REPORT OF THE 4th ANNUAL FOCAL POINTS MEETING OF THE COMCEC WORKING GROUPS

(1-2 June 2016, Ankara)

1. The 4th Annual Focal Points Meeting of the COMCEC Working Groups was held on 1-2 June 2016 in Ankara.

(The programme of the Meeting is attached as Annex-I)

2. The Meeting was attended by the COMCEC Working Group Focal Points and COMCEC National Focal Points of the 31 Member States of the OIC.

(The list of participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex-II)

- 3. The Meeting started with a recitation from the Holy Quran. It was followed by the COMCEC 30th Anniversary Video screening.
- 4. At the outset, Mr. M. Metin EKER, Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office delivered his opening remarks. He welcomed the participants to the meeting and underlined the important role of the focal points in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy. He provided some information regarding the recent status of the implementation instruments of the Strategy, namely Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding. In his opening remarks, Mr. EKER also stressed that matters related to the implementation of the COMCEC Working Group Policy Recommendations will be a central topic for the deliberations during the 4th Annual Focal Points Meeting. He concluded his remarks through introducing the program of the Meeting.

I. COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation: The Status of Progress

- 5. Mr. Kağan AKDOĞAN, Expert at the COMCEC Coordination Office, made a presentation on the COMCEC and COMCEC Strategy. He provided some information to the participants on the progress achieved in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy.
- 6. Within this framework, Mr. AKDOĞAN presented an overall picture of the COMCEC in terms of its organizational structure and where it stands within the general OIC picture.
- 7. Afterwards, he stressed the importance of the COMCEC Strategy and the novelties it brought particularly the working groups and project funding mechanisms. At this point, Mr. AKDOĞAN took the attention of the participants the impact of the Strategy to the work and performance of the COMCEC by comparing and contrasting the outcomes of the COMCEC before and after the introduction of the Strategy.
- 8. Mr. AKDOĞAN concluded his presentation by outlining main achievements since the implementation of the Strategy as well as near and mid-term goals of the COMCEC in this regard.
- 9. The presentation was followed by Questions and Answers session. The participants raised the following points in their questions and comments:
 - ➤ COMCEC progress reports may involve concrete indicators to the extent possible for demonstrating quantitative along with qualitative progress.

- ➤ Additional cooperation areas may be involved in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy.
- ➤ COMCEC may also prepare an evaluation report to better assess the impact of the Strategy on Member States.

II. The Role of COMCEC Focal Points in the Realization of the COMCEC Strategy

- 10. The Session was moderated by Mr. Ashraf IBRAHIM, Assistant Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt.
- 11. Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, Director at the COMCEC Coordination Office made a presentation on the role of focal points in the realization of the COMCEC Strategy. In his presentation, Mr. KOÇ firstly explained the objectives of establishing policy recommendations and the formulation process of these recommendations. He then stressed the importance of active follow-up of the implementation of policy recommendations by the OIC Member Countries. In this respect, he underlined the role of focal points in preparing, conveying and following up the policy recommendations. He also shared a proposed timeline in his presentation for the following-up of the policy recommendations. In this regard, he emphasized that the evaluation from, which was circulated to the Member Countries in August 2015 and May 2016 respectively, is an important tool to assess the progress achieved in the Member Countries for the implementation of the policy recommendations. After sharing the names of the countries responding evaluation so far, Mr. KOÇ reminded the participants that their feedbacks/responses to the evaluation forms is kindly requested by the end of August 2016.

(The proposed timeline for the following-up of the policy recommendations is attached as Annex-III)

- 12. Mr. KOÇ continued his presentation by explaining the role of focal points for raising awareness on the COMCEC Strategy and its instruments namely the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding. At this point, Mr. KOÇ stated that focal points' taking part in the country delegations for the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions is highly beneficial specifically for establishing a link between the Session and the outcomes of the COMCEC Working Groups and Project Funding.
- 13. Mr. KOÇ also touched upon the role of focal points in ensuring active participation to the WG Meetings which includes sharing the relevant documents (invitation letters, research reports etc.) with the relevant institutions/departments, facilitating the participation of qualified experts to the WGs and sharing country experiences during the meetings. Mr. KOÇ concluded his presentation by providing information on COMCEC's knowledge production efforts. He shared a timeline for the preparation of Research Reports and explained the roles of focal points in preparation of these Reports such as assisting in collection and verification of country specific data, sharing the reports with the relevant Ministries/Institutions and providing feedbacks to the Research Reports.

