



**REPORT OF
THE STANDARDS AND METROLOGY INSTITUTE FOR ISLAMIC
COUNTRIES (SMIIC)
ON
ENHANCING INTRA-OIC TRADE
SUBMITTED TO THE 36th MINISTERIAL SESSION OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE
OIC (COMCEC)**

**Agenda Item No: 4
Intra OIC Trade**

**Virtual, Republic of Turkey
23-26 November 2020**

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the activities that have been carried out by SMIIC for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy which is submitted to the 36th Ministerial Session of the Standing Committee for the Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC, to be held virtually on the 23-26 November 2020.

The reporting period was characterized by the continuous efforts of the Institute on the implementation of the cooperation areas of COMCEC, especially on the areas of enhancing intra-OIC Trade. The activities of SMIIC are multi-faceted addressing the main pillars of quality infrastructure: standards, metrology and accreditation.

Harmonisation of standards, metrology and accreditation is vital for accelerating the development of Muslim country economies. Its use will promote common understanding throughout all member states. A common standards, metrology and accreditation framework eliminates trade barriers and facilitates trade between the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states and the entire world.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much needed common standards in the OIC and has to date published 13 (thirteen) OIC/SMIIC Standards, 7 of them on halal issues. 17 (seventeen) Technical Committees and Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (CCA) of SMIIC are vigorously working on the development of 53 new Standards which are in the project stage. These standards include the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Standard which was published in December 2019.

SMIIC has conducted 6 training programs on the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to aid the common use of standards within the OIC. Additionally, SMIIC has completed the COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project on "Increasing Public Halal Awareness in OIC countries" to raise awareness of Halal in the OIC Countries, aimed at various audiences: including children, youth and adults. The project encompasses the the publication of childrens books, comics book and production of short films.

The World Halal Summit (WHS) 2019 a prestigious halal event in the world gathering prominent speakers and important stakeholders of the halal industry and was held simultaneously with the 7th OIC Halal Expo on 28 November-01 December 2019 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey. World Halal Summit was co-organized by SMIIC, The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and Discovery Events under the theme of "Halal for All Generations: Importance of Family and Youth".

SMIIC is simultaneously working on capacity building in the metrology area where several training programs are under planning by the SMIIC Metrology Council. Enhancement of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

I. SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting

SMIIC held its 20th Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) in virtual-only format on the 02 November 2020 and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

General Assembly (GA) Meeting

15th SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting was held in virtual-only format on 03 November 2020 and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

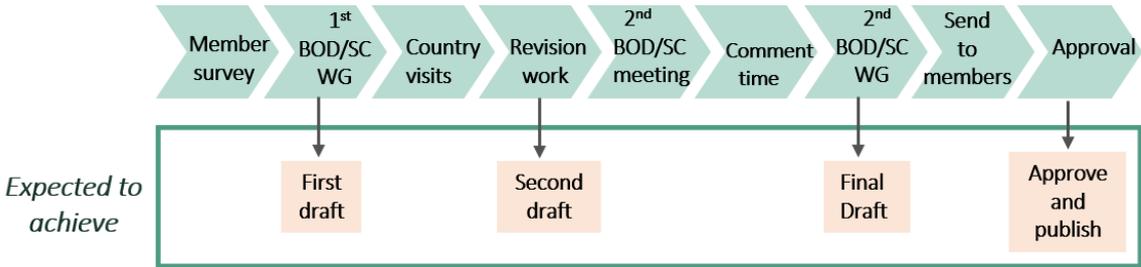
II. STRATEGY ACTIVITIES

General and Implementation of Strategic Plan 2016-2020

SMIIC has been actively working on the achievement of all the goals in the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020, having completed or commenced work on 31 of the 33 goals determined. Planning has commenced on the achievement of the remaining 2 goals.

The current SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020 will be ending at the end of this year. Board of Directors has established a permanent committee, namely Strategy Committee (SC) in April 2019. Hence, the SMIIC BOD/SC held its 1st Meeting on 4 November 2019 in Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and BOD/SC members established a working group to work on the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030.

