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15 August, 2011

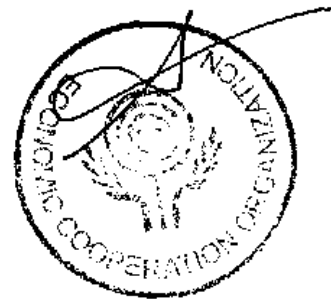
The Secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Embassies of the Member States in Tehran and, with reference to the recommendations of the CPR Working Group, has the honour to enclose an updated **Follow-Up Report on Implementation of the decisions/recommendations of the 11<sup>th</sup> Summit and 19<sup>th</sup> COM meetings** for the period of January- August 2011.

The Report has been prepared in section of sectoral activities of the Organization for easier reference and consideration by the relative authorities of the Member States. The Member States are kindly requested to provide their views and comments on the implementation status of the decisions of the high-level meetings as well to take actions with regard to those decisions/recommendations which fall within their preview.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the esteemed Ministry and the esteemed Embassies the assurances of its highest consideration.

*Encl.: As above*

**All ECO Member States**



17 AUG 2011

**FOLLOW UP REPORT on implementation**  
**of decisions and recommendations of the 11<sup>th</sup> ECO Summit and 19<sup>th</sup> COM meetings**  
**(January-August 2011)**

ECO Secretariat  
Tehran

## TRADE AND INVESTMENT

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration</b> Article II</p>	<p>Invited the remaining Member States to accede to ECOTA, and called for action on removing Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) to regional trade; harmonization of regulations and trade facilitation measures for expansion of trade and reiterated the need to facilitate the accession process of the Member States to WTO.</p>	<p>On the accession to ECOTA only the Republic of Kazakhstan has conveyed its position which is as follows:</p> <p>“The accession of Kazakhstan to this Agreement is possible only in case of accession of Russian Federation and Belarus as the issues of changing trade regime including provision of tariff concessions are jointly decided between three members of the Commission of Customs Union comprising Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan and Russian Federation.”</p> <p>No comments received from any of the Member State on identification of NTBs and action being taken on removal of NTBs impeding regional trade. The 4<sup>th</sup> ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce/Foreign Trade (Kabul, July 11-13, 2011) has taken decision to establish Joint Working Group on Trade Facilitation. One of the Member State may volunteer hosting the meeting for the JWG to prepare draft Trade Facilitation Agreement.</p> <p>On hosting of the Trade Policy Review Sessions aimed at assisting Member States in preparation for WTO accession, action has been taken by Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey. The remaining Member States have not conveyed schedule of events to be hosted by them.</p>
<p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Relevant Member States are invited to expedite the submission of their lists. Non-signatory/non ratifying Member States are also invited to join ECOTA for a broader regional trade impact.</p>	<p>Tajikistan was offered assistance by the Secretariat in preparation of its ECOTA Lists. However, Lists are yet to be submitted. I.R. of Iran has only provided the Positive List while the Negative and Sensitive Lists are still to be received.</p> <p>None of the non-signatory/non ratifying Member State has conveyed interest in joining the ECOTA.</p>
<p><b>Istanbul</b></p>	<p>Called upon the Bank to increase its role as a major</p>	<p>Afghanistan and Azerbaijan are in the process of joining the ECO-</p>

<p><b>Declaration</b> Article IV <b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 19</p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>financial institution in the region and renewed its call to the remaining Member States to join the Bank.</p> <p>The Council urged the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECOITDB) to step up activities focusing more on trade financing and initiate regional programmes and projects for trade facilitation in the region, in cooperation with the Secretariat. The Council called on the remaining Member States to join the ECO Bank of Trade and Development to enhance the growth and sustainable development in the region. Relevant ECO Member States are invited to join the ECO-TDB at the earliest</p>	<p>TDB.</p> <p>The Bank has initiated a trade financing programme. Total disbursement under the programme exceeded 100 million US\$. The Bank plans to increase the amount for trade financing further. The Bank is also ready to consider financing projects in its members for modernization of Customs border stations and improving transit trade mechanisms.</p>
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration</b> Article V</p> <p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 21</p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Called for further strengthening of the private sector cooperation in line with the Plan of Action of ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry and facilitate business relations in the region.</p> <p>The Council requested ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECO-CCI) to intensify regular trade promotion activities, including business forums, trade fairs and market research under its ten (10) Year Plan of Action and encourage the national Chambers to organize such events.</p> <p>The Council took note of Turkey's willingness to host the Permanent Secretariat of the ECO-CCI in Istanbul.</p> <p>All Member States are invited to actively involve in the ECO-CCI's programmes for enhancing the role of private sector and entrepreneurs including women</p>	<p>With a view to facilitating business relations in the region, the 4<sup>th</sup> ECO Business Forum will be hosted by Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 2011 /2012. A Buyers Sellers meeting is also planned on the sidelines of the Forum. CPR has approved an allocation of US\$ 50,000/- from the ECO General Purpose and Feasibility Study Fund (GPFSS) for the organization of the Forum. Regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> ECO Trade Fair, Republic of Kazakhstan has again been requested to indicate convenient dates for hosting the event in 2011.</p> <p>For enhancement of private sector cooperation regular meetings are organized by the ECO-CCI. The upcoming ECO-CCI Committee Meetings, 16<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee and 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meetings are to be hosted by Pakistan, in November 19-21, 2011. The Meetings would consider and plan programme of exhibitions, buyers sellers meetings and other trade promotional activities. ECO-CCI will soon finalize a Survey/Publication on ECO Intra-regional Trade Potential.</p> <p>Views/comments on the proposal of the Republic of Turkey may be expedited by the Member States.</p> <p>The only proposal received so far is from the Republic of Turkey conveying readiness of its Ministry of Industry and Trade to host</p>

	entrepreneurs in ECO cooperation as the real engine of commercial expansion	business trips including bilateral business meetings.  Participation and sharing of experience in Women entrepreneurship development was also conveyed by the Republic of Turkey.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 27	The Council urged Iran and Turkey to expedite their ratification process and called on the other concerned Member States to join the ECO Re-Insurance Company to benefit from its services at the earliest.	The ratification of the Articles of the Agreement of the ECO Reinsurance Company by the I.R. of Iran and the Republic of Turkey is underway. These countries are requested to complete the ratification process at the earliest.
<b>SG's Report</b>	Relevant ECO Member States are invited to join the ECO Reinsurance Company at the earliest	Since ratification of the Articles of the Agreement of the Reinsurance Company has been delayed by the two Signatory Members (I.R. of Iran and Republic of Turkey), therefore, positive response from the remaining Member States on joining the Company is not expected in the near future.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 49	<u>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of ECO-UNIDO Project on Trade Capacity Building of the ECO Member States in Standards, Metrology, Testing and Quality (SMTQ) and 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of ECO-UNIDO Project on Trade Capacity Building of ECO Member States</u> The Council urged Member States to consider possible technical and financial support for the extensive activity plan being developed for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase of the Project. It also urged for establishing long term collaboration in trade and industrial fields, implementation of ECO Trade Agreement, activation of the ECO Regional Institute for Standards Conformity Assessment, Accreditation and Metrology (RISCAM) and preparations for a Mutual Recognition Agreement in standardization.	No Member State has conveyed any interest in offering technical and financial support for the plan being developed for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase of ECO-UNIDO Project.  Proposals for establishing long term collaborations and the readiness of the Member States to enhance cooperation are still awaited.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 50	<u>ECO Project on Expanding Intra-Regional Trade</u> The Council approved the proposed enlargement of the scope of the Project on Expanding Intra-Regional Trade by covering trade promotional activities, including specialized trade fairs, exchange of Buyers-Sellers delegations, symposia on leading export sectors, trade research and special support for the smaller economies of ECO under Integrated Market Promotion Plans (IMPP).	Afghanistan's Ministry of Mines has shown interest in organizing ECO Symposium on Export Potential of Minerals but the proposal has not been forwarded for necessary coordination.  Republic of Turkey has conveyed that within the framework of the protocol signed between TIKA and KOSGEB, the transport costs of the participants may be provided by TIKA after the consultation between the concerned authorities.

