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Legal Advisor

ECO Secretariat

H.M November 30, 2025



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN JOINT TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AMONG
ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION MEMBER STATES

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Republic of Azerbaijan
Islamic Republic of Iran
Republic of Kazakhstan
Kyrgyz Republic
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Republic of Tajikistan
Republic of Türkiye
Turkmenistan
Republic of Uzbekistan

hereinafter referred to as "the Parties" desiring to enhance relationship among Member States for developing and strengthening cooperation in the field of trade among Economic Cooperation Organization Member States.

- Aiming rapid economic development in the ECO region, and for this purpose, recalling their interest in further improvement of trade relations among the Parties,
- Declaring their willingness to take action with a view to expand and diversify the commercial transactions among their countries and stressing the importance of promoting mutual co-operation to this effect,
- Willing to create suitable conditions leading to the development of joint action in the field of trade,
- Recognizing the importance of liberalization of trade in goods through ECOTA in creating solid intra-regional trade relationships,

- Affirming their commitment to facilitate regional trade through removing or reducing non tariff barriers on trade in goods between the ECO Members.

HAVE AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING:

ARTICLE 1
ACTIVITIES TO CO-OPERATE

- For the advancement of intra-regional trade, the Parties agree to support the establishment of an ECO-Trading Blog as a regular platform under the ECO framework. The Blog shall facilitate the reciprocal exchange of economic and commercial information, including updates on trade regulations, procedures, and market intelligence, with a view to improving transparency and enabling better analysis of regional business opportunities. Member States may contribute content or technical support on a voluntary basis, subject to their national priorities and available resources. The ECO Secretariat may coordinate the platform's technical setup and assist in its maintenance to ensure continuity and accessibility for all Member States.
- For the purpose of expanding mutually beneficial trade activities in the ECO region, parties cooperate in identifying the opportunities of cooperation with other WTO member or non-member countries.
- Parties cooperate in developing of product diversification strategies and strengthening of regional cooperation in the trade of services.
- Parties promote co-operation among the Member States in the field of e-commerce.
- Parties support the enhancement of the existing "ECO Trade and Investment Network" as a platform for establishing the ECO Trade Data Bank, facilitating access to trade statistics, laws, and regulations. Member States shall designate focal points to coordinate with the ECO Secretariat for its ongoing development.

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- Parties cooperate to increase the role of the ECO Trade and Development Bank and the Chamber of Industry and Commerce for the development of trade.
- Parties agree to cooperate in identifying and discussing areas of export / import potentials, promotion of products and services and taking necessary actions for the purpose of expanding the mutually beneficial trade among Member States. Parties shall encourage business forums, buying and selling missions, seminars, workshops and other joint activities in Member States to facilitate research and trade promotion activities.
- Parties agree to offer training programmes and briefing for the staff of the related institutions in order to support capacity-building both in the ECO Secretariat and Trade Promotion Organizations of Member States.
- Parties study the intra-regional trade market in order to identify mutually beneficial sectors to organize “meet the buyer programs” which might be financed through ECO Trade and Development Bank.
- Parties identify sectors with opportunities for regional value chains and production networks within the ECO region with a view to enhancing intra-regional trade.

ARTICLE 2 **IMPLEMENTATION**

Parties agree to organize meetings in Member States when needed, with prior notice with the purpose of evaluating and determining the working programs for the execution of the promotion and cooperation activities established in this Memorandum of Understanding and studying the most appropriate measures for its implementation.

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ARTICLE 3

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding is settled amicably through consultation or negotiation by the Parties.

ARTICLE 4

OTHER PROVISIONS

- Where it is not possible for the Parties to fulfill each other's requirements, they exert their best efforts to recommend other relevant names and organizations.
- Neither party bears any financial obligations except for the reimbursement of expenses agreed in advance related to specific actions agreed by the parties.
- This Memorandum of Understanding does not interfere with the rights and obligations of the parties arising from other international covenants in which any of the organizations are members.

ARTICLE 5

ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION, AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

- The present Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the thirteenth day following the fourth notification by the Parties, in writing and through diplomatic channels, of the completion of the respective internal legal procedures necessary to that effect.
- Any modification or amendments to this Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force in accordance with the first paragraph of this Article.
- Unless either Party sends a written notice of termination to the other Party 90 days in advance of the expiry date, this Memorandum of Understanding shall be automatically extended for successive one year term.
- The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding of Co-operation shall not affect the completion of any cooperative activity / program undertaken under this Memorandum of Understanding of Co-operation.

DONE through silence procedure (Note Verbale) on the Twenty Sixth day of the June Two Thousand Twenty-Five in one original copy in English language.

For the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

For the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan

For the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran *Mohamed Akbar*

For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan

For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic *[Signature]*

For the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan *[Signature]*

For the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

For the Government of the Republic of Türkiye *Ömer Bolat*

For the Government of Turkmenistan

For the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan

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