



# **REPORT TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**İstanbul, 17 -20 October 2011**



**COMCEC Coordination Office  
Ankara, October 2011**

**OIC/COMCEC/27-11/REP**

**COMCEC**  
**Standing Committee for Economic and**  
**Commercial Cooperation of the Organization**  
**of the Islamic Cooperation**

**REPORT**  
**TWENTY- SEVENTH SESSION**  
**OF THE COMCEC**

**İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011**

**COMCEC Coordination Office**  
**Ankara, October 2011**

**Address:**

**COMCEC Coordination Office**

**Ministry of Development**

**Necatibey Cad. 108**

**Ankara-TURKEY**

**Phone : 90-312-294 57 10**

**Fax : 90-312-294 57 77-57 79**

**Website: <http://www.comcec.org>**

**e-mail : [comcec@dpt.gov.tr](mailto:comcec@dpt.gov.tr)**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### **P A R T I**

	<u>Page</u>
<b>RESOLUTIONS OF THE OIC FORMING THE BASIS AND GUIDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMCEC</b>	
I. Resolution adopted at the Third Islamic Summit Conference Establishing the Standing Committees of the OIC chaired by Heads of State .....	9
II. Final Communiqué of the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference Entrusting the Chairmanship of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation to the President of the Republic of Turkey .....	11
III. Resolution No. 1/11-E (IS) on the Activities of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) .....	13

### **P A R T II**

#### **AGENDA, RESOLUTION AND REPORT OF THE TWENTY SEVENTH SESSION OF COMCEC**

I. Agenda of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC.....	23
II. Resolution of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC	27
III. Report of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC .....	43

### **A N N E X E S**

1. List of Participants of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC .....	55
2. Inaugural address by H.E. Abdullah GÜL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, at the Opening Session .....	89
3. Address of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC), at the Opening Session .....	99

	<u>Page</u>
4. Address by H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohamed ALI, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), at the Opening Session .....	107
5. Address by H.E. Shaikh Saleh Bin Abdullah KAMEL, President of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), at the Opening Session.....	115
6. Closing Statement of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey .....	119
7. Report of the 19 <sup>th</sup> Sessional Committee Meeting.....	125
8. Transport Cooperation Framework Within the OIC “İzmir Document 2011”.....	133
9. Report and Recommendations of The Workshop on “Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism”.....	139
10. Report of the Workshop on Private Sector Cooperation For Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism .....	147
11. Report of the Fifth Meeting Of The OIC Member States’ Stock Exchanges Forum .....	153
12. Report of the COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Conference And Roundtable .....	163
13. Reports of the 4 <sup>rd</sup> Project Committee Meeting and the 5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan.....	171
14. List of Basic Documents Considered and/or Presented at the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC .....	181

#### **BRIEFS OF THE COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**

1. Brief on TPS-OIC.....	189
2. Brief on Agricultural Cooperation.....	195
3. Brief on Tourism Cooperation.....	201
4. Brief on Transport Cooperation.....	207

-----

## **PART ONE**



**RESOLUTIONS OF THE OIC FORMING  
THE BASIS AND GUIDING THE ACTIVITIES  
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC  
AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC**





# I

## **RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE ESTABLISHING THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE OIC CHAIRED BY HEADS OF STATE**

### **Resolution No. 13/3-P (IS)**

The Third Islamic Summit Conference (Palestine and Al-Quds Session), meeting in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 19th to 22nd Rabi-Al-Awal, 1401 H. (25-28 January, 1981);

**Having** listened to the proposals by His Majesty King HASSAN II, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, that three committees will be established and chaired by the Kings and Presidents of the Islamic States,

**Proceeding** from a firm belief that joint Islamic action needs to be consolidated in the scientific and technological field, and in the economic and trade sphere,

**Prompted by the desire** to give information and culture a fresh impetus to help world public opinion understand the basic issues of the Islamic nations, particularly those of Al-Quds and Palestine, and to confront the tendentious campaign launched against Islam and Muslims,

### **DECIDES:**

1. To establish three Standing Committees, the first for scientific and technological cooperation, the second for economic and trade cooperation, and the third for information and cultural affairs;
2. These Committees shall undertake to follow up implementation of the resolutions passed, or about to be passed, by the Islamic Conference in those fields; to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in those fields, and to draw up programmes and submit proposals designed to increase the Islamic States' capacity in those fields;

3. Each Committee shall consist of the representatives of ten Islamic States, at ministerial level, and shall be chaired by the Head of State of an Islamic State;
4. Members of these Committees shall be elected by the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference for a renewable term of three years;
5. A Committee shall hold a meeting, if invited to do so by its Chairman or by a majority of its members; its meeting shall be valid if attended by a majority.

## **II**

### **FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE FOURTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE ENTRUSTING THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION TO H.E. KENAN EVREN, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

**Final Communique No. IS/4-84/E/DEC**

".... The Conference decided to entrust H.E. Mr. Kenan EVREN, President of the Republic of Turkey, with the Chairmanship of the Permanent Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation..." (Page 18, para 40).



### **III**

#### **RESOLUTION No. 1/11-E (IS) ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COMCEC**

The Eleventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal from 6 to 7 Rabiul Awwal 1429H (13-14 March 2008);

**Recalling** the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

**Recalling** also the Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among the Member States of the OIC, approved by the Tenth Session of the COMCEC and endorsed by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference. Recalling the resolutions adopted by Islamic Summit Conference and Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

**Recalling** the resolutions adopted at the twenty-three previous sessions of the COMCEC initiating effective action in economic cooperation among the Member States;

**Also recalling** the resolutions of the Ministerial level meetings in different areas of cooperation held under the auspices of the COMCEC;

#### **A. Activities of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC):**

**Recalling** Resolution No. 30/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 2/34-E adopted by the Thirty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers; Recalling also Resolution No. 8/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994) which endorsed the Strategy and the Plan of Action; Noting with appreciation the efforts of the General Secretariat, subsidiary organs, affiliated and specialized institutions of OIC, working in the field of economy and trade, to implement the resolutions of the COMCEC;

**Noting** with appreciation that the Strategy for Economic and Commercial Cooperation adopted by the COMCEC allows for cooperation among sub-groups of Member States and is based on the principles giving emphasis to private sector, economic liberalization, integration with the world economy, with due respect to the economic, political, legal and constitutional structures of the Member States and their international obligations; Appreciating that, starting with its Eleventh Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy of the Member States could exchange views on current world economic issues; Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

1. **Stresses** the need for COMCEC to continue to pay utmost attention to coordination and cooperation among Member States with regard to the membership of new countries that wish to join the World Trade Organization, and to the clarification of positions on the new issues and agreements under consideration within the framework of the WTO with a view to strengthening the negotiating position of these countries at the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations especially with respect to the built-in agenda and to the new ones.

2. **Emphasizes** the need to implement the revised Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States the OIC, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the Strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.

3. **Invites** the Member States to host sectoral Expert Group Meetings in priority areas of cooperation in the Plan of Action, such as "Transport and Communications", "Food, Agriculture and Rural Development", "Health and Sanitary Issues", "Energy and Mining" and "Human Resources Development".

4. **Requests** the coordinators and the owners of the COMCEC projects to make necessary efforts for early implementation of these projects and **also calls** on all the member states and OIC Institutions to propose new projects and programmes to enrich the agenda of the COMCEC through the Sessional Committee.

5. **Welcomes** the successful conclusion of the first and second rounds of trade negotiations for establishment of the Trade Preferential System among the Member States of OIC (TPSOIC) which produced the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) and the TPSOIC Rules of Origin and expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for hosting these rounds.

6. **Adopts** the TPS-OIC as the basis for reaching the 20 percent intra-OIC trade level set by the Ten-Year Program of Action as well for enhancing and deepening trade liberalization within the OIC Community.
7. **Endorses** the target date of January 1st, 2009, taken at the First Meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of The Trade Negotiating Committee on November 24th, 2006, in Istanbul, for the establishment of the Trade Preferential System among the Member States of OIC (TPS-OIC) and urges the Member States of the Trade Negotiating Committee to finalize the signature and ratification of the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) and the TPSOIC Rules of Origin at their earliest convenience in order to make the TPSOIC operational by January 1st, 2009.
8. **Calls upon/Mandates** the Chairman of the COMCEC and the Secretary General of OIC to coordinate their efforts, with a view to achieve the required number of ratifying countries for the PRETAS and the TPSOIC Rules of Origin, in order to make the TPS-OIC a reality by the target date.
9. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host a TNC meeting in the year 2008 to consider the last preparations undertaken by the TNC Member States before the implementation of the TPSOIC system and recommends a Meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of The Trade Negotiating Committee be held in 2008 to review the work of the Trade Negotiating Committee and evaluate the progress towards a fully operational TPS-OIC.
10. **Expresses** its appreciation to the COMCEC Coordination Office and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) for their performance as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee and thanks the Islamic Development Bank for contributing to the financing of the First and Second Round of the Trade Negotiations launched on April 6th 2004 and November 24th, 2006 respectively.
11. **Welcomes** the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman as new members of the TNC.
12. **Notes** with appreciation that the 23rd Session of the COMCEC was held from 13-16 November 2007, in Istanbul under the Chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Turkey and the 24th Session of the COMCEC will be held from 21-24 November 2008, in Istanbul and 24th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC will be held on 13-15 May 2008 in Antalya and calls upon the Member States to effectively and actively participate in these meetings.



13. **Underlines** the crucial importance of the active participation of the private sector in economic cooperation among the Member States and expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Economic Conference and the Business Forum on the sidelines of the 20<sup>th</sup> COMCEC and welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the Trade Fair and International Business Forum by Turkish Independent Businessmen and Industrialists' Association (MUSIAD) bi-annually as a sideline activity of COMCEC.

14. **Recognizes** that the Exchange of Views organized during the annual sessions of the COMCEC would be utilized to coordinate the positions of the Member States vis-a-vis major world economic issues and welcomes the initiatives of COMCEC on a new mechanism for the preparation and implementation of the exchange of views sessions. Also welcomes the decision taken by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the COMCEC that “improving investment climate” be the theme for the exchange of views at the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

15. **Notes** with appreciation that the 11<sup>th</sup> Trade Fair of Islamic Countries was successfully organised in Dakar, Republic of Senegal from 21st to 25th November 2007 under the High Patronage of the President of the Republic of Senegal.

16. **Welcome** the offers of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Guinea to host the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> editions of the Trade Fair of Islamic Countries.

17. **Thanks** the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Experts Group Meeting on Tourism Development in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 9-11 May 2007.

18. **Welcomes** the holding of OIC Forum on Enhancement and Promotion of Trade and Investment in Cotton Sector which was held in Istanbul, Turkey on 12-13 November 2007 and thanks the Republic of Turkey for hosting it and calls upon the Member Countries to support the OIC Cotton Plan of Action and deepen cooperation in this important sub-sector.

19. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host 9th Meeting of OIC Standardization Expert Group in April 2008 with the task of studying and developing OIC Halal Food Standards.

20. **Welcomes** the initiative of the COMCEC to develop cooperation with relevant international organization like ITC, UNCTAD, UNIDO, WTO, FAO, IFDA, etc. with a view to develop specific projects for trade promotion and capacity enhancement in the member countries.

## **PART TWO**



**AGENDA, RESOLUTION AND  
REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC  
AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION**



**I**

**AGENDA  
OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**



Original: English

**AGENDA**  
**OF THE TWENTY- SEVENTH SESSION**  
**OF THE COMCEC**  
**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**

1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda
2. Review of the Implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among the OIC Member States
3. World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries
4. Intra-OIC Trade
  - *TPS-OIC*
  - *Islamic Trade Fairs*
5. Priority Sectors
  - *Agriculture*
  - *Tourism*
  - *Transportation*
  - *Exchange of Views on “The Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism”*
6. Financial Cooperation
7. Poverty Alleviation
8. Enhancing Relations with the Private Sector
9. Date of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC
10. Any Other Business
11. Adoption of Resolutions

-----  
-----





## **II**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**



Original: English

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**

The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC), was held in İstanbul, the Republic of Turkey, on 17-20 October 2011;

Recalling the relevant Resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conference, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, in particular thereof, the 11<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member States to the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) adopted at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

Having regard to the objectives of the Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States;

Considering the progress reports, working papers and studies submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Organization of Islamic Ship-owners' Association (OISA) and Standards and Metrology Institute of the Islamic Countries (SMIIC) on the agenda items;

Expressing its appreciation to the Member States for hosting Ministerial Conferences, Meetings, workshops, fairs and other activities in the cooperation areas;

Commending the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office and the OIC institutions working in the area of economic and commercial cooperation, namely SESRIC, ICDT, IDB, ICCL, OISA and SMITC.

**Review of the Implementation of the OIC Ten -Year Program of Action and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States (Agenda Item: 2)**

***i) Background Report:***

**Requests** the Member States to actively participate in the activities, projects and programs, initiated by the COMCEC under the Plan of Action and OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action;

**Calls upon** the Member States to respond, within the requested time frame, to the documents and questionnaires circulated by the OIC General Secretariat and OIC Institutions, with a view to collecting data and/or getting views of the Member States;

**Urges** Member States, which have not done so, to sign and ratify the agreements in the field of economic and commercial cooperation.

**Requests** the OIC General Secretariat, to concentrate, in its review report, on the challenges and progress achieved towards the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action and OIC Ten -Year Programme of Action.

Emphasizing the importance of intra-OIC investment flows, **requests** the IDB Group/ICIEC in collaboration with ICCL to conduct a study that comprises information on investment environments and investment governing laws and regulations in the Member States, and submit this study to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

*ii) Evaluation of the Plan of Action*

**Requests** the COMCEC Coordination Office, in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat, to further study the Plan of Action so as to make it a more comprehensive and up-to-date framework of cooperation with an effective implementation mechanism.

*iii) Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee:*

**Takes note** of the Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee.

**Requests** the interested Member States to actively participate in the implementation process of the projects on the agenda of the Sessional Committee;

**World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries (Agenda Item: 3)**

**Takes note** of the recommendations of the Annual Economic Report 2011, submitted by SESRIC and **entrusts** the SESRIC with continuing to monitor world economic developments and their implications for the Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC with a set of policy recommendations.

**Intra-OIC Trade (Agenda Item: 4)**

*i) TPS-OIC*

**Welcomes** the entry into force of TPS-OIC Rules of Origin as of August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011, with the ratification of People's Republic of Bangladesh as the 10<sup>th</sup> country;

**Also welcomes** the submission of the concession lists by Malaysia, Republic of Turkey and Gulf Cooperation Council on behalf of its Member States (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE);

**Renews** its appeal to the Member States, which ratified PRETAS, to submit, if they have not done so, their annual reduction rates, along with the

list of products and the MFN-applied rate, applicable as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003, to the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) Secretariat;

**Requests** the Member States, which have ratified the Rules of Origin, to complete the necessary internal legislative and administrative measures, including printing the TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and conveying the specimen impressions of stamps to the TNC Secretariat.

**Welcomes** the submission of TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and specimen impressions of stamps by Saudi Arabia and Turkey to the TNC Secretariat

**Requests** the Trade Negotiating Committee to consider convening its session after at least 10 of the Member States, which have ratified the PRETAS, convey their lists of concessions to the TNC Secretariat.

*ii) Islamic Trade Fairs*

**Requests** ICDT to continue holding sectoral fairs and exhibitions in collaboration with the trade promoting organs and private sector in the OIC Member States on strategic products, with a view to attracting more firms and visitors to these events;

**Calls upon** the OIC Member States to actively participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tourism Fair of OIC Member States to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, in 2012 and the First OIC HEALTH EXPO to be held on 1-4 March 2012 in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia;

**Requests** ICDT to carry on extending technical assistance to Member States in the organization of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions.

**Welcomes** the offer of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host one of the forthcoming editions of the Trade Fair of OIC Member States in consultation with ICDT.

***iii) Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade***

**Takes note** of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Executive Program of the Road Map for Achieving Intra-OIC Trade Targets and **requests** relevant OIC institutions in particular, the IDB Group and ICDT to continue mobilizing necessary funds in order to expedite its implementation;

**Urges** the Member States to give necessary support to the OIC Institutions for implementation of the Executive Program and actively participate in those activities.

***iv) WTO- Related Technical Assistance***

**Requests** the IDB Group and the ICDT to pool and coordinate their efforts to reinforce human and institutional capacities of the OIC Member States, so as to facilitate their full integration into the multilateral trading system on equitable and fair basis.

**Calls on** the IDB Group and the ICDT to keep on extending their technical assistance to the Member States in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations including the Member States which are in the process of accession to the WTO.

***v) Trade Financing Activities***

**Requests** the ITFC to consider revising the maturity length of its programmes in order to make them more competitive with other international or national finance resources;

**Welcomes** the decision of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors of ICIEC on increasing the authorized capital stock of the Corporation from US\$ 240 million to US\$ 600 million.

**Calls upon** the Member States to contribute to this increase of the Corporation capital, with a view to enabling the Corporation to meet the needs of the Member States and enhance its participation in the development of intra-OIC trade and investment.



