



**SIXTH FORUM FOR BUSINESSWOMEN IN ISLAMIC COUNTRIES**  
**Under the kind patronage of HRH Princess Sabika Bint Ebrahim Al Khalifa,**  
**Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women**

**Kingdom of Bahrain, 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

**Theme “Development of Entrepreneurship among Women and Youth”**

**Manama Declaration 2012**  
**on “Women and Youth Economic Empowerment in Islamic Countries”**

The Manama Declaration 2012 is a set of recommendations derived from the two day deliberations and discussions held among participants of the 6<sup>th</sup> Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries, held in Manama-Bahrain on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

1. Stimulate and promote the culture and spirit of Entrepreneurship among women and youth; through introducing special educational curriculums at schools, universities and training institutes
2. Develop an eco-system conducive to the establishment and growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in various economic sectors namely; industry, agriculture, services, health, medicine and green lifestyle
3. Develop, improve and stream line the role of support institutions for women entrepreneurs in the area of access to finance, marketing, mentoring and business counseling for the growth of MSMEs
4. Promote joint investments and collaboration within women entrepreneurs from Islamic countries and counterparts in the world. Facilitating technology transfer between technology suppliers and women entrepreneurs, hence leading to higher added value quality products and better positioning for export markets.
5. Adopt modalities that induce the start-up and growth of enterprises; which will in turn contribute to innovation and creativity
6. Develop incubation systems that encompass pre-incubation, incubation and post-incubation services.
7. Organize specialized forums, conferences, workshops and exhibitions for sharing best practices and facilitating linkages between local, regional and international organizations.
8. Ensure the availability of various financial schemes for the start-up and growth of enterprises for the transition from micro - small to medium.

9. Institutionalize innovative marketing access programs (export promotion tools) as franchising, clusters, export development centers, social media market place and export consortia, etc.
10. Launch an Islamic Businesswomen Network; which will play a vital role in creating linkages and synergies among the various entrepreneurship networks.
11. To establish an entity for Businesswomen of Islamic countries under the Umbrella of ICCIA. The Idea was welcomed by the Forum and the Businesswomen Committees of some member chambers offered to host the said entity.

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