- 14. After the presentation, the Moderator summarized some of the key issues mentioned during Mr. KOÇ's presentation and opened the floor for Questions and Answers session. The participants raised the following points in their questions and comments:
 - ➤ The participants agreed on a timeline for the follow-up of the implementation of the Policy Recommendations which was proposed by the CCO. In this regard, the participants were invited to convey filled out evaluation forms by the end of August 2016. Moreover, it was agreed upon that the CCO will convey evaluation forms each year immediately after the COMCEC Ministerial Session.

(A sample format of the evaluation form in the area of trade is attached as Annex-IV)

- ➤ The participants highlighted the importance of national coordination of the COMCEC related work. In this regard, it was stressed that effective coordination and communication between the focal points is of particular importance for expediting the implementation of policy recommendations as well as project submission.
- ➤ Facilitating the participation of qualified experts to the WG meetings as well as importance of participation of National Focal Points and Working Group Focal Points to the COMCEC Sessions were underlined. In this respect, it was mentioned that COMCEC Sessions could take resolutions for the inclusion of focal points to the delegations.
- ➤ It was emphasized that active engagement of focal points in the preparation of research reports including surveys, questionnaires, field visits would greatly enhance the quality as well as relevance of these reports. In this respect, the focal points' cooperation with the CCO and consultants who undertake the research reports is of paramount importance.
- ➤ Measurable indicators for the implementation of policy recommendations may be designed/formulated.
- > Schedules for the upcoming WG meetings could be shared in advance, if possible one year before the meetings.
- ➤ It was mentioned that the challenges on the implementation of the policy recommendations could be a separate agenda item in next year's Annual Focal Point Meeting.

III. Briefing and Discussion on the Themes of the Working Groups for 2017-2019

15. In this session, the participants split into six groups for each cooperation area and exchanged views on the themes of future WGs, the filling-out/conveying of evaluation forms and the implementation of policy recommendations in their countries.

16. The focal points discussed the themes for the WG meetings to be held in 2017-2019. In this regard, in general, themes proposed by the CCO were welcomed by the participants. Moreover, focal points made some additional proposals which are reflected to the list of themes by the CCO.

(The list of themes for each working group for 2017-2019 period is attached as Annex-V)

- 17. The participants reflected on their experience regarding the implementation of policy recommendations as well as filling out the evaluation forms. It was observed that the evaluation forms could be improved by providing a more concise/shortened form. The CCO informed the participants that some conveyed forms are incomplete which do not include detailed information.
- 18. Regarding the implementation of the policy recommendations, it was underlined that additional policy support initiatives would be helpful. In this regard, the CCO and participants exchanged views on possible cooperation programs and capacity building activities in terms of their substance and format.

IV. COMCEC Project Funding: Benefits for the Member Countries and Procedures

- 19. In this Session, the benefits of the COMCEC Project Funding mechanism as well as its application and implementation processes were explained. The Session was moderated by Mr. Fatih ÜNLÜ, Senior Expert at the COMCEC Coordination Office who also made an introductory presentation.
- 20. In his presentation, Mr. ÜNLÜ informed the participants about the benefits of the COMCEC Project Funding as well as the application and implementation processes. In this regard, it was pointed out that project funding is an important instrument for enhancing institutional and human capacity in the Member Countries. It was also noted that the main benefit of the COMCEC Projects is building capacity in the Member Countries for designing and implementing multilateral projects that addresses their common development challenges. Additionally, COMCEC Projects also provides a direct link between the expected outcomes of the COMCEC Strategy and policy recommendations.
- 21. Afterwards, Mr. Mehmet Celalettin AKTAŞ, Expert at the COMCEC Coordination Office made a presentation about the application, submission and appraisal processes of the COMCEC project funding mechanism.
- 22. After the presentation, the Moderator summarized the key issues in the presentation and started the deliberations on this important topic. The participants made the following observations for the improvement of this mechanism:
 - ➤ The CCO may collect and circulate contact information of the focal points with a view to facilitating exchange of project ideas and identifying project partners.
 - ➤ The CCO was requested to provide feedback for the projects that are found ineligible for funding.
 - ➤ The CCO may demonstrate successful projects on its website.

