



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

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

№SOC/OI/430

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 draft minutes of the Senior Officials Committee (SOC) meeting held on 30 March 2022 for comments and suggestions from Member States to be received by 14 April 2022.

*Enclosure:
as stated,
on 11 p.*

Statements by the Chairpersons of the SOC and the Executive Director delivered at the meeting are available on the Secretariat website. With reference to the SOC Chair's request made at the meeting, the Secretariat kindly reminds Member States that they may wish to share their statements with the Secretariat for the use by the Chairmanship or for circulation to all Member States via the website.

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

Nur-Sultan, 8 April 2022

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





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AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

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*Приложение:
упомянутое,
на 11 л.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь препроводить проект протокола заседания Комитета старших должностных лиц (КСДЛ) состоявшегося 30 марта 2022 года для получения комментариев и предложений государств-членов до 14 апреля 2022 года.

Выступления Председателей КСДЛ и Исполнительного директора на заседании доступны на веб-сайте Секретариата. Ссылаясь на просьбу Председателя КСДЛ, озвученную на заседании, Секретариат любезно напоминает государствам-членам, что они могут при желании поделиться своими выступлениями для использования Председательством или распространения всем государствам-членам через вебсайт.

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

город Нур-Султан, 8 апрель 2022 г.

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



Қосымша:
аталған 11 п.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (АӨСШК) Хатшылығы АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, 2022 жылдың 14 сәуіріне дейін мүше мемлекеттердің түсіндірмелері мен ұсыныстарын алу үшін 2022 жылғы 30 наурызда өткен Аға лауазымды тұлғалар комитеті (АЛТК) отырысы хаттамасының жобасын жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

АЛТК Төрағаларының және Атқарушы Директордың отырыстағы мәлімдемелері Хатшылықтың веб-сайтында жарияланған. АЛТК Төрағасының отырыста айтылған өтінішіне сілтеме жасай отырып, Хатшылық Төрағалықтың қолдануы мақсатында мүше мемлекеттердің қалауы бойынша өздерінің мәлімдемелерімен бөлісе отырып, веб-сайт арқылы барлық мүше мемлекеттерге тарата алатынын еске салады.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Нұр-Сұлтан қаласы, 2022 жылғы 8 сәуір

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНІҢ МҮШЕ
МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРІ**



Secretariat

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING on 30 March 2022 (hybrid format)

The Senior Officials Committee (SOC) Meeting was held on 30 March 2022 in Nur-Sultan in a hybrid format. H.E. Mr. Shakhrat Nuryshev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Mr. Talgat Kaliyev, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, chaired the meeting.

The draft agenda, draft annotated agenda, adopted agenda (SOC/2022-I/Agenda/1 of 17 February 2022, SOC/2022-I/Agenda/2 of 18 March 2022, SOC/2022-I/Agenda/3 of 30 March 2022) and the decisions taken (SOC/2022-I/DEC/1 of 30 March 2022) were circulated to the Member States and are available on the Secretariat's website.

Statements by the Chairperson of the SOC (SOC/2022-I/CHAIR/2 of 4 April 2022 and SOC/2022-I/CHAIR/2 of 4 April 2022) and the Executive Director (SOC/2022-I/SEC/1 of 4 April 2022) are also available on the website.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The draft agenda of this SOC meeting was issued on 17 February 2022 and contained item 2 "Recommendation on granting the CICA Member State status to Kuwait". The annotated agenda with containing additional information under each agenda item was issued on 18 March 2022, without changes to the original draft agenda.

The Russian Federation requested to remove item 2 from the agenda. It proposed to introduce a temporary moratorium on considering any new applications for the status of CICA Member State, Observer or Partner for the period of transformation of CICA. It argued that transformation process might result in a new organization and it would not be correct to do both things simultaneously. The Russian Federation referred to its experience of joining the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) as dialogue partner in 2021. This process

was delayed by one year due to impending changes in the regulations for members and partners of the organization.

