



**ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION
(ECO)**

**Report of the
2nd ECO Ministerial Meeting
on Energy/Petroleum**

**1 October, 2010
(Dushanbe, Tajikistan)**

REPORT OF THE **2nd ECO MINISTERIAL MEETING** **ON ENERGY/PETROLEUM**

(1st October, 2010, Dushanbe)

The 2nd ECO Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum was held at Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 1st October, 2010. It was preceded by a Senior Officials meeting on 29-30 September, 2010. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Tajikistan. High ranking delegations of Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Turkey and Turkmenistan and a delegation of the ECO Secretariat, led by the Deputy Secretary General also participated in the meeting. List of Participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

Agenda Item No. 1

Inauguration of the meeting

2. The meeting started with the playing of National Anthem of Tajikistan.
3. H.E. Mr. A. Akilov, Prime-Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan and H.E. Ambassador Hassan Taherian, Deputy Secretary General of ECO made welcome statements. Copies of their statements are attached as **Annex-II**.

Agenda Item No. 2

Election of the Chairman

4. As per ECO Rules of Procedure, Head of Delegation of the host country His Excellency Mr. Gul Sherali, Minister of Energy and Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan was elected as the Chairman of the Meeting.
5. After assuming the Chairmanship, His Excellency Mr. Gul Sherali, Minister of the Energy and Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan thanked the meeting for his election as the Chairman and expressed his best wishes for the success of the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 3

Adoption of the Agenda

6. The draft Agenda of the meeting as proposed by SOM was considered and adopted. Copy of the Agenda is attached as **Annex III**.

Agenda Item No. 4

Appointment of the Drafting Committee

7. The Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) held two days prior to Ministerial Meeting acted as the Drafting Committee. The Ministers' Meeting appreciated the Drafting Committee for preparing the draft Dushanbe Declaration and the Report of the Ministerial Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 5

Statements by the Ministers/Heads of Delegations

8. The Ministers/Heads of Delegation made statements on the state of the Energy/Petroleum in their countries, covering the policies and programs concerning the Energy/Petroleum issues and new proposals for regional cooperation. Copies of their Statements are at **Annex IV**.

Agenda Item No. 6

Follow up on the Implementation of the Plan of Action for Cooperation among the ECO Member States on Energy/Petroleum (2001-2005, extended up to 2010)

9. The 1st ECO Ministerial Meeting (November, 2000 in Islamabad) had adopted the Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation for the period of 2001-2005 which was afterwards extended up to 2010. The Representative of the Secretariat presented in the SOM meeting a Status Report on ECO activities in Energy/Petroleum sector to implement the Plan of Action.

10. The Ministerial meeting appreciated the good work done by the Secretariat and requested that it should endeavour to implement the new Plan of Action (2011-2015) with the same spirit.

Agenda Item No. 7

Interconnection of Power Systems of ECO Member States and consideration of enhancement of regional energy/petroleum trade by connecting Member States' oil and gas pipelines.

11. Interconnection of power systems was an important ECO energy project. Since 2005 ECO-CEC led by NESPAK-Consultant (Pakistan) were engaged with the feasibility study on Interconnection of ECO power systems. Due to lack of satisfactory progress, the ECO Secretariat and the IDB agreed on 31 December, 2008 to close this project. Unfortunately, it suffered a long delay, mainly due to late or non-submission of data by some Member States.

12. ECO Vision 2015 decided to: (i) establish the interconnection of electric power systems by 2015 in the ECO region based on the outcome of the necessary studies in this field to achieve better patterns of production, exchange and trade of electricity (ii) facilitating development of oil and gas pipeline networks in the region to meet the entire region's energy requirements; and (iii) to increase outlets for access to international market.

13. During the 10th ECO Summit (Tehran, 11 March, 2009) Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan proposed to support in future parallel functioning of energy grids in ECO region and trade of electricity. The Summit had called for active support and cooperation of all the Member States to the possibility of enhancing Interconnection of Power Systems of the Member States.

