

Report on the Activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture (ICCIA) For submission to the 37^{th} Session of the COMCEC $(8^{th}-9^{th}$ June 2021)

In line with its renewed Strategy Pillars, following are the updates on ICCIA programs since November 2020 COMCEC meeting.

Events: ICCIA, in partnership with its member chambers and other international organisations has delivered and developed the following events in line with its renewed strategy:

International Conference on Tackling the Covid-19 Pandemic: Health, Economic,
 <u>Diplomacy</u>, and Social Perspectives, February 23rd-25th 2021, Bandung, West Java,
 <u>Indonesia</u>: The Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) coorganized an International Conference in collaboration with the Padjadjaran
 University Alumni Association (IKA UNPAD), Padjadjaran University (UNPAD), the
 Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN). More details available
 here: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/posts/the-islamic-chamber-of-commerce-industry-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-6789503703305990144-o-ly-and-agriculture-indonesia-international-event-activity-67895037037037

2. ICCIA Mega Forums 2021/2022:

- The Sustainable Agriculture Forum, Azerbaijan
- The Digital Economy Forum, Jordan
- The Sustainable Tourism Forum, Pakistan
- OIC Food Festival, Pakistan
- BIG3 Forum of Major Products (Tea, Coffee and Cocoa), Indonesia
- Specialized Investment Forum, Indonesia

3. Partnership with existing and scalable events (OIC):

- The 12th International Economic Summit KazanSummit, 28-30 July 2021, Kazan,
- 8th OIC Halal Expo & 7th World Halal Summit, 25-28 Nov. 2021, Istanbul, Turkey
- 17th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States, 6-9 Dec. 2021, Dakar, Senegal
- OIC Entreprenuership Forum, 2021

4. Participation in International Events:

- Global South-South Development (GSSD) Expo,
- High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
- UN Global Compact Leaders' Summit: 2021
- World Economic Forum (WEF)
- World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF)

Cooperation with International Organizations & Foundations:

ICCIA's is proactively creating linkages with the International Organisations that are working within the priority projects and sectors of ICCIA to create partnerships that will enable its objectives to gain global visibility and momentum. In this respect, the ICCIA is developing its knowledge on OIC and UN agencies to better utilize the International Organisations effectively for both technical partnerships, knowledge sharing and funding purposes. Since November 2020, ICCIA has established contact with multiple agencies within the OIC and UN world to

collaborate on projects based on mutual objectives. ICCIA is also developing its database on International Organisations and Foundations, which will be an essential tool for its team and its members to be able to tap into these partnerships for their country related projects. The Chambers work was also published in "A Better World Vol 7: SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development". To view the full article please see the link https://www.humandevelopmentforum.org/digital/A-Better-World-Vol-7/23/index.html

<u>Waqf Companies & Independent Projects Update:</u> ICCIA has launched a series of projects that are designed to achieve developmental goals as well as be a catalyst for investment within its member countries. The projects aim to establish companies in important areas that are needed in the member countries to support the growth of its economy in a resilient and sustainable manner.

- 1. **OIC Arbitration Center:** The Islamic Chamber continues its work in partnership with the TOBB team to prepare for the inauguration and operation of the center through:
 - a. Continuing to promote the center and explain its importance and advantages to the private sector in the member countries.
 - b. Conducting meetings with the Institutional arbitration experts around the world to introduce the center to them and hear their suggestions.
 - c. Preparing Candidates list for the three councils of the center.
 - d. Conducting a study for the benefits of the CEOs of arbitration centers around the world and preparing them for the center's board of directors to approve the appropriate benefits for the center's general secretary.
 - e. Preparing the job description for the general secretary of the center and his deputy.
 - f. Study systems of similar centers in the world to suggest the appropriate rules for the center."
- 2. Islamic Chamber Halal Certification Company (ICHCS): With the establishment of the Halal Company, the ICCIA aims to organize the Global Halal Market, with focus on Certification, Quality Control and Halal Industry development. The company, ICHCS, is currently working to become the trusted Global Halal Certification provider and will be launching an Integrated online Halal platform serving all stakeholders including consumers, food producers, auditors, country authorities and more. The platform includes an Auditor mobile application for the purpose of ensuring reliability in the process of evaluating halal standards of goods and products in a manner that ensures their accuracy. Below are further updates on plans for 2021 from ICHCS:
 - a. ICHCS will actively participate in events including Global Halal Summit / Expo in partnership with SMIIC and ICDT.
 - b. Launch of the Halal Certification Platform
 - c. Accreditation of 10 Muslim countries for Halal certification as a steppingstone to achieve accreditation / recognition by all OIC countries
 - d. Registering the Halal Certification Mark in Europe as a steppingstone for global registration
- 3. Microfinance in the G5 Sahel: ICCIA is working to establish Microfinance entities in the G5 Sahel region in Africa, namely Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. ICCIA aims to provide microfinance services to improve financial inclusion and capacity building for the bottom-of-the-pyramid segment, such as the economically active youth, women and emerging MSME in the Sahel region. This will be achieved through

Islamic microfinance and incorporating international best practices towards achieving financial and operational sustainability goals.

