Declaration of 10th Summit of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States (Istanbul, 16 September 2010)

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Kyrgyz Republic Roza Otunbayeva, President of the Republic of Turkey Abdullah Gül and President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov participated at the 10. Summit of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States held on 16 September 2010 in Istanbul.

The signatory Heads of States,

Reaffirming their intention of further developing reciprocal interests, relations and strengthening solidarity among the Turkic Speaking States based on the common history, language, identity and culture,

Confirming the benefits of the summits of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States, as well as the provisions of the declarations adopted at the previous summits of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States, including Nakhchivan Declaration, signed at 9th Summit of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States,

Being convinced that comprehensive relations and existing solidarity among Turkic speaking states reinforces regional and international cooperation in Eurasian region,

Expressing their adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations (UN) Charter, to the documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and above all to the Helsinki Final Act,

Aiming at strengthening political and economical security of the states in accordance with the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs, refraining from threat or use of force,

Reiterating their satisfaction about the signing of “Nakhchivan Agreement on the Establishment of the Council of Cooperation of Turkic Speaking States” at the IXth Summit of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States held on 3 October 2009 in Nakhchivan city,

have declared the following;

1. Expressed their satisfaction about the successful realization of the referendum which was held 27 June 2010 in Kyrgyzstan, emphasized the importance of holding of the parliamentary elections of 10 October 2010 also for regional peace and stability and confirmed that they will continue to support Kyrgyzstan during this transitional period.

2. Supported the convening of International Donor Conference for assistance to Kyrgyzstan to be organized by Kazakhstan in Almaty and invited international community to actively participate in this Conference.

3. Noted that the 10. Summit of the Heads of the Turkic Speaking States held in Istanbul shall contribute to further development of bilateral and multilateral relations and cooperation among Turkic speaking states,
4. Expressed their intention to develop reciprocal interests, relations and solidarity based on common history, culture, identity and language among Turkic Speaking States, in this respect, reaffirmed their commitment to the preservation of national and regional security, stability and peace and to the principles of democracy, respect for human rights and development of market economy, rule of law and good governance,

5. Emphasizing the importance of preservation of common historical values and cultural heritage which constitute the basis of the cooperation and solidarity among Turkic Speaking States and their transfer to future generations, expressed their support for studies to be carried out in this direction,

6. Stressed that they will contribute to the realization of mutual visits, exchange of experience and cooperation in all areas, including security, economy, culture, education, science, local administrations, civil society organizations for the development of relations among Turkic speaking states and noted the importance of the inter-parliamentary relations which strengthens the links the peoples of Turkic speaking States,

7. Reemphasized the importance of the cooperation and joint actions in fight against the threats and challenges endangering international security including terrorism, extremism, trafficking in persons and illegal migration, illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, transnational organized crime as well as trafficking in firearms and reaffirmed the importance of solidarity among themselves and with international organizations.

8. Reiterated their position on the inadmissibility of forcible change of the borders, noted their conviction that strengthening of the struggle of the international community against acts of aggression threatening peace and stability, state sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, is a determining factor for the establishment of the global security.

9. Drew attention to the importance of the adoption of joint positions in international organizations in order to bring up sensitivities of Turkic Speaking States more intensively to the agendas of regional and international organizations. In this regard, they expressed that to hold meetings among Turkic Speaking States before important international meetings and to discuss possibilities of cooperation will enhance and strengthen relations among Turkic Speaking States.

10. Emphasizing that the assumption of the OSCE Chairmanship in 2010 by Kazakhstan and its successful realization is the clear indication of confidence of OSCE participating states to Kazakhstan, wished the successful continuation of the OSCE Chairmanship of Kazakhstan.

11. Congratulated Kazakhstan for the decision to hold the first OSCE Summit in Astana 11 years after the OSCE Istanbul Summit and expressed their hope that under the leadership of Kazakhstan in 2010, the ongoing dialogue on Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security will be taken one stage further with the decisions to be adopted during the Astana Summit.

