

VOICE OF ASIA:

CICA Digest

Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council

SWG considers the draft documents of the Sixth CICA Summit

Seminar in the field of military-political dimension

Informal Ministerial Meeting of CICA

CICA attends the SCO Summit



30 YEARS

Conference on Interaction and
Confidence Building Measures
in Asia (CICA)





**Secretariat of the Conference on
Interaction and Confidence Building
Measures in Asia**

Address:

55/20, Mangilik Yel ave., Astana,
Republic of Kazakhstan

+7 7172 576510

s-cica@s-cica.org

<http://www.s-cica.org/>

@cica_secretariat

@CicaSecretariat

@CicaSecretariat

Is distributed free of charge



In this issue:



July

- 6 Third session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- 7 CICA Executive Director visits the Republic of Korea
- 8 CICA round table on Information and Communication Technologies
- 10 CICA Executive Director visits Azerbaijan
- 12 Statement by CICA Executive Director on the occasion of the voluntary contribution by the People's Republic of China
- 14 Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council
- 16 Address of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to the participants of the CICA Youth Council
- 18 Seminar in the field of military-political dimension
- 20 Special Working Group Meeting

August

- 22 Fourth session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- 23 Workshop on Sufficiency Economy for SMEs Development
- 24 Special Working Group Meeting
- 25 Workshop on Sustainable and Secure Development of the Internet



September

- 28 President of Kazakhstan receives CICA Executive Director
- 29 CICA Executive Director meets with Ambassador of Iran
- 30 CICA Executive Director meets with Ambassador of Egypt
- 31 Fifth session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- 32 Special Working Group Meeting
- 33 CICA attends the SCO Summit
- 34 Informal Ministerial Meeting of CICA
- 36 Seminar on combating forgery of documents to prevent human smuggling and illegal migration
- 38 Special Working Group Meeting



Foreword



It is a great honour for me to present another issue of the “Voice of Asia: CICA Digest”.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate all stakeholders of the international forum – the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) – on the remarkable 30th anniversary. Certainly, this milestone has been achieved thanks to the recognition and relevance of the forum not only in Asia, but also around the world.

Against the background of the current geopolitical turbulence in the world and the increase of modern challenges and threats, states and international organizations, leaders and public associations are concerned about ensuring stability and security. In this context, the regional forum of CICA has proved itself as an effective dialogue platform for interaction and confidence building aimed at finding concerted solutions in response to these challenges.

The pages of this issue provide important and useful information about the events held within the framework of the Conference in the third quarter of 2022. One of such important events is the Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council, held in the capital of Kazakhstan this July.

As Chairman of the CICA Youth Council, Kazakhstan gathered under one “sha-

nyrak” representatives of youth organizations, associations and movements, delegations from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of CICA observer organizations and partners from the SCO, TurkPA, UNDP. At the plenary session and panel discussions, the participants raised a number of significant topics. Among them were youth and student exchange programmes, countering radicalization of youth, prevention of suicide and drug addiction among young people, and youth development at the national and regional levels.

The meeting became a unique platform for establishing close interaction and sharing best practices among youth organizations, associations, movements of Member States. There is no doubt that the recommendations resulting from the meeting will be implemented in the near future for the promotion and development of youth policy in the CICA area.

I hope this issue will be interesting and useful for you.

Sincerely,

***Aida Balayeva,
Deputy Chief of Staff
of the President
of the Republic of
Kazakhstan***



July

Third session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Experts from the CICA Member States continued working on the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the third online session of the Specialized Meeting organized by the Kazakh Chairmanship in CICA together with the Secretariat on 4 July 2022.



The initiative of Kazakhstan's CICA Chairmanship to convene the Specialized Meeting on the Development of Cooperation between the CICA Member States for the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was supported by the Senior Officials Committee in December 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure that qualified experts from the Member States develop and agree on the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS for its subsequent approval by the CICA governing bodies.

The third session of the Specialized Meeting was attended by heads and high-level experts from government agencies, institutions and organizations of the CICA Member States in the field of counterterrorism. The session was chaired by Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Talgat Kaliyev.