The Chairperson, Mr. Nuryshev, noted that there had been no objections on the draft agenda since its issuance and he urged Russia to reconsider its request. He also noted that the SOC meeting would anyway consider the application by Kuwait in principle and the final decision would be taken by silence procedure. He proposed that, following consideration of the issue at the meeting, the silence procedure could be launched later, as soon as major elements of transformation are clarified. The Chairperson's suggestion, as well as Kuwait's application, were supported by Jordan and Palestine, which agreed that transformation should not be an obstacle to the expansion of CICA.

The Russian Federation however insisted on removal of the agenda item, noting that the organization might seriously change after transformation and the Russian Federation was not ready to consider new membership applications until it received clear understanding of parameters of the future organization.

Based on the consensus rule, the agenda was adopted without item "Recommendation on granting the CICA Member State status to Kuwait".

2. Thematic discussion on the concept of transformation of CICA into an international organization for regional security and cooperation in Asia

The Chairperson, Mr. Nuryshev, requested the Committee members to hold substantive discussions on transformation of CICA. He noted that the proceeding of the meeting would bring insights for substantive preparations for the upcoming CICA anniversary Summit in Nur-Sultan to be held on 12-13 October 2022. He also sought Member States' views on the presented course of action towards implementation of the initiative both in long term and short term. The subject of the thematic discussion was "Concept of transformation of CICA into an international organization for regional security and cooperation in Asia" (SOC/2022-I/CHAIR/1 of 16 February 2022). The Chairman referred to the thematic discussion on "Growing role of Asia in international affairs and related adaptation of CICA" at the SOC meeting on 23 June 2021 and recalled strong support of the Member States for further strengthening of the forum.

Mr. Nuryshev stated that the conceptual approaches to transformation proposed in the Chairmanship's initial paper on this subject had been considered in the second half of 2021, and no objections were made. At the SOC meeting on 8 December 2021 the Chair had presented its plans to prepare a concept of transformation and hold structured discussions at various tracks and levels.

The Chair proposed three actions to be taken at the Summit in 2022: changing the name of the forum; announcing the launch of the transformation process; reiterating commitment to the UN Charter and to all CICA principles and objectives, in particular those contained in the Declaration on the Principles Guiding Relations between the CICA Member States and the Almaty Act.

India appreciated Kazakhstan's efforts, as Chair, in putting together the concept of transformation of CICA into an international organization. India valued the principles of gradual and incremental transformation and the step by step process with medium- and long-term goals and without altering goals, objectives and methods of CICA. It also appreciated the concept's recognition of the consensus rule of decision-making and voluntary nature of participation in CBM implementation.

India stressed the importance of CICA's focus on common objectives of advancing peace and prosperity in all CICA Member States, on addressing common economic development challenges, and on promoting cooperation in socio-economic and humanitarian spheres. Referring to the post-Covid situation and current issues around multilateralism, India noted the need for CICA to focus on building trust in addressing these economic challenges and on looking at ways to prevail in the situation of increased divisiveness on the global arena. It also welcomed the concept's focus on positive agenda based on shared interests by all Member States and on strengthening effectiveness and efficiency of CICA.

India noted the need to continue discussion on the issue of transformation and would engage in it and look into details. India also shared some thoughts on how to capture the nature of the organization in its name, suggesting words "security and cooperation in Asia" or "cooperation and security in Asia" without "regional", or retaining the word "interaction", and proposed calling it "Organization for Interaction and Cooperation in Asia".

China stressed its readiness to seriously consider the transformation of CICA on the basis consensus, as it was an important matter of future development of CICA. China noted that it was currently conducting internal review of all aspects of CICA transformation, including proclaiming it an organization and renaming the Summit and Ministerial Meetings into Councils at the Sixth CICA Summit.