		The remaining Member States have not conveyed the extent of possible support in terms of participation in trainings, exhibitions and sponsoring of delegations for the smaller economies of ECO (Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan) under the IMPP.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 51	<u>ECO Trade and Investment Information Network Web Portal</u> The Council urged for a more active involvement of the Member States to fully operationalize the ECO Trade & Investment Network Web Portal. It also approved the proposed study on the regional IT infrastructure; support for the IT related requirements of the Trade and Investment organizations of the smaller economies of ECO and hosting of the annual meetings of National Focal Points by the Secretariat during 2011-2012.	Orientation Seminar on ECO Trade and Investment Network Web Portal was held on February 10, 2011 in Baku, Azerbaijan  No Project activity (annual meetings of NFPs etc) has been offered to be undertaken by the Member States.  Proposals of the Member States on the IT Study and support for improving infrastructure of the Trade and Investment Organizations of the smaller economies are also awaited.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 71	The Council asked the Secretariat to actively follow up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meetings held in 2009-2010 on regular basis	No action has been communicated by the Member States on the implementation of the decisions of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> ECO Ministerial Meeting on Finance and Economy (Tehran, December 2008). Several reminders sent by the Secretariat have not even been responded by the Member States.
<b>H. E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan</b>	I have a very positive view of the proposal made by my dear brother, Turkish President Abdullah Gul, that it is a good idea to expand the number of members of the Organization's Bank. For its part, Azerbaijan will use this invitation in order to become a full member and shareholder of the Bank	The Republic of Azerbaijan has already conveyed Letter of Intent and the matter is being processed by the ECO-TDB.
<b>H. E. Mr. Hamid Karzai, President of Afghanistan</b>	Given to the fact that intra-regional trade and investments is still much lower than other regions, I believe that ECO investment promotion and private sector development need to be further intensified through the ECO Trade and Development Bank. I am pleased to inform that Afghanistan is ready to join the ECO Bank.	Afghanistan has been pro-active in areas of Trade and Investment. A number of events have been offered to be organized by the country which is indicative of the realization of commitments of the political leadership. The process of joining the ECO-TDB by Afghanistan is underway and signing and ratification of the Bank's Charter is expected to be completed soon.
<b>H. E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadi</b>	A mechanism be introduced for using national currencies of Member States in economic and business relations. Iran and Turkey enjoy a very successful experience in	No comments have been received on the proposal from any Member State including the I.R. of Iran.

<b>Nejad, President of Iran</b>	this regard	
<b>H.E. Ms. Rosa Otunbayeva President of Kyrgyzstan</b>	Creation of Free Trade Zone in the region still remains to be ambitious objective. Elimination of non-tariff barriers in regional trade, harmonization of regulation and measures on trade facilitation are on the agenda.	<p>The Member States have been requested to formulate proposals on trainings required by the officials of relevant authorities. I.R. of Iran and Republic of Turkey have already conveyed their readiness to impart necessary trainings in the field of Free Trade Zones. No response has been received from any Member State on the offers of Iran and Turkey.</p> <p>The Secretariat has invited attention of the Member States for taking urgent steps on the elimination of NTBs. However, no positive response has been conveyed by any side.</p> <p>As regards, measures on harmonization of regulations and trade facilitation, the 4<sup>th</sup> ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce/Foreign Trade (Kabul, July 11-13, 2011) has taken a decision to establish Joint Working Group. Its meeting is to be volunteered to be hosted by one of the Member States. No response has so far been received.</p>
<b>H. E. Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, President of Pakistan</b>	To realize the dream of creating an ECO Free Trade Area all members may operationalize ECO Trade Agreement.	<p>Pakistan being the Coordinating Country on ECOTA is expected to initiate action on the Plan of Action prepared for implementation of the Agreement.</p> <p>Since progress on ECOTA has been stalled therefore, the prospects of establishing Free Trade Area in the region have also been delayed considerably.</p>
	The Heads of our Central Banks and Planning Departments may meet and suggest measures to protect our economies from global economic recession and volatility of international markets by suggesting innovative solutions	The issues can be addressed by the Heads of Central Banks. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ECO Heads of Central Banks offered to be hosted by the I.R. of Iran in 2009 has not been confirmed despite repeated requests by the Secretariat.
	We need to harmonize Standards including customs.	None of the Member States has responded to the Secretariat's proposals on developing understanding on finalizing Mutual Recognition Agreement on Standards. The views of the Member States on harmonization of customs procedures in accordance with the UNDP Consultant Report are also awaited.

	Pakistan has already signed and ratified ECOTA. We have recently agreed with Turkey to operationalize this Agreement, bilaterally.	The agreement reached between Pakistan and Turkey to operationalize ECOTA bilaterally was initiated by these two countries. The level of progress may be conveyed to the Secretariat.
<b>H.E. Mr. Emomali Rakhmon, President of Tajikistan</b>	One of the most acceptable ways of implementation of efficient programmes is establishing Free Economic Zones. These zones are urged to become main factors of development, promote economic activities, and enhance regional trade and transit. Many ECO Member States have great wide experience in this regard.	Tajikistan being the Coordinating Country on ECO initiatives in the fields of Investment may forward appropriate proposals in the light of vision given by the Foreign Minister of the country. Moreover, Tajikistan has yet to convey the nature of trainings as offered by Iran and Turkey, for establishing such Zones.
	To our mind, priorities should be given to full implementation of ECOTA for enhancing cooperation among member-states in this regard	As Tajikistan is the only Contracting Party left to have completed requisite actions on the Lists, therefore, for full scale implementation of ECOTA the pending action may be taken on priority basis. Moreover, signing/ratifying the Annexes to ECOTA as committed by Tajikistan at various forums, is still awaited.
<b>H. E. Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey</b>	There is a necessity for the ECO Trade and Development Bank to establish partnerships with the Islamic Development Bank and Asian Development Bank.	The comments of ECO-TDB on progress achieved in building partnership between IDB and ADB are awaited.
<b>H. E. Mr. Zarif Khamrokho n, Foreign Minister of Tajikistan</b>	One of the most comprehensible ways of implementation of efficient programmes is creation of the Free Economic Zones.	Tajikistan may forward appropriate proposals in the light of vision given by the Foreign Minister of the country. Moreover, Tajikistan has yet to convey the nature of trainings as offered by Iran and Turkey, for establishing such Zones.



## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<b>Istanbul Declaration Article VI</b>	In the framework of implementation of the Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA) among ECO Member States priority should be given to the enhancement of international trade and road transport facilitation instruments, aiming at harmonizing Customs procedures and facilitating border crossing, notably the 1975 TIR Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat is in close contact with IRU for enhancing the implementation of the TIR Convention in the region.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat is following up measures to facilitate the initiation of TIR application in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Test application of the TIR in Afghanistan will be inaugurated in November 2011 through a meeting to be held in Heart under the aegis of the ECO.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat is in contact with OTIF and the Government of Pakistan to expedite the accession of Pakistan to COTIF Convention.</li> </ul>
<b>Istanbul Declaration Article VIII</b>	Noted that construction of the railway connecting China and Europe through Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey will promote diversification of transport routes in the region. In this context also noted the construction of priority railway segments, namely Kandahar-Chaman and Jalalabad-Torkham which connect Afghanistan to Pakistan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feasibility studies are ongoing or planned for connection Kashghar-Herat from China to Europe through Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Iran. The third Senior Officials Meeting of the enroute countries is scheduled for 2011.</li> <li>▪ Information is awaited from Afghanistan and Pakistan with regard to construction of railway segments Kandahar-Chaman and Jalalabad-Torkham</li> </ul>
<b>Istanbul Declaration Article IX</b>	Underlined the importance of promotion of the project on construction of the railway route China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan aimed at enhancing regional cooperation on the Great Silk Road route.	Information is awaited from the enroute member states with regard to construction of this railway route.
<b>Istanbul Declaration Article X</b>	Recognized that implementation of the construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway, Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) railway and Baku International Trade Sea Port will enhance the competitiveness of the International Transport Corridor Europe-the Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA), North-South Corridor and the transit potential of the ECO Member States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As per decisions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECO Ministers for Transport and Communications, the Secretariat is initiating contacts with the Azerbaijan and Iran for expediting the construction of railway, on Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan) route.</li> <li>▪ The construction of Baku International Trade Sea Port is ongoing by the Government of Azerbaijan.</li> </ul>
<b>Istanbul Declaration Article XI</b>	Reiterated the urgent need for regional cooperation in maritime and multimodal transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The coastal Member States have been approached by the Secretariat for offering consessional facilities in their seaports to the landlocked member states.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat is organizing, with cooperation of UNCTAD, IRU and other institutions, a regional conference in Bandar Abbas Port in October 2011 to promote logistics and trade facilitation in the ECO.</li> </ul>
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 42	<p><u>ECO/IDB Joint Project for Preparation of a Regional Program for Implementation of the TTFA</u></p> <p>The Council urged the Member States to nominate their national consultants and focal points for this project. The Council further requested IDB to extend the project until the end of 2011 as a way to assure the effectiveness of the project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The nominated national consultants have conveyed, or are submitting, their country reports. The Secretariat is in contact with the remaining Member States to expedite the nomination of national consultant and submission of country reports.</li> <li>▪ The project has been extended by IDB.</li> <li>▪ The customs transit component of the Project is being outsourced to UNCTAD as per decisions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Transport Ministerial Meeting</li> </ul>
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 43	<p><u>Construction of Railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran</u></p> <p>The Council requested the en-route Member States to provide regular progress reports on the project implementation. It also stressed the need for regular meetings of the Trilateral Coordination Committee and visits of the Committee to the construction sites in each of the en-route Member States.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Project is in progress smoothly. The bulk of construction work has been completed in Kazakhstan. The construction work in Turkmenistan has been completed in the segment from Kazakhstan border up to Barakat and is ongoing from Barakat to the Iranian border. The construction work in the Iranian territory started in June 2010 with a visit of Iran Transport Minister to the Project site.</li> <li>▪ The third Meeting of the Trilateral Coordination Committee of the enroute member states was held in June 2011 in Ashgabat under the aegis of the ECO.</li> <li>▪ A field visit, comprised of the representatives of the Secretariat and the enroute member states is scheduled for September 2011.</li> </ul>
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 44	<p><u>Container and Passenger Train on Istanbul-Almaty Route</u></p> <p>The Council instructed the Secretariat and the en-route Member States to expedite the Feasibility Study to regularize the Container Train's operation in 2011, and continue contacting China and UNECE to extend this route to China and Europe. Iran was requested to commence upgrading the capacity of Sarakhs Station.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Draft Report of the Feasibility Study has been circulated by the Secretariat for comments and views of the Member States.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat is contact with China and UNECE with regard to extending the operation of this Container train service to China and Europe</li> </ul>
Istanbul Declaration Article VII	Expressed hope that the regular operation of the ECO Container Trains on Istanbul-Almaty and Almaty Bandar Abbas Routes, also due realization of the project of Uzen	The demonstration run of the ECO Container Train on Bandar Abbas Almaty Route is scheduled for 19 October, 2011.

<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 45</p>	<p>(Kazakhstan)-Kyzylkiya-Bereket-Etrek (Turkmenistan)-Gorgan (Iran) railway would be launched in 2011. <u>ECO Container Train on Bandar Abbas–Almaty Route</u> The Council urged the Secretariat and the en-route Member States to launch the first demonstration run of this Container Train in 2011.</p>	
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 46</p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p><u>Launching ECO Container Train on Istanbul-Tehran-Islamabad Route</u> The Council asked the CPR to allocate funds for further studies on this route. The Council also requested the en-route Member States to consider reducing the tariffs on this Container Train to the level suggested by the Consultants. The Council requested Pakistan to expedite commencement of the Taftan-Quetta railway project. The Council urged the ECO Trade and Development Bank to consider financing this project. In order to enhance the competitiveness of the train with other modes of transport, the enroute Member States are requested to reduce the tariffs to the level suggested by the consultants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The tariffs for this train have been reduced by the enroute countries.</li> <li>▪ The report of the ECO Feasibility Study on this Container Train has been circulated for comments and views of the member states.</li> <li>▪ The Turkish TOBB has also initiated a study on marketing and infrastructure requirements of this train. The Report is awaited.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat will approach the CPR in due course for further funding of studies and events</li> </ul>
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration</b> Article XI</p> <p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 47</p>	<p><u>ECO Silk Road Truck Caravan</u> Acknowledged the realization of the ECO/IRU Silk Road Truck Caravan in September-October 2010 as a major demonstration project in line with the provisions of the TTFA, and called upon the Member States and the Secretariat to implement the TTFA and start the regular run of the trucks in the ECO region under this Agreement by January 2011. The Council stressed that regular run of the trucks be started by January 2011 with participation of all member States.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Detailed technical and operational report of the ECO Demonstration Truck Caravan, prepared jointly by the representatives of the Secretariat and IRU, has been circulated by the Secretariat for comments and views of the Member States.</li> <li>▪ Based on the decisions of the Summit, the Secretariat launched the Project for Regular Monitoring of Trucks in close cooperation of the member states and with partnership of IRU. Inaugurated in 29 June, 2011 in Ashgabat, the project involves monitoring of the operation of 1,000 loaded trucks in transit across the member states.</li> <li>▪ The Secretariat is approaching the CPR for funding support.</li> </ul>

<p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Additional funding may be allocated by the CPR for this purpose. Co-sponsorship should be sought by the Secretariat. The Council requested the Secretariat to seek, jointly with UNECE and other international and regional institutions, ways to expand the Caravan's outreach to other destinations beyond the ECO region. It is recommended to initiate with participation of all Member States, Phase-II of the Truck Caravan which would be a regular run of trucks under TTFA. This will start in January 2011. It is recommended that adoption and implementation of the proposed common visa system for drivers and the crew be expedited on priority basis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Road transport corridors are also being developed between a) Pakistan-Iran-Turkey, and b) Kyrgyz Republic-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Iran, further to decisions of the 8<sup>th</sup> ECO Transport Ministerial Meeting</li> </ul>
<p><b>19th COM Para 71</b></p>	<p>The Council asked the Secretariat to actively follow up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meetings held in 2009-2010 on regular basis</p>	<p>The Secretariat is actively following up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meeting. Regular progress reports are circulated in this regard.</p>
<p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Turkey has designed a regional system for money transfer between the ECO Member States through Post Offices, based on a pilot project implemented between Azerbaijan and Turkey. Being beneficial for the people of the region, it is recommended that Member States may instruct relevant authorities to consider implementation of this system expeditiously</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Standing Operational Procedure of the ECO Money Order System was finalized by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ECO Member States on Financial Postal Services (held in Tehran in April 2011).</li> <li>▪ The system will be operationalized between Azerbaijan, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic and turkey shortly. Other member states are considering joining the system</li> </ul>
<p><b>H. E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad, President of Iran</b></p>	<p>Chains of road and rail transport network should be completed</p>	<p>A Comprehensive plan for development of road and rail infrastructure in the ECO region is being developed under the Joint ECO/IDB Project on TTFA</p>
<p><b>H. E. Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, President of Pakistan</b></p>	<p>We may identify joint projects for trans-regional development</p>	<p>Same as above</p>

