

13TH ECO SUMMIT, ISLAMABAD



CONNECTIVITY FOR REGIONAL PROSPERITY

First Day Of Issue



**13TH ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)
SUMMIT AT ISLAMABAD
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS
MARCH 01, 2017
SALIENT FEATURES**

Size of Stamps	:	"A" 60mm x 30.5mm
	:	"B" 40.5 x 40.5 mm
Size of Print	:	"A" 56mm x 26.5mm
	:	"B" 36.5 x 36.5 mm
Number of Stamps in a sheet	:	"A" 3 x 5 = 15 stamps
	:	"B" 4 x 5 = 20 stamps
Perforation	:	13 C
Denomination	:	Rs. 8/- (each design)
Colours	:	Multi Colour
Printing Technology	:	Litho Offset
Paper	:	100 GSM Crescent and Star Water Mark Paper
Gum	:	PVA
Quantity	:	0.2 Million (each design)
Design	:	"A" Naveed Awan (PPF)
	:	"B" Supplied by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad.
Printer	:	Pakistan Security Printing Corporation Karachi.



(A)



(B)

**13TH ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)
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Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was established in 1985 by Iran, Turkey and Pakistan. It succeeded Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD), which was founded in 1964 to promote cooperation among the three Member States.

2. In 1992, the Organization welcomed in its fold, seven new Members, which in addition to Afghanistan included Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. The Treaty of Izmir, signed in 1977 and subsequently amended in 1996, is the legal foundation of the Organization.

3. ECO aims at promoting sustainable economic development of Member States through trade and economic cooperation as well as mutual assistance in social, cultural, technical and scientific fields. Three long-term sectoral priorities of the Organization are: i) Development of transport and communication infrastructure, ii) Facilitation of trade and investment, iii) Effective use of the region's vast energy resources.

4. The Headquarters of ECO are located in Tehran. H.E. Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca (Turkish National) is the current Secretary General of Economic Cooperation Organization.

Institutional Framework

5. ECO consists of four principal organs, the Council of Ministers (COM), the Regional Planning Council (RPC), the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) and the Secretariat.

ECO Summit

6. Held biennially, ECO Summit of Heads of States/Governments of member States provides the Organization an overarching strategic guideline as well as political support. 12th ECO Summit was held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 16th October 2012.

7. Pakistan is hosting the 13th ECO summit in Islamabad on 1st March 2017, preceded by 22nd Council of Ministers Meeting (COMM) on 28th February 2017. The Council of Ministers meeting will be preceded by Senior Official Meeting (SOM) on 26 February 2017.

Council of Ministers (COM)

8. The Council of Ministers (COM) is the highest policy and decision-making body of ECO and is composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States. It meets once a year by rotation, in the territories of the Member States.

Council of Permanent Representative (CPR)

9. The CPR is composed of Tehran based Ambassadors of Member States accredited to ECO. It meets once a month and oversees the working of the Secretariat and takes day to day decisions relating to the Organization on behalf of the COM.

Regional Planning Council

10. The Regional Planning Council (RPC) is composed of the Heads of Planning Organizations of Member States and meets at least once a year prior to the annual meeting of the Council of Ministers. It evolves basic strategies/policies and plans in accordance with the objectives and principles of regional cooperation laid down in the Treaty of Izmir, as well as policy guidelines of the Council of Ministers.

ECO Secretariat

11. The Secretariat is the implementing arm of the Organization. Under the supervision of the Secretary General, it carries out the policies and programmes finalized by the governing bodies, and reports back to them on its activities. Presently, there are 67 officials working in the Secretariat and out of them 14 belongs to Pakistan.

ECO Vision 2025

12. The ECO Vision 2025 envisages *"ECO will pave the way to a territory of integrated and sustainable economies as well as free trade area achieved by highly educated societies and improved governance through enhanced cooperation"*. The new Vision focuses on sectoral priorities of the ECO including Trade, energy, transit and social welfare and environment. The Vision also incorporates an implementation framework.

ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA)

13. ECOTA is a major step towards realization of the Organization's goal of removal of trade barriers and establishment of a Free Trade Area in the ECO region. The Agreement was signed in Islamabad in July 2003 during the 2nd ECO Ministerial Meeting on Commerce and Foreign Trade and entered into force on 24th April, 2008. The member states are currently negotiating to operationalize this agreement.

Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA)

14. TTFA is ECO's the basic document in the transport sector, providing background for a historical movement toward reduction of cost and acceleration of the transport services through harmonization and modernization of transit transport in the region.

15. TTFA is in force since 2006 with the ratification of the Parliaments of eight Member States: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Turkey.

On 13th Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Summit at Islamabad, the Commemorative Postage Stamps of Rs.8/- each denomination are being issued by Pakistan Post on March 01, 2017.

TERMS OF SALE

The Commemorative Postage Stamps will be available for sale from March 01, 2017, at all important Post Offices in the country.

Overseas orders for Stamps, First Day of Issue Covers and Leaflets should be addressed to the Manager, Philatelic Bureau, Karachi GPO or Manager, National Philatelic Bureau, Islamabad GPO, accompanied by a Bank Draft or Crossed Cheque encashable in Pakistan.

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