

DECLARATION OF THE SECOND SUMMIT OF THE TURKIC COUNCIL
Bishkek, 23 August 2012

The Council of Heads of States of Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (hereinafter referred to as the Turkic Council) met on 23 August 2012 under the theme “Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation”. President of the Republic of Kazakhstan H.E. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Turkey H.E. Abdullah Gül and Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. Artur Rasi-zade attended the meeting, which was presided over by President of the Kyrgyz Republic H.E. Almazbek Atambaev.

The Heads of State and Government,

Reiterating their intention to strengthen their solidarity rooted in the common history, language, identity and culture of Turkic peoples;

Reaffirming their resolve to further deepen their relations under the multilateral framework of the Turkic Council;

Maintaining their commitment to democratic values, respect for human rights and the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter;

Reconfirming their adherence to decisions taken at the previous Summits of the Heads of Turkic States;

Expressing satisfaction with the progress achieved in the field of economic cooperation since the Almaty Summit;

Stressing the importance of culture, science and education as central elements for further integration amongst their countries and peoples;

Aiming at strengthening political and economic security of the States in accordance with the basic principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs and refraining from the threat or use of force;

have declared:

Cultural Cooperation

1. To launch a new joint agenda of Turkic culture with a view to creating a comprehensive basis for deepened societal ties. In this context:

- a) welcomed the report of the First Meeting of the Ministries of Culture of the Member Countries of the Turkic Council which was held on 3 August 2012, in Cholpon Ata, Kyrgyz Republic;

- b) expressed their appreciation for the establishment of Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation;
- c) commended the establishment of Turkic Academy as a hub of scientific research into Turkic history and language;
- d) supported the joint initiative to propose new Turkic heritage items to UNESCO and called upon the Secretariat, Ministries of Culture, UNESCO national commissions, TURKSOY and IRCICA to accelerate preparations to this end;
- e) encouraging humanitarian contacts among the Turkic peoples and dialogue between civilizations, supported the initiative of holding Issyk-Kul Forum in 2013 in honor of 85th birth anniversary of the Turkic Nations' great writer Chingiz Aitmatov, founder of the Forum;
- f) as a token of tribute to common history, traditions, language and culture welcomed the initiative of Kyrgyz Republic on revival and support of Turkic peoples' traditions and to hold the "Games of the nomads" on regular basis;
- g) reaffirmed to consider the adoption of new vocabulary to be proposed by the Joint Terminology Committee as official reference as early as 2013;
- h) commended the achievements of TURKSOY during its 19 years of activity and recognized the necessity to strengthen the financial and institutional basis of the organization;
- i) instructed the Secretariat to work in coordination with relevant government departments of Member States to finalize the draft Statute of the Turkic World Prize before the Third Summit;
- j) attaching great importance to cultural integration of the Turkic-speaking nations welcomed the initiatives to establish Union of Writers of Turkic Speaking Countries and Union of Cinema Workers of Turkic Speaking Countries.

Cooperation in Science and Education

2. To establish substantial, wide ranging cooperation in the fields of science and education through joint institutions and specific programmes. In this regard:

- a) welcomed the report of the First Meeting of Ministers of Education of Member Countries of the Turkic Council, which was held on 10 August 2012 in Cholpon Ata, Kyrgyz Republic. They urged the Ministers of Education to continue to meet regularly;

- b) encouraged the Ministers of Education to continue the work on common textbook on Turkic history with the possibility of its inclusion in national curriculums;
- c) welcomed the initiative to establish Turkic Interuniversity Union;
- d) called upon relevant institutions on science to convene and assess necessary joint steps to be taken to establish Turkic Scientific Research Fund on the basis of the draft study presented by the Secretariat.

Economic cooperation

3. To welcome the report of the Second Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Economy of the Turkic Speaking States held in Baku on 14 August 2012 with a view to enhancing economic cooperation and expand its scope. In this regard:

- a) called for the development of the legal framework for improving the investment climate;
- b) emphasized the importance of conducting an Investment Climate Survey, as well as a study to analyze the international trade complementarities among members of the Turkic Council;
- c) welcomed the Kyrgyz Republic's initiative for the establishment of a Development Fund of the Turkic Council, with a primary aim of fostering prosperity and stability in the region as well as deepening and expanding spheres of economic cooperation and integration, and instructed the Ministers in Charge of Economy to speed up the studies evaluating the establishment of the Development Fund;
- d) urged the Ministers of Transportation to meet regularly in order to strengthen and improve the existing cooperation in transportation;
- e) called upon the relevant authorities to undertake a review of the existing transport infrastructure with a view to sharing experiences and adopting best practices in this sphere;
- f) urged Turkic Business Council to further develop joint programmes to enhance the competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises of the Member States;
- g) instructed the relevant authorities to enhance cooperation in customs services through holding regular meetings on issues related to customs;
- h) welcomed Turkey's proposal for holding a Business Forum and Export Products Exhibition which will be organized by Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) in the first half of 2013 in Istanbul, in the margin of Third Meeting of Ministers In Charge of Economy of the Turkic Council;

- i) welcomed the launch of the “Joint Investment Promotion Portal of the Turkic Council”, emphasized the importance of sharing best practices and promotion of women and young entrepreneurship.

