and cooperation among ECO member states.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Ensure full operationalization and commercialization of the major ECO transport corridors, through infrastructure upgrades and legal frameworks. It is essential to streamline customs and transportation-associated procedures.
- ⊙ Harmonize transport regulations and digitalize border crossing procedures across ECO member states, through coordinated implementation of the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA).
- ⊙ Achieve deep/wide broadband internet penetration across all ECO member states by 2030, with special focus on rural and underserved areas through public-private investment partnerships.
- ⊙ Develop and launch a regional digital platform for trade, e-governance, and knowledge-sharing, enabling secure data exchange and fostering digital entrepreneurship across ECO countries.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Ensure the full and active participation of all ECO member states in the comprehensive implementation of the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA), with the aim of harmonizing customs and transit regulations, reducing delays and facilitating seamless cross-border movement.
- ⊙ Prioritize investment in regional corridors, including through public-private partnerships (PPPs) and multilateral funding to upgrade and expand transport infrastructure across corridors.
- ⊙ Develop ECO Gates - multimodal logistic hubs, Caspian and open seaports, inland dry ports, encourage interoperability in transport systems and equipment, and align



technical standards across member states to ensure integrated road, rail, sea and air networks for seamless transport.

- ⊙ Develop common cyber-security standards and establish regional data protection as well as regulatory frameworks to strengthen the regional digital ecosystem.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Full operationalization and commercialization of major ECO transport corridors through infrastructure upgrades and harmonized regulations.
- ii. Streamlined and digitalized border procedures across all member states under the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA).
- iii. Establishment of multimodal logistics hubs (ECO Gates), integrated transport networks (road, rail, sea, air) and reduced cross-border transit time.
- iv. Achieve deep/wide broadband internet penetration across ECO member states by 2030, with improved digital access in rural areas.
- v. Launch of a regional digital platform for trade, e-governance and innovation, supporting secure data exchange and entrepreneurship.
- vi. Adoption of cyber security and data protection standards to enhance the digital ecosystem.
- vii. Strengthened public-private partnerships and increased investment in smart infrastructure and ICT-enabled services.
- viii. Enhanced regional cooperation in transport, trade, tourism, agriculture, education and health through improved physical and digital connectivity.

ENERGY, MINERALS & ENVIRONMENT

Introduction

Regional cooperation in energy, minerals, and environment is vital for sustainable development in the ECO region. Energy has always been a priority area of cooperation within ECO since its inception. Availing abundant traditional and renewable energy resources, ECO aims to increase energy market integration and enhance the energy security through adequate, sustainable, reliable and affordable energy supplies in the region. Over the past decade, ECO has been mainstreaming sustainable energy transition and low-carbon development model in its overall energy agenda. The regional transition journey has started, however a multiplicity of political, economic, and social challenges persist in this pathway. The mineral sector, a key driver of industrial growth, also holds untapped potential for regional collaboration. The ECO countries encounter significant environmental and climate challenges, which have necessitated enhanced collaboration for ecological protection in the ECO region. The environment and impacts of climate change were designated as ECO's cross-sectoral priority. ECO countries must responsibly harness energy and mineral resources while advancing ecological protection and contributing to global climate resilience efforts.

Statement

To foster a thriving, sustainable, and resilient ECO region via responsible management of energy and mineral resources, pursuing the irreversible just and sustainable energy transition and stronger energy-environment nexus approach to promote economic development, protect the environment for future generations, and collaboratively tackle climate change while enhancing regional cohesion.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Enhance regional energy security and sustainability through wider energy access and trade: ECO will facilitate diversification of energy mix, improving energy connectivity, enabling and upgrading policy and regulatory framework, and strengthening the role of ECO region in global energy architecture.
- ⊙ Create Regional Power System Connectivity and Electricity Market: Multilateral and multidirectional power trading linked to the integration of renewable energy resources will be established gradually at the sub-regional and regional levels through harmonization and mobilization of bilateral and multilateral electricity grids under the single platform.
- ⊙ Mainstream Sustainable Energy Transition: ECO will support unlocking the ECO region's renewable energy and energy efficiency potential, market expansion and transformation of sustainable energy into local energy value chains, and creating an enabling environment for robust sustainable energy markets and investments, particularly via the ECO Clean Energy Centre.
- ⊙ Forge Sustainable Resource Management: ECO will contribute to the sustainable management of mineral resources in the ECO region underpinned by a set of regional actions and a multi-year ECO Roadmap on Minerals Cooperation, to be adopted and implemented.
- ⊙ Strengthen Environmental Protection and Resilience to tackle the triple planetary crisis – climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss: ECO will develop regional regulations to improve resource efficiency and manage emissions, waste, and other pollutants from various activities, thereby protecting ecosystems and public health. Furthermore, the robust collective attitude that engages the entire region in environmental action on climate, biodiversity, desertification and other relevant areas will be achieved to enable



