Remarks by Mrs. Bayan Adilbekova Director PERS at the Joint SESRIC/IRTI/ECO Training Workshop for Project Risk Management for ECO Member States

(28-31 March 2012, Ankara)

H.E. Dr. Savaş Alpay Honorable Director General of the Statistical, Economic and Social Research Training Centre for Islamic Countries Excellencies Distinguished Delegates Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour and a privilege to participate in this Regional Training Workshop which is organized for the ECO Member States here in Ankara. At the outset, allow me, on behalf of His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Yahya Maroofi Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization, to convey the profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Turkey and, also to the leadership of the Islamic Research and Training Institute for their commitment to be part of this event for which the representatives of the ECO countries have gathered to re-emphasize shared interest in strengthening their project implementation capacities.

Esteemed Delegates

Project management and implementation is central in the process of building the economically secure, stable, peaceful and prosperous region. We must congratulate the participants of this forum for expression of their overwhelming support and commitment to the goals and objectives of economic integration through effective and sustainable project implementation in the region.

Risks in implementing projects are inevitable and these may be encountered by opportunities which are available in the region. In the next four days we will discuss the importance of risk management in projects. We will evaluate different techniques to mitigate the risk.

Realization of sustainable socio-economic development in the region constitutes common objectives for the regional and global communities. These challenges include strengthening of project implementation frameworks with the greater focus to stimulate socioeconomic development.

ECO is an economic project oriented organization. The importance of having sound and efficient project implementation processes in developing countries of the region is an internationally recognized task and there are significant ongoing

efforts and developments to standardize project management and implementation practices regionally and globally.

To this effect, the projects in ECO are compliant with the principles of international cooperation on project monitoring and management and, it is for this reason that the Organization supports the specific objectives especially those in the diverse fields of the regional economy, as identified in its founding documents.

Esteemed Participants

Our colleagues from SESRIC will be leading the sessions throughout the workshop. We will also have the opportunity to learn from the Member States' national experiences and practices during these sessions.

On the first day of the workshop, SESRIC will present its outlook on ways how it manages implementation processes with the account for a project risk. The second day is dedicated to ECO to share its knowledge in the applied project practices given the specific orientation of the organization on projects.

The third and fourth days will be led by IRTI. The esteemed Representative of IRTI will present a comprehensive picture of IRTI standards in project risk management.

The workshop has been so structured that on the final day we will be discussing the way forward for the ECO member countries to develop effective project cooperation with novice ideas and suggested outlines of new project proposals in various sectors of the regional economy.

Before wishing the Workshop all success, allow me to thank our host, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research Training Centre for Islamic Countries and our dear colleagues from IRTI for their meticulous work and the efforts to make this training event possible.

Once again our genuine felicitations are to the staff of the Host Organization of this remarkable event under whose sagacious guidance and stewardship, we are certain, the Workshop would succeed in reaching a valuable outcome to effectively respond to the expectations and aspirations of the project implementation teams in the field.

Please, accept our wishes of a productive workshop!

Thank you.