

## **Draft Statute**

### **Meteorological Calibration Center for Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO-MCC)**

#### **PREAMBLE**

The member states of ECO,

**Recognizing** the importance of technical and scientific cooperation in the field of calibration of meteorological instruments,

**Wishing** to contribute to the establishment of a more sustainable and closer collaboration between Parties,

**Agreed** on following articles:

#### **ARTICLE 1**

##### ***Establishment of the Center***

Calibration center of Turkish State Meteorological Service (TSMS) will act as a specialized agency of ECO.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

##### ***Legal Status***

The Centre, as an ECO Specialized Agency, shall enjoy legal personality, have perpetual succession and common seal, and subject to the provisions of this Statute and in conformity with its relevant regulations, shall carry out its programmes and conducts its affairs.

#### **ARTICLE 3**

##### ***Definitions***

For the purpose of the present statute:

“ECO” means Economic Cooperation Organization.

“Secretary General” means Secretary General of ECO.

“TSMS” means Turkish State Meteorological Service.

“Center” means Calibration Center of TSMS.

“TURKAK” means Turkish Accreditation Agency.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

##### ***Objectives***

The objectives of the Center shall be with a view to promoting cooperation among member states for effective natural disasters risk management especially the risks of hydro-meteorological and climatic disasters:

1. Establishing an efficient information management system
2. Capacity Building (Education and Training, etc)

3. Providing calibration services for reference instruments of member states' laboratories.
4. Providing consultancy to help member states to build their own calibration laboratories.
5. Expert exchange through member states on calibration.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### ***Functions and Responsibilities of the Center***

In order to achieve the objectives, as defined in Article 4, the Center shall, inter alia, have the following functions and responsibilities:

1. Enhancing knowledge about meteorological calibrations
2. Providing traceability for reference instruments of member states laboratories
3. Improvement of calibration methods and reference instruments
4. Encouraging the help member states to build their own calibration laboratories
5. Achieving participation of member states to international seminars, meetings, conferences, workshops, presentations, etc.
6. To provide member states with technical assistance in research, applying new technologies on calibration
7. To exchange information, knowledge and best practices as well experts, instructors and trainers
8. To develop cooperation with relevant international bodies/institutions for technical and financial assistance
9. To facilitate policy dialogue as well as calibration of meteorological instruments.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### ***Organizational Structure of the Centre***

The policy of the Centre shall be devised by its Board. The Director General of the Centre shall be responsible about the implementation of the policy and execution of the functions of the Centre.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### ***The Board of the Centre***

1. Membership of the Board shall be open to ECO member states. International/regional organizations such as, WMO, FAO, IPCC, UNFCCC, ISDR and UNDP may become observers. Each member state shall participate in the Board by the Heads of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of member states or their representatives.
2. Membership of observers shall be approved on the basis of unanimity. The observers shall have the right to participate in all sessions of the Centre without having the right to vote.
3. Each member state shall have one vote. With the exception of decisions which require unanimity, decisions on all other meetings, shall be adopted by simple majority of the total membership of the Centre with every member having the right to record its

reservations, if any. Budgetary allocation, appointment of the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons, and other issues considered to be of vital importance to the Centre shall be taken on the basis of unanimity.

4. Each Member State may appoint alternates, associates and advisers to its delegate. The Board may determine the conditions for the participation of alternates, associates and advisers in its proceedings, but any such participation shall be without the right to vote, except in the case of an alternate, associate, or adviser participating in the place of a delegate.
5. A Member State which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Center shall have no vote in the Board if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years. The Board may, nevertheless, permit such a Member State to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member State.
6. The Board may invite any international organization to participate in its meetings. No representative of such an organization shall have the right to vote.
7. The Board shall meet twice a year on regular basis. It may call an extra-ordinary meeting upon request of at least three member states or the Director General.
8. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Statute or by rules made by the Board, all decisions of the Board shall be taken by simple majority of the votes cast.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### ***Chairmanship***

1. The Board of the Centre shall elect its chairperson and vice- chairperson according to the criteria specified in the ECO-CC Staff Regulations.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### ***Functions of the Board***

1. The Board shall devise the policy of the Centre. The Budget prepared by the Director General shall be approved by the Board and submitted to the ECO Council of Ministers for adoption. The Board shall exercise other powers conferred upon it by this Statute.
2. The Board shall prepare and adopt Staff Regulations and Rules of Procedures of the Centre. The Financial Regulations of the ECO shall be taken as the basis for financial affairs of the Centre.
3. The Board may make recommendations to Member States concerning questions relating to the activities of the Center, for consideration by them with a view to implementation by national action.
4. The Board may review / adopt decisions taken by any commission or committee of the Board or by any subsidiary body of such commissions or committees.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### ***Location of the Centre***

The Centre shall be located in TSMS Head Quarters, Ankara, Turkey.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **The Director General**

1. The Director General of the Centre shall be the director general of TSMS.
2. Subject to the general supervision of the Board, the Director-General shall have full power and authority to direct the work of the Center in achieving its objectives and implementing policies devised by the Board.
3. The Director-General or a representative designated by him shall participate, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Board and shall formulate for consideration by the Board proposals for appropriate action in regard to matters coming before them.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **Staff**