***vi) Institutionalization of SMIIC***

**Welcomes** the ratification of the Headquarters Agreement of SMIIC by the Republic of Turkey;

**Takes note** of the reports of the 2<sup>nd</sup> SMIIC Board of Directors and the 2<sup>nd</sup> SMIIC General Assembly held on 12-13 July 2011 in İstanbul;

**Welcomes** the commencement of SMIIC's activities, with a view to helping the Member States to improve quality and standards of their products and services.

***vii) Arbitration Mechanism***

**Takes note** of the study, conducted by ICIEC, on the relevance of establishing an Arbitration Mechanism and **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to circulate this study to the Member States in three languages, to get their views and submit the results to the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

**Priority Sectors (Agenda Item: 5)**

***i) Cooperation in the Area of Agriculture***

**Welcomes** the relevant decisions and recommendations of the 6<sup>th</sup> OIC Ministerial Conference, hosted by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and livestock of the Republic of Turkey on 3-5 October 2011, in İstanbul, such as establishment of capacity-building programs within the framework of OIC South-South Cooperation; engagement in technical cooperation-whenver needed, with the member states in various sub-sectors of agriculture; enhancement of joint investment opportunities among member states through inventory studies, exploring potentials, exchanging of know-how and enhancing the transparency of information; and facilitating market access for the products of small farmholders.

**Urges** relevant OIC institutions to support and promote cooperation activities among the Member States through technical assistance programmes in the area of agriculture.

**Welcomes** the proposal by the Republic of Kazakhstan to establish the OIC Food Security Office in Kazakhstan and **recommends** submitting this issue to the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of ICECS for consideration;

**Also welcomes** the offer of Senegal to host the 7<sup>th</sup> OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in 2012, and **requests** all Member States to actively participate in this Conference.

**Takes note** of the Reports of the Forum on Development of Agro-Food Industries in OIC Member States as well as the Workshop on Food Security and Agribusiness in OIC countries, concurrently held in Kampala, Uganda, on 10-12 October 2011, and **urges** Member States to give due consideration to the recommendations of the above meetings.

*ii) Cooperation in the Area of Tourism*

**Welcomes** the recommendation of the Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism”, held on 10 December 2010 in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on the establishment of COMCEC Tourism Platform, which would regularly bring private sector representatives of the member states together;

**Supports** the initiative regarding the formation of COMCEC Tourism Platform, and **calls upon** member countries to encourage their private sector representatives to actively contribute to this initiative;

**Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Development of Tourism within OIC”, on 9-10 December 2011 in İzmir, with a view to finalizing the modality of the COMCEC Tourism Platform, and **urges** the Member States to encourage their private sector representatives in tourism sector to actively participate in this event.

**Calls upon** the Member States to improve investment climate including promotion of public private partnerships, in order to contribute to their economic development.

**Urges** Member States to give due consideration to skill enhancement of the staff and capacity building of institutions in the tourism industry and invites Member States to initiate exchange programmes in this field to make use of their experiences and best practices.

***iii) Cooperation in the Area of Transportation***

**Welcomes** the recommendations of the Workshop on “Impact of Transport Networks on Trade and Tourism”, which was held on 7-8 June 2011 in İzmir, Republic of Turkey;

**Welcomes** the Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Transport among the OIC Member States (İzmir Document) recommended by the EGM held on June 9, 2011 in İzmir, Republic of Turkey;

**Requests** the COMCEC Coordination Office to study issues pertaining to working modalities of the Transport Working Group proposed in the Framework Document and to report to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC;

**Also requests** the Member States, which have not done so, to send their Sectoral Country Reports on Transport to the COMCEC Coordination Office by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011, to be published on the COMCEC website ([www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)).

**Requests** the IUT to organize a seminar on ship building in Bangladesh in 2012 with participation of public and private sector representatives of the OIC Member States and report on the outcome of the seminar to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

**Urges** the Member States to accede to the international agreements on transportation, with a view to considering the positive impacts on facilitating trade and business among the Member States.

**Financial Cooperation (Agenda Item: 6)**

***i) Cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Countries***

**Takes note** of the recommendations of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum, organized by the Istanbul Stock Exchange on 17-18 September 2011 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey;

**Supports** the launch of the Islamic Index in the beginning of the year 2012 with the signatory Member States, and **requests** Forum Members to sign the relevant index agreement by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, to be included in the indices;

**Requests** the IDB to contribute to the work on possible structured products, to be created on the OIC indices;

**Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC Stock Exchanges' Forum in 2012 in İstanbul, and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

***ii) Cooperation among the Central Banks***

**Welcomes** the cooperation activities and exchange of information among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities on operation, regulation and oversight of payment systems;

**Takes note** of the training and capacity-building programs, organized by the Central Bank of Turkey and SESRIC, within the framework of the cooperation among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities;

**Requests** the Central Banks of the Member States to respond to the questionnaires sent by the SESRIC and Central Bank of Turkey, regarding their needs and capacities in order to plan future capacity-building and training programmes;

**Welcomes** the organization of the 11<sup>th</sup> OIC Central Banks and Monetary Authorities Meeting by Malaysia, in collaboration with SESRIC, to be held on

13-16 November 2011, in Kuala Lumpur, and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in the Meeting.

*iii) Cooperation among Capital Markets' Regulatory Bodies*

**Welcomes** the establishment of the “COMCEC Capital Markets’ Regulators Forum”;

**Takes note** of the recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Capital Markets’ Regulatory Authorities of the Member States, held on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey;

**Welcomes** the offer of the Capital Markets Board of Turkey to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Forum in October 2012 in İstanbul; and **invites** all Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

**Poverty Alleviation (Agenda Item: 7)**

*i) ISFD and SPDA*

**Urges** the countries, who have pledged to the ISFD, to fulfill their commitments so as to enable it to finance more projects towards Member States;

**Calls on** the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to seek mobilization of additional resources from different financing institutions to increase the funds for the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA);

**Requests** the IDB to submit regular reports on the implementation status of the ISFD and SPDA to the COMCEC Sessions.

**Noting** with deep concern the increasing burden of natural disasters and various crises incurred by various OIC Member States and in view of ensuing urgency of developing a disaster response strategy; **calls upon** the IDB and the SESRIC in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat to cooperate for devising an effective engagement strategy with the most vulnerable people in crisis-laden and disaster-prone Member States, in collaboration with the OIC Development Cooperation Institutions.

***ii) OIC Cotton Program***

**Takes note** of the reports of the 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee and the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meetings of the OIC Cotton Programme held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso;

**Calls upon** the IDB Group and other relevant institutions to organize an Investment Forum for resource mobilization for the OIC Cotton Action Plan and invite the OIC Member States and international organizations and donors to participate actively in this forum;

**Also takes note** of the successful organization of the “First OIC Cotton and Textile Forum and Exhibition” by the Government of Burkina Faso, the ICDT and the IDB Group, which took place on 21-25 September 2011, in Ouagadougou.

**Welcomes** the IDB’s new approval of the funding of six projects proposed by Cameroon, Egypt, Mozambique and Turkey and requests IDB to expedite consideration of the relevant projects proposed by Azerbaijan, Syria and Turkey;

**Asks** the IDB Group to prepare a comprehensive report on the status of the remaining sixteen (16) projects, which have not yet received funding and submit it to the OIC General Secretariat and to the COMCEC Coordination Office;

**Calls on** each Centre of Excellence to submit periodical reports to OIC General Secretariat and Nazilli Cotton Research Institute one month before the Project Committee and Steering Committee Meetings;

**Urges** the owner countries of the cotton-related project proposals, which have not done so, to officially submit their financial requests to the IDB Group through their competent authorities;

**Also urges** the Member States concerned and OIC Institutions to provide the OIC General Secretariat with the necessary information to be published on the cotton web portal ([www.oic-cotton.org](http://www.oic-cotton.org)).

*iv) OIC-VET Programme*

**Takes note** of the recommendations of the 3rd Meeting of MAC of OIC-VET held on 17-19 July 2011, in Islamic Republic of Iran, and also **welcomes** the decision of establishment of thematic working groups on virtual training, training of trainees and sharing best practices among the OIC Member States.

**Takes note** of the report of SESRIC on the implementation of OIC-VET Sub-Programmes, and **requests** the SESRIC and IDB to exert efforts toward the implementation of the planned projects under the OIC-VET sub-programmes, and to report their outcomes to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

**Calls upon** the Member States to participate and support the ISMEK Master Trainer Program, the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network and OIC International Students Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP).

**Enhancing Relations with the Private Sector (Agenda Item: 8)**

**Takes note** of the report of the 14<sup>th</sup> Private Sector Meeting for the promotion of trade and joint venture investment among Islamic Countries, organized by the ICCI on 24-26 April 2011 in Sharjah, UAE;

**Requests** the Member States to facilitate visa issuance for business people to promote economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States;

**Requests** the ICCI, ICDT and other OIC Institutions to ensure wider participation of the private sector in economic and commercial cooperation activities.

**Date of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC (Agenda Item: 9)**

**Decides** that the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 9-10 May 2012 and the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC will be held on 8-11 October 2012 in İstanbul.

**Any Other Business (Agenda Item: 10)**

**Decides** on “Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the Member States” as the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, and **requests** the SESRIC, in collaboration with IDB and relevant OIC institutions, to organize a workshop on this theme and submit its report to the next COMCEC Session.

-----





### **III**

## **REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**



Original: English

**REPORT  
OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND  
COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**

1. The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) was held on 17-20 October 2011 in İstanbul.

2. The Session was attended by representatives of the following Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC):

- 1- Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- 2- People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- 3- Kingdom of Bahrain
- 4- People's Republic of Bangladesh
- 5- Brunei Darussalam
- 6- Burkina Faso
- 7- Republic of Cameroon
- 8- Republic of Chad
- 9- Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
- 10- Republic of Djibouti
- 11- Arab Republic of Egypt
- 12- Republic of Gabon
- 13- Republic of Gambia
- 14- Republic of Guinea
- 15- Republic of Indonesia
- 16- Republic of Iraq
- 17- Islamic Republic of Iran
- 18- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- 19- Republic of Kazakhstan
- 20- State of Kuwait
- 21- Republic of Lebanon
- 22- Libya
- 23- Kyrgyz Republic

- 24- Malaysia
- 25- Republic of Maldives
- 26- Republic of Mali
- 27- Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- 28- Kingdom of Morocco
- 29- Republic of Niger
- 30- Federal Republic of Nigeria
- 31- Sultanate of Oman
- 32- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- 33- State of Palestine
- 34- State of Qatar
- 35- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 36- Republic of Senegal
- 37- Republic of Sierra Leone
- 38- Republic of Somalia
- 39- Arab Republic of Sudan
- 40- Syrian Arab Republic
- 41- Republic of Tajikistan
- 42- Republic of Togo
- 43- Republic of Tunisia
- 44- Republic of Turkey
- 45- Turkmenistan
- 46- Republic of Uganda
- 47- State of the United Arab Emirates
- 48- Republic of Yemen

3. Also Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Russian Federation, Kingdom of Thailand and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the Session as observers.

4. The OIC General Secretariat and the following subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated OIC institutions attended the Session:

- 1- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- 2- Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- 3- Islamic Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA)

- 4- Islamic University of Technology (IUT)
- 5- Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group
- 6- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI)
- 7- Organization of the Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA)
- 8- Federation of Consultants from Islamic Countries (FCIC)
- 9- Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- 10- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
- 11- Association of National Development Financing Institutions (ADFIMI)

5. Representative of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) also attended the Session.

6. Representatives of the following UN and other international organizations attended the Session as well:

- 1- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- 2- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
- 3- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- 4- Developing Eight D(8)
- 5- UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 6- International Trade Centre (ITC)
- 7- West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)
- 8- Economic Cooperation Organization Trade and Development Bank (ECOBANK)

(A copy of the List of Participants of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC is attached as Annex 1.)

7. The Meeting of Senior Officials of COMCEC that preceded the Ministerial Session was held on 17-18 October 2011 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Kemal MADENOĞLU, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Development of the Republic of Turkey. The Senior Officials deliberated on the agenda items and prepared the Draft Resolutions for consideration by the Ministerial Session.

### **Opening Session**

8. The Opening Ceremony of the Twenty-Seventh Session of COMCEC was held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Abdullah GÜL, President of the Republic of Turkey and the Chairman of the COMCEC.

9. In welcoming the delegates, H.E. Abdullah GÜL stressed the importance of COMCEC as a solid platform of cooperation in the area of economy and trade. Emphasizing the recent developments in some of the member states, President GÜL called on the member states to lead and manage the process of change so as to realize the necessary political, social, and economic reforms.

10. H.E. GÜL continued his statement by pointing out the opportunities and threats brought by globalization and the need to enhance solidarity and cooperation in the face of these developments. He went on to say that the current global economic outlook further calls for increasing trade and investment flows among the Member Countries.

11. In this regard, H.E. Abdullah GÜL stressed the importance of COMCEC Projects and programs such as Trade Preferential System of OIC (TPS-OIC), Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC), Stock Exchanges Forum, Central Banks Meetings, and Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Forum, and called on the member states to sign and ratify agreements with regard to these projects as well as to actively participate in relevant meetings with a view to enabling these projects to deliver their developmental results.

12. H.E. Abdullah GÜL also touched upon recent developments with regard to priority sectors of the COMCEC, namely agriculture, tourism and transport. H.E. the President expressed his satisfaction with the recent progress achieved in these fields and invited member states to exert greater efforts to deepen their cooperation.

13. Before concluding his remarks, H.E. Abdullah GÜL expressed his deep concern with regard to the situation in Somalia, and appealed to the member states to show solidarity with the people of Somalia by extending more aid to them.

(A copy of the text of the Inaugural Statement of H.E. Abdullah GÜL is attached as Annex 2.)

14. Following the opening statement made by H.E. the President, H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, Secretary General of the OIC, made a statement at the Opening Session. He expressed his thanks to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the warm hospitality and its continuous support to develop economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States.

15. In his speech H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU underlined the progress made so far towards increasing the volume of trade among OIC Member States and their share in the world output as a result of combined efforts at OIC level. He urged delegates to give effect to numerous resolutions on trade expansion and facilitation. The Secretary General expressed the need for collective actions and called upon the delegates at the meeting to deepen ownership of the OIC activities by their respective countries with a view to ensuring their effective implementation.

(A copy of the address of H.E Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU is attached as Annex 3.)

16. The Heads of Delegation of the State of Kuwait, Mali and Afghanistan made statements on behalf of the Arab, African, and Asian groups of Member States, respectively. They expressed their thanks to the Republic of Turkey for the hospitality extended and to H.E. Abdullah GÜL for his wise guidance for enhancing economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States.

17. The Heads of Delegations emphasized the necessity of improving cooperation among the Member States and underlined the substantial role of COMCEC in improving economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States.

18. H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohammed ALI, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), delivered a statement at the Opening Session. H.E. Dr. ALI commended the programs and projects initiated by COMCEC for enhancing cooperation among the OIC Member Countries.

(The text of the Statement of the IDB President is attached as Annex 4.)

19. H.E. Shaikh Saleh Bin Abdullah KAMEL, President of the ICCI, also delivered a statement at the Opening Session. H.E. KAMEL emphasized the



role of the private sector in promoting economic and commercial cooperation among the member countries.

(The text of the Statement of the President of the ICCI is attached as Annex 5.)

20. Rifat HİSARCIKLIOĞLU, President of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), also made a speech at the Opening Session. Mr. HİSARCIKLIOĞLU underlined the importance of enhancing solidarity among the Member Countries for the expansion of intra-OIC trade.

21. At the end of the Opening Ceremony, an award ceremony was organized. “The Islamic Solidarity Prize for the Promotion of Trade among OIC Member Countries” of the IDB was accorded to Aldellatif HAMAM, Director of the Tunisian Center for the Promotion of Trade, on behalf of his Institution by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohammed ALI, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB).

22. Following the Opening Ceremony, H.E. Abdullah GÜL received the Heads of Delegations.

### **Ministerial Working Session**

23. The Ministerial Working Session of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC was held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey.

24. The Session adopted the Draft Agenda of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC.

25. At the outset of the Session, as the Chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) H.E. Kemal MADENOĞLU, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Development of the Republic of Turkey briefed the Ministers on the outcomes of the Senior Officials Meeting.

26. Following the presentation of H.E. Kemal MADENOĞLU, the Exchange of Views Session of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC was held under the theme of “The Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism”.

27. Mr. Velid ABDULVAHHAB, Director of the Transport Division of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), made a presentation as a Keynote Speaker on “Current Challenges, Trends and Prospects in Transport in OIC Member States.”

28. Mr. Ruhi Engin ÖZMEN, Chairman of the International Transporters Association, also made a presentation as a keynote speaker on “The Role of Logistics in International Trade”.

29. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations expressed their views on the presentations made by the key-note speakers, shared their countries’ experience in the field of transport and made comments on the problems of the OIC region in this sector. In addition, the Ministers underlined the importance of enhancing technical cooperation in the field of logistics and emphasized the necessity of developing a transport map which comprises information on the transport corridors and transport modes in the OIC Member States.

### **Closing Session:**

30. The Closing Session of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the COMCEC was held on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey.

31. Dr. Yousaf JUNAID, Counselor General of Pakistan in Istanbul and Rapporteur of the Session, presented the Draft Resolutions to the Ministerial Session. In his presentation, Dr. JUNAID summarized the proceedings of the Session and highlighted the important points of agreement contained in the resolutions.

