

# ECOSF participated in the 27th ECO Council of Ministers Meeting

The 27th Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM) convened in Shusha, Republic of Azerbaijan, on October 10, 2023. The esteemed gathering included the Honourable Foreign Ministers/Heads of Delegations from ECO Member States: Republic of Azerbaijan (host), Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and Republic of Uzbekistan. Secretary General Ambassador Khusrav Noziri led the ECO delegation.



President ECOSF presented an overview of the ECOSF's progress. Emphasis was placed on leveraging science, technology, and innovation for regional economic development, aligning with the broader objectives of the ECO.



During the meeting, the Council also adopted "Shusha Declaration" that concisely outlines the sector-wise policy instructions and guidelines of the COM, emphasizing the continued promotion of regional cooperation in multifaceted socioeconomic areas, as well as acceleration in activities for enhancing the worldwide visibility of the ECO. he "Shusha Declaration" serves as a guiding document to steer activities that propel socioeconomic growth within the ECO region.

# High Level Discussion with H. E. Rouhollah Dehghani Firouz Abadi, Iran Vice President for Science, Technology and Knowledge Based Economy

Tehran, September 27, 2023 H. E. Rouhollah Dehghani Firouz Abadi, Iran Vice President for Science, Technology and Knowledge Based Economy, Iran, welcomed the President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi to his office. The meeting was also attended by Dr. Amir-Hossein Mirabadi, Head of the Vice-Presidency's Center for International Science and Technology Interactions, delved into crucial points shaping the future of scientific and technological cooperation.

President ESCOSF provided a comprehensive overview of ECOSF, elucidating its objectives, plans, and programs. Both parties engaged in substantial discussions aimed at enhancing scientific and technological relations, exploring avenues for collaboration.

Emphasis was placed on fostering collaborations between companies, knowledge-based entities, and technological parks within the ECO region. H.E. Vice President proposed the allocation of a substantial fund, totaling US\$1 million, to support joint research projects and programs focusing on scientific and technological advancements in the ECO region. The implementation of this fund encourages contributions from other member states.

The meeting underscored a shared vision for the advancement of science, technology, and knowledge-based initiatives, signaling a collaborative stride towards innovation and regional development.



#### **ECOSF Advocates Green Industrial Growth in Belt and Road Initiative Seminar**



In a session focused on Trade & Industrial Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Engr. Khalil Raza, Programme Manager - Energy & Climate at the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), served as a panelist. The seminar, held on October 12th,

2023, centered around the theme "BRI: Paving the Path to Shared Prosperity" The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Hasan Mohammad Mohsin, Chief Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Islamabad

Engr. Raza, an invited speaker delivered his talk on 'Greening the Belt and Road: The Vision for China-Pakistan Industrial Cooperation in Clean-Tech'. Mr. Raza emphasized the transformative potential of the strategic partnership between China and Pakistan within the Belt and Road Initiative, with a special focus on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). His talk highlighted the significant opportunities for greener industrial growth arising from the manufacturing capabilities of China and the market potential of Pakistan.



#### Other Panelists included:

- Dr. Ghulam Samad, Senior Trade Economist, ADB/CAREC Institute China
- Saud Bangash, Resident Director at the Pakistan Business Council, Islamabad
- Miss Xiang Yang, HoD, China Study Center, NUST, Islamabad
- Raja Aamer Igbal, Ex-President RCCI Rawalpindi

Mr. Raza articulated a vision for the collaboration between China and Pakistan to pave the way for industrial transformative growth. His central message emphasized the importance of leveraging China's undisputed leadership in clean-tech for mutual benefit. Specifically, he highlighted China's prowess in clean tech industries, spanning from solar and wind to electric vehicles and lithium-ion batteries.

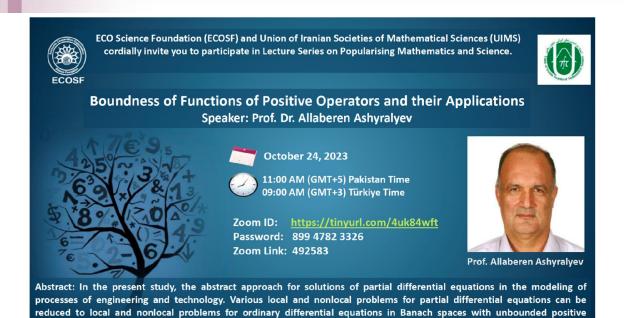
According to Mr. Raza, this collaboration has the potential to be a game-changer for Pakistan, provided the country strategically aligns its efforts. The imperative, as he emphasized, lies in establishing a robust manufacturing and industrial base. Such a foundation, built upon the strengths of both nations, could serve as a catalyst for economic productivity, job creation, and increased exports.