12. Confirming the importance of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) in providing increasing contribution to peace and stability in Asian continent, declared their active support to CICA as a political dialogue forum for its efforts to provide security based on cooperation.

13. Expressed their satisfaction for the transferring of CICA Chairmanship from one Turkic speaking state to another Turkic speaking state with Istanbul Summit, with reference to the successful institutionalization of CICA during the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan, drew attention to the leading role and responsibilities undertaken by CICA in order to the implementation of confidence-building measures in Asia.
14. Expressed that Kazakhstan’s OSCE Chairmanship in 2010 and Turkey’s 2010-2012 CICA Chairmanship and their central position in the Eurasian security zone encouraged both countries to be in solidarity and more active within multilateral organizations.

15. Emphasized that the International Turkic Culture Organization (TURKSOY) performs an important task in identification, enrichment, expansion and promotion of the common values and in deepening cultural relations among Turkic speaking states and peoples.

16. Confirmed the importance of putting into practice the initiative aiming at establishment of a special Foundation for support of Turkic culture and preservation of Turkic heritage in Baku in order to preserve the rich Turkic cultural heritage that significantly contributed to the development of world civilizations.

17. Supported the suggestion of TURKSOY to declare Astana as the Capital of Turkic Culture for 2012.

18. Expressed their satisfaction for the opening of the Secretariat of the Turkic-Speaking Countries Parliamentary Assembly (TURKPA) in Baku and noted that TURKPA will contribute to the development of cooperation among the parliaments of the Turkic Speaking States and other countries.

19. Reaffirmed their conviction that Council of Cooperation of Turkic Speaking States founded by the Nakhchivan Agreement on the Establishment of Council of Cooperation of Turkic Speaking States signed at the 9. Summit of the Heads of Turkic Speaking States shall institutionalize the cooperation among member states and put positive contribution to the regional cooperation.

20. Noted with satisfaction that the establishment of Secretariat of the Council of Cooperation of Turkic Speaking States in Istanbul reached at its final stage and approved the appointment of the candidate of Turkey, Ambassador Halil Akıncı, as the first Secretary General of the Secretariat who will officially assume his responsibilities following the entering into force of the Nakhchivan Agreement.

21. Instructed the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Turkic Speaking States to finalize and adopt the relevant documents as foreseen by the Nakhchivan Agreement.

22. Expressed their intention to develop the relations in the field of trade and economy based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit and to enlarge cooperation in all fields including industry, agriculture, transport, communication, water energy issues, alternative energy and tourism.

23. Emphasizing that the dynamic development of the economies of the Turkic speaking states create favorable conditions for cooperation in various fields, as well as in business area confirmed the importance of making best use of the existing potentials.

24. Agreed upon the establishment of Turkic Speaking States Business Council in order to foster economic cooperation.

Decided to explore the possibility of the establishment of the “Turkic Speaking States’ Development Bank” in Istanbul and a joint Insurance Company in order to support development of non-oil sectors and create new opportunities for private sector.

25. Confirming the increasing role of the energy resources of Caspian region in ensuring the energy security of Europe, expressed the assurance that the strategic Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan crude oil and Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum natural gas pipelines serve the global energy security and sustainable economic development in the countries of the region. In this context, they highlighted the importance of
increasing the capacity of Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline and emphasized the importance of the connection between the Aktau port and the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan crude oil pipeline.

26. Noted that establishment of the new railway connection Baku-Tbilisi-Kars, to be operational as of 2012, will facilitate the transportation among Turkic Speaking States, increase the trade volume in Eurasia region and expedite regional development and economic cooperation and emphasized the importance of the establishment of the railway connection in a short time period.

27. Affirming the mutual interest in broadening relations in the spheres of science, education, culture, art, tourism, sports and in other spheres, expressed their support for humanitarian contacts among Turkic speaking peoples and expressed their expectations that youth unions of Turkic speaking states will contribute to such activities.