V. Workshop for Sample Project Preparation

- 23. Focal Points gathered in 6 different sub-groups for a Project Funding workshop. Training on the project submission process was provided for the preparation to the project call to be made in September 2016.
- 24. Afterwards, participants prepared a sample project fiche through using Project Management Information System in the COMCEC website. The CCO provided feedback for the sample project fiche and made recommendations for their improvement.

VI. Closing Session: Three Years of the Strategy's Implementation: The Way Forward

25. At the outset of the closing session, Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, Director at the CCO provided a summary of the discussions made during the meeting. Afterwards, Mr. M. Metin EKER, Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office, opened the floor for the final views of the participants. He then shared some of his observations and concluded his remarks by reminding that all the presentations made during the sessions were available on the COMCEC website (www.comcec.org).

At this session, the participants made the following observations and suggestions:

- ➤ It was suggested that following the adoption of the policy recommendations at the COMCEC Ministerial Session, the CCO may send a high-level letter to member countries which conveys the policy recommendations with a view to creating awareness and sensitizing the member countries.
- The CCO may take an initiative to provide multi-entry visas for COMCEC focal points who would travel to Turkey more than once within a year.
- ➤ It was also suggested that the themes of working groups meetings may be more concrete and specific.
- ➤ Capacity building and training programs may be organized to support the implementation of policy recommendations.
 - ➤ The CCO may consider providing advance payment for COMCEC Projects, as well as compensating possible losses that may occur due to fluctuations in local currency between the completion of project activities and transfer of money from CCO to project owner.

• Social Program

26. As part of the social program, the participants visited some historic parts and landmarks of Ankara.

ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING



DRAFT PROGRAMME 4th ANNUAL FOCAL POINTS MEETING OF THE COMCEC WORKING GROUPS

(1-2 June 2016, Ankara)

June 1st, 2016 (Wednesday)

08:45 - 09:00 Registration

09:00 - 09:10 Recitation from the Holy Qur'an

09:10 - 09:25 Opening Remarks

09:25 - 10:00 COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation: The Status of Progress

Presentation: Mr. Kağan AKDOĞAN

Expert

COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO)

Questions & Answers (Q&A)

10:00 - 10:45 Moderated Session: The Role of COMCEC Focal Points in the Realization of the COMCEC Strategy

Presentation: Mr. Selçuk KOÇ

Director

COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO)

Q&A

10:45 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 The Role of COMCEC Focal Points in the Realization of the COMCEC Strategy (Continued)

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:45 Briefing and Discussion on the Themes of the Working Groups for 2017-2019 (6 separate discussion groups)

15:45 - 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:30 Moderated Session: COMCEC Project Funding: Benefits for the Member Countries and Procedures

Moderation: Mr. Fatih ÜNLÜ

Senior Expert

COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO)

Presentation: Mr. M. Celalettin AKTAŞ

Expert

COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO)

Q&A

June 2nd, 2016 (Thursday)

09:00 – 10:30 Workshop for Sample Project Preparation (6 separate discussion groups)

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:00 Sample Project Presentations and Evaluations (Q&A)
(6 separate discussion groups)

12:00-13:30 Lunch

13:30-14:30 Closing Session: Three Years of the Strategy's Implementation: The Way Forward

14:30- Social Program

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING

A. <u>MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OIC</u>

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

- Mr. YASIN HIMMAT
 General Manager, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation
- Mr. HASHMATULLAH AMIRI
 Head of Department, Ministry of Commerce and Industry

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Ms. ELDA CENKAJ
 Expert, Ministry Of Urban Development

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

- Mr. TAREK ALLOUNE
 Head of Section, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. DJAMEL ADOUANE
 Assistant Director, Ministry of Finance

REPUBLIC OF AZERBALIAN

- Mr. JAVID ABDULLAYEV
 Senior Adviser, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- Mr. ELVIN OSMANOV
 Senior Adviser, Ministry of Economy

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- Mr. HASDINY MOHO YUSSOF Third Secretary, Embassy of Brunei Darussalam in Ankara

BURKINA FASO

- Mr. IDRISSA ZOROM
 Director, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- Ms. LAMOUSSA R. BALIMA

