

The 1st Ministerial Meeting on Energy (Petroleum)

Report

(Islamabad , 8 November, 2000)

The First ECO Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum was held in Islamabad (Pakistan) on 8 November, 2000 preceded by the Meeting of the Senior Energy/Petroleum Officials (6-7 November, 2000). The Meeting was attended by the delegations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Turkey and Turkmenistan. The ECO Secretariat's delegation also attended the Meeting. The list of participants is enclosed (*Annex -I*).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Inauguration of the Meeting

2. The Meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Mohammad Rafiq Tarar, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. A copy of his inaugural address is enclosed (*Annex-II*).

3. H.E. Mr. Usman Aminuddin, Minister for Petroleum & Natural Resources of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, welcomed the delegates to the First ECO Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum and stressed the importance of cooperation amongst the Member States in this vital field. A copy of his welcome statement is attached (*Annex-III*).

4. H.E. Dr. Abdolrahim Gavahi, Secretary General of ECO, addressing the meeting, expressed deep gratitude to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, particularly to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources for hosting the Meeting in Islamabad in an excellent manner and wished the Meeting useful deliberations and fruitful results on the issues highlighted in the agenda. The text of his statement is attached (*Annex- IV*).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Election of the Chairperson

5. H.E. Mr. Usman Aminuddin, Minister for Petroleum & Natural Resources of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Adoption of the Agenda

6. The draft Agenda of the Meeting endorsed by the Senior Energy/Petroleum Officials Meeting held in Islamabad on 6-7 November, 2000 was adopted. The adopted agenda is enclosed (*Annex-V*).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Appointment of the Drafting Committee

7. As per common practice, the Drafting Committee was appointed to prepare the report of the Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Statements of Ministers/Heads of Delegations

8. The Ministers/Heads of delegations presented their statements covering national policies and programmes in the field of Energy/Petroleum as well as their respective development plans and projects. Copies of the statements are enclosed (*Annex-VI*).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 & 7

Consideration and Adoption of the Joint Statement on Cooperation in Energy/Petroleum in the ECO Region and the Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in the ECO Region (2001-2005).

9. The Ministerial meeting, after consideration, adopted the Joint Statement on Cooperation in Energy/Petroleum in the ECO Region and the Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in the ECO Region (2001-2005) finalized by the preceding Senior Officials Meeting, which are enclosed (*Annexes-VII & VIII*).

10. The meeting noted with appreciation the recent Islamic Development Bank's decision to provide a Technical Assistance Grant to ECO to support carrying out feasibility study for the project on Interconnection and Parallel Functioning of the Electric Power Systems of the ECO Member States.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8

Date and Venue of the Second Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum.

11. It was resolved that the Second Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum should take place in the year 2002. The head of Iranian

delegation announced an offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host this event which was appreciated by the meeting and adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

Any Other Business

12. No issue was raised.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10

Adoption of the Report

13. The Report of the Meeting was unanimously adopted.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11

Vote of Thanks

14. At the conclusion of the Meeting, all the Heads of delegations expressed their thanks to the Chairman for conducting the deliberations of the Meeting in a smooth and efficient manner and to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and particularly to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Resources for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting and for the traditional cordial hospitality extended to all the participants. The Meeting also appreciated the efforts of the Secretary General of ECO and his staff for the preparation and conduct of the meeting which facilitated the work.