ECO to be recognized as a regional group/partner in the global environmental community.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Sustainable energy transition, particularly policy, capacity development and knowledge management, as well as market and investment promotion in renewable energy and energy efficiency infrastructure, services, businesses and industry with the strong support of the ECO Clean Energy Centre.
- ⊙ Establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market, most notably multilateral, multidirectional power trading linked to the integration of renewable energy resources for harnessing the benefits of larger integrated systems.
- ⊙ Sustainable resource management with the focus on creating stronger regulatory environment, investing in sustainable mining practices and technologies, and bolstering multi-stakeholder approach and international partnerships, as well as capacity-building and public awareness-raising in minerals.
- ⊙ Environmental protection and shift to low-carbon development model, including integration and mainstreaming environmental safeguards into national development plans and projects, promotion of a regional cooperation platform that will advocate for a just transition to a resource-efficient, circular, and regenerative economy, and implementation of climate action on adaptation and greenhouse gas emission mitigation.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Enhanced regional energy security and sustainability through expanded access, diversified energy mix, improved connectivity and strengthened policies aligned with global energy trends.
- ii. Established integrated regional power system and electricity market, enabling multilateral and multidirectional power trading and better integration of renewable energy resources.
- iii. More diverse and resilient energy architecture will be supported through accelerated sustainable energy transition by unlocking regional renewables potential, expanding markets, transforming local value chains and attracting investments via dedicated ECO clean energy initiatives.
- iv. Improved sustainable mineral resource management guided by a multi-year regional cooperation roadmap, fostering responsible mining practices and technological innovation.
- v. Strengthened environmental protection and resilience with regional regulations targeting resource efficiency, emission and pollution control, ecosystem preservation and coordinated climate change, biodiversity and desertification actions.
- vi. Developed robust legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, and tailored action plans aligned with the strategic objectives through multi-stakeholder collaboration, including government, private sector and communities.
- vii. Addressed major resource-related challenges, most notably adequate and reliable financing, human and institutional capacity underpinned by knowledge and science, and effective use of available resources.



- viii. Mobilized sustainable financing from domestic and international sources, public-private partnerships and regional funds to support clean energy, sustainable mining, and climate action projects.
- ix. Integrated ECO strategies with global sustainability agendas (e.g., SDGs, Paris Agreement) and established monitoring systems for transparent progress tracking.
- x. Engaged businesses, youth, women, and researchers actively in environmental sustainability and sector development, fostering innovation, advocacy, capacity-building and inclusive participation.
- xi. Strengthened regional and international partnerships to enhance technology transfer, build indigenous green technology ecosystems, and promote circular economy and just transition principles.

AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY

Introduction

Agriculture and industry are vital to the ECO region's economic growth but face challenges from environmental degradation, climate change, demographic shifts and evolving consumption patterns. These issues are intensified by global policy shocks, trade barriers and unequal technology access. Persistent disparities in industrialization and technology, coupled with limited collaboration and inconsistent standards, hinder balanced development. To address this, the ECO region must enhance financial and technical support, deepen regional integration, secure sustainable funding and harmonize standards. Attracting innovation, partnerships and FDI within a supportive environment is crucial for expanding trade and investment.

Statement

The ECO region will enhance its collaborative capacity to drive sustainable economic growth, boost productivity and ensure food security through robust regional cooperation in the agriculture and industry sectors.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Enhance policy development and implementation capacity of Member States in agriculture and industry sectors for driving sustainable and inclusive economic growth and productivity by 2035.
- ⊙ Foster cooperation through operationalized intra-regional platforms and strategic partnerships with other international and regional organizations, maximizing collective action to drive sectoral development and address shared challenges by 2035.
- ⊙ Strengthen regional food security and agricultural resilience through enhanced regional food security initiatives, seed supply, animal health, water management, meteorological cooperation, and biotechnology capacities by 2035.
- ⊙ Advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development across priority sectors of common interest through promoting quality infrastructure, nanotechnology utilization, industrial property rights, MSMEs and entrepreneurship, and private sector engagement by 2035.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Enhanced Regional Food Security through:
 - Effective implementation of ECO-RPFS and operationalization of ECO-RCCFS.
 - Strengthening regional seed supply and trade.
 - Improving animal trade and veterinary services.
 - Promoting efficient water utilization in agriculture to address water scarcity challenges in the region.
 - Fostering regional meteorological cooperation to mitigate agriculture-related risks and shocks.
 - Encouraging application of agricultural biotechnology for increased productivity and sustainability.



