

Report for the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment

17 December 2014 – Istanbul

The 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment was held on 17 December 2014 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey. It was preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), held on 15-16 December, 2014. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers/Head of Delegations of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey (host), Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the ECO Secretariat delegation. Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Turkish Cypriot State (ECO Observer) and the Heads/Representatives of the CICA, ECO-IEST, ECO Trade and Development Bank, German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ), D-8, BSEC, IDB and UNEP were also present in the Meeting. The list of the participants is attached as ***Annex-I***.

Agenda Item No.1

Inauguration of the Meeting

2. H.E. Dr. Shamil Aleskerov, the ECO Secretary General, in his opening statement expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Government of Republic of Turkey, particularly to the Minister of Environment and Urbanization for hosting this important Meeting. ECO Secretary General provided an overview of ECO's environmental profile, progress made recently and way forward to advance regional environmental agenda for further synergy and enhanced dialogue between key stakeholders within the ECO Region and with the outside world. A copy of his statement is attached as ***Annex-II***.

3. Welcoming statement was also made by H.E. Dr. Masoumeh Ebtekar, the Vice-President and Head of Department of Environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran as the outgoing Chairperson of the 4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment. She touched upon the environment and climate change issues and called upon the ECO Member States to adopt measures to tackle environment related challenges in a most coherent and synergic way.

Agenda Item No. 2

Election of the Chairperson

4. In accordance with the ECO Rules of Procedure, Mr. Idris Gulluce, Minister for Environment and Urbanization of Republic of Turkey (Host Country) was elected as the Chairman of the Meeting.

5. In his inaugural statement, H.E. Mr. Idris Gulluce, Minister for Environment and Urbanization of Republic of Turkey welcomed the participants and underscored the importance of coordinated and concerted actions in the field of environment and climate change in the ECO region. He called upon the member countries to adopt sustainable and environmentally sound mechanisms to control and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. The text of his statement is attached as ***Annex-III***.

Agenda Item No.3

Adoption of Agenda

6. The agenda of the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment, prepared by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), was considered and adopted by the Ministerial Meeting. A copy of the adopted Agenda is attached as ***Annex-IV***.

Agenda Item No.4

Statements by the Ministers/Head of Delegations

7. Statements were delivered by the Ministers/Head of Delegations (HODs) of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Tajikistan regarding the state of the environment in their countries, national policies and programmes, implementation of the Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2011-2015) and their views on the way forward for ECO Region in its collective actions to address environmental challenges. Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Turkish Cypriot State (ECO Observer) and the Heads/Representatives of the participating International Organizations/Institutions also made their statements. Copies of their statements made available to the Secretariat are attached as ***Annex-V***.

Agenda Item No.5

Report by the Chairperson of the Senior Officials Meeting

8. Professor Mehmet Emin BIRPINAR, the Chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting presented a brief report on the outcome of 2 days deliberations of the Senior Officials as contained in the document ECO/EME/ENV/5th M/3.

Agenda Item No.6

Follow-up to the decisions of the ECO Consultative Ministerial Meeting, including the designation of “Environment” as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization

9. The Ministers/HODs agreed on the significance of a regional State of Environment (SoE) report for ECO Region. The Meeting mandated the ECO Secretariat to introduce, in cooperation with the UNEP and ECO-IEST, the most appropriate outline/format for the ECO SoE, taking into account the existing national, regional and international models. In preparation of the first SoE report for the ECO Region based on the above mentioned outline/format, the ECO-IEST will use the national SoEs of the Member States as well as their regular national reports to the Secretariat.

10. Ministers/HODs supported the establishment of ECO Environmental Fund as envisaged in the Framework Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2011-2015) for ECO Member States. They also agreed on the need for a common regional understanding of the green economy and gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat in collaboration with the ECO-IEST, UNEP and other relevant agencies deemed appropriate to organize training workshops in order to help identify and build capacity for the optimal ECO regional approach to green economy in the context of outcome document of Rio+20.

11. Ministers/HODs gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat to seek observer status, where applicable, in environmental conventions to which ECO Member States are parties.

12. The Ministers/HODs recommended the ECO Council of Ministers to designate environment and impacts of climate change as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization. Accordingly, the environmental dimension and observations shall be an integral part of any policy making and activities of all economic sectors within the Organization.

13. The Ministers/HODs agreed on the need for a regional approach to the environmental impacts in the post disaster situations and adaptations. Any such regional action should also address the man-made disasters. The ECO Secretariat was mandated to prepare necessary requirements for such regional approach, including through experience sharing, capacity building and training activities. An experts group meeting should be organized and hosted by the ECO Secretariat to discuss the issue further.

14. The Ministers/HODs gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat to:

- i. Explore ways and means to establish cooperation framework with the UNFCCC including, among others, through possible observer status.
- ii. Make necessary arrangements for active representation and participation of the ECO in COP 21 of UNFCCC in Paris, 2015, including through organizing ECO coordinating meetings/activities on the sidelines of the Conference as well as its preparatory meetings. The Secretariat was further requested to secure a pavilion during COP 21, making necessary fund raising activities as well as liaison with the Member States pertaining to funding and other necessary arrangements.
- iii. Establish an informal negotiating group to be coordinated by the Country holding the Chairmanship of the ECO Council of Ministers with a view to possible ECO common positions and approaches in the UNFCCC and other relevant platforms. The ECO-IEST was mandated to prepare the pre-Conference background documents as well as to assist the ECO Secretariat in organizing above mentioned sideline events.
- iv. Participate in relevant environmental fora as observer, including UNEP, UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, UNFF, UNESCAP etc.
- v. Assist Republic of Turkey as the host with the cooperation of ECO-IEST to organize a preparatory event in Safranbolu-Republic of Turkey, preferably in March 2015, on climate

change with the view of advancing regional agenda for Paris Conference.

15. ECO Secretariat was requested to make necessary endeavours to secure observer status with UNEP.

Agenda Item No.7

Adoption of "Istanbul Declaration on Climate Change and Green Economy"

16. The "Istanbul Declaration on Climate Change and Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development", as finalized by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), was adopted by the Ministers/HODs. The text of the Istanbul Declaration is contained in Document ECO/EME/ENV/5th M/4.

Agenda Item No.8

Any other business

17. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

Agenda Item No.9

Date and venue of the next meeting

18. The delegation of Republic of Azerbaijan expressed the initial interest to host the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment in Azerbaijan sometime in 2016. Upon receiving official request from the ECO Secretariat, the matter would be considered by the relevant authorities.

Agenda Item No.10

Adoption of the Report

19. The Report of the Meeting was unanimously adopted as contained in document ECO/EME/ENV/5th M/5.

Agenda Item No.11

Ceremony for Green Industry Award

20. During the Ministerial Meeting, ECO Green Industry Awards were awarded to the following three selected companies/industries:

- i. The Habib Gulzar Non-Alcohol Beverage Ltd. (the authorized Bottlers of the Coca-Cola Company), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- ii. FARAPOX Company, Manufacturing and installing GRP, GRV & GRVE Tanks and vessels, the Islamic Republic of Iran
- iii. Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Agenda Item No.12

Closing Remarks

21. The Ministers/HODs whilst delivering their country statements, also conveyed their most deep condolences to the Government and People of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in view of appalling terrorist act in a public school in Peshawar and called upon the global community, in line with United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution on *Efforts pertinent to the World Against Violence and Extremism (WAVE)* to take necessary measures to avoid the repeat of such devilish and horrendous acts.

22. The Meeting concluded its work with vote of thanks by the participating delegations, expressing deep appreciation for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality extended by the Government of Republic of Turkey particularly Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Republic of Turkey. They also expressed their warm appreciation to the Chairmen, H.E. Mr. Idris Gulluce, Minister for Environment and Urbanization of for guiding the deliberations to a successful conclusion.

23. The Meeting also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Senior Officials Meeting and the ECO Secretariat for the preparation of the relevant documents and other valuable services to facilitate the work of the Ministerial Meeting.

ANNEX-I

5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment
(15-17 December 2014; Istanbul, Republic of Turkey)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Member States

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

1. **Mr. Ghulam Mohammad Malikyar**, Deputy Director General of National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA)
2. Mr. Ezatullah Sediqi, Director of the Office of His Excellency the Director General of NEPA
3. Ms. Sohayla Najrabi, Member of Regional Cooperation Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Republic of Azerbaijan

1. **Mr. Firdovsi Aliyev**, Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources
2. Mr. Rasim Sattar-zada, Head of Environmental Policy Division of MENR
3. Mr. Tural Mammadov, Leading advisor, MENR

Islamic Republic of Iran

1. **H.E. Dr. Ma'soumeh Ebtekar**, Vice-President and the Head of Department of Environment (DOE)
2. Mr. Majid Shafipoor, Special Assistant to the Head of DOE & Head of International Cooperation and Conventions Center of DOE
3. Mrs. Zahra Javaherian, Director General for Sustainable Development & Environmental Economics of DOE
4. Ms. Narges Saffar, Head of International and Regional Organizations Group-DOE

Republic of Kazakhstan

1. **Mr. Yerkebulan Sapiyev**, Consul General of Kazakhstan in Istanbul
2. Mr. Kuat Kanafeyev, Consular
3. Mr. Almat Suyubayev, Undersecretary

Kyrgyz Republic

1. **H.E. Mr. Sabir Atadzhanov**, Director of the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic
2. Mr. Baigabyl Tolongutov, Director of the Regulation Center of Environment Protection and Ecological Safety of the State Agency
3. Mr. Kanatbek Suiundukov, Associate Director of the State Agency

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

1. **Mr. Iftikhar-ul-Hasan Shah**, Joint Secretary (IC), Climate Change Division, Islamabad
2. Dr. Muhammad Khurshid, Director General (Pak-EPA), Climate Change Division, Islamabad

Republic of Tajikistan

1. **Ms. Sharipova Aikhon**, Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Protection
2. Ms. Azizbekova Shahlo, Chief Specialist of the International Relations Department of the Committee of Environmental Protection
3. Mr. Halimov Zarif, Senior Specialist of the Center for Ecological Information at the Environmental Protection

Republic of Turkey

1. **H.E. Mr. Idris Gulluce**, Minister of Environment and Urbanization
2. Mr. Muhammet Balta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Urbanization
3. Professor Mehmet Emin Birpinar, Deputy Undersecretary of Ministry of Environment and Urbanization
4. Mr. Recep Akdeniz, Deputy Director General
5. Mr. Mahmut Dagasan, Deputy Director General
6. Dr. Cengiz T. Baykara, Head of Department
7. Mr. Ercan Gulay, Head of Department
8. Mr. Ahmet Dogan, Expert
9. Ms. Diren Ertekin, Expert
10. Mr. Ahmet Daskin, Expert
11. Ms. Gulsen Sahin Oltulu, Expert
12. Mr. Emin Baris, Expert
13. Ms. Leyla Isik Celebioglu, Expert
14. Mr. Baran Gormez, Expert
15. Ms. Neslihan Agartan, Expert
16. Ms. Nesibe Obuz, Expert