## ENERGY, MINERALS and ENVIRONMENT

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration Article XIII</b></p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Called for the creation of a suitable environment for investment in energy sector projects by improving energy security in the Member States and making better use of New and Renewable Energy Sources.</p> <p>The Member States cooperation for implementation of Plan of Action on Energy/Petroleum, Environment and Global Warming (2011-2015) is required to reap the dividends.</p>	<p>The Iranian authorities expressed their willingness to host the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of ECO Working Group on Renewable Sources of Energy (RSE) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop on RSE in November of 2011.</p> <p>It was accordingly included in the Calendar of Events for 2011-12.</p>
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration Article XV</b></p>	<p>Recognized the importance of making full use of the hydro power potential of the region and in this context noted the urgency of realizing the CASA 1000 project, aiming at inter-connecting the energy systems of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.</p>	<p>Kyrgyzstan is not ready to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Development of Hydropower Plants in 2011.</p> <p>Kyrgyzstan has provided latest status on CASA-1000 Project, upon request of the Secretariat in this regard.</p>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM Para 71</b></p>	<p>The Council asked the Secretariat to actively follow up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meetings held in 2009-2010 on regular basis</p>	<p>Following up periodically (EME).</p>
<p><b>H. E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad, President of Iran</b></p>	<p>Development and completion of energy transfer network be incorporated in the Agenda</p>	<p>Since the Member States expressed their willingness to renew the project on Interconnection of the ECO Countries Power Systems, the Secretariat is seeking a financial fund under this Project.</p>
<p><b>H.E. Ms. Rosa Otunbayeva President of Kyrgyzstan</b></p>	<p>Global warming and climate change are perceptibly correcting our economic activity. No doubt that our organization should attach more attention to this subject. Possibly, within next years it is necessary to focus on this topic through all the chain of ECO management including Summit of the Heads of States.</p> <p>Great importance is attached to renewal of work on project of interconnection of energy systems of regional</p>	<p>This issue was considered during the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting on Environment held on 7-9 June, 2011 in Tehran, Iran. Framework Action Plan on Environment was adopted by the meeting. Project profile for implementation of this Plan was also endorsed in this meeting. The Secretariat is in the process to find out the rest of its budget (US\$ 100,000).</p> <p>Since the Member States expressed their willingness to renew the project on Interconnection of the ECO Countries Power Systems,</p>

	countries.	the Secretariat is seeking a financial fund under this Project.
<b>H. E. Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, President of Pakistan</b>	Infrastructure and energy connectivity should be our strategic priority.	Since the Member States expressed their willingness to renew the project on Interconnection of the ECO Countries Power Systems, the Secretariat seeks a financial fund under this Project.
<b>H.E. Mr. Emomali Rakhmon, President of Tajikistan</b>	We want the ECO to pursue implementations of projects in regional energy trade between Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran and seek for sources of their financing.	The ECO Secretariat has not been involved in this project, this issue may be pursued in next ECO events on Energy
<b>H. E. Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey</b>	It is of vital importance to make use of energy resources of our region in a wisely and sustainable manner in order to reach stable and established international markets	Secretariat has prepared a Project Proposal for Feasibility Study on Energy Trade Arrangement in ECO Region. This proposal has been sent to IDB for its possible financing. This issue under examination of IDB and will be detailed in the meeting between IDB and ECO secretariat during their visit the Secretariat.

### AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 28	The Council welcomed the proposal of Turkey to hold the 4 <sup>th</sup> Experts Group Meeting (EGM) on 19-21 January, 2011 in Antalya and urged the relevant Member States to sign and ratify the RISCAM Statute for early operationalization of this important Institute.	The 4 <sup>th</sup> EGM was held as scheduled. The related issues are followed up by the Directorate. The interim Coordination Unit (ICU) of RISCAM is fully functional now and a workshop on conformity is announced to be held in October 2011 in Tehran.
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 29	The ECO Regional Office on Development of Science and New Technologies in Almaty The Council invited Kazakhstan to ratify the Charter of the ECO Science Foundation so that this could establish linkages with the Foundation to work in a coordinated and efficient manner. The Council requested Kazakhstan to propose exact dates for holding the Working Group Meeting in order to finalize draft modality and other related issues.	The Embassy of Kazakhstan has been requested to provide Modality and announce its readiness for holding the WG meeting repeatedly. Though intensive follow-up by the Secretariat, response is still awaited from Kazakhstan authorities. The 21 RPC requested Kazakhstan to confirm to the Secretariat about their interest to follow up the proposal otherwise this item may be removed from ongoing programmes. No response is received yet.
Istanbul Declaration Article XXIV  19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 30	Urged for regional programmes and projects (in disaster risk management in the ECO region) and further collaboration among the ECO Member States through existing mechanisms including the Regional Center for Risk Management (RCO-RCRM) in Mashhad-Iran The Council approved the establishment of the ECO Regional Center for Risk Management of Natural Disasters (ECO-RCRM) in Mashhad. Urged for regional programmes and projects (in disaster risk management in the ECO region) and further collaboration among the ECO Member States through existing mechanisms including the Regional Center for Risk Management (RCO-RCRM) in Mashhad-Iran	The ECO-RCRM has announced to organize the Working Group Meeting and Training Programme on Climate Modeling and Natural Disasters in ECO Region to be financed out of 50.000 USD allocated from ECO-FGPF.
19 <sup>th</sup> COM Para 32	The Council approved establishment of the ECO Seed Association (ECOSA) in Ankara as an affiliated body of	▪ 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Seed Trade Conference and 3 <sup>rd</sup> General Assembly Meeting will be held on 16-20 November, 2011 in