Preparations for SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2031 comprising a ten-year vision and mission have been initiated by the 1st Working Group Meeting of the Strategy Committee (BOD/SC) held on 13-15 January 2020 in Istanbul and Members agreed on the following steps for drafting and finalization of the next SMIIC Strategic Plan:



The 1st BOD/SC Strategy Working Group worked hard for three days on preparing the first Draft of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030, Strategic Plan Balanced Scorecard and Strategic Plan Map, taking into consideration the comments and feedbacks received from our esteemed Members on the survey which has been prepared with the Vision, Mission, Goals and Sub-Goals of the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and sent to esteemed Members by SMIIC General Secretariat on 13 December 2019.

The SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2031 has been approved and effective from 01 January 2021.

III. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF SMIIC COUNCILS

A. Standardization Management Council (SMC)

Standardization Management Council (SMC), as a professional structure for building the future activities of the technical committees and following-up their performance on ongoing standards projects, held its second meeting in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on the 07 April 2019. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Khalid Ahmed Bablani Director of Standards of PSQCA who was authorized by H.E. Abdul Aleem Memon, the Director General of PSQCA and the Chair of SMC. The delegation of SMC Members – Cameroon, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey participated in the meeting.

3rd Meeting of the SMIIC SMC was held in Holy Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 03 November 2019. During the meeting, new technical committees as TC 16 – Halal Pharmaceuticals Issues and TC 17 Handicraft were established and chairmen were assigned to TC 4, TC 6 and TC 11.

The SMC Members also discussed the proceedings of the technical committees and requested from the SMC Secretariat to prepare a report in order to look at the different ways of improving the management and governance of the standardization activities in SMIIC.

SMIIC Directives were revised in accordance with the comments received from Members and the second edition of the SMIIC Directives (Part 1: Procedures for the Technical Work and Part 2: Rules for the Structure and Drafting of OIC/SMIIC Documents). These documents were approved and then published by the General Secretariat, distributed to all SMIIC Member States, released on the SMIIC website and put into active use during SMIIC Technical Committee work.

B. Technical Committees (TC)

OIC/SMIIC standards and other technical projects are under the responsibility of the Technical Committees (TCs) for the development and systematic management of these technical works.

Technical Committees and SMIIC/CCA had a very productive year in terms of preparing new standards, as a result, TCs have worked on 65 different projects and 17 (seventeen) of them are in Draft Standard (DS) stage, 14 (fourteen) projects are in Final Draft Standard (FDS) stage and 13 (thirteen) standards have been published.

For the Halal Tourism sector, OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services – General Requirements has been published on 21 December 2019.

The 3 OIC/SMIIC series of Halal Standards:

1. *OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food*
2. *OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification*
3. *OIC/SMIIC 3:2019 Conformity Assessment - Requirements for Halal Accreditation*

have been revised and published in July 2019. The series of OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards are already being used by more than 20 SMIIC Member States.

In 2019 and 2020, SMIIC has published 12 OIC/SMIIC standards -7 of them on *halal issues*- following the completion of standards development process conducted in relevant SMIIC Technical Committees:

- OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 Particular requirements for the application of OIC/SMIIC 1 to places where Halal food and beverages are prepared, stored and served
- OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services – General Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 10:2019 Saffron (*Crocus sativus* L.) — Specification and Test Methods
- OIC/SMIIC 11:2020 Date - Specifications and Test Methods
- OIC/SMIIC 15:2020 Disposable Baby Diapers – Specifications and Test Methods

- OIC/SMIIC 16:2020 Disposable Sanitary Pads – Specifications and Test Methods
- OIC/SMIIC 20:2020 Precious Metals – General Requirements for Refined Gold

- OIC/SMIIC 24:2020 General Requirements for Food Additives and Other Added Chemicals to Halal Food
- OIC/SMIIC 33:2020 Conformity Assessment – Example of a Certification Scheme for Halal Products
- OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities
- OIC/SMIIC 35:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing
- OIC/SMIIC 36:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements of Proficiency Testing for Halal Purposes

SMIIC is the only competent body of the OIC to develop standards according to the needs of the region and OIC/SMIIC halal standards are the only standards developed in the world ensuring the participation and contribution of various OIC member states and IIFA which consequently results in having the most reliable and professional halal standards to use globally.

Under the COMCEC Strategy Cooperation area of Tourism, The Technical Committee 5 – Tourism and Related Services, has worked on the development of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Services Standard and has been published on 21 December 2019. This use of the common Halal Tourism Services Standard will help in the development of sustainable Tourism.