Update: The project outlay and strategy has been phased in the following manner:

Phase 1: Commission a feasibility study and determine the pilot country.

Phase 2: Approval of the feasibility study by ICCIA and Stakeholders

Phase 3: Commission the manual implementation study for preparation of operational documents.

Phase 4: Pilot the implementation of the business model

ICCIA has initiated discussions with Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) to commission the feasibility study to initiate the project. We are set to take the proposal for approval to the Investment Committee for approval of funding. Four consultants have been shortlisted for consideration – the project will be awarded once the approval comes through.

4. Green Waqf: The Islamic Chamber is launching the Green Waqf initiative, which is one of the initiatives that are aiming to achieve the Islamic Chamber's Awqaf strategy. It is a giant initiative in the agricultural and social economy that the Chamber launches with a large number of partners to achieve a set of developmental and social goals in agricultural societies through a sustainable business model based on the application of the concept of the Islamic Waqf "endowment".

The project will develop a self-sustainable green waqf that will create income and employment for women and youth in agriculture and forestry through corporate public partnerships, in addition to promoting a green economy to combat climate change. It will also explore the strategies to engage general public specially youth in environmental activities by creating awareness and participation in activities such as forest plantation.

In view of the significance of the Green Waqf initiative, ICCIA Members will be participating in this important project by determining suitable agricultural lands for development, through two important land sources:

- Awgaf lands that are unutilized or with poor yield.
- Lands owned by forestry authorities that are not usable or have low yields.

Update:

ICCIA is planning on partnering for the execution of this project. The feasibility study will be initiated, following which the implementation will take place in the pilot country. For the financing of the project, ICCIA has been actively working with AlBaraka Banking Group to extend a facility which will help set up the project in eleven OIC countries. In addition, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) is also considering the proposal to finalize funding for conducting the feasibility study.

5. **Agricultural Commodity Exchange Markets:** One of ICCIA's goals is to promote and enhance the quality and competitiveness of the agriculture and its related products in OIC Member States. ICCIA is initiating the establishment of modern Agriculture Commodity Exchange Markets (ACEM) to enhance the value chain of agriculture

commodities, increase trade flows and improve the living standards of small and medium farmers, and agribusiness private sector.

ICCIA is undertaking a study to assess agriculture-based economies within the OIC members to transfer such experiences in two selected countries. Currently we are issuing a call for proposals for consultants, following which the funding avenues will be explored to build a modern business model for ACEM operation.

6. Entrepreneurial Mix Farming: ICCIA is encouraging the development of sustainable agricultural practices through utilizing technology and advocating entrepreneurial activities. The Entrepreneur Mix Farming Project aims to develop small scale farming system for new graduates and entrepreneurs in one monitored area with sustainable and innovative solution for the energy requirement and precision agriculture. The farm will be a model for highly efficient farming, conserving the natural scarce resources and creating job opportunities for local communities both men and women. The idea was generated by KEPM as a model developer to be adopted and developed by governments and other organizations through partnership with the private sector, academia, microfinance institutions, and entrepreneurs.

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ICCIA Media:

ICCIA has set up a dedicated team to create high visibility for its own as well as other international events to highlight our member countries trade and investment opportunities via the private sector engagement. Below are some of the online and offline products that are being developed as on-going programs for sustained growth:

- Media Coverage & Consultancy provides social media coverage of Mega international events as well as consultancy to provide high visibility events across OIC region. The services include promotion of the event before, during and after among our members, live coverage of the event on the social media platforms and website, and involvement of international media for the coverage of events. Our own online products include: ICCIA Leadership Talks and ICCA Country Focus.
- ICCIA Leadership Talks, an online webinar series, brought together global thought leaders
 from across multiple sectors to share their experience and knowledge for the benefit of our
 member countries. So far 4 themes have been covered: Moving to the virtual world, Halal
 Ecosystem, Microfinance, and eCommerce. Going forward in 2021, we are planning
 webinars for Fashion industry, Women Empowerment, and Fintech.
- **ICCIA Country Webinar** is the upcoming online series aimed to generate awareness and interest in our member countries investment landscape and potential opportunities. The program is focused to promote their Foreign Direct Investments as well as highlight their

exports products on a global level for joint collaborations and business development. For this year, we are planning to have a collaborative webinar with Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce, and Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

ICCIA Member Relations

ICCIA has the opportunity to be the largest representative of the Muslim Private Sector. With this in mind, the Chamber has restructured its Member Relationship Management department to increase the quality of its engagement with existing members and additionally, increase its member base to include Muslim businesses from non OIC countries. As a result, ICCIA has 3 new memberships applications to be presented to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly for approval.