Turkey requested India to circulate its statement. It noted that, as a founding Member of CICA, it always supported strengthening of CICA. Turkey expressed strong support in principle to transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization. It welcomed the concept paper on transformation, particularly the proposed gradual approach. Turkey was examining ideas

contained in the text, including from legal perspective, would proceed on the basis of realistic objectives and timelines, and would constructively contribute to the process to be launched by the Chairmanship. Turkey inquired how the Chair envisaged to proceed with concrete steps, and would it establish working groups or continue deliberations at the SOC.

Mr. Nuryshev replied that on the basis of views expressed at the meeting the Chairmanship would develop additional documents and, as necessary, convene special working groups and SOC meetings and continue bilateral consultations at all levels and with involvement of the Executive Director. He stressed that the Chair was open to studying any further proposals on the concept paper and would pursue an open dialogue.

Pakistan deeply appreciated the concept paper and considered it very well argued. Pakistan stressed that in principle it had no objection to the transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization and no problem with going along with transformation. It noted that the gradual and incremental manner of transformation was very well outlined in the paper. Pakistan emphasized that the paper accurately highlighted the fact that CICA was already at the level of an organization because of its structure, working methods, foundational documents and the whole body of precedents and work done over the past 30 years. Pakistan also underlined that transformation should be carried out on the basis of mutual understanding and consensus, and that it would be a very willing partner in that endeavour.

Azerbaijan noted its strong commitment to the CICA process as a founding Member and to continuous strengthening of effectiveness and efficiency of CICA. It argued that transformation was not only inevitable but was a reality and necessity, because evolution is part of real life of any international structure or organization due to continuous changes in international relations and new challenges. Azerbaijan noted that the concept paper eloquently presented the evolution and structural development of CICA since its inception, showing that CICA had already been engaged in continuous transformation and should continue on this path.

Azerbaijan emphasized its support to the Chair's proposals on transformation, in particular to the gradual and incremental approach and to preserving the foundations of the CICA platform, such as commitment to the UN Charter, Almaty Act and consensus principle. Azerbaijan stressed the need for transparent and inclusive deliberations and supported the Chair's intention to seek contributions from the CICA Think Tank Forum and Council of Eminent Persons. Azerbaijan stated that the process should not have artificial deadlines and should strengthen solidarity but not create dividing lines. Azerbaijan wished the Kazakh Chairmanship success in making CICA a more efficient,

important and valuable platform in Asia and stressed its readiness to constructively contribute to the transformation process as much as it can.

The Chairperson thanked Azerbaijan for strong support and noted that Chairmanship would use different platforms for structured discussion of transformation, especially the Council of Eminent Persons. Stressing that this is a unique mechanism within CICA, the Chairperson urged Member States to nominate candidates for this advisory body.

Jordan emphasized its full support to the Chairmanship's proposal on transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization and to the concept paper. It noted that Jordan's support had earlier been expressed by its Foreign Minister to the Executive Director and to the Chairmanship. Jordan also welcomed the Chair's intention to convene separate SWG meetings to deliberate on this issue at the expert level and would welcome hearing views of other Member States.

The Russian Federation expressed strong support to the proposal by Kazakhstan to engage in serious and intensive discussion of CICA transformation and its adaptation to the changing world. It supported making CICA a powerful full-fledged organization with widest geographic dimension. The Russian Federation recalled its continuous support to strengthening the practical component of the CICA platform and will look at transformation from the perspective of enhancing practical output from CICA and real contribution from each Member.

Noting that the world is changing and CICA should change together with it, the Russian Federation proposed that the entire CICA mechanism, its rich experience and solid basis should be carefully and critically examined at the start of transformation to determine what should be improved to strengthen CICA's practical impact. The Russian Federation suggested to consider the balance between security issues and other areas of interaction and cooperation on CICA agenda. It suggested to explore if the current emphasis on CBM implementation should be preserved or focus should be shifted to other areas, such as new challenges, development issues or specific thematic areas, with a view to achieving new quality.