32. The Session adopted Resolution OIC/COMCEC/27-11/RES.

33. A special signing ceremony was also held at the Closing Session. During this ceremony, Kuwait signed the Agreement on Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS-OIC (PRETAS) and TPS-OIC Rules of Origin, and Mali signed the Statute for the Islamic Civil Aviation Council.

34. H.E. Mr. Hameed OPELOYERU, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs read out the message of H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, Secretary General of the OIC. In his message, H.E.

İHSANOĞLU congratulated the Session on the impressive and successful outcome of this meeting.

35. H.E. Dr. Njogou L. BAH, Minister of Works, Construction and Infrastructure of the Republic of Gambia, made a statement on behalf of all participating Member Countries, in which H.E. BAH thanked H.E. Abdullah GÜL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC, the OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, SESRIC, IDB Group and all parties concerned for their contribution to the success of this Session.

36. H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey, made a closing statement at the Session. H.E. Dr. YILMAZ underlined the vitality of the priority sectors namely, transport, tourism and agriculture, for economic and social development of member countries. In this regard, H.E. Dr. YILMAZ stated that the framework document for cooperation in transport would shed light on the future activities in this sector. Pertaining to tourism, H.E. Dr. YILMAZ emphasized the importance of COMCEC tourism platform with a view to helping the member states to make better use of the resources and vibrancy of the private sector. H.E. Dr. YILMAZ also expressed his pleasure for the remarkable progress achieved in the field of financial cooperation and invited all member countries to join the financial cooperation initiatives.

37. H.E. Dr. YILMAZ concluded his statement by thanking all delegations, OIC institutions, COMCEC Coordination Office, organizers and interpreters for their valuable contribution to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

(The text of the Closing Statement of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ is attached as Annex 6.)

38. All documents and presentations presented to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC will be available on the COMCEC web site ([www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)).

-----

# **A N N E X E S**



# **ANNEX**

## **1**



Original: English

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
OF THE TWENTY- SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 17 – 20 October 2011)**

**A. MEMBER STATES OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**

- H.E. ABDUL HADI ARGANDEHWAL  
Minister of Economy
- Mr. MOHAMMAD ISMAIL RAHIMI  
Director General of Policy and National Development Strategy M&E, Ministry of Economy
- Mr. GHULAM ALI FARZAM  
UNDP Desk Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA**

- H.E. MUSTAFA BENBADA  
Minister of Trade
- H.E. MOULOUD HAMAÏ  
Ambassador of Algeria, Ankara
- Mr. ABDELHAKIM ZEBIRI  
Manager, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. MEHDI TAALBI  
Head of Protocol
- Mr. NACIM GAOUAOUI  
Vice Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ABDELOUAHEB SAIDANI  
Vice Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mrs. LATIFA BENCHAOUI  
Vice Director, Ministry of Tourism and Art
- Mr. MOUSTAPHA LARBI  
Inspector



- H.E. RACHID MEDDAH  
Consul General of Algeria, İstanbul
- Mr. ABBES BELFATMI  
Assistant of Ambassador

#### **KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN**

- H.E. MOHAMMED BIN IBRAHIM AL MUTAWA  
Minister of State for Implementation
- H.E. Dr. EBRAHIM YUSUF AL-ABDULLA  
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Republic of Turkey
- Ms. NADA AHMED YASEEN AHMED  
Assistant Undersecretary for Tourism
- Mr. AHMED ISA BUBSHAIT  
Assistant Undersecretary for Foreign Trade
- Mr. AREF HASAN AL-MANSOORI  
Director of Human and Finance/Act. Director of Land Transport Specification  
Monitoring Directorate
- Mr. FAWAZ KHALIL BUBSHAIT  
Director of Minister Office for State for Implementation
- Mr. ABDULAZIZ MOHAMED ABDULKAREEM  
Horticulturist
- Mr. HASAN RASHDAN  
Diplomatic Attache

#### **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH**

- H.E. ZULFIQUR RAHMAN  
Ambassador of Bangladesh to Turkey in Ankara

#### **BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

- H.E. DATO PADUKA HAJI ABDUL MOKTI BIN HAJI MD DAUD  
Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam in Amman, Jordan

#### **BURKINO FASO**

- Mr. ABDOUL KARIM SALAMBERE  
Minister Consellor, Embassy of Burkina Faso to Riyadh

- Mr. REGIS KEVIN BAKYONO  
Consellor of Foreign Affairs

## **REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

- H.E. LUC MAGLOIRE MBARGA ATANGANA  
Minister of Commerce
- H.E. IYA TIDJANI  
Ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon in Riyadh
- Ms. MBAJON NDJEPANG MARTHE CHANTAL  
Technical Advisor Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon
- Mr. BOUBA AOUSSINE  
Deputy Director for the Commercial Exchanges, Ministry of Commerce
- Ms. JEANNINE ATANGA NKODO  
Deputy Director of Cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Mr. KAZI PALAI  
Chief of Planning at the Ministry of Tourism
- Mr. AHMAD MALAM  
Deputy Researcher, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Territorial Planning
- Mr. ATENGAN MICHE  
Representative of the Ministry of Transport

## **REPUBLIC OF CHAD**

- Mr. AHMAT ABAKAR ADJID  
Deputy General Secretary
- Mr. DJIMADOUMBAYE MADIBAYE  
Director of Commerce

## **REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE**

- H.E. VAZOU MANA TOURE  
Ambassador of Cote D'ivoire to Riyadh
- Mr. GUY KODJO  
Chief of Staff

## **REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI**

- H.E. DYA EDDINE SAID BAMAKHRAMA  
Ambassador of the Republic of Djibouti in Riyadh
- Mr. MOUSTAPHA HASSAN ADENE  
Vice Director, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. ABDURRAHMAN SALEH  
Consellor
- Mr. SAMIYA HOUMED ABDOULKADER  
Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations

## **ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**

- H.E. Dr. MAHMOUD MOSTAFA EISA  
Minister of Industry and Foreign Trade
- Mr. SAYED MOHAMMED EL-BOUS  
Minister's Advisor
- Mr. ABDELRAHMAN FAWZY  
First Undersecretary, Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade
- Mrs. WAFAA EL HADIDY  
Consul General of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Istanbul
- Mr. MOUSTAFA MEKAWY  
Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of Egyptian Trade Office in Istanbul
- Mr. SOLIMAN KHALIL  
First Secretary, Vice Commercial Counselor
- Ms. SHIREEN EL-SHEHAWY  
Second Secretary, Economic Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. YASER GABER SHAKER  
Ministry of Industry

## **REPUBLIC OF GABON**

- H.E. EMMANUEL ISSOZE-NGONDET  
Minister of Finance
- Mr. NINA ABOUNA  
Director General

- Mr. PATRICE MBA ONDO  
Responsible of International Relations Education
- Mr. MARCELIN BELOUMI  
Assistant of Minister
- Mr. GEORGEA VIERIN IBOUDAH  
Director of Internal Trade

#### **REPUBLIC OF GAMBIA**

- H.E. Dr. NJOGOU L. BAH  
Minister of Works, Construction and Infrastructure
- Mr. HABIB T.B. JARRA  
Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation Gambians Abroad
- Ms. NAFFIE BARRY  
Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment
- H.E. GIBRIL SEMAN JOOF  
Ambassador of the Republic of The Gambia to Turkey
- Ms. SIABATOU CAMARA  
Principal Assistant Secretary, Office of the President
- Mr. EBRIMA L. S. DARBOE  
Principal Loans Officer, Ministry of Finance

#### **REPUBLIC OF GUIENA**

- Mr. MAMA KARIFA CAMARA  
Deputy Director of Planification and Transports
- Ms. AISSATOU SOW  
Deputy Director, Responce of OIC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ORHAN ARGÜN  
Honorary Consul

#### **REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

- H.E. NAHARI AGUSTINI  
Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Republic of Turkey

- Mr. EDWARD SIBARANI  
Director of APEC Cooperation and Other International Organizations,  
Ministry of Trade
- Mrs. SRI RAHMADIANI  
Deputy Director of Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation,  
Investment Coordinating Board
- Mrs. YUANA ROCHMA  
Division of Economic Cooperation and UN Financing, Coordinating,  
Ministry of Economy
- Mr. NOVA HERLANGGA MASRIE  
Section Head of UN Cooperation, Investment Coordinating Board
- Mrs. YENNI HERNAWATI  
Section Head of Non-UN Body, Ministry of Trade
- Mrs. DYAH UMIYARTI PURNAMANINGRUM  
Division of Bilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. KAMRAN R. LOSSEN  
Division of Legal Assistance and Foreign Cooperation, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. SEMUEL SALO KRISNA MUNDA  
Division of Sea Transport Regulation, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. UBAIDI TOLHAH  
Directorate of Socio-Culture and International Organization of Developing Countries,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. SUYOTO HERJAN  
First Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, Ankara-Turkey

## **REPUBLIC OF IRAQ**

- H.E. HAYRULLAH HASAN BABEKIR  
Minister of Trade
- H.E. EZADIN ABDULA  
Minister of Agriculture
- Mr. HASHIM MOHAMMED HATHEM  
General Director of Economic Foreign Relations Department, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. WASIQ TAHA MOHAMMED  
Director of International Relations Department, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. MUNAFFEZ ABDULJABBAR AL-BAKER  
Undersecretary, Ministry of Industry

- Mr. MONQZ ABDUL JABAR  
Undersecretary
- Mr. FARAJ MOHAMED ABDULLAH  
Head of Section of Regional Organizations
- Mr. NADHIM H. ABBAS  
Iraqi Commercial in Ankara
- Mr. ADNAN XIROLLA ABBAS  
Manager, Ministry of Trade
- Mr. WALLED KHALED HASSAN  
Assistant Commercial Atteche in Ankara
- Mr. MOHAMMED HASAN ABBOD  
General Director of Financial Affairs, Ministry of Industry
- Mr. RAAD HUSEIN KHADER  
General Chiarman of Al-Zawra Company
- Mr. MOHAMOD ABD AL JABAR  
Director General
- Mr. ADNAN KHIR ALLAH SALIH  
Director
- Mr. AHLAM GAILANY  
Minister Plenipotentiary
- Mr. HARWIN KAMAL  
Second Secretary

#### **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

- H.E. Dr. BEHROUZ ALISHIRI  
Vice Minister and President of Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance
- H.E. SHAHRIAR AFANDIZADEH  
Vice Minister, Ministry of Roads and Urban Development
- Mr. EZATOLLAH YOUSEFIANN MOLLA  
Member of Islamic Consultative Asseblly
- Mr. SAEID KAHNI OUSHANI  
Acting Director General for Loans, International Organizations and Institutions, Organization for Investment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance

- Ms. ZOHREH BAHREHBAR  
Division Chief, Grants and Credit Facilities, Office for Loans, International Organizations and Institutions, Organization for Investment, Ministry of Finance
- Ms. MAHSA ZIAEDDINI  
Expert, Office for Loans, International Organizations and Institutions, Organization for Investment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance
- Mr. MOHAMMAD HOSSEIN SHOJAEI ALI ABADI  
Advisor to the Centre for Islamic Research & Studies, Chamber of Commerce of Iran
- H.E. MAHMOOD HAIDARI  
Ambassador of Iran in Istanbul
- Mr. MAJID KHOINIHA  
Assistant of Ambassador of Iran in Istanbul
- H.E. BAHMAN HOSSEINPOOR  
Ambassador of Iran to Turkey
- Mr. SEYED NASER MOUSAVI LARGANI  
Member of Islamic Consultative Assembly
- Mr. MOHAMMAD GHAINI NAJAFI  
Expert of Protocol
- Mr. ABDOLLAH AKHLAGHI  
Economist
- Mr. ALI ASGHAR ROSTAMI ABOUSAEIDI  
Advisor and Director General for Legal and International Affairs, Organization for Vocational Training (TVTO)
- Mr. REZA BAJOULVAND  
Training Deputy, Trainers' Education Center, Organization for Vocational Training

#### **REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**

- H.E. NICOLAS NAHAS  
Minister of Economy and Trade
- Mr. FOUAD FLEIFEL  
Director General, Ministry of Economy and Trade
- Mr. MALEK ASSI  
Head of Trade Department, Ministry of Economy and Trade
- H.E. HANI CHEMAAITELY  
Consul General of Lebanon in Istanbul

## **LIBYA**

- Mr. MOHAMED ZENATI  
Charge D'Affaires in Ankara
- Mr. HESHAM GHANIDI  
Third Secretary in Ankara
- Mr. MOHAMED AIAI  
Vice Consul in İstanbul
- Mr. ABDULMONAM TAKITA  
Vice Consul in İstanbul

## **HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN**

- H.E. ZUHAIR ENSOUR  
Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Turkey
- Mr. NIDAL AL-ABADI  
Economist, Ministry of Industry and Trade
- Mrs. RANDA EL-RABADI  
Director External Relations, Ministry of Transport

## **REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

- Mr. AIDAR KAZYBAYEV  
Chairman
- Mr. SVETLANA GONOVA  
Head of Unit
- Mr. SERIK BEKMAGANBETOV  
Counselor of Department
- Mr. YERLAN BAIDAULET
- Mr. ASKAR SHOKYBAYEV  
General Consul of Consulate in İstanbul
- Mr. BAGLAN DANDYBAYEV  
Consul of Consulate in İstanbul
- Mr. KUAT KANAFEEV  
Consul



## **STATE OF KUWAIT**

- H.E. MUSTAFA JASSEM AL – SHAMALI  
Minister of Finance of State of Kuwait
- H.E. ABDULLAH A. A. AL-DUWAIKH  
Ambassador of the State of Kuwait
- H.E. SHEIKH FAHAD SALIM ALSABAH  
General Consul to Istanbul
- Mr. SAMI AL - SAQAABI  
Assistant Undersecretary of Economic Affairs
- Mr. ISHAQ ABDULKAREEM  
Director of the Department of International Economic Cooperation
- Mr. MISHAL AL - ARADI  
Observer of International Organizations
- Mr. SAAD AL - RASHIDI  
Chief of the Organization of Islamic Conference
- Mr. YOUSEF AL - FAYAD  
Observer, Department of the Minister's Office
- Mr. KHALED ALMUTAIRAT  
Vice Consul
- Mr. ADEL AL-ZUABI  
First Secretary of the Embassy of the State of Kuwait
- Mr. SALEM AL - BATHER  
Economic Analyst
- Mr. KHALED AL-ZEER  
Third Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait
- Mr. ABDURRAHMAN AL-DAIHANI  
Vice Consul
- Mr. KHALID ALAZMI  
Vice Consul of the General Consulate of the State of Kuwait

## **KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

- Mr. MIRLAN ARSTANBAEV  
Consul General of Kyrgyz Republic in Istanbul
- Mr. SAGYNBEK IBRAEV  
Second Secretary of the Ministry Foreign Affairs

## **MALAYSIA**

- DATO ABDUL GHAFAR MUSA  
Senior Director, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)
- Mr. AHMAD HISHAM IDRIS  
Principal Assistant Director (MITI)
- Ms. MAZITA MARZUKI  
Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Dr. ABDUL MALIK MUSHARAF  
Vice President, Industry Development Division, HDC
- Ms. HAKIMAH BINTI MOHD YUSOFF  
Principal Assistant Director, (JAKIM) Department of Islamic Development
- Mr. MOHAMAD NOOR AZHAB MOHD SHAZILI  
Trade Commissioner, MATRADE
- Ms. NIK NAZIRA NIK YAHYA  
Senior Assistant Director, Department of Standards
- Mr. ABDILBAR AB RASHID  
Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES**

- H.E. IRUTHISHAM ADAM  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative
- Mr. ABDULLA THAWFEEG  
Counsellor Trade Permanent Mission of the Maldives to UNOG and WTO

## **REPUBLIC OF MALI**

- Mr. JEAMILLE BITTAR  
Chairman of Economic, Social and Cultural Council
- H.E. MOHAMED MAHMOUD BEN LABAT  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative to OIC
- Mr. CHEIKNA BARRY  
Director at the Economic, Social and Cultural Council
- Mr. OUSMANE ALBOU KADER TOURE  
Deputy Director, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. DJIBRIL ONGOIBA  
Deputy General Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Mr. MOUSSA ALIOU KONE  
Consellor at the Embassy of Mali in Riyadh
- Mr. FAROUK CENGIC  
Honorary Consul, Istanbul
- Mr. HUSSEYIN BASARAN  
Honorary Consul, Ankara

#### **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA**

- H.E. SIDI OULD TAH  
Minister of Economy and Development
- H.E. MOHAMED AHMED OULD ELEMINE  
Ambassador of Mauritania to Turkey
- Mr. WEDDADY OULD SIDI HAÏBE  
Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. MOHAMED OULD TEGHRA  
Advisor, Ministry of Economy and Development

#### **KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**

- H.E. KARIM GHELLAB  
Minister of Transport and Equipment
- Mr. EL AID MAHASOUSSI  
General Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade
- Mr. ZAHREDDINE BELBACHIR  
Head of Trade Relations Outside Europe, Ministry of Foreign Trade
- H.E. LOTFI AGUAD  
Ambassy of Morocco to Turkey
- Mr. DQUIEC JAWAD  
Head of Division of Cooperation - MTE
- Mr. MOHAMMED ZERROUKI  
Minister, Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Ankara
- Mr. MOHAMMED BENABDELJALIL  
Consul General of the Kingdom of Morocco in Istanbul