17. Mr. Oktay Canpolat, Branch Chief
18. Mr. Menderes Iscen, Biologist
19. Ms. Sule Erdal, Expert
20. Ms. Ayten Ozlem Atillah Tezcan, Engineer
21. Mr. Cemil Uyar, Chief
22. Mr. Hizir Tunc, Servant
23. Mr. Haydar Dalyan, Servant
24. Mr. Murat Bayram, Head of Department
25. Ms. Asli Olmez, Branch Chief
26. Ms. Seda Nal, City Planner
27. Mr. Bulent Yalazi, City Planner
28. Mr. Emre Cihan Kavlak, Expert
29. Ms. Refet Sinem Atgin, Expert
30. Ms. Emel Erginoz, Engineer
31. Ms. Emine Ercan Cubukcu, Branch Chief
32. Mr. Ziya Durucan, Engineer
33. Ms. Elifcan Kanatli Apaydin, Expert
34. Ms. Seyma Ucar, Expert
35. Ms. Emine Celebioglu, Expert
36. Ms. Derya Sarioglu, Engineer
37. Ms. Uku Fusun Erturk, Branch Chief
38. Ms. Zerrin Leblebici, Expert
39. Mr. Kenan Kama, Engineer
40. Mr. Selcuk Bozkurt, Engineer
41. Mr. Abdullah Yenigun, Branch Chief
42. Ms. Aysel Arisoy, Expert
43. Mr. Celal Ozanoglu, Servant
44. Mr. Ismail Ocal, Servant
45. Mr. Coskun Bayrakdar, Servant
46. Ms. Dilek Kaya, Servant
47. Mr. Devrim Bagla, Engineer (Disaster & Emergency Management Presidency)
48. Mr. Adnan Altay Altinors, Head of Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs
49. Mr. Orhan Oztaskin, Expert, Ministry of Development
50. Mr. S. Serdar Yegul, Branch Chief, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
51. Mr. Fahrettin Ulu, Head of Department Forestry and Water Affairs
52. Ms. Asiye Dusunceli, Expert, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
53. Mr. Mehmet Askiner, Expert, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
54. Ms. Dilek Demirel Yazici, Engineer, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
55. Mr. Ergun Guler, Regional Director, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
56. Mr. Kahraman Oguz, Engineer, Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
57. Mr. Nedim Yesil, Head of Department, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications

- 58. Ms. Nazli Acikbas
- 59. Ms. Arzu Kutuk
- 60. Ms. Suna Gurler Dedeoglu, Architect

Republic of Uzbekistan

- 1. **Mr. Azizbek Salahiddinov**, Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Turkey

Observers

Turkish Cypriot State

1. **H.E. Dr. Hakan Dincyurek**, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
2. Ms. Efsun Salel, Director the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
3. Ms. Hasibe Kusetogullari, Director of Department of Environmental Protection
4. Mr. Burhan Canbaz, Press Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
5. Ms. Nazmiye Celebi, Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
6. Ms. Askin Doygunel, Private Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources
7. Mr. Fahri Yonluer, Counselor of Republic of Cyprus in Turkey
8. Mr. Erek Cagatay, Counselor Embassy of Republic of Cyprus in Turkey

Regional / International Organizations

Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

1. **H.E. Ambassador Gong Jianwei**, Executive Director
2. Mr. Avinash Pandey, Consultant

ECO-IEST

1. **Dr. Asghar M. Fazal**, President
2. Dr. Sasan Rabieh, Coordinator

ECO TDB

1. **Mr. Hossein Ghazavi**, President
2. Mr. Fazli Sak, Director, Policy and Strategy Department

GIZ

1. **Mr. Carl F. Taestensen**, GIZ Turkey Director,
2. Ms. Cihanser İmren Kuru- Portfolio Manager

IDB

1. **Mr. Sobir Komilov**, Country Gateway Office Representative in Turkey
2. Mr. Ahmet Suayb Gundogdu, Representative

3. Mr. Salah Jelassi, Representative

D-8

1. **H.E. Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi**, Secretary General

BSEC

1. **Mr. Alexander BAKALOV**, Executive Manager

UNEP

1. **Mr. Mahir Aliyev**, Regional Coordinator, UNEP Regional Office for Europe

ECO Secretariat

1. **H.E. Dr. Shamil Aleskerov**, Secretary General
2. Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, Deputy Secretary General
3. Mr. Orkhan Zeynalov, Director for Energy, Minerals and Environment (EME)
4. Mr. Reza Samieifard, Programme Officer of EME
5. Mr. Arshad Ali Jatoi, Steno-Secretary of EME

ANNEX-II



Economic Cooperation Organization

Statement by

Ambassador SHAMIL ALASKAROV,

ECO Secretary General

at the

Fifth ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment

17 December 2014
Istanbul

Your Excellency

**Mr. IDRIS GÜLLÜCE, Minister of Environment and Urbanization of
the Republic of Turkey,
Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is an honor and privilege for me to be here and address this meeting. On behalf of the ECO Secretariat I would like to greet Ministers and heads of delegations and wish Fifth ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment effective deliberations in its work. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations and excellent conditions provided for the fruitful work of the Meeting.

I also wish to express my appreciation to distinguished delegates from international organizations for being here with us and hope that this joint gathering will reveal significant potential for interregional dialogue and opportunities to benefit from an exchange of experience and to learn from each other.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During last two decades ECO has developed into a full-fledged regional organization with growing international profile and has been exposed to the trending challenges international community is facing. In this regard global environmental challenges have already induced regional cooperation in ECO region. Changing climatic conditions, increased population, economic growth and increasing pressures on the natural resources, combined with the region-wide social-economic inequities brought along various trans-boundary environmental issues, like air pollution, availability of water, forests, biodiversity, the number of natural disasters and functioning of ecosystems

throughout ECO region. In this regard the need for the ECO Member States to work towards development of environmentally sound mechanisms and innovative solutions for facing and prevailing common challenges is a primary task.

ECO Secretariat through facilitation of policy dialogue between relevant stakeholders is striving to raise awareness that enhancement of policy coherence, adaptation of existing institutional arrangements and establishing new frameworks for synergies across sectors will contribute to sustainable development and long-term safety of ECO region environment and thus environmental dimension deserves to be treated as a top priority for our Organization.

Our current umbrella document - “ECO Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming” (2011-2015) needs serious reconsideration/revision for more streamlined, efficient and all-inclusive framework document to help addressing common environmental challenges in ECO region in a more comprehensive and balanced manner. Active stakeholder participation and engagement from within and outside the Region is the key to the success.

Today's meeting coincides with global climate negotiations in Lima, Peru within the 20th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 20) to the UNFCCC and the 10th session of the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. Hopefully Parties will achieve progress to be able to adopt new global climate regime at COP 21 in Paris 2015.

Involved stakeholders around the globe are working to find common ground in preparing a global Post-2015 Development Agenda that will embrace all aspects

of sustainable development guided by a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I believe ECO region could play an important role in advancement and implementation of Rio+20 agenda.

Four ECO Ministerial Meetings on Environment and recent "ECO Consultative Ministerial Meeting on Environment" held on June 2014 in Nairobi on the sidelines of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) greatly contributed to stimulating policy debates for developing appropriate frameworks for regional arrangements. During Nairobi Meeting the Ministers, inter alia, requested the ECO Council of Ministers to designate "Environment" as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization to be seriously considered by all ECO activities and events on different issues and at different levels.

While welcoming specific measures taken in individual ECO Member States related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, it is right time to consider a shift in paradigm focusing on synergy impacts and enhancing regional concerted actions to identify common applicable approaches on combating climate change and mobilizing resources for adaptation and mitigation related actions among key stakeholders. In this regard we commend the idea of establishment of a "Trust Fund for supporting high priority projects on environment and biodiversity" proposed during the 2nd ECO Experts Group Meeting on Biodiversity held in Antalya in November 2014.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is evident that ECO environmental agenda cannot be advanced in isolation from global environmental agenda. ECO Secretariat has recently expanded its outreach through new partnerships. The role of ECO as the most inclusive intergovernmental platform in the region was recently acknowledged by the

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF). ECO-UNFF joint regional meeting on "Harnessing Climate Change Financing for Sustainable Forest Management in the ECO Region" held on 29 April-1 May 2014 in Tehran agreed on key actions to be implemented by ECO and other stakeholders, including UNFF, FAO, GEF and ECO Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ECO IEST).

Outcome document of Rio+20 also recognized the importance of integrating water into all three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental. Most of the ECO Member States are in an arid and semi-arid climatic zones causing long periods of drought and short periods of rainfall. Our joint efforts for conservation of trans-boundary wetlands and water bodies, preservation and management of water resources should serve the common regional task of increasing awareness on effective and responsible utilization of water resources and therefore objectives of sustainable water management and environmental impact assessment.

Excellencies, Distinguished participants

Final Document of Consultative Ministerial Meeting in Nairobi (June 2014) provides basic list of policy options and frameworks to enhance regional environmental cooperation. It is imperative that main recommendations of this Meeting - conducting a study on the "State of Environment (SoE) for ECO Region", promotion of green economy, designation of environment as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization and addressing natural disasters from environmental impacts perspective has to be championed by our Member States.

It is time to shift from a development paradigm that focuses only on the rate of economic growth to one that ensures quality of growth which is inclusive and sustainable, resulting in ecological sustainability for whole ECO region. I am confident that "Istanbul Declaration on Climate Change and Green Economy" we will adopt today will serve as a solid base from which to strengthen and grow our policy dialogue.

We remain hopeful and confident this Meeting would bring new ideas in better defining the strategy/roadmap for future action and would stimulate proper follow-up activities. Secretariat will spare no efforts to this end.

Concluding, I would like to thank again the Government of the Republic of Turkey for generously hosting this important meeting and wish you all successful deliberations and a pleasant stay in Istanbul.

ANNEX-III

**Inaugural Statement by H.E. Mr. Idris Gulluce, Minister of Environment
and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey**

5. EKONOMİK İŞBİRLİĞİ TEŞKİLATI ÇEVRE BAKANLARI TOPLANTISI

(17 Aralık 2014, Çarşamba, İstanbul)

(Açılış Konuşması)

**Sayın Devlet Başkan Yardımcısı,
Sayın Bakanlar,
Sayın Genel Sekreter,
Hanımefendiler, Beyefendiler**

Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı Beşinci Çevre Bakanları Toplantısı vesilesiyle sizleri İstanbul'da ağırlamaktan dolayı büyük mutluluk duyuyorum ve hepinize hoş geldiniz diyorum.