- Building stronger collaborative relationships with relevant international and regional organizations to leverage synergies and best practices.
- ⊙ Enhanced Regional Industrial Cooperation Capabilities through:
 - Establishing a robust and harmonized quality infrastructure across the region by fully operationalizing the ECO-RISCAM and its associated TMBs to promote harmonized regional standards and conformity assessment procedures.
 - Promoting the development and application of advanced technologies, including nanotechnology, in industrial sectors to address regional needs.
 - Strengthening industrial property rights to foster innovation.
 - Fostering MSMEs, startups, entrepreneurship and privatization to boost economic growth and employment as well as networking opportunities.
 - Building stronger collaborative relationships with relevant international and regional organizations to leverage synergies and best practices.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened policy development and implementation capacities across Member States to drive sustainable and inclusive growth in agriculture and industry by 2035.
- ii. Enhanced regional cooperation through operational platforms and strategic partnerships, maximizing collective action on shared sectoral challenges.
- iii. Improved regional food security and agricultural resilience via better seed supply, animal health, water management, meteorological cooperation and biotechnology use.
- iv. Advanced, inclusive and sustainable industrial development focusing on quality infrastructure, nanotechnology, intellectual property, MSMEs, entrepreneurship and private sector engagement.
- v. Established and harmonized regional standards and quality infrastructure supporting efficient trade and innovation.
- vi. Increased financial sustainability through the related ECO Fund and strengthened partnerships with multilateral donors and UN agencies for technical and financial support.
- vii. Robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks ensuring transparency, measurable progress and alignment with Member States' priorities.
- viii. Greater engagement and empowerment of youth and women in agriculture and industry, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and inclusive economic transformation.
- ix. Improved coordination, communication and accountability mechanisms among Member States and ECO bodies for effective implementation and timely decision-making.

TOURISM

Introduction

Tourism plays a significant role within the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) framework, significantly contributing to economic growth, cultural exchange, and regional connectivity among ECO Member States. Despite the advancements achieved under ECO Vision 2025, challenges persist, including inconsistent tourism policies, inadequate infrastructure and connectivity and limited regional marketing efforts. The strategic importance of tourism in regional cooperation and integration is evident in its capacity to drive economic development, promote cultural heritage and strengthen people-to-people connections across the ECO region.

Statement

To establish the ECO region as a premier sustainable tourism destination by 2035, leveraging its cultural heritage and natural beauty to drive economic growth, promote regional identity and foster connectivity.

Strategic Objectives

- ⦿ Promote Sustainable Tourism Practices while Enhancing the Competitiveness of the ECO Region.
- ⦿ The ECO region is home to a rich cultural and natural heritage, which must be preserved and promoted through sustainable tourism initiatives. Strengthening regional cooperation among the Member States is essential to achieving environmentally responsible tourism while enhancing the global competitiveness of the ECO tourism products and services. Efforts will be made to encourage knowledge-sharing and best practices exchange among tourism stakeholders, with a focus on adopting eco-friendly policies and innovative sustainability models.
- ⦿ Strengthen Tourism Infrastructure: Robust tourism infrastructure is a fundamental requirement for ensuring seamless travel experiences and attracting a larger number of domestic and international visitors. To enhance regional tourism, investments in transportation, hospitality, digital infrastructure, and tourism services will be prioritized. A comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted to identify key infrastructure gaps and investment opportunities in the tourism sector. By 2035, the ECO Member States will work towards aligning regional infrastructure with international hospitality and transport standards modernizing travel and tourism facilities.
- ⦿ Boost Regional Tourism Marketing: The ECO region has immense tourism potential, but a lack of cohesive branding and marketing has limited its ability to attract global travelers. A well-coordinated marketing strategy will be implemented to increase global visibility and position of the ECO region as a unique, attractive, and sustainable tourism destination. A unified promotion campaign consisting of modern destination marketing tools will be launched, promoting the ECO region under a single, recognizable brand. This marketing strategy will be integrated into national tourism promotion efforts.
- ⦿ Enhance Connectivity for Tourism: Facilitating seamless travel experiences through integrated travel routes, visa facilitation, and collaborative tourism packages is critical for boosting cross-border tourism. Greater emphasis will be placed on regional tourism linkages to create an interconnected and accessible tourism network. The cooperation mechanisms will work to enhance intra-regional connectivity, particularly by improving transport links, visa facilitation processes, and digital travel platforms. Efforts will also focus on expanding direct flight routes, simplifying border procedures, and introducing digital visa solutions.



Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Regional Tourism Strategy: Formulating a comprehensive ECO tourism development strategy that aligns with national tourism strategies of the Member States under the main tasks of the ECO Advisory Committee on Tourism (ECO-ACT).
- ⊙ Human Resource Development: Establishing training programs (workshops, seminars and training courses) for tourism professionals in collaboration with the members of the ECO Tourism Educational Network.
- ⊙ Private Sector Involvement: Supporting to creation of an enabling environment for private sector investment in tourism infrastructure and services.
- ⊙ Innovative and Digital Transformation: Contributing to the utilization of modern technologies such as augmented reality, artificial intelligence to enhance the tourism experience, including digital marketing, upskilling the tourism workforce with digital transformation.
- ⊙ Inclusive Tourism Development: Foster innovation and equitable growth by empowering women, youth and the private sector through inclusive policies and initiatives.

Expected Outcomes

Establishment of ECO as a premier sustainable tourism destination by 2035 via achieving following targets:

- i. Growth in tourist arrivals from 102 million (2024) to 130 million by 2030 and 155 million by 2035.
- ii. Increase in tourism's GDP contribution to 5% by 2035.
- iii. Improved regional tourism infrastructure, achieving an average TTDI score increase from 3.76 (2024) to 4.25 by 2035.

Completion of the actions below for abovementioned strategic objectives including:

- i. Unified regional tourism marketing strategy implemented across all Member States.
- ii. Improved cross-border travel through simplified visa processes, expanded direct flight routes and integrated digital travel systems.
- iii. Adoption of sustainable tourism practices and eco-friendly policies.
- iv. Greater private sector investment in tourism infrastructure and services.
- v. Enhanced use of modern and digital technologies in tourism promotion and delivery.
- vi. Increased capacity and skills in tourism through training programs and workshops.
- vii. Empowerment of women, youth and communities in tourism development
- viii. Active engagement of stakeholders, including local communities and civil society
- ix. Operationalization of ECO-ACT for regional tourism coordination and monitoring
- x. Stronger partnerships with international organizations (e.g., UN Tourism, UNESCO, OIC)
- xi. Diversified tourism financing, including reactivation of the ECO Tourism Promotion Fund



HUMAN RESOURCES & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The ECO remains committed to advancing human resources and sustainable development (HRSD) through regional cooperation in sustainable development, disaster risk reduction (DRR), health and education. Aligned with the UN SDGs, ECO initiatives have included the establishment of key policy frameworks and institutions such as the ECO Regional Center for Risk Management of Natural Disasters and action plans on health and education. Emphasis is placed on policy coherence, institutional capacity-building and inclusive partnerships to improve well-being, enhance resilience and promote lifelong learning across the region.

Statement

ECO aims to build an inclusive, resilient and knowledge-driven region, where sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, health and education systems are strengthened through the active participation and empowerment of youth and women, ensuring equitable social welfare and long-term regional prosperity.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Promote policy coherence for sustainable development by aligning local, regional, and international efforts to effectively address SDG challenges and enhance regional cooperation.
- ⊙ Tackle migration, poverty, inequality, family institution and population dynamics by adopting inclusive social protection and environmental policies to improve living standards and overall well-being.
- ⊙ Establish a regional disaster risk reduction system to minimize disaster-related losses in lives and assets through integrated preparedness and response mechanisms.
- ⊙ Empower youth and women by fostering their leadership, innovation, and participation in development, entrepreneurship, and climate action for inclusive and resilient communities.
- ⊙ Strengthen regional health cooperation by addressing non-communicable diseases and advancing equitable, inclusive universal health coverage systems.
- ⊙ Advance regional education and skills development by establishing frameworks for higher education, vocational training, and capacity-building, with a focus on youth and women's empowerment.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Sustainable Development
 - Develop a regional action plan for SDG-aligned policy coherence and monitor its implementation.
 - Institutionalize the ECO Forum on Sustainable Development to share experiences and challenges.
 - Address migration, poverty, inequality, family institution, and sustainable population growth.
 - Promote youth and women's empowerment for inclusive development.