Technical Counsellor, Ministry of Culture and Tourism

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

- Mr. AHMAD MALAM
 Sub Director , Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development
- Mr. BOUBA AOUSSINE
 Inspector, Ministry of Trade

REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE

- Dr. N'DRI GERMAIN APHING
 Director, Ministry of Tourism
- Ms. ALINA AIMEE MAHOUAGBEU OUATTARA
 Deputy Director, Ministry of Planning and Development
- Mr. SOUMAH DIABY
 Chief of Service, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. WOTOUMO MELESSI FANNY
 Financial Specialist, Ministry to the Prime Minister Responsible for the Economy and Finance
- Mr. BOUNDI DEMBA
 Technical Adviser, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. SALIFOU TRAORE
 Technical Adviser , Ministry of Planning and Development
- Mr. DRISSA TRAORE
 Assistant to the Director General , Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

- Mr. ASHRAF IBRAHIM
 Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. AMR RIFAI
 Counsellor, Embassy of Egypt

Ms. ASMAA ADEL
 International Trade Policies Researcher, Ministry of Trade and Industry

REPUBLIC OF GABON

- Mr. MASSALA M. CLEMENT First Counsellor, Embassy of Gabon in Ankara
- Mr. IFOUNGA THIBAULT
 Chief of Protocol, Embassy of Gabon in Ankara

REPUBLIC OF GAMBIA

- Ms. JULDEH CEESAY
 Deputy Executive Director, Ministry of Women's Affairs
- Ms. RAMATOULIE CEESAY
 Planner, Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure
- Mr. ISMAILA BAH
 Principal Fiscal Officer, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

Mr. AHMADOU KOUMI BARRY
 Studies and Planning Officer, Ministry of Transport

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

- Dr. HARJITO
 - Deputy Director for Regional Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture
- Ms. TUTI WINARTI
 - Section Head for non un Organization, Ministry of Trade
- Ms. SARI HANDINI MURTI
 - Trade Analyst, Ministry of Trade
- Ms. IMAS MASLIAH
 - Technical Staff, Ministry of Agriculture
- Ms. IDA AYU RATIH
 - Assistant Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

- Mr. MOHAMMAD KHALEDI
 Director General, Ministry of Agriculture
- Ms. SAEEDEH NAZARI
 Senior Expert, Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization

REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

- Mr. MOHAMMED IBRAHIM
Iraq Commercial Attaché, Iraq Embassy in Ankara

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

- Mr. HAMMAD MOHAMMAD

 Director, Ministry of Social Development
- Mr. NAIM HASSAN
 Director, Ministry of Transport

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

- Mr. KAIRAT TOREBAYEV

Director, Ministry of National Economy

THE STATE OF KUWAIT

- Ms. MESHAL ALARDHI
 Controller International Organizations , Ministry of Finance
- Mr. SAGER AL FADLI
 First Foreign Affairs Researcher, Ministry of Finance

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

- Mr. MEDER BAKIROV Counsellor, Embassy of Kyrgyzstan
- Mr. SALTANAT DZUMABEKOVA Attaché, Embassy of Kyrgyzstan

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

- Mr. YOUSSEF BENABDOUH

In charge of Cooperation with the Arab and Islamic Countries, Ministry of Foreign Trade

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

- Mr. ARMINDO MANHICA

Master, Ministry of Planning and Development

Ms. ANA FLORENCIA MCHOLA

International Relations and Diplomacy Officer, Ministry of Industry and Trade

- Mr. SAIDE OMAR

Advisor, Ministry of Finance

REPUBLIC OF NIGER

- Mr. AJIROU NAMAMOU

Economist, Ministry of Finance

- Mr. ALFOUJA HADJI

Chief of Service, Chamber of Commerce and Industry

SULTANATE OF OMAN

- Mr. SALIM AL HAJRI

Economic Researcher, Supreme Council for Planning

THE STATE OF PALESTINE

- Mr. NAZIH QABAHA

Director of Technical Control, Ministry of Transport

- Mr. SAMER ALTITI

Director of Policy and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. ZEYAD ABDEL RAHMAN