Ayrıca, bu toplantının organizasyonundaki katkılarından dolayı Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı Sekretaryası çalışanlarına ve emeği geçen herkese en içten duygularımla teşekkür ediyorum.

Diğer taraftan, dün yaşanan elim olay neticesinde hunharca katledilen masum insanlar ve çocuklar için dost ve kardeş Pakistan Hükümetine ve halkına başsağlığı diliyorum.

Saygıdeğer katılımcılar,

İnsanlık, son yüzyılda, sanayide, bilim ve teknolojide çok büyük ilerleme kaydetti. Her ne kadar bu ilerleme, insan yaşamını

birçok açıdan kolaylaştırırsa da sürekli artan ve çeşitlenen ihtiyaçlarımız nedeniyle;

- Doğal kaynakların hızla tükenmesi
- Sanayileşme ve kentleşme nedeniyle su, hava ve toprağın kirlenmesi
- Atmosferdeki sera gazı emisyonlarının artması

gibi geri dönüşü olmayan tehditler ile karşı karşıyayız.

Bunun sonucunda ise kuraklık, çölleşme, ormanların ve tarımsal arazinin yok olması, canlı türlerinin azalması, iklim değişikliği gibi sorunlar ortaya çıkmaktadır.

Bütün bunlara, hızla artan dünya nüfusunun baskısı eklendiğinde tehlike daha da artmaktadır.

Bugünün nesilleri şimdiden bu sorunlarla karşı karşıyadır ve bugün, önlem almazsak gelecek nesiller daha büyük sorunlarla karşılaşacaktır.

Bu nedenle, doğal kaynakların ve çevrenin korunması adına atılan her adım büyük önem taşımaktadır. Bireyden başlayarak yerel, ulusal, bölgesel ve uluslararası topluma kadar bütün aktörlerin çevreye gereğinden de fazla önem ve öncelik vermesi gerekmektedir.

Değerli Katılımcılar,

Biz Türkiye olarak, çevre sorunlarını önlemek ve iklim değişikliği ile mücadele etmek amacıyla;

- Çevresel, ekonomik ve sosyal etkenleri bütüncül bir yaklaşımla ele alan sürdürülebilir kalkınma anlayışı ile
- Enerjiden sanayiye, ulaştırmadan tarıma, şehirleşmeden ormancılığa kadar

birçok sektörde çalışmalar gerçekleştiriyoruz.

Ülkemiz son on yılda, ortalama yüzde 5'lik bir büyüme oranı yakalamıştır. Bununla birlikte, aynı dönemde karbon yoğunluğumuzu yüzde 6 azaltarak iklim dostu bir büyüme süreci yaşadık.

Türkiye genelinde atık yönetimi, iklim dostu teknoloji ve enerji kaynaklarının kullanımı, hava, su ve toprak kalitesinin iyileştirilmesi yönünde önemli gelişmeler kaydettik.

Enerji alanında özellikle yenilenebilir enerji kaynaklarının kullanımına hızlı bir geçiş sağlama noktasında çalışmalarımıza devam ediyoruz.

Ülke genelinde başlatmış olduğumuz kentsel dönüşüm hamlesi sonucunda sadece binalarda enerji kullanımında yaklaşık yüzde 40 oranında tasarruf sağlayacağız.

Ayrıca, ormanlarımızı, alan olarak 1,4 milyon hektar; hacim olarak ise yüzde 45 artırdık ve 2023 yılına kadar orman

varlığımızı 1,3 milyon hektar daha artırmayı hedefliyoruz.

Saygıdeğer Katılımcılar,

Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı üyeleri olarak bizler, Doğu ve Batı arasında önemli bir konumda bulunuyoruz ve yaklaşık 8 milyon km² alanda 400 milyondan fazla nüfusa sahibiz.

Bu nedenle, karşılıklı anlayış ve işbirliği içinde yapacağımız her çalışma, hem bölgemizde hem de bölge sınırlarının ötesinde Teşkilatımızın çevre konusundaki rolünü güçlendirecektir.

Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı üyeleri olarak Beşinci Çevre Bakanları toplantısı için burada bir araya gelmemiz ve çevre adına yapabileceklerimizi istişare etmemiz de son derece önemli bir girişimdir.

Bu toplantıda gerçekleştirilen çalışmalar neticesinde;

- “Çevre ve iklim değişikliğinin etkileri” konusunun Teşkilatımızın tüm faaliyetlerinde sektörler arası bir öncelik olarak ele alınması,
- Sürdürülebilir kalkınma ilkeleri çerçevesinde iklim değişikliği ile mücadeleye ilişkin ortak çabalar sarf edilmesi ve yol haritası oluşturulması,

- Başta iklim değişikliği mücadele müzakereleri olmak üzere Teşkilatımızın uluslararası platformlarda görünürlüğüne ve etkinliğinin artırılması,
- Uluslararası iklim değişikliği müzakerelerinde Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatının ülke grubu olarak temsil edilmesi imkanlarının araştırılması,
- Teşkilatımızın uluslararası örgütler ve finans kuruluşları ile işbirliğinin geliştirilmesi,
- Bölgemizde meydana gelen doğal afetler ve kazalar sonucunda oluşan çevresel etkilerin en aza indirilmesine ilişkin işbirliği imkanlarının belirlenmesi

yönünde önemli kararlar almanın eşiğindeyiz.

Bu kararların çerçevesini çizen İstanbul Deklarasyonu da Teşkilatımızın çevre duyarlılığı ve iklim değişikliği ile mücadele kararlılığının bir göstergesi olacaktır.

Bu düşüncelerle, Türkiye olarak çevre sorunları ile mücadele konusunda sahip olduğumuz tecrübeleri, siz, dost ve kardeş ülkelerle paylaşmaya hazır olduğumuzu ifade eder;

Bu toplantıya katkı sağlayan sizlere ve emeği geçen herkese tekrar şükranlarımı sunarım.

(Unofficial Translation)

Economic Cooperation Organization
5th Ministerial Meeting on Environment

17 December 2014

Istanbul, Turkey

Statement by H.E. Idris GULLUCE,
Minister of Environment and Urbanisation of Republic of Turkish

Distinguished Vice President
Distinguished Ministers
Distinguished Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great pleasure for me to be hosting you in Istanbul on the occasion of the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment and I would like to say welcome to you all.

Also I would like to express our gratitude's to the ECO Secretariat and those who contributed, for their contribution in organization of this meeting.

On the other hand, because of the slaughtering of innocent people and children in Pakistan, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to our friend country, Pakistan. And Allah may have mercy on their souls.

Distinguished Participants,

Humanity has achieved great in industry, science and technology in last century. Although these advances facilitated human life in many aspects, because of increasing and diversifying demands of humanity we are facing with irreversible threats such as;

- Consuming of natural resources rapidly,
- Pollution of water, air and soil as a result of industrialization and urbanization,
- Increase of greenhouse gas emission to the atmosphere.

As a result of these progresses we have drought, desertification, deforestation, destruction of agricultural land, decrease in biodiversity, and climate change.

Of course the ever increasing population of the world is also a great threat and now the today's generations are facing with these challenges but if we do not take measures, the future generations will face greater challenges.

Therefore in order to protect the natural resources and environment, each and every step is of great importance. Starting with the individuals, local, national, regional and international communities all actors should place emphasis and prioritize environment.

Distinguished guests,

We, as Turkey, in order to prevent environmental problems and combat against climate change, have carried out many important studies and activities in many sectors such as energy, transportation and urbanization and forestation, with a holistic approach of sustainable development by taking into consideration environment, economic and social factors.

In our country for the last five years we have a growth weight of 5 percent, but together we have also reduced the emissions by 6 percent so we have a climate friendly growth.

We have made enormous strides in waste management, utilization of climate friendly technologies and energy resources, and improvement of air, water and soil quality.

In energy sector, we are working on transition to especially utilization of renewable energy resources.

As a result of the countrywide urban renewable move we are planning to save around 40 percent of the energy just in houses.

Also we have extended our forests, 1.4 million hectares as field and 45 percent as volume, and until 2023 we will also add 1.3 million hectares.

Distinguished participants;

As ECO we are in a very important geographic position between east and west and we are scattered in 8 km² and we have a population over 400 million people living in our region. Therefore, with mutual and common understanding, every action we will do together is going to make the role of our organization on environment stronger, in terms of cross border cooperation.

We are here together for the 5th Ministerial Meeting of Environment and it is very important to deliberate certain challenges.

After the deliberations in this meeting;

-“The impacts of environment and climate change” is going to be a cross sectorial priority,

- Within the framework of sustainable development principles, to combat against the climate change and create a common roadmap.

- On the negotiations on the climate change, our organizations visibility and strength should be increased in international platforms

-In the international climate change negotiations, our organizations possible representation ways should be searched

-We need to cooperate with the international agencies and financial institutions

-We need to cooperate to minimize the environmental impacts of natural disasters and accidents in our region

Therefore the Istanbul Declaration is going to be a sign that points out our organizations environmental sensitivity and commitment to fight against climate change.

With these ideas in mind, I would like to mention that we are ready to share our experience on environmental problems and I would like to thank to who participate and contribute this meeting.

ANNEX-IV

Agenda

5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment

(17 December 2014-Istanbul; Republic of Turkey)

1. Inauguration of the Meeting
2. Election of the Chairperson
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Statements by the Ministers/Head of Delegations
5. Report by the Chairperson of the Senior Officials Meeting
6. Follow-up to the decisions of the ECO Consultative Ministerial Meeting, including the designation of “Environment” as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization
7. Adoption of "Istanbul Declaration on Climate Change and Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development"
8. Any other business
9. Date and venue of the next Ministerial Meeting
10. Adoption of the Report
11. Ceremony for Green Industry Award
12. Closing Remarks

ANNEX-V

**Statements by Ministers/Head of Delegations
of the Member States/Observers**

&

**Heads/Representatives of International
Organizations**

STATEMENT BY THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

**In the Name of God
The Merciful the Compassionate**

**Excellencies, Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and
Gentlemen,**

**Excellencies, Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and
Gentlemen,**

Please allow me to extend my deepest and most profound thanks to the Government of Turkey for the warm hospitality extended to the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, in an atmosphere of brotherhood in the beautiful city of Istanbul, as well as, for the excellent arrangements made to make our stay comfortable and unforgettable by graciously and generously hosting the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment.

My sincere and most heartfelt appreciation is extended to H.E the Secretary General of ECO and to the ECO Secretariat for their super logistical support jointly with the Government of Turkey.

I would like to congratulate H.E Minister of Environment and Urban Planning of Republic of Turkey, as the Chairperson of the Ministerial Meeting.

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, I wish to convey our very warmest greetings to you all.

As many of you are aware that Afghanistan has a very strong cultural history. Despite more than three decades of war and instability, we still possess very diverse, rich and robust ethnic traditions which we are committed to maintain.