- Strengthen cooperation with international and regional organizations on SDG practices.
- ⊙ Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
 - Revise and monitor the ECO Regional Framework on DRR and its five-year roadmap.
 - Enhance the capacity and operational effectiveness of the ECO-RCRM.
 - Improve intergovernmental collaboration on DRR efforts.
 - Foster partnerships with global and regional organizations to exchange expertise and best practices.
- ⊙ Health
 - Update and implement the ECO Health Action Plan based on Member States' needs.
 - Build strong partnerships with WHO and other key organizations for technical and financial support.
 - Establish a Regional Consultation Mechanism for better cooperation on communicable diseases.
- ⊙ Education
 - Develop and implement an action plan for internationalizing higher education in the ECO Region.
 - Strengthen collaboration with ECO educational institutions and global partners.
 - Conduct targeted training and capacity-building initiatives, with a focus on youth and women.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Improved regional policy coherence on SDGs through actionable frameworks and coordinated implementation mechanisms.
- ii. Enhanced disaster resilience via a functional ECO Regional DRR system and operational ECO-RCRM.
- iii. Expanded universal health coverage and strengthened response to non-communicable and communicable diseases through regional collaboration and the updated ECO Health Action Plan.
- iv. Elevated quality and access to education, including vocational and higher education, with increased youth and women's participation and institutional cooperation.
- v. Greater inclusion of youth and women in leadership, innovation and regional policy processes across all HRSD priority areas.
- vi. Operationalized regional platforms like the ECO Forum on Sustainable Development and ECO Youth Engagement Mechanism for cross-sector collaboration.
- vii. Strengthened monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems, using data-driven tools to track progress on DRR, health, education and SDG implementation.
- viii. Increased mobilization of resources and institutional capacity through strategic partnerships with UN bodies, development banks and civil society.
- ix. Mainstreamed cross-sectoral linkages, connecting HRSD with climate action, trade, agriculture and energy for integrated development outcomes.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH & STATISTICS

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

Economic Research and Statistics (ERS) has emerged as an important ECO pillar, advancing evidence-based policymaking and regional integration. Through platforms like the ECO Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research (EPSCER), Meetings of Heads of National Statistics Offices (HNSO) and the High-Level Experts Group (HLEG) on Statistics, along with key outputs such as the Annual Economic Reports, ERS supports informed decision-making across the region. The forthcoming ECO Research Centre (ECO-RC) in Baku and the revitalized ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) will further strengthen ECO's analytical and intellectual foundation.

Statement

To position ERS as a cornerstone for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development in the ECO region by enhancing regional economic analysis, promoting data-driven policymaking and fostering deeper cooperation through high-quality research, statistics and dialogue among Member States.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Operationalize the ECO Research Centre (ECO-RC) in Baku as a regional hub for economic research and innovation.
- ⊙ Elevate the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) into a peer-reviewed internationally recognized publication.
- ⊙ Institutionalize the ECO Think-Tank Forum, making it a recurring, high-level platform hosted across Member States.
- ⊙ Produce applied research and analytical publications focused on key regional priorities such as trade, investment, transport, climate change, green economy, regional security, and food and water security.
- ⊙ Strengthen capacity building and knowledge exchange among national statistics offices and economic institutions.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Regional Economic Analysis
 - Strengthen data collection and harmonization across Member States.
 - Develop comparative studies and benchmarking tools to support policy decisions.
- ⊙ Strategic Publications and Research
 - Focus on actionable research in trade, investment, sustainable development, transport, logistics, energy and resilience.
 - Explore the socio-economic impacts of regional initiatives and global trends on ECO countries.



⊙ Capacity Building and Networking

- Support training, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration among statistical offices and research institutions.
- Encourage youth and academic engagement through fellowships and research opportunities.

Expected Outcomes:

- i. Full operationalization of the ECO Research Centre (ECO-RC) as a regional hub for economic research and innovation.
- ii. Establishment of the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) as a respected, peer-reviewed international publication.
- iii. Regular convening of the ECO Think-Tank Forum as a key platform for high-level policy dialogue and research exchange.
- iv. Enhanced regional data harmonization and strengthened capacity of national statistics offices to support evidence-based policymaking.
- v. Production of applied research and analytical reports addressing priority regional issues including trade, investment, climate change, green economy and food and water security.
- vi. Increased engagement of youth, women, businesses and academia in economic research through fellowships, advisory panels and collaborative networks.
- vii. Development and launch of a digital ECO Statistics and Research Portal to improve transparency, data sharing and monitoring of regional progress.
- viii. Strengthened partnerships with international organizations, academic institutions and the private sector for co-funded research and knowledge exchange.