**REPUBLIC OF NIGER**

- H.E. SALEY SAIDOU  
Minister of Trade and Developing Private Sector
- Mr. BOUBACAR IBRAHIM  
General Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Art
- Ms. MAMADOU AICHATOU  
General Director of Trade
- Mr. ISSAKA AMADOU  
Chef Section OIC
- Ms. ZÜBEYDE ÖZGÜR DEMİRAL  
Consul's Assistant

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

- H.E. Prof. Mrs. VIOLA ADAKU ONWULIRI  
Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
- Mrs. CHIGOZIE OBI-NNADOZIE  
Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. B. T. TEKUNE  
Minister, Embassy of Nigeria, in Ankara
- Mr. MOHAMMED LAWAN GANA  
Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. SULEIMAN SANI  
Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Nigeria, in Riyadh
- Mr. ANDY NKEMNEME  
Special Assistant to Minister of State
- Mr. IROM A. AWASSAM  
Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mrs. PRISCA ONUOHA  
Personal Assistant to Minister of State
- Mr. ABUBAKAR SULAYMAN  
Director, Ministry of Transport
- Mrs. BRENDA MAX-NDUAGUBE  
Ministry of Transport

## **SULTANATE OF OMAN**

- H.E. Dr. SHEIKH ABDULMALIK BIN ABDULLAH AL-HINAI  
Adviser at the Ministry of Finance Charged with Ministry of National Economy
- Mr. NASSER BIN SAIF AL-WAHAIBI  
Deputy Director of Councils and Committees Department at Ministry of Finance
- Mr. YAKUB BIN SHEIKH AL-DABIONI  
Head of Department, Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Mr. WALEED BIN ESSA AL-ZADJALY  
Counselor, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. SALIM BIN MOHAMMED AL-HAJRI  
Economic Researcher at the Department of Economic Organization,  
Ministry of National Economy
- Ms. NARGIS BINT ABDALLAH AL-MARSHUDI  
Engineer, Department of Land Transportation at the Ministry of Transportation and  
Communication

## **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN**

- Mr. SHAHID RAHIM SHEIKH  
Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce
- H.E. MUHAMMAD HAROON SHAUKAT  
Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkey
- Mr. MOIN UL HAQ  
DHM Pakistan Embassy Ankara
- Dr. YOUSAF JUNAID  
Consul General, Consulate General of Pakistan in Istanbul
- Mr. SYED ZAHID RAZA  
Consul, Consulate General of Pakistan in Istanbul
- Mr. AMIR BARLAS  
Protocol Officer-Consulate General of Pakistan in Istanbul
- Mr. SAAD AHMAD WARRIACH  
Second Secretary, Embassy of Pakistan in Ankara

## **STATE OF PALESTINE**

- H.E. Dr. HASAN ABU LIBDEH  
Minister of Economy

- H.E. NABIL MAAROUF  
Ambassador of Palestine to Turkey
- Mr. ABDELHAFIZ NOFAL  
Deputy Ministry of National Economy
- Mr. RAFAT RAYYAN  
Director International Organisation Department

#### **STATE OF QATAR**

- H.E. ABDUL RAZZAK AL ABDUL GHANI  
Ambassador of Qatar to Turkey
- Mr. SAOUD JASSIM AL-JUFAIRI  
Advisor of Economy, Ministry of Business and Trade
- Mr. AHMAD HAMAD AL-MARZOUKI  
Head, Regional and International Organization, Ministry of Business and Trade
- Mr. AHMED SALEH AL-MOHANADI  
Advisor of International Relations and Trade, Ministry of Business and Trade
- Mr. MOHAMED ALI AL MAADID  
Consulate General in İstanbul , State of Qatar
- Mr. KHALED H. AL SULAITI  
Vice Consular
- Dr. KHALED AL-TAI  
Economist of Consulate
- HUSEIN PATEL  
Public Relations, Embassy
- Mr. ORHAN GUL  
Public Relations, Consulate

#### **KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

- H.E. ABDULLAH IBN AHMED ZAINAL ALIREZA  
Minister of Trade and Industry
- Mr. ABDULLAH BIN ABDURRAHMAN AL HAMOIDI  
Undersecretary
- Mr. ABDULLAH BIN ABDULWAHAB AL-NAFISAH  
Director General Foreign Trade
- H.E. MUHAMMED ABDULLAH A.BARRI  
Ambassador

- Mr. NASIR MOHAMMED ALMOTLAQ  
Economic Researcher
- Mr. MONZIR BIN NASER AL RASHED  
General Director of Transport
- Mr. HUSSIN EED ALRASHEED  
Economist
- Mr. TALAL BIN AHMAD AL ALMER  
Executive Secretary of Trade and Industry Ministry
- Mr. FAYSAL BIN YOUSEF AL YOUSEF  
Undersecretary

#### **REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL**

- H.E. NIANG AMADOU  
Minister of Trade
- H.E. MOUHAMMADOU DOUDOU LO  
Ambassador of Senegal to Riyadh
- Mr. NDONGO NIANG BA  
Undersecretary in Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### **REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

- H.E. VANDI CHIDI MINAH  
Minister of Transport and Aircraft

#### **REPUBLIC OF SOMALI**

- H.E. President SHARIF SHEIKH AHMED  
President of the Republic of Somali
- H.E. HUSSEIN ARAB ISSE  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence
- H.E. ABDULLAHI GODAH BARRE  
Minister of Planning & International Cooperation
- H.E. ABDULLAHI HAJI HASSAN MOHAMED  
Minister of Agriculture & Livestock
- H.E. AHMED HASSAN GABOBE  
Minister of Justice & Religious Affairs

- H.E. JAYLANI NUR IKAR  
Minister of Public Works and Reconstruction
- H.E. ABDULRAHMAN HOSH JIBRIL  
Minister of Constitution, Federal and Reconciliation
- Mr. HASAN MOALIM KHALIF  
Private Secretary of the President
- Gen. ABDULKADIR SHEIKH ALI DINI  
Chief of Staff for Somali Armed Forces
- Mr. MURSAL MOHAMUD SANAY  
Director of Protocol & Public Relations
- Mr. ABDULKARIM KHALIF ABDI  
Protocol Officer
- Mr. SULDAN AHMED FARAH  
Director of Communications of the Presidency
- Mr. ABDULKADIR HUSSEIN WEHLIYE  
Cameraman
- H.E. NUR SEHIKH HAMUD MURSAL  
Charge d' Affaires of Somali to Turkey
- Mr. ABDULKADIR MOHAMED NUR  
Second Secretary of the Somali Embassy in Turkey

#### **REPUBLIC OF SUDAN**

- H.E. FAISAL HAMAD ABDULLAH  
Minister of Transport
- Dr. NAGMELDIN MOHAMED DAWOUD  
Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade
- Mr. ABDELDAIM ALI ELBASHIR  
Minister Plenipotentiary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- H.E. OMER HAIDER ABU ZAID  
Ambassador of the Republic of the Sudan to Turkey
- Mr. HASSAN AWAD  
Director of Office of the Minister
- Mr. ASIM MOHAMED ALI MUKHTAR  
Consul General of Sudan in Istanbul



- Mr. ABUBAKER MOHAMED ELFATIH MUSTAFA  
Head of Economic Section in the Consulate General of Sudan in İstanbul
- Mr. TAHA MOHAMED AHMED  
COMCEC Desk Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Trade
- Mr. OMER ELFAROUG ELSANOSY ABDELKAREEM  
Counsellor at the General Consulate-İstanbul
- Mr. ALI ABDELAZIZ ALI  
Public Relations Officer, General Consulate-İstanbul

#### **SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

- Dr. MOHAMMED HAJ BAKRI  
General Consul in İstanbul
- Mr. HASSAN KATANA  
Director of Planning and International Cooperation,  
Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform
- Mrs. MAYADA SKEKER  
Director Planning and Statistic Department, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. FIRAS SAEM ELDAHR  
Consulate
- Mr. BAŞAR MERDEMBEK  
Consulate

#### **REPUBLIC OF TADJIKISTAN**

- Mr. YATIM MUSAFIROV  
General Consul in İstanbul
- Mr. SALOHIDDIN KIROMOV  
Consul in İstanbul

#### **REPUBLIC OF TOGO**

- Mr. BAROMA MAGOLEMIENA BAMANA  
Technical Adviser, Ministry of Trade and Promotion of the Private Sector
- Mr. KOMLA NYEDJI GALLEY  
Director of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade and Promotion of the Private Sector
- Mr. KIBALOU ABETE  
Manager, Ministry of Finance and Economy

## **REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA**

- H.E. MEHREZ BEN RHOUMA  
Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Turkey
- Mrs. SAIDA HACHICHA  
General Director of Economic and Trade Cooperation, Ministry Trade and Tourism
- Mr. MOHAMED JAMEL ELIFA  
Director in Charge of Cooperation with Regional and International Organizations,  
Ministry of Trade and Tourism

## **REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

- H.E. Dr. CEVDET YILMAZ  
Minister of Development
- H.E. ZAFER ÇAĞLAYAN  
Minister of Economy
- H.E. BİNALİ YILDIRIM  
Minister of Transport
- Mr. KEMAL MADENOĞLU  
Undersecretary, Ministry of Development
- Mr. AHMET YAMAN  
Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Development
- Mr. İLYAS ÇELİKOĞLU  
Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Development
- Mr. SUAT HAYRİ AKA  
Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. FARUK ŞAHİN  
Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- Mr. ERDAL CELAL SUMAYTAOĞLU  
Acting Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
- H.E. Amb. MİTHAT RENDE  
General Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- H.E. Amb. LEVENT ŞAHİNKAYA  
General Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ZEYNETTİN KASIMOĞLU  
Director General, Ministry of Development

- Mr. İSMAIL KALENDER  
Acting General Director, Ministry of Customs and Trade
- Ms. EMİNE GÜHER ÇELTEK  
Deputy General Director, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
- Mr. FEVZİ ÖZKAN  
Chairman, the Turkish Competition Authority
- Mr. HULUSİ ŞENTÜRK  
Chairman of Turkish Standards Institutions (TSE)
- Mr. HÜSEYİN ERKAN  
Chairman&CEO, İstanbul Stock Exchange (İMKB)
- Mr. MURAT TAMER  
Deputy General Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. MUSTAFA BALTACI  
Vice Chairman, İstanbul Stock Exchange (İMKB)
- Mr. KUDRET OYTAN  
Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. İSMAIL SEFA YÜCEER  
Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ERDEM DİREKLER  
Head of Department, Ministry of Transport
- Dr. ELİF BETÜL AKIN  
Head of Department, Turkish Patent Institute
- Mr. SANCAR SEFER SÜER  
Head of Department,  
Turkish Union Chambers and Commodity Exchanges(TOOB)
- Mr. MUSTAFA GÜMÜŞ  
Deputy Head of Department, Capital Markets Boards (SPK)
- Mr. MUSTAFA SEPETÇİ  
Acting Head of Department, Ministry of Customs and Trade
- Mr. TEOMAN ATAİNCİ  
Press and Public Relations Counselor, Ministry of Development
- Mr. TALAT KAYA  
Head of Section, Ministry of Economy
- Mr. ERALP POLAT  
Manager, İstanbul Stock Exchange (İMKB)

- Ms. LERZAN KAYIHAN ÜNAL  
Acting Director of International Relations  
The Turkish Competition Authority
- Mr. SELÇUK YILMAZ  
Manager, Turkish Union Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB)
- Dr. YUSUF ŞENGÜR  
Member of the University of Anatolia
- Mr. TOLGA KARAKAYALI  
Protocol Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ALPER SARAÇ  
Protocol Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. HÜLYA ÖRS  
Expert, Ministry of Development
- Dr. ŞEREF TABAK  
Expert, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. UMUT DEMIRCI  
Expert, Ministry of Transport
- Mr. BAHADIR KARA  
Expert, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- Mr. ERDOĞAN EMRAH HATUNOĞLU  
Expert, Ministry of Development
- Mr. MEHMET SERHAT AKGÜL  
Specialist, Turkey Central Bank
- Mr. OSMAN GÜNDOĞDU  
Expert, Undersecretariat of Treasury
- Mr. MUSTAFA TAŞDEMİR  
Expert, Capital Markets Boards (SPK)
- Mr. YÜKSEL KAYA  
Chief Expert, The Turkish Competition Authority
- Mr. UFUK KADİR ERGİN  
Assistant Expert, Turkish Union Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB)

## **TURKMENISTAN**

- Mr. MYRATGELDI BERDIYEV  
Head of Department, Ministry of Economy and Development

- Mr. CHARYMYRAT GELDIYEV  
Central Administrative Board of Economy and Development for Ashkabad City Director

#### **REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

- Mr. JACHAN OMACH  
Minister of State General Duties, Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
- H.E. Amb. AHMED SSENYOMO  
Deputy Head of Mission of Uganda Embassy Riyadh
- Ms. JENNIFER MUWULIZA  
Ag. Commissioner/Aid Liaison Department, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
- Ms. MARIAM KIGGUNDU  
Economist, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

#### **STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

- H.E. SULTAN SAEED AL-MANSOURI  
Minister of Economy
- H.E. MOHAMMED SALEH SHALWAH  
Assistant Undersecretary of the Economic Politics Department
- Mr. ALI FAYIL MUBARAK  
Director of the Establishments Department
- Mr. YAGOUB YUSUF AL-MUBARAK  
Minister Plenipotentiary Affairs of the Economic Department
- Dr. KHALED AHMAD AL-MULLA  
Minister Plenipotentiary of the International Organizations Department
- Ms. FATIMA KHAMIS AL-HAMMADI  
Economic Researcher
- Mr. SAIF SALEM AL-HAMRANI  
Manager at the Ministers Office

#### **REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

- Dr. MUTAHAR A. AL-ABBASI  
Vice Minister, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
- Mr. ABDULWALI ABDULLAH ALI-AQEL  
Advisor to Minister, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

- H.E. NORIA ABDULLA AL-HAMAMI  
Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- H.E. Dr. ABDULGAWI AL-ERYANI  
Ambassador of Yemen to Turkey
- Mr. MOHAMED AL MASHARY  
Honorary Consul, in Istanbul

## **B. OBSERVERS**

### **BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA**

- Mr. NUSRET SANCAR  
Ambassador at Large, B&H Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS**

- H.E. HAMZA ERSAN SANER  
Minister of Public Works and Transport
- Mr. ŞAHAP AŞIKOĞLU  
Undersecretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture
- Mr. FAHRİ YÖNLÜER  
Director of OIC Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

- Mr. PANUMAS MALASEE  
Consul (Commercial), Royal Thai Consulate-General in İstanbul
- Mr. NATHAPHONG AMBUPRABHA  
Vice Consul (Commercial) Royal Thai Consulate-General in İstanbul

### **RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

- Mr. VICTOR OLERSKIY  
Deputy Minister of Transport
- H.E. KONSTANTIN SHUVALOV  
Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. ALEXEY RYKOV  
Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. IGOR DROZDOV  
Deputy Head of Division

- Mr. SERGEY BULATOV  
Counsellor
- Mr. VIACMESLAV SHLIKOV  
General Consulate

### **PANELISTS**

- Dr. SOHBET KARBUZ  
Director of Hydrocarbons at OME
- Dr. SAMI MAHROUM  
Academician and Executive Director at INSEAD Business School
- Dr. TARIK YOUSEF  
Chief Executive Officer of Silatech
- Mr. TAHA ÖZHAN  
General Coordinator of Foundation for  
Political Economic and Social Research (SETA)
- Mr. ÇAĞATAY TELLİ  
Senior Economist Republic of Turkey Ministry of Development
- Dr. WALID ABDEL WAHAB  
Director, Infrastructure Department, IDB
- Mr. RUHİ ENGİN ÖZMEN  
Chairman UND

### **D. THE OIC GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

- H.E. Prof. Dr. EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU  
Secretary General
- H.E. Amb. HAMEED A. OPELOYERU  
Assistant Secretary General
- Mr. CHEIKH OUMAR T. SOW  
Director General
- H.E. Amb. NABIKA DIALLO  
Adviser
- Mr. HASAN OKER GÜRLER  
Adviser
- Mr. GHOLAMHOSSEIN DARZI  
Director

- Mr. MEHMET FATİH ÖKE  
Director
- Mr. HASAN BASRİ ARSLAN  
Professional
- Mr. JAKHONGIR KHASANOV  
Professional

**E. OIC SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**

**STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER  
FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRIC)**

- Dr. SAVAŞ ALPAY  
Director General
- Mr. NABIL DABOUR  
Director of Research Department
- Dr. KENAN BAĞCI  
Researcher

**ISLAMIC CENTER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE (ICDT)**

- Mr. EL HASSANE HZAINÉ  
Acting Director General
- Mr. MAMOUDOU BOCAR SALL  
Expert, Head of Studies Section

**ISLAMIC RESEARCH CENTER FOR HISTORY ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA)**

- Mr. HALİT EREN  
Director General, IRCICA
- Prof. Dr. AMIR PASIC  
Project of Director
- Mr. NAZİH MAAOUF  
Head International Relations and Craft Development Programme
- Ms. ZEYNEP DURUKAL ABUHUSAYN  
Head Corporate Research
- Mr. MUHAMMED TAMIMI  
Head Cultural Heritage Department