	ECO and appreciated its activities carried out so far. It called on the Member States to extend support and cooperation for the success of ECOSA.	Istanbul, Turkey. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Member States are requested to confirm their participation and inform the events to their related Public/Private Companies/Organizations and Institutions.</li> </ul>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 33	The Council approved establishment of the ECO Veterinary Commission (ECO-VECO) in Tehran as a specialized agency of ECO. The Council also approved the Statute of ECO-VECO and decided to submit it for signature by the Member States.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The concerned Iranian authorities have announced their readiness to host the Training Workshop on Management of Food and Mouth Disease on October 2-5, 2011 in Iran. Member States are requested to confirm their participation in the Training Workshop.</li> <li>▪ The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Heads of ECO Veterinary Organizations to be held in Iran, 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 34	The Council approved establishment of the ECO Center for Efficient Utilization of Water for Agriculture in Islamabad and called on the Member States to support its activities.	Member States are requested to voluntarily host the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Working Group Meeting on the Establishment of ECO Center for Efficient Utilization of Water for Agriculture.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 35	The Council approved establishment of the Regional Coordination Center (RCC) for implementation of the ECO/FAO Regional Programme for Food Security in Ankara.	The project and other related documents are under preparation by ECO/FAO-SEC. The documents will be finalized during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Coordination Meeting on Implementation of the RPFS to be submitted to CPR for approval.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 36	The Council approved establishment of the ECO Meteorological Calibration Center (ECO-MCC) in Ankara as an affiliated body of ECO and called on the Member States to extend support and cooperation to its activities.	The Turkish State Meteorological Service had prepared four international training programs for the ECO Member States in 2011 as follows; a. Training Course on "Flash Flood Forecasting Model Concept", Istanbul Facilities of RTC Turkey, September 2011; b. Training Course on "Basics of Calibration", Ankara Facilities of RTC Turkey, 12 to 14 September 2011; c. Training Course on "Basics of Numerical Weather Prediction and Practices", Alanya Facilities of RTC Turkey, 26 to 30 September 2011; d. Training Course on "Climate Analysis and Applications", Alanya Facilities of RTC Turkey, 10 to 19 October 2011; The Member States are requested to participate in the above-mentioned activities.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b>	ECO-Regional Programme for Food Security (ECO-	The necessary documents are under preparation in this regard. The



<b>Para 52</b>	RPFS) The Council ... determined the location of the Regional Coordination Center for the implementation of the RPFS (RCC) in Ankara.	financial support is expected from FAO and Turkey.
<b>19th COM Para 53</b>	FAO-ECO Project on Seed Sector Development in the ECO Region within the scope of FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP) The Council welcomed the approval of the Project on Seed Sector Development in the region and thanked the FAO/FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (FAO-SEC) in Ankara for its support.	The Project has already been finalized and will be submitted to CPR for approval.
<b>19th COM Para 55</b>	ECO Nanotechnology Network The Council requested the concerned authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expedite the activities under the ECO Nanotechnology-Network and invited the relevant Member States to support functioning of the Network.	The issue is followed up by the Directorate. The 21 <sup>st</sup> RPC requested Iran to submit modified version of the project Water Treatment by Nano-Filtration Method. Response is still awaited.
<b>19th COM Para 56</b>	ECO Agricultural Biotechnology Network (ECO-ABN) The Council requested the concerned Iranian authorities to expedite organization of required activities for the establishment of the network.	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Bio-safety will be held on 31 October – 2 November, 2011 in Iran. All Member States are requested to participate in the Meeting.
<b>19th COM Para 57</b>	ECO Tourism Promotion Fund and ECO Tourism Guide Book The Council requested the concerned Member States to nominate their representatives for the Fund's Board of Trustees (BoT) and contribute to the Fund. The Council appreciated the printing of the ECO Tourist Guide Book and thanked the ECO Secretariat, ECO Cultural Institute, and the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their efforts in printing the ECO Tourist Guide Book.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ECO Tourism Promotion Fund is followed up by the Directorate. All Member States are requested to nominate their representatives for the Board of the Trustees of the Fund</li> <li>▪ The published ECO Tourist Guidebook has been distributed among the relevant bodies of the Member States and is being used as gift to the participants of the ECO Meetings as well as visitors of ECO Secretariat occasionally.</li> </ul>
<b>19th COM Para 71</b>	The Council asked the Secretariat to actively follow up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meetings held in 2009-2010 on regular basis	All related items are under consideration and followed up by the Directorate.

<p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>The Member States are requested to support and actively involve in ECO initiatives in food security such as strengthening seed supply, water management in agriculture, drought management and animal diseases. Relevant member countries are requested to adequately benefit from the financing arranged by the Secretariat for food security projects and training programmes</p>	<p>Iran has announced to host the Training Workshop on Management of Food and Mouth Disease. The concerned authorities of the Republic of Turkey will also organize three training courses related to meteorological issues.</p>
<p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>The Member States are also requested to support and actively involve in ECO initiatives in industry and tourism sectors such as SME cooperation, RISCAM, ECO Nanotechnology Network, industrial property rights and ECO Tourism Promotion Fund.</p>	<p>All related items are under consideration and followed up by the Directorate.</p>

## HUMAN RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p><b>Istanbul Declaration Article XVIII</b></p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>Re-iterated their commitment towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the ECO region, with special focus on education, gender equality, Women's and Children's Health, re-emphasized by Heads of State and Government during the last September World MDGs Summit in New York.</p> <p>The Member States are requested to provide technical and financial support to Secretariat's endeavours to implement some regional projects, envisaged in Prioritized Millennium Development Goals.</p>	<p>The Secretariat officially requested the interested Member States to kindly prepare regional project proposals based on the findings and recommendations of the ECO regional report on health related MDGs and forward to the Secretariat for further necessary action. The responses from the M.S are still awaited. On the other hand, the 3rd ECO High Level Experts Group (HLEG) Meeting on Human Development and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is scheduled to be held in Iran on 12-13 September, 2011. It is expected that some outlines of the project proposals on Health Related MDGs would be considered in the Meeting. NV No. HRSD/HD-MDG/2011/1034 dated 6 July, 2011 refers.</p>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 58</p>	<p><u>Establishment of ECO Blood Safety Network</u></p> <p>The Council noted the progress made in this field in 2010 and called for early establishment of the Network. It requested the Member States to extend their utmost efforts and cooperation in this area, particularly in furnishing the already circulated questionnaires as the first step towards establishment of the Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat has sent some NVs to receive answers of the MS to the questionnaire rested with the NV No.HRSD/Health/2011/972 dated 23 June, 2011.</li> <li>▪ Only Afghanistan and Turkey responded. Response from other MS is still awaited.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 59</p>	<p><u>Establishment of ECO Drug (Pharmaceutical) Regulatory Network</u></p> <p>The Council requested cooperation of the Member States whilst establishing the Network and making it fully functional.</p>	<p>The draft modality of the "ECO Drug Regulatory Authority Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization" prepared by the Islamic Republic of Iran has been circulated among the Member States through NV No. HRSD/DRA-Network/2011/237 dated 17 February, 2011 for their consideration and comments, if any. The Secretariat followed up the matter with the Member States vide NV No. HRSD/DRA-Network/2011/945 dated 20 June, 2011. Till the end of July 2011 only Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey responded.</p>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 71</p>	<p>The Council asked the Secretariat to actively follow up the implementation of decisions of the Ministerial Meetings held in 2009-2010 on regular basis</p>	<p>The Secretariat is following up with the Member States the decisions of 1st ECO Health Ministerial Meeting held in Baku on 4-5 February, 2010.</p>