JUDICIAL & PARLIAMENTARY COORDINATION AND EAPA

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

Judicial and Parliamentary Coordination and the ECO Advocacy Programme for Afghanistan (JPC&EAPA) are key to strengthening judicial, law enforcement, and legislative cooperation among ECO Member States, promoting regional peace, security and sustainable development. Achievements during Vision 2025 include establishing the Plan of Interaction among Attorneys/Prosecutors General to combat transnational crime, advancing the operationalization of the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO), strengthening legislative cooperation via the Parliamentary Assembly of ECO (PAECO) and its Charter, and successfully implementing the ECO Advocacy Programme for Afghanistan. Challenges persist, including delays in RCCACO's full operation, the absence of ECOPOL, and suspended activities in Afghanistan.

Statement

Judicial cooperation, anti-corruption frameworks, law enforcement coordination and parliamentary collaboration across the ECO Member States will be institutionalized and strengthened. These efforts will foster a secure and rules-based regional environment conducive to economic integration. ECO will also work to reintegrate Afghanistan into ECO mechanisms, ensuring sustained regional support for its stability, prosperity, economic growth and sustainable development.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Enhance regional judicial cooperation among ECO Member States through institutional mechanisms and coordinated frameworks.
- ⊙ Foster effective cooperation in the prevention of financial and organized crimes via operational platforms like RCCACO and ECOPOL.
- ⊙ Promote legislative coordination among ECO parliaments through the institutional strengthening of PAECO.
- ⊙ Sustain regional commitment to Afghanistan's development and reengagement with ECO.
- ⊙ Build the institutional capacities of judicial and law enforcement agencies across the region through comprehensive training programs, enhanced resource allocation and improved inter-agency collaboration.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Judicial and Anti-Corruption Cooperation: Implement the Plan of Interaction and operationalize RCCACO to tackle financial and organized crimes.
- ⊙ Law Enforcement Coordination: Establish or substitute ECOPOL to improve intelligence and operational collaboration among law enforcement agencies.
- ⊙ Parliamentary Engagement: Strengthen the mandate and functioning of PAECO, encouraging all Member States to ratify the Charter.
- ⊙ Capacity Building: Expand training and knowledge-sharing programs to address emerging legal challenges (e.g., cybercrime, financial crime).
- ⊙ Afghanistan Engagement: Facilitate dialogue and support mechanisms to enable Afghanistan's participation in ECO activities, subject to Member State consensus.



Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened regional judicial cooperation through fully operationalized institutional mechanisms and enhanced coordination among Member States' prosecutorial offices.
- ii. Effective establishment and functioning of the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO), boosting anti-corruption efforts across the region.
- iii. Development of a robust regional law enforcement coordination platform (ECOPOL or alternative) to improve intelligence sharing and cross-border crime prevention.
- iv. Increased legislative collaboration through full ratification and active engagement within the Parliamentary Assembly of ECO (PAECO), supporting harmonized policies and rule of law.
- v. Expanded capacity-building programs targeting emerging challenges such as cybercrime, financial crimes and organized crime, enhancing institutional competencies.
- vi. Successful reintegration of Afghanistan into ECO mechanisms, enabling its meaningful participation in regional judicial, legislative and security cooperation.
- vii. Sustained multi-stakeholder partnerships with international organizations and donors to ensure financial sustainability and technical support.
- viii. Enhanced inclusion of women and youth in legislative processes via PAECO's dedicated committees, promoting diversity and regional stability.
- ix. Regular monitoring and reporting frameworks established to track progress on judicial cooperation, anti-corruption initiatives, parliamentary activities and Afghanistan's engagement.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

In today's interconnected world, challenges like technological change and population growth transcend national borders, making regional cooperation essential. The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), with its ten member states, faces shared transboundary issues that require regional collaboration. Strengthening partnerships with regional and international organizations and implementing existing cooperation frameworks are vital for effectively addressing these challenges.

Despite being one of the oldest regional groupings, ECO struggles with low visibility and impact. Enhancing its presence through streamlined web content, increased media engagement, and active participation in international forums will boost its profile. Moreover, fully activating and coordinating ECO's 24 subsidiary bodies will promote a unified, effective approach to achieving its goals.

Statement

ECO aims to harness regional collaboration to tackle global and regional challenges, promoting sustainable development through strengthened and new partnerships. Committed to boosting its visibility and impact, ECO will enhance media engagement and actively participate in international events, fostering a cooperative and inclusive community for collective progress and a sustainable future.

