

**Draft Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the  
Council of Permanent Representatives of ECI (CPR)**

(ECO Secretariat, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 at 13:00 hours)

1. The Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) of ECI held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting at the ECO Secretariat on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. M.B. Abbasi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The meeting was attended by the representatives of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Tajikistan as well as delegations of the Secretariat of ECO and ECO Cultural Institute. (List of participants is attached as Annex-D).

**Agenda Item No. 1**

Inauguration of the meeting:

2. H.E. Mr. M.B. Abbasi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan inaugurated the meeting. He welcomed the Member States for their participation in the meeting. He introduced Dr. Ayyubi, as the new President of ECI who has a good academic background, very rich experiences in cultural field which made him more suitable person for this position. He appreciated his initiatives in bringing new countries to this forum to enhance ECI's membership.

3. The President of the ECI thanked Member States for their participation after a long session of ECO 155<sup>th</sup> CPR in the ECI's meeting which shows their interest in cultural activities.

**Agenda Item No. 2**

Election of the Chairman

4. The meeting unanimously elected H.E Mr. M.B. Abbasi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as Chairman of the meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 3**

Adoption of the Agenda:

5. The Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Inauguration of the Meeting.
2. Election of the Chairman.
3. Adoption of the Agenda.
4. Review of the Financial and Administrative works of ECI.
  - a. Amendments in ECI Staff Regulations.
  - b. Equalization of salaries and emoluments of ECI staff with that of ECO Secretariat.
  - c. ECI's budget for the year 2010.
5. Any other business

6. Date of 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ECI-CPR

**Agenda Item No. 4**

Review of the Financial and Administrative works of ECI.

- a. Amendments in ECI Staff Regulations.
- b. Equalization of salaries and emoluments of ECI staff with that of ECO Secretariat.
- c. ECI's budget for the year 2010.

6. Executive Director of the ECI briefed the meeting on the issue. He informed the meeting that there is no financial burden on the budget. There are some additions and deletions and the report of ECI's Working Group Meeting on this issue has already been circulated vide Note Verbale No.3134 dated 28<sup>th</sup> December 2009 among Member States. If there are any observations/comments, that might be finalized in this meeting. If the performance of ECI staff is unsatisfactory no benefit will be given to him/her. ECI tried to equate its rules and regulations with the ECO.

7. The Legal Adviser of the ECO clarified the meeting that ECI is an independent/affiliated body and according to Article II of its Charter, ECI has its own financial and staff regulations and also rules of procedure. Definitely ECO agrees with the increase in the increments and amendments/deletions in the staff regulations due to certain reasons/inflation etc. But from the legal point of view there is no justification for equalizing the ECI staff regulations with the ECO staff regulations.

8. President of ECI stressed that the equalization of salaries and emoluments of ECI staff is not feasible with the current level of contribution of Member States and requested the meeting to authorize the President of the Institute to increase the salaries of its staff in case ECI would be able to provide additional funds from other resources. Taking note of the remarks made by the President of ECI, the meeting approved the increase in the increment of ECI personnel with the condition that any financial implications would not be reflected towards the Member States contributions for at least three years time. The rules providing the increments were found unsatisfactory. Therefore, the meeting approved the amendments in Staff Regulations. The meeting elaborated it further that it would not be linked with ECO Staff Regulations because of its un-sustainability and it would create a precedent for the other subsidiaries bodies of the ECO. ECI is an independent institute and has its own rules and regulations.

9. The meeting approved the proposal of Iran that this increase will be only for the Permanent Staff of the ECI subject to availability of funds.

10. Regarding the budget, Pakistan delegation informed the meeting that for approving the budget of ECI, Pakistan's delegation was not authorized. The matter is with Ministry of Culture of the Government of Pakistan in Islamabad. Last year the share of the budget of Pakistan was US\$120,000/- which is now in the account of Pakistan Embassy at Dubai and would be remitted to ECI account very shortly. This year it is proposed to be US\$187,000/- which should be curtailed to the level of previous year's

share. As per standing instruction of the Govt. of Pakistan the budget contribution of Pakistan could not be increased in any case.

11. The meeting approved the budget of ECI at the level of previous year budget without any increase but with certain amendment. The ECI would present it, to the next CPR.

**Agenda Item No. 5**

Any other business

12. Under this agenda item, the CPR discussed the following issues:

- i). The meeting approved application of Dr. Seyyed Mostafa Abtahi for the post of Director at D2 level, taking into consideration his academic and cultural background.
- ii). Pakistan's delegation has confirmed that Pakistan's US\$ 120,000/ contribution has arrived in Embassy of Pakistan's account Dubai and they requested the ECI to workout the modalities/arrangement for the transfer of money from Embassy's account to ECI's account.

**Agenda Item No. 6**

Date of the next ECI- CPR meeting

13. The date of the next meeting of ECI-CPR will be announced to Member States by ECI.

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**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the  
ECI Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR)**  
(ECO Secretariat, Tehran, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010, at 01:00 hours)

**List of Participants**

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:

- Seyed Masoom Badakhsh, Counsellor/Charge d' Affaires
- Mr. Ahmad Shah Alizoy, First Secretary
- Ms. Zahia Bodaghi, Interpreter

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

- Mr. Abolghasem Tahmasabi, Director of ECO Affairs Department
- Mr. Mohsen Rohee Sefat, Deputy Director, ECO Affairs Bureau
- Mr. Mohammad Reza Abbassi, Expert, ECO Affairs Bureau

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

- H.E. Mr. M.B. Abbasi, Ambassador
- Mr. Sajid Bilal, Counsellor
- Mr. Qasim Mohiuddin, Third Secretary

The Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Mr. Mirzoev Komil, Second Secretary

The ECO Secretariat:

1. Ms. Matluba Turaeva, Assistant Director
2. Mr. Sefat Taheri Shemrani, Legal Adviser
3. Mr. Muhammad Asif Ashraf, Secretary
4. Ms. Madina Dilmuradova, Russian Translator
5. Mr. Amir Mohammad Javaheri, Persian Translator
6. Mr. Mohammad Reza Malakooti, IT Expert

ECO Cultural Institute:

- 1-H.E. Mr. Hojjatollah Ayyubi, President
- 2- Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Jamil Owaisi, Executive Director
- 3- Mr. Mohammad Ali Najafi, International Relations Officer
- 4- Mr. Mahmoud Tabatabaei, Accounts Officer