

DRAFT

**DECLARATION OF THE FIRST SUMMIT OF THE
COOPERATION COUNCIL OF TURKIC SPEAKING STATES
Almaty, 21 October 2011**

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan H.E. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Kyrgyz Republic H.E. Roza Otunbaeva and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey H.E. Bekir Bozdağ met at the 1st Summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (hereinafter referred to as the Turkic Council) held on 21 October 2011 in Almaty; and

Acknowledging the remarkable progress shown by Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, who are celebrating their 20th anniversaries of independence, through reforms in the political, economic, social, legal and other spheres; appreciating that they consolidated their status in international community as independent states;

Reaffirming their intention of further developing relations and strengthening solidarity amongst Turkic Speaking States (hereinafter referred to as the Turkic States) based on the common history, language, identity and culture;

Confirming the congruity of the previous ten summits of the Heads of the Turkic States, as well as the provisions of the declarations adopted at the previous summits;

Reiterating their satisfaction with the establishment of the Turkic Council as a full-fledged international organization as envisaged by the Nakhchivan Agreement;

Observing the particular significance of relaunching Summits under the organizational framework of the Turkic Council;

Being convinced that the comprehensive ties and existing solidarity amongst Turkic States reinforce regional and international cooperation in the Eurasian region;

Recognizing economic cooperation as a key driver of regional integration amongst Member States of the Turkic Council;

Expressing their adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations (UN) Charter, to the documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and above all to the Helsinki Final Act;

Aiming at strengthening political and economic security of the States in accordance with the basic principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs and refraining from the threat or use of force;

have declared the following:

I. General issues

1. Noted that the 1st Summit of the Turkic Council held in Almaty marks a new era in the development of bilateral and multilateral relations and cooperation amongst Turkic States.
2. Motivated by their common history, culture, identity and language, expressed their determination to further develop mutual interests, relations and solidarity.
3. Expressed their satisfaction at the conclusion of the Agreements and by-laws of the Turkic Council complementing the Nakhchivan Agreement, namely the Host Country Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Secretariat of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States regarding the Secretariat of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States, Rules of Procedure of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States, Regulation of the Council of Elders of the Turkic Speaking States functioning under the auspices of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and Regulations for the Staff of the Secretariat of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States.
4. Recognized the crucial role of the Secretariat of the Turkic Council as the pivotal advisory institution of coordination amongst Turkic States and noted their conviction that activities of the Secretariat will inject new dynamism to wide-ranging regional cooperation.
5. Underlined that mass media in Member States should play an important role in creating greater awareness among people about the Turkic Council and related bodies; welcomed, in this respect, the establishment of the “Media Platform of the Turkic Speaking States.
6. Welcomed the recommendations adopted at the Second meeting of Council of Elders held in Istanbul on 29-30 September 2011 and directed their relevant Government bodies of Member States to form Joint Committees by coordination of the Secretariat with a view to assessing and devising mechanisms for their attainment.

II. Economic issues

7. Expressed their intention to develop relations in the fields of economy and trade based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit and to enlarge cooperation in all fields including industry, agriculture, transport, communication, water and energy issues, alternative energy and tourism.
8. Stressed the importance of improving the investment climate amongst Member States, to deepen mutually beneficial economic ties.
9. Expressed that the overarching goal of economic cooperation is to realize free movement of goods, capital, services and technology amongst Member States of the Turkic Council.

10. Extended full support to decisions taken by the Ministers in charge of Economy during their 1st Meeting which was held in Astana on 13 October, 2011, welcomed the decision to form working groups on improving the investment climate; measures for diversification of economy; development of transportation; entrepreneurship as the basis of economic relations and directed the Ministers to report to the next Meeting of Heads of State on the progress achieved.
11. Welcomed, in this vein, the establishment of the Turkic Business Council and decisions of its inaugural meeting, noting their conviction that the activities of the Business Council will strengthen the productive network between the business communities of Turkic States.
12. Further encouraged realization of pioneering projects in the Public-Private Partnership model and urged Ministers of Economy and encouraged the Turkic Business Council to undertake joint initiatives to this end.
13. Noted efforts towards the Harmonization of Property acquisition legislation with a view to removing of property acquisition barriers which negatively affect investors.
14. Reiterated their conviction that establishment of a Insurance Companies' Association will secure trade transactions.
15. Agreed on strengthening current efforts to facilitate granting visas and work permits particularly for businessmen with a view to improving trade and investment opportunities.

III. International Projects

16. Confirmed the increasing role of the energy resources of Caspian region in ensuring the energy security of Europe expressed the assurance that the strategic Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan crude oil and Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum natural gas pipelines not only contribute to global energy security but also support sustainable economic development in the countries of the region. In this context they highlighted the importance of further utilization of increased capacity of Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline and emphasized the importance of the connection between the existing and future Caspian ports and oil terminals of Turkic States with Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan crude oil pipeline and other transportation systems originating on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
17. Noted that establishment of the new railway connection Baku-Tbilisi-Kars, to be operational as of 2012, will streamline transportation amongst Turkic States, help increase the trade volume in Eurasia region and expedite regional development and economic cooperation.