We have put very high priority to preserve our natural integrity in Afghanistan. Afghanistan has some of the most diverse habitats ranging from high altitude mountainous regions to sandy deserts.

These include Alpine steppes, Alpine meadows, vegetated semi-deserts, rangelands, shrub lands, open woodlands, and wetlands of international importance, containing very rich species diversity.

Since the beginning of the democratization process, we have been able to accomplish some key steps that could be termed as important „pre-requisite“ to our journey towards sustainable development. Although this process has been slow, the progress can definitely be termed as steady.

Environment and sustainable development issues are well acknowledged in our major policies and plans including Article 15 of the Constitution, Afghanistan National Development Strategy, National Priority Programmes, relevant policies and sectoral strategies.

Institutionally, we have been able to establish and nourish the National Environmental Protection Agency including its provincial presence in all of the country's thirty four Provinces. A number of important legal instruments have been devised to facilitate environmental protection, as well as, sustainable development.

Not only just paper work, but practically we have been able to move forward with a number of programmatic interventions in collaboration with our development partners.

At the moment, a number of projects and programmes are ongoing and some are upcoming in the areas of protected area management, biodiversity, climate change adaptation, environmental pollutions and land degradation.

Some of the actions and projects have already started yielding encouraging results. I want to particularly mention a significant project on establishing Integrated Models for Protected Areas and their Co-Management in Afghanistan with funding and technical support from GEF and UNDP during 2013/2014.

We have the very first National Park established in Afghanistan. Band-e-Amir National Park is not only the most celebrated natural landscape setting in Afghanistan, but ranks

among the most unique and iconic national park landscapes in the world. The second National Park in the country is the Wakhan National Park declared in 2014. We highly appreciate the technical assistance of our partners, UNEP and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS – Afghanistan). Further studies being done and in future there will be more protected areas and National Parks to officially declare.

Similar to a number of other ECO Member States, 90% of our rural populations depend on common resources such as land, water, forest, rangeland, as well as, public land in the mountain ecosystems. The linkage between poverty, environment and natural resources is extremely prominent in Afghanistan.

Therefore, we recognized that community-based collaborative management of natural resources could be instrumental in poverty reduction, conservation and productive use of our ecosystems. We believe this could be a common approach in most of the ECO Member States because of the contextual similarities.

Like in other ECO Member States, many of our ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and rangelands have been depleted which has direct linkage with rural peoples' lives, livelihoods and the local economy.

Similarly, we face acute pollution problems, particularly with air, water, soil and wetlands. Currently, because of environmental pollution, like many other countries, we are also facing the challenge of human health and economic loss.

During the coming years, our major growth engines will be agriculture, natural resources and mining. One of the challenges that we would like to address is that the mining is really contributing in local level poverty reduction with transformational change in local economic conditions, especially when social and environmental sustainability are ensured.

Although we do not have a country-specific robust database, studies and institutional setting to scientifically validate, climate change implications are prominently visible in Afghanistan in the forms of prolonged and severe droughts, erratic temperature and precipitation. This is seriously affecting our agriculture, livelihood and economy like other ECO Member States.

I am happy to inform you that in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, WCS, FAO and other partners, we are now in the process of developing a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan that will primarily focus on Adaptation. We would also look at the opportunities in the areas of „mitigation“ and other important aspects such as „research and development“, „financing“, and mutually gainful „partnership“ including the opportunities within the framework of ECO.

I propose to explore a new area to collectively prepare ourselves for the inevitable natural and other disasters that will plague us in the future (both climate change induced and not climatic) At end I would like to make sure our support to the implementation of already planned activities and projects of ECO, as well as, the programs and activities which are proposed for discussion in this meeting such as following and any other agenda item:

- Progress made since 4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment
- Designation of “Environment” as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization
- Adoption of "Istanbul Declaration on Climate Change and Green Economy”
- Framework Plan of Action on Environment Cooperation and Global Warming (2011- 2015)
- Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the Region
- Status of Membership to the International and Regional Environmental Conventions
- ECO-UNFCCC possible collaboration to develop a regional ECO Strategy on combating climate change
- Addressing the natural disasters in ECO Region from environmental impacts perspective
- State of affairs with Feasibility Study on Development and Harmonization of Environmental Standards in ECO Region

I express my sincere appreciation for your patient hearing and consideration. I would like to conclude my deliberation by conveying the commitment of the Government of the

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to collaborate in pursuing ECO for our mutual benefits and for the future generations to come.

Thank you.

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

**Economic Cooperation Organization
5th Ministerial Meeting on Environment
Climate Change and Green Economy
17 December 2014
Istanbul, Turkey**

Statement by Mr. Firdovsi Aliyev, Deputy Minister of Ecology
and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan

Dear Chairman,
Ladies and Gentleman,

First of all let me reiterate my deep appreciation to the Government of Turkey and ECO secretariat for warm hospitality and excellent organization of the ECO 5th Ministerial Meeting on Environment.

We attach great importance to cooperation within ECO which enhances regional efforts targeted to environment protection. Today, local environmental problems quickly convert to the challenges of regional and global significance. In this regard we should combine our efforts on taking urgent measures for environment protection of the region.

We fully support the address to the ECO Ministerial Council to designate “Environment” as a cross-sectoral priority of the Organization which is clearly outlined in the Ministerial declaration.

The topic of this Ministerial meeting touches challenging issues of climate change and green economy. Azerbaijan, as a country with rapidly developing economy, recognizes the climate change as an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to humanity.

Despite the fact that Azerbaijan is not included to Annex I group under the Climate Change Convention and does not take quantitative obligations in accordance with Kyoto protocol, we have contributed and continue to contribute to the global emission reduction efforts.

We disregard intermediate technologies by choosing latest developments. Such approach creates better opportunities for low emission production and effective waste recycling.

We implement a wide range of mitigation actions, such as suspension of using black oil for power stations by applying gas instead, significant reduction the quantity of equivalent fuel for production of electric energy and associated gas. Moreover, we apply smart cards in electricity and gas consumption measuring devices, enhance application of renewable energy sources, energy efficient technologies.

We also rapidly expanded forest cover from 11.4% to 11.8% of country territory, which means that CO₂ emissions will be significantly reduced. During the last 10 years more than 100 thousand hectares of forest territories with over 80 million trees has been planted.

It is important to note that during the last 10 years over 21 million trees were additionally planted on non forest semi arid areas mostly supplied with drip irrigation system. We restored and dramatically increased the total area of olive plantations which has a historical significance (3 times – up to 2600 ha in the last 2 years).

Azerbaijan accepted EURO 4 standard on limitations for toxic emissions from vehicles into the atmosphere with further goal to shift in short time to EURO 5.

Azerbaijan is mainly an oil country. However, due to good geographical position we have good opportunities for effective wind and solar energy production. Strong sector of renewable energy has been established at the result of purposeful policy of the country President. In near future the power generated by wind and solar energy in the country is supposed to be accounted in thousands of megawatts.

Azerbaijan has adopted the State Programme on Development and Use of Renewable Energy and established specialized State Agency on Renewable Energy. Strategic development programme on Renewable energy by 2020 is now under preparation. Mass production of solar panels started in 2011 at the Solar Panel Production Plant. We established solar and wind energy parks to increase the share of alternative energy production.

A number of large scale projects on water management and its efficient use successfully implemented in my country. During the last years a full sized projects on modernization of waste water treatment plants as well as construction of new ones were realized in Azerbaijan (total capacity of up to 1 million m³ of waste water treatment). Only during the last 5 years 8 billion dollars were invested to the water management projects. 95% of this investment comes from national budget.

Biodiversity conservation is another priority sphere. Specially protected nature areas were increased dramatically during the

last 10 years (from 478 to 1132 thousand hectares, 13.1% of the total country territory, 9 National Parks, 11 nature reserves and 24 sanctuaries).

We have established Environmental Scientific Research Center in the Caucasus mountains. Automated meteo stations are set up at the highest points in the Azerbaijani Caucasus (at the altitude of 4200 m), which enable to obtain and study real-time data on climate change process. At present all automated meteo stations in the country are operated by renewable energy.

Mankind depends on the earth's natural resources, and therefore we must create green economic system that respects the integrity of ecosystems and ensures resilience of life supporting systems.

We successfully interact with most of ECO member states on bilateral format. We actively cooperate with Caspian littoral states within the Framework Convention for the Protection of Marine Environment of Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention). Let me note that the Secretariat of the Convention will move to Baku next year.

However, we have to confess that we did not use all available opportunities for effective regional collaboration in the sphere of environment within ECO region. We look forward to strengthen interaction within ECO for cleaner environment and sustainable development of future generations.

Again, let me express my deep gratitude to the Government of Turkey and ECO team for organizing this important event.

Thank you for your attention.

STATEMENT BY ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

محورهای اصلی سخنرانی سرکار خانم دکتر ابتکار
معاون رئیس جمهور و رئیس سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست

جمهوری اسلامی ایران

در

پنجمین نشست وزیران محیط زیست اکو

17 دسامبر 2014

استانبول - ترکیه

• نظر به تأکید رهبران کشورها بر اثرات تغییرات آب و هوایی بعنوان يك مساله چالشي و خطير در حال حاضر و همچنین انجام فعاليت هاي جهانی براي کاهش انتشار و انعطاف پذيري در برابر آن، ضروری است کشورهای منطقه نیز به یک رویکرد مشترک برای مقابله با تغییرات آب و هوایی دست یابند.

• بی شک همسویی کشورهای منطقه در نشست های مهم و تصمیم ساز همچون کنفرانس اعضای متعاہد به کنوانسیون ها بویژه کنوانسیون تغییرات آب و هوا، ضرورتی است که با تکیه بر اصل مسئولیت مشترک اما متفاوت بر بهبود شرایط محیط زیستی کمک خواهد کرد.

• با اشاره به شرایط کنونی منطقه غرب آسیا بویژه اکو، با آینده ای گرم و خشک، بر ضرورت افزایش همکاری های نزدیک و فشرده میان کشورهای عضو اکو تأکید کرد. وی با تأکید بر

گسترش خشکسالی، کاهش نزولات جوی، افزایش گرد و غبار و اثرات فرامرزی آن تأکید کرد که منطقه اکو زمینه همکاری فراوانی چه در سطح دوجانبه و چه چندجانبه دارا می باشد که ایران بعنوان عضو این زیر منطقه و داشتن تجربیات بسیار در مواجهه با چالش ها آماده همکاری با کشورهاست. به هرحال باتوجه به چالش های موجود محیط زیستی در کشورهای عضو اکو منطقه اکو با آن مواجه اند ضرورت گسترش فعالیتهای حفاظتی بسیار احساس می شود. در یکسال گذشته ، و از زمان به کار آمدن دولت جدید در ایران، در زمینه افزایش استفاده از انرژی های پاک، همچون انرژی خورشیدی و انرژی باد برنامه های عملیاتی اجرا شده است. استراتژی جمهوری اسلامی ایران کاهش میزان مصرف انرژی فسیلی به میزان 30 درصد در یک دهه است. افزایش سهم انرژی های تجدید پذیر در حرکت بسوی اقتصاد کم کربن بعنوان ابزاری در توفیق سیاستهای اقتصاد مقاومتی از دیگر برنامه های اصلی ج.ا.ایران می باشد/

- با اشاره به برنامه کاهش آلودگی هوا به ویژه در تهران و استانداردسازی سوخت اشاره داشت که تهیه لوازم مربوط به خاک، ارزیابی محیط زیستی و کاهش آلودگی هوا از دیگر اقدامات دولت در یکسال گذشته بوده است.

