

308th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

July 21, 2026
Hybrid Mode

Agenda Item No. 1
Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 308th CPR Meeting

No: CFU /2026/588

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 7/7/2026

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose the Draft Agenda/Annotated Draft Agenda of the 308th Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR), scheduled to be held in hybrid mode on July 21, 2026 (10:00 hours, Tehran time) at the ECO Secretariat.

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

All ECO Member States - Tehran



308th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Draft Agenda And Annotated Draft Agenda

*July 21, 2026
Hybrid Mode*

Draft Agenda

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 308th CPR Meeting;
2. Adoption of Draft Report of the 307th CPR Meeting;
3. Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035;
4. Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting;
5. Follow-up to the Working Group on the Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC);
6. Consideration of the Calendar of Events 2026;
7. Preparations for the International Conference on Financing the ECO Transport Projects and Corridors;
8. Administrative and Budgetary Matters;
9. Any Other Business;
10. Date of the Next CPR Meeting.

Draft Annotated Agenda

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Agenda

1. The Secretariat proposes the following Draft Agenda for consideration and adoption by the Council:

- Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 308th CPR Meeting;
- Adoption of Draft Report of the 307th CPR Meeting;
- Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035;
- Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting;
- Follow-up to the Working Group on the Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC);
- Consideration of the Calendar of Events 2026;
- Preparations for the International Conference on Financing the ECO Transport Projects and Corridors;
- Administrative and Budgetary Matters;
- Any Other Business;
- Date of the Next CPR Meeting.

2. The Council may consider and adopt the above agenda for discussion and deliberations.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of Draft Report of the 306th CPR Meeting

3. The Draft Report of the 307th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR), held on June 22, 2026, was circulated by the Secretariat amongst the Member States vide Note Verbale No. CFU/2026/543 dated 23.06.2026.

4. The Council may consider and adopt the Draft Report of the 307th CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 3

Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035

5. The 307th CPR Meeting took note of the progress made by the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) in advancing the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035 and encouraged Member States to submit any remaining comments within the agreed timeframe i.e. July 9, 2026. The Council also agreed that PrepCom would convene its 3rd meeting on July 15, 2026.

6. The Chair of the PrepCom and the Secretariat will brief the Council on the progress achieved since the previous meeting, including the outcome of the Third PrepCom Meeting and the status of finalization of the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035.

7. The Council may consider the matter and provide further guidance, as appropriate.

Agenda Item No. 4

Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th COM Meetings

8. At its 307th Meeting, the Council reviewed the status of preparations for the 18th ECO Summit and the 30th Council of Ministers Meeting. While noting the dates of November 15-16, 2026 announced by Pakistan for holding/hosting the 30th COM Meeting in Islamabad, the Council encouraged continued consultations among the host countries, Member States and the Secretariat, looking forward to the early announcement of the date of the 18th ECO Summit.

9. The Secretariat, together with the distinguished delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, may brief the Council on the latest developments regarding the preparations for the two meetings, including the proposed dates, organizational arrangements and progress made on the preparation of the outcome documents.

10. The Council may consider the matter and provide further guidance, as deemed appropriate.

Agenda Item No. 5

Follow-up to the First Meeting of the Working Group on Recommendations of High Level Committee (HLC)

11. The 307th CPR Meeting took note of the progress made by the Working Group on the Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC), and encouraged the continuation of its work, including the preparation and circulation of draft concrete proposals by the Secretariat. The Council also agreed that the Working Group would convene its 3rd meeting on July 15, 2026.

12. The Chair of the Working Group and the Secretariat will brief the Council on the outcome of the Third Meeting of the Working Group, including the progress made in developing concrete proposals on the recommendations of the First High-Level Committee Meeting.

13. The Council may consider the matter and provide further guidance, as deemed appropriate.

Agenda Item No. 6

Consideration of the Calendar of Events 2026;

14. The 36th Meeting of the Regional Planning Council (RPC) was held from May 17 to 20, 2026 at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran in a hybrid format. The Meeting considered the draft **ECO Work Program and Calendar of Events for 2026** and finalized the documents after taking into account the views and proposals of the participating Member States.

15. The Report of the 36th RPC Meeting, together with the finalized ECO Work Program and Calendar of Events for 2026, was circulated vide Secretariat's Note Verbale dated May 21, 2026. No comments or observations were received from any Member State.

16. The Council may wish to consider the Calendar of Events for 2026, recommending its adoption by the Council of Ministers (COM) along with the ECO Work Program and the Report of the 36th RPC Meeting through silence procedure.

Agenda Item No. 7

Preparations for the International Conference on Financing the ECO Transport Projects and Corridors

17. The 13th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Transport, held on 2 June 2025 in Tehran requested the ECO Secretariat and the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECO-TDB) to jointly organize a conference on financing for ECO transport projects in collaboration with multilateral development banks (MDBs), international financial institutions (IFIs), and development partners. The 36th RPC on May 17-20, 2026 supported this conference and requested the CPR to extend support to the ECO Secretariat in its efforts to effectively organize this important conference. The RPC also welcomed the idea to organize the Conference on the sidelines of the 14th ECO Ministerial Meeting in Kazakhstan.

18. On July 1, 2026, the ECO Secretariat and the ECO-TDB started their consultations on effective and optimal preparatory process for this important conference. Two sides agreed to establish an inter-agency steering committee and necessary working groups to oversee and coordinate preparations and address key technical and organizational aspects of the Event.

19. Under this agenda item, the ECO Secretariat will brief the CPR on state of affairs of the process leading to the International Conference and will seek its guidance. The Council, as requested by RPC, may extend necessary support to the Secretariat and to the preparatory work leading to the Conference.

Agenda Item No. 8

Administrative and Budgetary Matters

20. The Secretariat will brief the Council on administrative and budgetary matters requiring its consideration, including:

- Proposed amendments to the ECO Financial Regulations concerning the composition and quorum of the Audit Board and Article 18 thereof;
- Status of Member States' assessed contributions;
- Category-III staff's related matter.

21. The Council may consider the above matters and take appropriate decisions.

Agenda Item No. 9

Any other business

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

Agenda Item No. 10

Date of the next CPR Meeting

23. The Council may decide the date of its next (309th) Meeting in consultation with the Member States and the ECO Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 2
Adoption of Draft Report of the 307th CPR Meeting

No: CFU /2026/543

Priority: Urgent

Date: 23/6/2026

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose the **Draft Report of the 307th Meeting** of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held on June 22, 2026.

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



All ECO Member States - Tehran



307th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)

Draft Report

*June 22, 2026
Hybrid Mode*

Draft Report

Held in hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on June 22, 2026, the 307th Meeting of the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) was attended by distinguished Permanent Representatives/ Representatives of the ECO Member States, including from **Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan** and **Uzbekistan**. The ECO Secretary General and relevant staff of the Secretariat also attended the meeting. List of Participants attached as **Annexure-I**.

2. **Ms. Ismat Hassan Sial**, Chairperson and Acting Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, welcomed the distinguished delegates of the ECO Member States and the representatives of the ECO Secretariat, and formally declared the meeting open.

Agenda Item No. 1

Adoption of the Agenda

3. The **Council** adopted its following agenda for discussion and deliberations:

- Adoption of Draft Agenda of the 307th CPR Meeting;
- Adoption of Draft Report of the 306th CPR Meeting;
- Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation - 2035;
- Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th COM Meeting;
- Follow-up to the 1st Working Group Meeting on Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC);
- Administrative and Budgetary Matters;
- Any Other Business;
- Date of the Next CPR Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2

Adoption of Draft Report of the 306th CPR Meeting

4. The **Council** adopted the Draft Report of the 306th CPR Meeting held on May 12, 2026, and circulated vide Secretariat's Note Verbale No. CFU/2026/398 dated May 15, 2026.

Agenda Item No. 3

Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035

5. The **Chairperson** recalled that the 306th Meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) had agreed to convene the First Meeting of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) on June 8, 2026 to review and finalize the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035. Recalling further the mandate entrusted to the PrepCom to facilitate the finalization of the draft document through consultations among the Member States, the Chairperson invited the Chair of the PrepCom/Secretariat to brief the Council on the outcome of the First PrepCom Meeting.

6. **Mr. Kashif Ali**, the **PrepCom's Chair** and the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, informed the Council that two PrepCom meetings were held on June 8 and June 18, 2026. He noted that the Secretariat circulated clean version of the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035, incorporating comments received from Member States, including Türkiye and Uzbekistan, while additional inputs received from Pakistan were also reflected in the final text. To expedite the process, a deadline of July 9, 2026 was set for submission of any remaining comments.

7. The Deputy Secretary General (TC & HRSD), **Ambassador Silapberdi Nurberdiyev** supplemented the briefing by highlighting the substantive outcomes of the PrepCom process. He noted that the Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the Draft Strategic Goals and considered all proposals submitted by Member States. Additional inputs from Türkiye and Uzbekistan were reviewed and agreed for incorporation into the draft. Regarding the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran for a separate chapter on science, education and culture, the Committee agreed, based on a proposal by Türkiye and with the concurrence of Iran, to integrate the relevant elements into the relevant thematic sectors of the document. He further informed the Council that a harmonized clean version had been circulated by the Secretariat for any final comments from Member States before the document is finalized and submitted to the CPR for onward recommendation to the Council of Ministers.

8. The ECO Secretary General, **Ambassador Asad M. Khan**, also emphasized the importance of finalizing the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035 within the agreed timeframe, urging Member States to focus on concluding their review of the draft document and submitting any remaining comments by the established deadline so that the document could be finalized and submitted to the decision-making bodies in a timely manner.

9. The **Council** took note of the progress made by the PrepCom in advancing the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035 and encouraged Member States to submit any remaining comments within the agreed timeframe to facilitate the timely finalization of the document. The Council also agreed to convene the 3rd PrepCom Meeting on July 15, 2026.

Agenda Item No. 4

Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th COM Meetings

10. The **Chairperson** noted that the 17th ECO Summit, held in Khankendi, Republic of Azerbaijan, on July 3-4, 2025, welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 18th ECO Summit. She further noted that, pursuant to the two-year ECO Chairmanship Formula approved by the 29th Meeting of the Council of Ministers on November 28, 2025, the 18th ECO Summit will be held under the Chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers will be convened under the Chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. She then invited the Chair of the PrepCom/Secretariat to brief the Council on the status of preparations for these two meetings.

11. The **Deputy Secretary General (TC & HRSD)** informed the Council that consultations on the timing and organizational arrangements for the 18th ECO Summit were ongoing. He also noted that preparations for the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers, scheduled to be held in Islamabad on November 15–16, 2026, were underway and that the zero draft Ministerial Communiqué had already been transmitted to the host country for consideration. He added that the PrepCom would continue its work to facilitate the preparations for the two meetings.

12. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, **Mr. Behzad Azarsa**, informed the Council that preparations for hosting the 18th ECO Summit were underway. He noted that consultations were continuing with the relevant national authorities and with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in line with the new two-year ECO Chairmanship Formula, to identify suitable dates for the Summit, consistent with the schedule of the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers. He further indicated that the first week of December 2026 was under consideration for the Summit, while emphasizing that the dates had not yet been finalized and would be communicated to Member States in due course.

13. The **Secretary General** reiterated the importance of an early announcement of the date of the 18th ECO Summit, noting that advance notice would facilitate participation at the highest level and enable adequate organizational and substantive preparations. Recalling the discussions surrounding the new two-year ECO Chairmanship Formula, he emphasized the importance of holding the Summit in 2026, which would allow the subsequent Summit to be convened under Pakistan's Chairmanship in 2027 in accordance with the agreed arrangement. He further noted that the Preparatory Committee was currently tasked with advancing several interrelated processes, including the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035, the recommendations of the High-Level Committee, the outcome documents of the forthcoming 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers and the 18th ECO Summit. In this regard, he underlined that the timely determination of dates would facilitate the work of the Preparatory Committee and the effective preparation of the relevant outcome documents.

14. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** informed the Council that preparations for the event had commenced several months earlier, although recent developments had affected the planning process. He emphasized that the host side attached particular importance to the Summit itself as a high-level opportunity for regional dialogue and cooperation and, in this context, expressed the view that the Summit should not be overburdened with extensive documentation. He observed that the Council of Ministers was the appropriate forum for the consideration and adoption of such documents, while the Summit should primarily provide an opportunity for leaders to deliberate on issues of strategic importance to the region. He invited Member States to informally consult their capitals regarding the availability of their respective leaders during the proposed timeframe under consideration and requested the Secretariat to coordinate closely with the host country to avoid scheduling conflicts with other major regional and international events.

15. The **Secretary General** supported the request of the host country for informal indications regarding the availability of leaders and suggested that Member States may

also wish to consult their respective embassies in ECO capitals to facilitate this process. He further informed the Council that the Secretariat would review the calendars of relevant regional and international organizations and encouraged Member States to share information on any high-level meetings of organizations with overlapping membership that could affect scheduling of the 18th ECO Summit.

16. The **Council** took note of the information provided regarding the preparations for the 18th ECO Summit and the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers. It encouraged the continuation of consultations and coordination among the host countries, Member States and the Secretariat and looked forward to the early announcement of the date of the 18th ECO Summit.

Agenda Item No. 5

Follow-up to the First Meeting of the Working Group on Recommendations of High Level Committee (HLC)

17. The Chairperson drew the Council's attention to the First Meeting of the Working Group on the Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC), convened on June 8, 2026. Recalling the Working Group's mandate to develop concrete proposals on the recommendations of the First HLC Meeting, she invited the Chair of the Working Group to brief the Council on the outcome of its deliberations.

18. The **Chair of the Working Group/Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan** noted that, at their two meetings held so far, they had undertaken preliminary discussions on a range of reform-related issues, including recruitment and merit-based selection processes, staff capacity-building, budgetary and financial matters and the roles and responsibilities of programme officers. He further informed the Council that, in order to facilitate structured consideration of the HLC recommendations, the Working Group had tasked the Secretariat with preparing an initial set of concrete proposals for circulation among Member States. The Working Group would continue its deliberations on the basis of these proposals with a view to developing consensus-based recommendations for submission to the Council.

19. The Deputy Secretary General (Administration), **Mr. Cagatay Emrah Ongut**, further informed the Council that the Working Group had completed an initial review of all recommendations of the First High-Level Committee (HLC) and had identified key approaches for translating them into concrete and actionable proposals aimed at strengthening the Organization's financial sustainability, institutional effectiveness and operational efficiency. He noted that the Secretariat would prepare and circulate a consolidated set of draft proposals reflecting the views expressed by Member States. He also encouraged Member States to submit any additional comments and proposals to support the ongoing process.

20. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** underscored the importance of the High-Level Committee (HLC) as a forum for strategic discussions and brainstorming on issues relating to the future direction and development of the Organization. In this regard, he expressed support for convening HLC meetings on a regular basis, preferably once a year, and encouraged the holding of a 2nd HLC meeting in 2026 with an emphasis on substantive discussions and exchange of views.

21. The **Secretary General** emphasized the importance of maintaining the momentum generated by the First High-Level Committee (HLC) Meeting, which had brought together all ECO Deputy Foreign Ministers. He noted, however, that the consideration of the HLC report had taken longer than anticipated and that the Organization was currently engaged in several major processes, including the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035, the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers and the 18th ECO Summit. In this context, he suggested that the next HLC meeting may be more appropriately convened in early 2027. He further proposed that the Organization may, at an appropriate stage, benefit from the experience and insights of former ECO Secretaries General and other eminent personalities in considering its future direction.

22. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, **Mr. Alireza Toutounchian** emphasized that the High-Level Committee (HLC) should focus on providing strategic policy guidance for the Organization and its institutions, with a view to enhancing their effectiveness and efficiency. In this regard, he stressed the importance of avoiding duplication with the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035 and other vision-oriented processes, and underscored the need for the HLC to concentrate on broader institutional and organizational reform issues.

23. The **Chairperson** underscored the importance of active engagement by Member States in the High-Level Committee (HLC) process to ensure that its deliberations and outcomes effectively respond to the needs and priorities of the Organization.

24. The **Council** took note of the progress made by the Working Group and encouraged the continuation of its work, including the preparation and circulation of draft proposals by the Secretariat, with a view to developing consensus-based recommendations on the implementation of the HLC recommendations. The Council also agreed to organize the 3rd Working Group Meeting on HLC recommendations on July 15, 2026.

Agenda Item No. 6

Administrative and Budgetary Matters

25. The Chairperson invited the Secretariat to brief the Council on any administrative and budgetary matters requiring its consideration.

➤ *Audit Board*

26. The **Deputy Secretary General (Administration)** recalled the Council's previous discussions regarding the composition of the Audit Board and informed the Council that, in response to the interest expressed by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Secretariat proposed amending the relevant provisions of the ECO Financial Regulations to increase the membership of the Audit Board from three to four Member States. He further proposed establishing a quorum of three members for meetings of the Audit Board to ensure operational continuity and efficiency. Subject to the proposed amendment, the Audit Board would comprise the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Türkiye and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

27. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** noted that audits of the ECO Secretariat and the ECO Cultural Institute were traditionally conducted back-to-back and recalled that the Republic of Kazakhstan was not a member of the ECO Cultural Institute. He therefore drew attention to the need to distinguish between the audit arrangements of the two entities when considering the proposed composition of the Audit Board.

28. The **Secretary General** emphasized the importance of determining the composition of the Audit Board in a timely manner to facilitate the scheduling of future audit activities. He noted that the current composition of the Board had remained unchanged for many years despite the requirement for periodic review under the relevant regulations and invited the Council to consider the proposed amendments for onward submission to the Council of Ministers. Referring to the distinction between the audit arrangements of the ECO Secretariat and the ECO Cultural Institute, he observed that the Republic of Kazakhstan could either join the ECO Cultural Institute and thereby participate in both audit processes, or alternatively participate only in the audit of the ECO Secretariat, while separate arrangements would continue to apply to the audit of the ECO Cultural Institute.

29. The **Chairperson** observed that a distinction should be maintained between the audit arrangements of the ECO Secretariat and those of the ECO Cultural Institute. She further noted that, under the proposed arrangement, the Republic of Kazakhstan would participate in the Audit Board of the ECO Secretariat, while separate arrangements would continue to apply to the audit of the ECO Cultural Institute.

30. The **Legal Adviser** noted that Article 18 of the ECO Financial Regulations provides for annual audits, while the established practice has been to conduct audits every two years. He suggested that, in considering the proposed amendments to Article 18, Member States may also wish to examine whether the provision relating to the frequency of audits should be aligned with current practice.

31. The **Secretary General** concurred with the observations of the Legal Adviser and noted that, in addition to determining the composition of the Audit Board, Member States may also wish to consider the periodicity of the audit process when consulting their capitals on the proposed amendments to Article 18 of the Financial Regulations.

32. The **Council** took note of the proposal regarding the composition and quorum of the Audit Board, as well as the related observations concerning the audit arrangements of the ECO Cultural Institute and the periodicity of audits under Article 18 of the Financial Regulations. The Council agreed to refer the matter to Member States for consultation with their respective capitals and to revert to the issue at its next meeting.

➤ *Membership contributions*

33. The **Deputy Secretary General (Administration)** briefed the Council on the status of Member States' contributions for 2026, noting that contributions had thus far been received from only two Member States. The Secretariat emphasized the importance of the timely payment of outstanding assessed contributions to ensure the

financial sustainability and effective functioning of the Organization, maintain operational continuity and support the implementation of approved programmes and activities for 2026.

➤ *Category-III Staff*

34. The DSG (Administration) recalled the Council's decision at its 304th Meeting to retain the current security arrangements on an interim basis pending a final decision on the matter. He further recalled the Council's request for the Republic of Kazakhstan to obtain the necessary concurrence from the relevant authorities in Astana and invited the Kazakh delegation to update the Council on the status of this process.

35. The Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan, **Mr. Kazbek Bokebayev**, informed the Council that the proposals concerning the introduction of A4-level posts and the incorporation of security personnel into the staffing structure of the Organization remained under consideration by the relevant authorities in Astana. He stated that the outcome of these consultations would be communicated to the Council in due course.

36. The **Council** took note of the information provided by the Republic of Kazakhstan and, given the necessity of finalizing this important issue, urged the Kazakh delegation to ascertain the required concurrence from the relevant authorities in Astana for revisiting the matter at its next session.

Agenda Item No. 7

Any other business

37. The Chairperson invited delegations to raise any matters they wished to discuss under this agenda item.

38. The **Secretary General** informed the Council that the Secretariat had resumed its regular working schedule and in-person operations and was expected to return to full strength by June 27, 2026. Reflecting on the recent period of uncertainty and operational disruptions, he expressed appreciation to the Secretariat's staff, particularly the Iranian personnel who ensured continuity of operations under difficult circumstances. He commended the resilience demonstrated by the host country, and noted that the solidarity shown by the ECO Member States and the collective emphasis on peace and stability presented an opportunity to further strengthen regional cooperation. He underscored the need for the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for emergency situations, including clear arrangements concerning the relocation and return of international staff. In this regard, he emphasized the unique operational nature of the ECO Secretariat as an intergovernmental organization and informed the Council that the Secretariat would share relevant elements with Member States for their feedback before developing a formal framework.

39. The **Secretary General** further highlighted that, despite the logistical and operational challenges faced during the period, the Secretariat had successfully supported the organization of ministerial meetings in Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan. He particularly referred to the Sixth ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment, held in

Samarkand after a gap of twelve years, which resulted in the adoption of the Framework Agreement on Environment Cooperation, the Samarkand Declaration and the Roadmap for the High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environment, with the participation of seven ministers. He expressed appreciation to the Government of Uzbekistan for its leadership and hospitality in ensuring the success of the meeting.

40. The **Chairperson** welcomed the resumption of the Secretariat's normal operations and expressed appreciation for the efforts undertaken to ensure continuity of the Organization's work during the recent period of uncertainty. She noted the importance of developing appropriate contingency arrangements, while expressing the hope that such measures would not be required in the future.

41. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** referred to the recent aggression and security challenges faced by his country, noting their human and material impact. He reaffirmed Iran's commitment, as the host country, to ensuring the smooth functioning of the ECO Secretariat and expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary General, the Secretariat staff and the Iranian personnel who had maintained the Organization's operations during the recent period of uncertainty. He further noted that, despite the challenging circumstances, the ECO Secretariat had remained active and continued to advance its programme of work, including through the organization of ministerial and other meetings. He also expressed appreciation to the countries that had contributed to diplomatic efforts aimed at promoting peace, stability and de-escalation in the region.

42. The **Chairperson** underscored the importance of effective leadership and the continued relevance of the ECO in advancing regional cooperation. Speaking in her national capacity, she noted Pakistan's commitment to supporting regional peace and stability through dialogue and diplomacy, and expressed the hope that ongoing efforts would contribute to a positive outcome. She also expressed appreciation for the continued presence and dedication of the Iranian personnel serving at the ECO Secretariat.

43. The Deputy Secretary General (TI & AI), **Mr. Behzad Saberi Ansari**, briefed the Council on recent developments relating to the Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC) on ECOTA. He informed the Council that, following the adoption of the TNC Terms of Reference, the Secretariat had convened an informal virtual consultative meeting with Member States on 17 June 2026 to exchange views on the ongoing ECOTA revision process. He noted that the consultations had been constructive and had highlighted Member States' interest in advancing negotiations in an inclusive manner, while taking into account their respective trade commitments and constraints. He further informed the Council that the Secretariat would continue receiving and circulating proposals from Member States and would prepare draft texts for consideration as part of the agreed roadmap. Pending the convening of the next formal TNC meeting, the Secretariat intended to continue facilitating informal consultations to support progress in the negotiations.

44. The **Secretary General** underscored the importance of the ECOTA revision process and welcomed the renewed momentum generated by the Fifth Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade, held in Istanbul after a prolonged interval.

He emphasized the value of informal consultations in building consensus and facilitating progress towards formal negotiations and encouraged all Member States, including those not yet party to ECOTA, to remain actively engaged in the process. Recalling that the Islamic Republic of Iran had announced its readiness to host the next Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade, he expressed the hope that the ongoing process would contribute to advancing regional trade cooperation and strengthening ECOTA as a vehicle for promoting intra-regional trade and economic integration.

45. The Representative of the Islamic Republic of **Iran** expressed appreciation for the efforts of the ECO Secretariat to advance the ECOTA revision process through the Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC). He reaffirmed Iran's full support for the initiative and its commitment to participate actively and constructively in the ongoing process. He also encouraged Member States that are not yet parties to ECOTA to engage in and contribute to the negotiations.

46. The **Chairperson** welcomed the constructive engagement of Member States in the recent informal consultations and expressed the hope that the positive momentum generated would facilitate progress towards the next formal meeting of the Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC). She underscored the importance of the ECOTA revision process for advancing the objectives of the Organization and encouraged Member States to actively engage in the forthcoming consideration of the draft texts to be prepared by the Secretariat.

Agenda Item No. 8

Date of the next CPR Meeting

47. The Council decided to hold its next (308th) Meeting on July 21, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the ECO Secretariat, in hybrid format.

Annexure-I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

The Republic of Azerbaijan:

- Mr. Asgar Asgarov, Counsellor

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

- H.E. Mr. Alireza Toutounchian, **Permanent Representative**
- Mr. Behzad Azarsa, Head of Department, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation
- Mr. Musa Khosravi Moghadam, ECO Expert, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation
- Mr. Soheil Kheiri, Senior Expert, Multilateral & International Economic Cooperation

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- H.E. Mr. Ontalap Onalbayev, **Permanent Representative**
- Mr. Kazbek Bokebayev, Counselor

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic:

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The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- Ms. Ismat Hassan Sial, **Acting Permanent Representative/Deputy Head of Mission**
- Mr. Kashif Ali, Third Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

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

The Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye:

- Mr. Murat Sogangoz, Counselor
- Mr. Ahmet Bicer, Third Secretary

The Embassy of Turkmenistan:

- H.E. Mr. Ylyas Gayypov, **Permanent Representative**
- Mr. Merdan Bayjanov, Attaché

The Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- Mr. Elbek Yuldashev, Second Secretary

The ECO Secretariat:

- H.E. Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, **Secretary General**
- Amb. Yerzhan Mukash, Deputy Secretary General
- Amb. Silapberdi Nurberdiyev, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Behzad Saberi Ansari, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Cagatay Emrah Ongut, Deputy Secretary General
- Mr. Hojjat Moghavem, Legal Adviser
- Mr. Osman Selçuk Gündoğdu, Chef de Cabinet
- Ms. Ghaibullozoda Lola Ibrohim, Head of Section for CFU
- Mr. Muhammad Ahmed Raza, Senior Desk Officer
- Mr. Muhammad Irfan, Desk Officer
- Ms. Marryam Moin, Desk Officer

Agenda Item No. 3
Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035

No: ECO /2026/626

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 15/7/2026

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose Report of the 3rd PrepCom Meeting, held on July 15, 2026, together with the revised version of the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035 updated by the PrepCom in track-change format.

The Secretariat has the further honour to state that given the ongoing process of drafting the concrete proposals on HLC recommendations, the HLC Working Group agreed to postpone its 3rd round of discussion, scheduled for July 15, 2026 after the PrepCom Meeting. The meeting's fresh date will be circulated in due course.

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

All ECO Member States - Tehran



Report of the Third PrepCom Meeting

July 15, 2026 – Hybrid Mode

The Third Meeting of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) was held in hybrid mode on July 15, 2026 under the chairmanship of Pakistan and coordinated by ECO Legal Advisor. The meeting was attended by representatives of **Iran, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Türkiye and Uzbekistan**, as well as relevant staff of the ECO Secretariat.

The Committee continued its consideration of the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035, reviewing the final proposals submitted by Pakistan and Türkiye, together with comments made by Member States during the meeting. The Committee reached broad agreement on the outstanding proposals, while a limited number of provisions remained subject to further consultations among the concerned Member States. It was agreed that, upon finalization of the Draft Strategic Goals by the Committee, the Secretariat would undertake the necessary technical adjustments and language harmonization throughout the document.

During the meeting, the representative of Kazakhstan informed the Committee that some fresh comments were transmitted to the Secretariat after the agreed deadline. The Secretariat informed that these comments would be duly taken into account, as appropriate, in the preparation of the revised version of the Draft Strategic Goals.

The Committee noted that the deadline of July 9, 2026 for the submission of final comments, as agreed at its Second Meeting, had already elapsed. In view of the inordinate delay in finalizing the document, the Committee requested Member States to refrain from submitting any further new proposals and to limit any subsequent comments to the existing text of the draft, with a view to expediting its finalization.

The Committee agreed to hold its next (4th) Session on August 10, 2026 with a view to continuing deliberations on the assigned task.

(AS ON 15.07.2026)

DRAFT
STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE
ECONOMIC COOPERATION – 2035

ECO VISION 2025

BRIEF BACKGROUND

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

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

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

STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION – 2035

OVERVIEW

The Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035 set out a shared vision for advancing regional cooperation, sustainable development and economic integration across the ECO region over the coming decade. Building upon the achievements, lessons learned and remaining challenges of ECO Vision 2025, the document provides a forward-looking framework to guide collective action in addressing evolving regional and global realities while unlocking the considerable economic, human and natural potential of the ECO region.

The ECO region occupies a strategically important position connecting Asia, Europe and the Middle East and possesses significant opportunities for growth driven by its abundant natural resources, youthful population, rich cultural heritage and expanding markets. At the same time, Member States face a range of interconnected challenges, including climate change, environmental degradation, food and energy security concerns, infrastructure and connectivity gaps, technological disparities, public health challenges and an increasingly complex global economic environment. The Strategic Goals 2035 seek to transform these challenges into opportunities through enhanced cooperation, stronger regional integration and a shared commitment to sustainable and inclusive development.

The Strategic Goals are founded on the principles of sustainability, regional solidarity, mutual benefit and shared prosperity. They promote a balanced approach that seeks to strengthen economic growth, social development, environmental stewardship and institutional effectiveness, while recognizing that peace, stability and constructive engagement among Member States remain essential prerequisites for long-term progress.

The document outlines a comprehensive framework for cooperation across the Organization's principal sectors. It seeks to enhance trade and investment through greater economic integration, improved trade facilitation, increased private sector participation and the progressive development of regional value chains. It promotes stronger regional connectivity through the development of integrated transport corridors, improved transit systems and accelerated digital transformation. It further seeks to strengthen energy security, support sustainable energy transition, promote responsible management of natural resources and advance regional cooperation on environmental protection and climate resilience.

Recognizing the importance of food security and industrial modernization, the Strategic Goals emphasize enhanced cooperation in agriculture, industry, research and innovation. They also seek to position the ECO region as a leading sustainable tourism destination by leveraging its unique cultural, historical and natural assets while improving infrastructure, connectivity and tourism services. Particular emphasis is placed on strengthening human resources and sustainable development through enhanced cooperation in health, education, disaster risk reduction, social development and the empowerment of youth and women.

