

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The Tenth Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization**

The tenth meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO CHS) was held on June 10 and 11, 2010 in Tashkent, capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The meeting was attended by President N. Nazarbayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Chairman Hu Jintao of the Peoples' Republic of China, President D. Medvedev of the Russian Federation, President E. Rahmon of the Republic of Tajikistan, President I. Karimov of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Minister of Foreign Affairs R. Kazakbaev of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The meeting was chaired by President I. Karimov of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The SCO Secretary General M. Imanaliev and Director of the Executive Committee of the SCO Regional Antiterrorist Structure (RATS) D. Dzhumanbekov participated in the meeting.

The meeting was attended and addressed by the heads of delegations and the SCO observer states: President Ts. Elbegdorzh of Mongolia, President A. Zardari of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of India S. Krishna, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran M. Mottaki, and as guests of the host - President H. Karzai of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and President G. Berdymukhamedov of Turkmenistan. Also present were the UN Under-Secretary-General - Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe J. Kubis, Chairman of the Executive Committee - Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States S. Lebedev, Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization N. Bordyuzha, Deputy Secretary General of the Eurasian Economic Community M. Musataev Deputy Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Saillac Sisuvong.

In a constructive and friendly atmosphere, an in-depth exchange of views took place on a wide range of issues related to the current situation in the world and the region. The meeting reviewed the key results of the SCO activities since Yekaterinburg Summit of 2009 and outlined milestones for future joint work on the development of cooperation within the Organization in a wide range of fields. The identity or similarity of the sides' positions on the issues discussed has been noted. The collaborative approaches of the SCO member states have been reflected in the Declaration of the Tenth Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

The meeting approved the Regulation on Admission of New Members to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and Rules of Procedure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to ensure improved Organization's legal framework.

The meeting heard and approved the reports by the SCO Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization over the past year and of the RATS Council on the work of the Regional Antiterrorist Structure in 2009.

The authorized representatives of the SCO member states signed the agreements between the governments of SCO member states on cooperation in agriculture and combating crime.

The member states intend to maintain close mutually beneficial cooperation within the SCO in all areas in order to strengthen the Organization's role as an effective mechanism of ensuring security, stability and prosperity in the region and globally.

The meeting confirmed the SCO member states' willingness to continue taking joint efforts to combat terrorism, separatism and extremism in all their manifestations and combating illicit

trafficking in drugs and arms and other forms of transnational crime and illegal migration. This cooperation and coordination will intensify in order to effectively implement the SCO Counterterrorism Convention, the Program of Cooperation in Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism for 2010-2012, and other documents signed in the framework of the Organization.

It has been agreed to strengthen anti-terrorism cooperation with the SCO observer states and continue to actively involve regional organizations and their counter-terrorism bodies in the regional anti-terrorism efforts based on the evolving partnership network.

The meeting approved the results of the fifth meeting of secretaries of security councils of the SCO member states (April 23, 2010, Tashkent).

The meeting participants noted with satisfaction that the establishment of the mechanism of the SCO's anti-drug cooperation had started.

It was deemed expedient to continue cooperation in the field of international information security. The effectiveness of the Agreement between the governments of SCO member states on cooperation in ensuring IIS will be accelerated.

The member states highly appreciated the SCO cooperation in insuring security of major joint events and called for rolling out this experience to the cooperation with the observer states.

The meeting praised China's efforts aimed at preparing and holding the EXPO 2010 in Shanghai.

The SCO will continue to focus on the coordination of actions to overcome the negative effects of the global financial and economic crisis and achieve sustainable development of the member states' economies. In this regard, the meeting noted the timeliness of the adoption by the Organization's member states at the national level of measures to stabilize the economy and financial system that would enhance the anti-crisis capacity of the member states and promote regional economic cooperation.

It has been deemed necessary to consistently implement the tasks set forth in the Joint Initiative on increased multilateral economic cooperation in overcoming global financial and economic crisis and ensuring further economic development of the SCO member states, adopted on October 14, 2009 in Beijing. In this context, the meeting noted the importance of the first meeting of finance ministers and heads of central (national) banks of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held in December 2009 in Almaty.

The meeting underlined the advisability of strengthening the role of the SCO Interbank Association and SCO Business Council in encouraging relations between the banking and business communities to enhance economic cooperation in the region.

The member states welcome the first retreat of the SCO Business Council in Ulan Bator and express their support to further development of relations between the business communities of the member and observer states.

The meeting positively rated the implementation progress of the Program of Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation among the SCO Member States and the respective Plan of Actions. Relevant agencies will continue making joint efforts to implement specific projects in the areas referred therein.

The member states note the importance of humanitarian, cultural and legal cooperation for strengthening good-neighborliness and friendship within the Organization and are willing to actively intensify practical cooperation in this field.

The meeting noted the positive results of the first meeting of heads of ministries and agencies in charge of science and technology, the meeting of chairmen of supreme courts and regular meetings of ministers of culture, heads of ministries and departments of the SCO member states

in charge of emergency relief and prevention.

The member states note with satisfaction that the adoption on December 18, 2009 by the 64th session of the UN General Assembly of Resolution on “Cooperation between the UN and SCO” offer new opportunities to further strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in matters of security and stability, economic, social and human development, as well as in other areas of mutual interest.

The member states welcome the signing of the Joint Declaration on Cooperation between the SCO and UN Secretariats (April 5, 2010, Tashkent) that set forth the basic principles and directions of cooperation between the two organizations. Expansion of relations with the United Nations, its agencies and bodies will be systemic and practical, with due regard of the SCO member states’ interests.

The member states supported strengthened cooperation with the SCO observer states and dialogue partners whose immense potential, resources and markets could be tapped for joint activities within the Organization.

The member states note with satisfaction the active involvement of the SCO observer states - India, Iran, Mongolia and Pakistan - in the activities of the Organization of mutual interest, and welcome the signing of the memoranda on granting the SCO dialogue partner status to the Republic of Belarus and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

The member states supported continued development of the legal framework for expanding the Organization’s membership. The Council of National Coordinators will prepare a model memorandum and other documents that would govern legal, organizational and financial aspects of membership in the Organization in respect of acceding states.

In view of the forthcoming SCO’s tenth anniversary, the SCO member states consider necessary to hold commemorative events next year and adopt an Action Plan for 2010-2011 that will define the Organization’s priorities for this period.

The next meeting of the Council of Heads of SCO member states will be held in June 2011 in Astana. According to the SCO Charter, the chairmanship in the Organization for the coming period will be assumed by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The member states praised the chairmanship of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the SCO and expressed gratitude to the Uzbek side for its hospitality during Tashkent summit.