- Mr. AHMET ALDOĞAN  
Manager of Administration

**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (IUT)**

- Prof. Dr. MOHAMMED IMTIAZ HOSSAIN  
Vice Chancellor

**ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)**

- Dr. ABBAS SADRI  
Director

**F. SPECIALIZED ORGANS OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)**

- H.E. Dr. AHMAD MOHAMED ALI  
President, IDB Group
- Dr. WALEED AL-WOHAIB  
CEO, ITFC
- Dr. ABDULRAHMAN TAHA  
CEO, ICIEC
- Mr. HANI SALEM SONBOL  
Deputy CEO, ITFC
- Dr. WALID ABDEL WAHAB  
Director, Infrastructure Department, IDB
- Mr. MOHAMED IQBAL AZAD  
Adviser to CEO, ITFC
- Mr. MUSTAFA WADI  
IDB
- Mr. JAMAL AL-SAYED OMER  
Director, CEO Office, ITFC
- Mr. ADIL BABIKER  
Director Legal Affairs, ICIEC
- Mr. SALEH JELASSI  
Assistant to the President
- Mr. ABDULLATEEF AL-LAWATI  
IDB

- Mr. ABDUL BASIT RASHEED JAM  
IDB Groub
- Mr. BAHADIR YADIKAR  
IDB
- Mr. LOTFI ZAIRI  
ICIEC
- Mr. MARWAN TOUHAMI ABID  
Event Manager, ITFC
- Mr. MOHAMMED YUBAH  
IRTI
- Mr. ABDELLATIF HAMAM  
IDB Groub Prize Winner
- Mr. ABDULLATEEF MOHSIN BAQAR  
Senior Cooperation Specialist
- Mr. MANSOUR BEN FETEN  
Director

#### **G. AFFILIATED ORGANS OF THE OIC**

##### **ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ICCI)**

- H.E. SHAIKH SALEH ABDULLAH KAMEL  
President of ICCI
- Ms. ATTIYA NAWAZISH AYAZ  
Assistant Secretary General

##### **ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING INSTITUTIONS (ADFIMI)**

- Mr. NURI BİRTEK  
Secretary General

##### **ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION (OISA)**

- Dr. ABDULLATIF A. SULTAN  
Secretary General, Organization of the Islamic Shipowners
- Mr. MOHAMMAD ZAFAR BHATTI  
Director Finance

## **FEDERATION OF CONSULTANTS FROM ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (FICC)**

- Mr. ABDERRAHIM ALAMI LAHJOUI  
President
- Mr. ABDELHAMID BENAMAR

## **STANDARDS AND METROLOGY INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SMIC)**

- Mr. HALUK DAĞ  
Interim Secretary General of SMIC
- Mr. HULUSİ ŞENTÜRK  
Chairman of SMIC

## **H. STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (COMSTECH)**

- Mr. Dr. MOHAMMED ALI MAHESAR  
Assistant Coordinator General of COMSTECH

## **G. OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

### **GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL (GCC)**

- Mr. ABDULMAJEED BIN SALEH AL-MANDEEL  
Head of Section of Trade and Industry, Economy Department of GCC

### **ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)**

- H.E. Mr. M. YAHYA MAROOFI  
General Secretary

### **UNIDO CENTRE FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION IN TURKEY**

- Mr. SÜLEYMAN YILMAZ  
Director/Representative

### **THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION (WAEMU)**

- Mr. JOACHIM PAGNESDIBRILLA OUEDRAOGO  
Director of Cabinet
- Mr. KOFFI ADDOH GNAKADJA  
Director Commerce

**DEVELOPING EIGHT (D-8)**

- Dr. WIDI A. PRATIKTO  
Secretary-General
- Mr. ÖMER ASIM AKSOY  
Economist
- Mr. ZULHENDRI ABDULLAH  
Assistant to Economist

**UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)**

- Mr. MUSTAPHA SINACEUR  
Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia and Representative in Turkey

**INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)**

- Mr. ABDESLAM AZUZ  
Senior Trade Promotion Officer

**ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BANK (ECOBANK)**

- Mr. Dr. YAŞAR AKGÜN  
Acting President
- Mr. MASOUD REKABDAR  
Vice President of ECOBANK
- Mr. ÖMER FARUK BAYKAL  
Deputy Director, Head of the Office of the Chief Economist
- Mr. TUNCAY MELEKTOSUN  
Deputy Director
- Mr. FAZLI SAK  
Manager

**I. COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**

**General Directorate of Foreign Economic Relations,  
State Planning Organization of the Republic of Turkey**

- Mr. METİN EKER  
Director General, Head of COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mr. EBUBEKİR MEMİŞ  
Head of Department

- Mr. SELÇUK KOÇ  
Head of Department
- Mr. MUSTAFA TEKİN  
Head of Department
- Mr. MURAT DELİÇAY  
Expert, Drafting
- Mr. GÖKTEN DAMAR  
Expert, Drafting
- Mr. ALİ İŞLER  
Expert, Drafting and Bilateral Talks
- Mr. ORHAN ÖZTAŞKIN  
Press and Protocol Relations
- Mr. NAZIM GÜMÜŞ  
Protocol Relations
- Ms. AYLİN ŞENOL GÜN  
Assistant Expert, Drafting
- Mr. KAĞAN AKDOĞAN  
Assistant Expert, Drafting
- Ms. SEHER KURUGÜL  
Coordinator of Documentation Center
- Ms. EMİNE DEMİREL  
Assistant Coordinator of Documentation Center
- Ms. MÜKERREM ÖZKILIÇ  
Coordinator of Registration Office
- Ms. BİGE HAMURDAN  
Coordinator of Registration Office
- Mr. KEMAL ARSLAN  
Coordinator of Meeting Rooms
- Mr. ERCAN İBİK  
Assistant Coordinator of Meeting Rooms
- Ms. Z. LEYLA AŞK  
Bilateral Talks
- Ms. BİLGE GÜLLÜ  
Executive Secretary

- Ms. EBRU ÇETİNKURŞUN  
Social Program
- Mr. MEHMET FİDAN  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. M. CELALETTİN AKTAŞ  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. AYKUT YILMAZ  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. DENİZ GÖLE  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. SEYFİ UYANIK  
Press Relation

**J. GENERAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT**

- Mr. ADNAN KÖKLÜKAYA  
Head of Department
- Mr. MEVLUT YASAR  
Coordinator of Transport and Personnel Relations
- Mr. BURHAN KORKMAZ  
Coordinator of Technican
- Mr. TAYFUR YÜKSEL  
Security Relations
- Mr. CAFER ERDOĞAN  
Stock Coordinator
- Mr. ÖMER BIYIK  
Technician
- Mr. SEYİT AMBARKÜTÜK  
Technician
- Mr. MEHMET TUNCER  
Accomodation
- Mr. MEHMET ÖCAL  
Accomodation

-----



# **ANNEX**

## **2**





Original: Turkish

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY  
H.E ABDULLAH GÜL, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
AND CHAIRMAN OF COMCEC,  
AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE 27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 19 October 2011)**

Honorable Ministers,  
Honorable Secretary-General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express my pleasure for coming together with the delegates of brotherly member countries of the COMCEC, here in Istanbul, on the occasion of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC and welcome you in Turkey.

Since its foundation, 27 years ago, COMCEC has incessantly been gathering its members and has become a solid platform for a lasting cooperation among the member states. I sincerely believe that COMCEC, which I take pride in being its chairman, will successfully carry out its endeavors in the forthcoming period with the worthy contributions and ownership of our countries.

Esteemed Delegates,  
Distinguished Guests,

Peace, security, stability and welfare are of major importance to COMCEC member states. In my address to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Foreign Ministers Conference in 2003, as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, I underscored the necessity to clear our own backyard; therefore I call upon the member countries to carry out the necessary reforms.

The Social movements taking place in our region today are signs that it is now the time for change and that we are in a process of irreversible transformation. Now it is time to pioneer, and not resist, these changes and implement political, social and economic reforms, through consensus and dialogue, with a view to meeting the requirements of our century and the longings and demands of our peoples. I believe that effective management of this period of change, with solidarity and cooperation,

will offer an opportunity for our nations to emerge from this process more democratic, stable and prosperous.

Distinguished Delegates,

As the concept of globalization increasingly impacts all areas, we witness head-spinning developments regarding the movement of goods, people, information and capital. These developments erode the meaning of borders, increase the interdependency of our nations and make cooperation and solidarity an obligation rather than a requisite.

Under these circumstances, as the member states of COMCEC, we need to have our borders function as a tool to converge rather than distance ourselves from one another; and to facilitate rather than complicate cooperation.

I am of the opinion that we can turn the global and regional threats into an opportunity by enhancing the culture of solidarity and cooperation among our countries and developing a common language and a sense of mutual understanding.

History illustrated that countries, governed on the basis of human rights, the rule of law, transparency and accountability, grow stronger and make faster progress towards development. To this end, I welcome the historic transformation taking place in many Islamic Countries within the last year.

Distinguished Delegates,

As known, the global crisis, which started at the end of August 2007 has not yet come to an end; the world economy has stepped into a period of turbulence.

Unfortunately, the problems arising from heavy debt burdens and big budget deficits of the developed market economies have been impacting the world at large. Failure of these countries, to take political decisions to effectively address the problems in the field of public finance and monetary stability, has further aggravated the situation.

As a result, debt burden of the states soared, reaching unsustainable levels as governments had to take over private sector debts. The states, which made a failing attempt to rescue the private sector are, now, in need to be rescued.

Although the COMCEC member countries don't face such problems, they are, undoubtedly, still affected by the instabilities in the capital and finance markets, as well as by the global economic slow down.

We can not be held accountable for the crisis. Yet, we can think of a way out. The best way to surmount these global economic problems is to increase trade and joint investments among the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and to accelerate the movement of human, capital and information among our countries.

With this spirit, I now would like to touch upon the cooperation endeavors on the COMCEC agenda.

I closely follow and support the study carried out to guide the cooperation of COMCEC in the forthcoming period. I believe that this study needs to have an effective mechanism of implementation and should feature elements that are capable of meeting the changing needs of our countries and the requirements of our age.

As you all know, we carry out significant endeavors for launching the Trade Preferential System (TPS-OIC), with a view to ensuring easier movement of goods across the borders of our countries.

It gives me pleasure to mention that the number of signatory countries has risen to ten, following the ratification of the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin by Bangladesh. This marks completion of the legal infrastructure pertaining to the Trade Preferential System. Now, it is time to implement.

Implementation includes submission of the list of concessions by countries that have already approved the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) to the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee, at their earliest convenience. I am of the opinion that we will conclude this topic, through concerted efforts, within the shortest period and swiftly put Trade Preferential System into practice.

I believe that the Standardization and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC) will make a major contribution to intra-OIC trade. As you all are aware, the standards play a key role in eliminating technical barriers to trade.

Harmonization of the existing standards among our countries, as well as development of new ones, will make a major contribution to trade.

In this respect, I welcome the institutionalization of Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries, which held its 2nd General Assembly Meeting last July. I call on all countries that have not signed and ratified the Agreement yet, to take part in this process.

Honorable Ministers,  
Distinguished Guests,

As you will recall, in the COMCEC Economic Summit held in 2009, we designated agriculture, tourism and transportation as the three sectors of priority with a view to enhancing our cooperation.

I believe that the developments in our cooperation during this period are very promising. However, I am, of the opinion that we need to exert more efforts in order to deepen our cooperation in these sectors.

Agriculture is of paramount importance to the efforts of our countries in economic growth, rural development and poverty alleviation.

We lag behind in terms of enhancing productivity, modernizing the process of production and facilitating access of agricultural products to the markets. Given these shortcomings, COMCEC has recently intensified agriculture cooperation efforts. As you recall, Our Ministers held deliberations on Agriculture and Rural Development, which was basically the theme of the previous session of exchange of views.

We hosted Our Ministers of Agriculture in our country in previous weeks on the occasion of the 6th Ministers of Agriculture Conference. I attach significance to the results of this conference and sincerely long for the implementation of respective decisions. I expect our member states to have a steadfast will to this end and embrace the efforts of cooperation in agriculture.

Distinguished Delegates,

It is pleasing to see the steps taken for the enhancement of our cooperation in tourism a sector rapidly growing around the world. That visa requirements have been recently waived among some COMCEC member states is a major step to the free movement of our peoples.

In today's world, where the international tourism market is getting increasingly competitive, dialogue and cooperation with the private sector will enhance the service

quality of tourism and competitiveness, and enable our countries to have their due share of the global tourism market.

I assign great importance to the workshop held in Izmir in December 2010, with a view to enhancing communication and cooperation among the private sectors of our countries in tourism. I wholeheartedly support efforts to form a COMCEC Tourism Forum with the objective of sustaining similar activities. I call upon you, distinguished delegates, to encourage the private sector representatives of your countries to take part in these activities.

Distinguished Delegates,

Cooperation among our countries in transportation, another priority sector, will facilitate the movement of goods and people. Within the body of COMCEC, some major transportation endeavors have been carried out this year.

As you all know, our honourable ministers will exchange their views on “The Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” in this COMCEC Session. Also, an Expert Group Meeting and a workshop on transportation were held in June in Izmir. The results of these meetings, in my opinion, will significantly contribute to the endeavors to be carried out in the forthcoming period.

Honorable Ministers,  
Distinguished Delegates,

Seizing intra-OIC investment opportunities is another point that would enhance our economic cooperation.

As I previously expressed on many occasions, I am of the opinion that we need to improve investment platforms and meet the funding demands of our countries, using our own finances.

I, therefore, encourage the endeavors of financial cooperation that will contribute to the free movement of intra-OIC capital and call upon all our members to actively take part in these endeavors and benefit from the synergy produced by our cooperation.

I am pleased that, under the COMCEC agenda of financial cooperation, ‘COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum’ has come into force on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, I am fully confident that all member states will make active contributions to this Forum.

In addition, I appreciate that the efforts to form an Islamic index within the body of Organization of Islamic Cooperation Stock Exchanges Forum have come to the final stage. I believe that, real implementation of the decisions taken is a source of pride and motivation for all of us towards deepening our cooperation.

In my speeches, I persistently underscore that the role of the private sector within COMCEC activities needs to be consolidated. I would like to once again highlight that I consider the private sector a major pillar of enhancing our economic and commercial cooperation.

As state officials, we need to give prominence to the demands of the private sector representatives, provide the sector with a ripe business environment and, determinedly, put the necessary regulations into force. I would like to express that private sector endeavors carried out within the body of COMCEC provide the companies in our countries with an opportunity to share their problems, conduct business networking and get closer.

Within this scope, I attach great importance to the consolidation and the continuity of the current endeavors in the private sector and call upon private sector representatives of our countries to take part in these activities.

Esteemed Delegates,

Millions of people in the Islamic World suffer from food shortage and under-nutrition. The recent droughts in Africa have worsened the situation and millions of people have fallen victims to hunger.

In Turkey, many relief campaigns have started for this humanitarian plight. I would like to gladly express that these campaigns have drawn the attention of our fellow citizens and, so far, a total of 350 million USD was raised in these campaigns..

As known, an Emergency Ministerial Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation was held in İstanbul last August, with a view to evaluating the situation in Somalia, where the humanitarian plight worsens, and reviewing and assessing measures to alleviate sufferings of the Somali People. In this meeting, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation member states, financial institutions, relief organizations and philanthropists were called upon to lend a generous support to this calamity in Somalia.

I would like to reiterate this call on all Organization of Islamic Cooperation member states to lend their generous support to our brothers struggling to survive in East Africa, particularly in Somalia. We need to know no bounds to philanthropy as the Ummah (nation) of a Prophet who says that "He who goes to bed with a full stomach whilst his neighbour is hungry is not one of us". I believe that these sufferings will diminish with the contributions of all international communities, the Islamic world in particular, and we will dress our wounds all together.

We are all aware that the problems of the least developed countries cannot be placed only on the shoulders of these countries. We, as the Republic of Turkey, continue to support them on various international platforms, with a view to raising awareness of their problems.

Within this scope, I would like to dwell on the 4th UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in on 9-13 May in Istanbul, with the attendance of ten thousand participants. Development Roadmaps of the Least Developed Countries were unveiled for the period of 2011-2020 in this decennial Conference. In addition, particular follow-up mechanisms have been set up for the follow-up of the issues in Action Plan.

Within this framework, I call upon all our members to fulfill our commitments to the least developed countries. This is not only a requirement of Islamic solidarity but also of being human.

Distinguished Delegates,

I hope the endeavors of the 27<sup>th</sup> COMCEC will turn our region into a region of solidarity and cooperation and pave the way for results that will serve our mutual interests. I, therefore, expect you to make efforts; to make a more active contribution to the COMCEC agenda during, as well as after, this meeting, when you return to your countries.

I wish you a pleasant and valuable stay in Istanbul, where continents and cultures meet.

As I conclude my remarks with these considerations, I would like to thank anew all member countries, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, respective affiliated and subsidiary organs and all staff for their precious contribution in this regard.

I wish solidarity and brotherhood binding us prevail and be ever growing and wish you all success in the meetings.