The Strategic Goals also acknowledge the increasing importance of knowledge, innovation and effective governance in shaping the future of the region. Accordingly, greater attention is devoted to economic research and statistics, digital transformation, science and innovation, judicial and parliamentary cooperation, and strengthened international partnerships to support evidence-based policymaking, institutional development and regional visibility.

Across all sectors, the document promotes innovation, technological advancement and the responsible application of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and digital solutions, as important drivers of competitiveness, productivity and sustainable development. It further emphasizes the need to strengthen institutional capacities, mobilize resources, encourage public-private partnerships and deepen cooperation among governments, regional institutions, academia, the private sector and development partners.

By 2035, the Member States of ECO aspire to achieve a more integrated, connected, resilient and prosperous region characterized by increased intra-regional trade and investment, enhanced connectivity, stronger energy and food security, improved human development outcomes, greater environmental sustainability, accelerated digital transformation and deeper people-to-people ties. Through collective commitment and effective implementation, the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation - 2035 seek to position ECO as a dynamic and results-oriented regional organization capable of contributing meaningfully to the prosperity, stability and sustainable development of its Member States and the wider region.

CORE PILLARS

Strengthening Regional Integration

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

Advancing Sustainability

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

Fostering Innovation and Inclusive Growth

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

SECTORAL APPROACH

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

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



TRADE & INVESTMENT

Introduction

Trade is the main driver of economic growth. While the ECO region has made notable strides, challenges such as the absence of a fully operational preferential trading system, high trade costs due to high intra-regional tariffs and non-tariff barriers, banking and payment issues, and inadequate financing continue to hinder progress. Global shifts toward protectionism and re-defined trade norms further impact the region's trade performance. Despite contributing over USD 1 trillion to global trade for three consecutive years, intra-regional trade remains low at just 8.8%, signaling untapped potential. ECO's most important Key Performance Indicator (KPI) is "intra-regional trade", which unfortunately remains one of the Organization's concern as only 8% share of intra-regional trade in ECO's world trade, cannot be justified. One major reason for the organization's inability to meet the full targets is lack of effective means, ownership and monitoring for implementation of the agreements by the Member States. ~~To realize this potential, the region must accelerate efforts for implement preferential trade under ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA), implement effective trade facilitation framework, harmonize standards, ensuring efficient trade payment systems, and promoting FDI in priority sectors.~~ To realize this potential, it is important to further strengthen and expand mutual trade and economic cooperation, advance trade facilitation initiatives, enhance cooperation in the field of standardization, improve trade payment systems, and promote foreign direct investment in priority sectors. [Kazakhstan Proposal through NV dated July 12]

In order to enhance youth's participation in the ECO initiatives, there is a need for an accentuated representation of youth in the ECO National Chambers of Commerce and ECO CCI to promote meaningful and structured participation of youth in policy formulation. Greater facilitation for the youth entrepreneurs/SMEs with easier access to trade financing through national institutions/ECO TDB programmers, and technical assistance opportunities to engage in cross-border trade initiatives in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), will accelerate infrastructure development, entrepreneurial digital activity and inclusive growth.

At the same time, due consideration should be given to the membership of ECO Member States in other international economic integration arrangements and the international obligations arising there from with regard to the conduct of their foreign trade policies, including the conclusion of free trade agreements. Accordingly, the participation of individual ECO Member States in the implementation of institutional aspects of the preferential trading system within the ECO shall be undertaken in accordance with their respective international obligations. [Kazakhstan Proposal through NV dated July 12]

Although, noteworthy progress has been made under ECO Vision 2025, with progress made to:

- i. Initiate negotiations to amend and update ECOTA with view to increase its membership and implement it,
- ii. Adoption of the Trade Facilitation Strategy,
- iii. Initiation of technical consultations on Trade Facilitation Agreement,
- iv. Operationalization of 'Agreement on Promotion and Protection on Investment' and
- v. Adoption of the 'MoU on Joint Trade Promotion Activities in the ECO

These important milestones, which have been achieved under the implementation matrix of ECO Vision-2025, have significant bearing on laying the foundation for a more integrated, resilient and dynamic trade and investment landscape by 2035.

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

- ☉ ~~To ensure sustainable increase in intra-regional trade with an efficient and operational preferential trading system under ECOTA and its progressive liberalization, to a regional trade and increase ECO share in the global trade, attract greater investment into the region to tap trade investment potential of the region, diversify regions' exports. To ensure sustainable growth in intra-regional trade through trade among Member States, with the aim of promoting regional trade, increasing ECO's share in global trade, attracting greater investment to the region to unlock its trade and investment potential, and diversifying the exports of Member States. (Kazakhstan Proposal through NV dated July 12)~~
⊖
- ☉ To enhance investment cooperation among member states and achieve national, regional as well as sustainable development goals by attracting Investment in priority sectors under APPI and IPAs collaboration.

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Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ☉ Enhanced intra-regional trade through:
 - Paying special attention to simplifying trade in goods and services by gradually eliminating technical and non-tariff barriers to trade. Only five Member States have signed the ECOTA, so far. We need to rope-in all Member States, and endeavour towards expanding membership of ECOTA and ensure its earliest implementation.
 - Strengthen regional economic cooperation within the ECO framework, in accordance with the goals of ECO Vision-2025. By 2035, discussions should be initiated to identify practical arrangements that will enhance mutual trade and economic ties. Member States and the Secretariat need to prepare the required groundwork at national and regional levels.
 - Strengthen the role of ECO Trade Development Bank by expanding the Bank's memberships and increasing its capital to support the Bank's operation including bolster project funding in trade sector. Broaden its correspondent banking relationships through open accounts with other banks and explore financing options in multiple currencies. Furthermore, deepen collaborative relationships with relevant international and regional organizations to amplify financing the priority projects in priority areas with active role of ECO TDB.
 - Improve Trade Facilitation in the region by implementing ECO Trade Facilitation Strategy (TFS) with a view to imbibe greater transparency, predictability and uniformity in cross border trade by:
 - a. Removing technical barriers to trade,
 - b. Removing non-tariff barriers through automation of procedures, harmonization of policies etc.
 - c. Strengthening cooperation in practical digital solutions, artificial intelligence and use of digital technologies, and e-commerce.
 - ~~Finalize ongoing negotiations on ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Continuation of discussions on the draft ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement (Kazakhstan Proposal through NV dated July 12)~~
➤
- Adopt a Regional Investment Facilitation Strategy with an aim to:
 - a. Harmonize investment regulations, simplify administrative procedures, Improve the region's business environment by reducing costs, and attracting sustainable investment with appropriate incentives

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- b. Promote intra-regional trade with enhanced participation across ECO Member States to develop regional supply chains, contributing to regional value chains and connect with global value chains.
- Development of regional energy supply chains, including refining and petrochemical industries, shall be promoted to enhance value-added opportunities. Member States with downstream processing capacity shall be supported in strengthening linkages with upstream hydrocarbon producers within the ECO region, fostering mutual industrial development and economic diversification.
- Implement “ECO Invest” Program drafted by the Republic of Uzbekistan to strengthen cooperation among ECO Member States by improving the investment climate, increasing inflow of mutual foreign direct investment (FDI) and enhancing investment efficiency.
- Adopt ‘Regional Quality Policy’ drafted by ECO-UNIDO Joint Trade Capacity Building Project, and utilize ECO-RISCAM to promote harmonized standards, conformity assessment procedures and best practices in the region for risk free, predictable and cost effective intra-regional trade.
- Implement Joint Trade Promotion activities in the ECO by organizing meaningful trade promotion events in the region to enhance business engagement through closer ties among the national trade bodies and Export Promotion Agencies to foster cross-border partnerships and joint export promotion activities on digital platforms.
- Ensure participation of business communities of the region through ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as critical in following:
 - a. Establishment of a permanent Secretariat of the ECO Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ECO CCI) for coordinating the activities of the business community and elaborating agreed approaches to increase mutual trade.
 - b. Create unified digital platform of the ECO national chambers in the ECO CCI to establish an online database to provide information on trade (*export and import*) opportunities in the ECO region, and national regulations/mutual recognition of the quality certification, markets’ conditions in the region etc, to help traders in the region.
- Given the difficulty in trade related payment systems which hampers movement of goods and services, may focus on trade in national currencies among ECO Member States as a catalyst and accelerator.
- Create an online mentors’ network aimed at supporting young entrepreneurs in the member states of the ECO;
- Develop a unified online platform for small and medium-sized business representatives.

Enhanced National & Intra Regional Investment through:

- Upgrading a Comprehensive ECO Investment Platform to facilitate identification of investment opportunities, connect investors and projects, provide up-to-date information on investment regulations in member countries by providing project database, investor profiles, risk assessment tools and market analysis.
- Focusing on priority sectors such as infrastructure, renewable energy, information and communication technology (ICT), tourism and agriculture.
- Develop human resources and knowledge sharing by joint training programs, scholarships in investment facilitation, management, finance and expert exchanges.

- Strengthening private sector cooperation by encouraging them to identify opportunities, implement project as well as financing them through organizing investment conferences and exhibitions, facilitation of the formation of investment consortiums.
- Cooperation between the IPAs of the member states to promote market investment opportunities, providing integrated services to investors, facilitate the creation of funds that can finance large scale regional projects and attract financial resources from international and regional institutions for these funds.

Expected Outcomes

- i) conclusion of re-negotiations to amend ECOTA text, and implement the ECOTA with full ECO Membership.
- ii) Progressive development of ECOTA's scope to promote broader opportunities for intra-regional trade by 2035.
- iii) Implementation of the adopted ECO Trade Facilitation Strategy to improve trade facilitation in the region.
- ~~iv) Finalize ongoing negotiations for ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Continuation of discussions on the draft ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement (Kazakhstan Proposal through NV dated July 12)~~
- iv) Implement ECO agreements in Customs i.e. ECO Agreement on Smuggling and Customs offences Data Bank, ECO Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in customs Matters, encourage wider use of EDI and digital trade, etc.
- vi) Full operationalization of ECO-RISCAM and adoption of the 'Quality Policy' to streamline conformity assessment and boost trade in industrial and agricultural products.
- vii) Pursue all ECO Member States to sign/ratify the 'Agreement on Protection and Promotion of Investment' and Implement a 'Regional Investment Facilitation Strategy' by 2035.
- viii) Sign and ratify the adopted 'MoU on Joint Trade Promotion Activities in the ECO' and organize meaningful trade promotion events in the region. The ECO country assuming annual ECO chair, may organize one 'ECO Trade Fair'.
- ix) Establishment of a permanent Secretariat of the ECO Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ECO CCI) for coordinating the activities of the business community and elaborating agreed approaches to increase mutual trade.
- x) Operationalize the ECO Re Insurance Company for secure trade in the region.
- xi) Initiate technical discussions on establishing trade in national currencies among ECO Member States.
- xii) Stronger coordination mechanisms involving the ECO Secretariat, Member States, and private sector stakeholders for effective policy implementation and initiative ownership.
- xiii) Enhanced cooperation with tangible results among Member States in the field of investment promotion, attraction and facilitation.
- xiv) Strengthening tax cooperation by following up on holding ECOTAX meetings.
- xv) Establishment of ECO Clearing Union as a matter of urgency.

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Introduction

The transport and ICT sectors are vital enablers of regional integration, economic growth, and sustainable development in the ECO region. They are both self-completed and overwhelming, thus fairly suggested to be divided operationally by decision of ECO Foreign Ministers at their last meeting (Mashhad Communiqué). In the meantime, until the division is completed the Secretariat's Transport and Communications Directorate will keep working in this unified domain. Enhancing physical connectivity through efficient regional transport systems and boosting digital integration via harmonized ICT policies are central goals. Notable progress has been made in operationalizing transport corridors and upgrading infrastructure, though challenges remain in customs inefficiencies, policy harmonization, and limited private sector engagement. Together, transport facilitates trade and mobility, while ICT drives innovation, competitiveness, and digital connectivity across member states. Furthermore, in to execute and realize the decisions and mandates of Member States in transport sector fully as well as establish strong liaison mechanism between the related sections in each Member States to expedite and facilitate the assigned duties, it is necessary to create some changes in the structure and function of transport and communication sector in ECO Secretariat.

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

- Ensure full operationalization and commercialization of the major ECO transport corridors, through infrastructure upgrades and legal frameworks, developing multimodal transport, centralized management of corridors, implementing the roadmap of each corridors and supporting the role of the transport operators and private sector in promotion of transit and trade and extending ECO corridors to out of ECO region corridors and freight sources. It is essential to streamline customs and transportation-associated procedures.
- Harmonize transport regulations and customs procedures across ECO member states, through coordinated implementation of the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA).
- Digitalize transport sector, corridors and transit facilities, including border crossing procedures.
- Accelerate the establishment of the ECO Digital Transport and Customs Office in Tashkent, with its mandate, operational scope, and data governance arrangements to be further clarified in line with applicable laws of Member States. (Tajikistan proposes to keep in track change)
- Achieve deep/wide broadband internet penetration across all ECO member states by 2030, with special focus on rural and underserved areas.
- Develop and launch a regional digital platform for trade, e-governance, and knowledge-sharing, enabling secure data exchange and fostering digital entrepreneurship across ECO countries without prejudice to applicable laws of Member States.

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- ◉ Strengthen cooperation among national IT parks, promote mutual exchange of experience and best practices, and support IT companies' access to the markets of ECO member states.
- ◉ To encourage experience and mutual knowledge sharing among Technology Park companies operating in the ICT sector.
- ◉ Application of emerging technologies such as Internet of things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data, Blockchain, Machine learning, Quantum Computing, 5G, Digital Twin.
- ◉ Establish an AI Cooperation Platform within the ECO framework to promote joint AI projects, technology exchange and regional coordination among member states in a manner that supports innovation while ensuring risk-based AI governance, cybersecurity, data protection and model security safeguards.
- ◉ Expand the ECO regional cooperation framework in digital skills development and IT education to strengthen human capital, support AI capacity-building, and enhance regional collaboration among member states.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ◉ Ensure the full and active participation of all ECO member states in the comprehensive implementation of the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TIFA), with the aim of harmonizing customs and transit regulations, reducing delays and facilitating seamless cross-border movement.
- ◉ Prioritize investment in regional corridors, including through public-private partnerships (PPPs) and multilateral funding to upgrade and expand transport infrastructure across corridors.
- ◉ Develop ECO Gates - multimodal logistic hubs, Caspian and open seaports, inland dry ports, encourage interoperability in transport systems and equipment, enhance the logistical interconnectivity of ECO Member States and align technical standards across member states to ensure integrated road, rail, sea and air networks for seamless transport.
- ◉ Increase the number of container trains on regional rail corridors and further promote the safe, sustainable and high-quality development of rail transport.
- ◉ Develop international passenger rail transport and tourism between the Member States mainly between the capital cities and cultural and touristic centers of Member States.
- ◉ Promote transit, transport and connectivity in line with the third priority of the Awaza Programme for Landlocked Developing Countries (2024–2034), focusing on developing regional transport corridors, enhancing multimodal networks and harmonizing cross-border transit procedures.
- ◉ Encourage exchanging best practices, technical guidelines and capacity-building activities on cybersecurity, secure data exchange and personal data protection, in line with national legislation and institutional mandates of Member States.
- ◉ Prioritize the corridors connecting the ECO region to China, Persian Gulf and Europe.
- ◉ North-south corridors linking Central Asia with South Asia shall be prioritized as part of regional energy diversification and connectivity. In this context, development of regional ports and logistics hubs may be supported through enhanced investment facilitation and regional cooperation.

- ⦿ Establish cooperation among national IT parks and support them through the creation of international IT Hubs, fostering collaboration, innovation, and integration within the ECO region.
- ⦿ Enhance the involvement of youth, women, and the private sector in the transport and ICT sectors through the region.
- ⦿ Promote the exchange of best practices and successful experiences among ECO Member States in the development and application of artificial intelligence technologies, including public sector, education, healthcare and industry use cases.
- ⦿ Encourage cooperation in the development, adaptation and responsible use of open-source artificial intelligence models, datasets and educational resources, taking into account national priorities and local languages of ECO Member States.
- ⦿ Expand cooperation in artificial intelligence education and digital skills development through joint training programs, workshops, seminars, expert exchanges and capacity-building initiatives among ECO Member States.
- ⦿ Strengthen collaboration among universities, research institutions, technology parks and innovation centers through joint research activities, academic exchanges, internships and knowledge-sharing programs in emerging digital technologies.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Full operationalization and commercialization of major ECO transport corridors through infrastructure upgrades, completing the missing links and harmonized regulations. Developing multimodal transport, centralized management of corridors, implementing the roadmap for each corridors and supporting the role of the transport operators and private sector in promotion of transit and trade extending ECO corridors to out of ECO region corridors and freight sources.
- ii. Streamlined and digitalized border procedures across all member states under the ECO Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA).
- iii. Establishment of multimodal logistics hubs (ECO Gates), integrated transport networks (road, rail, sea, air) and reduced cross-border transit time.
- iv. Integration of Awaza Programme priorities into ECO transport strategy, leading to improved regional corridors, harmonized transit procedures and strengthened connectivity among member states.
- v. Achieve deep/wide broadband internet penetration across ECO member states by 2030, with improved digital access in rural areas.
- vi. Launch of a regional digital platform for trade, e-governance and digital transformation, transport documents, supporting secure data exchange and entrepreneurship.
- vii. Enhanced cooperation and exchange of best practices on cyber security and data protection standards to enhance the digital ecosystem and secure-electronic data exchange contributing to the development of a more secure and efficient regional digital ecosystem.
- viii. Strengthened public-private partnerships and increased investment in smart and prioritized infrastructure, project and ICT-enabled services.
- ix. Enhanced regional cooperation in transport, trade, tourism, agriculture, education and health through improved physical and digital connectivity.
- x. Development of digital skills among the population and youth, and establishment of regional IT Hubs in cooperation with national IT parks.
- xi. Greater collaboration in the application of emerging technologies, including the establishment of ECO bodies/centers, e.g. on Applied Artificial Intelligence.
- xii. Establishment of the single window for issuing flight permits to facilitate the passage of cargo and passenger flights in the regional airspace, especially on China-Europe routes.
- xiii. Establishment regional capacity committee and technical supervision in field of transport and transit including Civil Aviation, Rail, Road and Maritime.
- xiv. Establish regional standards in artificial intelligence to accelerate the creation of the ECO AI Centre.

- xv. Creation of a unified regional AI ecosystem, expansion of cross-border cooperation, implementation of joint AI initiatives, and to the regulation and safe use of artificial intelligence technologies.
- xvi. Development of a skilled regional digital workforce, increased mobility and cooperation among young IT professionals and researchers, wider participation of women in the digital economy, and strengthened regional capacity in AI, innovation, and digital transformation.

ENERGY, MINERALS & ENVIRONMENT

Introduction

Regional cooperation in energy, minerals, and environment is vital for sustainable development in the ECO region. Energy has always been a priority area of cooperation within ECO since its inception. Availing abundant traditional and renewable energy resources, ECO aims to increase energy market integration and enhance the energy security through adequate, sustainable, reliable and affordable energy supplies in the region. Over the past decade, ECO has been mainstreaming sustainable energy transition and low-carbon development model in its overall energy agenda. The regional transition journey has started, however a multiplicity of political, economic, and social challenges persist in this pathway. The mineral sector, a key driver of industrial growth, also holds untapped potential for regional collaboration. Mineral resources cooperation is important given the strategic role of critical minerals in the energy transition. Significant untapped mineral resources across the ECO region, including copper, gold, and rare earth elements, offer substantial development potential. The ECO Roadmap on Mineral Cooperation shall prioritize regional value chains, sustainable mining practices, and investment frameworks to attract domestic and international capital. The ECO countries encounter significant environmental and climate challenges, which have necessitated enhanced collaboration for ecological protection in the ECO region. The environment and impacts of climate change were designated as ECO's cross-sectoral priority. ECO countries must responsibly harness energy and mineral resources while advancing ecological protection and contributing to global climate resilience efforts.

Vision Statement

To foster a thriving, sustainable, and resilient ECO region via responsible management of energy and mineral resources, pursuing just, orderly and sustainable energy transitions in accordance with national circumstances and stronger energy-environment nexus approach to promote economic development, protect the environment for future generations, and collaboratively tackle climate change while enhancing regional cohesion. This requires our countries to coordinate and unify their efforts on the global environmental agenda and to involve key stakeholders, particularly the private sector, youth, and women.

Strategic Objectives

- ④ Enhance regional energy security and sustainability through wider energy access and trade: ECO will facilitate diversification of energy mix, improving energy connectivity, enabling and upgrading policy and regulatory framework, and strengthening the role of ECO region in global energy architecture.
- ④ Regional energy connectivity shall be advanced through mutually beneficial cross-border projects, including TAPI and related initiatives, to enhance energy security, economic integration, and sustainable development. A consensus-based approach supporting the gradual reintegration of all countries into ECO energy frameworks and infrastructure projects, including TAPI and CASA-1000, recognizing its importance for regional stability and cooperation. (Pakistan July 7) (Iran proposes to keep it in track change)
- ④ Create Regional Power System Connectivity and Electricity Market: Multilateral and multidirectional power trading linked to the integration of renewable energy resources will be established gradually at the sub-regional and regional levels through harmonization and mobilization of bilateral and multilateral electricity grids under the single platform.
- ④ Recognizing the challenges of harmonizing grid codes, regulatory frameworks, and tariff structures among Member States, a phased approach shall be pursued, beginning with bilateral and sub-regional electricity trade and progressively advancing toward a more integrated regional electricity market. Existing cross-border transmission interconnections shall be recognized as foundational elements of the regional power architecture.

- Mainstream Sustainable Energy Transition: ECO will support unlocking the ECO region's renewable energy and energy efficiency potential, market expansion and transformation of sustainable energy into local energy value chains, and creating an enabling environment for robust sustainable energy markets and investments, particularly via the ECO Clean Energy Centre.

○ A balanced and just energy transition approach shall be adopted, taking into account the diverse energy endowments and development levels of Member States. Natural gas may be recognized as a transitional fuel in support of energy security, alongside the expansion of renewable and other low-emission energy sources, ensuring that the transition does not compromise energy security, affordability, or economic growth. (Pakistan July 7) (Iran proposes to keep it in track change)

- Promotion of production and deployment of high-tech energy equipment: support for local manufacturing and technology transfer in renewable energy and energy efficiency, alongside the development of innovative solutions and joint research projects to strengthen the region's industrial capacity.
- Forge Sustainable Resource Management: ECO will contribute to the sustainable management of mineral resources in the ECO region underpinned by a set of regional actions and a multi-year ECO Roadmap on Minerals Cooperation, to be adopted and implemented.
- Strengthen Environmental Protection and Resilience to tackle climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss: ECO will develop regional regulations to improve resource efficiency promoting circular economy principles and zero-waste approaches, including the reuse of treated wastewater and manage emissions, waste, and other pollutants from various activities, thereby protecting ecosystems and public health. Furthermore, the robust collective attitude that engages the entire region in environmental action on climate, biodiversity, desertification and other relevant areas will be achieved to strengthen regional cooperation and partnerships on environment and sustainable development.
- Implement the ECO Electricity Networks Operation Convention (ECO-ENOC) to strengthen cross-border operational coordination, emergency preparedness, and system reliability. This includes harmonizing regulatory frameworks for generation, transmission, and demand-response management, advancing grid moderation for renewable integration to mitigate supply disruption and climate-related risks.
- Establish specialized consortiums among Member States to enhance short-term project efficiency, optimize resource utilization, and accelerate implementation timelines by leveraging shared expertise and capacities by 2035.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- Sustainable energy transition, particularly policy, capacity development and knowledge management, as well as market and investment promotion in renewable energy and energy efficiency infrastructure, services, businesses and industry with the strong support of the ECO Clean Energy Centre.
- Establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market, most notably multilateral, multidirectional power trading linked to the integration of renewable energy resources for harnessing the benefits of larger integrated systems.
- Sustainable resource management with the focus on creating stronger regulatory environment, investing in sustainable mining practices and technologies, and bolstering multi-stakeholder approach and international partnerships, as well as capacity-building and public awareness-raising in minerals.

- ⊙ Environmental protection and shift to low-carbon development model, including integration and mainstreaming environmental safeguards into national development plans and projects, promotion of a regional cooperation platform that will advocate for a just transition to a resource-efficient, circular, and regenerative economy, including through application of zero-waste approaches and implementation of climate action on adaptation and greenhouse gas emission mitigation with enhanced inclusion of businesses, women and youth.
- ⊙ Promotion of local manufacturing of high-tech energy equipment, including solar panels, wind turbines, and batteries, through joint ventures, technology transfer, and harmonized standards across the region shall be supported.
- ⊙ Ensuring regional supply chain security for the critical minerals required to manufacture solar panel, wind turbine, battery, and smart meter manufacturing.
- ⊙ Adopting water-saving technologies in energy and mining sectors for environmental protection with regard to the region's sustainability strategy.
- ⊙ Supporting the security of supply for critical minerals by developing sustainable and integrated recycling systems capable of recovering critical minerals—such as lithium, cobalt, and silicon—from end-of-life solar panels and batteries, with the aim of effectively utilizing waste generated when technologies like solar panels, wind turbines, and battery systems reach the end of their commercial lifespan.
- ⊙ Establish a dedicated environmental fund within the Organization to support advanced innovations in air purification.
- ⊙ Formation and promotion of consortiums among ECO member countries to pool technical, financial, and human resources, thereby boosting the efficiency and timely completion of regional agricultural and industrial projects.
- ⊙ Promote the formulation, alignment, and implementation of the cross-border “GREEN PROGRAM” of the ECO Member States for 2026–2030, designed to advance afforestation in desert areas and mitigate the risks of natural disasters.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Expansion of local production and deployment of advanced energy equipment, stimulating regional industrial cooperation, job creation, and innovation uptake.
- ii. Enhanced regional energy security and sustainability through expanded access, diversified energy mix, improved connectivity and strengthened policies aligned with global energy trends.
- iii. Established integrated regional power system and electricity market, enabling multilateral and multidirectional power trading and better integration of renewable energy resources.
- iv. More diverse and resilient energy architecture will be supported through accelerated sustainable energy transition by unlocking regional renewables potential, expanding markets, transforming local value chains and attracting investments via dedicated ECO clean energy initiatives, including ECO Clean Energy Center.
- v. Improved sustainable mineral resource management guided by a multi-year regional cooperation roadmap, fostering responsible mining practices and technology upgrading.
- vi. Strengthened environmental protection and resilience, targeting resource efficiency, emission and pollution control, ecosystem preservation and coordinated climate change, biodiversity and desertification actions.
- vii. Developed robust legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, and tailored action plans aligned with the strategic objectives through multi-stakeholder collaboration, including government, private sector and communities.
- viii. Mobilized sustainable financing and public private partnerships to support clean energy, sustainable mining, and climate action projects.

- ix. Addressed major resource-related challenges, most notably adequate and reliable financing, human and institutional capacity underpinned by knowledge and science, and effective use of available resources.
- x. Mobilized sustainable financing from domestic and international sources, public-private partnerships and regional funds to support clean energy, sustainable mining, and climate action projects.
- xi. Integrated ECO strategies with ~~global sustainability-relevant internationally agreed sustainable development and climate agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement (e.g., SDGs, Paris Agreement, Baku Climate Unity Pact)~~ and established monitoring systems for transparent progress tracking. (Türkiye July 5) ~~Iran proposes to keep it in track change~~
- xii. Engaged businesses, youth, women, and researchers actively in environmental sustainability and sector development, fostering innovation, advocacy, capacity-building and inclusive participation.
- xiii. Strengthened regional and international partnerships to enhance technology transfer, build indigenous green technology ecosystems, and promote circular economy and just transition principles that leave no one behind.
- xiv. Collaborative partnership under the ECO Electricity Networks Operation Convention (ECO-ENOC) to systematize exchange of technical expertise, operational best practices, and crisis management protocols. Establish regional platforms to accelerate innovation, enhance grid resilience, and harmonize regulatory approaches. This synergy will optimize resource utilization, mitigate systematic risks, and enable collective responses to emerging challenges such as renewable integration, cyber threats, and climate-induced disruption.
- xv. Enhanced project efficiency and expedited delivery through the establishment of cross-border consortiums, fostering stronger cooperation and resource-sharing among Member States.
- xvi. Increased efficiency in establishing protective desert forests, expanded green zones in vulnerable border areas, and advanced professional qualifications for regional experts, achieved through the institutionalization of cross-border coordination mechanisms, joint innovative research, and structured multi-stakeholder knowledge exchange across the ECO Member States.

AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY

Introduction

Agriculture and industry (A&I) are vital to the ECO region's economic growth but face challenges from environmental degradation, climate change, demographic shifts and evolving consumption patterns. These issues are intensified by global policy shocks, trade barriers and unequal technology access. Persistent disparities in industrialization and technology, coupled with limited collaboration and inconsistent standards, hinder balanced development. To address this, the ECO region must enhance financial and technical support, deepen regional integration, secure sustainable funding and harmonize standards. **Attracting investment, promoting technology-based improvements, strengthening cooperation in artificial intelligence biotechnology, nanotechnology, digital agricultural and advanced industrial technologies, while encouraging appropriate cybersecurity, data protection and risk management measures to ensure their secure and resilient application, and fostering partnerships and FDI within a supportive environment are crucial for expanding A&I sectors. A leap in increase in targeted investment remains one of the key requirements for sustainable agricultural and industrial growth.** (Updated by A&I Directorate on Türkiye's comment)

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

- Enhance policy development and implementation capacity of Member States in agriculture and industry sectors for driving sustainable and inclusive economic growth and productivity by 2035.
- Foster cooperation through operationalized intra-regional platforms and strategic partnerships with other international and regional organizations, maximizing collective action to drive sectoral development and address shared challenges by 2035.
- Strengthen regional food security and agricultural resilience through enhanced regional food security initiatives, seed supply, animal health, sustainable and efficient water utilization, meteorological cooperation, and biotechnology capacities by 2035.
- Advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development across priority sectors of common interest through promoting quality infrastructure, nanotechnology utilization, industrial property rights, MSMEs and entrepreneurship, and private sector engagement by 2035.
- Establish and develop regional agriculture supply chains among the Member states.
- Enhance Research and Development (R&D) capacity in agriculture: strengthen the research and development infrastructure sector to foster innovation and improve sustainable agriculture technology by 2035. This will involve promoting collaboration among agriculture universities, research institutions and rural industries to develop new and sustainable practice that enhance productivity, food security, and resilience in rural communities.
- Elevate Regional Research: To promote regional research cooperation in priority domains such as Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology, Circular Economy, Green Technologies and Smart Cities through the establishment of joint centers of excellence, coordinated by the ECO Science Foundation.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- Enhanced Regional Food Security through:

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- Effective implementation of ECO-RPFS and operationalization of ECO-RCCFS.
- Strengthening regional seed supply and trade.
- Improving animal trade and veterinary services.
- Promoting efficient water utilization in agriculture, in light of water scarcity in the arid and semi-arid region of the Member States.
- Encouraging the adoption of agri-technologies.
- Fostering regional meteorological cooperation to mitigate agriculture-related risks and shocks.
- Encouraging application of agricultural biotechnology for increased productivity and sustainability.
- Building stronger collaborative relationships with relevant international and regional organizations
- ⊙ Enhanced Regional Industrial Cooperation Capabilities through:
 - Establishing a robust and harmonized quality infrastructure across the region by fully operationalizing the ECO-RISCAM and its associated TMBs
 - Promoting the development and application of advanced, digital and green technologies, including nanotechnology
 - Strengthening industrial property rights
 - Fostering MSMEs, startups, entrepreneurship, digital inclusion, and privatization
 - Developing permanent mechanisms among the chambers of commerce and industry of member states to coordinate business community activities
 - Supporting women and youth access to innovation ecosystems
 - Encouraging the creation of a common certification system for key export sectors such as agriculture, textiles, machinery, and industrial goods
 - Enhancing transparency in business regulation drafting and publication to support startups and MSMEs compliance.
 - Building stronger collaborative relationships with relevant international and regional organizations to leverage synergies and best practices.
 - Mainstreaming climate adaption into agriculture policies to enhance resilience within the ECO region.
 - Enhanced Regional Industrial Cooperation Capabilities through:
 - Strengthening Collaboration between institutions
 - Promoting innovation in sustainable agriculture practices
 - Enhance access to research outputs
 - Encourage sustainable practice through funding and incentives.
 - Establish 5 joint regional research centers by 2030.
 - Form a regional university network with a minimum of 20 member universities by 2032.
 - Expand scholarship and research fellowship programs in emerging technologies.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened policy development and implementation capacities across Member States to drive sustainable and inclusive growth in agriculture and industry by 2035.
- ii. Enhanced regional cooperation through operational platforms and strategic partnerships, maximizing collective action on shared sectoral challenges for coordinating the activities of the business community and elaborating agreed approaches to increase mutual trade.
- iii. Improved regional food security, enhanced agricultural productivity and strengthened agricultural resilience to climate-related challenges through better seed supply, animal health, sustainable water utilization, meteorological cooperation and biotechnology use, along with the application of agri-technologies.
- iv. Advanced, inclusive and sustainable industrial development focusing on quality infrastructure, digital and technologies such as nanotechnology, intellectual property, MSMEs, entrepreneurship and private sector engagement.
- v. Established and harmonized regional standards and quality infrastructure supporting efficient trade and innovation.
- vi. Increased financial sustainability through the ECO Vision Fund and strengthened partnerships with multilateral donors and UN agencies for technical and financial support.
- vii. Robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks ensuring transparency, measurable progress and alignment with Member States' priorities.
- viii. Greater engagement and empowerment of youth and women in agriculture and industry, fostering entrepreneurial capability, entrepreneurship and inclusive economic transformation.
- ix. Improved coordination, communication and accountability mechanisms among Member States and ECO bodies for effective implementation and timely decision-making.
- x. 5 regional research centers to become operational by 2030.
- xi. A 20% improvement in the ECO region's Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking by 2035.

TOURISM

Introduction

Tourism plays a significant role within ECO framework, significantly contributing to economic growth, [employment generation, foreign exchange earnings](#), cultural exchange, and regional connectivity among ECO Member States. Under ECO Vision 2025, the main achievements cover the annual celebration of ECO Tourism Capitals, establishment of the ECO Tour Operators' Network (ETON), ECO Advisory Committee on Tourism (ECO-ACT), and ECO Tourism Educational Network (ECO-TEN), and the launch of the ECO Tourism Website and the ECO Tourism Investment Guide. However, challenges including inconsistent tourism policies, inadequate infrastructure and connectivity and limited regional marketing efforts persist. The strategic importance of tourism in regional cooperation and integration is evident in its capacity to drive economic development, promote cultural heritage and strengthen people-to-people connections.

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

- ④ ~~Promote tourism as a driver of economic growth, employment generation, foreign exchange earnings, cultural exchange, and regional connectivity across the ECO region. (Pakistan July 7)~~
- ④ Enhance the tourism competitiveness of the region through efficient and effective guidance of the ECO-ACT in formulating and implementing relevant actions [such as adopting common quality standards and enhancing visitor experiences](#). Encourage knowledge-sharing and best practices exchange among tourism stakeholders within through ETON and ECO-TEN.
- ④ ~~Strengthen the competitiveness of the ECO tourism sector through coordinated regional initiatives, sustainable tourism practices, quality standards, and enhanced visitor experiences. (Pakistan July 7)~~
- ④ Boost regional tourism marketing via implementation of a well-coordinated marketing strategy to increase global visibility and position of the ECO region as a unique, attractive, and sustainable tourism destination. A unified promotion campaign prioritizing the ECO Tourism Capitals in particular and various destinations in the Member States consisting of modern and digital destination marketing tools will be created.
- ④ ~~Develop a cohesive regional tourism branding and marketing strategy, including joint participation in international tourism fairs, exhibitions, and promotional platforms, to enhance the global visibility and attractiveness of the ECO region as a unified tourism destination. (Pakistan July 7)~~
- ④ ~~Enhance the tourism competitiveness of the region through efficient and effective guidance of the ECO-ACT in formulating and implementing relevant actions. Encourage knowledge-sharing and best practices exchange among tourism stakeholders within through ETON and ECO-TEN.~~
- ④ Promote sustainable tourism practices with a primary focus on adopting eco-friendly policies [where special emphasis will be placed on climate change adaptation, environmental conservation and regulation of activities in ecologically sensitive areas](#), diversifying tourism offerings in niche areas such as health tourism, gastronomy tourism, nature tourism, business tourism and winter tourism as well as operational sustainability models.
- ④ ~~Promote community-based, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive tourism, with particular emphasis on climate change adaptation, environmental conservation, waste management in high-~~

Commented [a1]: Tourism Directorate of the Secretariat considers that proposed text contained in the attachment of the Note Verbale of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan No. ECO-7/6/2026-(A) dated 7 July 2026 has already been substantially reflected in the current text. Therefore, it would be more appropriate to strengthen the existing text by adding complementary expressions integrating the relevant elements within the Pakistan's proposals into appropriate sections to ensure the coherence while avoiding the duplications in terms of meaning. In this context, adjustments made by the Secretariat have been highlighted in the track changes mode.

traffic destinations, and the regulation of infrastructure and construction activities in ecologically sensitive tourism areas. (Pakistan July 7)

- ⊖ ~~Foster safe, secure, climate-resilient, and digitally connected tourism systems to enhance the long-term sustainability, resilience, and competitiveness of the tourism sector. (Pakistan July 7)~~
- ⊙ Strengthen tourism infrastructure encouraging investments in transportation, hospitality, digital infrastructure, and tourism services. The expansion of current efforts on standardization to all relevant aspects of modernizing travel and tourism facilities. By 2035, the ECO Member States will work towards aligning regional infrastructure with international hospitality and transport standards.
- ⊙ Enhance connectivity for tourism facilitating seamless travel experiences through integrated travel routes taking Silk Road and several regional concepts, easier visa procedures and collaborative tourism packages under ETON. To this end, direct flight routes in collaboration with aviation sector will be expanded and border procedures for passenger transport will be simplified.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Regional Tourism Strategy: Formulating a comprehensive “Roadmap for the Expansion of Tourism Services” that aligns with national tourism strategies of the Member States under the main tasks of the ECO Advisory Committee on Tourism (ECO-ACT).
- ⊙ Human Resource Development: Establishing training programs (workshops, seminars and training courses) for tourism professionals in collaboration with the members of the ECO Tourism Educational Network.
- ⊙ Private Sector Involvement: Supporting to creation of an enabling environment for private sector investment in tourism infrastructure and services.
- ⊙ Innovative and Digital Transformation: Contributing to the national efforts for digitizing tourism industry with advanced digital tools such as augmented reality, artificial intelligence to enhance the tourism experience, including digital marketing, upskilling the tourism workforce with digital transformation.
- ⊙ Inclusive Tourism Development: Foster entrepreneurial participation and equitable growth by empowering women, youth and the private sector through inclusive policies and initiatives.
- ⊖ ~~Promotion community-based, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive tourism, with particular emphasis on climate change adaptation, environmental conservation, waste management in high-traffic destinations, and the regulation of infrastructure and construction activities in ecologically sensitive tourism areas. (Pakistan July 7)~~

Expected Outcomes

- ⊙ Establishment of ECO as a premier sustainable tourism destination by 2035 via achieving following targets:
 - i. Growth in tourist arrivals from 102 million (2024) to 130 million by 2030 and 155 million by 2035.
 - ii. Increase in tourism's GDP contribution to 5% by 2035.
 - iii. Improved regional tourism infrastructure, achieving an average TTDI score increase from 3.76 (2024) to 4.25 by 2035.
- ⊙ Completion of the actions below for abovementioned strategic objectives including:

i. Unified regional tourism marketing strategy implemented across all Member States, including joint participation in international tourism fairs and exhibitions.

ii. Improved cross-border travel through simplified visa processes, expanded direct flight routes and integrated digital travel systems.

iii. Adoption of sustainable tourism practices and eco-friendly policies, with specific focus on climate resilience and ecological protection

~~iii-iv.~~ Greater private sector investment in tourism infrastructure and services.

~~iv-v.~~ Enhanced use of modern and digital technologies in tourism promotion and delivery.

~~v-vi.~~ Increased capacity and skills in tourism through training programs and workshops.

~~vi-vii.~~ Empowerment of women, youth and communities in tourism development, development ensuring further benefits for underrepresented groups from tourism revenues.

~~vii-viii.~~ Active engagement of stakeholders, including local communities and civil society

~~viii-ix.~~ Operationalization of ECO-ACT for regional tourism coordination and monitoring

~~ix-x.~~ Stronger partnerships with international organizations (e.g., UN Tourism, UNESCO, OIC)

~~x-xi.~~ Diversified tourism financing, including reactivation of the ECO Tourism Promotion Fund

~~xi-xii.~~ Conduct training programs within the framework of ECO Tourism Educational Network to build capacities of tourism staff across member states.

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HUMAN RESOURCES & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The ECO remains committed to advancing human resources and sustainable development (HRSD) through regional cooperation in, with special emphasis on health and education, as well as disaster risk reduction (DRR). Aligned with the UN SDGs, ECO initiatives have included the establishment of key policy frameworks and institutions such as the ECO Regional Center for Risk Management of Natural Disasters and action plans on health and education. Emphasis is placed on ensuring policy coherence with medium- and long-term development priorities, strengthening institutional capacities, and fostering inclusive partnerships. These efforts aim to improve well-being, enhance resilience, promote lifelong learning, and support investment in human capital across the region.

Vision Statement

ECO aims to build an inclusive, resilient and knowledge-driven region, where sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, health and education systems are strengthened through the active participation of private sector, youth and women in policy and decision making process to ensure equitable social welfare and long-term regional prosperity.

Strategic Objectives

- ◉ Promote policy coherence for sustainable development by aligning local, regional, and international efforts to effectively address SDG challenges and enhance regional cooperation.
- ◉ Mainstream a family-centered perspective across all social development policies, with priority given to initiatives that strengthen the family unit as a foundational social institution and strive to create a social environment that allows people to build and sustain families in accordance with their aspirations and values.

Prioritize population-related issues by endorsing human capital as a driver of social advancement rather than conceptualizing it as a burden.
- ◉ Tackle irregular migration, transnational organized crime, including human and drug trafficking, poverty, inequality, strengthen family institution and promote conditions conducive for strong population structure by adopting inclusive social protection and environmental policies to improve living standards and overall well-being.
- ◉ Advance transformative urban development across the ECO region by fostering sustainability, innovation and resilience, and by leveraging the unique opportunity presented by the 13th World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku in 2026 – the first global forum of this kind to take place in the region.
- ◉ Establish a regional disaster risk reduction system to minimize disaster-related losses in lives and assets through integrated preparedness and response mechanisms.
- ◉ Establish a specialized working group within the ECO focused on the development of science and innovation.
- ◉ Empower youth and women by fostering their leadership, entrepreneurial capability and participation in development, entrepreneurship, and climate action to promote inclusive and resilient communities, through accessible financing mechanisms and transformative education, while sustaining Youth and Women's Forums launched at the ECO Summit 2025 in Khankendi, as key platforms for engagement and collaboration across the ECO region.

- ⊙ Strengthen regional health cooperation by addressing non-communicable diseases and advancing equitable, inclusive universal health coverage systems.
- ⊙ Advance regional education and skills development by establishing frameworks for higher education, vocational training, and capacity-building, with a focus on youth and women's empowerment, as well as inclusive education systems that ensure access, participation and achievement for learners with disabilities, including development of teacher competencies, accessible learning environments, and individualized education plans.
- ⊙ To design and implement a "Comprehensive Professional Development Program for Teachers' Use of Technology" across the ECO region, aimed at enhancing the digital pedagogical competencies of educators to ensure effective technology integration in classrooms.
- ⊙ Establish regional training programs on inclusive education practices for teachers and educational administrators, focusing on curriculum adaptation, classroom support strategies, and collaborative teaching.
- ⊙ Enhance sustainable development policies for the integrated management of water resources by the ECO member states to ensure efficient utilization by 2035.
- ⊙ Accelerate Digital Transformation: To transform digitally education and research by launching inclusive regional platforms that prioritize underserved and less-developed areas, under the guidance of the ECO Educational Institute. To Encourage Member States to initiate joint efforts towards the development of a regional digital cultural heritage platform, including integrated museum and information systems, drawing on best practices such as Türkiye's National Museum Information System (MUES), to support sustainable tourism, digital promotion, and coordinated cultural heritage management.
- ⊙ Strengthen Cultural Diplomacy: To reinforce cultural diplomacy and civilizational dialogue by leveraging the region's shared historical and cultural heritage, particularly along historic routes such as the Silk Road, led exclusively by the ECO Cultural Institute.
- ⊙ Enhance Inter-School Collaboration in Primary and Secondary Education: To cultivate a foundation of regional solidarity and shared civilizational consciousness by facilitating various partnerships, student exchange programs, and joint extracurricular projects centered on the region's common religious, historical, and cultural heritage.
- ⊙ Empower Youth and Women: To empower youth and women as primary drivers of sustainable development through scholarships, academic exchange programs, and green/climate education initiatives, in a collaborative effort among the three ECO institutions.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⊙ Sustainable Development
 - Ensure including a framework for mobilizing financial resources and operationalizing bankable projects.
 - Develop a regional action plan for SDG-aligned policy coherence and adopt scorecard-based monitoring systems for SDGs, human capital and inclusive development performance.
 - Institutionalize the ECO Forum on Sustainable Development to share experiences and challenges.
 - Address irregular migration, transnational organized crime, including human and drug trafficking, poverty, inequality and declining fertility rates.

Strengthening the family institution and promoting population growth by maintaining the fertility rate above the population replacement level.

- Promote sustainable development policies for the integrated management of water resources between the relevant ECO Member States ~~and protection of water users' rights~~. (Türkiye July 5) to ensure long-term resource preservation. (Iran proposes to keep it in track change)
- Promote the empowerment of youth and women for inclusive development by establishing regional platforms to support sustained engagement, communication, and leadership (networking), and by providing financing for youth and women-led projects.
- Strengthen cooperation with international and regional organizations on SDG practices.
- Establish a dedicated platform within the framework of sustainable cities to promote collaboration, knowledge exchange, and integrated urban development across the ECO Region.
- Formulate ECO SDGs Performance Index - a benchmark mechanism, supported by Pakistan, to encourage data-driven reforms and transparent showcased via an ECO Dashboard.
- Establish an ECO SDG Accelerator Labs which designs cross-border solutions to common regional challenge
- Create ECO-Pakistan SDG Collaboration Taskforce which is led by Pakistan Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, convenes biannually to showcase innovations in health, education, climate resilience, and digital governance to the ECO region and member states take turn to share success stories in SDG implementation.
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
 - Revise the ECO Regional Framework on DRR and its five-year roadmap and monitor its implementation.
 - Incorporate actions on youth, women, researchers and private sector engagement in climate resilience and disaster risk reduction (DRR) through technological innovation into ECORFDRR.
 - Leverage AI and emerging technologies, and enhance coordination among existing ECO institutions and mechanisms working on climate resilience and DRR to champion regional initiatives and advocacy.
 - Enhance the capacity and operational effectiveness of the ECO-RCRM.
 - Improve intergovernmental collaboration on DRR efforts.
 - Foster partnerships with global and regional organizations to exchange expertise and best practices.
 - Adopt a long-term "Eco-Invest" Program to invest in climate-action, climate resilience and DRR and encourage private sector for green investment.
 - Ensure disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, including accessible early warning systems and evacuation plans for persons with disabilities.
- Health
 - Update and implement the ECO Health Action Plan based on Member States' needs.
 - Build strong partnerships with WHO and other key organizations for technical and financial support.

- Establish a Regional Consultation Mechanism for better cooperation on communicable diseases.
- Promote health cooperation in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by further strengthening regional collaboration to enhance national healthcare systems, prevent and control communicable and non-communicable diseases, support the training and retraining of medical personnel, and expand access to equitable, inclusive and affordable healthcare services for all.
- Promote role of youth and women in ECO Health Action Plan.

Adopt inclusive social protection frameworks addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, ensuring access to education, healthcare, employment, and community participation.

○ Education

- Strengthen regional education systems, harmonize academic standards and promote internationalization of higher education.
- Develop an action plan for internationalizing higher education in the ECO Region and monitor its implementation.
- Strengthen collaboration with ECO Educational Institute and other related global partners.
- Conduct targeted training and capacity-building initiatives, with a focus on youth and women.
- Prioritize educational reforms that integrate climate resilience, digital skills, and entrepreneurship in curricula.
- Encourage youth and women participation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).
- Prioritizing the digital upskilling of the teaching workforce through standardized regional modules that focus on innovative teaching-learning methodologies and digital content creation.
- Foster cultural cooperation to consolidate cultural affinities and common heritage that bind the people of the region and mobilize ECO's contribution to Member States' initiatives on intercultural dialogue.

- A new priority area titled "Inclusive Education" can be added under the Human Resources and Sustainable Development section:

- Launch the ECO Regional Digital Education and Research Platform with multilingual content.
- Design and implement green and sustainability education programs in cooperation with the ECO Science Foundation and the ECO Cultural Institute.

-
- Organize regular regional events focused on culture, arts, sports, and tourism to highlight our shared heritage.
 - Produce and disseminate multilingual media content.

Inclusive Education

- Strengthen inclusive education policies and practices across the ECO region by:
 - Supporting legislation and national strategies aligned with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
 - Promoting accessible learning environments and assistive technologies.

- Encouraging collaboration among Ministries of Education, Health, and Social Services to ensure a holistic support system.
- Enhancing peer-learning among member states through knowledge exchange and regional forums.
- Promoting inclusive vocational education and supporting the transition of individuals with special needs into employment by encouraging member states to undertake coordinated efforts at both national and local levels, while fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Improved regional policy coherence on SDGs through actionable frameworks and coordinated implementation mechanisms.
- ii. Development of a scorecard mechanism to track the performance of member states on inclusive development, SDGs, and human capital indicators
- iii. Enhanced disaster resilience via a functional ECO Regional DRR system and operational ECO-RCRM.
- iv. Expanded universal health coverage and strengthened response to non-communicable and communicable diseases through regional collaboration and the updated ECO Health Action Plan.
- v. Elevated quality and access to education, including vocational, non-formal and higher education, with increased youth and women's participation and institutional cooperation.
- vi. Greater inclusion of youth and women in leadership, problem-solving and entrepreneurship and regional policy processes across all HRSD priority areas.
- vii. Operationalized regional platforms like the ECO Forum on Sustainable Development and ECO Youth and Women Engagement Mechanism for cross-sector collaboration.
- viii. Strengthened monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems, using data-driven tools to track progress on DRR, health, education and SDG implementation.
- ix. Increased mobilization of resources and institutional capacity through strategic partnerships with UN bodies, development banks and civil society.
- x. Strengthened cooperation in innovation, artificial intelligence and digital technologies.
- xi. Mainstreamed cross-sectoral linkages, connecting HRSD with climate action, trade, agriculture and energy for integrated development outcomes.
- xii. A 60% increase in student and researcher participation in academic exchanges by 2035.
- xiii. A 50% increase in student and teacher mobility specifically for primary and secondary education levels by 2035
- xiv. 80% coverage of underserved areas by the digital education platform by 2028.
- xv. The training of 100,000 youth and women in green and sustainability programs by 2035.
- xvi. The participation of at least 20 universities in the ECO University Network by 2032.
- xvii. The delivery of 8 cultural festivals and 10 co-produced media works by 2035.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH & STATISTICS

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

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

Vision Statement

To position ERS as a cornerstone for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development, the Vision must explicitly address three key issues. First, it will focus on data harmonization and quality by establishing a common framework for data collection to ensure statistics are comparable and reliable across the region. Second, to address varying technical capacities, the Vision commits to capacity building and technical expertise through targeted training programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives for national statistical offices. Finally, it will bridge the policy-research divide by creating user-friendly platforms and fostering direct dialogue between researchers and policymakers, ensuring that high-quality data is effectively translated into actionable insights for all member states.

Strategic Objectives

- ⦿ **Operationalize the ECO Research Centre (ECO-RC) in Baku as a regional hub for economic research and innovation, with a specific mandate to produce applied research that addresses critical data gaps in intra-regional trade, investment flows, and sustainable development indicators.**
- ⦿ **Elevate the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) into a peer-reviewed internationally recognized publication, with a focused agenda on translating research findings into tangible policy recommendations.**
- ⦿ **Institutionalize the ECO Think-Tank Forum, making it a recurring, high-level platform hosted across Member States, with a focused agenda on translating research findings into tangible policy recommendations.**
- ⦿ **Produce applied research and analytical publications focused on key regional priorities such as trade, investment, transport, climate change, green economy, food security and water efficiency. This will be supported by a commitment to using harmonized, high-quality data.**
- ⦿ **Strengthen capacity building and knowledge exchange among national statistics offices and economic institutions.**

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⦿ **Regional Economic Analysis**
 - **Strengthen data collection and harmonization across Member States. This should include a commitment to overcoming data quality and comparability challenges by adopting common statistical standards and methodologies.**
 - **Develop comparative studies and benchmarking tools to support policy decisions, while also addressing data gaps and a lack of standardized reporting. This ensures the analysis is comprehensive and reliable.**
 - **Strengthen regional cooperation among the national statistical offices of ECO Member States in harmonizing data, metadata standardization, improving the quality and comparability of**

official statistics, and promoting the use of artificial intelligence (AI), Big Data, and digital technologies in the collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination of statistical data.

○ Strategic Publications and Research

- Focus on actionable research in trade, investment, sustainable development, transport, logistics, energy and resilience, while ensuring the research agenda is responsive to the real-time needs and emerging crises of the region.
- Explore the socio-economic impacts of regional initiatives and global trends on ECO countries, with a particular focus on capacity building to ensure all member states can effectively contribute to and benefit from this research.

○ Capacity Building and Networking

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

Expected Outcomes:

- i. Full operationalization of the ECO Research Centre (ECO-RC) as a regional hub for economic research and innovation, and a clear mandate to produce applied research that directly informs policy.
- ii. Establishment of the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) as a respected, peer-reviewed international publication, **achieved by implementing a rigorous editorial process and securing indexation in globally recognized academic databases.**
- iii. Regular convening of the ECO Think-Tank Forum as a key platform for high-level policy dialogue and research exchange, **with a focus on ensuring diverse representation and a mechanism for translating forum discussions into concrete policy recommendations.**
- iv. Enhanced regional data harmonization and strengthened capacity of national statistics offices to support evidence-based policymaking, overcoming existing issues of data quality and comparability through technical assistance and a shared data framework.
- v. Production of applied research and analytical reports addressing priority regional issues including trade, investment, climate change, green economy and food security and water efficiency, while ensuring that this research is accessible and easily understood by policymakers.
- vi. Increased engagement of youth, women, businesses and academia in economic research through fellowships, advisory panels and collaborative networks, facilitated by a targeted outreach strategy and the removal of systemic barriers to participation.
- vii. Development and launch of a digital ECO Statistics and Research Portal to improve transparency, data sharing and monitoring of regional progress, **while also addressing data security and privacy concerns.**
- viii. Strengthened partnerships with international organizations, academic institutions and the private sector for co-funded research and knowledge exchange **by establishing a clear and transparent partnership framework that defines mutual goals and resource commitments.**
- ix. The publication of the result of research conducted on the identified priority sectors in the ECO's "Economic Journal).

JUDICIAL & PARLIAMENTARY COORDINATION AND EAPA

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

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

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

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

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

- ⦿ Judicial Cooperation: Strengthen cooperation in this field through the Institutions authorized by the ECO Member States as Central Authorities.
- ⦿ Anti-Corruption Cooperation: Implement the Plan of Interaction and operationalize RCCACO to tackle financial and organized crimes.
- ⦿ Law Enforcement Coordination Continue elaborates on improving intelligence and operational collaboration among law enforcement agencies.
- ⦿ Promote the exchange of experience and best practices among ECO Member States in the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and information technologies in law enforcement activities.
- ⦿ Parliamentary Engagement: Strengthen the mandate and functioning of PAECO, encouraging all Member States to ratify the Charter.
- ⦿ Capacity Building: Expand training and knowledge-sharing programs to address emerging legal challenges (e.g., cybercrime, financial crime).

- ⦿ Afghanistan Engagement: Facilitate dialogue and support mechanisms to enable Afghanistan's participation in ECO activities, subject to Member State consensus.

Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened regional judicial cooperation through fully operationalized institutional mechanisms and enhanced coordination through fully operationalized institutional mechanisms and enhanced coordination among Member States' institutions authorized central Authorities.
- ii. Effective establishment and functioning of the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO), boosting anti-corruption efforts across the region.
- iii. Development of a robust regional law enforcement coordination platform (ECOPOL or alternative) to improve intelligence sharing and cross-border crime prevention, without prejudice to national security legislation and constitutional requirements of each Member State.
- iv. Increased legislative collaboration through full ratification and active engagement within the Parliamentary Assembly of ECO (PAECO), supporting harmonized policies and rule of law.
- v. Expanded capacity-building programs targeting emerging challenges such as cybercrime, financial crimes and organized crime, enhancing institutional competencies.
- vi. Successful reintegration of Afghanistan into ECO mechanisms, enabling its meaningful participation in regional judicial, legislative and security cooperation.
- vii. Sustained multi-stakeholder partnerships with international organizations and donors to ensure financial sustainability and technical support.
- viii. Enhanced inclusion of women and youth in legislative processes via PAECO's dedicated committees, promoting diversity and regional stability.
- ix. Regular monitoring and reporting frameworks established to track progress on judicial cooperation, anti-corruption initiatives, parliamentary activities and Afghanistan's engagement.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Operating Tool)

Introduction

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

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

Efforts to strengthen subsidiary agencies will serve as key catalysts for fostering shared innovation, social cohesion and sustained growth across the region. Advanced scientific research, equitable education, and shared cultural heritage serve as the foundational pillars of regional integration, innovation, and sustainable development.

Vision Statement

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

Strategic Objectives

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

- ◉ To attract international collaborations and mobilize resources from organizations such as UNESCO, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), BRICS, and global academic networks, with coordination provided by the ECO Regional Committee and specialized contributions from each institution.

Priority Areas & Policy Focus

⦿ Increasing Synergies

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

⦿ Strengthening Subsidiary Agencies

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

⦿ Hosting Sideline Events

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

⦿ Media Engagement and Presence

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

Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened existing collaborations and new agreements with international organizations will improve ECO's capacity to address transboundary challenges effectively.
- ii. ECO's media presence, web content, and participation in international forums will be significantly enhanced, raising public awareness and stakeholder engagement.
- iii. All ECO subsidiary agencies will be active and well-coordinated, promoting organizational efficiency and cohesive implementation of ECO's mandates.
- iv. Centralized digital platforms and streamlined communication channels will enable seamless cooperation among the Secretariat, subsidiary bodies, and member states.
- v. A dedicated media team and comprehensive communication strategy will effectively promote ECO's achievements and goals to a wider audience.
- vi. The mobilization of USD 15 million in international resources by 2035.
- vii. ECO's achievements and goals to a wider audience.

Agenda Item No. 4
Preparations for the 18th Summit and the 30th Council of
Ministers (COM) Meeting

Agenda Item No. 5
Follow-up to the Working Group on the Recommendations of the High-
Level Committee (HLC)

No: ECO /2026/626

Priority: Most Urgent

Date: 15/7/2026

Attachment: Yes

The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran and has the honour to enclose Report of the 3rd PrepCom Meeting, held on July 15, 2026, together with the revised version of the Draft Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation-2035 updated by the PrepCom in track-change format.

The Secretariat has the further honour to state that given the ongoing process of drafting the concrete proposals on HLC recommendations, the HLC Working Group agreed to postpone its 3rd round of discussion, scheduled for July 15, 2026 after the PrepCom Meeting. The meeting's fresh date will be circulated in due course.

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

All ECO Member States - Tehran



Agenda Item No. 6
Consideration of the Calendar of Events 2026

No: CFU /2026/425

Priority: Normal

Date: 21/5/2026

Attachment: Yes

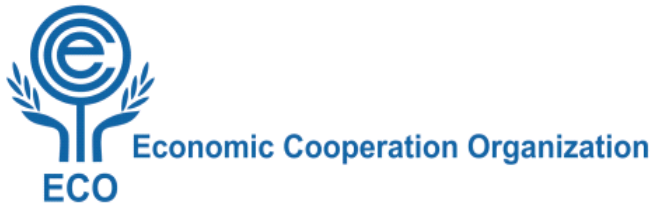
The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to the Embassies of the ECO Member States in Tehran, and has the honour to enclose the **Report of the 36th Meeting of the ECO Regional Planning Council (RPC)**, held on May 17-20, 2026 in hybrid format, along with the adopted **ECO Work Program** and **Calendar of Events 2026**, as well as other attachments of the report.

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



All ECO Member States, Tehran





**36th Meeting of the
ECO Regional Planning Council (RPC)**

Report

**May 17-20, 2026
Hybrid Mode**

Report

The 36th Meeting of the ECO Regional Planning Council (RPC) was convened in a hybrid format from May 17 to 20, 2026. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in its capacity as Chair of ECO for 2026–2027, presided over the proceedings. In the framework of the RPC, the relevant Sectoral Committees held their respective sessions to deliberate on issues and matters pertaining to their areas of competence, with the objective of formulating appropriate recommendations for the Council concerning the ECO Work Programme and the Calendar of Events for 2026.

