



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

№MIN/1076

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honour to forward herewith the Report of the CICA Secretariat on interaction with other international organizations and platforms in 2025.

The Report is circulated for the kind attention of the Member States in advance of the Informal CICA Ministerial Council Meeting to be held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 25 September 2025.

*Enclosure: as
stated on 11 p.*

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Astana, 16 September 2025



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**



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**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
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№MIN/1076

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь препроводить Доклад Секретариата СВМДА о взаимодействии с другими международными организациями и платформами в 2025 году.

Доклад распространяется для сведения государств-членов в преддверии неформального заседания Совета министров СВМДА, которое состоится на полях Генеральной Ассамблеи ООН в Нью-Йорке 25 сентября 2025 года.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

*Приложение:
упомянутое
на 11 л.*

город Астана, 16 сентября 2025 г.



**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**



Secretariat

Report of the CICA Secretariat on interaction with other international organizations and platforms in 2025

INTRODUCTION

This report presents an overview of the interaction of the CICA Secretariat with international organizations and platforms covering the period from the last Ministerial Council Meeting in December 2024 to the present and serves as information material for CICA Member States.

As outlined in the Azerbaijani Chairmanship's Vision Paper, one of its key priorities is to increase the international visibility and influence of CICA through building synergy and interaction with other international and regional platforms. In line with this objective, the Secretariat has maintained collaboration with current observers and partners and continued to expand partnerships with organizations in areas of mutual interest.

The CICA Secretary General (SG) briefly introduced this report at the meeting of the CICA Senior Officials Committee (SOC) on 21 July 2025, with a view to informing Member States and inviting further input and guidance. The report is presented for the kind attention of the Member States in advance of the Informal CICA Ministerial Council Meeting in New York.

OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

UN: United Nations

The United Nations has held observer status with CICA since 2002. In turn, CICA was granted observer status in the United Nations General Assembly through UNGA Resolution 62/77, adopted on 6 December 2007.

CICA and the UN maintain a relationship characterized by mutual support, regular high-level engagement and alignment on shared global priorities, particularly in the areas of counter-terrorism, regional security and sustainable development.

Opportunities for collaboration may be explored with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme, including the development of an e-book showcasing inspiring volunteerism practices from across the CICA region. The e-book could be launched alongside a thematic photo exhibition during a side event at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in New York in July 2026.

Additionally, the CICA Secretariat has maintained engagement with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). On 28 May 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay held a meeting with Roza Otunbayeva, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of UNAMA, at the CICA Secretariat in Astana.

The discussion focused on avenues of support to Afghanistan, including the implementation of the joint CICA–IOFS project and potential future initiatives such as civil servant training and humanitarian demining.

OSCE: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) has held observer status with CICA since 2002.

On 12 April 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay met with OSCE Secretary General Ambassador Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu on the sidelines of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum. The two leaders exchanged views on the evolving

roles of both organizations in promoting regional peace and security and agreed to continue their dialogue to identify potential areas for cooperation.

On 31 July, on the sidelines of the Helsinki +50 Conference, CICA Secretary General Ambassador Kairat Sarybay met with OSCE Secretary General Ambassador Feridun Sinirlioğlu to discuss regional developments, Azerbaijani Chairmanship priorities and ways to enhance CICA-OSCE synergy and cooperation across the Greater Euro-Asian space.

Both parties agreed continue to exchange invitations for high-level events and enhance synergy, particularly in areas such as economic empowerment, combating cybercrime and human trafficking and addressing climate-related security risks.

Building on the successful joint CICA–OSCE event organized under the Turkish Chairmanship in 2010 in Istanbul – the only joint initiative between the two platforms to date – there is potential to explore opportunities for future collaboration.

IOM: International Organization for Migration

The Memorandum of Understanding between CICA and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) was signed on 25 August 2008. Since then, the two organizations have maintained regular exchanges, including participation in each other’s summits and ministerial-level events.