# **ANNEX**

## **3**



Original: English

**SPEECH OF H.E. PROF. EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU,  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANISATION  
OF THE ISLAMIC COOPERATION  
AT THE OPENING SESSION  
(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**

*In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

Your Excellency, President Abdullah Gül, Chairman of COMCEC  
Your Excellencies, Heads of Delegation  
Honourable Delegates  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

*Assalamu Alaekum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu*

Permit me, first and foremost, to express my most sincere appreciation to Your Excellency, in your capacity as the Chairman of the OIC Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), for the maximum support, which the esteemed Government of the Republic of Turkey has continued to extend to the OIC. This is obvious from the numerous activities, which have continued to take place in Turkey under your esteemed sponsorship and high patronage, not only in the economic domain, but in the social, humanitarian, cultural and political spheres.

I am also delighted to address Heads of Delegation from OIC Member States on the occasion of the 27<sup>th</sup> session of COMCEC, as we take stock of the achievements so far realized, since the historical COMCEC Economic Summit held in 2009, as well as the 26<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session last year.

You would recall that, in my address to this august assembly last year, I had occasion to report that our economic cooperation agenda have been strengthened with the various innovative strategies adopted to boost intra-OIC economic and commercial relations. This is particularly valid in the area of trade, agriculture, rural development and food security, and poverty alleviation.

Accordingly, we paid due attention to the constructive engagement of our Member States to deepen ownership and to ensure that our joint programmes and projects are

implemented without delay. In the same vein, we expanded our network of coordination with the various OIC, regional and international organisations and institutions, in order to increase coordination and synergy so as to fast-track the implementation of our joint plans.

Consequently, the OIC Trade Preferential System (TPS-OIC), which is composed of the Framework Agreement, a Protocol, and the Agreement of the Rule of Origin, has now become legally operational. However, efforts are now underway to ensure that Member States, which have so far ratified these instruments, should begin to take advantage of the tariff and non-tariff facilities to expand trade among their countries.

It is therefore high time that this meeting passed a strong resolution to call for the resumption of the OIC Trade Negotiation Sessions. This will give effect to our numerous resolutions on trade expansion and trade facilitation. There is also the utmost need for this meeting to call on Member States, which have not signed or ratified these trade promoting instruments to do so in the interest of our collective desire for greater wealth creation and increased welfare of the peoples of our Member States.

Mr. President

Your Excellencies

It is gladdening to report that intra-OIC trade figures have continued to rise since 2005, notwithstanding the recent global economic downturn. This is due to the combined effect of our increased trade financing and trade promotion activities. The share of Intra-OIC Trade increased from 14.5 % in 2004 to 17.03% in 2010. This means, in monetary terms, that the value of Intra-OIC trade increased from US\$ 205 billion in 2004 to US\$ 539 billion in 2010. Similarly, the share of OIC Member States in world trade increased from 8.0 % in 2004 to 10.5 % in 2010. There is no doubt that if this trend continues, the target of attaining 20% of intra-OIC trade, which was set in the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action would be realized by the year 2015.

In addition to increasing trade exchanges among OIC Member States, the twin objectives of achieving economic growth and poverty reduction could be realized through the implementation of the on-going OIC strategies on agriculture, rural development and food security. It is regrettable that despite the estimated number of 230 million persons in OIC Member States who are suffering from hunger and malnutrition, 90% of the world children with stunted growth live in 36 of our Member States. Equally depressing is the fact that our Member States have to fund a combined food deficit of US\$40 billion per

year. This had indeed aggravated the Balance of Payments problems occasioned by the need to pay for the ever increasing oil and energy imports.

The mere fact that this alarming statistics can be addressed by mobilizing the huge opportunities within the OIC, therefore, calls for our concerted action in this regard. The vibrancy of OIC economy is evident in the increasing Gross Domestic Product of OIC Member States from a modest US\$ 2 trillion in 2004 to US\$ 8 trillion in 2010. OIC Member States now accounts for 11% of world GDP as against 5.36% in 2004.

In the same vein, 23 OIC Member States feature among the world top 20 producers of different agricultural commodities varying from cereals to tropical crops. The impressive arable land in OIC Member States, which stands at 21% of the world figure and the renewable water resources accounting for 14% of world figure are pointers to the fact that intra-OIC cooperation in agriculture is a credible driver of economic growth and social development in our countries.

In this against this background that I am glad to inform this meeting of the successful conclusion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agriculture Development, which took place here in Istanbul, about ten days ago on 3-6 October 2011. The recommendations of the Conference are aimed at increasing our joint projects and programmes in the domain of agricultural capacity-building and productivity. It is also aimed at deepening regional partnership for the implementation of our respective national priorities on agriculture and rural development.

The recommendation for the elaboration of a comprehensive OIC Executive Framework on Agriculture, Rural development and Food Security has been passed to the COMCEC Task Force for further technical inputs. It is important that the Framework would serve as a platform to deepen ownership among OIC Member States and its numerous institutions so that we can overcome the existing constraint of the lack of inclusiveness in our cooperation framework.

This Framework should also identify critical areas for public and private partnerships in the development of strategic commodities and promotion of agricultural value-addition from farm-to-market. I am glad that this approach informed the outcome of both the Workshop on Agro-food and Agri-business, and the OIC Forum on Development of Agro-Food Industries held concurrently in Kampala, Uganda just last week. The recommendation for a study on the creation of an OIC Agro-Industrial Association would promote the needed value-addition for enhanced agricultural output in OIC Member States. While commending the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and

Industries (ICCI) for the successful holding of the Workshop, I am sure that the findings of the expert group would advance the role of the Private Sector in our cooperation strategies, while largely contributing to improving on the execution of OIC projects.

Mr. President

Your Excellencies

The issue of deepening ownership of OIC programmes has become very crucial as we seek to accelerate the implementation of our cooperation agenda. This problem of lack of ownership is manifest in inability of our officials in the General Secretariat and other OIC institutions to receive prompt responses to their various requests, questionnaires, and call circulars.

For example, the fact that only three members responded to the two questionnaires on Tourism Facilitation; and Tourism Research and Training have not encouraged our respective focal points to complete their tasks in these areas. Similarly, only 15 Member States submitted the questionnaires on Strategies and Policies in the area of Agriculture, Rural development and Food Security. This latter situation has delayed the speedy execution of the mandate given by the sectoral Conference on Agriculture and Food Security.

I wish to, therefore, avail myself of this auspicious occasion to seek the personal intervention of Honourable Ministers to encourage their officials to submit these documents, which are necessary for proper coordination of intra-OIC actions in the relevant domains.

It is indeed the same spirit of deepening ownership that has informed the on-going reappraisal of the performance of the OIC Cotton Action Plan. Since its inception in 2007, only a few of the total number of 27 approved projects, amounting to US\$373 million, has received the necessary funding to ensure its implementation. I wish to hereby urge our Heads of Delegation to support the on-going efforts of the General Secretariat and the Islamic Development Bank to secure additional funding sources by submitting detailed bankable projects through the appropriate national channels.

To this end, the General Secretariat has intensified its cooperation with the various regional organisations and international institutions with a view to mobilizing additional resources for its projects. For example, the OIC has received the support of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) on our proposal to

create an alliance between its Dakar-Djibouti Transport Corridor and the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project.

In the same vein, actions towards mobilizing the US\$8 billion component of the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) have continued. At the same time, measures are underway to improve the effectiveness of the Programme by identifying and implementing cross-cutting and regional projects in its five priority domains, which are: agriculture and food security, water and sanitation, energy and transport infrastructure, education and youth employment, and health and combating communicable diseases.

Similarly, the proposed OIC Action Plan for Cooperation with Central Asia is aimed at implementing the OIC initiative of regional approach to economic cooperation among OIC Member-States. In this regard, our closer collaboration with the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) is expected to speed up implementation of our economic cooperation projects. It is my sincere hope that this regional approach would go a long way to promote socio-economic renewal in these countries, as much as it would also serve as a sustainable means of socio-political harmony and conflict prevention.

It is for this reason that I welcome the outcome of first meeting of the Executive Committee on the OIC Plan of Action for Central Asia, which held on the sideline of this COMCEC Session. It is my sincere hope that the necessary partnerships would be developed to scale up the implementation of the many lofty objectives of the Plan.

Mr. President

Your Excellencies

While I crave your indulgence to commend the efforts and kind gestures by a host of our leaders, let me urge this audience to encourage their national development funds to assist in funding OIC projects. Our experiments under the Malaysia Capacity Building Programme in the three countries under the first pilot phase, as well as the declared assistance under the Kuwait Fund for Decent Living indicate that these provide actual sources of funding for our intra-OIC poverty reduction projects.

I also commend the increasing involvement of Private Sector establishments in our project elaboration and implementation mechanisms. In this regard, I congratulate the President of IDB group on the recent approval, whereby the authorized capital stock of the International Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investments and Export Credit (ICIEC) was increased from US\$240 million to US\$ 600 million. The role of the Islamic



Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD) is also effective in our desire to mainstream the Private Sector in our cooperation framework.

Furthermore, the current support extended by the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) on the proposed establishment of the Federation of Road Transport Associations in OIC Member States is commendable. Also commendable is the biennial specialized trade fairs sponsored by the Turkish Independent Industrialists and Businessmen's Association (MUSIAD). The expansion of these activities, along with the activities of the ICCI, would generate the desired momentum for multi-sectoral activities within the OIC.

These potential funding sources would indeed complement the substantial achievements, which we have so far recorded in our trade and development financing schemes. Accordingly, in 2010, the approvals by International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), one of the IDB Group members, on trade financing reached US\$ 2.62 billion, which brings the cumulative trade finance approval of trade financing of IDB to US\$ 36.96 billion.

It is therefore my great pleasure to single out the management of the IDB Group for commendation, considering our achievements in the various sectors of our economic cooperation agenda.

I must also avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge the enormous contributions of the various OIC institutions and international organisations for their dedicated support, which has facilitated our demarches to scale up the implementation of the objectives of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action. We are convinced that the partnerships, which we seek to consolidate in the relevant fields would serve the interests of our common Member States, much as we also seek to continue to support the global efforts for a more stable and prosperous world.

Let me wish this 27<sup>th</sup> COMCEC session a very fruitful deliberation.

-----

# **ANNEX**

## **4**



Original: Arabic

**ADDRESS BY  
DR. AHMAD MOHAMED ALI,  
PRESIDENT, ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP  
AT THE OPENING SESSION**

**(İstanbul, 19 October 2011)**

Praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe; prayer and peace be upon the Seal of Allah's Prophets and Messengers, our Master and Prophet, Muhammad and on his unblemished kindred and all his companions.

President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC, His Excellency Abdullah Gül,

Dr. Cevdet Yılmaz, Senior Cabinet Minister, Republic of Turkey,  
Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,  
Professor Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu,

Honourable Ministers,  
Members of the Diplomatic Corps and Representatives of International and Regional Organizations,

Distinguished Delegates,  
Brothers and Sisters,

*Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu.*

I feel greatly honoured to speak before this august gathering, on behalf of your institution, the Islamic Development Bank Group. First, I would like to express deep appreciation to His Excellency President Abdullah Gül as well as to the people and government of the Republic of Turkey for the generous hospitality we have received in the magnificent city of Istanbul of illustrious Islamic past.

I would also like to express gratitude and appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for the leading role it has played, particularly this year, in terms of assistance to OIC

member countries plagued by crises and difficult humanitarian conditions as a result of disasters and conflicts. Your efforts in Somalia, Afghanistan, Palestine and Libya are, Mr. President, a clear proof thereof. It behooves me to commend the humanitarian communion embodied by the visits undertaken by His Excellency the Prime Minister of Turkey to Somalia and Libya as well as the great relief assistance that Turkey provided to both countries. My word of gratitude goes to all member countries that helped to succor our kindred in countries and communities blighted by frail socio-economic conditions and that sought to awaken a sense of hope in them by speedily helping them to cushion the aftermath of the aforementioned disasters.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Brothers and Sisters,

This important session is taking place at a time when a spate of instability and gloomy economic prospects are unsettling the world. No sooner had we started to look forward to a greater economic recovery as the world is about to reemerge from the global financial crisis of 2008 – 2009 than a new global economic turmoil started to loom large in the horizon. The turmoil is due, this time round, to a sovereign debt crisis in the Euro Zone and fiscal strains in many industrialized countries. Consequently, a global economic recovery is now in doubt in that the latest forecasts suggest that, global economic growth, which picked up slightly this year, will decline in 2012.

Against this backdrop, allow me to start my statement by talking briefly about projected economic growth in our member countries in 2011.

I would like to briefly look at the projections for economic growth of our countries in 2011. According to estimates by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), IDB member countries as a group are projected to register a growth rate of 4.7% in 2011 compared to 5.3 percent in 2010. Sub-Sahara African member countries as a group are projected to register a growth rate of 5.3% in 2011 compared to 6.4% in 2010. Growth in the MENA region is projected to drop from 4.7% in 2010 to 4.2% in 2011 and growth in Asian member countries is projected to decline from 6% in 2010 to 5.4% in 2011.

The global crisis has undoubtedly had an overspill effect on the economic and financial conditions of member countries, which are squarely facing major development challenges as well as difficulties resulting from natural disasters and conflicts.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Brothers and Sisters,

At this juncture, I would like to reassure you that, despite the repercussions of the series of crises on the financial sector in general, your institution, the Islamic Development Bank, has managed, by the Grace of Allah, to maintain the highest credit rating. Standard & Poor's announced that it had awarded an AAA rating for the tenth year in a row. Moody's rating agency had done the same last month for the sixth year in a row. Fitch rating agency is also expected to reconfirm the highest credit rating for the Bank for the fifth year in a row. The aforementioned rating agencies have ruled out the likelihood that the global crisis or events unfolding in some member countries would have any adverse effect on the Bank's credit worthiness. I am delighted to point out that the Bank has managed to maintain the highest credit rating without any sacrifice on the level of financing allocated to its member countries or any hitch in its obligations toward them. The Bank has rather increased its financing volume by 30% annually over the past three years. The Bank has been able to make such an achievement thanks to the Grace of Allah and to the unwavering support, it receives from its member countries.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,

A session of this meeting's agenda is devoted to the exchange of views on the impact of transport networks on trade and tourism. You would recall that the global financial crisis has had serious repercussions on international trade thereby adversely affecting the volume of trade among countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The global financial crisis has affected the economies of many countries worldwide and thus affected the levels of production, income and employment.

With regard to OIC intra-trade, it has been observed that it declined by 24% i.e. a decrease from US\$ 156 billion in 2008 to US\$ 117 billion in 2009. On this score, I would like to recall the Resolution of the Makkah Extraordinary Summit of 1425H (2005), under which Muslim Leaders directed that trade among member countries should be boosted from 14.44% to 20% overall by 2015.

Indeed, member countries, backed by the IDB and all other OIC institutions, have sought to attain such a goal. Trade exceeded 17% by the end of 2010. However, there are

fears that the aftermath of the unending financial and economic crisis may not help to achieve the goal set by the Leaders of the Ummah.

Consequently, we all ought to make greater efforts to address impediments to efforts to achieve the set objective. In this regard, the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Turkey, in collaboration with COMCEC, SESRIC, the ICDT and the IDB Group, organized a workshop in Izmir, Turkey in June. The seminar outlined the major challenges and impediments to trade and how to grapple with such challenges. One of the conclusions of the seminar that draws one's attention is the prominence given to what is called "soft" barriers, which have become a major obstacle to trade. Soft barriers have something to do with legislation, government financial, customs and border measures and the attendant advantage of shorter distance between production and consumption centres as well as lesser transport cost. Such factors are as important as building and enhancing transport networks. In fact, studies have shown that investment on reducing "soft" barriers brings about economic benefits far greater than the economic returns on investment in infrastructure. Consequently, efforts have to be made to remove soft barriers and to invest in infrastructure.

The IDB Group also organized another workshop in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia last month on the obstacles to efforts to attain the 20% intra-trade mark by 2015. The workshop arrived at the conclusion that there is a need to increase joint efforts to boost intra-trade by increasing trade finance, export credit and capacity building of member countries in trade facilitation and promotion as well as development of strategic commodities. On this score, it is worth indicating a Resolution of the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC) of the IDB Group to increase ICIEC's capital so that it can better respond to member countries' demands. I would like to seize this opportunity to call for effective contribution to the said capital increase.

The participants in the workshop stressed the need to expeditiously implement the Trade Preferential System (TPS/OIC) designed to reduce customs tariffs among OIC member countries and thus boost intra-trade gradually. At this juncture, I would like to appeal to Your Excellencies and by the same token to all the countries that are yet to sign the aforementioned agreement to promptly do so and to those countries that are yet to ratify it to also promptly do so. The huge losses that our peoples incur owing to the low level of trade cooperation exceed all expectations. Countries of the Maghreb Arab Union, for instance, according to some surveys, lose 2% of their annual growth because of stagnant economic cooperation, waste of thousands of job opportunities annually and depletion of nearly 5% of their GDP. One of the paradoxes that need to be thoroughly

considered is that intra-trade within the Union, which constitutes one large homogeneous family, barely reaches 2%.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,

The Islamic Development Bank is fully aware of the need to encourage all aspects of regional cooperation among its member countries. Consequently, the IDB Group is trying as much as possible to program and finance regional projects on transport networks such as roads, railways, seaports, airports, etc. Your Excellencies are aware of the importance of transport networks for trade development. Transport cost is a major factor in assessing global trade competitiveness. Some research works have estimated that a drop in transport cost by 10% increases trade activity by 25%. Bearing this in mind, developing countries, especially landlocked countries, bear high costs that impede trade development. It is therefore imperative to curtail such costs by building and enhancing the infrastructure needed to operate connectivity networks among member countries so that all development activities in the countries concerned can benefit therefrom.