2. Delegations from the ECO Member States, namely Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, took part in the Meeting. Representatives of the Turkish Cypriot State attended the proceedings in their capacity as an ECO Observer. The ECO Secretariat, led by Secretary General Ambassador Asad Majeed Khan, also participated in the event. In addition, representatives from ECO Bodies were present at the Meeting. The complete list of participants is attached as **Annexure-I**.

Plenary Session

Agenda Item No.1

i. Opening remarks

3. In his welcome address, Ambassador Asad M. Khan highlighted the importance of the Regional Planning Council (RPC) as a key institutional mechanism for reviewing progress, strengthening coordination and guiding the future direction of ECO. He briefed delegates on ongoing reform efforts, progress toward the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035 and the successful convening of several ministerial meetings and high-level events during 2025 and 2026. Emphasizing the significance of the ECO Work Programme and Calendar of Events for 2026, he noted that these would contribute to greater continuity, coordination, and collective ownership of the Organization's activities, while reaffirming ECO's role as a practical platform for regional connectivity and economic cooperation. His statement is attached as **Annexure-II**.

ii. Election of the Chairman

4. As per ECO's rules of procedure, H.E. Mr. Muhammad Ali Talpur, Head of Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was elected to inaugurate and chair the Plenary Session of the 36th RPC meeting.

5. In his remarks, the Chair reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to strengthening regional economic cooperation and emphasized trade integration, connectivity, sustainable development and climate resilience as key priorities for advancing regional prosperity. He also underlined the importance of early implementation of ECOTA and finalization of the Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2026–2035 as

a forward-looking framework for enhancing cooperation among Member States. His statement is attached as **Annexure-II**.

iii. Adoption of the Agenda

6. As proposed, the Council adopted the Agenda of its Meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2

Statements by the Heads of Delegation on the Implementation of the Decisions of the 35th RPC Meeting

i. ECO Member States

7. The Heads of Delegation of the ECO Member States delivered their statements in alphabetical order, outlining their national programmes, policies and views regarding the activities of the Organization. They also apprised the Council of the progress achieved and the current status of implementation of the sector-specific recommendations adopted at the 35th Meeting of the RPC. Their statements are enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

ii. ECO Observer

8. The Distinguished Head of the Delegation of the Turkish Cypriot State also delivered statement. His statement is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

iii. ECO Specialized Agencies

9. The Heads of the ECO Specialized Agencies also delivered statements, briefing the Council on the activities carried out by their respective institutions since the previous Meeting of the RPC. Their statements are attached **Annexure-V**.

Agenda Item No. 3

Presentation of the National Statistical Reports and Review of the progress of implementation of the ECO approved programmes/projects/events and consideration of new programmes/projects/events for the year 2026 to be proposed in the Sectoral Committees

10. The Meetings of the Sectoral Committees were chaired by delegates of the Member States as per following details:

S#	Sectoral Committee	Name of the Chair and Designation	Structure	Country
1.	Trade and Investment	Ms. Maria Kazi, Joint Secretary	M/o Commerce	Pakistan
2.	Transport and Communication	Mr. Saidzoda Saidjafar Head of Land Transport Department	M/o Transport	Tajikistan
3.	Energy, Minerals and Environment	Mr. Ashraf Shikhaliyev Head of Division	M/o Energy	Azerbaijan

4.	Agriculture and Industry	Dr. Hasan Momeni, Director General	M/o Agriculture Jihad	Iran
5.	Tourism	Mr. Enis Ugur, Coordinator for Multilateral Relations	M/o Culture & Tourism	Türkiye
6.	Human Resources and Sustainable Development	H.E. Amb Atageldi Haljanov Head of Economic Cooperation Department	M/o Foreign Affairs	Turkmenistan
7.	Judicial and Parliamentary Coordination and EAPA	Dr. Hamidreza Rafeapour Tehrani Director, International Law Department	Drug Control Headquarter	Iran
8.	International Relations	Mr. Soheil Kheiri, Senior Expert,	M/o Foreign Affairs	Iran
9.	Economic Research and Statistics	Mr. Riza Kagan Yilmaz, Head of Department	Directorate General for International Economic Policies and Organizations	Türkiye

11. During the deliberations on the ECO Work Programme and Calendar of Events for 2026, the representatives of the Member States provided updates on their national activities and relevant statistics within the framework and scope of ECO cooperation. The Sectoral Committees also reviewed the status and progress of ECO-related activities and finalized their respective Work Programmes and Calendars of Events for 2026.

Agenda Item No. 4

Endorsement of the draft outcomes

i. Annual Work Programme 2026

12. The Council considered the recommendations put forward by the Sectoral Committees concerning the ECO Work Programme for 2026 and adopted the document for final approval by the ECO Council of Ministers (COM). The ECO Work Programme 2026 is attached to the Report as **Annexure-VI**.

ii. Calendar of Events 2026

13. The Council reviewed the recommendations submitted by the Sectoral Committees regarding the ECO Calendar of Events for 2026 and adopted the document for final approval by the ECO Council of Ministers (COM). The ECO Calendar of Events 2026 is attached to the Report as **Annexure-VII**.

14. Recalling the provisions of Rule 32 of the ECO Rules of Procedure, under which ECO meetings are to be convened at the Secretariat, as well as Article 12 stipulating that each delegation shall bear its own participation costs, the Council tasked the CPR with exploring possible modalities for establishing a dedicated

funding arrangement. The proposed mechanism would facilitate the organization of activities included in the 2026 Calendar of Events in cases where no Member State offers to host them, thereby promoting broader participation. In this regard, the Council further requested the Secretariat to submit to the CPR, by the end of June 2026, a list of approved events for which hosting arrangements remained unavailable.

Agenda Item No. 5

Any other business

15. No issue was discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda Item No. 6

Date and venue of the next Meeting

16. The Council agreed that, should no Member State express willingness to host the 37th Meeting of the RPC, the Meeting would be held at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran. The dates of the Meeting will be finalized and communicated at an appropriate time in consultation with the Chairmanship.

Agenda Item No. 7

Adoption of the Report of 36th RPC Meeting

17. The Council unanimously adopted its Report along with the outcomes of the event.

Agenda Item No. 8

Closing

18. The Council expressed its sincere appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for its effective chairmanship and successful conduct of the Meeting. The Council also commended the Sectoral Committees and their respective Chairs for the efficient discharge of their responsibilities and the successful completion of their work.

19. The Council acknowledged the efforts and valuable contributions of the ECO Secretary General and the Secretariat staff in the preparation of the necessary documentation, facilitation of the work of the Sectoral Committees, and coordination of arrangements for the successful convening of the 36th Meeting of the RPC.

20. In his closing remarks, the Chair expressed solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran during the current difficult circumstances and appreciated the active participation and constructive contributions of Member States, the ECO Secretariat, sectoral committees, affiliated organizations, and all participants in successfully conducting the 36th RPC in a hybrid format. He noted the adoption of the Annual Work Programme and Calendar of Events for 2026 and emphasized the importance

of strengthening regional cooperation, connectivity, trade facilitation, climate resilience, and institutional coordination within the ECO framework.

21. In his closing remarks, the ECO Secretary General appreciated the constructive engagement and flexibility shown by Member States in successfully conducting the 36th RPC in a predominantly virtual and hybrid format under challenging regional circumstances. He commended the work of the sectoral committees, the ECO Secretariat and the technical teams for finalizing the Work Programme and Calendar of Events for 2026, while emphasizing the importance of timely preparations for meetings, stronger whole-of-government participation and further strengthening the institutional role of the RPC within the ECO framework.

22. The Heads of Delegations expressed their appreciation to the Chair, the ECO Secretary General, the Secretariat, sectoral committees and all participants for the successful conduct of the 36th RPC under challenging regional circumstances. They welcomed the adoption of the Annual Work Programme and Calendar of Events for 2026, reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and coordination within the ECO framework, and appreciated the constructive and cooperative spirit that characterized the deliberations of the meeting.

Annexure-VI

36th Meeting of the Regional Planning Council (RPC)

ECO Work Programme 2026

*May 17-20, 2026
ECO Secretariat, Tehran*

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
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A. SECTOR: TRADE AND INVESTMENT