Cooperation on Foreign Policy and Security Issues

4. To ensure closer coordination of foreign and security policy amongst Member States with a view to providing joint contribution to regional and global stability, peace and prosperity. To this end:

- a) instructed their Ministers of Foreign Affairs to continue regular consultations on international issues under the aegis of the Chairman-in-Office, including through:
 - i. informal gathering each September on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly;
 - ii. extraordinary meetings of the Council of Foreign Ministers, convened on the initiative of either party;
- b) called for support for each other’s candidacies to international organizations, including the UN and expressed their will to cooperate and coordinate candidatures to international organizations and positions, as well as international events through the Turkic Council Secretariat;
- c) expressed their belief that membership of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the UN Security Council will contribute to common interests of the Turkic-Speaking States;

5. To reaffirm their commitment to strengthen their cooperation and coordination in the fight against terrorism, separatism and extremism in all their forms and manifestations, transnational organized crime, human trafficking and illegal migration, illicit trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, as well as trafficking in weapons.

6. To emphasize their support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan and express their readiness to further contribute to security, stability and development of the country including through initiatives for enhancement of regional cooperation such as the Istanbul Process.

7. To express their grave concern with respect to ongoing crisis in Syria as well as its repercussions to regional security and stability, called for an immediate cessation of the crisis in accordance with the will and aspirations of the Syrian people within the territorial integrity and national unity of Syria.

8. To express the importance they attach to the peaceful settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which is one of the main obstacles to lasting stability and regional cooperation on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan and reaffirmed their conviction that the resolution of

the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict will be a significant progress in providing peace, stability and prosperity in Eurasian area.

9. To confirm their strong support for a negotiated and mutually agreed settlement in Cyprus under the auspices of the United Nations based on political equality of the two peoples in the Island, and expressed their solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot people, an equal and constituent partner in Cyprus, in their aspirations for a peaceful, secure and prosperous future.

10. To encourage further interaction between the Turkic Council and other international organizations such as UN, OIC, ECO, CICA, OSCE, UNESCO and Council of Europe.

11. To instruct the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to accelerate joint efforts within the OSCE to increase the visibility of the Turkic Council and TURKPA, including through their participation at the upcoming OSCE Ministerial Council to be held in Dublin.

12. To include the important issue of water resources as a regular item in the agenda of Council of Foreign Ministers sessions starting from 2013. To this end, tasked the Secretariat to collaborate with Ministries of Foreign Affairs and research institutes of Member States as well as relevant international organizations to submit a report to the Third Summit. The report will take into account the wider context of environmental degradation, climate change and rational utilization of water resources and propose a plan of action to address existing water-related socio-economic problems.

13. To emphasize the importance of the inter-Parliamentary dimension in strengthening political dialogue amongst Turkic states. In view of this particular potential:

- a) noted with satisfaction the outcome of the Third Plenary Session of TURKPA, held on 15 June 2012 in Bishkek;
- b) called upon TURKPA to organize parallel theme debates in Member State Parliaments in connection with the aims of the Turkic Council with a view to giving impetus to the work of the Turkic Council.

Other Issues

14. To express satisfaction with the general progress as presented by the Secretary General in his annual report, and tasked the Secretary General to submit an additional mid-term review report by May 2013.

15. Having received the report of Kazakhstan as the outgoing Chairman of the Turkic Council in 2011-2012, to congratulate the Kazakh side for a successful term as the first Chairman-in-Office of the organization.

16. To appoint Mr. Gismat Gozalov from the Republic of Azerbaijan and Mr. Darkhan Kydyrali from the Republic of Kazakhstan who assumed their functions with prior consent as

Deputy Secretary Generals of the Turkic Council, as of 1 February 2012 and 24 April 2012 respectively, in accordance with Article 10 of the Nakhchivan Agreement.

17. To hold the Third Summit of the Turkic Council in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2013.

Expressed profound thanks to H.E. Almazbek Atambaev, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, for steering the deliberations of the Second Summit of the Turkic Council to a successful conclusion and appreciated the warm hospitality of the Government and people of Kyrgyzstan. Finally, they welcomed the assumption of the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Turkic Council by the Kyrgyz Republic for the term 2012-2013.

Signed on 23 August 2012 in Bishkek in the Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz and Turkish languages.

Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Artur Rasi-zade

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Nursultan Nazarbayev

President of the Kyrgyz Republic

Almazbek Atambaev

President of the Republic of Turkey

Abdullah Gül