The Russian Federation stressed that issues of financial support of CICA activities and budgeting must be considered as part of or in parallel with the transformation process. It noted the importance of examining if current working mechanisms were sufficient for new tasks or new forms were needed. The Russian Federation proposed to examine functional rights and obligations of Member States of a future organization and to consider seriously the "external contour" of CICA, namely observers and partner organizations, as in

view of the Russian Federation, not all of them could be carried forward to the new organization.

The Russian Federation proposed that the Chairmanship consider setting up separate thematic groups for various directions of transformation under general political guidance of the SOC. Noting that the transformation process would be complicated and lengthy, the Russian Federation was hesitant about feasibility of defining contours of transformation before the 2022 Summit and expressed thought that active work should start right after it in order to conclude by the following Summit. However, it expressed readiness to make an effort to accelerate the process. The Russian Federation noted that simple renaming of CICA with minimal adaptation and changes would probably not correspond to the serious task of establishing a new transcontinental cooperation organization. Finally, it called on all other Member States to clearly state at this SOC meeting if they were ready to move towards creation of a new organization.

Mr. Nuryshev appreciated support by the Russian Federation and agreed that different working groups on different topics, such as finance and budget, operational activities or structural reforms, could be created. The Chairperson requested all Member States to send their ideas and suggestions on transformation in writing after this SOC meeting.

Palestine expressed full support to transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization, stressing its maturity, potential and relevance as a very much needed multilateral platform. Palestine recalled that its support had earlier been expressed by its Foreign Minister to the Executive Director.

Sri Lanka expressed its support for and stressed importance of transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization, and agreed with India's views regarding transformation. Sri Lanka shared with its understanding of the two components of an organization delineated in the concept paper - "regional security" and "cooperation in Asia". Sri Lanka expressed firm conviction that both components were vital pillars and attributes of economic advancement leading to prosperity in the entire region.

The Chairperson thanked all delegations and observed that there has been broad support to the Chairmanship's concept of transformation, including to the proposed course of action and to the launch of the transformation process at the upcoming CICA Summit.

The Chairperson stressed that the content and the form of the main outcome document of the Sixth CICA Summit should be commensurate with the historic importance of the launch of the transformation process and should give a

strong political impetus to the renewal of the organization. He further proposed adoption by the Summit of a high-level document of a general nature and overarching scope, with comprehensive but not detailed coverage of all basic features of our organization, with the title *“Nur-Sultan Charter: Towards a New Asia in the New World”*.

He noted that in the preparation of an initial draft of the Nur-Sultan Charter, the Chair would make best use of views shared in the SOC and would engage in bilateral consultations with Member States regarding the text which could be presented at the next SOC meeting in June for collective drafting by the Member States.

3. Any other business

(a) Update on preparations for the CICA Summit in 2022

Mr. Talgat Kaliyev, Ambassador-at-Large, Co-Chair of the SOC, briefed on the preparation of the CICA Summit to be held on 12-13 October 2022. He informed about the status of the decision-making process on invitation of observers and guests. Regarding the organizational aspects of the CICA Summit, he informed that the Summit preparation meeting and tour around the main sites of the event would be carried out in July – August 2022. The information on organizational and protocol related matters would be distributed through the CICA Secretariat in May-June and that would include preliminary programme, draft agenda and general information on the format of hospitality, time limit for statements depending on the level of participation, restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other organizational matters. Chairmanship and CICA Secretariat are planning to launch online registration of the CICA Summit delegates on the separate section of the CICA Secretariat’s official website. Details will be provided in due course.

(b) Update on nominations to the CICA Council of Eminent Persons

Mr. Talgat Kaliyev mentioned that following the adoption of the Regulations on the CICA Council of Eminent Persons by the Sixth CICA Ministerial Meeting, the Member States unanimously approved the candidature of the Founder of CICA – First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev as Head of the Council of Eminent Persons on 27 October 2021. He informed that 12 candidates nominated by all Member States to the Council of Eminent Persons were from Cambodia, China, Egypt, Jordan, India, Iran, Israel, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Mongolia and Qatar. Candidates are former foreign ministers, members of parliament, ambassadors, prominent political and public figures. Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Jordan, India, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan nominated their candidates to the Advisory Group, a subsidiary

structure within the Council of Eminent Persons. The subsequent nominations to the Council and its Advisory Group would be considered and approved by SOC at the next SOC meeting in June or through the silence procedure.

