



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

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

**№DOC/779**

*Enclosure:  
as stated,  
on 10 p.*

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 the decisions and documents approved at the Senior Official Committee meeting on 27 June 2024.

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

Astana, 27 June 2024



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



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**№DOC/779**

*Приложение:  
упомянутое,  
на 10 л.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь препроводить решения и документы, утвержденные на заседании Комитета старших должностных лиц 27 июня 2024 года.

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

город Астана, 27 июня 2024 года



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

Қосымша:  
аталған,  
10п.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (Азия Кеңесінің) Хатшылығы Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, 2024 жылғы 27 маусымда өткен Аға лауазымды тұлғалар комитетінің отырысында мақұлданған шешімдер мен құжаттарды жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, Азия Кеңесіне мүше мемлекеттерге өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Астана қаласы, 2024 жылғы 27 маусым

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ  
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНЕ  
МҮШЕ МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕР**



## DECISIONS OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

The Senior Officials Committee (SOC) at its meeting in Astana on 27 June 2024 held in a hybrid format agreed on the following:

1. The SOC has conducted the annual review of the implementation of CICA confidence building measures (CBMs) with focus on the human dimension and encouraged Member States to engage in voluntary implementation of CBM events in this dimension. The SOC noted the possibility of including cooperation on promoting volunteerism and youth engagement in the CICA area into the CICA CBMs.
2. The SOC welcomed the presentation by the Chairmanship of the initial drafts of the CICA Charter and updated CICA Rules of Procedure. The SOC agreed to work under Clusters 1 and 4 of the Road Map for CICA Transformation (RMT) on the basis of these drafts.
3. The SOC welcomed the progress achieved by the Chairmanship under Cluster 3 of the RMT *“Defining the international status of the Secretariat contracted personnel, including amendments to the Host Country Agreement”*.
4. The SOC noted the progress made by the Member States under Cluster 2 of the RMT and the importance of achieving consensus on the draft Ministerial Council decision on modalities of implementation of CICA CBMs (MC/2023/DRAFT/4/Rev.2 of 22 August 2023).
5. The SOC approved, subject to a silence procedure with the deadline until 11 July 2024, 12 noon by the Astana time, the draft High-Level Statement of the CICA Ministerial Conference on Environmental Issues, to be held on 28 August 2024, for the adoption at the conference.

6. The SOC adopted the Annual Action Plan of the CICA Think Tank Forum for 2024.

7. The SOC approved the concept paper in the priority area “*Security of and in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)*” for 2024-2025.



### **Annual Action Plan of the CICA Think Tank Forum for 2024**

The following activities will be implemented to strengthen exchanges among CICA Think Tank Forum (TTF) members in 2024:

1. The Twelfth CICA Think Tank Forum will be held in September or October 2024. The Forum will focus on issues concerning peace, stability and cooperation in Asia in 2024 and the improvement of the TTF mechanism as well as commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Principles Guiding Relations between the CICA Member States. The Forum will bring together representatives from think tanks of CICA Member States to address CICA's top priorities and provide concrete policy recommendations for the synergistic interaction in different areas of CICA, as well as for the further development of CICA.
2. Several interactive training workshops will be organized and include the participation of CICA veterans (Executive Directors of the CICA Secretariat) and young specialists from think tanks of CICA Member States. Small-scale academic workshops centering around the themes, such as multipolarity, multilateralism and globalization, will be held in accordance with the top priorities on the regional security and cooperation agenda, and serve as a platform for dialogue in areas of energy, food, climate, water resources, economy and trade, digital economy, and youth. TTF members may choose to moderate a workshop on one of the above areas. Key takeaways may be circulated by the Secretariat and the TTF network.
3. A handbook may be created to support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Think tanks of the CICA Member States are

encouraged to leverage their respective expertise, research the experience of effective measures in their own countries to support the development of SMEs and create an e-book for the CICA Business Council members.

4. Information and analytical support to the activities of CICA will be fostered through the contribution of analytical, research and forecast reports from TTF members across all dimensions of CICA. Working reports may include analysis of hotspot issues of Asian security, Asia security outlook and review of 2024, top 10 CICA news events, and others. These research outcomes will be released through social media platforms.

5. The CICA TTF focal points network will be strengthened and expanded in order to facilitate exchange of information. TTF members may share their views and suggestions on CICA and submit their publication information to the Secretariat to produce a catalogue of publications of the TTF member institutions.

6. A thematic dialogue titled “Accelerating Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment” will be held among TTF members. The dialogue aims to provide recommendations for strengthening the position of women in CICA Member States.

7. Concept papers and administrative notes of planned activities will be circulated among CICA Member States and TTF members in advance, including information about organizers and participants, as well as the terms of financial support.

## **Concept paper and plan of implementation of the CICA confidence-building measure "Security of and in the use of ICTs" for 2024-2025**

### **1. Background**

There is an increasing urgency of taking necessary joint measures by the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Member States to shape a peaceful and secure ICT environment, reduce risks of conflicts stemming from ICT-related incidents, and exchange experience and best practices in this area.

The issue of security of and in the use of ICTs was enshrined in the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures, adopted at the CICA Ministerial meeting (Nur-Sultan, 11-12 October 2021).

During the meeting of the CICA Senior Officials Committee (SOC; online, 8 December 2021), Russia was approved as the coordinator, and China as the co-coordinator of the abovementioned confidence-building measure for 2022-2023.

At the SOC regular meeting (Astana, 22 August 2023), the Russian-Chinese coordinatorship was extended until the end of 2025.