- با تأکید بر اینکه حفاظت از تالابهای ضروری است بر تأمین بودجه 500 میلیارد ریالی برای حفاظت از تالابها به ویژه تالابهای مرزی همچون هامون اشاره نمود.

- اقتصاد سبز رویکردی جهانیست که به منظور دستیابی به توسعه پایدار و ریشه کنی فقر طرح گردیده است. در همگام سازی دنیای امروز اقتصادی با محیط زیست به منظور استفاده موثر از سرمایه های طبیعی و بهره برداری از منابع اقتصادی موجود ، جمهوری اسلامی ایران نیز، با مد نظر قرار دادن این موضوع نوظهور در سیاستهای کلان کشور و برنامه توسعه ملی، و با سرلوحه قرار دادن اقتصاد

مقاومتی، بعنوان الگویی در گذار از اقتصاد قهوه ای به سوی اقتصاد سبز، تلاش می نماید تا در این حرکت جهانی گام بردارد.

- موسسه علوم و فناوری محیط زیست اکو که حدود 5 سالی از آغاز به کار آن به میزبانی جمهوری اسلامی ایران می گذرد، بایستی در تبدیل وضعیت آن به یک عضو حقوقی و وابسته به سازمان همکاری های اقتصادی اکو اقدام گردد. با توجه به فعالیتهای بسیار ارزنده این موسسه در این سالها، در مسیر ظرفیت سازی و تقویت بنیه علمی کارشناسان و محققان کشورهای منطقه، از وزیران درخواست تعیین تکلیف نهایی گردد. شایان ذکر است موسسه علوم و فناوری اکو توانسته در این سالها بدون دریافت کمک مالی از کشورهای عضو اکو و تنها با حمایت مالی جمهوری اسلامی ایران، دبیرخانه اکو و همکاری با کشورهای دونری همچون نروژ، اهداف علمی خود را پیش برد. در این راستا، قابل ذکر است که به منظور ارتقای آموزش های محیط زیستی منطقه اکو و با استفاده از ظرفیت مرکز مطالعات محیط زیست ایتالیا در قالب مذاکرات دوجانبه ایران و ایتالیا، برنامه ریزی های صورت گرفته تا بتوان در قالب ایجاد کمیته مشترک میان موسسه علوم و فناوری محیط زیست اکو و مرکز مطالعات محیط زیست ایتالیا همکاری شایسته ای صورت پذیرد.

- در پایان بیانیه خود با توجه به حمله تروریستی رخ داده شده روز قبل در پاکستان و کشته شدن کودکان و نوجوانان بی دفاع پاکستانی، ضمن ابراز همدردی با دولت و ملت پاکستان، به این قطعنامه سازمان ملل در خصوص قطعنامه جهان علیه خشونت و افراطی گرایی اشاره نمود. بی شک با توجه به بعد صلح و پایداری که محیط زیست دارا می باشد ضروری است که کشورهای منطقه با سرلوحه قرار دادن قطعنامه فوق، از بروز حوادث ناگوار و تروریستی همچون روز گذشته جلوگیری نمایند.

STATEMENT BY KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Выступление Директора ГАООСЛХ С. Атаджанова на Пятом совещании Министров окружающей среды стран-членов Организация Экономического Сотрудничества (ОЭС) (15-17 декабря 2014 г. – Стамбул)

Уважаемые дамы и господа,

Позвольте приветствовать участников Пятого совещания Министров окружающей среды стран-членов Организация Экономического Сотрудничества и выразить признательность правительству Турецкой Республики, в особенности Министерству охраны окружающей среды и урбанизации Турции за теплое гостеприимство и организацию данного совещания.

Сегодня, Кыргызстан осознает особую важность вопросов охраны окружающей среды и рационального использования природных ресурсов для нынешнего и будущего поколений.

Снижение качества среды постоянного обитания человека создает угрозы здоровью и безопасному развитию человека. Прогрессирующая урбанизация территорий сопровождается снижением доступности к качественной питьевой воде и адекватным системам канализации, значительным ростом загрязнения атмосферного воздуха выбросами от стационарных источников и автомобильного транспорта, деградацией земельных ресурсов, проблемой накопления твердых бытовых отходов, ростом количества и масштабов чрезвычайных ситуаций природного и техногенного характера. Потеря биологического разнообразия угрожает продовольственным запасам страны, отдыху и туризму, а также источникам древесины, лекарств и энергии.

Глобальные климатические изменения - новый серьезный вызов для человечества, в том числе и для Кыргызстана, они диктуют необходимость принятия совместных превентивных мер для предотвращения возможных негативных последствий.

Как вам известно, Кыргызстан – высокогорная страна, расположенная в середине континента и не имеющая выхода к морю. Особенностью Кыргызстана являются экстремальные природные условия и высокая уязвимость горных экосистем. Преобладание сложного горного рельефа

создает особые условия проживания в предгорьях, равнинах и долинах, где в основном сосредоточены поселения.

Уже сейчас в нашей стране наблюдаются последствия климатических изменений, которые оказывают серьезное воздействие на окружающую среду, здоровье населения и сферы экономической деятельности.

Оценка ожидаемых изменений показывает, что к концу века рост температуры по текущим тенденциям может составить более 4°C, в то время как сумма годовых осадков в будущем будет уменьшаться.

Такое развитие событий, естественно, приведет к ускоренному таянию ледников, снижению водного стока, опустыниванию наших земель, росту количества стихийных бедствий и значительным рискам в достижении устойчивого развития как Кыргызстана, так и соседних стран. Уязвимость к изменению климата нашего региона будет нарастать и усиливать давление на природные ресурсы и окружающую среду.

В рамках выполнения Рамочной Конвенции ООН об изменении климата, стороной которой является Кыргызстан, подготовлены базовые сценарии развития (климатический, демографический и макроэкономический), сделана оценка уязвимости приоритетных секторов и анализ мер по адаптации к изменению климата, также обновлен анализ потенциальных мер по снижению выбросов парниковых газов. В процессе подготовки национальных сообщений усилены законодательная и институциональная основы.

Так, постановлением Правительства Кыргызской Республики образована **Координационная комиссия по проблемам изменения климата** под председательством Первого Вице-премьер-министра. Рабочим органом комиссии определено Государственное агентство охраны окружающей среды и лесного хозяйства. Члены комиссии – министры и руководители государственных комитетов и агентств, представители гражданского, академического и бизнес секторов. Основная цель комиссии - руководство и координация деятельности всех ключевых сторон по выполнению климатических обязательств страны.

В **национальной политике** вопросы изменения климата определены приоритетными. Они интегрированы в такие документы развития страны как:

- Концепция национальной безопасности,
- Концепция экологической безопасности, Комплекс мер по обеспечению экологической безопасности в Кыргызской Республике на 2011-2015,

- Национальная Стратегия устойчивого развития Кыргызской Республики на период 2013-2017 годы;
- Программа по переходу Кыргызской Республики к устойчивому развитию на 2013-2017 годы.

Правительством одобрены **Приоритетные направления адаптации к изменению климата в Кыргызской Республике до 2017 года**, охватывающие основные уязвимые секторы: водные ресурсы, сельское хозяйство, здоровье населения, климатические чрезвычайные ситуации, лесные ресурсы и биоразнообразие. В настоящее время госорганы разрабатывают секторальные адаптационные программы.

Кроме того, подготовлен **Климатический профиль**, определяющий стратегические цели для безопасного и устойчивого развития секторов сельского хозяйства и чрезвычайных ситуаций.

Для принятия действенных и консолидированных мер по смягчению последствий изменения климата Госагентством инициировано создание **Климатической диалоговой платформы**, как механизма взаимодействия государственных органов с представителями общественности и международных организаций по вопросам изменения климата.

В последние годы, Правительство Кыргызской Республики уделяет особое внимание «зеленой экономике», т.е., экологизации промышленного производства, энергетики и других отраслей, и нацелено на снижение экологической нагрузки и устойчивое развитие. В связи с чем, нам интересен опыт передовых стран по экологическому менеджменту, поддерживающему «экологический бизнес», включая пересмотр законодательной базы и политики в данной области.

Нельзя не отметить роль лесов в обеспечении экологической стабильности и формировании климата в стране. Несмотря на свою относительно небольшую общую площадь (5,61 %), в стране сосредоточено большое разнообразие лесов, не имеющее аналогов по концентрации в других странах региона. Орехоплодовые и елово-пихтовые леса имеют глобальную значимость как наиболее крупные и сохранные массивы реликтовых лесов. В связи с чем, предлагаю поделиться опытом и сотрудничать в различных мероприятиях в области ведения лесного хозяйства, такие как, мелиоративные работы, лесовосстановительные мероприятия, развитие особо охраняемых территорий, тренинги и подготовка специалистов в сфере лесоводства.

Хотелось бы отметить, что в целях сохранения биоразнообразия республики приняты **Приоритеты сохранения биологического разнообразия КР на период до 2024 года**.

Кроме того, Кыргызстан поддерживает решения, принятые в рамках Ассамблеи ЮНЕП и отмечает необходимость интеграции ОЭС в деятельность Ассамблеи.

Уважаемые министры и участники встречи, отмечая важность сегодняшнего заседания, позвольте, мне выразить пожелание успехов всем нам в развитии и укреплении общих усилия по принятию наиболее последовательных и устойчивых региональных рамок, необходимых для достижения устойчивого развития.

Благодарю за внимание.

STATEMENT BY THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

- On behalf of the Government and people of Pakistan, I would like to thanks the ECO Secretariat for holding the 5th ECO Ministerial meeting and inviting Pakistan.
- I would also like to thank the Government and people of Turkey for hosting this meeting and providing financial support and local hospitality.
- Pakistan encourages, appreciate and support the efforts of the ECO secretariat and member states for their joint endeavors in addressing the environmental issues in the region.
- Pakistan would like to appreciate the efforts of the ECO Secretariat in developing the Framework Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2011-2015) and the project proposal for its implementation along with the ECO Work Plan on Biodiversity (2007-2015).
- Pakistan believe that no country alone can address the emerging environmental challenges such as global warming and other trans-boundary issues and therefore encourages the global and regional environment initiatives and actions.
- Pakistan is party to over 14 global & regional MEAs besides adopting the agenda-21.
- Pakistan is currently the most vulnerable states to global warming and climate change, though our contribution to global warming is negligible for hosting 190 million people, Pakistan contribution to the total global emissions is only 0.8%.
- Pakistan is facing water shortage and unprecedented droughts and floods due to global warming leading to food and energy security and would therefore urge the ECO member states to join hands in combating these issues which are common to the region.

