

CHARTER
OF THE TURKIC CULTURE AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The Governments of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Turkey, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Based on historical ties, common language, culture and traditions of their peoples;

Considering important the implementation of activities related to the protection and development of the cultural heritage of the Turkic speaking peoples,

Noting the significance of fostering historical and cultural links between the Turkic speaking peoples and deepening bilateral and multilateral co-operation,

Taking into account the adoption of the decision at the IX Summit of the Heads of State of Turkic Speaking Countries held on 3 October, 2009 in the Nakhchivan city of the Republic of Azerbaijan to establish the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation and the support extended at the X Summit of the Heads of State of Turkic Speaking Countries held on September 16, 2010 in the city of Istanbul.

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation

The Parties hereby establish an international organization - Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the "Foundation") to Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (hereinafter referred to as the "Turkic Council").

Article 2. Objectives of the Foundation

The Foundation shall protect, study and promote the Turkic culture and heritage through supporting and funding activities, projects and programs.

Article 3. Tasks of the Foundation

In order to attain the goal outlined above, the Foundation:

- Provides funds for preserving, protecting, restoring and promoting the Turkic culture and heritage;
- Assists in resolving scientific and technical issues with respect to protection, restoration and promotion of the Turkic culture and heritage;
- Supports the training of specialists in the field of protection, restoration and promotion of the Turkic culture and heritage;
- Assists in organizing seminars, workshops, conferences, congresses and field studies as well as exhibitions;
- Aids in preparation of electronic and printed scientific periodicals and scientific publications;
- Sponsors contests, festivals, tournaments etc;
- Assists in reviving, supporting and developing traditional craftsmanship and applied art in the territories where the Turkic speaking peoples reside;
- Provides assistance to the craftsmen, artists and other creative art workers in defending their intellectual property rights.

Article 4. Structure of the Foundation

1. Council of the Foundation

The Council is the supervisory body composed of one representative from each Party. It shall supervise the Foundation's activities in accordance with the objectives of the Charter and the fulfillment of adopted decisions.

2. The President

The President is the Head of the Foundation. He/she will be assisted by a Secretariat in the fulfillment of his/her duties.

The President of Foundation is appointed by the Council of Heads of State of the Turkic Council (hereinafter referred to as the "CHS") upon the proposal of the Council of the Foundation from among the citizens of the Parties on a rotational basis in accordance with the English alphabetical order of the official names of the Parties for a period of four years on a renewable basis.

The first President will be appointed from among the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Secretariat shall be composed of citizens of the Parties and shall be appointed by the President of the Foundation.

The Parties undertake to respect the international character of the duties of the President of Foundation.

The location of the Foundation is the city of Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.

The President of the Foundation shall conclude Host Country agreement with the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Foundation shall enjoy in the territory of each Party such legal capacity as necessary for the implementation of its purposes and tasks.

Article 5. Rules of Procedure

The Council of the Foundation shall adopt the Rules of Procedure of the Foundation by consent of the Parties.

Article 6. Financing

The budget shall be prepared by the President of the Foundation to be approved by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Turkic Council (hereinafter referred to as the "CFM").

The scale of the compulsory contributions shall be determined by the CFM, taking into account their capacity to pay, the prevailing scale of contributions to the United Nations and their present contributions to the comparable regional organizations. However, the share of Host Country shall not be lower than the other Parties.

The draft Estimate of Expenditure of a next financial year shall be prepared and circulated to all Parties in the first half of the current year by the President of the Foundation for the approval of the CFM.

The scale of compulsory contributions shall be shown in a separate protocol.

Voluntary contributions to the Foundation shall be unlimited.

Article 7. Working languages

The working languages of the Foundation are the state/official languages of the Parties and English.

Article 8. Cooperation with TURKSOY

The Foundation carries out its activities in cooperation with TURKSOY.

Article 9. Progress Report

The President of the Foundation shall prepare Progress Report on the activities of the Foundation and submit to the CHS through the Secretary General of the Turkic Council.

Article 10. Settlement of disagreements

In case of disagreements concerning the interpretation or application of this Charter, the Parties shall settle them through consultations and negotiations.

Article 11. Amendments and additions

By mutual consent of the Parties amendments and additions may be made to the present Charter in the form of separate protocols constituting an integral part of the present Charter and entering into force in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 12 of the present Charter.

Article 12. Validity, entry into force and accession

This Charter shall remain into force for an indefinite period of time and shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the receipt of the third written notification by the depositary on the completion of internal procedures required for its entry into force.

This Charter shall enter into force for other signatories on the thirtieth day after the receipt by the depositary of its instrument of ratification.

After its entry into force this Charter is open to accession by Turkic Speaking States.

This Charter shall enter into force for the acceding State on the thirtieth day after the receipt by the depositary of its instrument of accession.

Article 13. Withdrawal

If one of the Parties decides to withdraw from the Charter, it will cease to be valid for that Party only. The withdrawal will take effect after six months following the date of receipt of the written notification by the depositary from the Party concerned through diplomatic channels.

The withdrawing Party shall be assumed to have abandoned its rights on the assets of the Foundation.

Article 14. Depository

The depository of the present Charter is the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Done in the city of Bishkek, on the 23rd day of August 2012 in a single original copy in the Azerbaijani, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkish and English languages. All texts are equally authentic. In case of divergence of the interpretation of the present Charter, the text in English shall prevail.

The original copy of the present Charter shall be kept by the depository, which shall send to each signatory Party a certified copy.

For the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan



For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan



For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic



For the Government of the Republic of Turkey

