

**THE CONCEPT PAPER OF  
ECO MEMBER STATES BUSINESS FORUM  
(Ashgabat city, November 26, 2021)**

Since the creation of the ECO, the platform of the Organization has become an effective tool for the establishment and development of cooperation in all areas between the countries, as well as the business circles of the ECO States.

At the upcoming business forum of the member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation, the main attention will be devoted to expanding business ties, mobilizing investments in the implementation of mutually beneficial projects, cooperation in trade, economic, transport and logistics spheres.

To maintain and further develop trade relations between ECO Member States in the current environment, it is important to coordinate measures in the field of trade, including trade facilitation, trade in services, logistics and the elimination of non-tariff measures. In addition, strengthening cooperation between business communities, addressing their problems and finding solutions is vital.

**1. The main organizers of the forum**

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan  
ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

**2. The purpose of the forum**

Discussion of economic achievements over the past 30 years since the accession of the Central Asian countries to the ECO, as well as the creation of a united discussion platform on key issues of trade and economic cooperation in priority areas, with the participation of representatives of the public and private sectors of the ECO member countries, including:

- expansion and activation of trade-economic cooperation between ECO Member States;
- Digital technologies and e-commerce platforms as a way to access new consumers both in the domestic and foreign markets;
- investment opportunities and discussion of the best world practices to increase investment attractiveness;
- development of the market of transport and logistics services in the ECO Member States.

**3. Event format:**

**Format of event – hybrid**

The business program of the forum will consist of speeches and presentations by representatives of government agencies, public organizations, company projects and proposals for expanding cooperation with business structures.

*Welcome speech.*

A welcoming speech is expected to be delivered by the Secretary General of the ECO-CCI and the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan.

*Thematic speeches:*

*The first thematic session* is expected to include speeches by representatives of ECO Member States (Chairmen of the Chamber of Commerce or heads of relevant ministries and departments).

*In the second thematic session*, representatives of relevant structures or private companies of the ECO Member States involved in digitalization and the creation of electronic trading platforms are invited to speak.

*The third session* is devoted to the issues of investment cooperation. Representatives of specialized organizations and private companies are invited to speak. Initiatives and proposals for expanding mutually beneficial cooperation in industry, agro-industrial complex, and construction, production of building materials, tourism, as well as investment proposals and proposals for the creation of joint projects will be presented.

*The fourth thematic session* is devoted to one of the priority vectors of development of cooperation in the transport and logistics sector, focused on the use of the multimodal transit potential of the ECO Member States.

At this session, representatives of specialized organizations and companies will talk about the transport connectivity of the ECO Member States, which affects business, consumers, trade, logistics, and, in general, the economic growth and all-round development of the ECO Member States, about digitalization in this area, about the work of the largest logistics centers of the region.

***Following the results of the business forum, it is planned to sign bilateral documents between the business circles of the ECO Member States and the members of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan.***

#### **4. Forum audience**

Participation in the business forum will be available according to preliminary lists drawn up by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the ECO Member States and the Secretariat of the ECO-CCI.

The online platform of the business forum with the ZOOM translation channel and simultaneous translation into Turkmen, Russian and English is provided by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan.

#### **5. Date and time of the Forum**

The business forum of the ECO member countries is proposed to be held online on November 26, 2021.

The time of the business forum, taking into account the time difference, is proposed - 14:00-18:00(TMT, UTC+5 (GMT+5).) Connection-13:30 UTC+5 (GMT+5).

**Contact details of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan:**

Organizational issues:

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**Agenda  
and the program of the ECO Member States business forum of the**

**Short info**

**Target:** Introduction of economic achievements over the past 30 years since the accession of the Central Asian countries to the ECO, as well as the creation of discussion platform on key issues of trade and economic cooperation in priority areas, wherein the public and private sectors of the ECO Region are represented through the delegation of the Member States and the ECO CCI respectively.

**Date and time: November 26, 2021 (Friday), 14.00 – 18.00 TMT (UTC+5 (GMT+5))**

**Organizers:** Economic Cooperation Organization Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Organization for Economic Cooperation, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan

**Participants:** Representatives of ECO Member States relevant ministries and departments, chambers of commerce and industry at the level of heads or deputy heads, department directors, heads and representatives of regional chambers, representatives of private companies.

**Platform: ZOOM**

Simultaneous translation: Turkmen, Russian, English

**Agenda**

- Expansion and activation of trade between ECO member countries;
- Digital technologies and e-commerce platforms as a way to access new consumers both in the domestic and foreign markets;
- Investment opportunities and discussion of the International best practices to increase investment attractiveness;
- Development of the market for transport and logistics services in the ECO member countries;
- Experiences of businesses in cross border trade and investment.

## Program

**Date and time: November 26, 2021 (Friday),**

Platform: ZOOM

Time: **14.00 – 18.00 TMT (UTC+5 (GMT+5) Connection: 13:30**

<b>14:00-14:05</b>	Opening of the business forum of the ECO member countries <b>Moderator:</b> Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan Mr. Dovletgeldi Rejepov.
<b>14:05-14:10</b>	Welcome speech by the General Secretary of the ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr. Adem Kula.
<b>Expansion and activation of trade and economic cooperation between ECO Member States, including trade in goods and services, trade related payment clearance, customs and taxation matters</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b> Chairman of the Commerce and Industry Chambers of Turkmenistan Mr. Dovletgeldy Rejepov	
<b>14:10-14:15</b>	Representative from Afghanistan
<b>14:15-14:20</b>	Representative from the Republic of Azerbaijan
<b>14:20-14:25</b>	Representative from the Republic of Kazakhstan
<b>14:25-14:30</b>	Representative from the Kyrgyz Republic
<b>14:30-14:35</b>	Representative from the Islamic Republic of Iran
<b>14:35-14:40</b>	Representative from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
<b>14:40-14:45</b>	Representative from the Republic of Tajikistan
<b>14:45-14:50</b>	Representative from the Republic of Turkey
<b>14:50-14:55</b>	Representative from Turkmenistan at the level of the Deputy Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations of Turkmenistan
<b>14:55-15:00</b>	Representative from the Republic of Uzbekistan
<b>Digital trade and e-commerce market</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b>	
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	Representatives of public and private sectors working in the field of digital technologies, e-commerce are invited to speak.
<b>15:30-15:45</b>	Questions and answers.

<b>Investment opportunities, including trade related investments and the international best practices to increase investment attractiveness</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b> representative of the Union of Exchanges and Chambers of Turkey	
<b>15:45-16:10</b>	Representatives of public and private sectors, banks and financial institutions working in the field of investment, as well as representatives of private companies with investment projects and proposals are invited to speak.
<b>16:10-16:25</b>	Questions and answers.
<b>Development of the market of transport and logistics services in the ECO Member States</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b>	
<b>16:25-16:55</b>	Representatives of public and private structures involved in the field of transport and logistics, as well as representatives of private transport and logistics companies are invited to speak.
<b>16:55-17:10</b>	Questions and answers.
<b>17:10-17:25</b>	Signing bilateral documents.
<b>17:25-18:00</b>	B2B
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Closing of ECO Member States the business forum of the</b>