#### Exploring the Realm of Mathematics: ECOSF and UISMS Host Engaging Webinar with Prof. Allaberen Ashyralyev

October 24, 2023 - As part of the Lecture Series on Popularizing Mathematics and Science, jointly hosted by the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) and the Union of Iranian Societies of Mathematical Sciences (UISMS), a webinar entitled "Boundness of Functions of Positive Operators and their Applications" was organized and featured Prof. Allaberen Ashyralyev as the distinguished speaker. The webinar event aimed to explore the profound role of mathematics in various disciplines and its applications. The webinar was moderated by Mr. Khalil Raza, Programme Manager ECOSF.

Prof. Ashyralyev delivered a compelling presentation on the Boundness of Functions of Positive Operators and their Applications, shedding light on the practical implications of mathematical theories. The engaging talk not only demonstrated the depth of mathematical understanding but also underscored its relevance in solving real-world challenges.

The subsequent question and answer session provided a platform for participants to interact with Prof. Ashyralyev directly. The queries raised touched upon the challenges of applying mathematics in complex and unpredictable systems, ethical considerations in mathematical research, and the evolving nature of mathematical models. Prof. Ashyralyev's insightful responses added depth to the discussions, fostering a greater understanding of the subject.



# The Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) of Iran and ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) signed Memorandum of Understanding

operator. The boundness of functions of some positive operators is considered.

The Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) of Iran and ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on September 30, 2023. The signing ceremony took place in Tehran, Iran, which was conducted by SMUMS Chancellor Prof. Arash Khojasteh and ECOSF President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi at the Smart University of Medical Sciences. Dr. Sayed Ahmad Ahmadi, Vice Chancellor of International Affairs of SMUMS, Dr. Babak Sabet, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dr. Haniyeh Zehtab, Vice Chancellor of Infrastructure Affairs, and Dr. Shahriar Eslamitabar legal director of SMUMS attended the signatory ceremony.



This MoU will lead to ECOSF and SMUMS working closely, as they are both committed to an ongoing relationship to engage in collaborative and joint scientific and technological activities while leveraging respective strengths to undertake research and exchange programmes among the 10 ECO member countries, viz., Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

# President ECOSF visited Center for International Scientific Studies and Collaboration (CISSC) for development of collaboration between CISSC and ECOSF

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF and Dr. Masoud Masoud Sadri Nasab, Director of the Center for International Scientific Studies & Collaboration (CISSC) met on September 26, 2023 with the aim of expanding scientific and international exchanges. Dr. Nasser Farrokhi, the Deputy Director for International Scientific Affairs, and Mr. Gholamhossein Toloyan, the Executive Deputy Director for the center, attended the meeting. President Tayebi provided an introduction to ECOSF including its objectives, plans, and programs.

The two parties discussed the importance of international cooperation and emphasized ample opportunities for establishing scientific collaboration in the ECO region. Both sides



expressed hope that the development of scientific cooperation and exchanges could serve as the basis for positive developments in the region and the improvement of mutual relations.

The CISSC plays an institutional role in implementing selected science and technology (S&T) agreements signed by Iran's MSRT and academic institutions worldwide, with the goal of enhancing international collaborations and fostering effective partnerships.

#### Strengthening Scientific Collaboration: President ECOSF Visits ANAS President

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), conducted a strategic visit to the Azerbaijani National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) on October 8, 2023 engaging in high-level discussions with ANAS President, Academician, Prof. Jesus Habibbagli.



Academician Prof. Jesus Habibbagli highlighted ANAS's successful collaborations on the global stage, emphasizing the institution's commitment to international scientific partnerships, including its ongoing collaboration with ECOSF.

President Tayebi expressed ECOSF's steadfast interest in fostering a lasting scientific partnership with Azerbaijan. He encouraged active involvement from Azerbaijani scientists in ECOSF initiatives, aligning with the foundation's mandate to advance science, technology, and innovation. Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to continuous scientific discussions, identifying strategic focal points for future collaboration.



#### **President ECOSF visited OIETAI**

A visit from the Organization of Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran (OIETAI) was conducted on September 27, accompanied by a meeting with H.E. Dr. Ali Fekri, Deputy Minister and Head of OIETAI. During the meeting, President ESCOSF provided an introduction to ECOSF, outlining its objectives, plans, and programs.

Both parties engaged in discussions regarding the considerable potential for enhancing economic relations and investment in the ECO region. ECOSF and OIETAI recognized the opportunities for collaboration in contributing to economic development.