- Pakistan would like ECO to play an active role in addressing the regional and global environmental challenges by developing synergies with other regional and global organization besides identifying concrete, actionable and achievable interventions in the revised Action Plan.
- Pakistan will continue to support the ECO endeavors for providing a safe human environment to the citizens in the region

STATEMENT BY REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

Выступление

**заместителя Председателя Комитета по охране окружающей среде при
Правительстве Республики Таджикистан О. Шариповой
на 5 –ом заседании Министров охраны окружающей среды стран –
членов ЭКО**

г. Стамбул 17 октября 2014 г.

Уважаемый Председатель,

Уважаемые коллеги, дамы и господа,

Позвольте от имени делегации Республики Таджикистан, выразить искреннюю признательность организаторам и в первую очередь Правительству Республики Турции, Министерству охраны окружающей среды и урбанизации за инициативу по организации Совещание за гостеприимство и созданные благоприятные условия для работы.

Слова признательности, хочу выразить Секретариату Экономической Организации по сотрудничеству (ЭКО) за проделанную большую работу по подготовке и организации совещание.

Также приветствую глав делегации стран-членов ЭКО и всех участников совещание.

Таджикистан придает большое значение сотрудничеству в рамках Организации Экономического сотрудничества, которое призвано объединить усилия для улучшения экологической ситуации в регионе и создание условия устойчивого развития.

Сегодня перед нами стоит серьезная задача обсудить и принять важную Стамбульскую декларацию по изменению климата и зеленой экономике, которая направлена на дальнейшее углубление регионального сотрудничества повышение взаимодействия в рамках ЭКО.

На Конференции ООН по Окружающей среде и Развитию в Рио-де-Жанейро, Таджикистан наряду с подавляющим большинством стран мира был солидарен, что защита окружающей среды и социально-экономическое развитие являются фундаментом устойчивого развития основанного на программных принципах принятой Повестки дня на 21 век.

Горы являются национальным достоянием Таджикистана. 93% территории страны занимают горы. Более половины территории страны находится на отметке свыше 3000м над уровнем моря.

Горы и горные экосистемы играют важнейшую роль в обеспечении социально-экономического развития и экологической устойчивости нашей страны. Они представляют собой хранилище огромной части биологического разнообразия. Помимо материальных услуг, горы предоставляют ценные генетические ресурсы для обеспечения продовольственной безопасности. Важную роль они играют и как источник разнообразных природных

ресурсов. Особое место занимает функция гор в образовании экологической среды и формировании климатических условий.

Однако, отличительной особенностью горных систем является их водоформирующая роль. Горы Таджикистана являются домом более 14 тыс. ледников с общей площадью оледенения 11146км². Ледники покрывают почти 8% территории страны, а суммарный запас льда в них составляет 845км³, что в 7 раз превышает сток рек бассейна Аральского моря.

Ледники и снежники Таджикистана являются основным источником водных ресурсов Центральной Азии. Около 60% водных ресурсов бассейна Аральского моря формируется на территории Таджикистана, что составляет 64км³ в год. Между тем, страна использует всего лишь до 15% этих вод, а остальная часть идет на удовлетворение потребностей стран низовья.

Еще одной важной особенностью горных высот Таджикистана является возможность использования их перепадов для выработки гидроэлектроэнергии. Благодаря высоким горам и изобилию водных ресурсов Таджикистан располагает огромным гидроэнергетическим потенциалом, оценивающимся в 527 млрд.кВт.час в год. На данном этапе эти запасы освоены лишь на 3-4%, что свидетельствует о наличии огромного потенциала для обеспечения региона дешевой и экологически чистой электроэнергией.

Учитывая незаменимую роль воды и энергии в социально-экономическом развитии, а также возрастающие потребности в них в странах Центральной Азии, горы и горные экосистемы Таджикистана, приобретают весьма важную региональную значимость.

Уважаемые друзья,

Антропогенное воздействие и изменение климата все более угрожают экологической целостности и природному равновесию в горных экосистемах, приводя к исчезновению видов биоразнообразия, разрушению биоценозов, утрате ими способности к саморегуляции и самовосстановлению. Часто это приводит и к таким катастрофам, как оползни, сели, эрозия и деградация почв и т.д.

Особую тревогу для горных стран вызывает влияние изменения климата и связанные с ним негативные явления. По оценкам экспертов ледники Таджикистана за последние десятилетия потеряли около 30 процентов площади. Данная тенденция предсказывает о существенных изменениях в водных ресурсах. Это позволяет нам считать, что в ближайшем будущем Центрально-азиатский регион ожидает ухудшение и без того сложной экологической обстановки и связанных с ней социально-экономических последствий.

Таджикистан, также в силу сложных горных условий, сильно подвержен рискам стихийных гидрометеорологических явлений. Ежегодно стихийные бедствия наносят большой урон экономике страны, оценивающиеся в сотни миллионы долларов США.

Уважаемые дамы и господа,

Правительство Республики Таджикистан, принимая во внимание особую роль горных экосистем в обеспечении социально-экономического развития и экологической устойчивости страны, уделяет особое внимание их сохранению и рациональному использованию.

Страна ратифицировала 8 международных конвенций и заключила ряд региональных соглашений. В рамках реализации международных соглашений и договоров Правительство разработало и совершенствовало законодательные акты, приняло и реализовывает ряд государственных природоохранных стратегий и программ, в которых предусмотрены меры по восстановлению уязвимых горных экосистем по отдельным экологическим районам страны.

Особую значимость реализации из принятых государственных природоохранных стратегий и программ для Таджикистана имеет Государственная программа по изучению и сохранению водообразующих ледников до 2030 года.

Как я уже отметила, Таджикистан располагает огромным гидроэнергетическим потенциалом и уникальными природными условиями для строительства средних и крупных гидроэлектростанций и водохранилищ.

При этом страна ежегодно сталкивается с серьезной нехваткой электроэнергии в осенне-зимний период. Наиболее страдают от этого и от стихийных бедствий вызванных отрицательным влиянием воздействие процесса изменение климата горные районы страны, которые по 2-3 месяца в самый холодный период года остаются без света и тепла. Такая ситуация отрицательно воздействует и на горные экосистемы: люди вынуждены рубить деревья для обеспечения тепла и приготовления пищи, а это приводит к сокращению площади лесов.

Выход из этой ситуации видится в скорейшем освоении имеющегося гидроэнергетического потенциала, который одновременно могло бы способствовать решению многих других проблем, включая бесперебойное обеспечение электроэнергией и водой, а также благодаря смягчающему воздействию искусственных и естественных водохранилищ предотвращение селей и наводнений, снижение риска в засушливые годы. В свою очередь, все это будет способствовать быстрому росту экономики, решению социальных проблем и достижению экологической устойчивости, являющиеся основными столпами устойчивого развития. Это также вписывается и в концепцию «зеленой» экономики, нацеленной на использование возобновляемых источников энергии.

Я уверена, что Таджикистана совместно с международными организациями включая наши региональные организации несомненно включая также двухсторонних соглашений сможет в определенной мере решить свои социально экономические и экологические проблемы на пути к реализации основных принципов зеленой экономики.

Благодарю за внимание!

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Как я уже отметила, Таджикистан располагает огромным гидроэнергетическим потенциалом и уникальными природными условиями для строительства средних и крупных гидроэлектростанций и водохранилищ.

При этом страна ежегодно сталкивается с серьезной нехваткой электроэнергии в осенне-зимний период. Наиболее страдают от этого и от стихийных бедствий вызванных отрицательным влиянием воздействие процесса изменение климата горные районы страны, которые по 2-3 месяца в самый холодный период года остаются без света и тепла. Такая ситуация отрицательно воздействует и на горные экосистемы: люди вынуждены рубить деревья для обеспечения тепла и приготовления пищи, а это приводит к сокращению площади лесов.

Выход из этой ситуации видится в скорейшем освоении имеющегося гидроэнергетического потенциала, который одновременно могло бы способствовать решению многих других проблем, включая бесперебойное обеспечение электроэнергией и водой, а также благодаря смягчающему воздействию искусственных и естественных водохранилищ предотвращение селей и наводнений, снижение риска в засушливые годы. В свою очередь, все это будет способствовать быстрому росту экономики, решению социальных проблем и достижению экологической устойчивости, являющиеся основными столпами устойчивого развития. Это также вписывается и в концепцию «зеленой» экономики, нацеленной на использование возобновляемых источников энергии.

Я уверена, что Таджикистана совместно с международными организациями включая наши региональные организации несомненно включая также двухсторонних соглашений сможет в определенной мере решить свои социально экономические и экологические проблемы на пути к реализации основных принципов зеленой экономики.

Благодарю за внимание!

STATEMENT BY TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE

**TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS
SPEECH BY H.E. DR. HAKAN DİNÇYÜREK
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
AT THE 5TH ECO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT
(ISTANBUL, 17 DECEMBER 2014)**

**MR. CHAIRMAN,
MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL,
HONOURABLE MINISTERS
AND VALUED GUESTS,**

IT IS AN HONOUR AND A PRIVILEGE TO ADDRESS THIS SIGNIFICANT MEETING ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PEOPLE. I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENCE MY SPEECH BY THANKING THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY FOR THE HOSPITALITY AND WARM WELCOME THEY HAVE SHOWN MYSELF AND MY DELEGATION SINCE OUR ARRIVAL AT OUR MOTHERLAND.

DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVES FROM BROTHERLY COUNTRIES,

SINCE ITS VERY EXISTENCE, MANKIND HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN DIRECT INTERACTION WITH THE ENVIRONMENT. FOR YEARS, MANKIND HAS LIVED HAND IN HAND WITH NATURE AND CONSIDERED ITS RESOURCES TO BE ENDLESS. HOWEVER, IN TIME, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, WHICH WERE INITIALLY NEGLECTED DUE TO FACTORS SUCH AS THE DRASTIC INCREASE IN GLOBAL POPULATION, URBANIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION, INCREASED EXPONENTIALLY AND STARTED TO POSE A WORLDWIDE THREAT.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT OUR COUNTRY IS A SMALL ISLAND, IT HAS BEEN COMBATting MANY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. THE CURRENT ERA OF TECHNOLOGY IS HARMING THE ENVIRONMENT IN AN IRRIVERSABLE WAY. THEREFORE, OUR MINISTRY'S GOAL IS TO WORK WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE "PRINCIPLE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT".