IV. Security issues

DRAFT

18. Decided to hold discussions on security issues involving Member States within the framework of Turkic Council with a view to develop common positions.
19. Reaffirmed their commitment to the maintenance of national and regional security, stability and peace as well as to principles of democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as development of market economy, rule of law and good governance.
20. Reiterated their position on the inadmissibility of forcible change of the borders, noted their conviction that strengthening of the struggle of the international community against acts of aggression threatening peace and stability, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, is a determining factor for the maintenance of global security.
21. Reemphasized the importance of cooperation and joint action in the fight against particular threats such as terrorism, extremism and, separatism which resort to use of force, human trafficking and illegal migration, illicit trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, transnational organized crime as well as trafficking in firearms and stressed the importance of solidarity within the international community to this end.
22. Noted that they pay special attention to strengthening the role of the UN in solving global and strategic issues to achieve international security and sustainable development. They confirmed that the reforms being carried out in the UN should be directed to the fast and effective use of its existing capabilities against new threats and challenges to international legal order.
23. Expressed their support for promotion of international peace and security through arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.
24. Expressed the importance they attach to the peaceful settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which is one of the main obstacles to lasting stability and regional cooperation on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan and reaffirmed their conviction that the resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict will be a significant progress in providing peace, stability and prosperity in Eurasian area.
25. Noted their support for the success of the ongoing UN –sponsored settlement process in Cyprus with the aim set forth by the UN Secretary General to reach a settlement before the end of 2011, and expressed their solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot people, an equal and constituent partner in Cyprus, in their aspirations for a peaceful, secure and prosperous future.
26. Reiterated their support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and expressed their support to the “Istanbul Conference for Afghanistan” to be held in Turkey on 2 November 2011 and Meeting of the International Contact Group on Afghanistan to be held in Astana on 15 November 2011 which would help promote

DRAFT

regional cooperation for the benefit of Afghanistan and with the strong emphasis on regional ownership.

27. Drew attention to the necessity of preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and guaranteeing the basic rights and liberties of all components of Iraqi people including the Turkoman which constitute an integral part of it.
28. Welcomed effective actions of the Kyrgyz Republic in reconstruction of the South of the Kyrgyz Republic after the tragic events in June 2010.

V. Social and cultural issues

29. Expressed their satisfaction with the Second Plenary meeting of TURKPA held in Astana on 27-28 April 2011, commending the significant role played by TURKPA as the coordinating body between Parliaments of the Member States.
30. Commended the efforts of the International Turkic Culture Organization (TURKSOY) in its task towards the identification, enrichment, expansion and promotion of the common values and in deepening cultural relations throughout the Turkic world.
31. Supported the proposal of TURKSOY to declare Eskişehir (Turkey) as the Capital of Turkic Culture for 2013.
32. Welcomed the initiative to establish Turkic Interuniversity Union, noting that such projects will contribute to the further development of relations between scientific institutions, educational institutions and scientists, as well as providing enriching experiences for university students.
33. Agreed upon the creation of a “Turkic Scientific Research Fund” to pool existing research and development potentials of Turkic States as well as to further develop this potential through synergy and urged the Secretariat to initiate institutional procedures to realize the establishment of this Fund before the Bishkek Summit.
34. Declared their willingness to improve their cooperation regarding climate change and environmental issues, including international platforms thereon.
35. Stressed the necessity of international cooperation aiming at comprehensive and rational use of water resources.

VI. Cooperation within International Organizations

36. Expressed strong support for Turkey’s accession to the EU, which would have important implications for promoting cross-cultural dialogue and understanding with positive repercussions for Eurasia and beyond.

DRAFT

37. Emphasized the necessity of strengthening of cooperation and solidarity on the basis of common values, inter alia within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC).
38. Stressed support of the Turkic Council for the Conference of Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) in its efforts to bring peace and stability to the Asian continent.
39. Underlined that observer status of the Turkic Council in the UN General Assembly will contribute to fruitful cooperation between the two organizations, decided to collectively pursue the issue until this status is achieved.
40. Welcomed the institutional cooperation established between the Turkic Council and the Economic Cooperation Organization and affirmed that they will contribute to the efforts of two organizations towards advancing regional cooperation.
41. Expressed their common will to be in dialogue and cooperation with the Council of Europe.
42. Drew attention to the importance of the adoption of common positions in international organizations in order to express concerns of Turkic States more vigorously in multilateral platforms.
43. Expressed, in this regard, their will to cooperate and coordinate candidatures to international organizations and positions, as well as international events through the Turkic Council Secretariat.
44. Invited Ministers of Foreign Affairs to meet regularly in order to jointly assess international political issues under the chairmanship of the Chairman-in-Office.
45. Deemed appropriate the participation of Turkic Council Secretariat as observer at international meetings where Member States take part.

VII. Other issues

46. Welcomed the successful conclusion of the parliamentary elections held in Kyrgyzstan on 10 October 2010 and confirmed their continued support for Kyrgyzstan in establishment of parliamentary form of governance and democratic transformation.
47. Extended congratulations to Kazakhstan for successfully hosting the Astana OSCE Summit on 1-2 December 2010 as well as the 38th session of OIC Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana on 28-30 June 2011, and also extended congratulations to Turkey for successfully holding the 11th ECO summit on 23 December 2010 and the 4th UN Summit on the Least Developed Countries on 9-13 May 2011 in Istanbul.

DRAFT

48. Welcomed the assumption of the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Turkic Council by the Republic of Kazakhstan, expressed confidence that the Kazakh Chairmanship, in close cooperation with the Member States, will bring new dynamism to the Turkic Council.
49. Agreed upon to hold the Second Summit of the Cooperation Council of the Turkic Speaking States in Kyrgyzstan in 2012 under the topic of “Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation”.

Expressed profound thanks to His Excellency Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for steering the deliberations of the First Summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States most eloquently to a successful conclusion, and sincerely appreciated the warm hospitality shown by the people of and Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and immaculate arrangements made for the Summit.

Signed on 21 October, 2011 in Almaty in the Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz and Turkish languages.

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Ilham Aliyev

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Nursultan Nazarbayev

President of the Kyrgyz Republic

Roza Otunbaeva

Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

Bekir Bozdağ