## PROJECT AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<b>Istanbul Declaration</b> Article XVII <b>SG's Report</b>	Welcomed the establishment of ECOSTAT and stressed the need to consolidate statistical data and economic research to promote economic cooperation among the Member States. The Member States are requested to instruct their relevant authorities to electronically upload economic data onto ECOSTAT	Official upload of ECOSTAT was made on the 166 <sup>th</sup> CPR Meeting on 23 February, 2011. ECOSTAT currently is being updated based on data collection from ECO Member States for 2010. Signing MOU between ECO and SCI (Statistical Centre of Iran) for maintenance, technical support and updating the Network is in the process.
<b>Istanbul Declaration</b> Article XIX  <b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 38  Para 39  Para 40  Para 41	Called for more contributions by the Member States to the Fund and cooperation between ECO and relevant national Agencies of the Member States to speed up the reconstruction process.  <u>Construction of Deh Mazang Public Park and Rehabilitation of Kabul Zoo</u> The Council requested concerned Afghan authorities to expedite necessary actions to complete the remaining 20 percent of the project. <u>Construction of a Maternity Hospital in Faryab Province</u> The Council requested concerned Afghan authorities to submit the Draft Agreement in order to finalize the project and avoid unnecessary delays. <u>Construction of a School in Bamian Province</u> The Council was informed that the draft agreement on the subject matter has already been prepared and shared with the Secretariat  <u>Construction of Block A of the Ministry of Rural</u>	Following the proposal of Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TIKA) for contribution to reconstruction projects in Afghanistan and by the request of the Secretariat, the Afghan Embassy provided a list of Small and Medium Damps Projects to the Secretariat on March 2011. The Secretariat has requested Afghan authorities for providing contact details of focal points of the country for coordination.  The 4 <sup>th</sup> or last installment of Deh Mazang Project (US \$ 195,000) would be released by the Secretariat upon receiving the certificate of final completion of works from the Project Engineer via Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.  Request from Afghan authorities for providing draft agreement on construction of a Maternity Hospital in Faryab is still awaited.  The draft agreement on construction of a school in Bamian received by the Secretariat from Afghan Embassy on January 2011 and after consideration of the Secretariat and some modifications was signed by ECO Secretary General and the relevant Afghan authorities. Afghan authorities have submitted the signed agreement to the Secretariat on 26 July 2011 for release of the first installment of the project. Based on the certified report of completion of MRRD Project, the

<p>Para 60</p>	<p><u>Rehabilitation Training and Research Center (MRRD) in Kabul</u>  The Council was informed that the project is already completed and the report of the completion is certified by the Ministry of foreign Affairs of Afghanistan and has been submitted to the Secretariat for the transfer of last installment.  The Afghan delegation informed the meeting about the on-going work related to <u>establishment of ECO International Park in Herat</u> which was welcomed during the 17<sup>th</sup> COM Meeting and urged the Secretariat and the Member States to support this project which would symbolize a good example of regional cooperation.</p>	<p>fourth or last Installment of the Project has been released by the Secretariat on 19 April, 2011.</p> <p>The Secretariat has requested the Member States for contribution to establishment of ECO International Park in Herat.</p>
<p>19<sup>th</sup> COM  Para 54</p>	<p><u>ECO Joint Economic Programme</u>  The Council requested Member States to support the ECO Joint Economic Research Programme, which was developed in line with the recommendations of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> ECO Summit Meetings.</p>	<p>To implement the ECO Joint Economic Research Programme approved by the 19<sup>th</sup> COM, the following steps have been undertaken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>"Comparative Study on the Linkage between Energy Consumption and Population Dynamics in the ECO Countries"</i>. Coordinator country: Iran (Population Studies and Research Centre for Asia and the Pacific of the Islamic Republic of Iran-PSRC). Contract between ECO and UNFPA as the co-financer of the project has been signed. The work is in progress.</li> <li>2. <i>"Prospects for Closer Regional Economic Integration of ECO Member Countries"</i>, Coordinator Country: Iran. The project proposal has been formulated by coordinating country. The Secretariat has requested for revised project proposal.</li> <li>3. <i>"Alternative Energy Resources in ECO region"</i>, Coordinator Country: Kazakhstan. The project proposal has been formulated and sent to SESRIC for co-financing. The feedback is awaited.</li> </ol>

		<p>4. <i>"Perspective of Intra Regional Trade in ECO Countries"</i>, Coordinator Country: Kazakhstan. Following approval of this project in the 166<sup>th</sup> CPR Meeting, the Secretariat has informed the coordinating country to initiate the project. The work is in progress.</p> <p>5. "Economic Achievements of the ECO in the Decade": the research project has been completed by Iran, Coordinating Country. It was inaugurated on 8 December 2010 at Tehran University.</p> <p>6. <i>"Economic Management Modeling in ECO countries"</i>, Coordinating country: Pakistan (Pakistan Institute of Development Economics-PIDE). The Secretariat has requested PIDE for providing detailed project proposal. Response from PIDE is still awaited.</p> <p>7. "Trade Liberalization and Food Security in the ECO Region": the project was proposed by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) at the 8<sup>th</sup> NFPs Meeting on Economic Research and Statistics (21-22 April 2011 in Baku). The Secretariat has requested the PIDE to provide the detailed project proposal for consideration of the Member States. Response from PIDE is awaited.</p>
<p><b>H. E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad, President of Iran</b></p>	<p>An appropriate mechanism be worked out through the Secretariat for experience sharing in dealing with economic and social crises</p>	<p>Establishment of the Permanent Steering Committee on Economic Research and holding its first meeting on 3 May, 2011 in Astana could be functioned as an appropriate mechanism for exchange of views of the ECO Member States on economic and social issues.</p>

## DRUG AND ORGANIZED CRIMES COORDINATION UNIT

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p data-bbox="309 432 443 496"><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 48</p> <p data-bbox="331 868 421 932"><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p data-bbox="479 432 1193 496"><u>EU-funded Project Fight Against Trafficking from/to Afghanistan with the ECO Member States</u></p> <p data-bbox="479 501 1193 858">The Council expressed satisfaction on signing of the MOU between ECO and European Commission on implementation of the project titled "Fight Against Trafficking from/to Afghanistan" with the ECO Member States. The Council appreciated European Commission's assistance in funding the Project and called on relevant authorities of the Member States to extend fullest support for implementation of this project. Afghanistan requested to consider changing the name of the project, to better reflect its objectives and components.</p> <p data-bbox="479 863 1193 1038">The Member States are requested to extend maximum cooperation and support for implementation of European Union (EU) financed project especially on the component relating to enhancing the technical and functional capacity of the DOCCU.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1214 432 2054 1078">▪ The German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ) has been commissioned by the European Commission for the implementation of this project. An Operative Coordinator for implementation of this Project has also started his activities in Tehran in close cooperation with the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit. The first components is regarding increasing the political and technical Capacity of the DOCCU. For other three components of the project, the consortium partners are UNODC, INTERPOL and German Federal Criminal Police. The activities under each of the component have been started by each partner. The International Kick Off Conference for the EU-funded Project was organized by the DOCCU on 24 January, 2011 at the ECO Secretariat, Tehran. The Conference marked the start-up of the project and provided an opportunity for the ECO Member States to discuss and assess their current national counter narcotic policies in the fight against drugs and their expectations towards the project. Member States have assured their fullest support for the active implementation of the project.</li> <li data-bbox="1214 1118 2054 1256">▪ Afghanistan's request for considering to change the name of the project was communicated to the European Commission (EC). It has been conveyed to the Secretariat that changing the name of the project at this very later stage of the project is not possible.</li> </ul>

## ECO SPECILIZED AGENCIES/REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS/AFFILIATED BODIES

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 20</p>	<p>The Council also called on the remaining Member States to sign/ratify the Charter of the ECO Cultural Institute (ECI)</p>	<p>The non-signatory (Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) and non-ratifying Member States (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Turkmenistan) are reminded from time to time by the Secretariat to ratify/accede to the Charter of the ECI.</p> <p>In response to Secretariat's requests in this regard, the Republic of Kazakhstan vide its NV No. 471 dated 18 April, 2011 has conveyed its readiness to ratify the Charter of the ECI. The Secretariat would continue to follow-up the issue with the concerned Member States.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The Secretariat would request the concerned Member States to inform whether they have initiated respective national procedures for ratification in the above connection and if so to share with the Secretariat current status of ratification at the earliest.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 22</p>	<p>It urged the ECO College of Insurance to organize the first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the College in accordance with the Statute of the College adopted at the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COM</p>	<p>The College was requested vide this Secretariat's NV No. ECO (IR)/CoI/2011/097 dated 26 January, 2011 to convene the first Meeting of the Board of Trustees in accordance with the Statute of the College at the earliest. At the 21<sup>st</sup> RPC Meeting (May 17-19, 2011-Tehran), the College expressed its readiness to host the meeting with-in two months. As a follow-up the Secretariat vide its NV No. IR/ECOCoi/2011/881 dated 8 June, 2011 reminded the College to announce the dates. Further, in order to expedite progress, the Secretariat vide its NV No. IR/ECOCoi/2011/997 dated 29 June, 2011 has requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran to help finalize the matter in consultation with the M/o Science, Research and Technology of Iran and the College. The Secretariat has also offered to host a working-level Meeting among the stake-</p>



