



**REPORT OF
THE STANDARDS AND METROLOGY INSTITUTE FOR ISLAMIC
COUNTRIES (SMIIC)
ON
ENHANCING INTRA-OIC TRADE
SUBMITTED TO THE 35th MINISTERIAL SESSION OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE
OIC (COMCEC)**

**Agenda Item No: 4
Intra OIC Trade**

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INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the activities that have been carried out by SMIIC for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy to be submitted to the 35th Ministerial Session of the COMCEC, which will be held in Istanbul, Turkey on the 25-28 November 2019.

The reporting period was characterized by the continuous efforts of the Institute on the implementation of the cooperation areas of COMCEC, especially on the areas of enhancing intra-OIC Trade. The activities of SMIIC are multi-faceted addressing the main pillars of quality infrastructure: standards, metrology and accreditation.

Harmonisation of standards, metrology and accreditation is vital for accelerating the development of Muslim country economies. Its use will promote common understanding throughout all member states. A common standards, metrology and accreditation framework eliminates trade barriers and facilitates trade between the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states and the entire world.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much needed common standards in the OIC and has to date published 10 (ten) OIC/SMIIC Standards. 16 (sixteen) Technical Committees of SMIIC are vigorously working on the development of 53 new Standards which are in the project stage. These standards include the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Standard which will be published in 2 (two) months.

SMIIC has conducted 6 training programs on the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to aid the common use of standards within the OIC. SMIIC is also conducting a COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project on "Increasing Public Halal Awareness in OIC countries" to raise awareness of Halal in the OIC Countries, aimed at various audiences: including children, youth and adults. The project encompasses the the publication of childrens books, comics book and production of short films.

The World Halal Summit (WHS) 2018 and was organized by SMIIC as a prestigious halal event in the world gathering prominent speakers and important stakeholders of the halal industry was held simultaneously with the 6th OIC Halal Expo on 29 November-02 December 2018 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey.

World Halal Summit was organized by Discover event in coordination with SMIIC and The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) under the theme of "Halal and Healthy Life: Awareness and Sustainability".

SMIIC is simultaneously working on capacity building in the metrology area where several training programs are under planning by the SMIIC Metrology Council. Enhancemnet of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

I. SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting

SMIIC held its 18th Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 08 April 2019 and hosted by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

General Assembly (GA) Meeting

13th SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting was held on 05 November 2018 in Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and hosted by the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO).

II. STRATEGY ACTIVITIES

General and Implementation of Strategic Plan 2016-2020

SMIIC has been actively working on the achievement of all the goals in the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020, having completed or commenced work on 30 of the 33 goals determined. Planning has commenced on the achievement of the remaining 3 goals.

III. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF SMIIC COUNCILS

A. Standardization Management Council (SMC)

Standardization Management Council (SMC), as a professional structure for building the future activities of the technical committees and following-up their performance on ongoing standards projects, held its second meeting in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on the 07 April 2019. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Khalid Ahmed Bablani Director of Standards of PSQCA who was authorized by H.E. Abdul Aleem Memon, the Director General of PSQCA and the Chair of SMC. The delegation of SMC Members – Cameroon, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, the Council Members agreed on its Terms of Reference (ToR) and discussed the activities of the SMIIC Technical Committees. The Council also decided to start the revision study of the SMIIC Directives taking into account the current updates of the other international practices and the conditions of the SMIIC Member States.

SMIIC Directives were revised in accordance with the comments received from Members and the second edition of the SMIIC Directives (Part 1: Procedures for the Technical Work and Part 2: Rules for the Structure and Drafting of OIC/SMIIC Documents). These documents were approved and then published by the General Secretariat, distributed to all SMIIC Member States, released on the SMIIC website and put into active use during SMIIC Technical Committee work.

B) Technical Committees

OIC/SMIIC standards and other technical projects are under the responsibility of the Technical Committees (TCs) for the development and systematic management of these technical works.

The Technical Committees and SMIIC/CCA have continued to work on 53 (fifty-three) ongoing projects, in which 14 (fourteen) of them are in Draft Standard (DS) stage, 14 (fourteen) projects are in Final Draft Standard (FDS) stage and 10 (ten) OIC/SMIIC standards have been published.

The 6th Technical Committees (TCs) Week Meetings were held during the 15-21 April 2019 in İstanbul, Turkey. The delegation from the following SMIIC Member, Observer States and liaison organizations participated in the meetings: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and International Islamic Fiqh Academy. The committees studied on more than 37 projects like Halal Food Additives, Halal Edible Gelatine, Halal Tourism – General Guidelines, Date, Halal Supply Chain, Halal Management Systems, ...etc. were studied by the committees.

The 7th Technical Committees (TCs) Week Meetings were held on the 23-28 September 2019 in İstanbul, Turkey with the participation of 97 delegates from Algeria, Egypt, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Thailand, GCC Countries Standardization Organization (GSO) and the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

The 3 OIC/SMIIC series of Halal Standards:

1. *OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food*
2. *OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification*
3. *OIC/SMIIC 3:2019 Conformity Assessment - Requirements for Halal Accreditation*

Have been revised and published in July 2019. The series of OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards are already being used by more than 20 SMIIC Member States.