14. The High Level Expert Group (HLEG) Meeting on Energy (20-21 September, 2010, Tehran) welcomed the Iranian proposal that ECO Gas Grid may be developed in order to ensure regional energy security and trade.

15. The Ministerial Meeting discussed this issue and reiterated the importance of power interconnection for its parallel functioning as envisaged in the ECO Vision 2015, as well as developing regional gas and oil trade through connecting pipelines.

Agenda Item No. 8

Review and adoption of the Plan of Action on Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in the ECO Region (2011-2015).

16. Since the 1st Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum was held almost 10 years ago (Islamabad, November, 2000) the Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in ECO Region needed a thorough review to meet the present day challenges. The HLEG Meeting on Energy held on 20-21 September 2010 in Tehran, drafted a new Plan of Action for 2011-2015. Ministerial Meeting accorded its approval to Plan of Action (2011-2015). The text of the Plan of Action is attached as *Annex V*.

Agenda Item No. 9

ECO Wide policy on Energy

17. The HLEG Meeting on Energy (20-21 September, 2010, Tehran) discussed the text of ECO-wide Policy on Energy in detail. Incorporating the views/comments of the participants, the meeting adopted the said policy. It was discussed by the Senior Officials meeting in detail who recommended that this policy should become an annex of new Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in ECO Region (2011-2015). The Meeting approved the proposed Policy (*Annex VI*).

Agenda Item No. 10

Review of the ECO Cooperation with other international organizations in the field of Energy/Petroleum in the ECO Region.

18. The meeting appreciated ECO's efforts to develop cooperative relations with the World Bank, Islamic Development Bank (IDB), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

19. The meeting emphasized the need for expanding cooperation with the above and other international organizations/financial institutions to get technical and financial assistance for new projects in the field of energy as envisaged by the Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum Cooperation in the ECO Region (2011-2015).

Agenda Item No. 11

Establishment of ECO Regional Centre on Water in Iran

20. With regard to the proposal on establishment of an ECO Regional Centre on Water in Iran, the Ministerial Meeting duly took note of the outcome of 20th RPC Meeting Report (Article 144) and underlined that this proposal should be considered by the CPR.

Agenda Item No. 12

Adoption of the Dushanbe Declaration

21. The Meeting approved the text of the Dushanbe Declaration drafted by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) with the amendment suggested by Iran. It is at *Annex VII*.

Agenda Item No. 13

Any Other Business.

22. Under this Agenda item the Iranian Minister proposed following three items:

(i) Utilization of ECO Time Magazine for media publicity:

ECO Times magazine which is published by ECI be patronized by the Member States energy/petroleum industry using it as a medium for promotion and publicity as well as exchanging of know-how by publishing articles.

(ii) Establishment of an ECO Drilling Company (ECODC):

Establishment of an ECO Drilling Company to utilize new technology in the oil and gas industry and water sector for building dams.

(iii) ECO Drilling Training Workshop(s):

Offer of the Offshore Commissioning Solutions Company (OCS) to organize ECO Drilling Training Workshop(s) jointly with Iranian North Drilling Company (NDCO), Caledonia Training & Consultancy and other interested Iranian as well as ECO region drilling companies. The first such Workshop would be titled as: "ECO Onshore and Offshore Drilling Experience Sharing and Know-how Partnership".

23. The meeting took note of the above proposals.

Agenda Item No. 14

Date and Venue of the next Meeting.

24. It was decided that the 3rd Ministerial Meeting on Energy/Petroleum would be held in the year 2012. The meeting appreciated the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host it at Tehran.

Agenda Item No. 15

Adoption of the Report.

25. The Report of the Meeting was unanimously adopted.

Agenda Item No. 16**Vote of Thanks.**

26. On the conclusion of the Meeting, all the Ministers/Heads of delegations thanked the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan particularly to the Ministry of Energy and Industry for the cordial hospitality extended to all the participants and the nice arrangements made for the Meeting. They also appreciated the Chairman for smooth and efficient conduct of the Meeting. Meeting praised the efforts of the ECO Secretariat for excellent preparation of the meeting documents which greatly helped the participants.
