



ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)

Secretary General ECO inaugurates
ECOSF Office- 21 Dec, 2011

Introduction

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF- www.eco4science.org), an intergovernmental organization based in Islamabad-Pakistan was established in December 2011 as Specialized Agency of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO- www.ecosecretariat.org). ECOSF is an important body for promotion of science and technology cooperation leading to economic development among its ten member countries; viz., Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.



H.E Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for
S&T visits ECOSF



Meeting with DG UNESCO



I.R. of
Afghanistan



Republic of
Azerbaijan



I.R. of Iran



Republic of
Kazakhstan



Kyrgyz
Republic



I.R. of
Pakistan



Republic of
Tajikistan



Republic of
Turkey



Turkmenistan



Republic of
Uzbekistan





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ECO Experts Meeting on Climate Change & Biodiversity (29-30 Nov 2013)

•ECOSF in collaboration with ECO Secretariat, ECO-IEST Tehran, Ministries of Science & Technology and Climate Change, Government of Pakistan organized the “Experts Meeting on Climate Change and Biodiversity” from 29-30 November 2013 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

•The participants agreed that in order to generate and disseminate the environmental awareness, there is a vivid need for improved communication strategy among the ECO Member states at national and regional levels. They urged that there is a need to enhance exchange of information, technology and sharing best practices among all stakeholders of the ECO Member states at national and regional levels.



International Congress of Zoology (2-4 April 2013)

A 3-days International Congress of Zoology was jointly organized with many other organizations including UNESCO, Pakistan Science Foundation, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of Pakistan and Pakistan Zoological Society & partners from 2-4 April 2013 at the Convention Centre Islamabad, Pakistan. Over 1500 participants including those from UNESCO, IUCN, WWF participated.



21st ECO Council of Minister (COM) Meeting (24-26 Nov 2013)

•The 21st Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers was held in Tehran on 26 November 2013. Foreign ministers of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkey and Adviser to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Minister of Economy of Turkmenistan, Deputy Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan and ambassadors of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan represented their respective countries during the meeting. The Council of Ministers' Meeting was preceded by the Senior Officials' Meeting on 24-25 November 2013.



Cooperation with International and Intergovernmental Organizations

•Since June 2013, ECOSF has developed linkages with international science and technology institutions, such as; UNESCO, the British Council, ISTIC Malaysia, European Union, the *La main a la pate* Foundation of France, COMSATS and CAB International United Kingdom. The Foundation has been accredited as an Observer/ Stakeholder on Intergovernmental Science and Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), Bonn- Germany and participated in the Platform's 2nd Plenary Session held in Antalya Turkey in December 2013. ECOSF has since nominated experts from ECO Region for IPBES task forces of experts on various deliverables.



Future Plans:

- Meeting/Conference of Experts to prioritize focus areas
- Workshop on "Alignment of National ST&I Policies of ECO Member states for Achieving the Regional Economic Development Goals". [To be done in collaboration with partners; ISTIC-UNESCO, and other organizations and possibly PCST].
- Capacity Building Training Workshop on "IBSE in the ECO Region". [To be done in collaboration with partners; ISTIC-UNESCO, LAMAP Foundation France, and ECO Educational Institute, Ankara- Turkey and partners]. The occasion can also serve for establishment of the ECO Hub for IBSE in ECOSF as discussed in UNESCO Paris during ISTIC Return Home to UNESCO Seminar on 27 Sept 2013.
- Initiation of research projects funding process in focused areas under the ECOSF S&T Fund
- Survey of S&T Organizations, expertise/strengths in the ECO region for development of database
- ECO Seminar on popularization of science in the member states.

ECOSF President's meetings with the ECO Ambassadors and Other

Dignitaries: The Foundation is rather a newly established organization, thus efforts of advocacy are afoot and these meetings were part of that.