THIS PRINCIPLE INVOLVES ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PRODUCTIVITY IN THE USE OF WATER RESOURCES AND AGRICULTURAL LAND, IMPROVING TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY, PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, USING IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES WITH GREATER CARE, PREVENTING THE USE OF HIGHLY FERTILE AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR NON-AGRIGULTURAL ACTIVITIES, PREVENTING THE EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS, AND PREVENTING OR MINIMISING DEFORESTATION AND THE ERADICATION OF

WETLANDS AND ON THE OTHER ENSURING THE CONTINUATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITH GREAT CARE TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

DUE TO OUR COUNTRY'S CLIMATE CONDITIONS, IT IS OF UTMOST SIGNIFICANCE TO DESIGN GREEN BUILDINGS. WE ARE AWARE OF THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH STRUCTURES. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE MUST RESTRUCTURE OUR CITIES, ENTIRELY IF NECESSARY, TO ENSURE GREEN GROWTH. IN TURN, THIS WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO ADVANCE IN THE GLOBAL BATTLE AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE.

AS A COUNTRY, WE ARE AWARE THAT WE HAVE MUCH GROUND TO COVER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, BY ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY, AS WELL AS ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY. I AM OF THE FIRM BELIEF THAT WE HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES SINCE THE ASSUMPTION OF MY DUTIES AT THE MINISTRY WITH A VIEW TO INSPECTING THE USE OF FUEL AND EMISSIONS OF OUR COUNTRY'S POWER STATIONS. THERE REMAINS MUCH MORE TO DO AND OUR GOAL IS TO REACH GLOBAL STANDARDS IN THIS REGARD.

DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUES,

WE HAVE NEARLY COMPLETED THE AMENDMENTS TO OUR COUNTRY'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION. THE "ENVIRONMENT LAW", WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED IN LINE WITH EUROPEAN UNION STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTES THE FIRST FRAMEWORK LAW IN OUR COUNTRY, WAS APPROVED ON 12 MARCH 2012. THE ENVIRONMENT LAW CONTAINS WASTE MANAGEMENT, WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, URBAN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT, SEA POLLUTION CONTROLS, AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT, INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROLS, THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, PRESERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AESTHETICS, INFORMATION RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT, AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, INSPECTION AND SANCTIONS. THE WORKS ON THE SECONDARY LAW ENVISAGED TO BE PREPARED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LAW IS CONTINUING.

AS I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED, DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE ARE A SMALL ISLAND COUNTRY, THERE IS MUCH TO DO IN REGARDS TO THE ENVIRONMENT. THE SOLID WASTE ISSUE IS ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ISSUES FACED BY OUR COUNTRY AND ALTHOUGH WE HAVE A LANDFILL AREA, WE HAVE EXPEDITED OUR

EFFORTS TO CONTROL THE ILLICIT LANDFILL AREAS AND TO ESTABLISH TRANSFER STATIONS.

PARTICULARLY OVER THE PAST 40 YEARS, OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING SEVERE WATER SHORTAGES AND WATER QUALITY ISSUES, IN PART AS A RESULT OF THE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE. THEREFORE, AS THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES WE HAVE BEEN MAKING SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS RELATED TO WATER. WE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING BOTH LEGISLATIVE AND TECHNICAL WORKS CONCERNING THE WATER ISSUE. THE EFFORTS TOWARDS ENACTMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION IN THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS ARE ONGOING. WE INTEND TO CREATE AN UPDATED AND EFFECTIVE WATER LEGISLATION WHICH DEALS WITH ISSUES RELATED TO IRRIGATION AND POTABLE WATER, WHICH IDENTIFIES THE DUTIES, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDER INSTITUTIONS, WHICH SPECIFIES FACTORS RELATED TO THE USE OF EXISTING AND ALTERNATIVE WATER RESOURCES, WHICH ARRANGES THE COORDINATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN UNITS, AND WHICH IS IN LINE WITH THE EU AQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE.

IN THE PAST, MANY PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED WITH A VIEW TO RESOLVING OUR COUNTRY'S WATER ISSUE, UNFORTUNATELY TO NO AVAIL. HOWEVER, MOTHERLAND TURKEY EXTENDED A HELPING HAND ONCE AGAIN TO ASSIST US TO OVERCOME THIS ISSUE, AS IT HAS DONE SO IN MANY OTHER FIELDS, AND HAS MOBILIZED TO LAUNCH THE "WATER SUPPLY PROJECT" WHICH ENVISAGES BRINGING POTABLE WATER FROM TURKEY TO NORTH CYPRUS.

THE WORKS ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT AIMING TO CARRY 75 MILLION CUBIC METERS OF WATER THROUGH PIPELINES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY TO OUR COUNTRY IS EXPECTED TO BE CONCLUDED SOON. IN ADDITION, OUR WORKS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WATER IS ALSO CONTINUING. THE FACT THAT THE 80 KILOMETER UNDERWATER PIPELINE IS A FIRST IN THE WORLD, COUPLED WITH THE TECHNOLOGY TO BE USED, MAKES THIS PROJECT GLOBALLY SIGNIFICANT. THEREFORE, FOLLOWING ITS SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION, THE "WATER SUPPLY PROJECT", WHICH WILL CARRY WATER TO OUR COUNTRY FROM TURKEY, WILL CONSTITUTE A MILESTONE IN "GLOBAL WATER TRANSPORTATION".

IN THE NEW CENTURY, ENABLING ALL PEOPLE AND FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ACQUIRE THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AND TO BENEFIT FROM NATURAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE THE MAIN PRIORITY OF MANKIND.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THAT WE ARE ALWAYS PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN FURTHER COLLABORATION IN FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS IN THIS REGARD.

AS REGARDS THE FIGHT AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, WHICH ARE OF UTMOST SIGNIFICANCE FOR BOTH OUR COUNTRY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION, I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THAT WE ARE READY TO COOPERATE WITH THE BROTHERLY ECO MEMBER COUNTRIES YOU REPRESENT BY BENEFITTING FROM YOUR VAST EXPERIENCES.

VALUED PARTICIPANTS,

AS I ADDRESS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING TODAY, I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT YOUR SUPPORT AS BROTHERLY COUNTRIES IN LIFTING THE EMBARGOS WHICH ARE IMPOSED ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PEOPLE IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.

THE EXPECTATION OF THE PEOPLE I REPRESENT IS THE FAIR SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WHICH HAS BEEN CONTINUING FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS AND TAKING THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE AMONG THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. WE, AS THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS, ARE OF THE BELIEF THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION OF 11 FEBRUARY 2014, WHICH WAS AGREED UPON BY THE TWO LEADERS ON THE ISLAND AND WHICH RESUMED THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, PRESENTS AN IMPORTANT BASIS TO SETTLE THE CYPRUS ISSUE ON THE AGREED PARAMETERS.

I WOULD LIKE TO UNDERLINE, IN THIS VEIN, THAT WE SUPPORT OUR PRESIDENT, DR. DERVIS EROĞLU, WHO CONDUCTS THE NEGOTIATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PEOPLE.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,

I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE MY PLEASURE TO BE AMONG SUCH DISTINGUISHED GUESTS PARTICIPATING IN THIS IMPORTANT EVENT FROM OUR BROTHERLY COUNTRIES AND STRESS ON BEHALF OF MY COUNTRY THAT WE WILL BENEFIT FROM THE VIEWS AND IDEAS TO BE PUT FORWARD AT THIS MEETING.

**IN CONCLUSION, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE
ENABLED THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONFERENCE AND WISH TO EXTEND MY HEARTFELT
GRATITUDE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS.**

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN.

STATEMENT BY CICA

**Fifth ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment
Istanbul, 17 December 2014**

Statement by Executive Director

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will like to join the previous speakers in thanking the Turkish Government for its hospitality and excellent arrangements for the meeting.

Environmental degradation is a very serious issue facing the mankind today. We need to protect the environment not only for sustainable development but also for our future generations. Illustrious speakers before me have eloquently described the challenges before us and the ways to address these challenges. I will, therefore, not go into details except to say that international community needs to make joint and concerted efforts to ensure protection of the environment.

CICA recognises importance of environment and is implementing confidence building measures in environmental dimension. Combating desertification within the region is a priority area for CICA. Two meetings of experts from the member states for combating desertification have already been held and the third meeting will be held next year in Mongolia. Turkey is setting up an *International Research and Training Centre on Combating Desertification in Asia* in Konya as national contribution of Turkey to the CICA process. The Centre is likely to become operational soon. We are grateful to Turkey for this very important and valuable contribution.

Mr. chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CICA and ECO are natural allies because nearly all the Member States of ECO are also members of CICA. There is wide convergence of the objectives and principles of CICA and ECO, including in the area of environment. CICA will be happy to join hands to address environmental issues for a win-win situation.

Before I conclude, I will like to offer my deepest condolences to the Government and people of Pakistan for the loss of innocent lives in the most reprehensible terrorist attack.

STATEMENT BY ECO-IEST

Statement of Dr. Asghar Mohammadi Fazel, President of ECO-IEST

Excellencies,

I would join other colleagues to offer my deep condolences to the people and the government of Pakistan.

I would like to express my profound appreciation to the people and government of Turkey as well as the ECO Secretariat for their organising efforts and warm hospitality. With no doubt, this gathering would enhance a dialogue amongst regional stakeholders and key policy-makers in the field of environmental conservation.

I also would like to highlight the importance of the regional cooperation for prompt response to the environmental challenges and enhancing the synergy between ECO Member States and call on all involved stakeholders in the region to develop and consolidate common efforts to adopt the most coherent, equitable and sustainable cross-sectoral frameworks needed to address environmental challenges to further strengthen synergies with regional and global players.

Since its establishment, the ECO-IEST made several contributions to ECO, namely through:

- Postgraduate Courses on Environmental Management (PCEM)
- Transboundary Movement of Biological Specimens and Species,
- Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES),
- Ecosystem Management of Wetlands,
- Application of Nanotechnology in Industry, Mining, Agriculture and Medicine,
- Environmental Biotechnology,
- Climate Change and Biodiversity,
- UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserves Network
- Financing for Forest conservation;
- International Forum on Environmental Ethics,

Currently we have some mandates from ECO decision making bodies on:

- Framework Plan of Action on Environment Cooperation and Global Warming;
- Combating desertification;
- Network on Trans-boundary Protected Areas,
- Building Development and Finance Planning Frameworks for Effective Management of Ecosystem Services.

Here in Istanbul we have also been mandated to support Member States on SOE and Green Economy.

Having said that, the IEST as the technical arm of ECO with an overall goal “*To strengthen the capacity of key actors in environmental conservation in the region, and promote exchange of information and experiences with efficient management of resources*”, is ready to render technical and scientific support to the Member States.

