

**Report of the 5th Meeting
of the COMCEC Task Force on Agriculture,
Rural Development and Food Security**

The Fifth Meeting of the COMCEC Task Force on Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 30 June 2011 as a side event of the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of OIC. The meeting was attended by members of the Task Force and other invitees (List of participants is attached hereto).

OIC Executive Framework for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security

2. The Meeting listened to a comprehensive brief provided by the head of an FAO Three-person Consultancy Team Ms. Barbara Huddleston on the progress made in the elaboration of the OIC Executive Framework for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security. The presentation included the proposed structure for the executive framework, with preliminary suggestions for suitable OIC actions and possible lead institutions. The meeting was informed that the data were collated from the returns sent by about 14 OIC Member States on the questionnaires earlier circulated to all OIC Member States. Additional data were also obtained from the relevant websites of OIC Member States as well as during the visits undertaken by the International Consultants to the various regional organisations, such as ECOWAS, NEPAD, COMESA, IGAD, NEPAD, AOAD, GCC, etc

4. It was emphasized that the discussion of conceptual issues and priorities of Member States regarding Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security should be presented separately from the concrete proposals for intra-OIC collaboration, and that the concrete proposals should be more clearly prioritised.

5. On its part, Islamic University in Uganda expressed its readiness to implement certain components of the proposed Executive Framework action relating to use of unemployed youth to offer training in basic life skills for vulnerable, food-insecure people in rural areas.

6. COMCEC Coordination Office, SESRIC and IDB, while commending the work towards the elaboration of the Executive Framework, noted that the proposed structure for the Executive Framework and OIC actions will be thoroughly examined by them and their comments will be submitted thereafter. The members of the Task Force agreed to maintain on-line consultations for the harmonisation of the various comments and views of the draft framework document. In this regard, it was agreed that all comments of members of the Task Force on the subject matter would be submitted on-line for the purpose of revising the proposed structure for the Executive Framework, and that the consultancy team would prepare the new versions of the Framework in line with the comments of the Task Force and share it with the members of the Task Force well before the next meeting.. It was agreed that the draft Framework would not be circulated to member states without the decision of the Task Force thereon.

7. It was further agreed that the circulation to Member States on July 20 should be limited to the inventory of national and regional priorities, which could be circulated by OIC for national validation as soon as possible..

8. The Meeting also took note of aspect of the enabling Resolution of the 5th Ministerial Conference on Agriculture and Food Security, regarding inclusion of time-lines, bench-marks, lead countries and lead institutions for ease of implementation of the proposed Executive Framework. It was agreed that the consultancy team would prepare an explanatory note about the envisaged concept of lead country / institution including the selection criteria and submit it to consideration of the Task Force members by July 20, 2011.

9. Proposals of the consultancy team for a longer-term implementation strategy were reviewed briefly, and it was agreed that these should be further developed for consideration and decision at the next Task Force meeting.

Agenda of the 6th Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development

10. The meeting was informed that invitation letters addressed by the Turkish Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to his counterparts in OIC countries for participation at the Ministerial Conference have been prepared and dispatched to their destinations through Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. The meeting also reviewed the proposals of OIC General Secretariat and FAO on the draft agenda of the 6th Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development scheduled for Istanbul, Turkey, on 3-6 October 2011.

11. Mr. Ayhan Baran informed that a Working Group has been established within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs to develop the background document for the Conference, and the draft would be shared with Task Force members for comment, prior to finalization..

6th Meeting of the COMCEC Task Force

12. The meeting decided to convene its next meeting in Turkey tentatively during the first week of September 2011 to finalize the OIC Executive Framework for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security before its' circulation to OIC Member States.

Astana, Kazakhstan
11 July 2011

**List of participants
of the Fifth Meeting
of the COMCEC Task Force on Agriculture,
Rural Development and Food Security**

I. MEMBERS

1. OIC General Secretariat

- Amd. Hameed Opeloyeru, ASG (Economic Affairs);
- Mr. Jakhongir Khasanov, PO.

2. COMCEC Coordination Office

- Mr. Metin Eker, General Director;
- Mr. Murat Delicay, Expert;
- Mr. Selcuk Koc, Expert.

3. Islamic Development Bank

- Mr. Abdullateef M.Baqar, Senior Cooperation Specialist.

4. SESRIC

- Dr. Savas Alpay, Director General

5. FAO

- Ms. Aysegul Akin, FAO Ankara Office;
- Ms. Barbara Huddleston, Consultant;
- Mr. Mahmood Ahmad, Consultant;
- Mr. Berte Kama, Consultant.

II. CO-OPTED MEMBERS

1. Turkey

- Mr. Ayhan Baran, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs

2. Malaysia

- Mr. Mohd Haniff And Rahman, Undersecretary, MoFA.

3. Islamic University in Uganda

- Dr. Ahmad K. Sengendo, Rector.