C. Metrology Council (MC)

Metrology Council (MC) acts as SMIIC's operational organ for cooperation between national metrology authorities from Islamic Countries. This cooperation involves activities in the field of scientific, legal and industrial metrology. MC is also involved in conducting necessary activities for supporting development of quality infrastructure; realization, maintenance and dissemination of measurement standards in physical quantities and metrology in chemistry; implementation of quality management systems, knowledge transfer, research and development in this area in Member Countries.

The 8th Meeting of the Metrology Council (MC) was held on the 22 October 2020 in virtual-only form and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat with the participation of 52 delegates from 24 Member States.

The following agenda items were discussed during the meeting:

- The latest developments of the SMIIC Metrology Council
- Halal Activities in Members States
- Latest Development in National Metrology Bodies of Member States
- SMIIC MC Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer Program 2020-2021

The MC has planned a two yearly training plan for the SMIIC MC Technical Capacity Building Program in which Turkey, Saudia Arabia and Bosnia-Herzegovina will give training. Enhancement of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

D. Accreditation Council (AC)

Accreditation Council (AC) is the organ carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States. AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of accreditation concept within the Member States. AC shall be responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards and performing peer assessment.

A Task Force Group (TFG) was established at the 3rd Meeting of Management of SMIIC AC on 26-27 August 2019 to prepare the document which will contain the rules and procedures for the governance and administration of the structure and all details of mechanism and to review and incorporate the proposal of H.E. Dr. Saad ALKASABI with the said document on the basis of following principles and in line with the OIC Charter and based on the relevant OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) resolutions:

- Any structure working in the halal conformity assessment/accreditation system should be structured according to the implementations of the related articles of the SMIIC Statute.
- National accreditation bodies should be encouraged to initiate halal accreditation assessment activities as well as to sign Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA/MRA) after being evaluated by peers as competent,
- Duplication of efforts should be avoided and there should be one global structure for halal accreditation,
- OIC/SMIIC standards should be used by any structure working in the domain of halal accreditation.

Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIC Accreditation Council (AC) has been approved at 19th SMIIC Board of Directors Meeting on 04 November 2019.

1st Task Force Group (TFG) Meeting of SMIIC AC which was held on 02 November 2019 in Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. TFG Members agreed on the proposal in principle to be further evaluated with following conditions:

- The name of the proposal is changed as “OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure” and will be considered as the proposal of the SMIIC AC. The proposal shall be developed based on the relevant OIC CFM resolutions,
- SMIIC Statute and the report of the “OIC Stakeholders Forum on Unified Halal Food Standards and Procedures” which was held at OIC General Secretariat, Jeddah, Saudi

Arabia on 09-10 December 2015 as well as relevant SMIIC Board of Directors and SMIIC AC resolutions.

- The umbrella organization on the pyramid in the proposal shall be “designated structure” that is defined in the Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIC AC.
- Only OIC/SMIIC standards shall be used in the proposed OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure.

The 2nd Meeting of the Task Force Group (TFG) was held on 02 February 2020 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. TFG Members revised and adopted the “OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure” document to be submitted to the consideration of the 20th Meeting of the Management of SMIIC Board of Directors.

IV. OTHER ACTIVITIES

i) OIC/SMIIC 1 - Foundation Training 2019 - Istanbul

OIC/SMIIC 1 - Foundation Training was held during the 28 September – 01 October 2019 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey with the participation of 28 delegates from Afghanistan, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

The training program aimed to give the necessary foundation knowledge of the OIC/SMIIC 1 and encourage the harmonization of Halal Standards used in the OIC and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards. The programs consisted of 2 parts:

Part 1. Introduction, implementation and use of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards included introductory training of experts regarding the procedures for adoption, implementation and use of the OIC/SMIIC series of 3 Halal Standards whilst providing training in SMIIC Information System (IS) and Technical Committee (TC) work.

Part 2. OIC/SMIIC 1: 2019 General Requirements for Halal Food Foundation Training

The trainings were completed with an exam and qualifying participants received their certificates.