1.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the Republic of Kazakhstan offered to host the 6th Ministerial Meeting on Finance/Economy preceded by the SOM on the side line of the Annual Meeting of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in Algeria on 19-22 May 2025, which could not be held in 2025. The Council requested the volunteer Member States to host the 6th Ministerial Meeting on Finance and Economy, in 2026 and communicate its date(s).	
2.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Türkiye for the successful organization of the 5th HLEG Meeting and the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade (ECO-MM on CFT) after 20 and 14 years, respectively. The Council appreciated the full participation of all ECO Member States, and acknowledged the adoption of the “Istanbul Declaration”. The Council appreciated the offer of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade (ECO-MM on CFT). The Council reminded that HLEG meeting and ECO-MM on CFT are to be organized back-to-back. Further, the Member States were requested to communicate the dates of Ministerial Meeting. The Council welcomed the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 6th ECO Ministerial meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade (ECO-MM on CFT) and share the dates, depending on the progress of the work of the TNC, through diplomatic channel to ECO Secretariat.	
3.	The Council was briefed that first meeting of Technical Negotiation Committee was held successfully on 15th April 2026, hosted by the Secretariat in online mode. The Council requested the Member States to offer to host the 2nd and 3rd meeting of the ECOTA Technical Negotiation Committee in 2026. The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat and ECOTA Parties for noting the importance of	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	completing all legal and procedural requirements for the re-negotiations of ECOTA. The Council recommended that other ECO Member States, not a party to the ECOTA could be invited to ECOTA TNC Meetings. In addition, where relevant, the ECO-CCI, ECO-RISCAM, and ECOSA (ECO Seed Association) could be invited as an observer. The Council also reminded the Member States that the 5th Ministerial Meeting in Istanbul also approved the transfer of the technical work regarding drafting the “Multi-dimensional trade and investment strategy and prospects of establishing of free trade area in the region” to the ECOTA Technical Negotiating Committee. The Council noted Secretariat intention to host an informal consultative virtual meeting to discuss with Member States the prospects of the work of the TNC in near future. The Council strongly urged the Member States to consider participating proactively in the work of TNC.	
4.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the report of the research study, titled “Impediments in Implementation of ECO Trade Agreement and Measures to Resolve” was successfully updated in line with decisions of the 9th ECOTA CCM. The final research report was presented at the 5th HLEG meeting in Istanbul. Upon the recommendations of Republic of Türkiye and Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Council agreed that the focus at this stage should be on the work of the TNC. The Council may revisit the issue of 10th ECOTA Cooperation Council Meeting (ECOTA CCM) in future, in light of the progress to be made in the TNC.	
5.	The Council welcomed the approval of the ECO Trade Facilitation Strategy at the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade (ECO-MM on CFT) in Istanbul, and invited the Secretariat to coordinate the organization of the 1st Meeting of the ECO Trade Facilitation Committee. The Council welcomed the offer of Republic of Türkiye to host the 1st Meeting of the ECO Trade Facilitation Committee and dates will be shared through diplomatic channel.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
6.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the 2nd JWG on ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement on April 29, 2025 (Ankara), and Republic of Uzbekistan to host the 3rd Meeting of Joint Working Group for Trade Facilitation Agreement on May 22, 2025. The Council appreciated the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the 4th Meeting of the Joint Working Group to draft ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement in 3rd quarter of 2026 and the exact dates will be shared through diplomatic channel.	
7.	Following the Preliminary Discussion Meeting on August 1, 2023, it was unanimously decided to pursue 'Draft Charter of the ECO Tax Administration Cooperation Society (ECOTAX)'. The Islamic Republic of Iran hosted a Preliminary Consultative Meeting on June 11, 2024, wherein the <i>Draft Charter of the ECO Tax Administration Cooperation Society (ECOTAX)</i> was adopted. The Secretariat recalled that the Republic of Uzbekistan offered to host the 2nd Meeting of Heads of Tax Administration in 2024; however, the meeting could not be held. The Council now invites Member States to host the 2nd Meeting of Heads of Tax Administration in 2026.	
8.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Türkiye for the successful organization of both the Technical Consultative Meeting regarding “the Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters” on March 12, 2025 and the 6th ECCC Meeting on April 30, 2025, Ankara. The Council also appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for the successful organization of the 10th Meeting of the ECO Council of Heads of Customs Administration (CHCA) on May 28 2025, Tehran. The Council recognized the efforts of the ECO Secretariat to coordinate the finalization and approval of the Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters” by the Council of Ministers, effective as of June 25, 2025. As mentioned in the Istanbul Declaration, the Council also welcomed the signing of the Agreement by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Türkiye and invited other Member States to sign	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	and ratify the Agreement. The Council encouraged the Member States to host the next ECO Committee Customs Cooperation (ECCC) Meeting, with the primary agenda item of EDI.	
9.	The Council appreciated the efforts of the Republic of Azerbaijan to host trainings on customs (textile classification) and EDI in December 2025. The Council invited the ECO Member States to kindly share their latest positions about organizing any experience-sharing or training events on customs as well as e-commerce/paperless trade in 2026. Member States are requested notifying the Secretariat of suggested dates, agenda items, and hospitality arrangements. The Council requested the Member States and instructed the Secretariat to coordinate such events with the World Customs Organization, whenever possible, with a view to developing relations with the international bodies for better global visibility of the ECO.	
10.	The Council appreciated Member States for notifying the Secretariat of their focal points regarding the operation of “ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank” The Council welcomed the first consultative technical meeting hosted by the Republic of Türkiye for testing “ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank” in April 2025. The Council appreciated the efforts of the Republic of Türkiye to fix remaining technical issues for the full operationalization of the ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank. The Council stressed the non-signatory Member States, namely the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, to consider signing and ratifying the Agreement at their earliest convenience.	
11.	The Secretariat informed that the Customs Administration of Islamic Republic of Iran has offered	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	to host virtual training webinars on the TIR Convention, Harmonized System (HS), and Risk Management in Customs Operations in June, July, and August 2026, respectively. a The Council appreciated the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran and invites all the Member States to participate actively.	
12.	The Secretariat recalled that the <i>2nd Experts Group Meeting on Banking, Financial Matters of ECO and Forming ECO Clearing Union (ECU)</i> was virtually hosted by the ECO Secretariat on December 10, 2024, with the participation of Azerbaijan, I.R of Iran, Kazakhstan, I. R of Pakistan, Turkmenistan and Türkiye. Subsequently, a questionnaire was shared by the Secretariat with the Member States to gather input on clearing union issues, for which response have been received from Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkmenistan and Republic of Türkiye. In this regard, the Council urged the remaining Member States to share their responses, at the earliest. The Council noted that the online technical consultative meeting with the Asian Clearing Union, as proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran could not be held in 2025 due to lack of quorum. In this regard, the Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to reschedule the online technical consultative meeting with the Asian Clearing Union in 2026. The Council further invited the Member States to offer to host the <i>3rd Experts Group Meeting on Banking, Financial Matters of ECO and Forming ECO Clearing Union (ECU)</i>, in 2026 after having the online consultative meeting with Asian Clearing Union.	
13.	The ECO Secretariat briefed the Council that the <i>Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment (APPI)</i> has come into force in 2022 after the deposit of the 4th Instrument of Ratification as per Article 12 of APPI. The Council urged the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to deposit original instrument of ratification with the Secretariat. The Secretariat apprised that the Republic of Azerbaijan is the only signatory awaiting ratification of the APPI. The Council asked the Republic of Azerbaijan to kindly make its utmost to complete the ratification procedures along with its Amendment Protocol at the earliest	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	convenience. The Council also encouraged the non-signatory Member States, i.e. Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan to consider signing/ratifying the Agreement.	
14.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the “ECO Trade and Investment Network Web Portal” is available on the main ECO Web-Site with the following address: https://eco.int/eco-chamber-of-commerce-and-industry-eco-cci/ The Council requested all the Member States to encourage their National Chambers to contribute to <i>the ECO Trade and Investment Network Web Portal</i> and to keep sharing updated information annually. The Secretariat emphasized the announcement of national focal points and designated focal points on Trade Facilitation, WTO, Tax, Banking, Capital Markets, E-Trade and Visa facilitation and update them periodically. The Secretariat suggested that the Member States may update designated focal points to work with the Secretariat, through diplomatic channel.	
15.	The Council took note of the project titled, “Study on Preparation of the Guidelines and Joint Action Plan for the Establishment of ECO Regional Network of Special Economic Zones/Free Trade Zones”. The Secretariat informed the Council that detailed TORs for “Study on Preparation of the Guidelines and Joint Action Plan for the Establishment of ECO Regional Network of Special Economic Zones/Free Trade Zones (SEZs/FTZs) in the ECO Member States” were prepared by the Secretariat and after updating them, shared with the Member States for their views/comments and proposals. The Council requested the Member States to share their comments/ proposals on the ToRs and tasked the Secretariat to follow-up for conducting the aforesaid study and share the outcome of the study with Member States for their views. The Secretariat informed the Council that in the light of decisions of the 1st and 2nd Meetings of the Heads of SEZs/FTZs of the ECO Member States, nominations for the Permanent Standing	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	Committee and the Joint Commission of the FT/SEZs of the ECO Member States have been received from the Republic of Azerbaijan, the I.R. of Iran, the I.R. of Pakistan, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Türkiye. The Republic of Uzbekistan shared nomination for the Standing Committee, only. The ECO Secretariat scheduled to hold and online consultative meeting comprising Members of Standing Committee on July 14, 2025 but could not held due to lack of quorum. The Council requested the Secretariat to host the online consultative meeting comprising Members of Standing Committee. The Secretariat recalled that the 3rd Meeting of the Heads of SEZs/FTZs of the ECO Member States could not be held in 2025. The Council requested the Member States to announce their offers to host the 3rd Meeting of the Heads of SEZs/FTZs of ECO Member States in preferred mode in 2026 and complete the pending actions including providing of nominations to the mandated Committees.	
16.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the draft report of the study titled “<i>Study on Preparation of the Road-Map for Formulating a Comprehensive Plan among the Sovereign and National Development Funds of Member States</i>” has been shared with the Member States for their views and comments. The comments were received from I.R of Iran and circulated among the membership. The comments from remaining Member States are awaited. The Secretariat informed that the 2nd Meeting of Heads of the SW/NDF could not be hosted in 2025 by the Islamic Republic of Iran as agreed during 35th RPC. The National Development Fund of Islamic Republic of Iran (NDFI) proposes the creation of an association for ECO SW/NDFs as an initial, non-financial platform focused on building shared understanding, exchanging experiences and best practices, defining conceptual frameworks, and forming a genuine discourse on cooperation as a preliminary meeting before the 2nd Meeting of Heads of the SW/NDF. The proposal and concept note will be shared in due course of time	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	through diplomatic channel for the consideration of the relevant authorities of the Member Countries. The Council appreciated the offer of I.R of Iran to host the 2nd Meeting of Heads of the SW/NDF in 2026 (hybrid). The Council further requested the remaining Member States to share their comments on the report of the study.	
17.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Pakistan Mercantile Exchange (PMEX) had expressed its willingness for hosting the <i>First meeting of ECO Heads of Commodity Exchanges</i> on December 17, 2025 or January 14, 2026, however, due to the lack of quorum, the Meeting could not be held in 2025. The Council invited the Member States to offer to host the <i>First meeting of ECO Heads of Commodity Exchanges</i> in 2026.	
18.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the following projects could not be completed in 2025, on grounds of budgetary limitations: 1. ECO Capacity Building Project on Train-The-Trainers Programme for ECO Member States on Accreditation Standards (maximum budget USD10,000) 2. ECO Capacity Building Project on Train-The-Trainers Programme for ECO Member States on Sustainability Reporting Standards (maximum budget USD10,000) The Council requested the Secretariat try to complete these projects in 2026, and to arrange funding for these projects from the ECO General Reserve Fund, and/or the ECO Feasibility and General Purpose Fund, and recommended inviting the ECO Regional Institute for Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation and Metrology (RISCAM) to the trainings. The Council recommended the Secretariat to develop similar train-the-trainers type of projects on the fields of trade, customs, quality infrastructure, investment and other related areas.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
19.	Recalling the decisions of the 5th HLEG Meeting and the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade held in Istanbul in 2025, the Council recommended the Secretariat to re-activate the ECOTA Implementation Fund, and revise the modalities of the Fund, with a view to strengthening its capacity to support ECOTA renegotiation process, trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building activities, as well as taking into account the sectoral needs of ECO level business-related entities, e.g. ECO Seed Association to include the seed sector in the revised ECOTA.	
20.	The Council appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat to revitalize the 4th phase of the ECO-UNIDO Joint Trade Capacity Building Project on the Quality Infrastructure of ECO Member States, pending since 2017. The Council appreciated the efficient coordination of the Secretariat between UNIDO, Islamic Development Bank and ECO Development Bank. The Council welcomed the funding (USD50,000) provided by the ECO Trade and Development Bank for a period of 9 months starting from October 2025, and the contribution of \$50,000 as committed by IsDB, as this project is directly related to the expansion of intra-regional trade.	
21.	The Secretariat informed the Council that the 4th ECO Trade Promotion Organizations (TPO) Forum was successfully organized on May 6, 2025, in Karachi, in hybrid mode, hosted by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan. The Council recognized the efforts of the ECO Secretariat to coordinate the finalization and approval of the ECO Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Trade Promotion Activities by the Council of Ministers, effective as of June 25, 2025. As mentioned in the Istanbul Declaration, the Council also welcomed the signing of the MoU by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Türkiye and invited other Member States to sign and ratify the Memorandum of Understanding.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	The Council recommended the Member States to make utmost use of the MoU on Trade Promotion and requested the Member States to share the Calendar of trade promotion events for the next two years with the Secretariat for the compilation of the Joint Calendar of Trade Promotion Events.	
22.	The Secretariat, while recalling the decision of the 3rd ECO Ministerial Meeting on Finance/Economy to set up an ECO Heads of Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPA) Forum, apprised the Council that, 1st Meeting of ECO-IPA of ECO Heads of Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPA) was held on December 26, 2016 in Islamabad, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The Council welcomed the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 2nd Meeting of ECO Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPAs) Forum in 2nd half of 2026 on the sideline of the Iran Investment Forum in Tehran.	
23.	The Secretariat informed the Council that only two ECO Trade Fairs have been held so far in the ECO region. The Secretariat appreciated the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran to organize the '3rd ECO Trade Fair', on the sideline of Kish Expo 2025, which was not held due to lack of confirmation from the Member States. The Council invited the Islamic Republic of Iran or any volunteer Member States to consider hosting the 3rd ECO Trade Fair in 2026.	
24.	The Secretariat informed the Council that Member States were requested to share the proposals with their national chambers to consider volunteering to host the Trade Exhibitions in 2025, but no response has been received. The Council invited the Member States to consider hosting the Trade Exhibitions in 2026.	
25.	The Secretariat informed the Council that presently six ECO Member States are member to the ECO TDB and the Secretariat has been encouraging the remaining four ECO Members States, i.e.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan & Turkmenistan to join ECO-TDB. The Council requested the remaining Member States, who have not joined ECO-TDB, to join this important regional financial institution.	
26.	The Secretariat updated the Council that all the Contracting Parties to the ECO Reinsurance Company (ERC) have submitted their nominations for the Board of Directors (BOD) and the General Assembly (GA) of ERC. The Secretariat further informed the Council that the 273rd CPR, held on February 27, 2023 approved organizing of the 1st Meeting of the G.A preceded by 1stBoD Meeting of the ERC, as requested by the Parties to ERC. Moreover, the Secretariat has circulated the draft documents i.e. regulations for General Assembly & BoD, the recruitment policy, the financial & service rules etc., in 2025, prepared by ERC, for views/comments of the Stakeholders. Additionally, the Secretariat scheduled an online meeting between the State Bank of I.R of Pakistan (SBP) and Central Bank of I.R. of Iran (CBI) coupled with Central Insurance of Iran to finalize the transfer of full subscription of paid-in capital contribution by I.R of Iran. However, the meeting was postponed at the request of SBP. The Council requested the I. R of Pakistan to reschedule this meeting in 2026. The Council further invited remaining Member States to consider joining this important ECO affiliated body for secure trade in the ECO region.	
27.	The Secretariat briefed the Council that the 1st Meeting of ECO Heads of Capital Markets Supervisory Authorities was hosted by I.R of Pakistan in 2022. The Secretariat further informed that Islamic Republic of Iran announced the 2nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Capital Markets Supervisory Authorities in 2024-2025. However, the meeting could not be held despite scheduled twice, due to lack of quorum. The Council appreciated the offer of the Islamic Republic Iran to host 2nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Capital Markets Supervisory Authorities in November 23-24, 2026 and requested the Member States	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	to share their nominations.	
28.	The Council was reminded that considering the importance of investment promotion among the Member States of ECO Region, the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed the Secretariat, to initiate cooperation with UNCTAD in preparing and publishing “<i>The Investment Policy Review (IPR) of the Member States of ECO Region</i>”. The Council was informed that the Secretariat circulated a survey on “<i>The Investment Policy Review (IPR) of the Member States of ECO Region</i>”, in 2025, the response from the Member States is still awaited except Republic of Azerbaijan and Islamic Republic of Iran. The Council requested the Member States to share their inputs regarding the survey.	
29.	The ECO Secretariat recalled the Council that during the 3rd Ministerial Meeting on Finance and Economy in Tehran, the Republic of Tajikistan was designated as the coordinating country for ECO initiatives on investment. The Council welcomed the offer of Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 4th <i>ECO Investment Conference</i> on the side line of Iran Investment Forum in Tehran during 2nd half of 2026.	
30.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan for successfully organizing the 6th ECO Business Forum on July 2, 2025, in Shusha on the sidelines of the 17th ECO Summit, under the theme of "Investment and Trade Promotion as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development in the ECO region". The Council requested the Chairing Member State of 18th ECO Summit, to consider hosting the 7th <i>ECO Business Forum in 2026</i>, on the sidelines of the 18th ECO Summit.	
31.	The Council was informed that the 20th General Assembly and 30th <i>Executive Committee Meetings AND the Meetings of Specialized Committees of ECO-CCI</i> held in January 2026 by Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI).	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	Further, the Meetings of Specialized Committees of ECO CCI also held on 13 th May 2026. The Council requested the I.R. of Pakistan (Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry) as President of ECO-CCI to discuss the issue/decisions regarding pending action related to the ECO-CCI Secretariat including the issue of Permanent Secretariat of ECO CCI in the next <i>Executive Committee Meetings</i> .	
32.	The Secretariat informed the Council that “the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen” has been signed by seven Member States and ratified by the five Member States, whereas, “the Additional Protocol to the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen and Transit Drivers of ECO Member States” has been signed by three countries and ratified by I.R of Pakistan. The Council requested the remaining Member States to sign and ratify Agreement and additional Protocol for their early implementation.	
33.	The Secretariat informed the Council that in line with instruction of 267 th CPR the Secretariat has been pursuing to hold a virtual meeting on visa facilitation for the businessmen including issuance of ECO Business Visa Stickers to the Businessmen of the ECO Region for Greater Collaboration between the Business Communities. The meeting could not be held in 2025 due to lack of confirmation. The Council requested the volunteer Member States to offer to host the <i>Technical Consultation Meeting on Visa Facilitation for the Businessmen in the ECO Region</i> , in 2026. The Council also requested the Secretariat to consider to host this meeting in hybrid/ virtual format in 2026.	
34.	The Secretariat informed the Council that during 15 th ECO Summit (2021), the Republic of Uzbekistan initiated a proposal through a concept paper on ‘Establishment of a Centre for Trade, Investment, Innovation within the Framework of the ECO’, for which all ECO Member States shared their views/comments except the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	The Secretariat informed the Council that the Republic of Uzbekistan was requested to provide a comprehensive clarification/presentation regarding the proposed Centre, as also requested by the Republic of Türkiye and Turkmenistan, and the meeting was organized by the Secretariat in October 2024, however, the meeting was postponed on the request of Republic of Uzbekistan to a future date. The Council urged the ECO Secretariat to reach out the Republic of Uzbekistan to receive the comprehensive clarification/presentation regarding the proposed Establishment of a Centre for Trade, Investment, Innovation within the Framework of the ECO', and instructed the Secretariat to consider this initiative as closed if such information is not received by the end of 2026.		
B. SECTOR: TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS			
Strategies, Policies and General Guidelines			
35.	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 13th Ministerial Meeting on Transport on 1-2 June 2025 in Tehran and requested the Member States to prioritize implementation of Tehran Declaration.		
36.	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for preparing and circulating the draft "ECO Sustainable and Resilient Transport Strategy for 2026-2035", envisaged in the Tehran Declaration. Given the importance of this Strategy, the Council emphasized the need for timely contributions by all Member States into the process of its finalization before submission to the 14 th Ministerial meeting for adoption. The ECO Secretariat was mandated to also ensure contributions from relevant regional and international partners.		
37.	The Council welcomed the offer of the Republic of Kazakhstan for hosting the 14 th Ministerial Meeting on Transport in 2026 and requested the Secretariat to make necessary arrangements for organizing the Meeting.		
38.	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on ICT in 2026 and requested the Secretariat to make necessary		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	arrangements for organizing the Meeting. The Council further emphasized that the new ECO regional ICT strategy document, to be developed and submitted to the Ministerial meeting for adoption, should be comprehensive and focused one to harness opportunities and address challenges associated with the new and emerging technologies in the ECO Region, including AI.	
39.	The Council supported organization of an international conference on financing for ECO transport corridors and projects, envisaged in the Tehran Declaration, with participation of the multilateral development banks, international financial institutions, development partners and donor community. The Council requested the CPR to support the ECO Secretariat in its efforts to effectively organize this important conference. The Council also welcomed the idea to organize the Conference on the sidelines of the 14 th ECO Ministerial Meeting in Kazakhstan.	
40.	The Council appreciated the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish the “ECO Rail Research Institute” in the School of Railway Engineering at the Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST) in Tehran with cooperation of the Railway Company of the I.R. Iran and requested the Member States to actively participate in its activities. Moreover, the Council requested the MSs to convey their views and comments on the Concept Paper of the mentioned Institute within 3 months.	
41.	The Council underlined the importance of preparation of project proposals/concepts to be submitted and implemented according to the ECO rules and regulations, particularly the guiding principles on ECO projects (Functional Methodologies of ECO Projects) and financial regulations of the Organization.	
42.	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat for organizing a high-level meeting on the sidelines of the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) in August 2025 in Awaza, Turkmenistan. The Council appraised the initiative of the Secretariat to contribute to this UN global agenda through supporting the implementation of AWAZA Programme of Action in the ECO. The Council also emphasized the need for cooperation between 7 ECO landlocked Member States, 3 ECO transit Member States, UN and other international and regional partners, and welcomed organization of an ECO Kick-off meeting in 2026 in this regard.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
A) TRANSPORT AND TRANSIT			
I. Implementation of Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA)			
43.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to arrange a working meeting/seminar on the legal and technical aspects of the TTFA for Uzbekistan. (Agreed)		
44.	The Council reiterated the importance of acceding to major international transport facilitation mechanisms and legal instruments, such as e-TIR, e-CMR, ADR, and ATP, and active participation of ECO and its Member States in ongoing negotiations for new international legal frameworks.		
II. Railway Transport			
45.	The Council recommended that the committed Member States or the volunteer Member States to organize the meetings as contained in the proposed Calendar of Events 2026, including the 16 th Meeting of the Heads of ECO Railways and 10 th meeting of TTCC Railway Committee. Given the importance of these two meetings, the Council requested the Secretariat to ensure their organization on early basis in 2026 in an interested Member State or in the Secretariat.		
46.	The Council requested the Secretariat, in cooperation with relevant partners and stakeholders, to seriously work on the early development of a model for an integrated (and digitalized) ECO corridor management system to ensure optimum harmonization and functioning as well as competitiveness of the ECO corridors. The Council also asked the CPR to ensure necessary support to the Secretariat.		
Railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran (KTI)			
47.	The Council requested Kazakhstan, as per its commitment in 35 th RPC meeting, to host the 2 nd meeting of Permanent Working Group of KTI (PWG-KTI) and 2 nd meeting of “Sub-Working Group for Commercialization of the KTI Corridor” in 2026.		
48.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to include KTI in the agenda of the envisaged		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	conference for financing the ECO transport corridors and projects. Accordingly, the en-route countries may be requested to jointly develop bankable projects to be funded by interested donors and investors.		
49.	[The council requested the Secretariat to make an update on the previous and present activities of the en-route countries on establishing electronic data exchange along the corridor and to make necessary coordination with en-route countries as well as cooperation with UNECE initiative on “Digital Transportation in KTI Corridor: electronic equivalent of the SMGS railway consignment note using UN standards”.]		
ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul (ITI) route			
50.	The Council emphasized the importance of the ITI container train and its regular and frequent movement for the ECO Region and beyond, and requested for early implementation of the agreements reached at 14 th ITI HLWG in Pakistan. Given the delayed implementation of agreed outcome of the 14 th ITI HLWGM, the Council requested the en-route countries and the Secretariat to convene, on an early basis, a meeting to discuss and resolve the possible impediments and challenges. The Council took note with appreciation the update by the Pakistani delegation on its upgradation of the ML3 Railway Line in collaboration with Reko Diq Mining Company under the broader framework of railway infrastructure development for mineral and freight transportation.		
51.	The Council also mandated the ECO Secretariat to coordinate with the en-route countries for necessary preparations for a successful 15 th ITI HLWG meeting to be hosted by Iran in 2026. (Agreed)		
52.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to include ITI in the agenda of the envisaged conference for financing the ECO transport corridors and projects with clear idea about the possible bankable projects to make the Corridor fully functional and effective.		
ECO Container Train on Istanbul-Almaty and Bandar Abbas-Almaty routes			
53.	The Council welcomed the proposal of Iran to host the 3 rd HLWG in Tehran and requested the		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements.		
54.	The Council emphasized the importance of these two corridors for intra-regional and global trade flows and requested the ECO Secretariat to include their financial needs in the agenda of the envisaged conference for financing the ECO transport corridors and projects.		
55.	The Council requested the en-route countries to provide a progress report on the implementation of the decisions of the previous HLWG meetings.		
ECO- UNECE Coordination Committee on Trans Caspian and Almaty- Tehran – Istanbul Corridors			
56.	The Council emphasized the importance of the continued cooperation and coordination between the ECO Secretariat and the UNECE on the transport and transit-related areas of mutual interests, including in the context of the ECO-UNECE Coordination Committee on Trans Caspian and Almaty- Tehran – Istanbul Corridors. 8 th Meeting of the ECO- UNECE Coordination Committee on Trans Caspian and Almaty- Tehran – Istanbul Corridors will be held on 5 June 2026 in Istanbul.		
Railway Project for the connection of China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran (KTAI)			
57.	The Council requested the Secretariat to continue efforts to engage partners and relevant financial institutions, including ECO-TDB, IsDB, ADB (CAREC Programme) and AIIB with a proposal to engage in the activities related to operationalization of KTAI Corridor. The Council also requested the Secretariat to include financial needs of KTAI Corridor in the agenda of the envisaged conference for financing the ECO transport corridors and projects.		
58.	The Council requested en-route states to provide updated information on the missing links and other shortcomings of the KTAI Corridor.		
59.	The Council gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat and requested the Member States to focus on ways and means to engage China in the construction and other activities related to operationalization of the KTAI Corridor.		
Railway Project on Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran) route			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
60.	The Council offered possible ECO assistance to the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan with a view to accelerating operationalization of this important rail connection.		
61.	The Council requested the Secretariat, in coordination with Iran and Republic of Azerbaijan, to prepare for 6th HLWG Meeting on Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) in 2026, at the time and venue preferable by both countries.		
62.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to collect information from the en-route countries on the latest status of the progress of the railway route within their territories for circulation before the 6 th HLWG Meeting in 2026.		
III. Road Transport			
Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul (ITI) route			
63.	As per discussions at the 7th HLWG Meeting, the Council requested en-route countries, who have not done so, to provide information and requested the Secretariat to circulate them among the en-route countries regarding: • The permissible load limits, vehicles specifications and other regulations • Status of the ECO White Card Scheme (MVTPL insurance) for universal insurance		
64.	The Council requested the ITI en-route countries to keep the Secretariat abreast about progress and developments on the construction\development\rehabilitation of the segments of the corridor in their territories.		
65.	The Council also requested the en-route Member States to regularly provide to the Secretariat statistical annual report of the bilateral and transit operations in the Corridor.		
66.	The Council supported interactions and cooperation between the ECO, IRU and ITI en-route countries on reducing the challenges at border crossing points of ITI Corridor.		
67.	The Council requested Iran to host the First Technical Working Group Meeting on the ITI BCPs to accelerate measures such as establishment of TIR green lanes/windows to reduce waiting time of trucks. En-route states may support participation of IRU and TRACECA in such activities.		
68.	The Council requested for timely organizing the 8 th ITI HLWG Meeting in 2026.		
Tajikistan- Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan- Iran -Türkiye (TUTIT)			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
69.	The Council instructed the Secretariat to continue its contacts with relevant Chinese authorities to discuss TUTIT-related matters with a view to utilizing all existing and potential capacities for full TUTIT operationalization.		
70.	The Council requested the Secretariat to include financial needs of TUTIT Corridor in the agenda of the envisaged conference for financing the ECO transport corridors and projects.		
71.	The Council emphasized the need to have regular meetings among the en-route countries and requested the ECO Secretariat to ensure that the 3 rd Meeting of the HLWG on TUTIT is held in 2026 in one of the en-route countries. Inviting China to the meeting was also considered.		
Kyrgyz Republic-Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Türkiye corridor (KUTIT)			
72.	The Council emphasized the need to have regular meetings and contacts among the KUTIT en-route countries and requested the ECO Secretariat to ensure that the first Meeting of the HLWG on KUTIT will be held in 2026 in one of the en-route countries. Inviting China to the KUTIT meetings may also be recommended.		
Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran Road (KTAI) Corridor			
73.	The Council requested the en-route countries to continue implementation of the Action Plan approved by the 4 th HLWG on KTAI and to implement the recommendations of the reports of KTAI test run.		
74.	The Council also requested the en-route Member States to regularly provide to the Secretariat their statistical annual report of the bilateral and transit operations across the different segments of the Corridor.		
75.	The Council requested the Secretariat to assist coordination among the en-route countries, including through 5 th HLWG to be held in an appropriate time and venue in 2026.		
76.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to ensure organizing the next HLWG Meeting in 2026 on early basis, either in en-route countries or in the Secretariat.		
IV. Multimodal Transport			
77.	The Council reiterated the importance of multimodal mode of transport for ECO Region and requested the ECO Secretariat to coordinate with the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 1 st		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	meeting of the newly established TTCC Multimodal Transport Committee on the sidelines of the 7 th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Reference Maritime Organizations, enabling focused discussions on the improvement of multimodality across the ECO Region and beyond.		
New Multimodal Road Corridor Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (KTAP)			
78.	The Council requested the KTAP enroute countries as well as the ECO Secretariat to implement actions envisaged by 35 th RPC meeting.		
79.	The Council, taking note of existing multimodal corridor frameworks of Pakistan-Iran-Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyz Republic (PITUKK) and Pakistan-Iran-Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan-Tajikistan (PITUT), requested the Secretariat to organize a joint working group meeting among the en-route countries for necessary operations for coordination and arrangements involving the relevant stakeholders.		
80.	The Council requested the Secretariat to make necessary arrangements for setting of a cooperation mechanism between the ECO and China in the field of transport and transit with the aim of enhancing sustainable and resilient connectivity, establishing efficient economic and trade corridors, strengthening infrastructure development, digitalization, knowledge-sharing and adoption of best practices as well as other areas of mutual interest.		
V. Facilitation of border crossing procedures			
81.	The Council recommended to the Member States to support implementation of the ECO-IRU Action Plan 2026-2027 and actively engage in its envisaged activities.		
82.	The Council requested all Member States to apply, to the maximum extent possible, TIR system, including the guarantee and insurance procedures, in the transit and transport cooperation among themselves to allow for seamless and unhindered flow of road fleets.		
83.	The Council requested the Secretariat to approach IRU, IsDB, ESCAP and any other relevant international organization for their assistance in digitalizing the transit across the ECO Region.		
84.	The Council emphasized the imperative of convening, on priority basis, the 9 th TTCC Customs Committee Meeting, 2 nd Meeting of ECO-TIR National Associations Group (TIRACG), and next meeting of ECO consular officials (for visa facilitation purpose).		
85.	The Council supported the extension of ECO- IRU current cooperation to include TRACECA and		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	IsDB, including in the test-runs from/to China.		
	VI. ECO Visa Scheme for Drivers		
86.	The Council requested Member States (with the exception of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Türkiye) to accede and implement Visa Pilot Scheme to help further facilitation of visa procedures for the drivers. The Council also requested the Secretariat, in consultation with acceded countries, to propose modalities for early implementation of Visa Pilot Scheme among themselves.		
87.	The Council requested the Secretariat to organize the next meeting of ECO Consular Officials.		
	VII. Maritime Cooperation		
88.	The Council emphasized the importance of convening the 7 th Meeting of Heads of ECO Maritime Reference Organizations as early as possible in 2026.		
89.	The Council supported the initiative where 3 ECO transit countries (Iran, Pakistan and Türkiye) have planned to accumulate their efforts to offer ports facilities and opportunities to the ECO landlocked Member States.		
90.	The Council recommended those Member States in the position to do so, to offer capacity building programmes in various areas of maritime industry for the rest of the Membership.		
	VIII. ECO Gates Projects		
91.	Given the promising findings so far and IDB's readiness to continue, the Council gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat to advance to the next phase – jointly conducting a full feasibility study on the identified ECO gates in partnership with IDB and other interested relevant partners. The Council also requested the Member States and CPR to give necessary support to the Secretariat and national focal points.		
92.	The Council underlined the importance of close cooperation with the UNEP European Office as the Interim Secretariat of the Tehran Convention under Action Plan in case of dredging as well as the newly established Asia Pacific Digital Solutions Center for Sustainable Development (jointly with UNESCAP) and other regional structures aimed at promotion of digital transport and ICT in the ECO region as well as utilizing partnership with the Islamic Development Bank under the		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	ECO Gate project phase-2.		
IX.	Civil Aviation		
93.	The Council requested Member States to provide their needs with regards to capacity building programmes in civil aviation areas in 2026-2027.		
94.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat, in coordination with Member States, to facilitate organization of capacity-building programmes proposed by Civil Aviation Authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran.		
95.	The Council encouraged regional cooperation on aviation training, mutual recognition of certification, technical capacity-building and aviation knowledge-sharing among ECO Member States, including in the context of digital platforms and specialized regional initiatives, through the ECO Working Group on Civil Aviation.		
96.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to facilitate second High-Level Meeting of private airlines of the ECO Region in 2026 with wider participation by airlines from across the region.		
97.	The Council proposed that the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Uzbekistan share their experience, achievements, and plans for developing the Gabala and Samarkand airports as regional aviation hubs.		
X.	ECO Transport Excellence Award		
98.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to explore possibility for engaging one or more international partner organizations for the effective implementation of the Award as proposed by 11 th ECO Transport Ministerial Meeting and submit a report to the next 14th Ministerial Meeting.		
99.	The Council encouraged ECO-CCI to play a more active role in this regard.		
XI.	Joint IDB/UNECE Project on Transport Geographical Information Systems (GIS)		
100.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to agree with UNECE and IDB on the next steps and phases, including required studies and projects. This may also include possible financing for creating GIS section in the ECO Secretariat/or hiring temporary staff needed for next phases.		
101.	The Council requested the Member States to continue to update their transport data on the ITIO		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	GIS platform.		
XII. ECO Freight Forwarders Association			
102.	The Council may request the Member States to expedite their views and comments on the proposed Statute of the Association and suggest the Secretariat to organize technical meetings for the final approval of the Statute in 2026.		
103.	The Member States may be requested to encourage one interested freight forwarders association to host the first meeting of the “ECO Freight Forwarders Association”.		
B) COMMUNICATIONS (ICT)			
I. ECO Regional Strategy for Information Society Development			
104.	The Council emphasized the importance of the expected decisions and outcomes of the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on ICT to be held in the future in Islamabad, including the new ECO ICT Strategy, and requested for active participation by the Member States and full implementation of Ministerial outcome.		
105.	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide a concept paper on the proposed initiative of the Honorable Iran’s President at 17 th ECO Summit for the establishment of the ECO Artificial Intelligence Centre as an ECO regional and specialized body.		
106.	The Council emphasized the importance of digitalization of the economies and sectors across the ECO Region and requested Republic of Uzbekistan to further elaborate on, and organize meeting for, the proposed ECO Digital Transport and Customs Office.		
107.	The Council deliberated on the idea of developing a digital platform for corridor management, applicable to all ECO transport and transit corridors, and mandated the ECO Secretariat to work and report on this important instrument.		
108.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to interact with Member States in the position to do so, as well as ECO partners (ITU, ESCAP, Asia Pacific Digital Solutions Center for Sustainable Development etc), to ensure continued technical and scientific capacity building and training programmes in different areas of emerging technologies and knowledge and implementation of advanced algorithms for ECO Digital Strategy, ECO Fiber-Optic Network and AI.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
109.	The Council emphasized the importance of fiber-optic line linking Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran and requested aforementioned countries to convene a meeting to finalize this proposal.		
II. ECO ICT Working Group			
110.	The Council requested the Member States to re-activate the Working Group as an appropriate technical body within ECO to discuss and coordinate policies, actions and measures vis-à-vis rapidly changing ICT environment. The Council welcomed the proposal of Iran to host the 4 th Working Group Meeting in virtual format after the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on ICT.		
III. ICT regulatory frameworks			
111.	The Council encouraged Member States to actively participate in the 2 nd meeting of the ECO High Level Working Group of ICT Regulatory authorities, to be held in the future in Pakistan back-to-back with the Ministerial Meeting.		
112.	The Council may encourage close cooperation with the ITU, ESCAP, ... in regulatory policy areas as well as technical assistance, training and capacity building and capacity development programmes tailored for the needs and requirements of the ECO Member States and the ECO Region as a whole.		
IV. Digital connectivity as envisaged in AWAZA Programme of Action 2024-2034			
113.	The Council gave mandate to the ECO Secretariat to explore all possibilities and opportunities, within and outside the Region, to assist implementation of Awaza Programme of Action 2024-2034 in the ECO region, especially priority 3 on digital connectivity, to the benefit of 7 ECO landlocked Member States.		
C. SECTOR: ENERGY, MINERALS & ENVIRONMENT			
ENERGY			
General Provisions			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
114.	The Council emphasized that the rapidly evolving global energy landscape and multiple sustainability challenges in the wake of the cascading international crises necessitate enhanced regional cooperation and coordinated action among the ECO Member States. The Council thus called upon all relevant energy stakeholders to enhance regional energy security and sustainability through wider energy access and trade with a view to foster a thriving and resilient ECO region pursuant to “ECO Vision 2025”, “ECO Strategy for Energy Cooperation 2030” and a new “ECO Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035” .		
115.	The Council acknowledged that the focused approach on major promising projects and identification of ECO’s niche in the complicated regional energy architecture based on the realistic assessment of its advantages are critically important for the success of energy cooperation within ECO.		
116.	The Council recognized with appreciation the recent developments in regional energy cooperation and steady progress of key energy projects within ECO since the 35 th RPC Meeting, most notably in terms of sustainable energy transition and ECO Clean Energy Centre (CECECO), multilateral power connectivity and ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM), stimulating policy and expert-level dialogues, as well as engagements with international partners.		
117.	The Council, while reiterating the importance of adequate means of implementation and financial resource mobilization strategies, called for scaling up predictable, sustainable, and sufficient funds for key regional energy projects and initiatives. In this vein, the Council encouraged the Member States to enhance their ownership in the ECO’s major energy projects and provide co-financing with a view to leverage international financial resources.		
118.	The Council acclaimed the steady efforts and interaction of ECO with UNIDO and ESCAP for advancement of the CECECO and ECO-REM projects, respectively and tasked the Secretariat to continue exploring cooperation opportunities with international development partners for implementation of energy projects.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
Priority area 1: Implementation of “ECO Strategy for Energy Cooperation 2030” and its Action Plan, as well as the decisions of 4 th ECO Energy Ministerial Meeting			
119.		The Council strongly recommended the Member States to reflect and implement the provisions of the “ECO Strategy for Energy Cooperation 2030” and its Action Plan in their relevant national development agenda and policies, while this strategy encompasses a number of target-oriented action areas and represents a guiding document towards enriching the regional energy agenda.	
120.		The Council also encouraged the Member States to regularly monitor and oversee the implementation of “ECO Strategy for Energy Cooperation 2030” and its Action Plan, and designate to this end, their national focal points and institutions for coordination of its in-country components.	
121.		The Council highlighted the importance of the 5 th ECO Energy Ministerial Meeting at this critical juncture, as it may revive the policy dialogue and cooperation momentum within ECO, endorse ambitious plans, and navigate on necessary synergies and complementarities across sectors.	
122.		The Council took note with appreciation the kind proposal of the Republic of Türkiye to host the 5 th ECO Energy Ministerial Meeting in 2026 and requested the host authorities to transmit its date(s), venue and modality of hospitality. The Council also called on the Member States to provide their insights and proposals for stocktaking and enriching the agenda of the subject meeting.	
Priority area 2: Sustainable Energy Transition and Establishment of ECO Clean Energy Centre			
123.		The Council reaffirmed the importance of coherent mainstreaming of the irreversible sustainable energy transition in ECO’s overall energy agenda and pursuing stronger energy-environment nexus approach to promote economic development in pursuance of “ECO Vision 2025” and “ECO Strategy for Energy Cooperation 2030”.	
124.		The Council welcomed the steadfast advancement of ECO’s flagship energy project on	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	establishment of ECO Clean Energy Centre (CECECO), being jointly implemented with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Azerbaijan for its unwavering commitment, leadership, and continued support both throughout the establishment process and in ensuring the effective operationalization and long-term success of the Centre.	
125.	The Council noted with appreciation the eventual finalization of entry into force of the Charter of CECECO in August 2025 with three ratifications (Azerbaijan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Pakistan). The Council welcomed the signing of the Charter of CECECO by six Signatory Member States, namely Azerbaijan, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Kazakhstan, and further encouraged other ECO Member States to expedite the signing and ratification procedures of the Charter of CECECO.	
126.	The Council underscored the outcomes of the 1 st Meeting of the Board of Governors of CECECO, which took important decisions with respect to adoption of the Rules of Procedure and appointment of its Executive Director.	
127.	The Council highlighted that the milestone decisions taken at the 1 st Meeting of the Board of Governors of CECECO enabled the CECECO to sign the Host Country Agreement with the Government of the Republic Azerbaijan and further set up the headquarters in Baku in October 2025. The Council thus welcomed the operationalization of the Centre with the limited local staff supported by the financial and in-kind contribution of the Government of Azerbaijan.	
128.	The Council also noted with satisfaction the convening of the 1 st Executive Board Meeting of CECECO on 14 May, which reviewed the report of the Center and Its Work Plan for May-December 2026. The Council also noted that the drafts Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations, had been presented for the consideration to the Executive Board by the CECECO Secretariat.	
129.	The Council welcomed the decision of the 306 th CPR Meeting to allocate 50,000USD to CECECO from the ECO Feasibility and General Purpose Fund (FGPF) in the current Fiscal Year as a	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	partial financing of the project, which will be treated as a grant.		
130.	The Council called upon the Signatory Member States to keep up this momentum of seamless progress of the CECECO by more proactive engagement in full operationalization of this Centre, most notably in expediting regulatory procedures and resource mobilization. In this context, the Council highlighted the need in the coherent resource mobilization at this initial stage, particularly allocation of financial resources for launching the programme activities.		
131.	The Council also called for scaling up financial commitments through enhanced development cooperation from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral with international development partners of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) taking the lead.		
132.	The Council expressed its conviction that the CECECO will evolve into a pivotal hub to ramp up the green industrialisation, energy and climate goals in the ECO region, as well as become a strong component of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), being successfully realized across the globe.		
133.	The Council extended the appreciation to UNIDO for its unwavering support to CECECO and called for continued cooperation with UNIDO and other international development partners for implementation of CECECO programmes and projects.		
134.	The Council invited the volunteer Member States to host the 5 th Meeting of ECO Experts Group on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources (EGEERES) in 2026, and encouraged all Member States to be proactively involved in the EGEERES with a view to advance regional sustainable energy agenda.		
135.	The Council took note with appreciation the proposals made by the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Azerbaijan with respect to regional cooperation possibilities on Green Energy Corridors and application of ESCO (Energy Service Companies) model for energy efficiency. The Council invited the Member States to share their reflections on these proposals.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
Priority area 3: Establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM)		
136.	The Council reemphasized the importance of speeding up of establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM) through stronger technical dialogue and regional coordination. The Council thus called upon the Member States to give renewed impetus to cooperation within the subject Project and provide their utmost contribution to its successful advancement in the years ahead.	
137.	The Council extended its appreciation to the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for its strong support in launching and implementing the Feasibility Study of the Project on the establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM) through its dedicated project “Energy Connectivity for Sustainable Development”, kicked off in January 2024, which covers all ten ECO Member States.	
138.	The Council welcomed the proceedings and outcomes of the Task Force Meetings on establishment of ECO-REM at the managerial and technical level, specifically the 1 st Task Force Meeting on 23 September 2025 and 2 nd Task Force Meeting on 17 December 2025 both held in virtual mode.	
139.	The Council resolved to finalize, prior to the 5 th Ministerial Meeting on Energy, the consideration and peer review of the draft “Regional Roadmap of Power System Connectivity - ECO Regional Electricity Market: promoting cross-border electricity connectivity for sustainable development” as a deliverable of the ESCAP Project. The Council noted with satisfaction that the roadmap entails a set of targeted, action-oriented recommendations for policy and regulatory reforms that would enable the establishment of multilateral, multi-directional power trading at sub-regional levels.	
140.	The Council called upon the Member States and the Secretariat to further re-consider, driven by the outcomes and recommendations of the subject ESCAP project, the ways and means of implementation of the ECO-REM, including revisiting the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for its Feasibility Study.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
141.	The Council requested any volunteer Member State to consider hosting the 3 rd Experts Group Meeting on establishment of ECO-REM in the second half of 2026.		
142.	The Council invited the Member States to harness the benefits of larger integrated systems through multilateral, multidirectional power trading linked to the integration of renewable energy resources.		
Other activities on energy			
143.	The Council encouraged the Member States to share their needs which are relevant to the common interests of all ECO Member States, and consider the coherent and meaningful activities that may contribute to the advancement of ECO agenda in upstream, midstream and downstream sectors.		
144.	The Council took note with appreciation of the proposal made by the Ministry of Petroleum of the Islamic Republic of Iran to allocate a booth to the ECO Secretariat at the International Exhibition of Oil, Gas, Refining, and Petrochemicals of Iran (Iran Oil Show).		
145.	The Council tasked the Secretariat to pursue the partnerships and engagements with the UN agencies, Energy Charter, IRENA, IFIs like IsDB, AIIB and other potential international partners with a view to promote cooperation, get the support for implementation of energy projects, as well as raise the visibility and outreach of ECO.		
146.	The Council underscored the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach in energy sector by improving the science-policy interface and engaging more actively with the private sector.		
MINERALS			
Priority Area: Streamlining Project-Oriented Cooperation in the Minerals Sector			
147.	The Council reaffirmed ECO as a unique platform for driving the minerals sector into a catalyst of greater economic growth and social progress across the region in pursuance of the “ECO Vision 2025” and “ECO Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation 2035”. The Council thus		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	called upon the Member States to streamline the project-oriented cooperation and mobilize resources for implementation of decisions in minerals sector via available institutional framework tools.	
148.	The Council encouraged the Member States to capitalize on the surging global demand for minerals, including critical raw materials and strategic commodities essential for modern industries, clean energy technologies, and infrastructure development. The Council further highlighted the importance of promoting sustainable mining practices, resilient supply chains, and regional value-added production.	
149.	The Council, while noting with appreciation the recent endeavours of individual ECO Member States to shift towards a sustainable and responsible mineral industry, called for exploring ways and means for coherent promotion and exchange of sustainable management of mineral resources and mining practices within ECO.	
150.	The Council reiterated the necessity of an integrated approach and synergies across green growth, energy transition, digital transformation, resource-efficiency and circularity, and technological innovation associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution with a view to address minerals and mining industry opportunities and challenges.	
151.	The Council acknowledged with satisfaction the convening of the 9 th ECO Minerals Experts Group Meeting (MEGM) on 12 February 2025 in hybrid mode under the able chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The Council commended the participation of the delegates of nine ECO Member States and a number of proposals discussed at the subject meeting, which manifested the interest in regional cooperation and growing ECO agenda in minerals.	
152.	The Council highlighted the proposal on the establishment of ECO Mineral Resources Centre in Pakistan to serve as regional knowledge-sharing and cooperation put forwards at the 9 th MEGM. In a follow up of the outcomes of the 9 th MEGM, the Council invited the Member	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	States to share their respective views and comments on the aforementioned proposal made at the 9th MEGM.		
153.	The Council took note of the proposal of Pakistan and encouraged the Member States for establishment of ECO Mineral Fund for (i) undertaking joint mineral exploration of identified most prospective mineral zones to the level of bankable feasibility studies; and (ii) collective development of such bankable mining projects.		
154.	The Council also called on the Member States to meticulously consider and provide reflections on the remarkable number of project proposals on the ECO's minerals agenda with a view to prioritize the most feasible ones and identify the measurable steps for their subsequent launching and implementation, driven by ECO's limited resources.		
155.	The Council took note of the readiness of the Geological Survey of Iran to implement the Service Catalog and Meta data System project and Smartization of Geology and Mineral Exploration project.		
156.	The Council recommended that the project proposal "Preparation of the ECO-Environmental Quality Index (EQI) Map (1:5M) of the ECO Region (ECO-EQI)" could be launched with the understanding of all ECO Member States' firm support. To this end, the Council took note that the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) may consider co-financing of the subject project proposal from ECO Feasibility and General Purpose Fund (FGPF) upon allocation of the pledged budget by the Islamic Republic of Iran as its initiator country. The Geological Survey of Iran (GSI) reiterated its willingness to cooperate with the ECO Secretariat and Member States with a view to facilitate the launch of ECO-EQI project.		
157.	The Council welcomed the overwhelming adoption of the "ECO Five-Year Roadmap on Minerals Cooperation for 2026-2030" at the 303 rd CPR Meeting, held on 27 January 2026. The Council thus encouraged the Member States to embrace and leverage the subject Roadmap,		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	initiated by ECO Secretariat as the first ever overarching, inclusive and strategic document for regional cooperation in the field of minerals. The Council expressed its conviction that the Roadmap will serve as a valuable guiding framework for enhanced cooperation among Member States in the areas of sustainable management of mineral resources, minerals database, creating stronger regulatory environment for mineral resources, investment promotion, technological innovation, capacity building and awareness raising, and other related areas.	
158.	The Council further took note of the proposal of ECO Secretariat to proceed with mapping out a sort of a Plan of Action of the “ECO Five-Year Roadmap on Minerals Cooperation for 2026-2030”, while this Plan of Action may embed the Roadmap with the implementation framework, specifically capturing concrete activities/actions, their timeframe, outcomes, responsibilities and roles of lead countries, and monitoring. The Council thus invited the Member States to proactively engage in preparation of the subject Plan of Action.	
159.	The Council invited the Member States to host the key cooperation platform meetings in minerals over the years of 2026 and 2027 to keep the regional cooperation in minerals intact.	
160.	The Council welcomed, in this context, the readiness of the Geological Survey of Iran (GSI) to host 10 th ECO Minerals Experts Group Meeting in I.R. Iran and invited the Member States to actively participate in this key platform meeting and contribute to its proceedings. The Council also welcomed the kind intention of the Ministry of Energy of Pakistan to convene the subject event in virtual mode in case it will not be organized by Iran.	
161.	The Council noted with appreciation the readiness of the National Cartographic Centre of Iran (NCC) to host the 3 rd Meeting of ECO Heads of Surveying and Mapping Organizations and invited the Member States to actively participate in this key platform meeting and contribute to its agenda related to cartography, geospatial technologies, and digital mapping.	
162.	The Council also noted with appreciation the readiness of the National Cartographic Centre of	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	Iran (NCC) to host the <u>4th-2nd</u> ECO Geomatics Committee (He-GC) virtual Meeting in IR. Iran, which may explore new opportunities for technical cooperation and regional projects in geomatics and geospatial sciences, November 2026		
163.	The Council acknowledged with satisfaction the Technical Meeting for the Production of the ECO General Atlas, August 2026 by National Cartographic Center of Iran, in collaboration with the ECO Secretariat.		
164.	The Council recalled the initiative of ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI) to implement the project “World is our home”, which aims to create digital learning materials for nature sciences and geological heritage, provide with interactive engaging resources, and thus requested ECOEI to provide the detailed information on the subject project and ECO’s possible engagement.		
165.	The Council encouraged the Member States to volunteer hosting / co-hosting the training courses for capacity building and sharing best practices in the ECO Region on various pertinent topics.		
166.	The Council called upon the Member States and the ECO Secretariat to identify innovative and practical mechanisms for enhancing regional cooperation in the minerals sector, with particular emphasis on sustainability, responsible resource management, technology transfer, investment facilitation, and human capacity development.		
ENVIRONMENT			
General Provisions			
167.	The Council reaffirmed that environmental degradation and climate change pose an existential threat to the ECO region, demanding a unified and accelerated response. The core strategic goal must be the transition from fragmented national actions to a cohesive regional framework, enhancing collaboration to secure a just transition and solidify ECO’s role in the global environmental community.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
168.	The Council recognized the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right, as affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly. In this context, the Council underscored the necessity of mainstreaming environmental considerations into all levels of decision-making, including policies, strategies, plans, and budgets, and called upon Member States to gradually eliminate harmful incentives and scale up positive encouragements for environmental protection, circularity, and resource efficiency.	
169.	The Council reiterated the importance of an integrated approach to tackle the interconnected crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. It emphasized that a transition to a circular economy, which decouples economic activity from the overconsumption of finite resources, is a game changer for the green transition in the ECO region. This requires revisiting consumption and production patterns, bolstering national and regional zero-waste initiatives, and building scientific, technological, and innovation capacity.	
170.	The Council acknowledged the intensified regional environmental diplomacy in 2025, including the active participation of the ECO Secretariat and Member States in key global forums, such as the High-Level International Conference on Glaciers' Preservation in Dushanbe (Tajikistan) and the World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF 2025) in virtual mode. It noted that major 2026 events, including the Regional Ecological Summit (RES) in the Kazakhstan and Türkiye's hosting of COP31, present pivotal platforms for unified ECO advocacy.	
171.	The Council welcomed the progress made on the Regional Initiative on Resource Efficiency, Sustainability and Circular Economy in the ECO Region (RESCUE), launched at COP29, which has been endorsed as a crucial regional platform. It noted with appreciation the Secretariat's partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in co-organizing an online Accelerator Session during WCEF 2025 and the subsequent development of a project concept titled "Strategic Foresight for Circular Economy Transition in the ECO Region".	
172.	The Council recalled the ongoing strategic consultations with multilateral environmental entities	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	and international partners, including UNEP, UNIDO, and ZWF to promote the implementation of the RESCUE Initiative. It stressed that demonstrating stronger political will and investment by Member States is a requisite for a more positive and welcoming approach by these entities towards further collaboration with the ECO region.		
173.	The Council called upon Member States to more proactively host and participate in the ECO environmental meetings to create and bolster mechanisms for policy coordination. In this context, it welcomed the convening of the inaugural meeting of the High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation by the Republic of Uzbekistan on the margins of the Regional Ecological Summit in Astana (Kazakhstan) in April 2026.		
174.	The Council took note of the new date of the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment, to be hosted by the Republic of Uzbekistan in Samarkand on 3 June 2026. The Council underscored that this meeting is critical for creating a new momentum for regional cooperation and reviving a policy dialogue after a decade-long pause. The Council thus called upon all Member States to overwhelmingly participate at a high level to adopt key policy documents.		
Priority Area 1: ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment			
175.	The Council expressed concern over the growing gap between the adaptation needs of developing countries and the support provided, particularly due to the increasing impacts of climate change. It underscored that international climate financing must be made more equitable and responsive, and noted that a unified regional strategy will strengthen Member States' ability to collectively negotiate for and access international climate funds.		
176.	The Council noted with satisfaction the updating and revision of the draft ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment (2026-2030) and its annexes – Work Program on Climate Change and Work Program on Biodiversity, prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with Member States.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
177.	The Council identified the consensus on formal adoption of the ECO Cooperation Framework on the Environment (2026-2030) during the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment as a critical policy milestone. This Framework is expected to transform the region into a coordinated platform capable of structured action, stronger advocacy, and improved access to resources. The Council invited Member States to spearhead finalizing the calendar of events and structured implementation pathway under the Framework.		
178.	The Council highlighted the importance of exchanging trusted and reliable environmental data as a requisite for evidence-based decision-making and encouraged Member States to submit their environmental National Progress Reports (NPRs) to the Secretariat during the first quarter of each calendar year.		
Priority Area 2: Combating Land Degradation with a special emphasis on Sand and Dust Storms in the Region			
179.	The Council noted that desertification, drought, land degradation, and sand and dust storms are among the environmental challenges affecting the region.		
180.	The Council reviewed the status of the project proposal titled “Capacity Building of Countries in the ECO Region on Desertification, Land Degradation and Erosion Monitoring Systems,” developed by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye. While appreciating the aforementioned authority for initiating the project proposal, the Council noted the Secretariat’s circulation of the proposal, the absence of contradictory views from Member States, and the Secretariat’s encouragement to explore alternative funding sources, including the UNCCD.		
181.	The Council highlighted the following expected outcomes for 2026: The official launch of the Turkish-led “Capacity Building on Monitoring Systems” project, subject to the availability of financial resources. Upon launch, activities should entail the determination of the existing status of monitoring and evaluation systems of countries, preparation of the ongoing situation report and the study program and sharing it with the participating countries, and organizing a		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	workshop in this respect.	
Priority Area 3: Addressing serious threats to biodiversity and sustainability of ecosystems in the ECO Region		
182.	The Council emphasized the escalating threats to the ECO region's diverse ecosystems, from mountains and forests to wetlands, and the need to reverse biodiversity loss to ensure long-term sustainability. The Council confirmed that the Work Program on Biodiversity in the ECO Region (2026-2030) has been finalized and is pending adoption. It identified the importance of the formal adoption of this Work Program during the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment as a key outcome for 2026, representing a significant regional contribution to the collaborative management of shared ecosystems.	
183.	The Council stressed that sustainable forest management, afforestation and reforestation, ecosystem restoration, and the promotion of nature-based solutions are essential for biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation through carbon sequestration, and the enhancement of regional ecological resilience.	
184.	The Council invited Member States to actively prepare the ground for the implementation of the Work Program by moving towards harmonizing national policies and promoting ecosystem-based approaches. It further called for more effective engagement by Member States in collective biodiversity-related action through hosting and attending environmental meetings and events in the region and beyond.	
Priority Area 4: Cooperation with the environment-related international organizations/entities/instruments		
185.	The Council commended the ECO Secretariat's efforts to leverage its observer status in key global and regional forums, including UNEA, UNFF, ESCAP and the Rio Conventions, as well as to deepen collaboration with partners like UNIDO and ZWF.	
186.	The Council endorsed the strategic direction for advancing the circular economy agenda, calling the Secretariat to finalize the concept and proceed with the joint implementation of the "Strategic Foresight for Circular Economy Transition in the ECO Region" project in collaboration with	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	UNIDO.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
187.	The Council noted the Secretariat's active and impactful participation in the Regional Ecological Summit in Astana, using this occasion to convene the inaugural meeting of the ECO High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation, thereby establishing a permanent mechanism for high-level policy coordination.		
188.	The Council called upon all Member States to leverage COP31 in Türkiye in 2026 as a pivotal advocacy platform. It urged them to articulate a unified ECO voice, showcase the RESCUE Initiative and other regional projects, and forge new partnerships for climate resilience and sustainable development, employing the newly adopted Cooperation Framework as a basis for a unified regional position.		
D. SECTOR: AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY			
AGRICULTURE			
Priority Area-1: Policy Makers Cooperation on Agriculture			
189.	The Council, while noting the postponement of the 8 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and the 7 th High-Level Experts Meeting (HILEM) on Agriculture due to a lack of quorum, scheduled to take place in Iran on 16-17 February 2026, welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to reschedule both meetings in the 4 th quarter of 2026 and invited all Member States to actively take part in these events at the highest level.		
190.	The Council, while welcoming the initiative proposed by the Republic of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the "Green Lanes" System within the ECO framework to strengthen mutual trust and cooperation among Member States through the liberalization of trade in agro-industrial products, the establishment of electronic data exchange mechanisms and the reduction of administrative barriers in agricultural trade, requested Uzbekistan, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat, to develop a detailed implementation roadmap and framework for the initiative, and invited Member States to provide their feedback and support to facilitate its advancement.		
Priority Area-2: Food Security and Implementation of the ECO-RPFS			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
191.	The Council appreciated the ECO Regional Coordination Centre for Food Security (ECO-RCCFS) for submitting to the ECO Secretariat the outcome report of the project titled “Support the Transformation of the ECO Coordination Centre for Food Security (ECO-RCCFS) from a Programme-Based Organization into a Self-Sustainable Institution within the ECO,” outlining its key findings and recommendations.		
192.	The Council encouraged Member States to develop and implement projects aligned with the endorsed RPFS under the technical guidance of ECO-RCCFS.		
193.	The Council, while acknowledging the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the 5 th Steering Committee Meeting of the ECO-RCCFS for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS, requested the host authorities to provide the precise dates and details of the meeting		
194.	The Council invited Member States to contribute actively to the regional food security monitoring and knowledge-sharing mechanism and early warning indicators, and tasked the ECO-RCCFS to serve as a technical facilitator coordinating data integration and harmonized information sharing among participating Member States.		
Priority Area-3: Strengthening Seed Supply in the ECO Region			
195.	The Council, while acknowledging the draft ECO Regional Seed Agreement prepared under the ECO/FAO-SEC Project on Seed Sector Development in the Region, and the feedback received from Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan, requested the remaining Member States to submit their feedback to expedite the finalization of the Agreement.		
196.	The Council, while noting the nominations already received from Azerbaijan, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan, called upon all Member States to submit and regularly update their nominations for the formation of the ECOSA Advisory Board.		
197.	The Council invited Member States to consider hosting the 9 th ECOSA International Seed Trade Conference and requested interested Member State(s) to provide the proposed dates and relevant organizational details of the event.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
198.	The Council, while appreciating ECOSA for organizing a series of nine online meetings to showcase the seed sectors of Member States during 2025 and early 2026, encouraged ECOSA, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat, to develop and submit a concrete roadmap, for the establishment of an ECO Regional Seed Information Exchange Platform to facilitate transparency on seed varieties, certification systems, and trade opportunities.		
Priority Area-4: Cooperation on Animal Trade and Veterinary Services			
199.	The Council, while noting the ratification of the ECO Permanent Veterinary Commission (ECO-VECO) Statute by Afghanistan and Iran, urged the remaining Member States to consider signing and ratifying the Statute.		
200.	The Council invited Member States to consider hosting the 4 th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Veterinary Organizations as well as the 4 th Technical Committee Meeting for the implementation of the ECO-VECO Work Plan 2024-2028, and requested the interested Member State(s) to provide the proposed dates and programmatic details of the events.		
201.	The Council encouraged Member States to strengthen regional collaboration in the priority area relating to animal trade and veterinary services, to designate or update their national focal points, and to actively support the implementation of the outcomes of the small-scale project on the standardized ECO network of slaughterhouses and reference laboratories, with a view to facilitating trans-boundary trade of livestock and livestock products.		
202.	The Council encouraged Member States, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat and ECO-VECO, and in collaboration with FAO and WOAHI, to initiate a regional capacity-building programme on transboundary animal disease control, especially FMD and PPR, with a particular focus on harmonized surveillance and laboratory networking.		
Priority Area-5: Water Management			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
203.	The Council, while noting the pendency of the establishment process of the ECO Center of Excellence for Efficient Water Utilization for Agriculture (ECO-CEEWUA), reiterated its call upon the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to expedite the establishment process of the Center and submit a progress report on the status of that process to the ECO Secretariat through diplomatic channels.		
204.	The Council, while acknowledging the nominations of national focal points received from Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, renewed its request to Member States to nominate or update their national focal points and to actively engage in establishing a coordinated network among their relevant institutions, with a view to strengthening regional cooperation in water management and supporting the timely establishment of the ECO Center of Excellence for Efficient Water Utilization for Agriculture (ECO-CEEWUA).		
205.	The Council called upon the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, pending the formal establishment of the ECO-CEEWUA, to consider organizing, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat, a series of regional technical meetings on efficient water use in agriculture, focusing on drought management, irrigation efficiency, and climate-smart practices.		
Priority Area 6: Cooperation on Meteorological Issues			
206.	The Council, while noting the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the 4 th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Meteorological Organizations and recalling that the main purpose of the meeting is to discuss the draft Statute of the ECO Meteorological Calibration Center (ECO-MCC), encouraged Member States to convey their comments and observations on the draft Statute in a timely manner so that the meeting may be scheduled thereafter.		
207.	The Council, while noting the comments received from Pakistan and Tajikistan, requested the remaining Member States to submit their comments and observations on the draft Statute of the ECO Meteorological Calibration Center (ECO-MCC) to facilitate its finalization.		
208.	The Council encouraged Member States to explore the development of a pilot regional agro-meteorological cooperation initiative to support agricultural planning and risk mitigation.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
Priority Area-7: Agricultural Bio-technology Network			
209.	The Council, while appreciating the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the 3 rd Expert Group Meeting of the ECO Agricultural Bio-Technology Network (ECO-ABN), called upon the host authorities to communicate the exact dates and detailed logistical arrangements for the meeting.		
210.	The Council requested ECO-ABN to regularly update its website and strengthen its engagement with relevant international networks and organizations, and encouraged Member States to proactively advance the network's objectives by submitting their periodic national reports and updating their focal point nominations.		
211.	The Council recommended that ECO-ABN, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat, initiate a regional inventory of agricultural biotechnology capacities and research priorities, with a view to identifying concrete opportunities for joint research and technology transfer.		
212.	The Council requested Member States to provide comments and observations on the proposed ECO Biosafety Capacity Building (ECO-BCB) project by the Islamic Republic of Iran.		
Priority Area-8: Relations with Regional and International Organizations			
213.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to pursue cooperation and engagement with relevant international organizations and partners in agriculture, and recommended that Member States and the Secretariat invite representatives of these organizations and partners to relevant ECO events to enhance inter-organizational partnerships.		
214.	The Council, while acknowledging the Memorandum of Understanding signed between ECO and the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) in 2025, expressed its appreciation to the Secretariat for operationalizing the Joint Plan of Action and for its efforts in advancing its implementation, and called upon Member States to actively participate in the implementation of its agreed activities, while encouraging them to host relevant activities under the Joint Plan of Action, with a view to ensuring its effective and timely implementation.		
215.	The Council emphasized the need for strengthened collective efforts by Member States and the ECO Secretariat, using all available means, to mobilize financial resources from relevant international and regional organizations in support of ECO's agricultural projects and activities.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
INDUSTRY			
Priority Area-1: Policy Makers Cooperation on Industry			
216.		The Council, while appreciating the Republic of Tajikistan's offer for hosting the 4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Industry on 23 September 2026 and the 3 rd Meeting of the High-Level Experts Group (HLEG) on Industry on 22 September 2026, along with an International Textile Forum on the margins of these events in Dushanbe, invited all Member States to actively participate in the scheduled events at the highest possible level.	
217.		The Council called for strengthened and coordinated efforts by Member States and the ECO Secretariat, utilizing all available means, to actively mobilize financial resources from relevant international and regional organizations in support of ECO's agricultural projects and activities, with a view to ensuring their effective and timely implementation.	
Priority Area-2: Cooperation on Quality Infrastructure			
218.		The Council, while noting the ratification of the Statute of the ECO Regional Institute for Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation and Metrology (ECO-RISCAM) by Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, and Türkiye, requested the remaining Member States to sign and ratify the Statute and its Protocol Amending Article 5.4.1.10 to facilitate its operationalization, and urged all Member States to participate actively in its activities.	
219.		The Council, while noting the comments received from Azerbaijan, Iran, and Türkiye on the draft basic documents (<i>i.e.</i> Rules of Procedure, Financial Regulations, Staff Regulations, Roadmap, and Work Programme) of ECO-RISCAM, requested the remaining Member States to submit their comments to facilitate the approval of these documents at the First General Council Meeting of ECO-RISCAM.	
220.		The Council reiterated its request to all Member States to timely update the nomination of their focal points, including their contact details, for the ECO-RISCAM and each of its Technical Management Boards (TMBs).	
221.		The Council requested Member States to share their conformity assessment methods and	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	procedures in order to study the possibility of the harmonization of conformity assessment in the ECO Region.	
222.	The Council, while noting the Islamic Republic of Iran's proposal to host the First General Council Meeting of ECO-RISCAM in the 4 th quarter of 2026 and the postponement of earlier dates due to a lack of quorum, requested the host authorities, subject to achieving a quorum of members, to provide confirmed dates and logistical details for the Meeting, and urged Member States to ensure their effective participation by officially designating their relevant representatives and heads of delegations.	
223.	The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Türkiye to expedite the establishment of the ECO-RISCAM Technical Management Boards (TMBs) for Metrology and for Standardization and Accreditation, respectively, and to communicate the ECO Secretariat of the proposed dates and details for the inaugural meetings of their respective boards.	
224.	The Council, while appreciating the Islamic Republic of Iran for organizing a virtual Training Workshop on Conformity Assessment on 18 November 2025, requested the Republic of Türkiye to provide dates and details for a workshop on Standardization and Accreditation, and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for a workshop on Metrology, both to be held in 2026, and further requested Pakistan and Türkiye to submit their draft procedures for the functioning of their respective Technical Management Boards (TMBs).	
225.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to communicate with ECO-RISCAM Member States in order to expedite the establishment of ECO-RISCAM Technical Management Boards (TMB) for Standardization with the aim of exploring opportunities and conducting technical discussions on the possibility of harmonization of regional standards.	
Priority Area-3: Cooperation on Nanotechnology Network		
226.	The Council requested Member States to consider hosting the 3 rd Steering Committee Meeting on ECO Nanotechnology Network and to provide precise dates and detailed logistical arrangements for the meeting to be held in 2026, and further invited all Member States to ensure their active participation therein.	
227.	The Council called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to update the study on nanotechnology in	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	the ECO region, and requested all Member States to provide the necessary updated information through the ECO Secretariat for this purpose.		
228.	The Council requested Member States to submit updated country reports on this area of cooperation to the ECO Secretariat and to ensure a more active involvement of their nanotechnology-related institutions in the ECO Nanotechnology Network.		
229.	The Council requested the expedited finalization and implementation of the project proposal for establishing a coordinating and facilitating platform to implement nanotechnology-based water treatment pilot/demo plants in the ECO region.		
230.	The Council invited all Member States to nominate an educational coordinator to facilitate participation in the Second International Nano Olympiad for High School Students in 2026 and its virtual training courses and workshops offered by the Iran Nano and Micro Technology Development Council, and requested Member States to encourage eligible students, aged 16-19 from all fields of study, to participate in the Olympiad.		
Priority Area-4: Industrial Property Rights			
231.	The Council called upon Member States to consider hosting the 4 th Coordination Committee Meeting on Industrial Property Rights in 2026 and requested all Member States to actively participate in the meeting.		
232.	The Council requested Member States to organize capacity-building and awareness-raising workshops on matter related to Industrial Property Rights and to strengthen their proactive engagement and cooperation in this regard.		
233.	The Council encouraged Member States, in coordination with the ECO Secretariat and in collaboration with WIPO, to develop a pilot regional mechanism for the identification, protection, and commercialization of industrial property rights in the ECO region, with a particular focus on improving access to intellectual property services for MSMEs and start-ups.		
Priority Area-5: Development of MSMEs & Entrepreneurships			
234.	The Council welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 5 th Steering Committee Meeting on Entrepreneurship as well as Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development in 2026 (in-person), and requested all Member States to actively		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	participate in the meeting.		
235.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat, in close coordination with relevant national institutions in Member States to develop a regional framework strategy and update Action Plan on MSME and Entrepreneurship Development in the ECO region, and to report progress thereon to the Council, with a view to strengthening policy coordination, enhancing institutional cooperation, and supporting inclusive and sustainable economic growth.		
236.	The Council encouraged Member States to organize expert-level meetings to explore a financial mechanism supporting start-ups, MSMEs, and entrepreneurs, and requested interested Member States to provide the relevant details to the ECO Secretariat.		
237.	The Council requested Member States to enhance cooperation in organizing the First ECO International Innovation and Technological Exhibition (ECO-TEX) in 2026, and invite all Member States to actively participate and nominate focal points to support coordination.		
238.	The Council encouraged interested Member States to organize a regional ECO MSME Innovation Forum within the ECO International Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ECO-TEX), with a view to facilitating matchmaking among entrepreneurs, investors, and technology providers.		
Priority Area-6: Relations with Regional/International Organizations/Agencies			
239.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration with international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), to obtain financial and technical support, and called upon Member States to actively cooperate in this regard.		
E. SECTOR: TOURISM			
Priority Area 1: Cooperation for marketing, promotion, and branding of tourism activities			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
240.	The Council expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism and the 9th Meeting of the High-Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Tourism in April 2025, along with the official opening ceremony for Erzurum as the ECO Tourism Capital for 2025 as well as appreciating the Member States for their contributions to achieving the objectives outlined in the Erzurum Declaration , adopted as the outcome document of the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism held on 26 April 2025 in Erzurum, Türkiye.	
241.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism and the 9th Meeting of the High-Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Tourism on 28-29 April 2026, along with the official opening ceremony for Shusha as the ECO Tourism Capital for 2026. The Council also called upon Member States to provide necessary support for the decisions in the Shusha Declaration adopted at the end of the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism , and wished success for the events and media outreach planned to be held in Shusha throughout 2026.	
242.	The Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan regarding hosting the 8th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism , along with the celebratory tourism events in Lahore in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, ECO Tourism Capital for 2027, raised during the 7 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism, and requested that the Islamic Republic of Pakistan share the tentative program with the ECO Secretariat via official channels for timely coordination of the events.	
243.	The Council welcomed the organization of the 1 st Meeting of ECO Advisory Committee on Tourism (ECO-ACT) on 26 November 2025 in Tashkent, urging Member States to actively participate in the 2 nd ECO-ACT Meeting and finalizing the Roadmap of the Expansion of Tourism Services for 2026-2030 (RETS-2030) , emphasizing strengthened coordination and implementation oversight role of ECO-ACT aligned with the new ECO vision for 2035.	
244.	The Council called for the continuation of the project ' ECO Honorary Tourism Ambassadors ' in collaboration with the Member States and the selection of personae for the year 2027, authorizing the ECO Secretary General to assign among the nominees approved by the Member States based on the latest version of the project concept note.	
Priority Area 2: Cooperation in Promotion of Silk Road Tourism		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
245.	The Council, while welcoming the publication of the Second Special Edition of the ECO Chronicle dedicated to “ UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the ECO Region ” launched during the 1 st Meeting of the ECO Silk Road Task Force hosted by Azerbaijan in Sheki on 29 October 2025, calls the Secretariat and the Member States to consider the possibility of organizing workshops in cooperation with relevant organizations like UNESCO on preservation of the ancient Silk Road heritages.		
246.	The Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 2nd Meeting of the ECO Silk Road Task Force and 6th ECO Silk Road Food Festival and mandated the Secretariat to begin preparations on launching ECO’s Silk Road theme tourism initiative within the concept and timeline defined in RETS-2030.		
Priority Area 3: Travel and Tourism Facilitation			
247.	The recent efforts of Member States to ease visa regimes for tourism purposes were welcomed by the Council, and it was requested that visa policy-making authorities of the Member States both host and participate in the ECO High Level Expert Meetings on Visa Facilitation . Furthermore, the Council instructed the Secretariat to ensure the involvement of all relevant directorates (namely Trade, Transport, and Tourism) to advance toward a comprehensive visa-free travel regime within the region, extending beyond tourists to include businesspersons and transport professionals.		
248.	The Council welcomed the questionnaire, which will identify the gaps and priorities of the Member States for the tourism connectivity circulated by the Secretariat following the 4 th Meeting of the ECO Tourism and Transport Task Force, and urged the Member States to complete the necessary responses to this questionnaire as soon as possible. The continuation of the ECO Tourism and Transport Task Force, reorganizing it into the ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Transport , with a dedicated meeting to finalize the tourism connectivity framework policy and its implementation, was supported by the Council.		
Priority Area 4: Diversification of Tourism into various niches			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
249.	The Council expressed its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for successfully hosting the 3rd ECO Confobition on Health Tourism in Hamadan on 11-13 June 2025 and the Council welcomed proposal of Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 4th ECO Confobition on Health Tourism in 2026 urging the Member States to provide essential input to the ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Health Tourism with their active participation, which will also convene along with the 4th ECO Confobition on Health Tourism. ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Health Tourism is expected to draft a regional health tourism strategy and a concept for a potential digital health tourism platform showcasing the facilities of the Member States for visitors coming to the Member States for medical and wellness purposes. The Council also welcomed Iran's proposal to establish the ECO Working Group on Hydrotherapy and Spa Tourism. The Member States are urged to kindly designate a relevant focal point and accelerate the completion of the online questionnaire prepared by Iran through the provided link on https://survey.porsline.ir/s/GqSSY1o4 circulated through the Notes Verbale No. 2024/1692 dated 24/11/2024 and No.2025/759 dated 20/05/2025. The Iranian side is requested to share the received responses on hydrotherapy tourism in the ECO region with the Member States through the Secretariat and to consider developing a comprehensive strategy aimed at fostering growth in health tourism. The organization of a wellness and spa tourism event is also expected.	
250.	The Council acknowledged the official launch of the Policy Brief on Diversifying Intra-Region Tourism at the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism, while appreciating the work of an ad-hoc specialized working group among Member States to prepare a document investigating and identifying the potential and opportunities for diversifying intra-regional tourism. The Council invited Member States to follow up on the recommendations outlined in the above-mentioned Policy Brief document to promote tourism diversification policies nationally and regionally, integrating them into Member States' strategies.	
251.	The Council welcomed the official launch of the Compendium of Best Practices for Ecotourism in the ECO Region during the 7th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism and urged the Member States to consider the possibility of hosting the 5th Experts Group Meeting on Ecotourism in 2026, reorganizing it as the ECO-ACT Sub Committee on Ecotourism, including the field-based	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	capacity building activities.		
Priority Area 5: Enhancing utilization of digital technologies and social media in the tourism sector across the ECO region			
252.		The Council recommended to establish a Working Group on Tourism Product Development under ECO-ACT following the endorsement of the RETS-2030 and adoption of Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation for 2035 which will be responsible for the development of a modern ECO Tourism branding style guide to standardize visual identity and messaging across digital platforms, launch of an updated version of the ECO Tourism Website incorporating a digital tourism inventory aligned with new branding, creation of thematic contents and rollout of a long term digital marketing plan with national tourism administrations and possible private sector contributions.	
253.		The Council requested the support of the Member States for developing proposals on collaboration with regional and international financial institutions to support the implementation of RETS-2030 initiatives, including new projects like ECO-TIES (ECO Tourism Innovation and Entrepreneur Support). The Council mandated the Secretariat to draft and circulate the concepts of project proposals starting from ECO-TIES to be implemented within RETS-2030.	
Priority Area 6: Strengthening human resources and capacity building for the increase in the quality of the services			
254.		The Council urged the Member States to complete nominations (<i>so far, Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan, and Türkiye have provided nominations</i>) for the ECO Tourism Educational Network (ECO-TEN), welcoming the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 2 nd ECO-TEN Meeting. The 2 nd ECO-TEN Meeting is expected to identify priority cooperation areas in which ECO-TEN could work on the development of mutual recognition frameworks and joint tourism education/training programs.	
Priority Area 7: Cooperation in quality development and harmonization of rules and procedures for sustainable tourism			