Under the COMCEC Strategy Cooperation area of Tourism, The Technical Committee 5 – Tourism and Related Services, has been working on the development of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Services Standard which will be published in 2 (two) months. This use of the common Halal Tourism Services Standard help in the development of a sustainable Tourism

B. Metrology Council (MC)

Metrology Council (MC) acts as SMIIC's operational organ for cooperation between national metrology authorities from Islamic Countries. This cooperation involves activities in the field of scientific, legal and industrial metrology. MC is also involved in conducting necessary activities for supporting development of quality infrastructure; realization, maintenance and dissemination of measurement standards in physical quantities and metrology in chemistry; implementation of quality management systems, knowledge transfer, research and development in this area in Member Countries.

The 6th Meeting of the Metrology Council (MC) was held on the 18-19 April 2019 in İstanbul, Turkey with the participation of 50 delegates from 29 Member States. A report regarding the Metrology Council Infrastructure Survey was presented and discussed.

The Metrology Council has sent out survey, requesting information regarding the infrastructure and the capacity building needs of the metrology institutes of the Member States. The MC Secretariat will continue to collect surveys from Members who have not yet sent in their surveys. The Metrology Council welcomed the proposal establishment of the “The Excellence Metrology Center for Islamic Countries - EMCIC ” for Islamic Countries. A task force group was formed composed of (Turkey, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Uganda and SMIIC General Secretariat) to further study and prepare the necessary documents.

The Task Force Group held its 1st meeting on the 29 September 2019 to discuss and prepare the necessary documents.

The MC has commenced planning for a two yearly training plan were Turkey, Saudia Arabia and Bosnia-Herzegovina will give training. Enhancemnet of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

C. Accreditation Council (AC)

Accreditation Council (AC) is the organ carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States. AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of accreditation concept within the Member States. AC shall be responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards and performing peer assessment.

The 3rd Meeting of Management of SMIIC AC was held in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 26-27 August 2019.

The draft Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIC Accreditation Council (AC) was revised and adopted to be submitted the final approval of the SMIIC Board of Directors and Ms. Eng. Lana MARASHDEH, Director of Jordan Accreditation and Standardization Systems – Accreditation Unit (JAS-AU) was elected as the Chair of SMIIC AC, ending on 31 December 2020 to be submitted to the final approval of the SMIIC Board of Directors.

IV. OTHER ACTIVITIES

i. SMIIC Auditor Foundation Training Program 2018-Central Asia

SMIIC Auditor Foundation Training Program 2018-Central Asia was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. The training was attended by 30 participants from private and public sector from Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan on the 20-22 November 2018. The training was given in English and Russian. The program was co-organized by SMIIC and The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The program consisted of 2 parts:

Part 1. Introduction, implementation and use of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards included introductory training of experts regarding the procedures for adoption, implementation and use

of the OIC/SMIIC series of 3 Halal Standards whilst providing training in SMIIC Information System (IS) and Technical Committee (TC) work.

Part 2. OIC/SMIIC 1: 2011 General Guidelines on Halal Food Foundation Auditor Training

The program aimed to inform the representatives from the Central Asian countries in order to inform them about Halal food, the current Halal market situation and introduce them to the OIC/SMIIC Standards whilst training them in the use of OIC/SMIIC Halal Food standards. The purpose is by the use of common Halal standards to facilitate trade in Central Asia and hence also in the OIC. The training was completed with an exam and qualifying participants received their certificates.

ii. Halal Tourism and Halal Friendly Hospitality Services Training

A training was given by SMIIC and Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) on "Halal Tourism and Halal Friendly Hospitality Services" to the representatives of Private and Public institutions of Uzbekistan which was organised by the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Tourism Development and SESRIC on 13-15 November 2018 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan. The training included the fundamentals of Halal Tourism such as Standards, and possible strategies for the development of Halal Tourism in Uzbekistan.

As a side event, SMIIC delegation delivered a presentation on SMIIC and its role in Halal Tourism, during the Seminar organised by International Silk Road Tourism University in Samarkand on 16 November 2018.

iii. World Halal Summit (WHS) 2018 and 6th OIC Halal Expo

World Halal Summit (WHS) 2018 as the most prestigious halal event in the world gathering prominent speakers and important stakeholders of the halal industry was held simultaneously with the 6th OIC Halal Expo on 29 November-02 December 2018 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey.

World Halal Summit was organized by Discover event in coordination with SMIIC and The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) under the theme of "Halal and Healthy Life: Awareness and Sustainability".

6th OIC Halal Expo and Opening Ceremony of the World Halal Summit (WHS) 2018 started with the recitation of verses from Holy Qur'an and continued with the speeches of VIP speakers from esteemed institutions and ministries.

Dr. El Hassane Hzaine, Director General of the ICDT addressed and delivered the message of H.E. Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the OIC. After the speech of H.E. Ms. Abeer Odeh, Minister of National Economy of State of Palestine, H.E. Dr. Saad Bin Othman Al-Kasabi, Chairman of Board of Directors of SMIIC and Governor of SASO honored the Summit with his presence and gave a speech at the opening session.