Bilateral meetings between the CICA Secretary General and IOM Director General Amy E. Pope were held in Geneva on 26 November 2024 and again on 29 May 2025 on the margins of the Astana International Forum.

In 2022, IOM proposed a joint CICA Specialized Meeting on the topic “The Document Examination Support Center: Link Between Irregular Travel Statistics and Interception at Borders.” However, the initiative was not implemented due to funding constraints. In August 2025, Chief of IOM Kazakhstan Mr. Serhan Aktoprak has proposed CICA SG to join Almaty Process - a regional inter-state consultation mechanism on the protection of refugees and international migration to, from and within Central Asia. The proposal is currently under consideration.

TURKPA: Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic States

The Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic States (TURKPA) was granted observer status in CICA in August 2012. All TURKPA Member States (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Türkiye) are also CICA Member States.

In June 2025, the CICA SG took part in the 14th plenary session titled “TURKTIME: The Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy”. The session served as a platform to express CICA’s full support for the priorities of the Azerbaijani Chairmanship and to discuss potential areas of cooperation, including youth engagement and women’s empowerment.

There is great potential in developing synergies between the CICA Youth Council and TURKPA’s Young Parliamentarians Group, as well as between the proposed CICA Women Council and TURKPA’s Women Parliamentarians Group.

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ECO: Economic Cooperation Organization

The Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between CICA and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was signed on 25 August 2008. Since then, the two organizations have maintained regular exchanges, including mutual participation in summits and ministerial meetings.

CICA SG participated in the 17th Summit of ECO held in Khankendi Azerbaijan, on 3-4 July 2025, at the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, H.E. Mr. Jeyhun Bayramov.

The Secretaries General of both organizations also hold bilateral meetings on a regular basis to discuss matters of shared interest. In May 2025, the CICA SG met with ECO SG, Ambassador Asad M. Khan, at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran. Secretaries General exchanged views on best practices of their institutions in human resources, financial management and governance structures. Most

recently, the Secretaries General met on the sidelines of the 2025 SCO Summit and discussed ways to further advance cooperation.

SCO: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

Since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in May 2014, CICA and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) have maintained regular engagement through high-level visits, joint events, thematic roundtables and participation in each other's summits, deepening cooperation across a wide range of areas including security, counter-terrorism and sustainable development.

On 28 March 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay met with SCO Secretary General Ambassador Nurlan Yermekbayev at the SCO Secretariat in Beijing. The two sides discussed plans to hold consultations at multiple levels and reviewed progress toward the adoption of a Joint Action Plan for implementation of the 2014 MoU, which remains under consideration by the Member States of both organizations.

Further consultations were held on 29–30 April 2025 between Deputy Secretaries General of CICA (Zhang Ling) and SCO (Ahmad Saidmurodzoda), also in Beijing. Discussions focused on institutional developments within both organizations and the ongoing implementation of the 2014 MoU.

On 19 June 2025, Kairat Sarybay delivered a video address at the international conference “Central Asia – Core of SCO: 25 Years of Cooperation for Shared Development,” held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

The Secretary General participated in the SCO Summit on 31 August – 1 September 2025 in Tianjin, China. President Xi Jinping of China acknowledged CICA's contribution to upholding multilateralism in international affairs, while President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of Kazakhstan expressed gratitude to all SCO Member States for their steadfast support of CICA's transformation into a full-fledged international organization. President Tokayev also emphasized that current threats to international security can only be overcome through joint efforts, highlighting the importance of strengthening ties between SCO and CICA.

SCO RATS: SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure

Since the signing of the Protocol on Cooperation in September 2017, CICA and the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) have maintained collaboration in areas such as counter-terrorism, combating extremism and sharing best practices through joint activities and expert-level coordination.

UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Memorandum of Understanding between the CICA Secretariat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was signed in Vienna in June 2015.

On 11–12 March 2025, a Senior Officer of the CICA Secretariat participated in a regional expert meeting organized by the UNODC, focusing on legal and operational challenges related to the detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related crimes and foreign terrorist fighters in Central Asia. The officer also delivered remarks on behalf of the Secretariat, outlining CICA's relevant frameworks and initiatives.

