

Original : English

R E P O R T
OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
(Jeddah, 4 May 2005)

1. On the sidelines of the 28th Annual Session of the Islamic Commission Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs (Jeddah, 3-5 May, 2005), the 6th Meeting of the Sessional Committee was held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at the Headquarter of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) on 4th May 2005, prior to the 21st Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Ambassador Nabika DIALLO, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs, Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and H.E. Dato Dr. Sayed Jaafar Aznan, Vice-President (Trade and Policy), IDB Group.

3. Representatives of the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting;

- General Secretariat of the OIC .
- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC),
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB),
- Islamic University of Technology (IUT),
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).

Representative from the Government of Malaysia, in its capacity as Chairman of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Putrajaya, Malaysia, 16-18 June 2003), also attended the Meeting.

4. The Meeting Adopted the following Agenda Items for consideration;

- i) First Round of Trade Negotiations within the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States (TPSOIC),
- ii) Review of the Progress made concerning the Proposed Cooperation Projects within the OIC Plan of Action- including Six Projects Proposed by Turkey,

- iii) Evaluation of the Outcomes of the OIC Economic Conference held in İstanbul-Republic of Turkey on 23-27 November 2004,
- iv) Briefing on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between IDB and the Government of Malaysia,
- v) Briefing on the Development of Personnels in the Field of SMEs and E-Commerce.
- vi) Any Other Business.

Under Agenda Item 1 :

5. Representatives of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and COMCEC Coordination Office informed the Meeting on the developments and positive results achieved on the First Round of Trade Negotiations within the framework of TPSOIC, including Draft Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPSOIC (PRESTAS) prepared by the 4th Meeting of Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey on 30th March-2nd April 2005, which contains a mechanism for reducing the custom tariffs.

6. The 6th Meeting of the Sessional Committee recommended TNC Secretariat to make necessary preparations for submission of the Draft Protocol on PRETAS to the forthcoming Ministerial Session of the COMCEC to be held in November in İstanbul for signing.

7. The Meeting also recommended OIC General Secretariat and IDB to exert all efforts to convince the OIC Member Countries who have not done so, to sign and ratify the TPSOIC Agreement and to take part in the Trade Negotiations.

Under Agenda Item 2 :

8. The representative of the COMCEC Coordination Office made a presentation on the six projects proposed by the concerned Turkish Institutions, together with suggestions to designate one OIC Institution that will take part as coordinator in the implementation of each Project proposal.

9. After lengthy discussions, the Sessional Committee decided to designate the following OIC Intitutions to coordinate the work needed for the implementation of the Project proposals given below;

LIST OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS

Serial No	Project Proposals	Proposing States/Institutions	Coordinator OIC Institution
1.	Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States	Turkey/ Turkish Patent Office	ICDT
2.	Technical Cooperation in the area of Business Incubators Among OIC Member States.	Turkey/ KOSGEB	ICCI
3.	Cooperation in the area of Technical Development: Medium Range Regional Turbofan Airliner.	Turkey/ TAI	
4.	Provision of Technical Assistance for Establishment of Technology Development Foundation in the OIC Member States.	Turkey/ TTGV	IUT
5.	Technical Cooperation in the area of Environmental Protection: Proper use of coastal zone to prevent Accelerated beach/coast erosion.	Turkey/ TÜBİTAK	IUT
6.	World Gold Markets and Cooperation Possibilities among Islamic countries.	Turkey/ Istanbul Gold Exchange	SESRTCIC

10. Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has expressed its desire to provide financial support for the projects number 1, 3, 5. IDB also stressed that it was not possible for them to coordinate the work needed for the implementation of one of these projects, because of its structure, its scope of work and expertise available in this regard.

11. The Sessional Committee requested Coordinator OIC Institutions to get in touch with the owners of the Project Proposals in order to cooperate and start to work for the implementation of the said Project Proposals.

12. The Coordinator OIC Institutions will be informed by the COMCEC Coordination Office on their role and work to be done in this context.

Under Agenda Item 3 :

13. The Sessional Committee Meeting was informed by the representative of the COMCEC Coordination Office on the outcomes of the OIC Economic Conference held in İstanbul on 23-27 November 2004.

14. While elaborating the outcomes of the OIC Economic Conference, the Meeting decided that the recommendations given by the businessmen who participated in the OIC Economic Conference have to be considered by the concerned OIC Institutions for necessary measures and actions to be taken.

Under Agenda Item 4 :

15. The representatives of the IDB briefed the meeting on the memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between IDB and Government of Malaysia in order to boost cooperation for Intra-OIC Trade and Intra-OIC Investment, as well as enhancing Information and Communication Technology.

Under Agenda Item 5 :

16. Representative from IUT made a brief presentation on the role of the IUT regarding the Development of Personnels in the Field of SMEs and E-Commerce for the Member Countries.

17. The 6th Meeting of the Sessional Committee concluded its work with expressing deep thanks to the chair and to the participants.