During the session, the experts have made considerable progress on the draft and agreed to continue working in this direction. The Chairmanship intends to finalize the document by the Sixth CICA Summit in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted by UN General Assembly Resolution 60/288 on 8 September 2006. At the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the CICA Member States in April 2016, foreign ministers agreed that the adoption of the CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS would provide further impetus to enhance cooperation among the Member States in countering terrorism, and called for concerted efforts to ensure its full and effective implementation.

CICA Executive Director visits the Republic of Korea

CICA Executive Director Kairat Sarybay paid a working visit to the Republic of Korea on 4 July, where he was received by Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea Park Jin, and held consultations on the CICA activity with Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea Cho Hyun-woo.



The Minister stated that the goals and objectives of CICA were largely consistent with the main parameters of the foreign policy strategy of the new Korean administration, including in terms of further building confidence among Asian countries and creating an environment for peace, stability and prosperity in the region. Park Jin assured the head of the Secretariat that Seoul would continue to support CICA and facilitate consensus on its transformation into a full-fledged international organization.

Kairat Sarybay expressed hope that Korea would participate at the highest level in the Sixth CICA Summit to be held in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022.

The consultations with Ambassador Cho Hyun-woo touched on practical cooperation within CICA and Korea's respective contribution to the implementation of confidence building measures in energy security and information technology. The Korean diplomat noted that the role and relevance of the Conference as a platform for multilateral dialogue amid the geopolitical turbulence would only increase. Cho Hyun-woo also said that Korea intended to continue to make voluntary contributions to the Secretariat's budget.



The Republic of Korea has been a member of CICA since 2006. The country provides annual funding to support the Secretariat's activity. It oversees the implementation of CICA confidence building measures in the areas of Energy Security and Information Technology. In September 2021, Korea hosted a seminar on the prospects for cooperation in the area of hydrogen energy.

CICA round table on Information and Communication Technologies



The Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held an online round table on New Reality in Information and Communication Technology: Trends and Prospects on 7 July 2022 as part of the implementation of confidence building measures in the economic dimension.

In her welcoming remarks, CICA Deputy Executive Director Chi Fang highlighted the growing role of digital reality and pointed out that CICA was increasingly focusing on digitalization and the widespread adoption of information technology.

The event brought together experts from Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Palestine, Russia, Thailand, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam.

During a thematic session on Experience of the CICA Member States in the Development of Information Technologies, Deputy Director of the Informatization Research Department of the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology Cui Ying shared China's experience in developing and creating a smart city.

Associate Professor of the Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies Iroda Shamsieva spoke about the status and prospects of digital Uzbekistan as a future regional IT hub.



Chief Engineer of the Institute of Information Technologies of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences Shakir Mehdiyev made a presentation on the transformation of the information space.

In her presentation, Assistant Professor of the Dogus University Itir Toksoz addressed the impact of outer space technologies on the IT sector.

At the second thematic session on Prospects for the Development of the IT industry in the Context of Global Turbulence, Deputy Director of the Center for International Information Security and Science and Technology Policy of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations Elena Zinovjeva spoke about challenges and threats to international information security in the context of global digital transformation.

Representative from the Department of Cyber Security Hi-tech Crime Counter of the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam, Chi Chao Vu, made

a presentation on the possible risks and threats of digitalization of the information space.

Director of the Institute for Security and Cooperation in Central Asia based in the Republic of Kazakhstan Shavkat Sabirov shared his vision on the prospects for the information and communication sector in the context of the global crisis and the digital sovereignty of countries.

Following the sessions, the participants discussed the possible risks and threats of digitalization of the information space, the impact of current challenges and threats on ICT development, content models and the militarization of the information space.

The round table highlighted the relevance and potential of the CICA platform for exchanging experiences on pertinent issues of information and communication technology, which will ultimately enhance interaction among the Member States in ensuring comprehensive security in Asia.



CICA Executive Director visits Azerbaijan

Priorities of the Kazakh Chairmanship and main items on the agenda of the forthcoming anniversary Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), to be held in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022, were discussed in Baku during the visit of CICA Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay to Azerbaijan on 5-7 July 2022.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Jeyhun Bayramov expressed support for priorities of the Kazakh Chairmanship, including its strategic goal – to gradually transform CICA into an international organization.

