

**BAKU DECLARATION
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT OF
THE COOPERATION COUNCIL OF TURKIC SPEAKING STATES**

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (hereinafter referred to as the “Turkic Council”) was held through videoconference on 10 April 2020 on the theme of “Solidarity and Cooperation in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic”.

The Summit was initiated and presided over by H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and was attended by H.E. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Sooronbai Zheenbekov, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, President of Turkmenistan, H.E. Viktor Orban, Prime Minister of Hungary and H.E. Baghdad Amreyev, Secretary General of the Turkic Council.

Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus also participated at the video conference.

The Heads of State of the Turkic Council,

Concerned with the serious global threat posed by the “COVID-19” pandemic (hereinafter referred to as the “pandemic”),

Cognizant of the growing impact of the pandemic on the Member States and their populations in a multitude of ways, and the need for overcoming its consequences, including in the framework of the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals,

Emphasizing the necessity of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the fight against the pandemic without discrimination,

Emphasizing the significant role of the United Nations in the fight against the pandemic, welcoming the Resolution entitled “Global Solidarity in the fight against the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19)” adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 2 April 2020, co-authored by the vast majority of the UN Member States, including the Turkic Council States,

Expressing their commitment to the implementation of the requirements and recommendations of the World Health Organization and other international organizations to fight the pandemic,

Welcoming the voluntary financial assistance provided by several countries to the World Health Organization in order to contribute to the efforts of the international community directed at preventing the further spread of the pandemic,

Emphasizing their determination for the implementation and expansion of cooperation within the framework of the Turkic Council in the fight against the pandemic and overcoming its consequences on the basis of strong will that shall further strengthen the solidarity among the Turkic Speaking peoples,

Reaffirming their commitment to be guided, in international relations, by the generally accepted principles and norms of international law including the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of states,

Declared that they:

- Emphasize their determination to expand the cooperation within the framework of the Turkic Council in the fight against the pandemic;

- Remain ready to cooperate with the international community, and call on all states for global solidarity and expanded cooperation with a view to taking urgent joint measures to reduce the spread of and eliminate the pandemic;

- Strongly believe that all states shall perform solidarity for the sake of common well-being, encourage the exchange of experience and unite their efforts by fully mobilizing their scientific, innovative, technological and medical potential in the fight against this global catastrophe;

- Emphasize that the saving of the lives of millions of people, as well as social, economic, moral and psychological condition of future generations require all states to perform a sincere and transparent global solidarity and joint actions;

- Support all efforts and mechanisms within the United Nations which are directed at addressing the globally harsh consequences of the pandemic;

- Emphasize the importance of reflecting the issues related to medical sphere, including sanitary-epidemiological services and medical science, at the "Turkic Future - 2040" initiative announced by the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan - Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev during the 7th Summit in Baku in 2019;

- Agree to establish a consultation and cooperation mechanism among their respective national crisis centers, which includes the close interaction among the ministries of health of the Member States, with the aim of sharing best practices, assisting each other on substantive subjects regarding the pandemic;

- Highly appreciate the dedicated work of doctors and other health personnel who are at the forefront in the fight against the pandemic;

- Emphasize the importance of sharing experience, epidemiological and clinical data, and joining efforts to develop treatment methods and vaccines;

- Support the role of the World Health Organization in increasing the effectiveness of the fight against the pandemic, coordinating and strengthening the international efforts in this direction;
- Highly appreciate the consistent and decisive measures taken at the national level by the Member States, including the steps in the social-economic field, and emphasize the necessity to conduct exchange of experience in this field;
- Reaffirm the importance of taking necessary measures to ensure the sustainability of trade and economic relations and transportation between the Member States during the pandemic, including through facilitated passage of the freight vehicles on the borders and exchange of information on emerging problems in this field;
- Note the need for concerted and coordinated efforts to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on the economies of the Member States;
- Recognize the increased importance of digital technologies in ensuring public and social life, as well as the need for broad cooperation in this area;
- Emphasize the importance of providing support and assistance to the citizens who remained in the territories of the Member States and could not cross the border due to the travel restrictions as a result of the pandemic, including on the visa facilitation without any sanction;
- Note the important role and responsibility of mass media in raising awareness of the people on the fight against the pandemic, as well as in countering the spread of false information;
- Emphasize the importance of active participation and cooperation of whole of government and the population in the fight against the pandemic and its consequences;
- Express their confidence that the unprecedented crisis caused by the pandemic can be successfully reversed through sustained cooperation and global solidarity.

The Heads of States express profound thanks to H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for the successful organization of the Extraordinary Summit of the Turkic Council.

The Secretary General of the Turkic Council is tasked to coordinate the mutual action and joint efforts stipulated in this Declaration.

Adopted on 10 April 2020 at the videoconference in the Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkish and Uzbek languages.