Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

Founded as the Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) in 1964 by the Iran, Pakistan and the Türkiye, the Forum was rechristened as the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in 1985.

The ECO Region shelters more than 460 million inhabitants and expands over 8 million square kilometers of land, connecting the north to south, south and east to the west, Asia to Europe and Eurasia to the Arab World. Composed of some Caucasus, South, West and Central Asian countries, ECO is one of the oldest intergovernmental organizations.

The founding and fundamental goal of the Organization is to create amenable and conducive conditions for the continued promotion of sustainable economic development in the region, aiming at joint welfare and wellbeing of the Member States.

Membership
The ECO member states are as follows: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

ECO Organs
The ECO functions through its intergovernmental machinery, Secretariat and specialized agencies and regional institutions. The intergovernmental character of the Organization is represented through different bodies which include meetings of Heads of State/Government, Council of Ministers (COM), Regional Planning Council (RPC), Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR), sectoral ministerial meetings as well as expert groups, working groups, committees, etc.

ECO subsidiary and affiliated bodies
ECO is assisted by its specialized agencies and regional institutions, as well as bodies affiliated to the Organization (now with 13 active bodies). Having legal personality and autonomous management, these subsidiary bodies of the ECO deal with areas of regional cooperation such as economic growth, culture, science, technology, education, finance, etc.

ECO Chairmanship
The ECO Chairmanship is rotated amongst the Member States in the beginning of each year based on alphabetical cycle.



15TH ECO SUMMIT, November 28, 2021 Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

https://www.eco.int/