Mr. Yusuf Islam, prominent figure and Muslim peacemaker, also delivered an inspiring speech on his journey with Islam. Following the important remarks of H.E. Dr. Nureddin Nebati, Deputy Minister of Treasury and Finance of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Ms. Gonca Yilmaz

Batur, Deputy Minister of Trade of the Republic of Turkey addressed to the participants and the session ended with a group photo right after presenting memento to the esteemed speakers.

Summit Sessions

Halal Quality Infrastructure Conference had two sessions namely, Standardization and Related Issues for Halal Quality Infrastructure and Accreditation and Certification in the Halal Industry including distinguished speakers sharing their expertise and experience in their respective fields.

Mr. İhsan ÖVÜT, Secretary General of SMIIC delivered the opening remarks of this session and welcomed the esteemed speakers and participants to the Summit. Sessions then continued with the speeches/presentations. A presentation introducing SMIIC and explaining its activities and halal standards was also given in this session.

On the second day of the Summit, Scientific Conference was held and speeches/presentations on Halal Food, Meat and Slaughtering Studies, Halal Pharmaceuticals, Laboratories and Halal Authentication, Halal Supply Chain, Halal Animal Feed and Halal Leather Products were made by the distinguished speakers.

On the last day of the Summit, Halal Tourism was the main focus for two sessions and was discussed in detail. The Importance of Halal Finance in Production and Investment Conference was another topic of the day of which importance was explained by the prominent speakers. The Sessions were then concluded with the the Halal Awareness and the Approach of NGO's Conference. Mr. İhsan ÖVÜT closed the Summit by reading the declaration of the World Halal Summit 2018.

World Halal Summit 2018 provided a tremendous opportunity with its professionally formed sessions and hosted 60 speakers from 25 different countries. Also 5000 delegates from 38 different countries followed the conference sessions.

Meanwhile, 6th OIC Halal Expo gathered 350 company from 33 different countries to introduce their products/system in this platform and provided networking opportunities and B2B meetings to see the roles of each contributor in this industry.

iv. OIC/SMIIC 1 Foundation Training 2019 Program:

The Training program aimed to give the necessary foundation knowledge of the OIC/SMIIC 1 and encourage the harmonization of Halal Standards used in the OIC and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards. All three program consisted of 2 parts:

Part 1. Introduction, implementation and use of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards included introductory training of experts regarding the procedures for adoption, implementation and use of the OIC/SMIIC series of 3 Halal Standards whilst providing training in SMIIC Information System (IS) and Technical Committee (TC) work.

Part 2. OIC/SMIIC 1: 2011 General Guidelines on Halal Food Foundation Training

The trainings were completed with an exam and qualifying participants received their certificates.

a) OIC/SMIIC 1 Foundation Training 2019- Kyrgyz Republic

OIC/SMIIC 1 Foundation Training Program 2019- Kyrgyz Republic was held in Bishkek on the 29-30 April 2019 and 02-03 May 2019 Osh, Kyrgyz Republic. The two (2) trainings were attended by 63 participants from private and public sector from Kyrgyz Republic. The training was given in English and Russian. The program was co-organized by SMIIC, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

b) OIC/SMIIC 1 - Foundation Training 2019 - Istanbul

OIC/SMIIC 1 - Foundation Training was held during the 28 September – 01 October 2019 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey with the participation of 28 delegates from Afghanistan, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

The Training program aimed to give the necessary foundation knowledge of the OIC/SMIIC 1 and encourage the harmonization of Halal Standards used in the OIC and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards.

Training Program was organised by SMIIC with the support from the International Islamic Finance Corporation (ITFC) from the International Islamic Bank Group (IsDB) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

v. MRC FI Halal Food Training Program:

The MRC FI Halal Food Training on the Detection of Porcine DNA From Processes Foods and Food Additives will be held on 21-25 October 2019 in Gebze-Kocaeli, Republic of Turkey in coordination with TUBITAK Marmara Research Center (TUBITAK MAM). The objective of this training program is to give the necessary laboratory training in the method for Detection of Porcine DNA From Processes Foods and Food Additives.

vi. World Halal Summit (WHS) 2019 and 7th OIC Halal Expo

World Halal Summit (WHS) 2019 as the most prestigious halal event in the world gathering prominent speakers and important stakeholders of the halal industry will be held simultaneously with the 7th OIC Halal Expo on 28 November-01 December 2019 in Istanbul, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey. The Summit will have prominent speakers in the following areas:

1. Scientific (Food, Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals)
2. Halal Tourism
3. Islamic Finance
4. Standardization

World Halal Summit s organized by Discover event in coordination with SMIIC and The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) under the theme of “Halal for All Generations: Importance of Family and Youth”.

vii. COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project

SMIIC conducting the COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project on “Increasing Public Halal Awareness in OIC countries” to raise awareness of Halal in the OIC Countries, aimed at various audiences: including children, youth and adults. The project encompasses the the publication of childrens books, comics book and production of short films.