

Statement of Mr. Habibullo Mirzozoda, Executive Director of CICA
Secretariat

At Special Meeting of Foreign Ministers of CICA

(24th September 2020)

**Mr. Chairman,
Hon'ble Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!**

At the very outset, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Tajikistan and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Kazakhstan for convening this Special Meeting of CICA Foreign Ministers and for giving me the opportunity to state my remarks.

I take this opportunity to briefly highlight about the initiatives, events and cooperation carried out by the Secretariat during my two years term as Executive Director since 3rd October 2018.

I am pleased to inform that, in accordance with the Chair's vision and approved CICA action plan, the Secretariat has taken some noticeable initiatives. The Secretariat, as per its role as an executive and facilitating body of decisions of the Senior Official Committee (SOC), initiated to organise CICA meetings and events at its headquarters. The Secretariat hosted SOC meeting in May 2019 for the negotiations to finalise the Fifth Summit's declaration. This was the first time Secretariat hosted such meeting. The Secretariat continued this initiative by convening briefing session to the Ambassadors of Member States on Fifth CICA Summit's declaration, and briefing session to the Defence Attaché's of Member state, on the CBMs of *Military-Political dimension* of CICA. Secretariat as per Action Plan for year 2020 had also planned to organise an expert and Special Working Group meeting to discuss on *New Challenges and Threats*

dimension, but this event so far could not be organized due to the ongoing pandemic situation.

Excellencies,

Last year 2019 was very productive year, there were many important meetings and events were held including Fifth CICA Summit in Dushanbe, Informal Ministerial Meeting in New York, Five Meetings of Senior Official Committee in Dushanbe, Nur-Sultan and Chongqing. The Secretariat successfully played its due role in all these important events.

To give an updated face and to provide an easy connect with all stake-holders, the Secretariat launched its new website with updated features, and also started its presence on Social Media Platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

Secretariat's team streamlined the functions of the office by conducting regular meetings among the team members; including Members of Professional Personnel seconded by the member states and administrative staff. The optimum utilization of the resources available to the office, was also ensured, which resulted in a significant cut down in the annual expenditures of the Secretariat.

For the purpose to realise the international cooperation, Secretariat represented and actively participated in the meetings and events organised by CICA's International partners e.g. United Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, International Organisation for Migration, OSCE, and Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process; and Secretariat's representatives made presentations and statements in these meetings and events as per CICA's vision and objectives.

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Foreign Offices and the Embassies of the Member States for their great cooperation and generous support for smooth functioning of the Secretariat. I also thank all my office colleagues- Members of Professional Personnel, administrative and technical staff for their hard work.

I congratulate Ambassador Mr. Kairat Sarybay for his appointment as new Executive Director of the Secretariat and wish him a very successful tenure.

Thank You Very much!