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
255.	The Council tasked the ECO Working Group on Tourism Standardization to begin the pilot implementation of the 'ECO Sustainable Tourism - Common Criteria for Tourism Accommodation Facilities, including opening of an application window, initial engagement with regional or global tourism bodies to support awareness, technical review, and evaluation targeting at least 5 pilot applicant institutions by the end of 2026. The Council requested Member States to consider the possibility of hosting the 8th ECO Working Group on Tourism Standardization (WGTS) Meeting to evaluate initial pilot applications and prepare an evaluation report, including development of a roadmap for full-scale implementation based on pilot findings, aligning with adopted RETS-2030.		
Priority Area 8: Strengthening the Private Sector and Local Community in tourism activities			
256.	The Council appreciated the Republic of Türkiye and the Turkish Cypriot State for successfully organizing the 2nd ECO Tour Operators Forum and requested the Member States to provide feedback on the draft concept on the establishment of the ECO Tourism Agencies Federation submitted during the 2nd ECO Tour Operators Forum. The establishment of this federation is foreseen to allow the private sector to develop various partnerships within its own autonomous structure. The Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 3rd ECO Tour Operators Forum in Aras Free Zone. In this regard, the Council requested Iran to convey to the Secretariat the necessary information regarding the event (including exact dates, hospitality details, focal point, and other relevant information) for circulation amongst the Member States to enable timely coordination and called further partnership of private sector within and beyond the ECO region asking the host country authorities to consider the possibility of inviting tour companies outside the region to this event.		
257.	Following the organization of the 1st ECO Region Tourism Market Symposium by the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kish Island on 13-15 May 2025, the Council welcomed the proposal on hosting of the 2nd Symposium on the Tourism Market of the ECO Member States by the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2026. In this regard, the Council requested Iran to convey to the Secretariat the		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	necessary information regarding the event, including exact dates, hospitality details, and other relevant information for circulation amongst the Member States to enable timely coordination.		
258.	The Council reiterated the need for stronger collaboration between public and private stakeholders in the regional tourism sector and encouraged joint participation in regional tourism activities through the organization of and involvement in relevant meetings, events, exhibitions, and fairs, like the 1st ECO Tourism Fair. In this context, the Council requested the ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECO-CCI) to convene regular meetings of the Tourism Committee of the ECO-CCI. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to consider the possibility of hosting the 1st ECO Tourism Fair, following a previous agreement, which the Secretariat has requested via its Note Verbale No. T/2025/1800 dated 20 November 2025. The Council further recommended the Member States to consider holding such fairs and exhibitions within the Celebratory events for the ECO Tourism Capitals.		
Priority Area 9: Investment Generation and Facilitation			
259.	Underlining the importance of the investments for the growth of regional tourism, the Council welcomed the official launch of the 1st Edition of the ECO Tourism Investment Guide within the 6th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism and organizing the ECO Tourism Investment Forum within the Mangystau International Tourism Forum hosted by the Republic of Kazakhstan in Aktau on 23 September 2025. The Council Tasked the Secretariat to draft the 2nd Edition of the ECO Tourism Investment Guide, update information, and include a dedicated section in the updated guide focused on the development of tourism investments, particularly Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the Member States by the end of November 2026. It was also requested that the Member States consider the possibility of hosting the 2nd ECO Tourism Investment and Business Forum to disseminate information on incentives, opportunities, and potential specific areas for investment among relevant investors in 2026.		
260.			
261.	35 th Meeting of the Council asked the Member States to provide feedback on reconsidering		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	contributions to the ECO Tourism Promotion Fund to activate it and nominate the representatives for the Board of Trustees of the said fund. The Council reiterates its request for the reactivation of the said Fund, mandating the Secretariat to look for any other available tools to finance the tourism projects in the ECO region.		
Priority Area 10: Relations with Regional / International Organizations / Agencies			
262.	The Council underscored the importance of Member States providing their latest tourism statistics in the format prepared by the Secretariat. Specifically, the Council requested data on the number of foreign visitors, the economic value of the tourism sector within national income, the capacity of tourism infrastructure, and employment. This consistent data collection will greatly enhance the ECO Secretariat's ability to analyze and support the sector.		
263.	While appreciating the Secretariat's previous efforts to enhance bilateral ties with UN Tourism through a formal MoU, the Council saw an opportunity to further amplify this collaborative approach. It was suggested that the Secretariat explore expanding its partnerships with other key international organizations in the tourism sector. In a related spirit of inclusivity, the Council encouraged Member States, when hosting events for other international or regional bodies, to take steps to ensure robust participation from both the ECO Secretariat and the tourism authorities of all Member States.		
264.	The Council encourages Member States to inform the Secretariat of the update of the previously designated National Focal Points for tourism whenever new appointments are made, in order to ensure greater coherence and coordination with the Secretariat.		
F. SECTOR: HUMAN RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT			
Priority Area 1: Sustainable Development			
265.	The Council has underscored the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals as an agenda of investment, encompassing both physical infrastructure and human capital, particularly in the realms of health, education, and disaster risk reduction.		
266.	The Council called upon the Member States to facilitate the participation of the ECO Secretariat in meetings pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals, so as to enhance mutual		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	cooperation between the Secretariat and the Member States.		
267.	The Council welcomed the confirmation by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Second ECO Forum on Sustainable Development, and requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to inform the Secretariat, in due course, of the proposed dates for the said event, to be held in 2026.		
268.	The Council instructed the ECO Secretariat to enhance mutual supportiveness, as set forth in the ECO Vision 2025, with respect to projects aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to secure broader recognition and to attract the maximum possible international resources from organizations such as UNDP, UNESCAP, UNDRR, UNICEF, IOM, UNESCO, JICA, ADB, and IsDB.		
269.	The Council instructed the Secretariat to place greater emphasis, within the implementation framework of the Strategic Goals of ECO for 2035 in the coming years, upon activities and actions addressing migration, poverty, income inequality, the strengthening of family institutions, the empowerment of youth and women, sustainable population growth, water management and urban/ rural development as well as green villages.		
270.	The Council appreciated the Secretariat's advice and called upon both the Member States and the Secretariat to enhance mutual cooperation for the identification and establishment of an ECO Youth Platform, with a view to empowering the role of youth across the ECO region.		
271.	The Council requested the Member States to consider hosting the First ECO Conference on "Sustainable Clean Water and Sanitation in the ECO Region," with the objective of promoting regional dialogue and strengthened cooperation in support of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and other related regional priorities.		
Priority Area 2: Disaster Risk Reduction			
272.	The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting of the 10th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction preceded by a High-Level Working Group Meeting on 21-22 January 2026, and underscored the significance of the outcomes of this Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction, including the update of the ECO Regional Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (ECORFDRR), and may request Member States to give due priority to the effective implementation of the updated Framework.		
273.	The Council the appreciated the Republic of Türkiye to host the ECO Technical Working Group		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	Meeting on DRR along with “Winter Drill” on 4-7 March 2025 in Erzurum.	
274.	The Council appreciated the proposal by Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting “2 nd Senior Officials Meeting/ Heads Meeting for Disaster Insurance Authorities” as well as the “3 rd Experts Meeting for Disaster Insurance Authorities” in 2026.	
275.	The Council welcomed the launch of the joint project with UNICEF entitled “Short Animation Video for Children of the ECO Region on Disaster Prevention and Preparedness”, and support the joint two-year working plan with UNICEF for its implementation.	
276.	The Council instructed the ECO Secretariat to enhance collaboration with international organizations such as UNDRR, ESCAP in particular the APDIM, as outlined in the MoU, and welcomed NDMA of Pakistan for holding a joint workshop on DRR with APDIM and ECO Secretariat.	
277.	The Council instructed the ECO Secretariat to coordinate with the Member States Working Group Meeting(s) for “Seismic Risk Assignment” and “ECO Innovation Hub” on Disaster Risk Reduction and appreciated the proposal by NDMA of Pakistan to lead and contribute to the proposed ECO Working Group on “Seismic Risk Assignment” under the ECO Events for 2026.	
278.	The Council appreciated the proposal of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) for hosting the “1 st Meeting of the Heads of National Societies in ECO Region” in Tehran in 2026.	
279.	The Council welcomed the offer of the I.R. of Iran Metrological Organization (IRIMO) and ECO-RCRM to convene an online seasonal meeting on natural disasters that have occurred in the ECO region, aiming to exchange information and expertise for more effective disaster management, and to provide the names of their designated focal points for coordinating this important meeting.	
280.	The Council , while appreciating the ECO-RCRM for its progress on the project proposal titled "Site Selecting for Road Weather Stations via Mashhad-Ashgabat to Improve Road Weather Monitoring (RWN)", requested Turkmenistan to continue its cooperation with the ECO-RCRM and to consider contributing to the project with a view to improving road weather monitoring.	
281.	The Council requested Member States to designate national focal points to establish a task force for coordinating and conducting country-specific meetings on disaster risk management issues in the region and for developing a Data Bank of Natural Disasters.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
282.	The Council , while appreciating the ECO-RCRM for preparing the first phase of the project titled "Implementation of Seasonal Climate Prediction over the ECO Region" with in-kind support from the Islamic Republic of Iran Meteorological Organization (IRIMO), requested other Member States to continue their cooperation and support for the completion of the subsequent phases of this project.	
283.	The Council stated its satisfaction for the final approval of the Statute of ECO-RCRM at the 27th COM meeting, in Tashkent and invited the Member States (except for Islamic Republic of Iran) to consider signing the protocol of ECO-RCRM Statute.	
284.	The Council welcomed the offer of the I.R. of Iran Metrological Organization (IRIMO) and ECO-RCRM to co-organize a Training Courses/Workshops entitled as "Natural Disaster Early warnings and loss Estimation System" in 2026 in Mashhad.	
285.	The Council requested Member States to join the project proposal initiated by the Islamic Republic of Iran (Organization of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration) on Landslide Hazard Zonation (LHZ), which received support from Member Countries during the Validation Meeting held in 2022, and the Council also encouraged other interested Member States to provide all possible support for the successful launch and implementation of the project.	
286.	The Council appreciated Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye (AFAD) and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) to jointly organize a workshop on "Disaster Information Management for Seismic Risk and Mitigating Earthquake Risk" in 2025.	
287.	The Council welcomed offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 5 th Expert Group on DRR to be organized by Geological Survey of Iran (GSI) in 2026.	
288.	The Council welcomed the proposal of NCC of Iran hosting virtual Expert meeting on Geo special Information Maturity Assessment in the ECO Region.	
Priority Area 3: Health		
289.	The Council requested the Member States to consider hosting the 6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Health within their territories.	
290.	The Council requested Member States to introduce their focal points to participate in the meetings to finalize the "ECO Action Plan on Health", which was prepared and circulated in	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	2025 and requested to actively participate in its implementation.		
291.	The Council welcomed the proposal of Pakistan to host the “Workshop on Promoting Universal Health Coverage” in 2026 in virtual format.		
292.	The Council emphasized the importance of continued interaction with international organizations, including WHO and other stakeholders, as well as multilateral development banks, to maintain existing support and to accelerate their technical and financial assistance in joint projects. In this respect, the Council also appreciated the Secretariat's efforts to explore the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding with WHO to strengthen the relationship on health.		
Priority Area 4: Education			
293.	The Council requested the ECO-EI to coordinate with the ECO Secretariat and announce the scholarship Programs/Training Courses on Sustainable Development, Disaster Risk Reduction and Health for the ECO Member States.		
294.	The Council appreciated Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting the 1 st ECO-EI Expert Group Meeting on Internationalization of Higher Education in ECO Region in Islamabad, on 15-16 April 2025.		
295.	The Council requested the ECO-EI to collaborate with the Secretariat to organize the 1 st ECO Ministerial Meeting on Education along with the 5 th Meeting of the BoT to be held in 2026.		
296.	The Council encouraged Member States to work with ECO Educational Institute to organize a workshop and prepare a report on the state, challenges, and good practices of medical education in volunteering countries.		
297	The Council requested the Member States to consider extending their project proposals for inclusion in the next ECO-EI Work Programme; the proposals shall include the objectives of the activities, time, venue and participants, cost-sharing, if any, and other necessary information.”		
298.	The Council highlighted the importance of collaboration with regional and international institutions on education, including the UNESCO Center and the Resilience for West and Central Asia (RCECWA) and UNICEF.		
299.	The Council welcomed the readiness expressed by the ECO College of Insurance to host the Second Symposium of Rectors of Universities of the ECO Region, to be held in Tehran in 2026.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
300.	The Council appreciated the Cultural Heritage videos produced by the ECO-EI and kindly invited the Member States to share the videos showing casting historical and cultural sites across the ECO region, including UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Iran such as Naqsh-e Jahan Square, the Bam Citadel (Arg-e Bam), and Shustar Historical Hydraulic System, as well as sites in Turkiye, including Selimiye Mosque, Troy, Catahoyuk, Gobeklipe, and the Wooden Hypostyle Mosque of Anatolia.		
301.	The Council highly appreciated the successful implementation of the International Workshop Series on Artificial Intelligence in education conducted by ECOEI in cooperation with Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Science and invites the Member States to collaborate with the ECOEI in organizing similar initiatives aimed at promoting artificial intelligence, digital learning and innovation in education across the ECO region.		
302.	The Council commended ECOEI's publications on Teacher Education in Iran, which highlights the development, challenges, and innovative practices within the country's teacher education system and invites the Member States to collaborate with the ECOEI in developing similar publications, research studies, and knowledge-sharing initiatives on teacher education and educational reform across the ECO region.		
G. SECTOR: JUDICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY COORDINATION AND ECO ADVOCACY PROGRAMME FOR AFGHANISTAN			
303.	A. <u>Regional Cooperation in Combating Drugs and Transnational Organized Crime:</u> I. The Council reaffirmed the importance of enhancing regional cooperation against drugs, terrorism, and transnational organized crime as a core pillar of the ECO Strategic Goals and Objectives for 2035. II. The Council took note of the successful organization of the Fourth ECO Interior Ministers' Meeting (Tehran) and the Sixth Meeting of Attorneys/Prosecutors General (Tashkent), both of which contributed to advancing institutional coordination among Member States. III. The Council requested the Member States to nominate/ update their designated focal points in the areas of drugs, organized crime, judiciary, anticorruption, police/law		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
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	enforcement, and parliamentary cooperation.	
304.	<u>B. Meeting of the Ministers of Interior of ECO Member States</u> I. The Council appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Fourth ECO Interior Ministers' Meeting on 28 October 2025. II. The Council recalled that the Islamic Republic of Pakistan had offered to host the Fifth Meeting during the Fourth ECO Interior Ministers' Meeting in Tehran. III. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to kindly convey the exact date and hospitality arrangements for the Fifth ECO Interior Ministers' Meeting, to be held in Islamabad in 2026. IV. The Council urged the ECO Secretariat to ensure proactive and sustained followup on the decisions adopted at the 4th ECO Interior Ministers Meeting.	
305.	<u>C. Judicial / Legal Cooperation: Implementation of the Plan of Interaction among the Offices of the Attorneys/Prosecutors General</u> I. The Council expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Uzbekistan for hosting the Sixth Meeting of the Attorneys/Prosecutors General of the ECO Member States in Tashkent on 25-26 September 2025, and welcomed convening of the Seventh Meeting, scheduled to take place on 11-12 September 2026 in the Republic of Kazakhstan. II. The Council requested the Member States to provide the Secretariat with updates regarding their designated focal points. This initiative aims to enhance communication and collaboration among the Attorneys/Prosecutors General Offices of the ECO Member States, thereby facilitating a more effective implementation of the Plan of Interaction among these offices. III. The Council invited the interested Member States to host thematic events in 2026 to support the Plan of Interaction, including workshops on judicial cooperation, asset recovery, cybercrime, and prosecutorial best practices. IV. The Council motivated the Member States to share their experiences and best practices in	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	judicial/legal matters for sharing among the ECO Member States. V. The Council took note of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan's proposal to have collaboration amongst ECO Member States' Law and Justice Ministries/Prosecutors Offices in order to strengthen its institutional effectiveness of a legal affairs network to facilitate harmonization of regional agreements and timely execution of commitments.	
306.	<u>D. Anti Corruption Cooperation: Operationalization of RCCACO</u> The Council requested: I. The interested Member States to host the 5th Meeting of Heads of Anti-corruption Organizations of the ECO Member States during the year 2026. II. The Islamic Republic of Iran to convey all necessary documents for the operationalization of RCCACO not later than October 2026. III. The interested Member States to host the 2nd General Assembly of the State Parties to the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen during the year 2026. The primary agenda item for the meeting will be the consideration and finalization of the necessary documentation required for the operationalization of RCCACO. IV. The Republic of Tajikistan to consider ratifying the Statute of the RCCACO and; V. Encouraged Member States that have not yet signed the Statute to do so, noting that the Kyrgyz Republic has expressed readiness to join.	
307.	<u>E. Police and Law Enforcement Cooperation:</u> I. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide updated information regarding organizing the 2nd Meeting of the ECO Chiefs of Police as well as the 2nd Meeting of the ECO Chiefs of Anti Narcotics Police in Tehran during 2026. II. The Council also requested the ECO Member States to actively participate at the abovementioned meetings.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	III. The Council took note of the Interior Ministers' decision to remove ECOPOL from the ECO agenda, thereby formally concluding the initiative and enabling the development of more flexible cooperation frameworks. It further requested the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive regional strategy to strengthen the role of police and law enforcement agencies in advancing regional stability and economic development within the ECO Region.	
308.	F. <u>Capacity Building Programs:</u> The Council: I. Expressed appreciation to the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran for regularly organizing virtual training courses on drug addiction, and requested the continuation of these important capacitybuilding activities for officials of ECO Member States. II. Appreciated the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the Training Course on the Fight against Corruption on 25 November 2025. III. Requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide preliminary details regarding: • the virtual training course on the fight against corruption; • ECO Workshop on Controlled Delivery and Joint Investigation; and • the Fifth ECO Training Course on Psychosocial Interventions in Substance Use Disorder on 17th November 2026.. IV. Requested the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to consider hosting the Training Course on Awareness of Drugs and Precursors in a virtual format. V. Invited interested Member States to indicate their readiness to host training programs related to combating drugrelated offenses, financial crimes including corruption and money laundering, judicial cooperation, cybercrimes, and other relevant thematic areas. VI. Encouraged all Member States to actively participate in the full range of training activities organized under the ECO framework.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
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309.	<u>G. Parliamentary Cooperation:</u> I. The Council requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide preliminary information regarding convening of the Fourth Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly of the ECO Countries (PAECO) at the earliest opportunity. II. The Council urged those Member States that have not yet signed or ratified the PAECO Charter to complete the required procedures at their earliest convenience.	
310.	<u>H. Resumption of Afghanistan in ECO Activities:</u> I. The Council recognized that, due to the prevailing situation in Afghanistan, all ECO activities and projects within the country are currently on hold. The Council acknowledged that the ECO Advocacy Programme for Afghanistan will remain in effect until it is replaced by an alternative initiative. II. The Council took note of Afghanistan's participation in some ECO events in 2025, including the 5th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade (November 26, 2025 in Istanbul), the 4th ECO Interior Ministers' Meeting (Tehran, 27-28 October 2025), Virtual Training Course on Fight against Corruption (Azerbaijan, 25 November 2025) and Technical Expert Group Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction and ECO Winter Drill in Erzurum. III. The Council welcomed the continued engagement between the ECO Secretariat and the officials of the Embassy of Afghanistan in Tehran. IV. The Council requested the Secretariat to continue its consultations with the Member States and Afghanistan with a view to facilitate the full resumption of Afghanistan's participation in ECO activities.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
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H. SECTOR: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ECO'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND ECO SPECIALIZED AGENCIES/REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS/AFFILIATED BODIES

