Original : English

REPORT OF THE 8th SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF COMCEC (İzmir, 22 May 2006)

1. The 8th Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on 22 May 2006, prior to the 22nd Follow-up Committee Meeting of the COMCEC (23-25 May 2006).

2. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Ferruh TIĞLI, Acting Head 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 Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC)
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI)

In addition to the above mentioned OIC Institutions, the Turkish Institutions which are the owners of the projects also attended the Meeting.

- 4. The Meeting adopted the following agenda items for consideration:
 - a) Review of the Proposed Cooperation Projects of COMCEC,
 - Review of the implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of OIC held on 7-8 December 2005,
 - c) Evaluation of the outcomes of the Second Expert Group Meeting on the Cotton Producing and Processing Industry held in Izmir on 28-30 March 2006.
 - d) Any Other Business

<u>Under Agenda Item 1</u>:

5. The COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) gave a presentation on the demarches undertaken with regard to the Project Proposals. Thereafter, the owners and the coordinators of the Project Proposals talked about recent developments of their projects.

6. The Committee took the following Decisions as per the Projects (Annexed herewith):

- For the Project entitled, (Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States), The Committee expressed its satisfaction of the formulation of the project committee and approved the implementation plan of the project. For the implementation of the project, the coordinator and the owner of the project were asked to cooperate with the IDB, who in principle, is interested in studying its participation in cofinancing the given Project.
- For the Project entitled (Networking of Incubators Among OIC Member States), the Committee noted ICCI and KOSGEB were cooperating with respect to the finalization of the Project Document. The Committee called upon the Project owner and the ICCI to undertake the circulation of the project proposal upon its finalization to the member states, IDB and any other interested financial or other institutions. The committee noted that the owner and coordinator of the project would meet late in December to ascertain the interested member countries. The Committee called upon the Project owner to send the Project to the OIC General Secretariat for circulation to the member states.
- For the Project entitled (Cooperation in the Area of Technical Development: Medium Range Regional Turbofan Airliner) owned by TUSAŞ Aerospace Industries of Turkey (TAI), the COMCEC Coordination Office informed the Committee that TAI had sent the detailed project document to IDB to lobby for its support. After analyzing the document, IDB, with some conditions, would finance certain aspects of the project. The Committee was also informed that

many Arabic speaking Countries had shown interest in the project. Hence, TAI was requested to have the project translated into Arabic and sent to the OIC General Secretariat to circulate it to the interested Member States.

- For the Project entitled (Provision of Technical Assistance for Establishment of Technology Development Foundation in the OIC Member States), the Committee was informed that (the) Project owner, Turkish Technology Development Foundation (TTGV), requested the removal of the project from the COMCEC project list.
- For the Project entitled (Low Cost Imaging Based Mapping System Applications for Monitoring of Natural and Anthropogenic Changes in OIC Member Countries' Coasts). The owner of the Project, the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) made a presentation. TÜBİTAK informed the Committee that it had contacted IUT, prepared the action plan and agreed on the budget of the project. IUT, in its capacity as the coordinator of the project, had sent the budget of the project for the financial contribution of IDB which had already shown interest in the project.
- For the Project entitled "World Gold Markets and Cooperation Prospects among Islamic Countries", the Committee entrusted SESRTCIC, in its capacity as the coordinator of the Project, to circulate the project proposal once again to the member states. The Committee called upon the SESRTCIC and the Istanbul Gold Exchange (the owner of the Project) to focus on the Member Countries which have gold potential and strong Gold Market to gain their interest to the project. Should a sufficient number of member states express their interest in the Project, the owner of the latter shall call for a meeting of those states to explore the ways and means of the actual implementation of the Project.
- For the Project entitled Establishment of Energy Technology Network (en-tech-net) among the Member states. The Committee was informed that he the Project owner, General Directorate of Electrical Power Resource Survey and Development Administration (EIE), requested the removal of the project from the COMCEC

project list. However, the Committee was of the view that being an important project and also due to the absence of IUT, the final decision should be taken during the 22^{nd} Session of COMCEC.

- For the Project entitled TURKSAT Satellite Communication and Cable TV Operation AS of Turkey (TURKSAT) presented two projects namely "Satellite Control and Monitoring Centre (SATCMC)" and "Low Earth Orbit Satellite". The Committee noted that the private sector may have some interest in these Projects to promote linkages among the media of OIC member states and called upon the owner to prepare the necessary documentation and to contact the ICCI, preferably with the document in Arabic, within a reasonable time, so that ICCI could inform the 22nd Session of COMCEC if it will be the coordinator of the project.
- For the Project entitled, "Creation of a Network of Cross-border Parks on Tourism and Reserves in West Africa", proposed in the Expert Group Meeting on the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action in the area of Tourism in Tehran on 11-14 July 2005, it will be jointly coordinated by the ICDT and SESRTCIC.

7. The Committee noted with satisfaction the progress made by the Project owners and coordinators and called upon them to continue their efforts which would ultimately result in their successful implementation.

<u>Under Agenda Item 2</u>:

The OIC General Secretariat gave a brief on the demarches undertaken in this respect. The Committee noted the senior officials meeting held in Jeddah in April 2006, which had drafted a resolution for submission to the 33rd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, to be held in Azerbaijan in June 2006. The Committee also took note of the efforts made by the OIC Institutions towards the implementation of the OIC Ten Year Program of Action and noted that there were certain similarities between the OIC Plan of Action, the Millennium Development Goals and the Brussels LDC Program of Action. In addition to the areas of importance already covered by the Plan of Action, the Committee further highlighted the need to promote trade and investment simultaneously.

Under Agenda Item 3 :

The OIC General Secretariat briefed the Committee on the meeting held in Izmir. The Committee noted with satisfaction the outcome of the meeting and called upon the agencies concerned to prepare a revised Plan of Action so as to give a better understanding about the challenges and opportunities of the cotton producing OIC countries.

The Meeting concluded its proceedings by addressing a word of thanks to the Chairperson.

UPDATED LIST OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS

Serial No	Project Proposals/Ideas	Proposing State/ Institution	Interested Country	Coordinator
1.	Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States	Turkey	Kazakhstan, Syria, Morocco Bangladesh, Pakistan and Yemen	ICDT
2.	Networking of Incubators Among OIC Member States	Turkey		ICCI
3.	Cooperation in the area of Technical Development: Medium Range Regional Turbofan Airliner.	Turkey	Kazakhstan	
4.	Low Cost Imaging Based Mapping System Applications for Monitoring of Natural and Anthropogenic Changes in OIC Member Countries Coasts	Turkey	Bangladesh/ Turkey	IUT
5.	World Gold Markets and Cooperation Prospects among Islamic Countries	Turkey		SESRTCIC
6.	Setting up of Regional Companies Specialized in the Organization of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions.	ICDT	Burkino Faso	
7.	Setting up of Permanent Exhibition Halls.	ICDT		
8.	Establishment of Energy Technology Network (en-tech-net)	Turkey		
9.	Satellite Control and Monitoring Centre (SATCMC)	Turkey	Turkey	
10.	Low Earth Orbit Satellite	Turkey	Turkey	
11.	Creation of a Network of Cross-border Parks and Reserves in West Africa	Guinea	Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone	ICDT/SESRT CIC