The Minister assured that Baku, as Coordinator of confidence building measures in the field of secure and effective transportation corridors, would continue to pursue a constructive and pragmatic policy to strengthen the existing multimodal transportation routes, as well as to diversify them for the mutual benefit of all stakeholders. New formats for sub-regional cooperation within CICA and the Plan of Implementation of Confidence Building Measures for 2022 have been discussed as well.

It was noted that the Baku Declaration signed by Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkey on 27 June 2022 created a new format of cooperation in the transport sector to realize the potential of the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (Middle Corridor), a multimodal route designed to increase the Asia-Europe freight traffic. It was stated that the document remained open for accession by other states interested in reliable transportation corridors in the CICA area.

Assistant to the President of Azerbaijan and Head of the Department of Foreign Policy Affairs of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Azerbaijan Hikmat Hajiyeu highlighted CICA's increased relevance as a multilateral platform for addressing new challenges in Asia in the context

of global turbulence. The Assistant to the President expressed his support for the transformation of CICA and the launch of this process at the Sixth CICA Summit. Ambassador Sarybay welcomed Baku's consistency, active engagement and enhanced contribution to the CICA process. The Executive Director outlined key provisions of the Concept of Transformation, noting its gradual approach and commitment to previous obligations, and briefed on the counterpart preparations for the Sixth CICA Summit.



At the meeting with Minister of Energy of Azerbaijan Parviz Shahbazov, Ambassador Sarybay spoke about energy cooperation among the CICA Member States, a priority area in the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures. The sides agreed that green energy, renewable energy, including biomass, wind and solar energy, were promising areas for development. Ambassador Sarybay suggested that CICA be considered as an outreach platform for presenting Azerbaijan's achievements in the energy sector.



The meeting with Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Azerbaijan Sarvan Jafarov focused on Azerbaijan's progress in food security and opportunities to synergize efforts of the CICA Member States in this area.



Statement by CICA Executive Director on the occasion of the voluntary contribution by the People's Republic of China



The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia expresses its sincere gratitude to the Government of the People's Republic of China for its voluntary contribution to the Secretariat.

We recognize it not only as financial support, but also as an expression of China's political will to strengthen CICA's capacity for a higher degree of interaction to ensure peace and cooperation in Asia.

China is one of the active Member States that has been paying particular attention to the development of CICA since its inception.

Under the Chairmanship of the People's Republic of China (2014-2018), CICA received a significant boost in development and strengthened its capacity. China has been an active Coordinator

in agriculture and finance, as well as a Co-coordinator in the field of environment, and in 2021 China became Co-coordinator in such priority areas as Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), Epidemiological Safety, Public Health and Pharmaceuticals, Human Dimension, and Development of Secure and Effective Systems of Transportation Corridors. We look forward to continuing our close interaction with China on the practical aspect of our Conference.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to express our gratitude to Member States for their unwavering support for the CICA Secretariat. Voluntary contributions from Member States demonstrate CICA's effectiveness in building confidence and cooperation, and that its activity garners great interest.



KAZAKH INVEST

NATIONAL COMPANY

Invest in Kazakhstan

Central office of National Company "KAZAKH INVEST" JSC

Mangilik El st., bldg. 55/20, office C 4.1,

Astana city, The Republic of Kazakhstan, 010000

www.invest.gov.kz

Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council

The address of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev was read out to the meeting participants, which, inter alia, said, "In the context of global turbulence, the importance of CICA as an effective institution for multilateral diplomacy, strengthening cooperation and security in the region and the world increases manifold. The CICA Youth Council makes a significant contribution to unlocking the potential of the next generation."

In his welcoming remarks, CICA Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay highlighted that the CICA Youth Council had become a unique platform for accumulating best ideas of the youth, as well as exchanging experience on youth policy issues among youth associations of the CICA Member States.

Resolving the pressing issues of the day through an open and trustful dialogue and a close cooperation among youth agencies and organizations in Asia were discussed in the Kazakh capital at the Fifth Meeting of the Youth Council of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) on 14-15 July 2022.



Addressing the participants, Vice-Minister of Information and Social Development of Kazakhstan Alexander Danilov emphasized that Kazakhstan took measures on a regular basis to promote and support young leaders and those, who succeeded in various areas. "This is a very important work in the new era, when high intelligence is a priority, and the intellectual potential of the nation comes to the fore," the Vice-Minister said.