# Development of international regional cooperation between ECO Science Foundation and Sharif University of Technology (SUT)

Prof. Dr. Seyed Kamil Tayebi, President of ECOSF, visited Sharif University of Technology (SUT) in Tehran on September 27, 2023. During the visit, he engaged in discussions with Prof. Dr. Rasool Jalili, the President of Sharif University of Technology, the university Board of Directors, and a group of professors to enhance collaboration between ECOSF and SUT.

In this meeting, both parties explored the potential for joint educational and research cooperation, deciding to establish a joint committee to facilitate follow-up on actionable plans. The President of Sharif University suggested hosting a meeting of ECO vice-chancellors, rectors, and presidents of universities in coordination with ECOSF.

Additionally, Professor Madjid Abbaspour, the Head of the Executive and Scientific Committee of the first International Conference on Energy, Resiliency, and Sustainability (ICERS2024) scheduled for April, 2024, extended an invitation to ECOSF for participation.



# ECOSF participated in an Inauguration of Mustafa Prize Congress in Isfahan

The inauguration ceremony of the Mustafa Prize 5th edition was held on September 30, 2023. in Isfahan Province, central Iran. The ceremony was participated by Iran's President, Ebrahim Raisi, academicians, authorities, and 150 scientists of the Islamic world. The President ECOSF attended the ceremony.

The Mustafa Prize is awarded to Muslim scientists and its goal is to identify and introduce the top scientific, technological and innovative figures in the Islamic world and make a network of Muslim scientist.



Page 7

#### Mayor of Isfahan, Dr. Ali Ghasemzadeh hosted President ECOSF

Dr. Ali Ghasemzadeh, graciously hosted a meeting with the President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) at the Tuba Garden on September 29, 2023. The meeting was attended by a member of the City Council and other distinguished participants.

President ECOSF provided a detailed briefing on the foundation's ongoing activities and programs, outlining its initiatives for regional development and scientific cooperation.

A significant focus was placed on ECOSF's pivotal role in the Global Digital Economy. The mayor showcased a video illustrating the impact and contributions of ECOSF in this dynamic global landscape.

Both parties explored the prospect of strengthening sister relations between Isfahan and Lahore. The potential for cultural, economic, and academic exchanges was discussed as a means to foster collaboration and understanding between the two cities.



#### President ECOSF visited Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), recently visited Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT) in Tehran. During his visit, he met with Prof. Dr. Alireza Rahi, the President of AUT. The meeting was also attended by Prof. Dr. Roohollah Bagherzadeh, Director of Scient ific and International Cooperation, and Ms. Zohreh Dehghani, Deputy Director for Scientific & International Cooperation.



Page 8

AUT President, Prof. Dr. Alireza Rahi, provided a comprehensive introduction to the university, shedding light on its history and international activities. He highlighted AUT's successful execution of joint degree programs with prestigious institutions such as the University of Birmingham (UK), Ecole Polytechnic, and ENSAM (France), along with a tri-lateral agreement involving Montan University, Leoben, and TU Freiberg. Additionally, he emphasized the university's 16 Engineering and Science departments and various research centers dedicated to large industrial research projects.

Prof. Rahi underlined AUT's leading position in contributing to national mega-projects, showcasing the university's significant impact on the country's research and development landscape.

President ECOSF, Prof. Tayebi, reciprocated by presenting an introduction to ECOSF, covering its objectives, programs, and activities. He expressed ECOSF's keen interest in involving AUT in educational and scientific activities supported by the foundation.

#### President ECOSF's Diplomatic Engagement with Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

The President ECOSF visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in Iran. The meeting involved discussions with Dr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari, Director General of International Organizations Affairs at MFA, and Mr. Abulqhasem Tahmasebi, Director for ECO and Multilateral Economic Cooperation at MFA.

The meeting provided a platform to review and discuss the progress of Iran's financial contribution to ECOSF and the associated arrangements for an upcoming trip to Azerbaijan.

President ECOSF also took the opportunity to brief Dr. Sabzevari and Mr. Tahmasebi on the one-year activities and programs undertaken by ECOSF. This comprehensive overview included the foundation's achievements, initiatives, and its impact on regional scientific and technological advancement. The discussions also played a vital role in aligning efforts for the successful realization of ongoing initiatives and future endeavors.

#### President ECOSF Engages in 9th STEP Session alongside 2023 Mustafa Prize at the University of Isfahan

President ECOSF, Prof. Dr. Seyed Kamil Tayebi participated in the 9th Science and Technology Exchange Program (STEP) alongside the 2023 Mustafa Prize session hosted at the University of Isfahan (UI).



