

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 30 January 2023

ETDB's President H.E. Mr. Yalçın Yüksel and Vice President Mr. Sheryar Taj participated in the 26th meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)-Council of Ministers (COM) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan on January 24, 2023.

The event was attended by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs/Heads of Delegation of the ECO Member States, the ECO Secretary General, Heads of ECO specialized agencies, regional institutions and the representatives of ECO Observers and international organizations.

The Council adopted the "Tashkent Communiqué" that focuses on enhanced regional cooperation and collaboration amongst the Member States. The ECO Member States welcomed the efforts by ETDB to act as a trade supporting body and recall the ECO Summit's request for enhanced role of the Bank in ECO projects and for expansion of membership of the Bank in response to growing demand for economic change in the ECO Region.

On the side-lines of the COM meeting, ETDB management held meetings with Mr. Akif Kireççi, President of ECO Education Institute, Dr Sina Samadi, the Director of the ECO Regional Center for Risk Management of Natural Disasters and with the heads of diplomatic missions of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Uzbekistan and Iran. In these meetings, the areas of mutual cooperation for regional development were discussed.

The President of ETDB, also had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Khusrav Noziri, the Secretary General of the ECO in which the parties discussed ways for improvement of mutual cooperation in the member countries and the prospects of expansion of the ETDB's membership.