Welcoming remarks were also made by Vice-President of Nazarbayev University Kadisha Dairova, Acting Chairman of the World Youth Association of Uzbekistan Istamjon Khamroev and Head of the International Department of the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs of the Russian Federation Valeriia Chernogorodova, who presented and shared their organizations' experience in implementing youth policy.



All speakers, who delivered opening remarks, agreed on the need to actively involve young people in the development of youth policy and direct participation in its implementation.

The event was attended by members of the Youth Council, representatives of youth organizations, associations, movements of Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of CICA Observer and Partner Organizations from the SCO, TurkPA, and UNDP.

During the plenary and panel sessions, the participants discussed relevant issues such as youth and student exchange programmes, countering youth radicalization, preventive measures against destructive behaviour among youth, suicide and drug addiction prevention among youth, youth development at national and regional levels, young parliamentarians, etc.

On the second day, delegates went on a guided tour to the Burabay National Nature Park, during which they continued informal discussions and sharing experiences on how to address relevant problems among young people.



Address of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to the participants of the CICA Youth Council



**Dear heads of delegation,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I am glad to welcome you to the Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council.

This Meeting is especially significant because it takes place in the year of the 30th anniversary since the inception of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia.

Over this time, CICA has become a reputable dialogue platform that promotes peace and co-operation on the largest continent of the planet.

In the conditions of global turbulence, the importance of the Conference as an effective institution of multilateral diplomacy, strengthening cooperation and security in the region and the world, has increased multiple times.

The CICA Youth Council plays an important role in expanding partnership and humanitarian ties among the Member States of the forum.

The Council coordinates the activities of youth organizations of our countries in the social, environmental and cultural areas, making a significant contribution to unlocking the potential of the younger generation.

The agenda of today's Meeting includes such important topics as countering the radicalization of society, preventing suicide and drug addiction.

This shows the desire and willingness of the youth of the CICA Member States to make a tangible contribution to building a more harmonious world.

I am sure that the Meeting of the CICA Youth Council will give a powerful creative impetus to close cooperation in the vast Asian space, while an open and trusting dialogue will help to find new approaches and solutions to meet modern challenges.

I thank everyone for the active support of the forum.

I wish you a fruitful exchange of experience and productive discussions.



KAZAKH INVEST

NATIONAL COMPANY

Invest in Kazakhstan

Central office of National Company "KAZAKH INVEST" JSC
Mangilik El st., bldg. 55/20, office C 4.1,
Astana city, The Republic of Kazakhstan, 010000

www.invest.gov.kz

Seminar in the field of military-political dimension

To promote military diplomacy and cooperation among Asian countries, the annual CICA military-political dimension development seminar was held on July 13-14, 2022. Traditionally organized by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the event was held at the National Defence University, named after the First President of Kazakhstan.



Defence officials and military attachés from Azerbaijan, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Korea, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Turkey and UAE, participated in lengthy discussions on security, conflict prevention, de-escalation, and expanding cooperation between the Member States in the military-political dimension.

In his welcoming address, CICA Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay pointed out that CICA Member States' ultimate goal is to build a security and cooperation architecture in Asia based on the principles of international law, and transparency and mutual trust. The military-political dimension plays a crucial role in realizing this common aspiration of CICA leaders. The Executive Director also noted that confidence-building measures, which are essential for building security on the Asian continent, are implemented step-by-step and voluntarily.



Delegates also toured the Peacekeeping Training Center in Almaty and the infrastructure of the Defence Ministry's Peacekeeping Training Center, which trains troops for participation in peacekeeping operations.

The military-political dimension is one of the five main activities of the CICA. The CICA member States have developed ten specific confidence-building measures on the military-political dimension within the framework of the CICA Catalogue of



Confidence-building Measures. This catalogue is a key document of the CICA, which reflects the collective views of the member States, as well as multilateral approaches to cooperation to ensure long-term stability on the Asian continent.