Priority Area 1: Relations with the United Nations System and Global Organizations

311.	The Council appreciated the ECO Secretariat's efforts to extend outreach and urged the Secretariat to expand its partnerships with UN bodies, including UNESCAP, UNIDO, UNCTAD, FAO, and UNECE, to enhance collaboration through policy dialogue and capacity-building in areas such as trade, food security, energy, and sustainable development.	
312.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to work towards establishing a formal forum between UN regional commissions and regional/international organizations to improve coordination and avoid duplication of efforts.	
313.	The Council supported the ECO Secretariat's efforts to obtain observer status in the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and urged Member States to advocate for ECO's application within the IOM framework.	
314.	The Council appreciated the Secretariat's efforts to publish the monthly ECO Newsletter and recommended expanding its distribution to include international partners and stakeholders.	
315.	The Council encouraged the Secretariat to enhance its digital outreach through interactive platforms, webinars, and online campaigns to showcase ECO's achievements and initiatives.	
316.	The Council welcomed the Secretariat's endeavors to engage with media and called for more frequent interactions to enhance visibility and outreach.	

Priority Area 2: Relations with International Regional Organizations

317.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to cooperate with regional organizations in order to enhance complementarities, avoid duplication and promote synergies in line with the mandates of RPC and COM.	
318.	The Council urged the ECO Secretariat for continued engagement with SCO, OIC, CICA, D-8, GCC and other regional platforms.	
319.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to advance initiatives aimed at strengthening joint	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	action plans and enhancing cooperation frameworks.	
320.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to hold the next Joint ECO-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.	
321.	The Council welcomed the ECO Secretariat for holding the inaugural meeting of ECO-ASEAN Contact Group.	
322.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to further deepen its collaboration with ASEAN, particularly through the implementation of the ECO-ASEAN Framework of Cooperation (2024–2028) and through exploring new areas of collaboration, including renewable energy and digital economy.	
323.	The Council welcomed the Secretariat's efforts to strengthen ties with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and proposed convening a joint summit or conference among regional organizations within the OIC region to create synergies and avoid duplication.	
324.	The Council encouraged the Secretariat's engagement with the African Union and welcomed the Secretariat's intent to host Tehran-based Ambassadors of ASEAN, Mercosur, and GCC countries to brief them about ECO's activities and explore areas of mutual cooperation.	
325.	The Council urged Member States to convene ECO Ambassadors' meetings in key capitals such as Jakarta, New York, Geneva, Jeddah, and Addis Ababa to enhance ECO's visibility and partnerships.	
326.	The Council recommended the ECO Secretariat to propose ECO-led side events at global platforms to highlight the Organization's initiatives in trade, connectivity, and sustainable development.	
327.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat for advancement of pending MoUs and cooperation mechanisms.	
328.	The Council encouraged the ECO Secretariat to expand ECO participation in regional initiatives.	
329.	The Council appreciated meetings with Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Officials and encouraged practical cooperation with CIS.	
Priority Area 3: ECO Specialized Agencies/Regional Institutions/Affiliated Bodies		
330.	The Council took note of the ECO Secretariat's efforts to enhance coordination among ECO	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	Specialized Agencies, appreciated these initiatives, and recommended increasing the frequency of such engagements.		
331.	The Council urged all ECO Member States to sign and ratify the relevant charters and ensure inclusive ownership of the ECO Specialized Agencies, while also emphasizing the need to enhance their financial and operational sustainability.		
332.	The Council appreciated ECO Secretariat's participation in governing body meetings and institutional consultations and encouraged Secretariat for institutional consultation meetings.		
333.	The Council appreciated the existing coordination between the Secretariat and ECO Subsidiary Bodies, and encouraged further improvement and strengthening of such coordination.		
ECO Specialized Agencies:			
ECO Cultural Institute (ECI)			
334.	The Council urged the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan to ratify the ECI Charter.		
335.	The Council requested the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan to sign the ECI Charter.		
336.	The Council encouraged all Member States to support the ECI by clearing arrears and paying annual contributions on time.		
337.	The Council recommended to expand its digital footprint and enhance online initiatives.		
338.	The Council recommended the ECI to convene its BoT and CPR meetings in a regular and timely manner.		
339.	The Council encouraged the ECI Member States to actively engage in cultural activities of the ECI.		
340.	The Council encouraged all ECO Specialized Agencies to be more interactively engaged with each other and the Secretariat in their activities to ensure smooth implementation, avoiding any duplication or overlapping in their efforts.		
ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)			
341.	The Council appreciated the activities and initiatives of the Foundation for developing and		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	promoting cooperation among Member States particularly for hosting highly impactful international conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for ECO Region (ECONEX 2025) and its continued efforts for promoting scientific research in the Region.	
342.	The Council encouraged the Member States to actively engage in scientific and technological activities of the ECOSF.	
343.	The Council requested the Member States, who have not done so, to nominate their focal points for facilitating coordination between the Foundation and the Member States on relevant issues. The Council also urged the concerned Member States to nominate their eminent scientists for the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of ECOSF who have not yet done so.	
344.	The Council requested the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Türkiye, and the Republic of Uzbekistan to complete the ratification of the ECOSF Charter and its Additional Protocol.	
345.	The Council urged Member States (Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) to fulfil their mandatory annual budgetary contributions including arrears to address the financial constraints faced by the ECOSF.	
346.	The Council recommended the ECOSF to expand its digital footprint and enhance online initiatives.	
347.	The Council urged the non-ratifying ECO Member States to ratify the ECOSF Charter.	
• ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI)		
348.	The Council requested Member States to nominate Academic Council Members and Focal Points to strengthen the ECOEI's governance.	
349.	The Council welcomed ECOEI's production of audiovisual materials showcasing UNESCO World Heritage sites across the ECO region, in cooperation with Ankara University Digital education Center and encouraged Member States to utilize these materials within their national education systems and ministries as supplementary teaching resources.	
350.	The Council appreciated the Government of Türkiye for its allocation and provision of suitable premises to serve as the Headquarters for the ECOEI.	
351.	The Council urged the non-signatory and non-ratifying ECO Member States to sign and ratify the	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
	ECOEI Charter and ECOEI Member States to pay their annual mandatory contribution to the Institute in a regular and timely manner.		
352.	The Council took note of the upcoming Meeting of the ECOEI Board of Trustees and invited Member States to submit proposals for consideration in the ECOEI Work Programme to be adopted at the 5 th BoT Meeting in September 2026 through diplomatic channels.		
353.	The Council highly appreciated ECOEI's publication on Teacher Education in Iran, which highlights the development, challenges, and innovative practices within the country's teacher education system and encouraged Member States to collaborate with ECOEI in producing similar studies, publications, and analytical reports on teacher education.		
354.	The Council appreciated the successful implementation of the International Workshop Series on Artificial Intelligence in Education, conducted in September 2025 in cooperation with Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences and encouraged Member States to collaborate with ECOEI in organizing similar capacity-building initiatives and joint training programs in the field of artificial intelligence in education.		
ECO Regional Institutes/Affiliated Bodies			
• ECO Trade Development Bank (ETDB)			
355.	The Council urged ECO Member States that are not yet members of the Bank to join the ETDB.		
• ECO Clean Energy Center (CECECO)			
356.	The Council appreciated the activities and initiatives of the CECECO for developing and promoting cooperation among Member States in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency, thus contributing to the clean energy transition in the region.		
357.	The Council appreciated the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan for its allocation and provision of suitable premises to serve as the Headquarters for the CECECO.		
358.	The Council encouraged the non-signatory ECO Member States to sign the CECECO Charter.		
359.	The Council encouraged Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Türkiye and Republic of Uzbekistan to finalise their domestic ratification processes of CECECO Charter in due course.		
360.	The Council encouraged the ECO Member States to actively engage in activities of the CECECO.		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
Priority Area 4: ECO Observers, MoUs and Institutional Partnerships			
361.	The Council urged ECO Secretariat’s engagement with existing ECO Observers in high-level meetings.		
362.	The Council encouraged ECO Secretariat to maintain dialogue with prospective partners.		
363.	The Council encouraged ECO Secretariat for review and follow-up of existing and pending MoUs.		
364.	The Council appreciated efforts for Renewal of MoU between ECO and ESCAP, to be signed, after taking into account inputs from member States.		
365.	The Council welcomed ECO Secretariat’s initiative to explore observer mechanisms with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and requested the Secretariat to finalize the Plan of Action under the ECO-SCO MoU.		
366.	The Council appreciated the reciprocal observer status granted by the Organization of Turkic States (OTS) and recommended exploring collaborative initiatives in areas such as trade, transport, and energy.		
I. SECTOR: ECONOMIC RESEARCH & STATISTICS			
STATISTICS			
367.	The Council reiterated the provision of “ECO Vision 2025”, which envisaged “to make the Organization better equipped to face challenges and advance the fundamental principles of the Organization to expand project-based economic activities and develop and strengthen the ECO institutions” (“Implementation Framework of ECO Vision 2025”, p. 1).		
368.	The Council highlighted that the Economic Research and Statistics (ERS) sector is a cornerstone of the ECO, dedicated to evidence-based policymaking, as the Organization transitions from ECO Vision 2025 to the “Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035”.		
369.	The Council recognized that the ERS Sector is the primary operator of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework of the Organization, ensuring that regional integration efforts in trade, transport, energy and connectivity are backed by verified macroeconomic data and rigorous research.		
370.	The Council reiterated the importance of high-quality data for regional integration. The focus for		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	2026 shifts towards digital transformation and automated data exchange, with three priority deliverables: • the ECO Statistical Dashboard — launch of the pilot version in 2026, led by the Republic of Kazakhstan; • the Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026–2030 — finalization of the roadmap for statistical modernization focusing on “Big Data” and “Smart Statistics”; • Capacity Building – workshops on carbon-footprint monitoring, transport statistics in support of the Kazakhstan–Turkmenistan–Iran (KTI) railway-corridor modelling, and other topics of interest to the Member States. The Statistical Centre of Iran (SCI) proposed the formation of a dedicated Technical Working Group (TWG) on Statistical Modernization and Data Science. The Secretariat is mandated by the Council to reach out the IRI to receive the Concept Note on this proposal through diplomatic channels for further deliberation.	
371.	The Council noted with satisfaction the successful convening of the 8th Meeting of the Heads of National Statistical Offices (HNSO), held virtually on 16 September 2025 under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Meeting carried out a substantive review of the current Strategic Plan on Statistics 2021–2025 and agreed that the successor framework should take the form of a new 5-year Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026–2030, rather than a 10-year plan, in order to allow for closer monitoring and greater analytical accuracy. The Meeting also welcomed the announcement by the Republic of Kazakhstan of its initiative on launching the ECO Statistical Dashboard.	
372.	The Council recommended that the 11th ECO High-Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meeting on Statistics be convened in 2026 prior to the 9th Meeting of the Heads of National Statistical Offices (HNSO), so as to ensure that the latter receives a fully prepared technical text of the new Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026–2030 for formal adoption.	
373.	The Council recommended that the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of ECO Member States forward to the Secretariat their relevant proposals and suggestions on the provisional Agenda	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	items and the proposals for the next 5-years Strategic Plan to be discussed at the 11th HLEG Meeting and the 9th HNSO Meeting.	
374.	The Council invited the Member States to host, in 2026, the 11th ECO High-Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meeting on Statistics and the 9th Meeting of the Heads of ECO National Statistical Offices (HNSO), as separate events.	
375.	The Council invited the National Statistical Agencies of the Member States to submit suggestions for the new Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026-2030, in particular with regard to indicators for the digital economy, carbon-footprint monitoring and the modernization of National Accounts.	
376.	The Council requested the Member States to broaden the exchange of best practices, experience and expertise among the National Statistical Agencies, with a view to building up shared statistical potential in the region.	
377.	In practical terms, particularly with regard to the organisation and holding among the Member States of interactive webinar sessions, online seminars, training courses and workshops under the ECO framework – with specific emphasis on “sharing knowledge, experience and expertise among ECO NSOs” – the Council encouraged Member States to offer such statistical events focused on the capacity-building needs of the ECO countries.	
378.	The Council tasked the Secretariat: (i) to monitor and report on the implementation of the new Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026-2030, including a timetable of activities; and (ii) to conduct an annual survey of the capacities and needs of the Member States’ National Statistical Offices, with a view to providing tailored services to them. The Statistical Centre of Iran highlighted the necessity of development of a comprehensive Action Plan after finalizing the drafting of the new Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026-2030 accompanied by a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track its achievement.	
ECONOMIC RESEARCH		
Establishment of ECO Research Centre		
379.	The Council appreciated that the Charter of the ECO Research Centre (ERC) was signed by three	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	ECO Member States, namely the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Türkiye on the sidelines of the 14th ECO Summit (4 March 2021), and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan during the 26th COM Meeting in Tashkent (24 January 2023). Ratification has been completed in the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, while the process remains ongoing in the Republic of Türkiye. The Council emphasized the importance of operationalization of ECO Research Centre (ERC) and encouraged the Republic of Türkiye to ratify the Charter in 2026.	
380.	The Council called on the remaining ECO Member States to consider signing and ratifying the Charter at their earliest convenience and tasked the ECO Secretariat to assist in this process in line with the relevant established procedures and protocol.	
381.	The Council stated that the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) can be affiliated with the ECO Research Center (ERC), since it is in Baku, Azerbaijan.	
Transformation of ECO Economic Journal (EEJ)		
382.	The Council reiterated the importance of implementing the task set by the 26th Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ECO countries (Tashkent, 24 January 2023), which supported the continuation of activities aimed at transforming the ECO Economic Journal into an internationally recognised, widely disseminated and reputable publication, and called on the Secretariat to continue work on the financing of the transformation.	
383.	The Council expressed thanks to the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ETDB) for arranging allocation of USD 20,000 (twenty thousand US dollars) in 2023. The Council expressed thanks to the ECO Secretariat for arranging allocation of USD 5,000 (five thousand US dollars) in 2025 for the transformation of the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ). The Council directed the Secretariat to further consider the financing of the ECO Economic Journal aimed at transforming it into internationally recognized, widely disseminated and reputable publication among academic, scientific and policy-oriented publications.	
384.	The Council took note that, during 2025, the Secretariat additionally approached the ETDB with a request for a further allocation of USD 20,000, and directed the Secretariat to follow up on this	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
	request, and to continue mobilising resources required to complete the transformation of the Journal.	
385.	The Council expressed satisfaction with the publication, in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, of the regular editions of the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ), and with the assistance rendered by the ECO Secretariat in this regard – in particular through the forwarding of expert articles from the Member States, the Foreword and an article by the ECO Secretary General.	
386.	The Council requested the ECO Secretariat to continue close interaction with the ECO Economic Journal in preparing in-depth research materials for its publications, and to forward to the Member States, in a timely manner, Notes Verbales requesting articles, analytical papers and other relevant materials in line with the current priorities of the Member States.	
387.	The Council requested the ECO Economic Journal to place on its web-site publications and relevant economic reports prepared jointly by Member States and ECO Secretariat.	
388.	The Council stated that the ECO Economic Journal (EEJ) can be affiliated with the ECO Research Centre (ERC) upon the latter becoming operational, since both are located in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.	
389.	The Council further recommended that the ECO Economic Journal place on its website the publications and economic reports prepared jointly by the Member States and the ECO Secretariat.	
ECO Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research (EPSCER)		
390.	The Council reiterated the provision of “ECO Vision 2025” that “the core mandate of the Economic Cooperation Organization is economic development and regional integration”, with “Economic Growth and Productivity” as one of its core cooperation areas.	
391.	The Council expressed its satisfaction with the results of the 7th Meeting of the EPSCER, held on 5 June 2024, and recommended the convening of the 8th Meeting of EPSCER in 2026, to provide oversight of the ECO Research Centre and the regional research portfolio.	
ECO Annual Economic Reports and other publications		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
392.	The Council positively assessed the preparation and dissemination by the ECO Secretariat, in cooperation with the Member States, of the “ECO Annual Economic Report 2023: Overall Economic Situation, Industry and Diversification of the Economy in the ECO Area” and the “ECO Annual Economic Report 2024” with its focus on transport connectivity.		
393.	The Council positively assessed the interaction between the Member States and the ECO Secretariat in updating and refining the Annual Economic Reports, and called for the same level of interaction in preparing the forthcoming Annual Economic Reports and other publications. IRI proposed the prepared annual reports to be descriptive and analytical on the status of key macroeconomic variables including economic growth, liquidity, inflation, population, unemployment rate, employment, government revenues, exports, imports, the current account and the exchange rate. In practical terms, the Council requested the Member States to provide their inputs and country reports for the compilation of the ECO Annual Economic Report 2024/2025, and suggested that the Secretariat make use of accessible official data sources and online publications of the relevant authorities and ministries dealing with Economy, Budget and Planning of the ECO Member States.		
395.	The Council instructed the Secretariat to also use available national data sources in compiling ECO regional economic and statistical reports and publications, following the UN “Recommended Practices on the Use of Non-Official Sources in International Statistics”.		
ERS PROJECTS			
396.	The Council positively assessed the progress made in carrying out the project “Transformation of the ECO Economic Journal” (detailed above, in the section on Economic Research).		
397.	<i>The Council expressed satisfaction with the completion of the project “Kazakhstan’s Trade and Economic Potential in the Markets of the ECO Countries in the New Geo-economic Realities”, the outcomes of which were welcomed at the 8th HNSO Meeting and circulated to the Member States under Note Verbale No. 1323 of 22 September 2024.</i>		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
398.	The Council positively assessed the progress in carrying out the project “Agricultural Statistics and Land Cover Statistics from Earth Observations for Selected ECO Countries”, in coordination with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Statistical Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan as the pilot country. Noting that in 2025 the Project could not move forward as planned, owing to IT-infrastructure constraints on the host side, the Council requested the Statistical Agency of Tajikistan to cooperate with FAO in order to bring the Project to full implementation, and supported the Secretariat’s ongoing negotiation with FAO of a technical-support package to upgrade server capability.	
399.	The Council took note of the preparatory work on the ECO Statistical Dashboard – the flagship digital initiative proposed by the Republic of Kazakhstan, which will translate the ECO Key Statistical Indicators (KSIs) into an interactive monitoring environment – and looked forward to its formal endorsement by the Council of Permanent Representatives in June 2026 and its launch later in the year.	
400.	The Council requested the Member States to initiate further research and practical projects in the field of Economic Research and Statistics, contributing to the expansion of ECO’s analytical potential and theoretical base.	
ECO ECONOMIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME (EERP)		
401.	The Council expressed its satisfaction that the 7th Meeting of EPSCER, drawing on the economic priorities of the Member States expressed at the 14th, 15th and 16th ECO Summits (2021 and November 2023, Tashkent), took up the task of drafting the new ECO Economic Research Programme (EERP) for the period 2026-2030. The Council reiterated its previous request that emphasis be placed on the areas of transit and transport, energy, water, food security, diversification of the economy, green economy and climate change.	
402.	The Council requested the Member States to continue the practice of providing Key Statistical Indicators (KSIs), in the previously agreed Excel format, together with country economic-performance reports and other related materials for the compilation of analytical reports and publications and tasked the Secretariat with the regular production of reports on the KSIs of the Member States.	