1. The staff of the Center shall be appointed by the Director-General in accordance with the Staff Regulations made by the Board on the basis of announcement for any position, from the nationals of the member states. The selection of staff for any position by the Director General shall be on the basis of competition for meeting the criteria of the professionalism designed in the Staff Regulations.
2. The staff of the Center shall be responsible to the Director-General. Their responsibilities shall be exclusively international in character and they shall not seek or receive instructions in regard to the discharge thereof from any authority external to the Center. The Member States undertake fully to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the staff and not to seek to influence any of their nationals in the discharge of such responsibilities.
3. In appointing the staff, the Director-General shall, subject to the paramount importance of securing the highest standards of efficiency and of technical competence, pay due regard to the importance of selecting personnel recruited on as wide a geographical basis as is possible.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### ***Rights and Obligations of the Member States***

1. Member states are entitled to:
  - a. obtain on request information from the Centre on such matters relating to the objectives and functions of the Centre, including guidelines for obtaining technical assistance, and collaboration in the study of their problems;
  - b. receive publications and other information that may be distributed by the Centre.
2. Member states shall:

- a. collaborate in deciding upon the technical activities of the Centre;
- b. provide, as soon as possible, information requested by the Centre, to the extent that it is not contrary to their national laws or regulations;
- c. cooperate in a manner that it fulfills the objectives of the Centre.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### ***Subsidiary Bodies***

1. The Board may establish, as required, ad-hoc or permanent bodies on the basis of their expertise in their fields of study to advise on specific technical matters.
2. The Centre may establish specialized working groups/committees in order to meet particular situations.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### ***Financial Provisions***

1. The Center shall have an autonomous budget.
2. The budget of the Center shall consist of:
  - a. Contribution made by the member states;
  - b. Donations and endowments;
  - c. Sources from relevant international/regional organizations;
  - d. Revenues generated by the Centre.
3. Each member state undertakes to contribute annually its share to the budget in US Dollars in accordance with a scale of assessment. The scale of assessment may be amended/reviewed by the Board.
4. The Board may accept voluntary contributions generally or in connection with specific projects or activities of the Centre. Such contributions shall be paid into a trust fund to be established by the Board. The acceptance of such voluntary contributions and the administration of the trust fund shall be in accordance with the Financial Regulations.
5. Budget consisting of sources mentioned in part 2 will be shared to the staff of the Center in addition to the salaries and share amount shall not be less than salaries of the staff. The share rate can be higher with approval of the Director General of the Center.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### ***Expenses***

1. The expenses of research and development projects undertaken by individual member states, upon decision of the Board, may be covered from the budget.
2. The expenses of experts invited to attend meetings of the centre, its committees or working groups, in their individual capacity, may be borne by the budget of the Centre.
3. The expenses of the Center for building new laboratories, improving capacity of existing laboratories, all kind of training activities to enhance knowledge of staff of the Center.
4. All expenses related to training activities (accommodation, travel fees, daily allowances, trainer fees, etc.)

## **ARTICLE 17**

### ***Relations with Other Organizations and Institutions***

1. The Center may cooperate with other international/regional/national organizations.

## **ARTICLE 18**

### ***Signature, Ratification and Entry into Force***

1. This Statute shall be open for signature of the ECO member states upon approval by the ECO Council of Ministers.
2. The Statute shall be ratified in accordance with the respective constitutional rules and practices of member states and the instrument of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the ECO.
3. The Secretary-General of the ECO shall inform all member states of the ratification of the Statute.
4. Ratification of this Statute may be made subject to reservations that shall become effective only upon unanimous approval by the members of the Centre.

## **ARTICLE 19**

### ***Amendments***

1. Amendments to the Statute can be proposed by any member state.
2. Amendments to this Statute made by the Board by unanimity of its members shall be submitted to the ECO Council of Ministers for adoption.
3. The instruments of acceptance of amendments shall be deposited with the Secretary - General of the ECO who shall inform all the Member states of the receipt of acceptance and the entry into force of such amendments. The rights and obligations of any member state that has not accepted an amendment shall continue to be governed by the provisions of this Statute as they stood prior to the amendment.

## **ARTICLE 20**

### ***Withdrawal***

1. Any member state may withdraw from this Statute at any time after the expiry of two years from the date upon which the Statute entered into force with respect to that member, by giving written notice of such withdrawal to the Board. Withdrawal shall become effective at the end of the calendar year following that in which the notice of withdrawal has been received by the Board.
2. Any member that gives notice of withdrawal from ECO shall be deemed to have simultaneously withdrawn from the Centre, and this withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the member is responsible.

## **ARTICLE 21**

### ***Termination***

1. This Statute shall be automatically terminated if and when, as the result of withdrawals, the number of members drops below three.

## **ARTICLE 22**

### ***Interpretation and Settlement of Disputes***

1. Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Statute, if not settled by the Board of the Centre, shall be referred for settlement to a conciliation procedure or other peaceful settlement mechanisms to be adopted by the Board.

Done at \_\_\_\_\_ on the date \_\_\_\_\_ in two copies in English and Russian languages, both are authentic. In case of dispute the English version shall prevail.