Director, Ministry of National Economy

Mr. KHALED ABU KHATTAB

Deputy General Director, Ministry of Labor and Social Development

- Mr. AZMI ABU GHAZALEH

Economic Counsellor, Embassy of Palestine in Ankara

STATE OF QATAR

- Mr. ABDULBASIT AL AJJI

Director, Ministry of Economy and Commerce

- Mr. HASSAN AL MOHANNADI

International Cooperation Expert, Ministry of Economy and Commerce

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. FAISAL AL ZABEN

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transport

- Mr. ABDULLAH MUAIQL

Undersecretary, Ministry of Social Welfare and Family

- Mr. MAGED AL KADI

Deputy Commercial Attaché, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia

Mr. NAYEF ALMOTIRI

Manager, Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage

Dr. SAUD AL OTHMAN

Director of Planning, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture

REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL

- Ms. ASSOME DIATTA

Director, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Informal Sector

- Ms. FATIMATA ZAHRA MBAYE

Technical Advisor, Ministry of Tourism and Transport

- Mr. MAME ALASSANE SENE

Loaded Programmer, Ministry of Finance

REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

- Mr. EISA SHATTER

Director, Ministry of Trade

- Mr. MIRGANI GLOOD

Director, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

Ms. SONIA ZOGHLAMI

Director, Ministry of Finance

Mr. ABDELKADER KEMALI

Director, Ministry of Transport

- Mr. HABIB HELALI

Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

- Mr. NEVZAT KUNDURACI

Head of Department, Ministry of Family and Social Policies

Mr. HIDIR İLYAS KARABIYIK

Expert, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications

- Ms. EDA BURCU BULUT

EU Expert, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications

Ms. EDA AKÇA

Specialist, Development Bank of Turkey

- Ms. AYŞEGÜL DEMİR

Foreign Trade Specialist, Ministry of Economy

- Mr. FATİH ERTAN

Assistant Expert, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications

- Ms. NENDEN O. SHANTY

Researcher, SESRIC

- Mr. ATİLLA KARAMAN

Researcher, SESRIC

Mr. ADİL ALTAN

Engineer, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock

- Mr. NURULLAH EVCİMEN

Engineer, General Directorate of Highways

- Mr. BAHADIR KARA

Coordinator, Ministry of Culture and Tourism

- Mr. KADİR ERYİĞİT

Officer, Turkish State Railways

- Ms. NESLİHAN AKIN DURU

Officer, General Directorate of State Airports Authority

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

- Mr. GADSON ABEMIGISHA

Senior Economist, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

- Mr. WINSTONE KATUSHABE

Assistant Commissioner Road and Pipe Transport Regulation, Ministry of Works and Transport

B. <u>COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE</u>

- Mr. M.METİN EKER

Director General, Head of COMCEC Coordination Office

- Mr. SELÇUK KOÇ

Head of Department

Mr. MUSTAFA TEKİN

Head of Department

- Mr. FATİH ÜNLÜ

Senior Expert

Mr. EKREM KARADEMİR

Expert

- Mr. EMRAH HATUNOĞLU

Expert

Mr. BURAK KARAGÖL

Expert

- Ms. VİLDAN BARAN Expert

- Mr. SERVET ORÇUN ERPİŞ Expert

- Mr. UTKU ŞEN Expert

- Mr. ALPER BAKDUR Expert

- Ms. ASLI DADAKOĞLU Expert

- Mr. GÖKTEN DAMAR Expert

- Mr. ALİ İŞLER Expert

- Mr. KAĞAN AKDOĞAN Expert

- Mr. NİHAT AKBALIK Expert

- Mr. OKAN POLAT Expert

- Mr. MEHMET AKİF ALANBAY Expert

- Mr. AYKUT YILMAZ Expert

- Mr. AHMET OKUR Expert

- Mr. MEHMET FİDAN Expert

- Mr. EREN SÜMER Expert - Mr. MEHMET C. AKTAŞ Expert

- Mr. ENİS YILDIRIM Expert

- Mr. HASAN YENİGÜL Expert

- Mr. ALİ ORUÇ Expert

- Ms. ÖZGÜL YÜKSEL Coordinator

Ms. HANDE ÖZDEMİR
 Coordination of Registration Office

Ms. HAVVA KÖSEOĞLU
 Coordination of Registration Office

Ms. EMİNE DEMİREL
 Coordination of Documentation Centre

Mr. OZAN LİF
 Coordination of Documentation Centre

Mr. KEMAL ARSLAN
 Coordination of Meeting Rooms

- Ms. EBRU ÇETİNKURŞUN KANYILMAZ Coordination of Meeting Rooms

- Ms. LEYLA AŞK Social Programme

Mr. ERCAN İBİK
 Coordination of Transportation

- Mr. NAZIM GÜMÜŞ Protocol Relations

- Mr. ORHAN ÖZTAŞKIN
Protocol Relations

ANNEX 3: THE PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR THE FOLLOWING-UP OF THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