		<p>holders to wrap up the matter. Response from the Ministry is awaited. The Secretariat would continue to follow-up the matter with the Ministry and the College to implement the decision.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u> The Secretariat would request Iran to respond to its aforementioned Note Verbale in order to finalize the matter without further delay.</p>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 23	The Council took note of the Report submitted by the Secretariat to the 20 <sup>th</sup> RPC on the impediments faced by ECO-CEC and asked the Member States to remove the impediments to make it a viable regional company.	<p>The Secretariat had requested the Member States vide its NV No. IR/ECOCEC/2011/099 dated 27 January, 2011 to facilitate ECO-CEC in light of the recommendations contained in the "Study on Impediment faced by ECO-CEC" approved at the 20<sup>th</sup> RPC (Feb, 2010-Antalya). The matter was also discussed at the 21<sup>st</sup> RPC Meeting. The Meeting renewed its previous call that the Member States help ECO-CEC in becoming an active Regional Institution of ECO in light of the recommendations of the Study on "Impediments faced by ECO-CEC" which was endorsed at the previous RPC and the 19<sup>th</sup> COM Meetings.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u> The Secretariat would request the Member States to inform about the actions taken pursuant to this decision of the COM/RPC.</p>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 25	The Council urged the Member States to confirm participation in the 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Science Foundation scheduled to be held on 10 <sup>th</sup> January, 2011 in Islamabad at the earliest, so that the Foundation could be made operational without further delay. It also called on the remaining signatory Member States to ratify the Charter of the ECO Science Foundation.	<p>Despite Secretariat's best efforts and all the necessary arrangements, regrettably, the Meeting could not take place as scheduled on account of lack of requisite quorum. Nevertheless, driven by its firm commitment to realize establishment of ECOSF, the host authorities in consultation with the Secretariat made fresh offer to host the Meetings on 11-12 April, 2011. But, unfortunately, the Meeting had to be postponed yet another time due to the same reasons-lack of response.</p> <p>The matter was raised at the 21<sup>st</sup> RPC Meeting by the Secretariat. And in light of the discussion held, Pakistan for the third time in the current year, offered to host Meetings on 22-23 August, 2011. The Secretariat is requesting the Member States to confirm participation.</p>

		<p>With respect to ratification of the ECOSF's Charter, the non-ratifying Member States (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Turkey and Uzbekistan) are reminded from time to time by the Secretariat to ratify the Charter.</p> <p>In response to Secretariat's requests in this regard, the Republic of Kazakhstan vide its NV No. 471 dated 18 April, 2011 has conveyed its readiness to ratify the Charter of the ECOSF. The Secretariat would continue to follow-up the issue with the concerned Member States.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The Member States are requested to confirm participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> BoT Meeting expeditiously.</li> <li>ii) The Secretariat would request the concerned Member States to share whether they have initiated their respective national procedures for ratification in the above connection and if so to share with the Secretariat current status of ratification at the earliest.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 26</p>	<p>The Council welcomed the proposal of Turkey to host the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the ECO Educational Institute during the next year and urged the Member States to actively participate in this meeting. It also invited the remaining Member States to ratify the Charter of the Institute.</p>	<p>As a follow-up on the decision of the 19<sup>th</sup> COM, the Secretariat vide its NV No. ECO (IR)/ECO-EI/2011/144 dated 2 February, 2011, requested Turkey to announce the exact dates for the 1<sup>st</sup> BoT Meeting. In the same note, Secretariat has proposed 1<sup>st</sup> half of Sep, 2011 for the consideration of the host authorities. At the 21<sup>st</sup> RPC, Turkey announced its willingness to host the Meeting in the last quarter of 2011.</p> <p>Recently, following the discussion at the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Group (HLTG) on ECOSF and ECOEI held on 28 July, 2011, the Secretariat has requested Turkey vide its note Verbale no IR/ECOEI/2011 dated 9 August, 2011 to convey dates/venue of the Meeting. Once the relevant information concerning dates and venue is received, the Secretariat would request the Member States especially those which have ratified ECOEI's Charter to actively</p>

		<p>participate in the Meetings.</p> <p>As regards ratification, the non-signatory (Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and non-ratifying Member States (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Pakistan) are reminded from time to time by the Secretariat to ratify/accede to the Charter of the ECI.</p> <p>The Ambassador of Pakistan at the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Group (HLTG) on ECOSF and ECOEI has announced Pakistan's willingness to ratify the Charter.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Turkey is requested to kindly furnish the Secretariat with dates/venue of the 1<sup>st</sup> BoT of the ECOEI at the earliest.</li> <li>▪ Pakistan is requested to initiate ratification process of the ECOEI's Charter under intimation to the Secretariat.</li> <li>▪ Other concerned Member States are requested as well to share whether they have initiated their respective national procedures for ratification in the above connection and if so to share with the Secretariat current status of ratification at the earliest.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 80</p>	<p>The Council welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to invite the ECO Supreme Audit Institute (ECO-SAI) to the Council of Ministers meetings to present their annual reports. The Secretariat was instructed to take necessary action in this regard.</p>	<p>The Secretariat has taken note of the decision for compliance. The ECOSAI would be invited in subsequent Meetings of the COM to present Annual Reports on their activities.</p>

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 61</p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>The Council asked the Secretariat to consult the Member States prior to initiating contacts with non-Member States.</p> <p>The Member States are invited to forward proposals to the Secretariat for joint activities to implement the MoUs signed with international/regional organizations.</p> <p>The Member States are requested to support Secretariat's initiatives in the sphere of External Relations aimed at enhancing ECO's international image, expanding its presence and securing technical and financial assistance for ECO's programmes and projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At present, no proposal is under consideration to sign any MoU Agreement, or initiate cooperation with any non-ECO State. Nevertheless, pursuant to this directive of the COM, the Secretariat would consult the Member States before entering into any MoU/cooperation agreement with any non-ECO State.</li> <li>▪ As regards, proposals for joint activities, the Secretariat had requested the Member States vide its NV No. ECO (IR)/Misc/2011/109 dated 30 January, 2011 to send proposals for joint activities to implement the MoUs signed by ECO with international/regional organizations. So far only Turkey has responded by sending its proposals. These proposals are being examined by relevant Directorates of the Secretariat for necessary follow-up action in coordination with the relevant Regional/International Organization.</li> <li>▪ Other Member States are requested to share their proposals with the Secretariat.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 62</p> <p><b>SG's Report</b></p>	<p>The Council approved the revised Terms of Reference of Contact Groups of Ambassadors at important regional/international fora and called on the Member States to send necessary instructions to their relevant Missions to render the Contact Groups operational. The Council also urged the Member States to take active part in the activities of the Contact Groups.</p> <p>The Member States are urged to take active part in the activities of the ECO Contact Groups at various important regional/international fora to help them promote the interest of the Organization in an effective manner.</p>	<p>The Secretariat had requested the Member States vide its NV No. ECO (IR)/Contact Group/2011/120 dated 31 January, 2011 to send instructions to their relevant Missions to render the Contact Groups operational. Subsequently, the Secretary General wrote letters to Turkish Ambassadors/Permanent Representative at UN, Geneva, Vienna, Rome and Bangkok with a request to activate the Contact Groups with UN, WTO and UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO and UNESCAP respectively. Copies of the letters (IR/CG/2011/815 dated 31 May, 2011 and IR/CG/2011/818 dated 1 June, 2011) were endorsed to all ECO Member States as well.</p> <p>As a result of Secretariat's and with the support of the Chair, the Contact Group with UNIDO at Vienna has been activated. So far it has held two Meetings. Their Reports were shared with the Member</p>