(c) Update on the status of ratification of the CICA Convention on the Privileges and Immunities

Mr. Talgat Kaliyev reported that the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Secretariat, its Personnel and Representatives of Members of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia of 2010 is a fundamental document facilitating the activities of CICA by granting immunities and privileges to the Secretariat. The text and provisions of the Convention were approved and signed by our Heads of State or Government at the CICA Summit in Istanbul in 2010. The Convention has not yet entered into force due to the insufficient number of Member States that have ratified it. He said that only 7 Member States have so far been ratified the Convention.

Mr. Talgat Kaliyev called on all the Member States, who have not signed and ratified the Convention, to do this as soon as possible. He noted that the entry into force of the Convention before the upcoming 30th anniversary Summit in October 2022 would be a significant achievement for the forum. It would be an important contribution to the process of transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization.

(d) Update on the draft regulations of the CICA Fund

Mr. Talgat Kaliyev briefly outlined the general context and the objective of establishing CICA Fund. He highlighted that CICA Fund is one of the important priorities of the Chairmanship. He said that it is an additional voluntary funding mechanism to support achievement of CICA goals, primarily in the implementation of CBMs.

He informed that Revision 1 of the draft regulations of the CICA Fund had been circulated to all Member States on 25 March 2022 (*as document SOC/2021/DRAFT/4/Rev.1*) and that an Expert Meeting would be held on 14 April 2022 to discuss the draft regulations. The concept paper, agenda, registration form have already been circulated on 25 March. He urged the support and cooperation of all Member States for the early finalization of draft Regulations of the CICA Fund keeping in view submission of the document for adoption by the Sixth CICA Summit in October 2022.

The Russian Federation thanked the Chair for reflection of its comments in the draft regulations and would participate at the expert meeting. The Russian Federation suggested that the process of developing CICA Fund regulations

take into account prospective features of a future organization, so that these were reflected in the final decision on the Fund, when such parameters will have been clarified. The Chairperson noted that these issues could be discussed at the Expert Meeting on 14 April 2022 and consolidated in a draft document for subsequent deliberations.

(e) Status of Concept Papers on implementation of CBMs

The Executive Director, Ambassador Sarybay, stated that practical implementation of CBMs is the core activity through which Member States, on a voluntary basis, contribute to strengthening peace, stability and cooperation in Asia. He highlighted the importance of updating the Concept Papers and Action Plans in priority areas within CICA dimensions following the adoption of the updated CICA Catalogue of CBMs by the Ministerial Meeting in October 2021.

Referring to the comments made by the Russian Federation earlier at this SOC meeting, the Executive Director agreed that CICA needs to undertake more activities and more concrete cooperation projects on the ground. He noted that the proposal to establish a CICA fund is also aimed at increasing CICA activities and visibility on the ground. He emphasized the importance of bringing this issue to the attention of the leaders of the CICA Member States.

The Executive Director referred to the current status of the Concept Papers and Action Plans that had been circulated by the Secretariat before this SOC meeting. Out of the total 18 priority areas, the Member States successfully updated Concept Papers and Action Plans in 2 priority areas and are currently developing in 9 priority areas. In 2 priority areas - "Environment protection" and "Natural disaster management" - the concept papers are yet to be elaborated. The conceptual documents in 4 priority areas require updating. These areas are "Combating illicit drugs", "Energy security", "Information technology" and "Sustainable development". The priority area of "Trade and investment" does not have coordinating, co-coordinating countries and the concept paper. Ambassador Sarybay expressed gratitude to all coordinators and coordinators for their efforts in preparing and updating conceptual documents. He also recalled the general guidelines for conducting events on implementation of CICA confidence building measures approved by the SOC last year. He kindly requested all Member States to look into these guidelines and its provisions, which provide a very clear picture on how to conduct CICA events.