Training Program was organised by SMIIC with the support from the International Islamic Finance Corporation (ITFC) from the International Islamic Bank Group (IsDB) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

ii. MRC FI Halal Food Training Program:

The MRC FI Halal Food Training on the Detection of Porcine DNA From Processes Foods and Food Additives was held on 21-25 October 2019 in Gebze-Kocaeli, Republic of Turkey in coordination with TUBITAK Marmara Research Center (TUBITAK MAM). The objective of this training program is to give the necessary laboratory training in the method for Detection of Porcine DNA From Processes Foods and Food Additives.

iii. World Halal Summit (WHS) 2019 and 7th OIC Halal Expo

World Halal Summit (WHS) 2019 as the most prestigious halal event in the world gathering prominent speakers and important stakeholders of the halal industry was held simultaneously with the 7th OIC Halal Expo on 28 November-01 December 2019 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey. The Summit hosted prominent speakers in the following areas:

1. Scientific (Food, Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals)
2. Halal Tourism
3. Islamic Finance
4. Standardization

World Halal Summits organized by Discover event in coordination with SMIC and The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) under the theme of “Halal for All Generations: Importance of Family and Youth”.

SMIC in corporation with ICDT has organised the “7th OIC Halal Expo” and “5th World Halal Summit” in Istanbul on 28 November - 01 December 2019 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey.

This Exhibition gathered the important actors of the Halal industry and recorded the participation of stand owners from 36 OIC and non-OIC Countries. On the other hand, approximately 35000 visitors from 94 countries visited the exhibition.

Companies producing in accordance with halal standards also took part in this Exhibition. 7th OIC Halal Expo offered a unique opportunity to the companies for showcasing their products and services and maximizing their export profits in response to the demands of emerging Halal markets. Meanwhile, the 5th World Halal Summit under the theme of “Halal for All Generations: Importance of Family and Youth” as an important gathering, was also held simultaneously with the 7th OIC Halal Expo in which the conferences were attended by prominent speakers in the sub-fields of halal industry such as food, cosmetics, tourism, Islamic finance, textile and modest fashion etc.

Mr. İhsan ÖVÜT, Secretary General of SMIC delivered the opening remarks of the Summit conferences and welcomed the esteemed speakers and participants. Sessions then continued with the speeches/presentations. A presentation introducing SMIC and explaining its activities and halal standards was also given in this session.

The sessions of the program were as follows:

Session 1: Standardisation and related issues for halal quality infrastructure

Session 2: Certification and accreditation in halal industry

Session 3: Islamic banking and finance conference

Session 4: Halal tourism and halal lifestyle

Session 5: Halal tourism and professionals

Session 6: Halal lifestyle: halal for all generations

Session 7: Halal lifestyle: halal in daily life

Session 8: Halal food and related new challenges

Session 9: Halal and health: halal pharmacy, cosmetics and testing

vii. COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project

SMIIC has completed the COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project on “Increasing Public Halal Awareness in OIC countries” to raise awareness of Halal in the OIC Countries, aimed at various audiences: including children, youth and adults. The project encompasses the the publication of childrens books, comics book and production of short films.

viii. COMCEC PCM 2019-SMIIC-727 project

SMIIC was to be conducting the *OIC/SMIIC Halal Foundation Training for Africa Region to be held 27-29 October 2020 in Senegal* and is funded by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation(OIC) under the Project “OIC/SMIIC Halal Foundation Training for Africa Region” with No: 2019-SMIIC-727.

The objective of this training program is to encourage the harmonization of Halal Standards used in the OIC and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards. The program aims to inform representatives from SMIIC/OIC Member States regarding the procedures for adoption, implementation and use of the OIC/SMIIC series of 3 Halal Food Standards whilst providing foundation training in SMIIC Information System (IS), Technical Committee (TC) work and auditing.

The expected outputs of this program are:

- Representatives from SMIIC Member States are trained in:
 - a) The adoption, implementation and use of the 3 OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards,
 - b) Introduction to the SMIIC Information System, TC work and preparation of Standards,
 - c) Halal and the current Halal market
 - d) Foundation knowledge of OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food
 - e) Introduction to OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification and the OIC/SMIIC 3:2019 Conformity Assessment - Requirements for Halal Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Halal Conformity Assessment Bodies
- The trainees will also receive a Certificate if they have completed the necessary requirements of the training.
- The number of OIC Member States who have adopted and/or are using the OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards have increased which will in turn facilitate intra-OIC trade.

The program will consist of a 3 day training. The training has been postponed to due to COVID-19 Pandemic to 2021.