



**CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND  
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СОВЕЩАНИЕ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И  
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

**Adopted by the CICA Ministerial Meeting**

**Almaty, 25 August 2008**

**CONCLUSIONS OF THE THIRD MEETING OF CICA MINISTERS OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

The Ministers and other Heads of delegations participating in the Third Meeting of CICA Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Almaty on 25 August 2008, having considered current activities of the CICA and prospects for further development of the process, concluded the following:

**I. ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD SINCE THE SECOND CICA SUMMIT  
(June 2006-August 2008)**

1. To express satisfaction with the activities that have taken place during the period since the Second CICA Summit (June 2006 - August 2008) and to commend the preparatory work for the Third Meeting of CICA Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

2. To note the results and outcomes of the meetings in Kazakhstan, Thailand, Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Republic of Korea that took place during the period since the Second Summit.

**Implementation of the CICA CBMs**

3. To welcome adoption of the Cooperative Approach for the implementation of the CICA CBMs during SOC Meeting held, for the first time outside Kazakhstan, in Bangkok, Thailand on 15 March 2007.

4. To appreciate roles and responsibilities of Coordinators and Co-coordinators for the implementation of the CICA CBMs assumed by Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea,

Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand and Turkey and to express need for elaborating and promoting concrete projects of cooperation.

5. To encourage other Member States to be Coordinators/Co-coordinators on implementation of CBMs of concrete directions within the framework of the Conference.

### **Accession of new Members**

6. To welcome accession of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United Arab Emirates as the CICA Member States and take note of their expressed commitment to contribute to the attainment of CICA's goals and to abide by and subscribe to all the earlier decisions and statements of the CICA.

### **Issues related to the CICA Secretariat**

7. While welcoming establishment of the CICA Secretariat in Almaty in 2006 as an important milestone in the development and enhancement of the CICA process, to express appreciation in this regard for:

a) completion of the respective internal procedures required for entry into force of the Statute of the CICA Secretariat by Azerbaijan, China, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Russia;

b) secondment of the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and Professional Personnel to the Secretariat by India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Russia and Turkey;

c) voluntary contributions to the CICA Secretariat budget by Azerbaijan, China, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Pakistan and Turkey.

8. To encourage other Member States to complete, at the earliest possible, their respective internal procedures required for the entry into force of the Statute of the CICA Secretariat.

9. To task the SOC and the CICA Secretariat to deliberate upon and finalize in the period up to the Third CICA Summit, the Protocol amending the CICA Rules of Procedure, which will reflect new realities in the development of the CICA process.

10. To adopt in principle the draft Convention on the Legal Capacity of the CICA Secretariat, its Personnel and their Privileges and Immunities and to recommend the Member States to finalize their respective internal procedures with a view to sign it at the earliest possible.

11. To adopt and open for signature the Protocol Amending the Statute of the CICA Secretariat of 17 June 2006.

12. To welcome in this regard signing in Astana on 26 June 2007 the Host Country Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the CICA Secretariat regarding the Terms and Conditions of the Secretariat's Location in the Territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan as well as its ratification by Kazakh side on 20 March 2008.

13. To invite the Member States to consider issue of making future voluntary contributions to the budget of the CICA Secretariat and secondment of professional personnel to the CICA Secretariat and to instruct the CICA Secretariat to abide by the Financial Rules and Regulations.

14. To task the CICA Secretariat to prepare Staff Regulations.

## **II. WORK FOR THE PERIOD UP TO THE THIRD CICA SUMMIT**

### **Implementation of the CICA CBMs**

15. To note progress achieved in elaborating the implementation of CBMs in economic, environmental and human dimensions as well as in new challenges and threats under the Cooperative Approach adopted in 2007 and to continue development of concrete CBMs.

16. To agree that the Experts Meetings will continue to strive for implementation of CBMs and to task the SOC to progress the work on Concept Papers and Action Plans for different CBMs that have already been circulated and expeditiously take practical steps to implement them.

17. To welcome in this regard the offers by Mongolia to consider coordinating environmental dimension and by the Islamic Republic of

Afghanistan to co-ordinate the implementation of CBMs in combating illicit drug production and trafficking and in fight against new challenges and threats.

18. To recognize the importance of initiating deliberations on security issues in accordance with the provisions of the CICA Catalogue of CBMs.

### **Procedural issues**

19. To task the CICA Secretariat to elaborate and the SOC to approve the CICA Work Program for the period up to the Third Summit at the next SOC Meeting to be held in New Delhi in February 2009.

20. To task the CICA Secretariat to undertake a study to take stock of CICA's development and present the study to SOC meeting in 2009.

21. To commend the CICA Secretariat in assisting the CICA Chairman and CICA Member States and task the Secretariat for developing the CICA's institutional memory, including through the regularly updated Matrix of CICA Decisions and their Status, which will be made available on the [www.s-cica.org](http://www.s-cica.org) web site, and for development of the CICA Internet homepage and virtual communications network at the mentioned site. To acknowledge the assistance in this regard that some CICA Member States have extended to the Secretariat and to encourage others to do the same.

22. To extend further cooperation and support for the CICA Chairman in carrying out its mandate.

### **CICA's External Relations**

23. To emphasize the importance of strengthening cooperation with other regional and international organizations.

24. To welcome in this regard the Guidelines for CICA's External Relations adopted on 15 March 2007 by the SOC which recognized the importance of establishing links between the CICA and other international and regional organizations and fora. To welcome also the continuing process of signing MOUs between the CICA Secretariat and administrative bodies of other regional and international organizations and fora, inter alia ECO, EurAsEC, IOM, SCO and SAARC.

25. To task the SOC and the CICA Secretariat to continue implementation of the Guidelines for the CICA's External Relations in accordance with the format contained therein.

26. To note with satisfaction the participation by the United Nations in the CICA activities as Observer Organization since 2002, and welcome United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution No. 62/77 of 6 December 2007, which granted observer status to the CICA in the UNGA and offered to the Conference right to participate in sessions and work of this body. To welcome also efforts of both the UN and the CICA on further strengthening of mutual cooperation in the fields of common interests and exploring new ways and means of strengthening mechanisms of such interaction.

27. To endorse the initiatives of Afghanistan and Kazakhstan to convene Conference of Asian regional and sub-regional organizations and fora and CICA-OSCE Joint Consultative Forum respectively.

**Almaty, 25 August 2008**