APK: Assembly of People of Kazakhstan

In May 2014, the CICA Secretariat and the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan (APK) signed a Memorandum of Understanding, granting the APK the status of Partner Organization of CICA.

On 24 April 2025, a CICA Secretariat representative participated in the 34th session of the Assembly, held in Astana under the chairmanship of President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev. The session was dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the APK.

Earlier, on 25 February 2025, Deputy Secretary General Zhang Ling attended a creative youth project titled "Folk&Art Performance", organized by the APK Secretariat in cooperation with the Assembly's youth wing.

EAEU: Eurasian Economic Union / EEC: Eurasian Economic Commission

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) was signed in 2022.

To this date, the Secretariat and the Commission continue the work on the draft Plan of Action on implementing the MoU. Following an expert meeting on 9 December 2024, the draft Plan was revised by CICA Member States and forwarded to the EEC on 6 May 2025. A response is currently pending.

On 26 June 2025 Secretary General Kairat Sarybay met with EEC Chairman Bakytzhan Sagintayev in Minsk. Most recently, the CICA SG met with the Chairman Sagintayev on the sidelines of 2025 SCO Summit in Tianjin. The parties agreed to accelerate finalization of the draft Plan of Action, explore potential joint projects and support each other's activities in the economic sphere.

The EEC may consider contributing to the CICA Secretariat's e-book project, "SME Landscape in Asia: Interactive Guidebook," aimed at promoting inclusive economic development in the region.

POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ESCAP: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

A draft Memorandum of Understanding was approved by CICA Member States in 2024, ESCAP requested further justification for its conclusion. Both sides agreed to explore a joint project under the CICA Fund to support this process.

CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay participated in and delivered remarks at the 81st session of ESCAP, held on 21–23 April 2025 in Bangkok. On 23 April, he held a bilateral meeting with ESCAP Executive Secretary Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana to discuss the formalization of relations between the two organizations.

Additionally, an ESCAP expert took part in the CICA side event on "Water Security and Climate Resilience," held on 29 May 2025 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan,

on the margins of the High-Level International Conference on Glaciers' Preservation.

There is potential in developing a joint project in the areas of transport connectivity and digitalization and continuing to work toward the conclusion of a formal MoU. Possible avenues of cooperation include mutual participation in events such as the 13th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok and the 82nd ESCAP session in Baku. A CICA-ESCAP side event could also take place as part of the 82nd session agenda.

UNOCT: United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

The SOC approved establishing partnership relations between the CICA Secretariat and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) in April 2024.

On 22 January 2025, an online meeting was held between representatives of the CICA Secretariat and UNOCT. Discussions focused on upcoming UNOCT events, potential CICA participation and the development of a memorandum of understanding, which is currently under consideration by the CICA Member States.

On 4 March 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay delivered a video statement at the UNOCT Ambassadorial-level Briefing to Member States.

Subsequently, on 25 June 2025, CICA SG also addressed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Retreat, which focused on strengthening regional partnerships. In his remarks, he emphasized the evolving nature of the terrorist threat and reaffirmed CICA's commitment to multilateral cooperation. He highlighted the organization's contributions through its Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures and the 2022 CICA Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

In 2021, the SOC approved Kazakhstan's proposal to initiate cooperation with ASEAN. In response, the ASEAN Secretariat informed that collaboration with

the CICA Secretariat may proceed on an ad-hoc basis without the need for a formal memorandum of understanding.

On 20 May 2025, an online meeting was held between the Secretariats of CICA and ASEAN at the level of Deputy Secretaries General. During the meeting, the parties exchanged information on the history, structure and operational functions of their respective organizations, with particular attention to human resources and budgetary practices. It was mutually agreed to maintain regular contact through an inter-secretariat dialogue format.

The ASEAN Secretariat suggested several conferences and meetings where CICA Secretariat experts could potentially participate. The CICA Secretariat sustains regular exchanges between the two Secretariats to identify thematic areas for practical cooperation.

