

## JOINT COMMUNIQUE

### Meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

A regular meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (hereinafter referred to as the SCO and/or Organization) was held on November 25, 2010 in Dushanbe. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister K. Massimov of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Premier of the State Council Wen Jiabao of the People's Republic of China, acting Prime Minister R. Otunbaeva of the Kyrgyz Republic, Chairman of the Government V. Putin of the Russian Federation, Prime Minister A. Akilov of the Republic of Tajikistan and Deputy Prime Minister B. Hodzhaev of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister A. Akilov of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The SCO Secretary General M. Imanaliev, Director of the Executive Committee of the SCO Regional Antiterrorist Structure D. Dzhumanbekov, Chairman of the Board of the SCO Business Council D. Mezentsev, and Chairman of the Board of the SCO Interbank Association G. Iskaliev participated in the meeting.

The meeting was attended and addressed by the representatives of SCO observer states - Minister of Energy of the Republic of India S. Shinde, First Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran M. Rahimi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Mongolia G. Zandanshatar, Prime Minister Y. Gilani of the Islamic Republic Pakistan, and as guests of the host - Minister of Economy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan M. Argandivol.

President E. Rahmon of the Republic of Tajikistan had a meeting with the heads of delegations.

In a friendly, constructive and businesslike atmosphere, the member states' delegations exchanged views on the current political and economic situation, as well as on issues of security and stability in the SCO region. The meeting reviewed the state and prospects for the development of trade, economic and humanitarian cooperation within the Organization. An understanding has been reached on a wide range of issues.

1. Having noted that terrorism, separatism and extremism, drug trafficking and cross-border crime most seriously threaten regional stability and security, the heads of government recognized the need to continue building the cooperation momentum and elaborate preventive measures aimed at timely and joint aversion of negative impacts of these challenges on the situation in the SCO and sustainable development in the region.

2. The heads of government congratulated Kyrgyzstan on the success of its parliamentary elections. It has been confirmed that the SCO member states respect the choice of the Kyrgyz people and support the Government's efforts to improve the country's socio-economic situation. The member states will continue to strengthen good-neighborliness, friendship and cooperation with the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Kyrgyz Republic appreciated the substantial contribution made by the SCO member states to stabilize the situation in Kyrgyzstan, and humanitarian assistance rendered by them.

The SCO member states will examine the feasibility of providing further assistance with due regard of the Kyrgyz Republic's wishes.

3. The heads of government noted with satisfaction that since their last meeting held on October 14, 2009 in Beijing, specific results had been achieved in economic and humanitarian cooperation and positive developments had been seen in the implementation of pilot projects. An

important role in achieving sustainable development of the member states' cooperation is played by the joint effort aimed at implementing the agreements of the SCO's Tashkent Summit (2010). Cooperation in non-resource sector and in continued improvement of the people's welfare has been recognized as particularly promising and demanded.

4. Noting the results of the UN Summit on the Millennium Development Goals held on September 20-22 in New York City, the heads of government express their willingness to make joint efforts to promote economic and social advancement of all peoples in the SCO region. The SCO member states will continue to strengthen multilateral cooperation to achieve real and important results in their common development.

5. The heads of government note that the international situation, in respect of politics, economy and security, continues to be impacted by the global financial and economic crisis.

In this context, the meeting stressed the timeliness of the Joint Initiative on increased multilateral economic cooperation in overcoming the global financial and economic crisis and ensuring further economic development of the SCO member states, adopted on October 14, 2009 by the meeting of the Council of Heads of Government. The implementation of this initiative will be continued.

The dialogue on macroeconomic policy and financial issues was strengthened as a result of the meeting of the SCO finance ministers and heads of central (national) banks that was held in December 2009 in Almaty, and the meeting of the heads of supreme audit institutions held in July 2010 in Moscow.

6. The attention of the ministries and agencies of the SCO member states and the SCO Secretariat has been drawn to the need to comply with the schedule for the implementation of the joint agreements contained in the Plan of Actions in support of the implementation of the Program of Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation among the SCO Member States.

The acceleration of trade and economic cooperation will be facilitated by the results of the meeting of ministers of the SCO member states in charge of external economic and trade relations held in October 2010 in Moscow, and by the continued elaboration of the basic principles for the establishment and functioning of the SCO Special Account.

7. It has been deemed advisable for the SCO Business Council (BC) and SCO Interbank Association (IBA) to present to the SCO Secretariat and to the member states' relevant ministries and agencies agreed proposals regarding their involvement in the implementation of regional projects within the Organization. The meeting welcomes the SCO BC and IBA's participation in the SCO *ad hoc* and expert working groups in various fields of economic cooperation, and continued practice of events organized on various international economic platforms, strengthened cooperation between business and financial community, expanded formats and directions of investment activities.

8. In order to effectively use the existing transit potential of the SCO member states and further improve transport infrastructure, relevant ministries and agencies have been instructed to accelerate the agreement on annexes to the Agreement between the governments of SCO member states on favorable conditions for international road transport.

At the same time, it has been recommended to review the issues of cooperation in rail transport that will contribute to intensified trade and economic cooperation between the SCO member states.

9. The meeting noted great prospects for the SCO cooperation in the agricultural sector that was launched by the signing in June 2010 in Tashkent of the relevant intergovernmental agreement and the first meeting of agriculture ministers of the SCO member states held in October 2010 in Beijing.

10. The meeting participants appreciated the results of the first meeting of heads of ministries and agencies of the SCO member states in charge of science and technology held in May 2010 in Beijing. It has been confirmed that scientific, technical and innovation cooperation within the Organization meets the interests of all member states and is essential for the development of their economies.

11. The heads of government called for further deepening of customs cooperation, improvement of customs, administrative and transport procedures in order to create favorable conditions for and facilitate the expansion of trade and economic cooperation in the region. To this end, it has been considered important to continue developing electronic commerce.

12. The heads of government noted the importance of increased opportunities for joint counteracting the threats of natural and man-made disasters, *inter alia*, through the exchange and implementation of appropriate rescue means and technologies.

13. The meeting positive assessed the results of cooperation in cultural and humanitarian fields. The heads of government called for continued strengthening and improvement of its mechanisms and enriched content of multilateral exchanges through greater inclusion of national and traditional elements.

14. Given the importance of cooperation in the field of environmental protection, work will continue on the harmonization of the respective draft SCO Concept.

15. The heads of government appreciated the results of the first meeting of health ministers of the SCO member states held in November 2010 in Astana, and confirmed their willingness to step up efforts to counter the threats of communicable diseases and mitigate and minimize the negative impact of natural and man-made disasters, as well as encourage academic research and exchanges.

16. The meeting participants expressed their intention to establish cooperation with the SCO observer states and dialogue partners in order to involve the potential of these countries in the implementation of joint projects, particularly in the field of high technologies, agriculture, transport, as well as in the investment cooperation in order to promote common development and prosperity in the region.

17. The heads of government approved the report by the SCO Secretariat on the implementation of the Program of Multilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation among the Organization's member states.

The meeting also reviewed a number of issues related to the financial and organizational activities of the SCO permanent bodies and approved the budget of the Organization for 2011.

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The heads of government expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the People's Republic of China to prepare and successfully conduct the Expo 2010 in Shanghai.

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The heads of Government noted high organizational level of the meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of the SCO member states and expressed gratitude to the Tajik side for its hospitality.

The next meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of the SCO member states will be held in 2011 in the Russian Federation.

*November 25, 2010, Dushanbe*