

Original: English

**REPORT OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> SESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**(Ankara, 31 May 2011)**

1. The 18th Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on 31 May 2011, prior to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Follow-up Committee Meeting.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. M. Metin EKER, Director General of the 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, as 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:

Concerning the Project entitled “Technical Cooperation among Patent Offices in OIC Member States”, the Committee welcomed the offer of the Turkish Patent Institute to organize a workshop on “Industrial Property Policies” in December 2011.

Regarding the web-portal on intellectual property information, the Committee requested ICDT to re-apply to the IDB for funding. The Committee also requested the IDB to consider working on a proper mechanism to finance similar technical cooperation projects.

As for the Project entitled “Study on Air Transportation Infrastructure and Industry in OIC Member States”, the representatives of Anadolu University and SESRIC informed the Committee of recent developments in this regard. The Committee took note of progress achieved and requested Anadolu University and SESRIC to start the implementation process.

With respect to the Project entitled “Sustainable Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”, the representative of the ICDT briefed the Committee on the outcomes of the Donors’ Conference held on 27-28 May 2011, in Dakar, Senegal. The Committee invited interested member countries and relevant stakeholders to enhance their ownership and to commit themselves to sharing the cost of the project.

Concerning the Project entitled “Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project”, the representatives of the OIC General Secretariat and IDB informed the Committee that OIC and African Union (AU)/NEPAD, which promote a similar Project along the same corridor, have established a partnership on this Project. The Committee welcomed this development and reiterated its request from the Project owners and coordinator to submit the Project Profile Form to the next Sessional Committee Meeting.

With respect to 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.

Concerning the Project entitled “The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Road Transport Associations,” the Committee took note of progress achieved and requested the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) to proceed with taking comments and views of the member countries.

As for the Project entitled “Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal” the representative of the MUSIAD informed the Committee that they have already applied to the IDB for funding. The Committee requested the IDB to expedite decision on the financing of this Project.

**Under Agenda Item 2:**

5. Under this agenda item, the Committee discussed the project already proposed by the ICDT and Turkish Competition Authority on “Technical Cooperation in the Area of Competition Law and Policy” and the new project proposed by the International Agricultural Training Centre of the Republic of Turkey on agricultural training.

Regarding the former project, the representatives of the Turkish Competition Authority briefed the Committee on details of the Project and the event planned to be held in Turkey in October 2011. The Committee welcomed the progress made and requested the Project owner to finalize the Project Profile Form and submit it for circulation to all member countries.

As for the latter, the Committee welcomed the offer of the International Agricultural Training Centre of the Republic of Turkey to develop a project on exchange of agricultural information and requested it to submit the Project Profile Form until the next Sessional Committee Meeting.

**Under Agenda Item 3:**

6. The Committee discussed ways and means to ensure effective review and evaluation of the projects and came up with some criteria. In this regard, the Committee decided the following:

- Only the Project proposals submitted with their respective Project Profile Forms will be added to the Project List of the Sessional Committee.
- For the existing list of the projects, the owners or coordinators of the project proposals will submit their Project Profile Forms until the 19<sup>th</sup> Sessional Committee Meeting. If they failed to do so, their project proposals may be dropped.
- The projects in which there is no progress in substantial issues within a 6 month-period may be dropped.
- All project owners and coordinators should submit their work programs and time tables.

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

**LIST OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS**

<b>Serial No</b>	<b>Project Proposals/Ideas</b>	<b>Proposing State/ Institution</b>	<b>Interested Country</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
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	Turkey, Senegal, Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan	
6.	The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Road Transport Associations	OIC General Secretariat	United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Jordan	TOBB
7.	Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal	COMCEC Coordination Office		MUSIAD with ICCI, ICDT and CCO