In this regard, I would like to call for greater partnerships between the regional groupings of our member countries, for integrated priority programs and projects and for their implementation. In a bid to translate such a concern into reality, I am delighted to state that the IDB Group is ready to convene a consultative meeting of regional groupings such as COMESA, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), the Maghreb Arab Union, the Arab League, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), ASEAN, etc. to consider any issue that can help enhance cooperation and trade among the countries of the aforementioned groupings. A joint effort of such nature will definitely help to boost trade and growth, reduce poverty, create jobs for the youths and ensure sustainable and balanced human development. The IDB looks forward to hosting such a consultative meeting at its headquarters in Jeddah as soon as possible.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,

In conclusion, I wish this meeting resounding success in its deliberations and hope that it will come up with the right recommendations on how to address impediments to efforts designed to achieve the objective of a 20% trade volume by 2015 set by Muslim Leaders at their Makkah Extraordinary Summit in 1425H (2005).



I pray that Allah the Almighty help us achieve the Ummah's welfare, progress and prosperity.

*Wassalamu alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu.*

-----

# **ANNEX**

## **5**



الأصل : بالعربية

### الكلمة الافتتاحية

لمعالي الشيخ صالح بن عبدالله كامل،  
رئيس الغرفة الإسلامية للتجارة والصناعة  
في الجلسة الافتتاحية للكونسبيك  
(اسطنبول، ١٩ أكتوبر/ تشرين الأول ٢٠١١)

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

بسم الله القائل :

"وقل اعملوا فسيرى الله عملكم ورسوله والمؤمنون".  
والصلاة والسلام على الصادق الأمين القائل في أول حديث في الاسلام "انما الاعمال بالنيات".  
أيها الاخوة والاخوات .. السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته..  
اتحدث اليكم اليوم.. وأنا أقطر أسى وأنزف ألماً.. بعدما مرت من أعمارنا عشر سنوات ولو كانت  
العجاف عشرا لقلت عجافا.. سنوات عشر.. عقد من الزمان، كان يمكن أن يشكل منطلقا لمئات السنين  
على طريق الرخاء والنماء لعالمنا الاسلامي ليعيد ما تفرق، وليوحد ما تمزق، وليصل ما انقطع، وليقيم ما  
وقع..

ولكن.. ولشديد الاسف، هبت علينا في عامنا العاشر ولن أقول العاشر.. رياح الربيع، أو الصيف  
بالأحرى، التي كانت حارة لدرجة إشعال الحرائق وتمزيق الصفوف وتناحر الأمم.. وفساد السرائر وخبوت  
الضمائر .. وهذا يحدث بشكل تلقائي ومتوقع، حين تخبو القيم وتختنق الأخلاق..  
وتتذكرون جيدا ان المبدأ الأول في خطة الغرفة الإسلامية كان "إحياء القيم والأخلاق" التي لو تم إحيائها  
عند الحكام والوزراء والشعوب لما وصلت الأمور الى ما نحن عليه الآن.. من مجازر وقهر، وتكبر  
وتجبر.. ولكن، وللأسف الشديد أيضا، لم تحظ الخطة بكاملها، أو حتى لم يحظ بندها الأول بدعم من  
أي من الدول الأعضاء، نعم أكرر وأقول لم تحظ بدعم من أي من الدول.. وكل ماتم دعمها به كان من  
المعسول من الكلام.. والإفراط في الوعود والأحلام.. حتى أصبح الأمر برمته مجرد أوهام في أوهام.

أما التأشيرة الموحدة لرجال الأعمال.. فوُئدت.. أما المنطقة الحرة.. فغرقت..

أما الحلال فقد حارب من ثلاث دول..

وأما الزكاة يا مسلمين فلم تتبناها إلا دولة واحدة!

ولهذا بدأت خطابي هذا إليكم بقول الله تعالى "وقل إعملوا"، وصليت في البدء بعده على من أكد إنما الأعمال بالنيات.

حقيقة لقد كنت أنا شخصيا وراء فكرة أن يكون للخطة سنوات عشر.. وكنت أعتقد وقتها أنها مهلة كافية لتنفيذ كل بنودها، أو على الأقل الجزء الأكبر منها.. ولكن خاب اعتقادي.. فهاهي عشر سنوات كاملة ولم نحقق حتى البند الأول.. والذي وضعته متعمدا متعلقا بالقيم والأخلاق التي كانت كفيلة بأن تسهم في إنجاح كل الخطة، بل في إنقاذ كل الأمة.. لأن ديننا هو دين "قيم".. ولأن الأمم الأخلاق ما بقيت.. فإن هموا ذهبت أخلاقهم ذهبوا.

بالأخلاق انتشر الدين أضعاف انتشاره بالسيف، وبالقِيم دخل الناس في دين الله أفواجا.. إن الذين أسلموا على يد التجار أو بسببهم يفوق من أسلموا على يد العسكر. أيها الإخوة والأخوات..

أعدد هذه الأشياء وأنا أتحسر عليها لأن هذا هو خطابي الأخير أمام مجلسكم الموقر.. راجيا أن تراجعوا ضمائمكم.. هل إنجازات "الكومسيك" في العقود الثلاثة الأخيرة تستحق ما يصرف من مال لتغطية نفقات الاجتماعات؟.. وهل تساوي ذلك الوقت الذي يترك فيه الوزراء مهامهم ومواقعهم.

أقول لكم أخيرا وأنا في غاية الإحباط من العمل الجماعي الإسلامي..

اللهم قد بلغت اللهم فاشهد.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

-----

-----

# **ANNEX**

## **6**



Original: English

**CLOSING SPEECH BY H.E. DR. CEVDET YILMAZ  
MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

**(İstanbul, 20 October 2011)**

Honorable Ministers,  
Distinguished Delegates,

We have successfully completed the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC after an intensive working program. At this year's Session, we have covered many important issues with a view to solidify our economic and commercial cooperation.

Distinguished Delegates,

This year we have come together amidst great political transformations in our region. In this morning's Panel, we had a lively discussion on the economic dimensions of the Arab Spring. We, as the Government of Turkey, sincerely hope that the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of the region would be met and thus peace and prosperity prevail over bloodshed and instability.

I would now like to elaborate on a number of items that were highlighted in our deliberations in this Meeting.

Regarding intra-OIC trade, as a milestone development, we have finally completed the legal basis of TPS-OIC, with the tenth ratification of Rules of Origin by Bangladesh. I also welcome Kuwait's signing of the two TPSOIC agreements; namely PRETAS and Rules of Origin; and Mali's signing of the Statute of Islamic Civil Aviation Council. For TPS-OIC to be fully implemented, we still have a way to go, though probably less time-consuming than the ratification process. Within this framework, I invite all ratifying countries which have not yet done so, to convey their lists of concessions, together with other necessary documentation, to the Trade Negotiating Committee Secretariat at their earliest convenience.

The good progress achieved with regard to SMIIC, which is now ready to become fully operational, is also quite satisfactory. I am of the view that the work to be done within the framework of SMIIC will help us in harmonizing our standards, improving the quality of our products, and promoting intra-OIC trade.



Distinguished Participants,

We had in-depth discussions on our three priority sectors, namely agriculture, tourism, and transport. I believe the vitality of these sectors for economic and social development of member countries is self-evident and does not require any further sensitization. With regard to transport, our exchange of view session has been highly interesting and fruitful. The framework document for cooperation in transport will shed light to our future activities and projects. The proposed transport working group would also provide a firm basis to enhance our cooperation and align our policies in the field of transport.

Our cooperation in tourism is also flourishing. We have agreed on the idea of establishing a COMCEC tourism platform which will regularly bring together representatives of the private sector to discuss and address common issues and problems. I believe that this platform will help member states to make better use of the resources and vibrancy of the private sector in the development of their tourism sector.

As for agriculture, we have had two ministerial meetings since the last year's session which is a strong sign of our commitment to strengthen our cooperation in this field. The task force on food security is expected to produce a framework of cooperation in the field of agriculture with the aim of making our region more resilient to future food crises through increasing food security in our region.

Distinguished Participants,

Financial cooperation is another promising field in which progress is quite visible. The already advanced cooperation among the stock exchanges of member states is about to yield its fruits with the launching of Islamic Index in early 2012. I would like to invite all member states to join this important initiative. This year we have also endorsed the establishment of a new forum among our capital markets regulatory authorities, which will complement and consolidate the stock exchanges forum. On the other hand, the meetings of Central Banks is providing a useful ground for sharing their best practices and developing training and capacity building programs in areas of common interest. I believe that these activities will boost intra-OIC capital flows, and invite all member countries to take stock of the progress achieved in this field.

In the area of poverty reduction, closing the financial gap between the actual disbursement and targeted amounts of ISFD and SPDA continues to be a major challenge. Therefore, we should all give priority to fulfill our pledges with regard to the Fund and the Program. Apart from the need to close this gap, we should also elaborate on finding innovative solutions to make better use of these initiatives.

When we talk about poverty, I believe we cannot afford to overlook the catastrophic situation in Somalia. Somalia is suffering from the most severe drought and famine in the last 60 years, which has already resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of people and endangers the lives of millions of Somalis. This crisis is a serious test for us to put into practice the values of our civilization, which we usually take for granted. It also reveals, once again, that it is our basic obligation to pursue Islamic cooperation and solidarity to provide relief for those suffering from natural disasters. Thus, we as the Islamic Community should help to the people and the government of Somalia to alleviate their distress as well as to regain their unity, integrity, and harmony.

Distinguished Participants,

I believe we are well aware of the fact that private sector have a growing role in the countries' development endeavors. We need to benefit increasingly from the dynamism of the private sector in our multilateral economic and commercial relations. Thus, it is of great importance to make full use of trade fairs and private sector meetings which are vital platforms for expanding intra-OIC trade.

We should also work harder to enhance the competitiveness and capacity of Small and Medium Size Enterprises in our countries. SMEs make significant contribution to the Gross Domestic Product and employment in our countries and have the potential to become a powerful engine of growth. Yet problems such as macroeconomic instability, poor infrastructure, unfavorable business environment, and lack of access to finance pose serious constraints to SME development in the Member States. To this end, the selection of next year's exchange of views theme as "Enhancing the SMEs' competitiveness in the member states" is highly appropriate. Next year, we will be able to dwell on these issues with the aim of promoting our cooperation in this very important field.

Honorable Ministers,  
Distinguished Participants,

Before concluding my statement, I would like to thank the OIC General Secretariat, SESRIC the IDB Group, ICDT, ICCI, OISA, and SMIIC for their participation and valuable contribution to the meeting. I would also like to thank our colleagues in the COMCEC Coordination Office, interpreters, revisers and translators for their untiring efforts that helped make this meeting a success.

I wish you a safe trip back home.

Thank you.



# **ANNEX**

***7***



Original: English

**REPORT  
OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**(İstanbul, 16 October 2011)**

1. The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, prior to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. M. Metin EKER, Director General 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 Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
  - Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
  - Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group
  - Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI)

Some Turkish Institutions, as owners of the proposed cooperation projects of the COMCEC, also attended the Meeting.

The Meeting agreed on the following agenda items for consideration:

- 1- Review of the Proposed Cooperation Projects of the COMCEC
- 2- Consideration of the New Project Proposals
- 3- Any other business

4. CCO briefed the Committee on the background of the projects and reiterated the criteria set by the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee for the effective evaluation of the projects.
5. Following the brief, owners of the projects informed the Meeting on the latest developments regarding each project.

6. After the deliberations, the Meeting decided on the following :

The Committee **welcomed** the hosting of the Workshop on “Industrial Property Policies” planned to be held in January 2012. The Committee **requested** Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) to consider combining the Workshops on “Industrial Property Policies” and on “Innovation and Promotion” as the final event of the Project and to inform the Committee about the result.

The Committee **reviewed** the progress on the following projects;

- Study on Air Transportation Infrastructure and Industry in OIC Member States,
- Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project,
- The Establishment of the Federation of the Islamic Air Transport Associations (FIATA),
- The Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal,
- Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa.

It **urged** all stakeholders to speedily implement these projects, including the submission of necessary documents of the projects to the Sessional Committee at the earliest.

The Committee **welcomed** the offer of the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) to revise the Project namely “The Establishment of the Federation of the Islamic Road Transport Associations” with a view to promoting technical cooperation among the member countries in the field of transport from a multimodal perspective. The Committee **requested** the TOBB to submit the new project profile form well before the next Sessional Committee meeting.

The Committee **welcomed** the project proposal of the Turkish Competition Authority on “Technical Cooperation in the Area of Competition Law and Policy” and **decided** to add this project to the list.

The Committee **also welcomed** the offer of the Turkish Competition Authority to host a conference, namely İstanbul Conference, in İstanbul on 21-22 November 2011 as a kick off activity.

The Committee **took note** of the new project proposals of the SESRIC namely, “Formation of OIC-wide solar collectors”; “Establishment of Carbon market” and “Formation of a Green Energy Platform” and **requested** SESRIC to prepare the

Project Profile Forms of the said projects in accordance with the standard format and submit them at least two months prior to the 20th Meeting of the Sessional Committee.

The Meeting reiterated the following criteria set by its 18th Meeting:

- Only the Project proposals submitted with their respective Project Profile Forms will be added to the Project List of the Sessional Committee.
- The projects in which there is no progress in substantial issues within a 6-month period will be dropped.
- All project owners and coordinators should submit their work programs and time tables.

The Committee **requested** the COMCEC Coordination Office to work on some extra criteria with a view to measuring the progress and ensuring better evaluation and submit them to the next Sessional Committee Meeting.

7. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks.



## LIST OF PROJECT PROPOSALS OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

PROJECTS PROPOSALS ( <i>Project Profile Forms submitted</i> )					
No	Proposal Name	Proposing State/ Institution	Date of Proposal	Interested Country	Coordinator
1.	Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States	Turkey	1998 (Revised in 2005)	Kazakhstan, Syria, Morocco, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Yemen	ICDT
2.	Study on Air Transportation Infrastructure and Industry in OIC Member Countries	Turkey	1998 (Revised in 2008)		SESRIC
3.	Creation of a Network of Cross-border Parks and Reserves in West Africa	Guinea	21 November 2005	Benin, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso (Observer)	ICDT/ SESRIC
4.	The Establishment of the Federation of Islamic Road Transport Associations	OIC General Secretariat	11 May 2009	United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Jordan	TOBB
5.	Establishment of a Dynamic B2B E-Marketplace Web Portal	COMCEC Coordination Office	11 May 2009		MUSIAD with ICCI, ICDT and CCO
6.	Technical Cooperation in the Area of Competition Law and Policy	Turkey	9 May 2010		ICDT
PROJECT PROPOSALS ( <i>Project Profile Forms not submitted</i> )					
1.	Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project	Sudan	19 October 2008	Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea, Libya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Uganda and Guinea Bissau	OIC General Secretariat

2.	The Establishment of the Federation of the Islamic Air Transport Associations	OIC General Secretariat	11 May 2009	Turkey, Senegal, Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan	
<b>NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS (<i>Project Profile Forms to be submitted</i>)</b>					
1.	Formation of the OIC-wide Solar Collectors	SESRIC	16 October 2011		
2.	Establishment of Carbon Market	SESRIC	16 October 2011		
3.	The OIC Green Energy Platform	SESRIC	16 October 2011		



# **ANNEX**

## **8**



Original: English

**TRANSPORT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK  
WITHIN THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)  
“İZMİR DOCUMENT 2011”**

**1. Introduction**

The current OIC member countries cover one sixth of the World's land area. Moreover, one fifth of the total World population lives within this wide geography. The OIC member countries hold vital and strategically important junctions for the intercontinental trade thanks to their divergent locations in the World. That is why, they offer a very wide range of economically significant values to the international trade.

Undoubtedly, economic activity is considered one of the key pillars of the welfare and development of the OIC member countries. In order to take the deserved share from the ever-growing world trade, secure, safe, reliable, well-functioning and interconnected transport infrastructures and systems are indispensable for the OIC family.

In this regard, The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC) has always attributed utmost importance to transport cooperation since its establishment. Therefore, transport has been identified as one of the ten priority areas/sectors of cooperation in “the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation” among the member countries of the OIC, adopted at the 10th Session of the COMCEC in İstanbul in October 1994.

Apart from some very important steps taken in the past, it is a fact that there is a need to revitalise the cooperation among the member countries in the transport area through a permanent and regularly functioning framework.

Within this perspective, recently, the COMCEC Economic Summit, which was held in İstanbul in November 2009 on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the COMCEC, emphasized the importance of cooperation in the area of transportation to increase intra-OIC trade and requested COMCEC to work on the revitalization of cooperation in this sector. Accordingly, the Republic of Turkey suggested to organize an Experts Group Meeting (EGM) on the subject in 2011. The Experts Group on Transport Cooperation met on 9 June 2011 in İzmir/Republic of Turkey.