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities		Actions to be taken
403.	The Council recommended that the ECO Economic Journal place at its website the reports, analytical materials and publications prepared by the ECO Secretariat and the Member States, with a view to broader dissemination.		
CAPACITY BUILDING			
404.	The Council expressed its satisfaction that the 3rd ECO Think-Tank Forum was held in Baku on 4 October 2024, dedicated to the theme “Next Generation Economics: Challenges and Perspectives”. Renowned economists and experts from ECO Member States, as well as from other countries, participated in the event, where in-depth analysis of current economic trends was undertaken. The event was jointly organised by the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Economic Scientific Research Institute (ESRI) of that Ministry, and the ECO Secretariat.		
405.	The Council requested the Republic of Azerbaijan and other Member States to consider holding the ECO Think-Tank Forum on a regular basis, and welcomed the proposal to convene the 4th ECO Think-Tank Forum during the fourth quarter of 2026, dedicated to the “Khankendi Initiatives” and the digital economy.		
406.	The Council expressed its thanks to the Republic of Türkiye and the Islamic Republic of Iran for jointly delivering four online technical webinars in 2025, namely: one session by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) on 23 October 2025, and three consecutive sessions by the Statistical Centre of Iran (SCI) on 10 November, 8 December and 17 December 2025. The sessions addressed key methodological areas, including the integration of administrative registers into foreign trade statistics, paperless censuses and the use of geospatial data. The Council encouraged the Member States to participate proactively in such webinars.		
407.	The Council acknowledged the introduction by TurkStat of the web-based International Data Transmission System (IDTS), which is now available to Member States as an efficient instrument for reporting to international organisations.		
408.	The Council requested the Member States to consider holding further physical and online events		

Paragraph#	Programmes/Activities	Actions to be taken
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	on statistics, without relying solely on international partners, and in particular welcomed the offer of the Republic of Kazakhstan to host, in the fourth quarter of 2026, a webinar on transport statistics in support of the modelling of the Kazakhstan–Turkmenistan–Iran (KTI) railway corridor.	
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION		
409.	The Council noted that the ECO Secretariat maintains well-established ties with the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UN SIAP), the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Statistics Division of UNESCAP, the Department of Statistics of Malaysia (DOSM), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) – in the area of SDG indicators – the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with which regular online and physical events are held.	
410.	The Council recommended that the Secretariat continue cooperation with the international partners in holding events related to capacity-building in statistics, including at least one joint capacity-building programme during 2026 focused on Big Data and automated data exchange	
411.	The Council requested the Secretariat to expedite the conclusion of a fresh Memorandum of Understanding with SESRIC in 2026, with a view to opening new avenues for capacity-building across the Member States.	



36th Meeting of the Regional Planning Council (RPC)

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

May 17-20, 2026

ECO Secretariat, Tehran

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

A. SECTOR: TRADE AND INVESTMENT

ECO Events

S#	Event/Activity	Venue	Date / Mode	Notes, if any
1)	6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting of Commerce and Foreign Trade	Iran	2026/TBD	depending on the progress of the work of the TNC, through diplomatic channel to ECO Secretariat.
2)	1 st Meetings of Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC) on ECOTA Revision	ECO Secretariat	April 15,2026/ virtual	
3)	2 nd Meetings of Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC) on ECOTA Revision	TBD	2 nd quarter of 2026/ In-person/hybrid	
4)	3 rd Meetings of Technical Negotiation Committee (TNC) on ECOTA Revision	TBD	3 rd quarter of 2026/ In-person/hybrid	
5)	10 th Meeting of the ECOTA Cooperation Council	TBD	2026/TBD	in light of the progress to be made in the TNC
6)	6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Finance / Economy	TBD	2026/TBD	
7)	1 st Meeting of ECO Trade Facilitation Committee	Türkiye	2026/TBD	
8)	Private Sector Consultative Group (PSCG) and a Capacity Building Working Group	TBD	2026	
9)	The Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG)	TBD	2026	
10)	4 th Meeting of Joint Working Group for draft ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement (ETFA)	Pakistan	3 rd quarter of 2026/TBD	
11)	7 th Meeting of the ECO Committee on Customs Cooperation (ECCC)	TBD	2026 / TBD	On the primary

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

				agenda of EDI
12)	11 th Meeting of ECO Council of Heads of Customs Administration (CHCA)	TBD	2026/TBD	
13)	3 rd Meeting of the Heads of SEZs of the ECO Member States.	TBD	2026 / in-person	
14)	5 th ECO Trade Promotion Organizations (ECO-TPOs) Forum	TBD	2026/ In-person	
15)	3 rd ECO Trade Fair	TBD	2026 / in-person	
16)	Health, Engineering & Mineral Show (HEMS-2026)	Pakistan	22-28, September 2026	ECO Pavilion shall be organized
17)	7 th ECO Business Forum	ECO-CCI	2026/TBD	
18)	Meeting for ECO Survey on Quality Infrastructure (Standardization, Conformity Assessment, Metrology and Accreditation)	TBD/ Secretariat	2026/Hybrid	RISCAM and ECO Secretariat
19)	2 nd Consultative Technical Online Meeting for testing "ECO Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank"	Türkiye (host)	2026/virtual	2 nd Beta Testing

2nd Degree Priority ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date / Mode	Notes, if any
1)	1 st Meeting of the ECO Heads of Commodity Exchanges	TBD	2026/TBD	
2)	3 rd Experts Group Meeting on Banking, Financial Matters of ECO and Forming ECO Clearing Union	TBD	2026/TBD	Briefing with Asian Clearing Union, before the 3 rd EGM
3)	2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads of Tax Administration	TBD	2026/TBD	

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

4)	2 nd Meeting of Heads of Capital Markets Supervisory Authorities	Iran	23-24 November 2026 / in-person	
5)	2 nd Meeting of ECO Heads Investment Promotion Agencies (ECO-IPAs) Forum for implementation of APPI	Iran	2 nd half of 2026 / in-person	On the sideline of the Iran Investment Forum in Tehran.
6)	2 nd Meeting of the Heads of SW/NDFs of the ECO Member States tentatively preceded by a meeting of the proposed Association of SW/NDFs of the ECO Member States	Iran	2026 / Hybrid	

3rd Degree Priority ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date / Mode	Notes, if any
1)	Technical Consultation Meeting on Visa Facilitation for the Businessmen in the ECO Region	ECO Secretariat	2026 / Hybrid/virtual	

ECO Events: Conferences/Seminars/Workshops/Exhibitions/Training Courses

1st Degree Priority

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date / Mode	Notes, if any
1)	ECO Capacity Building Project on Train-The-Trainers Program For ECO Member States on Accreditation Standards	TBD	2026	
2)	ECO Capacity Building Project on Train-The-Trainers Program on Sustainability Reporting Standards	TBD	2026	
3)	5 th Seminar on Trading Patterns in ECO Region and Accession of ECO to WTO	TBD	2026 / TBD	The seminar may be

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

				organized upon a request by a Member State.
4)	Single Window Integration and Digital Initiatives	Pakistan	2026/TBD	
5)	-Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Program, -Single Window Implementation, -e-TIR System Operation, -Expedited Shipment Procedures and Enforcement Mechanisms in Customs	Türkiye	2026/TBD	
6)	Training Webinar regarding Harmonized System (HS)	Iran	July 2026/ virtual	
	Training Webinar regarding Risk Management in Custom Operation	Iran	August 2026/ virtual	

2nd Degree Priority

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date / Mode	Notes, if any
1.	4 th ECO Investment Conference	Iran	2 nd half of 2026 / TBD	On the sideline of the Iran Investment Forum in Tehran.

Meetings of the ECO Affiliated Bodies with ECO Secretariat Participation

1st Degree Priority

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	Executive Committee Meetings and Specialized Committees Meetings of ECO-CCI (<i>to be held twice a year</i>)	ECO CCI, Pakistan	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

2nd Degree Priority

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	ECO Reinsurance Company	Secretariat	2026
2.	Meetings of ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECO-TDB)/(25 th BOG Meeting)	Türkiye	2026

Non-ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Organizer	Venue	Date
1.	COMCEC Ministerial Session	COMCEC	Türkiye	31 October to 3 November 2026
2.	WTO Geneva Week	WTO	Geneva	2026
3.	UN Working Group IV: Electronic Commerce	UN	New York Vienna	2026
4.	Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy,	UNCTAD	Geneva	2026
5.	Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF)	UNESCAP	TBD	2026
6.	Technical Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation	UNESCAP	Bangkok	2026
7.	INNOPROM Central Asia International Industrial Exhibition	MIIT Uzbekistan	c/f from 2025	2026
8.	IV Tashkent International Investment Forum	MIIT Uzbekistan	c/f from 2025	2026

B. SECTOR: TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

ECO Events

S #	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1)	Webinar on ICT Policy and Regulation for a Digital Future (<i>Jointly with the ITU</i>)	Virtual	20 May 2026
2)	Training Webinar on knowledge and skills related to the TIR Convention	Organized by Customs Administration of Iran	June 2026
3)	3rd High Level Working Group Meeting on Almaty-Tehran-Istanbul and Almaty-Bandar Abbas Train Corridors	Iran	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

4)	2nd Meeting of the ECO High-Level Working Group of ICT Regulatory Authorities	Pakistan	TBD
5)	4th ECO Ministerial Meeting on ICT	Pakistan	TBD
6)	4th ECO Working Group on ICT	Iran	TBD
7)	7th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Reference Maritime Organizations	Iran	2026
8)	1st Meeting of the ECO Freight Forwarders Association	TBD in coordination with ECO-CCI	2026
9)	5th Working Group Meeting on Civil Aviation Authorities	TBD	2026
10)	Second High-Level Meeting of Private Airlines of the ECO Region	TBD	2026
11)	16th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Railway Authorities	A member State/ECO Secretariat	2026
12)	1st Meeting of TTCC Multimodal Transport Committee	Iran	2026
13)	• 7th Meeting of TTCC Insurance Committee • 11th Meeting of TTCC Road Committee • 10th Meeting of TTCC Railway Committee	TBD/or back-to-back with relevant meetings	2026
14)	Kick-off meeting on implementation of the Awaza Programme of Action in the ECO Region	Secretariat/an ECO landlocked Member State	2026
15)	Meeting of Consular Officials of the ECO on Visa Simplification for Drivers and Transport Personnel	Secretariat	2026
16)	First HLWG Meeting of Kyrgyz Republic - Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Türkiye corridor (KUTIT)	Secretariat/or an en-route country	2026
17)	9th Meeting of TTCC Customs Committee and Workshop on Border Crossing Facilitation and Best Practices back-to-back with 2nd Meeting of the ECO TIR Advisory Group (TIRACG)	Iran	2026
18)	2nd Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on KTI Railway Corridor/and 2nd Meeting of the Sub-Working Group on Commercialization of the KTI Railway Corridor	TBD	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

19)	3rd HLWG Meeting of Tajikistan-Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Türkiye corridor (TUTIT)	TBD	2026
20)	Meetings/Visits on Implementation of the ECO-IRU Action Plan 2026-2027 <i>(Virtual meetings and in-person visits to border crossing points)</i>	Secretariat and Member States	2026
21)	14th Ministerial Meeting on Transport	Kazakhstan	2026
22)	International Donors/Financing Conference for ECO Transport Corridors and Projects	On the margin of Transport Ministerial Meeting/or elsewhere	2026
23)	15th Meeting of the HLWG on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul Train Corridor	Iran	2026
24)	Meeting on establishment of the proposed ECO Digital Transport and Customs Office	Uzbekistan	2026
25)	8 th Meeting of the ECO- UNECE Coordination Committee on Trans Caspian and Almaty- Tehran - Istanbul Corridors	Istanbul	5 June 2026

Non-ECO Events

1)	World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2026 - ITU	Geneva, Switzerland	6-10 July 2026
2)	Relevant transport meetings organized by SCO/OTS/TRACECA/ECE/ESCAP	Upon invitation and case-by- case authorization by CPR	

C. SECTOR: ENERGY, MINERAL & ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY

ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Host	Date
1.	5 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Energy	Republic of Türkiye	Autumn 2026 (tbc)
2.	5 th High-Level Experts Group Meeting on Energy (back-to back with the Ministerial Meeting on Energy)	Republic of Türkiye	Autumn 2026 (tbc)
3.	3 rd Task Force Meeting on establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM)	Virtual	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

4.	3 rd Experts Group Meeting on establishment of the ECO Regional Electricity Market (ECO-REM)	Hybrid (tbd)	2026
5.	5 th ECO Experts Group Meeting on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources (EERES)	Tbd	2026
6.	First ECO Experts Group Meeting on Power System Operators Convention (ECO-PSOC)	IR. Iran	Autumn 2026

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops/Training Courses

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	The training course(s) organized by OGITC	I.R. Iran	2026

Non-ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	8 th Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Network of Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) Platform	Vienna&Graz, Austria	13 April 2026
2.	Baku Energy Week/Exhibition	Baku, Azerbaijan	1-3 June 2026
3.	ECO Special Booth at Iran Oil Show	I.R.Iran	Tbd

MINERALS

ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	10 th ECO Minerals Experts Group Meeting	Iran (in-person) / Pakistan (virtual)	2026
2.	2 nd ECO Geomatics Committee	Virtual (to be organized by I.R. Iran)	2026
3.	Technical Meeting for Production the ECO General Atlas	Virtual (to be organized by I.R. Iran)	2026

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops/Training Courses

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	Webinar on Urban Mining and Economic Security, to be organized by the Asian Mayors Forum	Virtual	2026
2.	The event for the youth within the project “World is our home”, to be organized by the ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI)	Tbd	2026

Non-ECO Events

No	Event/ Activity	Venue	Date
1.	International Geological Forum	Astana, Kazakhstan	2-3 April 2026

ENVIRONMENT

ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Environment	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	3 June 2026
2.	The Senior Officials Meeting / 8 th Working Group Meeting on Environment	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	2 June 2026
3.	The First Meeting of the High-Level Dialogue Platform on Environmental Cooperation	Astana, Kazakhstan (on the margins of the Regional Ecological Summit)	23 April 2026

Conferences/Seminars/Workshops/Training Courses

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	<i>Upon the volunteer Member States</i>		

Non-ECO Events

No	Event/ Activity		
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ECO Calendar of Events 2026

	(subject to the availability of financial resources)	Venue	Date
1.	2026 United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP31)	Antalya, Türkiye	9-20 November 2026
2.	Regional Ecological Summit	Astana, Kazakhstan	22-24 April 2026

D. SECTOR: AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY

ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue/Mode	Date
1.	8 th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture	Iran	4 th quarter of 2026
2.	7 th High Level Experts Meeting on Agriculture	Iran	4 th quarter of 2026
3.	5 th Steering Committee Meetings of the ECO Regional Coordination Centre (ECO-RCCFS) for Implementation of the ECO-RPFS	Türkiye	2026 (TBD)
4.	9 th ECO Seed Association (ECOSA) International Trade Conference and Fair ECO Expert Meeting on Seed	TBD	2026 (TBD)
5.	4 th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Meteorological Organizations	Türkiye	2026 (TBD)
6.	3 rd EGM on Establishment of ECO-ABN	Pakistan	2026 (TBD)
7.	4 th Meeting of the ECO Heads of Veterinary Organizations (ECO-VECO)	TBD	2026 (TBD)
8.	4 th Technical Committee Meeting for implementation of the Work Plan of ECO-VECO	TBD	2026 (TBD)
9.	4 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Industry	Tajikistan	23 September 2026
10.	3 rd High Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meeting on Industry	Tajikistan	22 September 2026
11.	International Textile Forum	Tajikistan	22-23 September 2026
12.	First General Council Meeting of ECO-RISCAM	Iran	4 th quarter 2026
13.	Workshops in the fields of Standardization and Accreditation	Türkiye	2026 (TBD)
14.	Workshop in the field of Metrology	Pakistan	2026 (TBD)
15.	4 th Coordination Committee Meeting on Industrial Property Rights	TBD	2026 (TBD)

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

16.	3 rd Steering Committee Meeting on ECO Nanotechnology Network	TBD	2026 (TBD)
17.	5 th Steering Committee Meeting on Entrepreneurship and MSME Development Meeting	Iran	2026 (in-person)
18.	Expert-level Meetings on exploring a financial mechanism to support start-ups, MSMEs and entrepreneurs	TBD	2026 (TBD)
19.	1 st ECO International Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ECO-TEX)	TBD	2026 (TBD)

Non-ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	The High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 54)	Rome, Italy	October 2026
2.	World Halal Summit	İstanbul, Türkiye	25-28 November 2026
3.	Bilateral Meeting with UNIDO Authorities	Vienna, Austria	2026 (TBD)
4.	Bilateral Meeting with WIPO Authorities	Geneva Switzerland	2026 (TBD)

E. SECTOR: TOURISM

ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue/Mode	Date
1)	The Official Opening Ceremony for Shusha as the ECO Tourism Capital for 2026 and Related Events / 7 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Tourism and the 9 th Meeting of the High-Level Experts Group (HLEG) on Tourism	Shusha, Azerbaijan	27-29 April 2026
2)	3 rd ECO Tour Operators Forum	Aras Free Zone, Iran	2026
3)	1 st ECO Tourism Fair	TBD	2026/2027
4)	2 nd Meeting of the ECO Advisory Committee on Tourism	Virtual	23 June 2026
5)	The 2 nd ECO-TEN (ECO Tourism Educational Network) Meeting	Iran	2026
6)	2 nd Symposium on the Tourism Market of the ECO Member States.	Iran	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

7)	2 nd Meeting of the ECO Silk Road Task Force and 6 th ECO Silk Road Food Festival	Kerman Province, Iran	2026
8)	2 nd ECO Tourism Investment and Business Forum	TBD	2026
9)	5 th Meeting of the ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Transport	TBD	4 th Quarter - 2026
10)	8 th Meeting of the Working Group on Tourism Standardization	TBD	2026
11)	5 th Meeting of the ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Ecotourism	TBD	2026
12)	4 th Confobition on Health Tourism and the 1 st Meeting of the ECO-ACT Sub-Committee on Health Tourism	Hamadan, Iran	4 th Quarter - 2026
13)	Following up on Meetings of the ECO Tour Operators' Network	TBD	2026
14)	Following up on Meetings for the ECO High-Level Experts on Visa Facilitation	TBD	2026
15)	Official Closing Ceremony for Shusha as the ECO Tourism Capital 2026 and Organization of the Symbolic Handover to Lahore, the ECO Tourism Capital 2027	TBD	4 th Quarter - 2026

Non-ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue/Mode	Date
1)	Turkmen Travel 2026 - International Tourism Expo and Conference	Ashgabat, Turkmenistan	14-16 April 2026
2)	7 th International Tourism and Travel Dynamics Congress	Ankara, Türkiye	15-17 April 2026
3)	World Phygital Summit and Games of the Future 2026	Astana, Kazakhstan	29 July to 9 August 2026
4)	6 th World Nomad Games	Kyrgyz Republic	31 August - 7 September 2026
5)	Online Training Programs as part of the events for Ankara as the Turkic World Tourism Capital 2026	Virtual	June/September 2026

* Subject to availability of the financial resources of the ECO Secretariat.

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

F. SECTOR: HUMAN RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HRSD)

ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1)	10 th ECO Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction proceed by High Level Working Group	Pakistan	Held 21-22 January 2026
2)	Working Group Meeting(s) for “Seismic Risk Assignment” and “ECO Innovation Hub” on Disaster Risk Reduction	Secretariat/ Member States	2026
3)	2 nd ECO Forum on Sustainable Development	Iran	2026
4)	2 nd Senior Officials Meeting/Heads Meeting for Disaster Insurance Authorities and 3 rd Training workshop on “Disaster Risk Transfer through Insurance”	Pakistan	2026
5)	The 5 th Expert Group Meeting on DRR	Iran	2026
6)	Workshop on Promoting Universal Health Coverage	Pakistan	September 2026
7)	Training programme on “Safe Schools, Resilient Communities” in Member States in line with the implementation of ECORFDRR, in collaboration with Risk Research Center International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES) and UNESCO.	TBD (Hybrid Mode)	2026
8)	1 st ECO Ministerial Meeting on Education proceeded by High Level Working Group Meeting	Türkiye	2026
9)	The 5 th BoT Meeting of the ECO-EI	Türkiye	2026
10)	ECO-APDIM-NDMA of Pakistan Joint Workshop on DRR	Member States	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

11)	1 st Water Conference on Clean Water and Sanitation in ECO region	Member States	2026
12)	Summit of Mayors from ECO Member Countries Meeting proceed by Deputy Mayors for Economic Affairs from ECO Member States	Member States	2026
13)	1 st Meeting of the ECO Heads of National Societies in ECO Region	Tehran Iran	2026
14)	ECO Youth Festival	Uzbekistan	2026
15)	Second Symposium of ECO region universities	Iran	2026
16)	6 th ECO Ministerial Meeting on Health	Member States	2026
17)	Training Courses/Workshops entitled as “Natural Disaster Early warnings and loss Estimation System” to be organized by Iran Metrological Organization (IRIMO) and ECO-RCRM.	Iran	2026
18)	Workshop on Urban and Rural Development	Iran	2026

Non- ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1)	14 th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)	Bangkok	24-27 February 2026
2)	Thirteenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13)	Baku	17-22 May 2026
3)	United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)	New York	6-15- July, 2026
4)	82 nd session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Bangkok	20 to 24 April 2026
5)	79 th World Health Assembly	Geneva	18th - 23rd May 2026
6)	The World Mountain Youth Festival in 2026	Kyrgyzstan	2026
7)	10 th North and Central Asia Multi-Stakeholder Forum on SDGs.	Kazakhstan	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

8)	73 rd Session of the WHO EMRO	Cairo, Egypt	October 2026
9)	76 th WHO European Region	Denmark	October, 2026
10.	Water for Sustainable Development	Dushanbe	May 2026
11.	International Forum on Global Seismic Risk	Türkiye	2026
12.	UN Conference on Water	UAE	2026
13.	COP31	Türkiye	9-20 November

G. SECTOR: JPC & EAPA

ECO Events

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	5 th Meeting of Heads of Anti-Corruption Organizations and Ombudsmen of the ECO Member States	TBD	2026
2.	The 2 nd General Assembly of the State Parties to the ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen	TBD	2026
3.	2 nd Meeting of Chiefs of Police of ECO Member States	Tehran	4 th quarter 2026
4.	7 th Meeting of Attorneys and Prosecutors General of the ECO Member States	Shymkent/ Kazakhstan	11-12 September 2026
5.	2 nd Meeting of Chiefs of Anti-narcotics Police of the ECO Member States	Tehran	4 th quarter 2026
6.	4 th Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly of the ECO Countries (PAECO)	Tehran	2026
7.	5 th ECO Interior Ministers Meeting	Islamabad	2026
8.	Any events in line with the implementation of the Plan of Interaction among the Attorneys/ Prosecutors General of the Member States	TBD	2026

Workshops/Training Courses

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1)	ECO Workshop on Controlled Delivery and Joint Investigation	Tehran	2026
2)	the Fifth ECO Training Course on Psychosocial Interventions in Substance Use Disorders	Tehran Virtually	17 th November 2026
3)	Training Course on awareness of Drugs and Precursors	Islamabad	2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

4)	Training Course on fight against corruption	Tehran Virtually	2026
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Non-ECO Events *(subject to availability of financial resources)*

No	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	INTERPOL Dialogue on an effective multilateral policing architecture against global threats	TBD	2026
2.	Relevant UNODC Meetings (Subject to invitation)	TBD	2026
3.	Relevant INTERPOL Meetings (Subject to invitation)	TBD	2026
4.	Relevant Parliamentary Meetings (Subject to invitation)	TBD	2026
5.	Afghanistan related Meetings/conferences (Subject to invitation)	TBD	2026

H. SECTOR: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	25 th Meeting of Board of Governors of ETDB	Istanbul	July 10, 2026
2.	81 st General Debate of the UN General Assembly	New York	Third Week of September 2026
3.	17 th Joint ECO-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting	New York	Third Week of September 2026
4.	ECO Informal COM	New York	Third Week of September 2026
5.	7 th Meeting of Board of Trustees of ECO Cultural Institute	TBC	2026
6.	6 th meeting of Board of Trustees of ECOSF	Islamabad	2026
7.	2 nd meeting of CECECO Executive Board	Baku/online	last quarter 2026
8.	2 nd meeting of CECECO Board of Governors	TBC	last quarter 2026
9.	5 th Meeting of ECO Educational Institute Board of Trustees	Turkiye	3 rd quarter 2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

10.	1 st Meeting of ECO Educational Institute Academic Council	Ankara/online	2026
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Non-ECO Events

No.	Event/Activity	Venue	Date
1.	Boao Forum for Asia	Hainan, China	24-27 March 2026
2.	Baku Forum	Baku	March 2026
3.	5 th Antalya Diplomacy Forum	Antalya	17-19 April 2026
4.	International Conference on Neutrality	Ashgabat	2026
5.	SCO Summit/CHG/CFM	Kyrgyz Republic	2026
6.	OTS Summit/Meetings	TBC	2026
7.	CICA Summit/CICA CFMs	TBC	2026
8.	COP31	Türkiye	November 2026
9.	Important Conferences/Events/Meetings hosted by ECO Member States	TBC	2026

I. SECTOR: ECONOMIC RESEARCH & STATISTICS

No.	Event / Activity	Host / Venue	Date
STATISTICS			
1.	Launch of the ECO Statistical Dashboard	Kazakhstan/ Secretariat	September 2026
2.	Webinar: Agriculture Statistics	Türkiye / Online	2026
3.	Launch: ECO Strategic Plan on Statistics 2026-2030	Secretariat / Member State	3rd quarter of 2026
4.	11th ECO HLEG Meeting on Statistics	Member State (TBD)	3rd quarter of 2026
5.	9th Meeting of the Heads of ECO HNSO	Member State (TBD)	September 2026
6.	Inaugural Governing Board of the ECO Research Centre	Baku, Azerbaijan	2026 (TBD)
7.	Webinar on Transport Statistics	Kazakhstan / Online	4th quarter of 2026
8.	Publication of EEJ Editions 12-13	Azerbaijan / Secretariat	1st quarter to 4th quarter 2026
ECONOMIC RESEARCH			
9.	8th Meeting of EPSCER	Online	3rd quarter of 2026

ECO Calendar of Events 2026

10.	4th ECO Think-Tank Forum	Azerbaijan / Secretariat	4th quarter of 2026
11.	Economic Research event	ECO Secretariat/ Member States	2026
12	First Meeting of the Heads of ECO Plan and Budget Organizations on the sidelines of the next RPC meeting	IRI (In person)	TBD

Agenda Item No. 7
Preparations for the International Conference on
Financing the ECO Transport Projects and Corridors

Agenda Item No. 8
Administrative and Budgetary Matters

Agenda Item No. 9
Any other business

Agenda Item No. 10
Date of the next CPR Meeting