November	December	June	End of August	September October	November
Adoption by the COMCEC Session	Circulation of Evaluation Form by CCO	Information Sharing (Annual Focal Point Meeting)	Conveying of Filled out Evaluation Form by the focal points	COMCEC Annual Progress Report	Reporting the Progress to the COMCEC Session

ANNEX 4: SAMPLE FORMAT OF THE EVALUATION FORM

Policy Recommendations	Has your country prepared/planned new law(s) or secondary legislation(s)?	Has your country prepared/plan ned strategy/actio n plan/road map?	or is preparing	Has your country organized or is planning to organize any activity?	country submitted or is planning to submit a project proposal to the	the policy recommendation.
Example: 4th Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group: "Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) and Trade Liberalisation Efforts in the OIC Member States" I. Member states are invited to increase the Capacity for Successful Implementation of the PTAs						

ANNEX 5: THEMES OF THE WG MEETINGS 2017-2019

TRADE WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Single Window Systems in the OIC Member States for Facilitating Trade
2017/2	Free Trade Zones in the OIC Member States
2018/1	Enhancing Customs Risk Management Systems in the OIC Member States
2018/2	Improving Authorized Economic Operators Programs in the OIC Member States
2019/1	Increasing Public Availability of Customs Information in the OIC Member States
2019/2	Enhancing Advance Ruling Systems in the OIC Member States

FINANCIAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Improving Public Debt Management in the OIC Member Countries
2017/2	Diversification of Islamic Financial Instruments
2018/1	More Harmonized Contracts and Regulations in Islamic Finance
2018/2	Monetary regimes and their effect on financial cooperation among OIC countries
2019/1	Financial education for Islamic finance
2019/2	Globalizing Islamic Finance

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Increasing Broadband Internet Penetration in OIC Member Countries
2017/2	Strategic Transport Infrastructure in OIC Member Countries: Gateways, Hubs and Inland Transport Connections
2018/1	Enhancing Digital Skills in OIC Countries
2018/2	Strengthening e-Government Infrastructure in OIC Countries
2019/1	Cooperation on Transportation: Transnational Transportation Projects in OIC Member Countries
2019/2	Better Planning, Funding, and Financing of Strategic Infrastructure in OIC Member Countries

AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Reducing Food Waste in the OIC Member Countries
2017/2	Improving Agricultural Market Performance: Creation and Development of Market Institutions
2018/1	Establishing an Agricultural Market Information System in the OIC Member Countries
2018/2	Promoting Market Oriented Agricultural Extension and Consultation Services in the OIC
2019/1	Increasing Agricultural Productivity: Agricultural Support Policies and Subsidies in the OIC Member Countries
2019/2	Agricultural Foreign Trade Policies in the OIC Member Countries

TOURISM WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Muslim Friendly Tourism (MFT): Regulations for
	Accommodation Establishments in the OIC Member Countries
2017/2	Risk & Crisis Management and Recovery from Crisis in Tourism Sector in the
-	Member Countries
2018/1	Utilizing the Technology in Visa Facilitation
2018/2	Improving tourism statistics in the OIC Member States
2019/1	Developing Medical Tourism in the OIC Member Countries
2019/2	Experiences in Sustainable Tourism among OIC Member States

POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP

Time	Theme
2017/1	Malnutrition in the OIC Member Countries: A Trap for Poverty
2017/2	Vulnerable Groups' Access to Education in the OIC Member Countries
2018/1	Education Quality in the OIC Member Countries
2018/2	Vocational Education and Skills Development in the OIC Member Countries
2019/1	Access to Good Health Services in the OIC Member Countries
2019/2	Child and Maternal Mortality in the OIC Member Countries