Thanks you

STATEMENT BY ECO TDB

**5thECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment
Statement by Dr. Hossein Ghazavi, President
ECO Trade and Development Bank (ETDB)
Istanbul, Republic of Turkey
17 December 2014**

**Mr. Chairman
Mr. Secretary General
Distinguished Delegates
Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is a privilege to participate to the 5thECOMinisterial Meeting on Environment and I am delighted for the opportunity to address this august gathering. Meanwhile, I would like to extend appreciation to the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey and the ECO Secretariat for the excellent arrangements and organization made for this event.

Dear Participants,

Let me start by sharing some points on recent developments in global economy and financial system. In the global context, despite very low interest rates and highly accommodative monetary policy, global economic growth in the first half of 2014 was weaker than expected. A moderate expansion is expected in the global economy in 2014 at 3.3 percent-unchanged from 2013-and accelerating to 3.8 percent in 2015.It should be underlined that moderate rate of growth means a substantial degree of labor market slack to remain across the world and global trade growth to be sluggish. On the other hand recent decline in commodity prices, especially in oil is an issue of global concern. Of course, it would have positive effect on global economy in general but unsustainable decline in prices can pose serious challenges for oil-exporting countries. In advanced economies public debt in relation to GDP is at a historically high level. Although expansionary fiscal and monetary policies are able to increase demand in the short term but they cannot increase longer-term growth. It may be summarized that we may witness volatile markets until we reach to a more sustainable debt levels, liquidity and interest rate environment.

At the same time, we observe important progress in restructuring a stronger and more resilient global financial system. In particular, soundness of the banking sector has been improved. However, the job is not finished. We see merit in further exploring efforts to appropriately monitor and supervise the banking and nonbanking financial sector, substantially in terms of risk management perspectives and reform of derivative markets to reduce systemic risk and increase transparency.

Distinguished Participants,

Against this global situation, the ECO countries, showed considerable strength in the post global crisis era. The ECO region rebounded mildly from its lowest economic growth performance since the global economic crisis of 2009 and recorded a moderate 2.8 percent increase in its real GDP in 2013. The regional GDP hit USD 1.86 trillion in 2013 which is almost four times the level observed a decade ago. On the other hand, the regional nominal per capita GDP more than tripled since 2002 to hit USD 7,409 in PPP terms. It is projected that by the end of 2014, five of the ECO member countries will have double digit per capita incomes. At this point, we have to remain alerted to the downside risks for the region including a disorderly surge in global interest rates and a prolonged and deeper slump in commodity prices. These emerging events would have negative spillover effects on some developing economies including ECO countries in the form of excessive capital outflows, downward pressure on exchange rates, deteriorations in credit conditions and threaten international competitiveness. It is, therefore, important for ECO countries to be vigilant and continue fiscal, financial and structural reforms that would put economies in a far better position in the current post crisis-era. I am confident that emerging as an important global economic bloc, the region would be in a better position to reflect its real potentials and ensure sustainable growth in the coming years.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Within this perspective, the new millennium holds out real promise of a better future for regional cooperation, especially on environmental issues. The current environmental problems are challenging, thus regional and bilateral cooperation must be more powerful, and solutions must be better designed. We need to be proactive. That means we need to put into practice the common measures adopted for environmental soundness and sustainable development in the region.

Let me highlight that the environmental mission of the Bank is to integrate environmental concerns into all its operations and promote environmentally clean technologies in a cost-effective and economically feasible manner. As per our policies, any operation which present an intrinsic risk for the environment are specifically excluded from Bank financing.

In this respect we follow three general principles:

- The first principle is “Do not harm”. Preventing potential environmental damage from Bank financed operations has the highest priority.
- The second principle is “Strengthen environmental management”. This principle will be implemented through cooperative work with clients, specialized bodies and co-financiers to build-up capacity and strengthen policies and strategies.
- The third principle is “Address global environmental problems”. The Bank works with clients and interested stakeholders to promote and to become an active participant in preservation of the biodiversity and prevention of pollution, climate change and other relevant issues.

Overall, we need to optimize potentials and pursue deeper cooperation on environmental issues, for further enhancing competitiveness of our economies.

Dear Guests,

Let me now shed briefly a light on the activities of ETDB. The ECO Bank as the multilateral development bank of the region is dedicated to generate genuine development effect and contribute to the socio-economic prosperity of the ECO countries. We have been pursuing an ambitious agenda but also realistic enough in order to be credible and effective. We have developed necessary products and services for enhancing trade, development of SMEs, meeting the financing and technical assistance needs of corporates and projects in the member counties. Since 2008, which the Bank started its operations, the total amount of loans disbursed to various operations in the member states amounted to about USD 827 million by the end of October 2014. The Bank has been posting a stable positive net income without having any non-performing loan in its well diversified portfolio. If I may give some examples of our operations, such as wind power projects in Pakistan, irrigation and wastewater projects in Iran and metro project in Istanbul which were all assessed to reflect our environmental consciousness and developmental target. We employ and follow similar environmental effect concerns in our co-financing agreements with relevant Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and bilateral financial institutions in mobilizing additional resources to prospective projects in the member states.

Distinguished Participants,

There are strong reasons for cooperation on common environmental concerns in the region. We are honored to be a sustainable source of development finance for promoting such cooperation. And as I move towards my closing remarks, let me state that we have clear mandate and vision to become the financial pillar of economic cooperation among the ECO member states with a sound environmental perspective. As you may know Azerbaijan and Afghanistan became the new members of the Bank and Kyrgyzstan will join soon. I believe that other four ECO member states would also join and support the Bank to become a premier development institution of the region. This perspective would certainly have considerable effect on enhancing financial leverage to support sustainable development in the region.

At the end I also join other distinguished delegations by extending my heartfelt condolences and sympathies to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and to the brotherly People of Pakistan for the terrorist attack in a school in Peshawar and wish patience for the bereaved families and speedy recovery for those injured.

Thank you very much for your attention

STATEMENT BY D-8



**Statement
by
Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi
D-8 Secretary General
at
5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment
17 December 2014, Istanbul - Turkey**

*His Excellency Mr. Mohamad Balta,
Deputy Minister of Environment and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey*

*H.E. Dr. Shamil Aleskerov
ECO Secretary General,*

*Her Excellency Madam Masomah Ebtekar
Vice Minister and Head of the Ministry of Environment of Iran*

*Ministers and Head of Delegations,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to be with you all at the **5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment** meeting.

First of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the government of Republic of Turkey, especially Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) for the invitation to this important meeting.

Secondly, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to the people and the government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the occasion of brutal terrorist attack happened yesterday on a school.

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To begin with, I would like to briefly highlight about the D-8 Organization and its activity. The idea of the establishment of D-8 Organization goes back to *the Cooperation for Development Conference*, held in October 1996 in Istanbul at the initiative of Merhum Professor Necmettin Erbakan, then Prime Minister of Republic of Turkey. Subsequently, D-8 Organization was officially established through the Istanbul Declaration of Summit of Heads of State/Government at the 1st D-8 Summit on 15 June 1997.

D-8 is an intergovernmental organization and currently consists of eight developing countries, namely the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey.

D-8 is based on friendship, solidarity and pursuit of sustainable economic growth, endowed with abundant human and natural resources, aspires to become a dynamic economic grouping promoting sustainable development of its member states.

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me now turn to the issue of our meeting today. Developing countries are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of environmental dimensions such as climate change, air pollution, water availability and quality, and land-use change. Strategies are needed to strengthen developing countries' resilience to these impacts while at the same time energizing collective efforts to achieve sustainability of environment.

Increasing industrialization by developing countries to meet their needs will lead to higher energy consumption and Greenhouse Gas (GG) emission in these countries. Furthermore, climate change is not only an environmental problem but also poses a risk to development if not addressed effectively. The adverse impacts of climate change, for instance decreased precipitation in arid and semi-arid areas, will disproportionately affect poorer countries with economies dependent on natural resources-related sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The D-8, as intergovernmental cooperation has experienced several challenges in terms of environmental issues and climate change related with the sustainability of food security in D-8 national level. In this sense, D-8 Organization has addressed environmental area in its Charter as one of areas cooperation among D-8 countries. The governments and private sectors in D-8 Member States commit to promote and enhance cooperation in this sector through creating the right condition and institutional frameworks as a foundation upon which to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources, including investment in clean energy infrastructure

The D-8 organization has vital modality as economic grouping to provide insight and stimulate discussion among all stakeholders on the best strategies and policies to overcome the obstacles of environmental issues among D-8 countries. Subsequently, D-8 would like to take opportunity, in the near future, to have mutual collaboration with Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in this area, which is also mentioned in Memorandum of Understanding between two organizations signed in 2011.

Designing policies which address two or more goals at once namely environmental, social and economic can help to multiply the benefits of policy action. Needless to say that exploring some opportunities for maximizing the benefits of combining climate changes action with biodiversity protection, health and green growth are also imperative for policymakers in addressing the challenges on environmental problems.

Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indeed, the D-8, as one of economic grouping, is focusing increasingly on quality growth in its various activities, including environment sustainability. In this context, the D-8 Countries has started to explore which factors are necessary to ensure that national competitiveness remains sustainable over the longer term.

Subsequently, D-8 Countries has presented their preliminary thoughts on understanding and measuring quality growth through a competitiveness lens by defining sustainable competitiveness in economic, social, and environmental terms.

I would like to conclude that due to current global environmental challenges, developing countries need to seek innovative ways to sustain their economies through green-economy policies. The vision needs to address concerns for environmental sustainability – both domestically and internationally to remain competitive. All these dimensions need to be organized in a coherent agenda.

Once again, I would like to thank to the government of Republic of Turkey, especially Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Secretariat for this invitation and I wish you all success in your endeavors and deliberations.

Thank you very much for your attention.

STATEMENT BY UNEP



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure for me to address the Fifth ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment on behalf of UNEP.

Over its history, the Economic Cooperation Organization, taking over from its predecessor, the Regional Cooperation for Development, has achieved many important milestones in its work for regional development through common efforts, building on the member states' close cultural ties, shared historical past, and joint plans for the future. The idea of institutionalizing cooperation for regional development helps take a holistic look at the region, its resources and economy, business interests, and the potential for growing stronger together.

UNEP has been following the development of this cooperation with great interest and appreciation of the goals it aspires to achieve. In 2004, our organizations concluded a Memorandum of Understanding to mark their decision to, inter alia, collaborate in the area of clean energy, as well as engage in capacity building in the field of environmental law and education.

We welcome the ECO member states' intention and ongoing work to expand its priority areas to include environmental sustainability, human environment, which ultimately results in improved human health, sustained livelihoods, and thriving ecosystems – all unique assets that this region possesses.

The time has come to translate our economic, social and political agenda into a broader vision of sustainable development for the sake of future generations. We shall not miss this opportunity!