28. Expressed their support for concrete projects which will contribute to the further development of relations between scientific institutions, educational institutions and scientists and reiterated the necessity of improvement of cooperation in the field of education and noted the importance to explore the possibility of mutually recognizing of documents on education to foster friendship among peoples and to bring up future generations having closer ties.

29. Expressed their satisfaction about the opening of Turkic Academy in Astana and noted the importance of the cooperation in academic field to develop and to bring into light the scientific accumulation of Turkic Speaking States.

30. Recognizing the significance of scientific resources in the fields of Turcology science, promotion of ethno-culture and ethno-tourism; encouraging the initiative of establishing the Museum of Turkic History, Turkic Library in the framework of the “Turkic Academy” aiming at enhancing mutual understanding and development of Turcology science, emphasized the necessity to create the international organization of the Turkic Academy.

31. Stated that they will promote the establishment of a union among universities to support the studies of the Turkic Academy and in this framework the models of cooperation including joint education.

32. Agreed upon mutually benefitting from the existing research and development potentials of Turkic Speaking Countries and establishing a special fund to develop this potential through institutionalization.

33. Declared their willingness to improve their cooperation regarding climate change and environmental issues including international platforms.

34. Stated about the necessity of international cooperation aiming to comprehensively use water resources.

35. Emphasizing the importance of environmental protection, call parties to undertake urgent measures to improve environmental situation in the region in particular in the Aral Sea area and in preventing melting of the glaciers and others.

36. Confirmed the necessity of further promotion of political consultations directed to the strengthening of regional and global security, development of interaction and cooperation in all spheres, close contacts and joint actions.
37. Noted that they pay special attention to strengthening the role of the UN in solving global and strategic issues to achieve international security, sustainable development, as well as the purposes enshrined in the UN Charter. They confirmed that the reforms being carried out in the UN should be directed to strengthening of central role of UN in international issues and the fast and effective use of its existing capabilities against new threats and challenges to international legal order.

38. Declared their support for candidatures of Azerbaijan and Turkey for the International Telecommunication Union for the period of 2010-2014 during the elections to be held in October 2010 as well as the candidature of Kyrgyzstan to the Radio Regulations Board (Region “C”) of the International Telecommunication Union.

39. Confirmed their support for the candidature of Turkey for the Executive Board membership of the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization (UNESCO) for the period of 2011-2015 which will be decided by elections to be held in October 2011.

40. Expressed their support for the memberships of Kazakhstan in the UN Human Rights Council for the period of 2012-2015 in the elections to be held in May 2012 and Turkey for the period of 2013-2016 at the elections to be held in 2013.

41. Confirmed their intention to consider seriously the candidatures of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Kyrgyz Republic for the non-permanent memberships of the UN Security Council for the term of 2012-2013 at the elections to be held in 2011 and of the Republic of Kazakhstan for non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council for the term of 2017-2018 at the elections to be held in 2016.

42. Expressed their support for Turkmenistan and Kyrgyz Republic for their UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) membership for the period of 2013-2015 at the elections to be held in 2012.

43. Emphasized the necessity of strengthening of cooperation and solidarity on the basis of common values within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

44. Welcoming the forthcoming OIC chairmanship of Kazakhstan in 2011 in the Council of Foreign Ministers, reaffirmed their support to be given to Kazakhstan during its chairmanship.

45. Noted their conviction that the establishment OIC Trade Preferential System with the aim of increasing trade volume among member states shall play an important role for the development of economic cooperation.

46. Affirmed that they will contribute to the efforts for strengthening and increasing the effectiveness of the Economic Cooperation Organization.