Special Working Group Meeting

The SWG yesterday approached to the completion of its work on the draft regulations for a CICA Fund, a special mechanism for identification of CICA projects and mobilization of voluntary funding for their implementation. This is another initiative of the Kazakh Chairmanship which has been supported by Member States and thoroughly elaborated at the expert level since the beginning of 2021.

The meeting also considered the draft statement on cooperation in the field of security of and in the use of ICTs proposed by the Russian Federation and China in their capacity as CICA Coordinator and Co-Coordinator of implementation of confidence-building measures in this area of interaction. The adoption of this statement by the CICA Summit is expected to facilitate practical cooperation among CICA Member States in this important field of CICA activities.

In addition, the Chairmanship briefed the SWG on the ongoing expert-level work on the draft CICA plan of action on implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. SWG will resume its work next month to continue its substantive preparations for the CICA Summit.

Member States of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) started the series of meetings to draft outcome documents of the Sixth CICA Summit this fall in Nur-Sultan. CICA Special Working Group (SWG) gathered on 21 July 2022 in an online format.





August

Fourth session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The fourth online session of the Specialized Meeting on the Development of Cooperation between the CICA Member States for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS) was held on 3 August 2022, during which experts from the competent authorities of the CICA Member States continued working on the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS. The meeting was organized by the Kazakh Chairmanship and the CICA Secretariat.



The initiative of the CICA Chairmanship, the Republic of Kazakhstan, to convene the Specialized Meeting was supported by the Senior Officials Committee in December 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure that qualified experts from the Member States develop and agree on the draft Plan of Action for its subsequent approval by the CICA governing bodies.

The fourth session of the Specialized Meeting was attended by heads and high-level experts from government agencies, institutions and organizations of the CICA Member States in the field of counterterrorism. The session was chaired by Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Talgat Kaliyev.

The meeting has made significant progress on the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The parties agreed to continue working in this direction in order to finalize the document by the Sixth CICA Summit in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted by UN General Assembly Resolution 60/288 on 8 September 2006. At the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the CICA Member States in April 2016, foreign ministers agreed that the adoption of the CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS would provide further impetus to enhance cooperation among the Member States in countering terrorism, and called for concerted efforts to ensure its full and effective implementation.

Workshop on Sufficiency Economy for SMEs Development



The positive application of the “Sufficiency Economy Philosophy” for the development of small and medium enterprises will be the focus of the training that was launched under the auspices of CICA on 22 August 2022 and will last 2 weeks.

The Kingdom of Thailand, which is a co-coordinator of CICA confidence building measures in the priority area “Development of small and medium enterprises”, is conducting the workshop with the support of the Mekong Institute and the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA).

In his welcoming speech, Dr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Executive Director of the Mekong Institute, noted that the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, proposed by King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand in 1974, was a tandem of philosophy and public administration, embodied in practice. The similarity of the principles of this Philosophy with the Sustainable Development Goals made the Thai experience in supporting SMEs relevant for many states in the region. The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy was based on morality, differing markedly from the neoclassical understanding of the economy, focused on achieving maximum and quick profit for a small group of large entrepreneurs.

Ms. Hathaichanok Siri Wattanakul, TICA Human Resources Development Director, noted the importance of promoting proven economic management practices.

Officer of the CICA Secretariat Sholpan Yelkeyeva thanked the organizers for contributing real substance to the CICA Economic Dimension, noting that almost half of the events held on the CICA platform in 2021 and 2022 were devoted to the search for new tools of economic interaction in the CICA area.

In the first day presentations of the workshop, it was noted that the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy allowed Thailand to create favorable conditions for the effec-

tive work of the middle class, which was a key element in any national economy. The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy had fueled the emergence of a large number of projects in the Kingdom’s agriculture, thanks to the availability of technological innovations, which had created jobs for millions of people across Thailand. That contributed to the development of small-scale agriculture based on appropriate agricultural technologies and sustainable water management. It was also highlighted that the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy in SME microfinance had a positive impact on deepening regional integration and connectivity.

Specialists in the development of small and medium enterprises from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Palestine, Qatar, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates take an active part in the workshop, which includes interactive sessions, discussions, daily quizzes to evaluate learning progress.

