

Original: English

**REPORT
OF THE 17th SESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

(İstanbul, 4 October 2010)

1. The 17th Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on 4 October 2010, prior to the 26th Session of the COMCEC.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. M. Metin EKER, Head of COMCEC Coordination Office.

3. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI)

Some Turkish Institutions, owners of the proposed cooperation projects of the COMCEC, also attended the Meeting.

The Meeting agreed on the following agenda items for consideration:

1. Review of the Proposed Cooperation Projects of the COMCEC.
2. Consideration of the New Project Proposals.
3. Any other business.

Under Agenda Item 1:

4. The Committee made the following recommendations on the Projects:

First of all, the Committee deliberated on the Project entitled “Technical Cooperation among Patent Offices in OIC Member States.” Concerning the two workshops, which were planned to be organized in Saudi Arabia and Malaysia, the Committee was informed that Saudi Arabia intended to organize one of the said workshop until the end of 2010. However, the Committee has not received any information regarding the workshop to be organized in Malaysia. The Committee requested the assistance of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and IDB in order to facilitate the organization of these two workshops.

Regarding the web-portal on intellectual property information, which would be established by the ICDT in collaboration with the Moroccan Patent Office (OMPIC), the representative of the ICDT informed the Committee that the terms of reference for this sub-project was already finalized and submitted to the IDB for funding. The Committee requested the IDB to consider financing the project.

Concerning the Project entitled “Incubator Management Training among OIC Member States”, the Committee welcomed fruitful results of the “The Training of Incubator Managers of the OIC Countries” which was held on 30 September-1 October 2010, in Ankara, Turkey. The Committee decided to remove the project from the list due to its successful completion and requested the ICCI to initiate similar training programs in the future.

With respect to the Project entitled “Study on Air Transportation Infrastructure and Industry in OIC Member States”, the Committee took note of the draft project profile form presented by Anadolu University of Turkey and requested Anadolu University and SESRIC to finalize and submit it two-months ahead of the next Meeting of the Sessional Committee. The Committee welcomed the offer of SESRIC to organize a workshop on Air Transportation Industry with the participation of key players in this sector.

As for the Project entitled “Sustainable Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”, the Committee deliberated on possible ways of attracting more donors and stakeholders for the early implementation of the Project.

With respect to the Project entitled “Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project”, the Representative of the OIC General Secretariat informed the Committee on the results of the “Stakeholders Meeting of the Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project” which was held in Jeddah on 26 May 2010. The representatives of the IDB expressed that due to the size and complexity of the project, a pre-feasibility study should be conducted, taking in existing feasibility studies such as the African Development Bank’s study of the Dakar-Djibouti Railway Project. The Committee requested the OIC General Secretariat and IDB to work on this proposal with a view to accelerate the implementation of the given project.

Concerning the Project entitled “The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Road Transport Associations,” the Committee welcomed the offer of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) to be a coordinator of the Project. The Committee requested TOBB, in coordination with the ICCI, to submit the project profile form to the next Sessional Committee meeting.

Regarding the Project entitled “The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Air Transport Associations,” the Committee reiterated its request to the General Secretariat to submit the project profile form to the 18th Meeting of the Sessional Committee.

In addition, the Committee deliberated on the Project entitled “Launching a Grand OIC/IDB Scholarship Programme in Major Academic Fields.” The Committee was informed that IDB has broadened the scope of its scholarship program which already existed within the IDB Group. Therefore, in order to avoid duplication, the Committee decided to delete this project proposal from the projects list of the Sessional Committee.

With respect to the Project entitled “Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal”, the Committee took note of the estimated budget of the project prepared by MUSIAD and requested the latter to consult with IDB and ICCI for co-financing the project at the earliest convenience.

Under Agenda Item 2:

5. Under this agenda item, the Committee deliberated on the new project proposal of the ICDT on Technical Cooperation among the OIC Member States in the area of competition law and policy. The Committee welcomed the proposal and requested the ICDT to study details of the said technical assistance program in cooperation with

interested Member States and to submit the Project profile form to the 18th Meeting of the Sessional Committee. In this regard, the Committee also welcomed the offer of the Turkish Competition Authority to host a workshop in Turkey in the second half of 2011.

Under Agenda Item 3:

6. The Committee requested the coordinator OIC Institutions which did not do so, to submit the project profile form of their projects in the agenda of the Sessional Committee to the COMCEC Coordination Office and OIC General Secretariat for circulation to all member states, at least two-months before the following Sessional Committee Meeting.

The projects, for which the project profile forms have not been submitted, however will be considered as proposals pending the submission of their project profile forms to the Sessional Committee.

7. The Committee then concluded its work with a word of thanks.

LIST OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS

Serial No	Project Proposals/Ideas	Proposing State/ Institution	Interested Country	Coordinator
1.	Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States	Turkey	Kazakhstan, Syria, Morocco, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Yemen	ICDT
2.	Study on Air Transportation Infrastructure and Industry in OIC Member Countries	Turkey		SESRIC
3.	Creation of a Network of Cross-border Parks and Reserves in West Africa	Guinea	Benin, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso (Observer)	ICDT/SESRIC
4.	Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project	Sudan	Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Djibuti, Gambia, Guinea, Libya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Uganda and Guinea Bissau	OIC General Secretariat
5.	The Establishment of the Federation of the Islamic Air Transport Associations	OIC General Secretariat		
6.	The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Road Transport Associations	OIC General Secretariat		TOBB
7.	Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal	COMCEC Coordination Office		MUSIAD with ICCI, ICDT and CCO