During the period 2022-2023, important political and practical results have been achieved through the joint efforts of CICA Member States. The CICA leaders' Statement on Cooperation in the field of Security of and in the Use of ICTs was adopted (Astana, 13 October 2022), enshrining the main approaches to the theme. Russia held online workshops "Sustainable and Secure Development of the Internet" (24 August 2022) and "Digital Forensics" (2-3 October 2023).

### **2. Objectives of the confidence-building measure**

This confidence-building measure is aimed at developing interaction and strengthening cooperation between the CICA Member States on a wide range of issues of ensuring security of and in the use of ICTs, including:



a) Promoting open, secure, accessible and peaceful ICT environment in Asia on the basis of mutual respect, strengthening contacts and exchanges, deepening dialogue and cooperation, fighting against threats resulting from the malicious use of ICTs.

b) Promoting dialogue on confidence-building, stability and risk reduction in the field of security of and in the use of ICTs among CICA Member States.

c) Recognizing the importance of peaceful use of ICTs by reducing misunderstanding between the CICA Member States, promoting trust and confidence.

d) Sharing information, best practices and raising awareness in the field of security of and in the use of ICTs to address the threats stemming from the use of ICTs.

e) Improving cooperation to respond to the criminal use of ICTs based on an internationally agreed legal framework.

### **3. Implementation of the confidence-building measure**

The CICA Member States shall, on a voluntarily basis, share their approaches and experience, as well as concerns related to security of and in the use of ICTs and enhancing the resilience of Internet connectivity.

### **4. Proposed initiatives**

1. Workshop on exchanging experience in the field of countering the use of ICTs for criminal purposes;

2. Workshop on raising awareness in the field of security of and in the use of ICTs to counter threats in this area.

**HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENT OF THE CICA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

*Astana, 28 August 2024*

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We, the Ministers responsible for environmental affairs and high-level representatives of the Member States of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), convened in Astana for the CICA Ministerial Conference on Environmental Issues on 28 August 2024, at the invitation of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan,

Expressing gratitude to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev for his visionary initiative during the Sixth CICA Summit to hold this Conference,

Reaffirming our commitment to addressing the urgent environmental challenges facing the CICA region within the framework of sustainable development goals,

Mindful of our common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities to preserve, protect and improve our environment for the present and future generations, stressing the importance of fostering cooperation and implementing effective measures to address pressing environmental issues recognizing that Asia's diversity and rich potential in natural resources requires collaborative efforts to ensure the conservation of our natural resources and mitigation of environmental risks as well as adaptation to such risks,

Emphasizing cooperation in confronting climate disasters before and after they occur and delivering humanitarian and environmental aid to citizens of countries,

Encouraging CICA Member States to share learnings, best practices and ideas from regional projects to confront the negative effects of climate change and

biodiversity loss and pollution, holding conferences and seminars for CICA countries to enhance environmental cooperation,

Recognizing the vulnerability of many CICA Member States to climate change, stressing collective action on the basis of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement, urging developed countries to provide new financial sources to finance adaptation and mitigation measures of CICA countries,

Acknowledging the comprehensive significance of a green and sustainable economy in the context of sustainable development, strongly committing to adopting measures to increase ecological awareness and cultivate ecological culture, striving to exchange knowledge, best practices and practical experiences on circular economy and enhance cooperation for sustainable development goals in a balanced and integrated manner under the CICA platform, while recognizing the special capacities and capabilities of developing countries in this regard.

Emphasizing the critical importance of multilateral cooperation and knowledge exchange among CICA Member States, including the regional implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and Global Framework on Chemicals among the interested parties.

Reiterating the importance of addressing the pressing challenges posed by all forms of pollution in our communities, we encourage the implementation of environmentally friendly solutions, including the Zero Waste Initiative, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities.

Emphasizing the critical nature of clean water, climate resilience in the water sector, as well as marine and coastal ecosystem conservation, stressing the

importance of continuous efforts for restoration of coastal ecosystem for coastal protection as well as enhancing integrated and sustainable water management related to environment at all appropriate levels through extensive exchange of best practices.

Encouraging the strengthening of cooperation in the field of adaptation, especially the agriculture, health, and water sectors, to achieve water sustainability, food security and nutrition and good health for all countries.

DECIDED TO CHART THE FUTURE COURSE OF OUR COOPERATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. Acknowledging the vital need for proactive and sustained efforts in addressing the pressing environmental issues facing our region, consistent sharing of best practices, and fostering regular meetings between relevant ministries or agencies, we believe it could be beneficial to foster cooperation between the CICA Member States in the field of environment.
2. We commit to strengthening cooperation in the field of water management related to environment, including capacity building and mutual technological transfer especially in line with the sustainable development goals.
3. Understanding the gravity of climate change and its cross-cutting impact on our region, we affirm our commitment to engage in exchange of experiences, best practices and achievements to tackle climate change and its impact and adaptation within the purview of UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement and in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. These actions will address the negative consequences of environmental factors and engage all relevant stakeholders in a collective effort to promote environmental awareness in the CICA region.
4. We intend to improve the quality of life and health and to promote the exchange of experiences on climate change mitigation and adaptation,

reversing biodiversity loss, sustainable water management related to environment, ecosystem management and pollution control.

5. We commit to supporting CICA Member States in achieving their environmental goals and to promoting sustainability in our nations.

In conclusion, we reiterate our commitment to the principles of CICA and our common but differentiated responsibilities to address environmental and climate challenges. This High-level statement serves as a testament to our collective determination to create a sustainable future for the CICA region.

Astana, 28 August 2024