The Chairperson informed that the Chairmanship is planning to hold review of implementation of CICA CBMs at the next SOC meeting in June 2022 as a "thematic discussion".

The Russian Federation mentioned that human rights events organized by Uzbekistan such as the Samarkand Forum on Human Rights and the Global Forum on Human Rights Education lack separate CICA segments. Russia also noted the SME course by Thailand on 23 May – 3 June 2022, to which experts from New Zealand were invited as instructors. The Russian Federation stated that CICA members and Thailand have enough competence to hold a CICA event without external instructors.

(f) Annual financial report for 2021

The Executive Director introduced the annual financial report for 2021 circulated via Secretariat Note N° BDG/277 of 11 March 2022, in accordance with relevant provisions of the CICA Financial Rules and Financial Regulations. The annual financial report was submitted together with (1) explanatory note, (2) statement on income, (3) statement on expenditure. The amount of voluntary contributions to the Secretariat in 2021 was 2,061,677 USD. The Secretariat's expenditure for 2021, taking into account exchange rate differences, amounted to 1,106,100 USD. Therefore, the Secretariat's budget savings in 2021 amount to 955,577 USD.

He also said that savings in the 2021 budget were generated due to the following three major factors: (1) Reduced travel of Secretariat staff owing to the pandemic related restrictions; (2) The Secretariat's effective financial management and cost-saving measures; (3) On-line format of a large number of events and event cancellations during the year. The Executive Director reminded that the approved budget for the current year is greater than usual. This is due to additional activities related to CICA's 30th anniversary and the Sixth CICA Summit.

(g) Projects to mark the 30th anniversary of CICA

The Executive Director stressed that the Secretariat have been actively working on several projects dedicated to the 30th anniversary of CICA. He recalled the adoption by the SOC of the Regulations of Anniversary Medal "30 years of CICA" through the silence procedure on 9 March 2022 and encouraged Member States to initiate nominations for award by the Medal/citation until 31 May 2022.

The Executive Director informed that the Secretariat, with great support of the Chairmanship, is continuing its work on several publications dedicated to the 30th anniversary of CICA, including the following.

- Publication of a Commemorative Book would demonstrate the systematic and meticulous work of the Member States and comprehensively reflects the

evolution of CICA.

- A Tourist Guide with eco-destinations of the CICA region was aimed at promoting ecotourism in numerous tourist destinations of the CICA region. So far, 19 Member States have provided information of their beautiful eco-destinations.

- A Collection of Fairy Tales of Asian Nations from the CICA Region was aimed at presenting the national heritage of peoples and respect for cultural values, and trust among young readers. Currently the Secretariat has received fairy tales from 17 Member States.

The Executive Director encouraged all Member States to provide requested materials for all three publications - Commemorative Book, Tourist Guide and Fairy Tales Collection by 15 April 2022.

Adoption of the SOC decisions

Before the closure of the meeting, the SOC adopted the following decisions, which was subsequently circulated as document SOC/2022-I/DEC/1 of 30 March 2022 and is available on the Secretariat website:

Decision: The Senior Officials Committee (SOC) at its meeting on 30 March 2022 agreed on the following:

1. The SOC discussed the concept of transformation of CICA into an international organization for regional security and cooperation in Asia as contained in document SOC/2022-I/CHAIR/1 of 16 February 2022. General support was expressed to proposals of the Chairmanship on the transformation and to the launch of the gradual transformation process at the Sixth CICA Summit in Nur-Sultan on 12-13 October 2022. The SOC agreed on the need to continue discussions on transformation.

2. The SOC took note of the annual financial report for 2021 as circulated by Secretariat Note No. BDG/277 of 11 March 2022.