Strategic Objectives

- ⊙ Strengthening existing partnerships by actively participating in collaborative programs and initiatives.
- ⊙ Establishing new agreements with international organizations which are beyond ECO's ambit.
- ⊙ Increasing media presence through interaction, digital outreach, better material and publications
- ⊙ Streamlining web content to effectively communicate ECO's mission, achievements, activities and ongoing projects.
- ⊙ Engaging in international events to represent ECO's interests and showcase its contributions.
- ⊙ Hosting side events at international events to make most participation
- ⊙ Strengthening and fully operationalizing the ECO bodies
- ⊙ Improving coordination among ECO bodies and with the Secretariat to maximize organizational efficiency and effectiveness.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ **Increasing Synergies**
 - Developing a centralized digital platform, featuring shared calendars, document repositories, and project management tools, to facilitate seamless coordination among the ECO Secretariat and ECO bodies.



⊙ **Strengthening Subsidiary Agencies**

- Launching targeted outreach programs such as presentations, regional workshops, and bilateral meetings, to engage potential Member States, highlighting the benefits of joining ECO Subsidiary Agencies.
- Offering training and development programs to enhance the capabilities of agency staff and member representatives.

⊙ **Hosting Sideline Events**

- Developing and publishing an annual calendar of sideline events at major international forums.
- Collaborating with regional and international organizations and host countries to co-organize events that align with global agendas and ECO priorities.
- Planning and executing at least two sideline events annually at major UN conferences and member state-hosted events.

⊙ **Media Engagement and Presence**

- Establishing a dedicated media team to manage public relations and increase ECO's visibility.
- Developing a comprehensive media strategy to engage with international media outlets and promote ECO initiatives.
- Utilizing social media platforms to share updates, success stories, and upcoming events to reach a wider audience.
- Organizing press conferences and media briefings to highlight key achievements and upcoming projects.
- Creating engaging content, such as videos and infographics, to effectively communicate ECO's impact and goals.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened existing collaborations and new agreements with international organizations will improve ECO's capacity to address transboundary challenges effectively.
- ii. ECO's media presence, web content, and participation in international forums will be significantly enhanced, raising public awareness and stakeholder engagement.
- iii. All ECO subsidiary agencies will be active and well-coordinated, promoting organizational efficiency and cohesive implementation of ECO's mandates.
- iv. Centralized digital platforms and streamlined communication channels will enable seamless cooperation among the Secretariat, subsidiary bodies, and member states.
- v. A dedicated media team and comprehensive communication strategy will effectively promote ECO's achievements and goals to a wider audience.

No: ECO /2025/1076

Priority: Normal

Date: 12/7/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose a Note Verbale dated July 5, 2025, received from the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan, extending support to the annual holding of COM and Summit meetings under one ECO Chairmanship.

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, the assurances of its highest consideration.



All ECO Member States - Tehran

Cc.





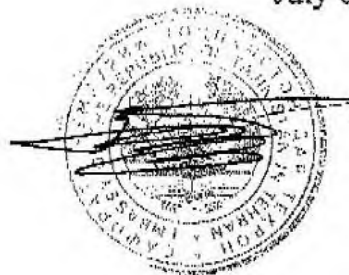
Сафрати Ҷумҳурии Тоҷикистон
Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan
Техрон - Tehran

№ 712

The Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran presents its compliments to the Economic Cooperation Organization and with reference to the Secretariat's Note № CFU/2025/80 dated January 22, 2025 has honor to inform that the Republic of Tajikistan considers it advisable to support the annual holding of COM and Summit meetings under one ECO Chairmanship.

Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Economic Cooperation Organization the assurance of its highest consideration.

July 05, 2025



Economic Cooperation Organization
Tehran

Agenda Item No. 5

Follow-up of the outcomes of First Meeting of High-Level Committee (HLC) of ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers;

Agenda Item No. 6

ECO side event on the sidelines of LLDC3

No: TC /2025/973

Priority: Urgent

Date: 14/6/2025

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the esteemed Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the Member States in Tehran and has the honor to inform that the ECO will organize a side event on 6th August at 18.15 in Room 3-07.03, the main conference building of the Awaza Conference Centre on the margins of Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3), scheduled to take place on 5-8 August 2025 in Awaza, Turkmenistan. *(Concept is attached).*

In this regard, the Secretariat has the further honor to request the Member States to convey the participation of their high-level delegations in the ECO side event and provide the list of their delegates by 15 July 2025.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry and the Embassies, the assurances of its highest consideration.