47. Expressed their common will to be in dialogue and cooperation with the Council of Europe.

48. Expressed their support for Afghanistan to exist in an environment of peace and cooperation with its neighbors by ensuring stability and reconstruction of country. Stated their strong expectations that the Parliamentary elections to be held in Afghanistan on 18 September 2010 will enhance national unity and solidarity in the country and contribute to social reconciliation. Expressed their intention to peacefully contribute to the promotion of regional cooperation and connections focused on Afghanistan on the basis of vision set by the “Istanbul Statement on Friendship and Cooperation in the “Heart of Asia”.
49. Drew attention to the necessity of preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and guaranteeing the rights and liberties of the Turkic originated community which is an integral part of the Iraqi society.

50. Deeply regret the raid of Israel to the humanitarian aid convoy sailing in international waters on 31 May 2010 causing the death of nine innocent civilians.

Emphasized the importance that the International Inquiry Panel established by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon should complete its task in conformity with the letter and spirit of the UN Security Council Presidential Statement dated 1 June 2010, conforming with the international standards, in a prompt, impartial, credible, transparent manner in order to prevent the recurrence of similar violations threatening regional peace and security and to help the implementation of an understanding of respecting international law. Stated their support for the activities of the Fact-Finding Mission constituted by UN Human Rights Council is a complementary element of the Inquiry Panels’ works.

51. Emphasized the importance of the settlement of the disagreement concerning the nuclear programme of Iran through dialogue and diplomacy for regional and global peace and stability, stated their conviction that the implementation of the Joint Declaration signed on 17 May 2010 in Tehran will contribute to the establishment of the necessary dialogue atmosphere for lasting and comprehensive settlement of the disagreement and called for the international community to use this window of opportunity in an optimum manner.

52. Supported the goal of accession of Turkey to European Union, called for the advancement of the accession process on the basis of the current commitments and emphasized that Turkey is an important state in the Eurasian region whose membership will accelerate political, economic and social development in the region and will strengthen the ties between the region and the EU.

53. Noting their support for the ongoing comprehensive settlement negotiations between the two sides in Cyprus by establishing a new Partnership within the framework specified in the joint statements of the leaders in Cyprus, stated their expectation for reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus conflict before the end of 2010 in the direction of the target set in the report dated on 11 May 2010 of the good-office mission of the UN Secretary General, supported the calls made by the UN and the OIC for lifting without delay the isolation of the Turkish people of Cyprus which has no legitimate ground in the international field.

54. Expressed the importance they attach to the peaceful settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which is one of the main obstacles to lasting stability and regional cooperation on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan reaffirmed their conviction that the resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict will be a significant progress in providing peace, stability and prosperity in Eurasian area.

55. Expressed their support to the Alliance of Civilizations launched as an UN initiative aiming at fostering the atmosphere of mutual respect, harmony and tolerance among cultures and their satisfaction of the close attention paid by the Turkic speaking states to the works of the Alliance.

56. Confirmed with satisfaction the contribution of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions of World Traditional Religions and Leaders under the leadership of Kazakhstan and World Summit of Religious Leaders held on 26-29 April 2010 in Azerbaijan in strengthening mutual understanding among different cultures and beliefs.
57. Decided to celebrate the signing day (3 October) of the Nakhchivan agreement as the Turkic Speaking States Cooperation Day.

58. Decided to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the independences of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in 2011 through joint activities.

Within this context, welcomed the proposal of Turkmenistan to organize a Turkish Speaking States cultural festival in Ashgabat in 2011.

59. Agreed upon to hold the First Summit of the Cooperation Council of the Turkic Speaking States in Kazakhstan in 2011 and the Second Summit in Kyrgyzstan in 2012.

60. Stated their satisfaction with the results of the Summit and the guests pronounced their gratitude to the Turkish people and to the President of the Republic of Turkey Abdullah Gül for the warm welcome and hospitality

Signed on 16 September 2010, in Istanbul in the Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkish languages.

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev
President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev
President of the Kyrgyz Republic Roza Otunbayeva
President of the Republic of Turkey Abdullah Gül