President ECOSF delivered a keynote speech, emphasizing the pivotal role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in sustainable development—a central theme that ECOSF actively targets within the ECO region.

Prof. H. Harsij, President of UI, shared his thoughts on the objectives of the Mustafa Prize and the crucial role of STEP in advancing science and technology within the Islamic world.

Prof. Tayebi actively participated in the afternoon session at the Faculty of Administrative Sciences and Economics, UI. He presented a speech delving into the intricate relationship between Science and Technology (S&T) and economic development.

Prof. Khalid Mahmood Iraqi, Vice Chancellor of the University of Karachi, Pakistan, contributed to the session by delivering a speech on the nexus between public policy and development studies.

The session extended to an engaging question-and-answer segment and discussions, providing a dynamic platform for attendees to delve deeper into the subjects presented by the speakers. The participation of distinguished speakers and the interactive discussions added significant value to the academic discourse.



President ECOSF emphasized the Role of Startups, Technology, and Innovation in Urban Development at FAN NEMA Exhibition Inauguration.

President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Seyed Kamil Tayebi was invited by Isfahan Mayor to grace the inauguration of the FAN NEMA exhibition at the International Isfahan Exhibition Center in Isfahan. In his address, he underscored the vital role of startups, technology, and innovation in driving urban development.

President ECOSF highlighted the pivotal role that startups, technology, and innovation play in shaping the landscape of urban development. He underscored their potential to bring about positive transformations in various aspects of city life.



#### President ECOSF Attends Mustafa Prize Ceremony in Isfahan

President ECOSF, Prof. Dr. Seyed Kamil Tayebi, attended the Mustafa Prize ceremony held at the historic Chehelsotoun Pavilion in Isfahan on the evening of Monday, October 02, 2023.

The Mustafa Prize, globally acknowledged as the "Muslim Nobel Prize" stands as a distinguished science and technology award. This biennial prize is presented in four categories: Basic & Engineering Sciences, Nanoscience & Nanotechnology, Life and Medical Science and Technology, and Information & Communication Science & Technology.

Recognizing scholars, researchers, and scientists from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) countries, the Mustafa Prize honors their significant scientific contributions to the Muslim World. The award comprises a substantial cash prize of half a million dollars.



# President ECOSF and INSF President Forge Collaboration in Science, Technology, and Innovation

President ECOSF, Prof. Tayebi, held a productive meeting with Dr. Ali Mohammad Soltani, President of the Iran National Science Foundation (INSF) on October 4, 2023. The focus of the discussion centered on bilateral collaboration in joint research projects encompassing science, technology, and innovation.



INSF, as a pivotal government agency in Iran supporting fundamental research and education, committed to funding the Iranian side of collaborative projects involving partners within the ECO region. This funding mechanism aims to bolster collaborative research efforts in various scientific domains.

Both parties reached a consensus on the key areas of interest for joint research projects. These areas include Biotechnology and Nanotechnology, Water Studies, Environment and Climate Change, Regional Dust, Energy, among others. This strategic alignment ensures that collaborative efforts address pressing challenges and contribute meaningfully to scientific advancement.

#### **ECOSF President Meets with Leadership of Pakistan Global Institute**



October 23, 2023 - Mr. Kim Kyoung Eun, Vice Chancellor of Pakistan Global Institute, and Vice Chancellor of Shaikh Ayaz University Shikarpur called on President ECOSF, Prof. Syed Komail Tayebi. Prof. Tayebi. Mr. Kim and Prof. Bhatti discussed possible ways to work together with ECOSF to strengthen collaboration in the fields of Science, Technology, and Innovation through their respective institutions.

During the meeting, Mr. Kim and Prof. Bhatti expressed mutual interest in fostering collaborative efforts in the domains of Science, Technology, and Innovation through their respective institutions. Both parties agreed in principle to work closely with ECOSF to strengthen ties and promote advancements in these crucial fields.

One significant aspect of the discussion revolved around the potential establishment of an exchange program for students and scholars from ECO Member Countries, with a particular emphasis on Central Asia. This initiative aims to facilitate cross-cultural learning and the sharing of expertise among the member nations.

Prof. Tayebi mentioned that he has been leading a robust Korea-Iran Cooperation Forum since 2013 and invited Mr. Kim to join the next Forum scheduled to take place in August 2024, focusing on tourism and maritime trade and economy. The meeting ended on a positive note.

# Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

Lecture Series on Popularising Mathematics and Science (Virtual) - 5th Webinar