		<p>States vide this Secretariat's NV No. IR/CG/2011/725 and IR/CG/2011/873 dated 9 May, 2011 and 7 June, 2011 respectively. Moreover, in keeping with the Terms of Reference of the Contact Groups, the progress was brought to the attention of the CPR. In order to facilitate its work, the Secretariat has sent inputs highlighting important issues related to ECO-UNIDO cooperation along with proposals to the Contact Group for their consideration at its next meeting.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i). The Secretariat would request the Embassies to inform whether their Capitals have sent instructions to all relevant Missions except Vienna for activation of the ECO Contact Groups.</li> <li>- Further, the Secretariat, with reference to its aforementioned letters, would request Turkey to share with this Secretariat current status of ECO Contact Groups at New York, Geneva, Rome and Bangkok.</li> </ul>
<p><b>19th COM Para 81</b></p>	<p>The Council welcomed the proposal of the Republic of Turkey to grant observer status to the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (CCTS) in accordance with Article XIV 4-5 of the Treaty of Izmir.</p>	<p>Pursuant to this decision, the Secretariat had placed the issue on the Agenda of the 166<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CPR held in February 2011 in Tehran. The Council after examining the issue had agreed to grant Observer Status to the Cooperation Council of Turkish Speaking States on provisional basis.</p> <p><u>Pending action (s):</u></p> <p>In keeping with the provisions of the Treaty of Izmir, the matter would now be placed before the ECO Council of Ministers (COM) at its 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting together with the ECO Modalities for granting Observer/Dialogue Partnership Status for a final decision.</p>

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL ISSUES

No. Item	Decision taken	Implementation Status
<p data-bbox="293 391 479 555"><b>H. E. Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey</b></p> <p data-bbox="293 726 479 858"><b>Istanbul Declaration Article XXV</b></p> <p data-bbox="293 970 479 1038"><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM Para 12</b></p>	<p data-bbox="479 391 1189 715">To establish an "Eminent Persons Group" to conduct a comprehensive study with a view to adjusting ECO to the changing global circumstances and for more efficient implementation of the ECO Vision 2015 as well as its possible revision. I attach high importance to the immediate establishment of this group, the commencement of its studies and submission of its proposals to the Member States within the first half of 2011.</p> <p data-bbox="479 719 1189 965">Welcomed the initiative by Turkey to establish an Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to study and review the work of the Organization including the ECO Vision 2015, in order to enhance the dynamism, efficiency and visibility of the Organization and provide recommendations to be submitted to the Council of Ministers.</p> <p data-bbox="479 970 1189 1220">The Council decided to establish an Eminent Persons Group to make recommendations on revision of the ECO Vision 2015 and submit the report to the Council of Ministers. The Member States were requested to accord priority to the ECO Vision targets on their national plans and budgets and also to nominate eminent persons for EPG as early as possible.</p>	<p data-bbox="1189 391 2078 507">The Inaugural Meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ECO Eminent Persons Group (EPG) was held in Ankara, the Republic of Turkey on 25-26 July, 2011.</p> <p data-bbox="1189 544 2078 624">It was attended by the Eminent Persons from four ECO Member States, namely: Afghanistan, Iran, and Turkey.</p> <p data-bbox="1189 660 2078 778">In the Meeting, a draft work programme was prepared and it would be finalized at the next meeting of the EPG, which would be held on 12-14 September, 2011 at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran.</p>
<p data-bbox="293 1232 479 1300"><b>19<sup>th</sup> COM Para 16</b></p> <p data-bbox="293 1412 479 1441"><b>SG's</b></p>	<p data-bbox="479 1232 1189 1406">The Council urged those Member States who have not yet signed/ratified these agreements to do so at the earliest. The Council also urged the Member States to ensure smooth implementation of those agreements which have already come into force.</p> <p data-bbox="479 1410 1189 1441">Member States are called for a speedy progress on</p>	<p data-bbox="1189 1232 2078 1406">Pakistan has ratified the Agreement on Establishment of the ECO Smuggling Customs Offences Data Bank on 1 February, 2011 and also Additional Protocol of the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the Businessmen and transit Drivers of the ECO Member States on 26 January, 2011.</p>

<b>Report</b>	implementation of ECO agreements, arrangements for simplification and harmonization of policies, particularly trade, investment, customs and taxation regimes	
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 68  <b>SG's Report</b>	As regards the arrears of Uzbekistan, the Council decided that a delegation comprising representatives of troika along with the Secretary General should pay a visit to Uzbekistan to raise the matter with the relevant Uzbek authorities and report to the Council accordingly.  Default on financial contributions by one of the Member States is a major concern to our modest budget. As Uzbekistan has not cleared its financial arrears for a decade, the ECO Secretariat is confronting a very serious financial crunch. Therefore, this issue merits the special attention and expeditious solution by the esteemed Member States.	Note Verbal No.SG/Contribution/2011/1050 dated 10 July, 2011 was sent to H.E. H. E. Ganiev Elyor Madjodovich, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Uzbekistan on the subject.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 82	The Kyrgyz Republic recalled the Council that the post of Director (HRSD), is still vacant for the last about two years and requested that this post may be given to the nominee of Kyrgyzstan. The Turkish delegation maintained their position to appoint their nominee against this post. The Council instructed the Council of Permanent Representatives to consider the matter and take a decision in this regard.	The issue would be considered in the 171 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Council of Permanent representatives (CPR).
<b>19<sup>th</sup> COM</b> Para 83	The Council requested the Secretariat to ascertain the willingness of Member States for hosting the (20 <sup>th</sup> ) Meeting of the Council of Ministers. The exact dates and venue of the meeting would be conveyed to the Member States.	Afghanistan has offered to host the 20 <sup>th</sup> CPR meeting, proposing to hold it in the third week of December 2011. The proposal on date and venue was circulated to all Member States on 26 June, 2011
<b>H. E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad, President of</b>	A group of thinkers and scholars from member countries be invited to work together for introducing the basic humanitarian theories for building a healthy system of social and economic management.	

<b>Iran</b>		
<b>H.E. Mr. Ali Akbar Salehi, Acting Foreign Minister of Iran</b>	ECO Secretariat needs to strengthen its human resources in terms of quality and quantity	
	ECO Secretariat, with the active participation of its Member States and taking advantage of technical capacities of other regional and international organizations as well as hiring international consultants, could conduct a study with the view of reviewing strategies, programs, plans and strengthening capacity building in Member States. The result of such a study could be used in revising of ECO Vision 2015.	
<b>H. E. Mr. Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Foreign Minister of Pakistan</b>	It is our primary responsibility to make the Secretariat as strong and as viable as possible so that its capacity to deliver in an efficient manner does not get adversely affected. My delegation, therefore, urges all Member States to make timely contributions towards its budget	