The event is hosted by the Mekong Institute (MI), an intergovernmental organization that has been established by six governments in the Greater Mekong Sub-region: Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. MI offers various programs and activities aimed at developing human resources and capacity-building to deepen regional cooperation.

Workshop on Sustainable and Secure Development of the Internet

On 24 August 2022, an online workshop on Sustainable and Secure Development of the Internet was held under the auspices of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA). The workshop was organized at the initiative of Russia in the framework of the new CICA confidence building measure “Security of and in the use of ICTs”, which is co-coordinated by Russia and China for 2022-2023.



The meeting was attended by the experts of line government agencies, businesses and academia from 18 CICA Member States – Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

Chi Fang, Deputy Executive Director of the CICA Secretariat, addressed the participants of the workshop with welcoming remarks, noting the relevance of the topic in the context of the increased interest of the Member States in the development of ICTs and ensuring their security. The representative of the Secretariat stressed that the

implementation of confidence building measures and the strengthening of practical cooperation remained the cornerstones for improving the efficiency of CICA, as one of the key multilateral mechanisms for interaction in Asia.

The participants of the workshop held a lively discussion and a productive exchange of views on a range of issues related to the Internet development, including strengthening international cooperation, regulating the national segments of the Internet and ensuring digital sovereignty. Representatives of Russia, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan shared the experience of their countries in this area.



KAZAKH INVEST
NATIONAL COMPANY

Invest in Kazakhstan

Address:

Mangilik El st., bldg. 55/20, office C 4.1,
Astana city, The Republic of Kazakhstan, 010000

E-mail: info@invest.gov.kz

www.invest.gov.kz



September

President of Kazakhstan receives CICA Executive Director



In the run-up to the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev received CICA Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay on 7 September 2022.

Ambassador Sarybay informed the Kazakh leader about the substantive and organizational preparations for the Summit to be held in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October in the year, marking the 30th anniversary of the Conference.

During the meeting, special emphasis was placed on the implementation of the Kazakh Chairmanship's priorities, including the initiative to transform CICA into an international organization.

The Head of the Secretariat also reported on the status of approval of the draft outcome documents of the upcoming Summit.

The President of Kazakhstan emphasized the importance of high-quality organization of the Sixth Summit and gave specific instructions for further implementation of the priorities of the Kazakh Chairmanship in CICA.

CICA Executive Director meets with Ambassador of Iran



Ambassador of Iran to Kazakhstan Majid Samadzadeh Saber visited the headquarters of the CICA Secretariat on 31 August and was received by Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay. A thorough discussion took place regarding the preparations for the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) to be held in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October this year.

The Iranian diplomat expressed confidence that the CICA Member States would exert every effort to reach consensus on the substantive outcomes of the meeting of the leaders and wished the Secretariat and the Kazakh Chairmanship every success in such an important and large-scale event.

Kairat Sarybay noted that he hoped for Iran's participation at the highest level, which would certainly give the Summit even greater political significance. The Executive Director highlighted the progress in preparing the outcome docu-

ments of the Summit and invited the Iranian side to take part in the upcoming offline meeting of the Special Working Group to be held in the Kazakh capital on 13-14 September this year.

Since the inception of CICA in 1992, Iran has been actively participating in the work of the Conference and in the negotiation process on all Forum documents. Within CICA, Iran coordinates the implementation of confidence building measures in the areas of combating drugs and disaster management.

CICA Executive Director meets with Ambassador of Egypt



Ambassador of Egypt to Kazakhstan Ms. Manal Elsayed Yehia El Shinnawi visited the headquarters of the CICA Secretariat on 1 September and was received by Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay. A detailed discussion took place regarding the preparations for the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) to be held in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October this year.

The Ambassador highlighted the political significance of the forthcoming event and the importance of working together on its substantive outcome, and wished the Secretariat and the Kazakh Chairmanship to hold the meeting of the leaders at the highest level.

Kairat Sarybay expressed the hope that the President of Egypt would be able to participate in the Summit, and invited Egyptian colleagues to take part in the upcoming offline meeting of the CICA Special Working Group to be held in the Kazakh capital on 13-14 September this year.

Fifth session of the Specialized Meeting on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy



The fifth online session of the Specialized Meeting on the Development of Cooperation between the CICA Member States for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS) was held on 8 September 2022, during which experts from the competent authorities of the CICA Member States discussed the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS. The meeting was organized by the Kazakh Chairmanship in CICA and the CICA Secretariat.