All ECO Member States - Tehran



No: TC /2025/573

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 22/4/2025

Attachment: No

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the esteemed United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and has the honour to inform that the Organization will participate in the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC-3), scheduled to be held in Turkmenistan in 2025.

The Secretariat has the further honour to express its desire to organize an ECO side event in the margins of the Conference, involving its Member States and regional and global partners. The purpose of the event is to facilitate an exchange of views among stakeholders on the role of the ECO Region in the implementation process of the "Awaza Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2024-2034".

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to ~~the UN-OHRLLS~~ the assurances of its highest consideration.



United Nations Headquarters - UN-OHRLLS

UN-OHRLLS, New York

Cc.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran - ECO Affairs
Bureau**

Embassy of Turkmenistan, Tehran

Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Tehran



Concept of the ECO Side Event
Third UN Conference on
Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3)
Awaza, Turkmenistan

*6 August 2025 (18.15-19.45),
Room 3-07.03, Main Conference Building, Awaza Conference Centre*

Background

Established in 1964 as the Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Republic of Türkiye, the organization was renamed the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in 1985. It now comprises ten member states, including seven landlocked countries, making it one of the oldest and most geographically contiguous intergovernmental organizations in the region.

ECO Vision 2025, the primary document outlining the organization's key objectives, highlights priorities in trade, transport, energy, environment, and social welfare, directly contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Vision promotes harmonized policies and coordinated actions, addressing the specific needs of landlocked and transit countries through enhanced access to regional and global markets.

As ECO prepares its post-2025 vision, the **Awaza Programme of Action 2024-2034 (APA)** could serve as an important strategic reference. ECO is committed to aligning its efforts with APA priorities, continuing its legacy of supporting the Vienna Programme of Action (2014-2024).

ECO's contributions will include:

- Enhancing regional and cross-border connectivity;
- Promoting trade facilitation and market access;
- Supporting sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure;
- Advancing digitalization and innovation;
- Mobilizing finance and partnerships;
- Strengthening policy and institutional coordination;
- Aligning ECO's strategic plans with APA targets.

ECO's regional cooperation mandate and proven track record make it a key partner in transforming landlocked geography into an opportunity for integration and inclusive growth.

To promote policy coherence for sustainable development in the region, ECO established the **High-Level Sustainable Development Working Group in 2024**, and convened the **1st ECO Ministerial Forum on Sustainable Development** from 27–29 April 2025 in Arkadag, Turkmenistan. The ECO SDG Performance Index Report was presented and discussed in line with UNGA Resolution A/RES/77/330.

Objectives of the Side Event

- To showcase ECO's achievements in implementing the Vienna Programme of Action;
- To present ECO's strategic priorities aligned with the Awaza Programme of Action (2024–2034);
- To demonstrate ECO's alignment with the 2030 Agenda, especially regarding the SDGs relevant to LLDCs;
- To promote dialogue and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders from LLDCs, transit countries, development partners, and regional organizations;
- To explore actionable opportunities for cooperation in trade facilitation, infrastructure development, digital connectivity, and climate resilience;
- To secure financial support for transport and connectivity projects and to learn best practices.

Expected Speakers:

- High-ranking UN officials (including the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-Generals)
- Secretary General of the ECO
- Heads of partner organizations
- Representatives of international financial institutions
- Private sector leaders

Guiding Questions for Discussion

1. How can ECO's regional frameworks and initiatives best support the implementation of the Awaza Programme of Action?
2. What lessons can be drawn from ECO's experience under the Vienna Programme of Action (2014–2024)?
3. How can coordination be strengthened between ECO, its Member States, and UN agencies to address LLDC-specific challenges?
4. What are the key infrastructure and trade facilitation priorities for LLDCs in the ECO region over the next decade?
5. How can ECO promote digitalization and climate resilience as part of its regional development strategy?
6. What mechanisms can be adopted to monitor and evaluate ECO's contributions to the APA and SDG implementation?
7. What new ideas and initiatives can further the development of ECO Member States, especially LLDCs?
8. What needs to be done to secure financial support for transport and connectivity projects?
9. How can learning the best practices contribute to the efforts of the ECO in implementing the APoA?
10. How can Awaza Programme of Action optimally deliver to the ECO region in facilitating innovation, trade, connectivity, climate resilience and investment?

Agenda Item No. 7

Administrative and budgetary matters:

- Recommendation of Selection Panel.

Agenda Item No. 8

Any other business

Agenda Item No.9

Date of the next CPR Meeting