On the sidelines of the recent SCO Summit, the CICA SG and Mr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary General of ASEAN, briefly exchanged views on further engagement and collaboration.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PLATFORMS

APA: Asian Parliamentary Assembly

On 19 February 2025, at the invitation of the Azerbaijani Chairmanship, the CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay participated in the 15th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), held in Baku under the theme “Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Asia.”

In his address, the Secretary General underscored the priorities of the Azerbaijani Chairmanship, particularly the emphasis on expanding partnerships with international and regional organizations. He highlighted CICA’s ongoing institutional transformation and emphasized the importance of parliamentary diplomacy in building regional trust and fostering cooperation. He also expressed interest in deepening ties with the APA, building on its cooperation with TURKPA.

The APA has acknowledged CICA as a relevant regional organization in its resolutions, noting the potential for enhanced cooperation in areas such as combating illicit drug trafficking and addressing transnational threats. This recognition reflects CICA's growing role in APA's broader network of strategic multilateral partnerships.

ACD: Asia Cooperation Dialogue

On 26 March 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay held a bilateral meeting with ACD Secretary General Nasser Riden Thamer Al-Motairi on the sidelines of the Boao Forum for Asia in China. The two Secretaries General discussed a number of practical issues of mutual concern.

Al-Motairi expressed his readiness to facilitate a potential visit by the CICA Secretary General to Kuwait City and the ACD Headquarters, as well as CICA's possible participation in ACD events in Thailand, subject to invitation from the Thai Chairmanship. In turn, CICA SG extended an invitation for his ACD counterpart to visit the CICA Secretariat in Astana to further explore avenues for cooperation, particularly in the area of regional connectivity.

BIMSTEC: Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

On 23 April 2025, CICA Secretary General Kairat Sarybay held a bilateral meeting with BIMSTEC Secretary General Indra Mani Pandey. The discussion focused on recent developments within both organizations, including outcomes of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit.

The two sides exchanged views on regional connectivity, food and energy security and shared approaches to emerging transnational challenges.

IOFS: Islamic Organization for Food Security

On 17 January 2025, a Senior Officer of the CICA Secretariat held a meeting with representatives of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) Secretariat to discuss potential areas of cooperation between the two organizations.

On 7 March 2025, the first-ever project under the CICA Fund was approved by its Project Review Committee. The project “Advancing Wheat Cultivation for Sustainable Development in Central Afghanistan” was proposed by the Republic of Kazakhstan, with a total budget of USD 53,250. It was jointly developed by CICA and IOFS and co-funded by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), the CICA Fund and the IOFS. The first-ever contribution to the CICA Fund, made earlier by the Republic of Iraq, was allocated to this initiative. The project provided 15 metric tons of certified spring wheat seeds and 45 metric tons of fertilizers to 300 vulnerable farmers in central Afghanistan, supporting communities facing ongoing humanitarian crises and natural hazards. On 28 August 2025, the CICA SG met with Mr. Berik Aryn, Director General of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) to discuss prospects for further cooperation.

CONCLUSION

The period from the last Ministerial Council meeting in December to the present has witnessed a marked intensification of the CICA Secretariat’s engagement with international organizations and platforms in accordance with the strategic priorities of the Azerbaijani Chairmanship for 2024–2026. The Secretariat has actively fostered dialogue, expanded partnerships and explored new areas of collaboration across a broad range of thematic dimensions, laying a robust foundation for future endeavours.

These efforts have directly contributed to enhancing CICA’s visibility, relevance and value as an inclusive platform for multilateral cooperation in Asia. The interactions outlined in this report reflect CICA’s ongoing commitment to building synergy with like-minded organizations and jointly addressing common challenges through cooperative initiatives, thereby solidifying CICA's international visibility.

The Secretariat will remain guided by the collective will of the Member States and the strategic vision of the Chairmanship, reaffirming its readiness to further strengthen these partnerships in a practical, result-oriented manner, ensuring sustained impact and mutual benefit.