The fifth session of the Specialized Meeting was attended by heads and high-level experts from government agencies, institutions and organizations of the CICA Member States in the field of counter-terrorism. The session was chaired by Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Talgat Kaliyev.

This session concluded a series of sessions of the Specialized Meeting convened at the initiative of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the CICA Chair, and supported by the Senior Officials Committee. The previous sessions took place on 24 May, 21 June, 4 July, and 3 August 2022. The draft Plan of Action prepared during the Specialized Meeting by experts from the CICA Member States will be further submitted for consideration by the Special Working Group, the next meeting of which will be held in Nur-Sultan on 13-14 September this year.

The Kazakh Chairmanship in CICA expects that the CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy will be adopted at the next Sixth CICA Summit in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted by UN General Assembly Resolution No. 60/288 on 8 September 2006. At the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the CICA Member States in April 2016, foreign ministers agreed that the adoption of the CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS would provide further impetus to enhance cooperation among the Member States in countering terrorism, and called for concerted efforts to ensure its full and effective implementation.

Special Working Group Meeting



The Special Working Group (SWG) of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) met in Nur-Sultan on 13-14 September 2022 to continue preparation of draft outcome documents for the Sixth CICA Summit to be held on 12-13 October in the capital of Kazakhstan. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador at Large of the Foreign Ministry of Kazakhstan Talgat Kaliyev.

The SWG finalized the draft Regulations of the CICA Fund, establishing a mechanism for identification and voluntary funding of CICA projects and a project management framework. The SWG made further progress on the main document of the Summit expected to launch the process of gradual transformation of CICA into an organization and the draft statement on security of and in the use of ICTs.

The SWG also finalized the draft Concept Paper on Development of Secure and Effective Systems of Transportation Corridors for 2022-2023 and recommended the candidature of Kyrgyzstan as the Co-coordinator in the priority area of "Trade and Investment".

SWG will resume its work on 28-29 September 2022 in an offline format to continue its substantive preparations for the CICA Summit.



CICA attends the SCO Summit



Executive Director of the Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Ambassador Kairat Sarybay participated in the 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), which took place in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on 15-16 September 2022. The event was attended by Heads of the Member States, Observer States, and Dialogue Partners, as well as by guests of the organisation.

Following the Summit, the Member States adopted the Samarkand Declaration, in which they emphasized the significance of using the potential of the countries of the region, international organisations, and multilateral associations. In particular, they highlighted the importance of further deepening cooperation between the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia to ensure security and stability in the region and on other issues of mutual interest, as well as

expressed support for CICA's institutional development.

Furthermore, Executive Director Kairat Sarybay held a series of conversations with the Heads of State of Azerbaijan, Pakistan, and Belarus, as well as with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, and India, to discuss interaction within CICA and the upcoming Sixth CICA Summit to be held in Astana in October of this year.



Informal Ministerial Meeting of CICA

An informal ministerial meeting of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) was held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly under the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan, which was attended by the Foreign Ministers of the CICA Member States. The meeting focused on the preparation for the Sixth CICA Summit, which will be held on October 12-13 this year in Astana.

Opening the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Mukhtar Tileuberdi noted the importance of the upcoming CICA Summit, which will launch the transformation of the Forum into a full-fledged international organization, and expressed gratitude to the Member States for supporting this initiative.

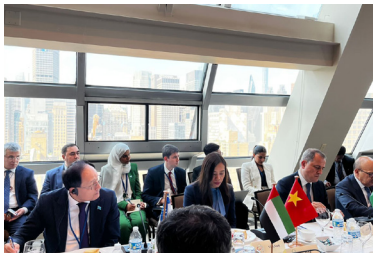
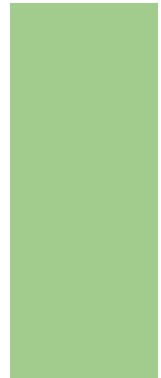
The participants discussed the final documents planned for adoption at the upcoming Summit, including the draft of the main final document of the Summit, the Regulations on the CICA Fund, CICA Leaders' Statement on Cooperation in the Field of Security of and in the Use of ICTs and CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UNGCTS, etc.