Furthermore, the 26th Session of the COMCEC, which was held in İstanbul in October 2010, adopted “The Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” as the theme for the Exchange of Views at its 27th Session, which will be held in October 2011, and requested the SESRIC, in collaboration with IDB, the

OIC General Secretariat, relevant OIC institutions and other related international organizations to organize a workshop on this topic prior its 27th Session meeting and to submit a report to the said meeting.

Accordingly, two days before the Experts Group Meeting, the Workshop on “The Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” was held on 7-8 June 2011 in İzmir/Republic of Turkey.

During the Experts Group Meeting on Transport Cooperation, representatives of the member country, taking into consideration the recommendations developed during the above-mentioned Workshop, formulated the following recommendations so as to lay the foundations of future cooperation in the field of transport within the OIC; and hereby submit this set of recommendations so called “İzmir Document 2011” to the COMCEC for adoption during its 27<sup>th</sup> Session:

## **2. Establishment of a Working Group on Transport**

Establishment of a COMCEC “Working Group on Transport” which would be the main platform to be referred to by the OIC member countries to discuss general transport issues as well as specific issues of road, rail, maritime transport and civil aviation, is recommended.

## **3. Scope and purpose of Transport Cooperation among the OIC Member Countries**

### **a. The main objectives to which the transport cooperation efforts among the OIC member countries should be oriented are as follows:**

- Establishment of safe, secure, high-quality and interconnected transport networks among the OIC member countries.
- Conducting reliable, fast, gradually liberated and well-functioning transport activities compatible with the international standards/norms/rules among the OIC member countries.
- Connection of the sub-regions of the OIC geography both with each other and also with the rest of the world.

### **b. The main challenges and problems in the field of transport within the scope of OIC, which would determine the areas of transport cooperation among the OIC member countries can be identified as follows:**

- Inadequate transport infrastructures in/between the OIC member countries,

- Serious security and safety concerns on some transport routes in certain OIC regions,
- Implementation of excessive taxes, fees and other kinds of charges for transit/international transport and unofficial charges in some points within the OIC member countries,
- Some missing links and bottlenecks on certain important transport routes within the OIC region,
- Lack of adequate financial resources and funding opportunities,
- Technical and infrastructural incompatibilities among the OIC member countries in different modes of transport,
- Non-physical barriers hindering the transit and international transport of goods and passengers among the OIC member countries,
- Cumbersome procedures and facilities in some border-crossing points,
- Insufficient cooperation in the field of transport which may include sharing the experiences, best practices and training opportunities in different areas of transport such as infrastructure, legislation, vehicles, staff, commercial etc.,
- Inadequate human and institutional capacity of relevant authorities,
- Lack of progress in signing and implementation of relevant international agreements and conventions.

#### **4. Areas of Cooperation**

##### **a. Harmonisation of National Legislations on Transport**

- Identification of challenges affecting the transport activities adversely among the OIC countries resulting from incompatibility of the national legislations.
- Increasing the awareness in OIC about major international agreements and conventions on transport; and increasing the number of OIC member countries which are parties to these agreements and conventions.
- Development of other possible ways and means to meet short term needs in the harmonization of legislations related to the transit transport.

##### **b. Trade and transport facilitations in the OIC member countries.**

- Structural harmonisation of physical transport infrastructures and improvement of border crossing facilities among the OIC member countries.



- Removal of non-physical barriers in front of transit/international transport among the OIC member countries.
- Removal of restrictions on transit/international transport among the OIC member countries and gradual liberalisation of the transit/international transportation within the OIC.
- Increasing institutional and human capacity in transport related institutions and organizations.

**c. Establishment of safe, secure, high-quality and interconnected transport networks in/among the OIC member countries and connection of the sub-regions of the OIC geography both with each other and also with the rest of the world.**

- Studying on transit/international transport routes connecting the OIC member countries and transport infrastructure needs and projects on these routes.

## **5. Means of Implementation**

- Establishment of a Statistical Database Related to Transportation
- Assessment reports on needs and policies of member countries or impact of emerging issues in the sector/subsector,
- Institutional support and capacity building programs,
- Programs for sharing best practices,
- Seminars,
- Field visits,
- Training courses and related materials (guidebooks, brochures etc.),
- Consultations with stakeholders (private sector, NGOs, public representatives),
- Joint commercial and technical initiatives.
- Public-Private-Partnership Projects

## **6. Adoption**

The above mentioned Transport Cooperation Framework among the OIC Member Countries was formulated during the COMCEC Experts Group Meeting on Transport which was held in İzmir/TURKEY on 9 June 2011 and welcomed by the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

-----

# ANNEX

## 9



Original: English

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
OF THE WORKSHOP ON  
“IMPACT OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS ON TRADE AND TOURISM”  
(İzmir-Republic of Turkey, 07-08 June 2011)**

1. In accordance with the resolution of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Turkey, Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) jointly organized a workshop on 7-8 June 2011 in İzmir, Republic of Turkey as a preparatory event for the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session on the theme “Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” during the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, to be held on 17-20 October 2011.

2. Representatives of the following Member States attended the Workshop:

- 1- The Republic of Azerbaijan
- 2- Kingdom of Bahrain
- 3- Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
- 4- United Arab Emirates
- 5- People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- 6- The Republic of Djibouti
- 7- The Republic of Chad
- 8- The Republic of Iraq
- 9- The Republic of Cameroon
- 10- State of Qatar
- 11- The Republic of Kazakhstan
- 12- The Republic of Mali
- 13- The Arab Republic of Egypt
- 14- The Federal Republic of Nigeria
- 15- The Sultanate of Oman
- 16- The Republic of Uzbekistan
- 17- The Republic of Senegal
- 18- The Tunisian Republic
- 19- The Republic of Turkey
- 20- Turkmenistan
- 21- The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

3. In addition, Representatives of the OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) and the Organization of the Islamic Ship-Owners Association (OISA) attended the Meeting.

4. Representatives of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), League of Arab States and International Road Transport Union (IRU), and Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) have also attended the workshop.

#### **Opening Session:**

5. Following the recitation from the Holy Qur'an, opening statements were made by Mr. Murat DELİÇAY from the COMCEC Coordination Office, Mr. Gholamhossein DARZİ, Director at Economic Affairs Department of the OIC General Secretariat, Mr. Erdem DİREKLER, Head of Foreign Relations Department of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Dr. Waleed A. Al-WOHAIB, CEO of the ITFC, and Dr. Savaş ALPAY, Director General of the SESRIC.

6. In their opening statements, the speakers emphasized the importance of the workshop to identify the main common obstacles and challenges faced by the OIC Member Countries in the field of transport and the impact of transportation networks on trade facilitation and tourism. They expressed the need for developing a framework for cooperation in this important field.

7. The workshop adopted the agenda and work programme.

#### **Working Sessions**

8. The workshop included four sessions where international and regional institutions made presentations on various aspects related to transportation, trade facilitation and tourism. The outcome of the preliminary study, financed by the IDB, entitled "Transport Corridors in OIC Member Countries" was presented, discussed and elaborated on as the main input during the Meeting. The study examined trade flows among the member countries and with the rest of the world and identified physical and

non-physical barriers to trade with the perspective to draw policy recommendations aiming to increase intra-OIC trade through better land transport links.

### **Session I: Trade and Transport Corridors in the OIC Member Countries**

9. The IDB Consultant made a presentation on “Trade analysis: Physical barriers, non-physical barriers, and transportation costs” which highlighted among others: importance of the transport corridors in economic development and trade integration; overview of trade in OIC member countries; trade flows in transport corridors; physical and non-physical barriers, freight costs and freight tariffs, road pricing and congestion.

### **Session II: International Transport Corridors and Best Practices**

10. The representatives of UNECE, UNESCAP, UNECA IRU, AfDB, ADB, and TOBB made their presentations on various issues related to the theme of the session such as international transport corridors; comparative advantage, transit time and reliability of international corridors; best practices; and cooperation opportunities. Emphasis was made on the need for accelerating the implementation of the international conventions and agreements in the area of transport, harmonizing the national plans and international initiatives, difficulties and long procedures in realizing international and regional infrastructure projects because of inadequate financial resources.

### **Session III: Trade and Transport Facilitation Policies**

11. The representatives of UNECE, UNESCAP, and UNESCWA made their presentations on Trade and Transport Facilitation Policies. The presentations described the broader concepts and components of trade and transport facilitation, along with the main recommendations, measures, tools developed by international organizations.

12. The presentations highlighted the benefits and importance of implementing trade and transport facilitation measures to enhance national competitiveness and to promote regional economic integration as well as achieving efficient collaboration at national, regional and international level for the development of collaborative trade and transport facilitation programs.

## **Session IV: Prioritization of Transport Corridors and Policy Recommendations for Enhancing Cooperation**

13. The ICDDT representative made a presentation entitled “Transport and Trade Facilitation: Current Status and Prospects” and highlighted the importance of transport in OIC Member Countries, impediments to transport development, regional strategies in transport and recommendations to facilitate transport sector in OIC Member States.

14. The Consultant made a presentation on Prioritization of Transport Corridors and Policy Recommendations for Enhancing Cooperation. The presentation provided initial prioritization of transport corridors, rational for the priority corridors and policy recommendations for enhancing cooperation in transport field among the OIC countries.

15. A presentation was also made by the representative of the SESRIC on International Tourism in the OIC Member Countries which gave analysis on the performance and economic role of international tourism activities in the Member Countries. The presentation also highlighted the challenges facing the Member Countries in developing sustainable tourism sector and issues of cooperation in this field. It also proposed some policy recommendations at both the national and OIC cooperation levels.

### **The Outcome of the Workshop**

#### ***a- Major Constraints and Challenges***

16. Based on the general discussions and deliberations made during the working sessions, the participants identified the following major common obstacles and challenges in the field of transportation in particular in connection to trade and tourism:

- Inadequate implementation of trade and transport facilitation measures and lack of information and knowledge-sharing among Member States in this area,
- Inadequate infrastructure and maintenance services,
- Insufficient financing and investment, especially in land-locked member countries,
- Complex and prolonged customs and border-crossing procedures,
- Inadequate human and institutional capacity of relevant authorities,

- Lack of a sound, harmonized, and adequate legal and regulatory frameworks, both at national and OIC regional level.
- Lack of progress in signing and especially implementation of relevant international treaties and conventions, including the OIC Statutes and Agreements,
- Lack of use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in the area of transport, trade facilitation and tourism.

***b- Recommendations:***

17. In the light of the above-identified challenges, the participants made the following recommendations at both national and OIC cooperation level.

**1) National Level**

- To sign, ratify, and implement relevant OIC and international agreements and conventions in the field of trade and transport;
- To integrate transport development plans into their national strategies taking into consideration regional initiatives;
- To allocate more financial resources to the projects, programs and studies in transport sector, in collaboration with financial institutions;
- To establish National Trade and Transport Facilitation Committees (NTTFC) involving private and public sectors institutions, to act as focal points for all trade and transport facilitation activities;
- To increase coordination among the ministries of transport and tourism to identify the major transport related obstacles to tourism in the Member States;
- To develop mechanisms for knowledge-sharing on best practices
- To use ICT for trade and transport facilitation and tourism in cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations;
- To review visa procedures and requirements with a view to facilitate trade and tourism flows among the Member Countries;



## **2) OIC Cooperation Level**

- To develop a framework of cooperation in the field of transport, including the Trade and Transport Facilitation activities;
- To establish a Working Group (WG) under the auspices of COMCEC to ensure the follow-up and implementation of cooperation according to the developed framework of cooperation;
- To increase institutional and human capacity of the Member States in transport related areas through organizing capacity building programs;
- To hold high level coordination meetings particularly among the transport related authorities of the Member States, including the organization of Ministerial Conference on Transport on a regular basis;
- To create a database of statistical information from the OIC Member States in the field of transport;
- To enhance partnership with relevant regional and international organizations in the field of transport to avoid duplication and enhance effectiveness;
- To launch an OIC-level TTF Program under the auspices of COMCEC to assist member States to accede to relevant TTF agreements and to develop and adopt their national standards and regulations to international trade and transport regulations and standards.
- To request the Working Group to follow up the implementation of specific TTF initiatives in cooperation with relevant OIC organs, regional and international organizations with the support of IDB Group.
- To prepare a master plan for the transport corridors in the OIC Member States including identification of the obstacles on the existing transport corridors in the OIC sub-regions.
- To enhance collaboration among the stakeholders, including the representatives of the private sector in the field of transport in order to boost trade and tourism.

-----

# **ANNEX**

**10**



Original: English

**REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON  
PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION FOR ENHANCING  
INTRA-OIC TOURISM**

**(İzmir, 10 December 2010)**

1. In pursuance of the relevant resolutions of the 25<sup>th</sup> Ministerial session of the COMCEC and COMCEC Economic Summit held in Istanbul in November 2009, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey in collaboration with the Association of Turkish Travel Agencies (TURSAB) organized a Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation For Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism” in Izmir on 10 December 2010 on the sidelines of the Travel Turkey Tourism Fair and Conference (9-12 December 2010).

2. The Workshop was attended by the public and private sector representatives from the following Members of the OIC:

- Palestinian Government
- The Arab Republic of Egypt
- The Republic of Uzbekistan
- The Republic of Sudan
- The Syrian Arab Republic
- The Tunisian Republic
- The Republic of Turkey
- The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

3. The following representatives of the OIC Subsidiary Organs, Specialized and Affiliated Institutions took part in the meeting:

- COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO);
- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC);
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT);
- The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI);

Arab Tourism Organization also attended .

(The list of participants is attached in Annex-I).

4. Mr. Onur GÖZET, Head of External Relations and European Union Coordination Department, Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, as the Chairman of the Workshop delivered his opening speech. He emphasized the key role of the private sector in the success of Turkish tourism sector and declared Turkey's readiness to share its experiences with the OIC member countries.

5. Mr. Gökten DAMAR, the representative of COMCEC Coordination Office, made a statement. In his statement, he gave background information about the OIC Tourism Cooperation. Stressing the importance of private sector in tourism, he concluded that COMCEC would continue to encourage and support promoting cooperation among private sector institutions and organizations operating in the tourism sector.

6. Mr. Oğuzhan Yurteri, Head of Tourism Planning Department, Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, delivered a presentation entitled "An Overlook into Turkish Tourism". In his presentation, he expressed Turkish national experience in tourism sector particularly in the fields of tourism revenues, tourist arrivals and tourism investments.

7. Mr. Koray YETİK, Secretary General of The Turkish Tourism Investors Association, made a presentation evaluating the investment climate in Turkish Tourism Sector and stressed the importance of public-private partnership. He also mentioned the criteria that would attract tourism investors.

8. Mrs. Ela ATAKAN, Director of Cooperate Affairs of Association of Turkish Travel Agencies (TURSAB) delivered a presentation on the Turkish tourism sector.

#### 9. PROPOSALS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

Based on the presentations and discussions, the Workshop put forward the following proposals and recommendations for the consideration of Member Countries:

9.1. Underlined the important role of the activities bringing together the private sector representatives in the enhancement of tourism cooperation among the OIC member states and thus decided on the continuation of similar workshops on a regular basis in each year.

9.2. Appreciated the proposal made by the Republic of Turkey on the establishment of OIC Tourism Platform which would regularly bring private sector representatives together to discuss potential cooperation

areas and thereby contribute to tourism cooperation among the OIC member states.

9.3. Requested the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and TURSAB in collaboration with OIC General Secretariat and COMCEC Coordination Office to work on the modality and details of the OIC Tourism Platform among private sector representatives.

9.4. Emphasized the importance of Public-Private Partnership (3Ps-PPP) in the expansion and upgrading of the existing tourist capacities and activities and for the construction of new facilities of appropriate quality and service standards, using up-to-date technologies.

9.5. Called upon the OIC Member States and their private sector entities to actively participate the 1st OIC Health Expo including Health Tourism, to be held on 24-27 February 2011 in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia; and in the Second Tourism Fair, to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 9-12 October 2011.

9.6. Emphasized the importance of vocational education and training in addressing the challenges facing the member countries in the domain of tourism and took note with appreciation of the SESRIC's efforts in training programmes on tourism development and high quality on job training for services staff in tourism sector, within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme.

9.7. Welcomed the visa-free travel deals among some OIC member states and called upon all member states to eliminate the existing barriers to movement of tourists in OIC countries, including simplification of visa, customs and foreign exchange procedures.

9.8. Decided to submit the Report of the Workshop on "Private Sector Cooperation for Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism" to the 27th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC which will be held in Turkey on 10-12 May 2011.

10. The participants also expressed their profound gratitude to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and TURSAB for the perfect organization of this workshop as well as for the efforts they have made to ensure its success.

-----



# **ANNEX**

**11**





Original: English

**REPORT OF THE  
FIFTH MEETING OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES'  
STOCK EXCHANGES FORUM  
(Istanbul, September 17-18, 2011)**

1. The Fifth Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum convened in Istanbul on September 17-18, 2011.
2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following stock exchanges of the OIC Member States:

**A. STOCK EXCHANGES OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES**

1. Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange
2. Amman Stock Exchange, Jordan
3. Bursa Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia
4. Casablanca Stock Exchange, Morocco
5. Chittagong Stock Exchange, Bangladesh,
6. Damascus Securities Exchange, