

17 October 2017

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**2nd Meeting of the ECO Heads of National  
Organizations/Centers for Civil Registration  
16-18 October 2017- Istanbul, Turkey**

**Report by Secretariat**

Dear participants,

It is a great privilege for me to welcome you in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Heads of Civil Organizations/Centers here in Istanbul. As you will be well aware that the First Meeting of Heads of National Civil Registration Organizations/Centers of ECO Member States was held on 3-4 October 2011 in Tehran, The objective of that Meeting was to provide opportunity for the Member States to exchange their experience on civil registration and associated services as registration of vital events, production and release of population statistics and information, National Code (ID Number) and Smart Cards, promotion of safety and security factors of issued documents, civil status registration and E-Government.

The first Meeting recommended to establish a trilateral working group comprising of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey in collaboration with the ECO Secretariat to identify the main headlines and topics for educational and research cooperation among the ECO Member States.

The ECO Workshop on Population Statistics and Information was hosted by the National Organization for Civil Registration (NOCR) of the Islamic Republic of Iran in collaboration with the ECO Secretariat and with the financial support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on 06-07 November 2012. The main objective of the workshop was to exchange views, knowledge, Information and experiences in order

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to raise awareness and strengthening technical capacities in the field of diagrams/figures/tables of the mortality in ECO countries i.e. infant mortality rate, under five mortality rate, life expectancy at birth, gender gap in life expectancy at birth and median age of population, production of population statistics and as well as to enhance the mutual cooperation among ECO Member Countries in this regard.

As recommended by the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting to consider the establishment of “ECO Civil Registration Authorities Website“, the major *educational approaches* or teaching methods related to Civil Registration and feasibility of financial sources for Education which is still pending and there is no tangible outcome in this area of cooperation

The Civil Registration Cooperation in ECO region is less behind than the desired level. Civil Registration is the most vital functioning of the States and it is clear that ECO Member States can share their experiences and practices in this field. I hope that this 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Heads of Organizations/Centers for Civil Registration is going to decide on some tangible outcomes regarding the cooperation. Today we expect result oriented concrete project proposals as well as useful events to be organized. After the first meeting the recommendations and the decisions could not be implemented well enough.

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Heads of Organizations/Centers for Civil Registration with nine Member States participating at very high level is showing the interest of Member States in the Civil Registration area and also promising for future cooperation. The technology is progressing fast and to catch up with the latest development, the ECO Member States has enough resources to support each other if they bring their efforts together.