In addition, an exchange of views took place on the prospects for further institutional development of the CICA and practical steps to advance the transformation process of the organization.

During the event, the Executive Director of the CICA Secretariat, Kairat Sarybay, informed the participants about the main organizational and protocol issues of the upcoming Summit.

The participants agreed to continue active joint work within the framework of the Forum in order to successfully conduct the Sixth CICA Summit.

Source: official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan



Seminar on combating forgery of documents to prevent human smuggling and illegal migration



A five-day seminar entitled “Combating Forgery of Documents to Prevent Human Smuggling and Illegal Migration” started at the headquarters of the Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) on 26 September 2022. The training course is conducted by the Turkish National Police (Department for Counter Migrant Smuggling and Border Gates (Ankara), with the support of the Academy of the General Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The target audience of the seminar are mid-level law enforcement officers of the CICA Member States. In addition to officers from the MIA, NSC, and General Prosecutor’s Office of Kazakhstan, the seminar was attended by specialists from Azerbaijan, Qatar, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, and Türkiye.

The purpose of this course is to improve the skills in identifying forged documents when crossing the state border in order to prevent illegal migration and human smuggling. Trainers from the Turkish National Police, who have professional experience in the Netherlands, Germany, Greece, Bulgaria – countries facing

a large flow of illegal migration, will share their experience, techniques and tools for identifying forged documents used to cross state borders illegally.

In his welcoming remarks, CICA Executive Director Ambassador Kairat Sarybay noted that CICA currently unites 27 Member States and covers over 90 percent of Asia, generating about two-thirds of the global GDP.

CICA’s philosophy is to implement specific confidence building measures to improve mutual understanding, which is a fundamental prerequisite for global security cooperation among 27 Member States.

The Ambassador stated that CICA is on the verge of starting transformation into a full-fledged organization, which will be launched at the Sixth CICA Summit to be held on 13 October in the capital of Kazakhstan.

The CICA Executive Director highlighted Türkiye's contribution to providing real substance to the work of CICA. Türkiye is the Coordinator of the CICA confidence building measures in the priority area "New Challenges and Threats" and in this capacity regularly conducts professional courses for law enforcement officials, sharing national best practices with its CICA partners.



The purpose of this course is to combat forgery of travel document that leads to illegal migration, vast sums of unpaid taxes, increased criminalization of the population, spread of dangerous infectious diseases, and low standards of labour relations.

Moreover, Türkiye is the Co-coordinator of the CICA confidence building measures in the Military-political Dimension, as well as in the areas of "Development of Small and Medium Enterprises" and "Trade and Investment". Ankara shares its best practices at the CICA Business Council and Business Forum. Türkiye initiated the adoption of the Plan of Action on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.



Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Türkiye to Kazakhstan Mr. Ufuk Ekici participated in the opening of the seminar. He noted that Türkiye intended to continue working consistently to institutionalize CICA and provide real substance to its work. During the ceremony, Ambassador Ufuk Ekici made a voluntary financial contribution of 30,000 US dollars to the CICA budget. Ankara has contributed a total of 935,000 US dollars to CICA since 2007, and also chaired CICA for two terms from 2010 to 2014.

Following the five-day seminar, its participants will receive a certificate issued by the Ministry of Interior of Türkiye.



Special Working Group Meeting

Preparations for the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) to be held on 12-13 October 2022 in Astana and finalization of the outcome documents included in its agenda were at the core of discussions of the Special Working Group (SWG) meeting held on 28-29 September 2022 in the capital of Kazakhstan.



At the meeting chaired by Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Talgat Kaliyev, SWG participants made significant progress in their work on the draft Astana Statement on CICA Transformation, the draft CICA Leaders' Statement on Cooperation in the Field of Security of and in the Use of ICTs and the draft CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Moreover, the SWG has completed consideration of the draft concept paper on the Human Dimension and submitted the document to the CICA Senior Officials Committee for approval.

The SWG will continue its preparatory work in the first ten-day period of October in an online format.





**БИЗНЕСТІҢ
СЕНІМДІ СЕРІКТЕСІ**

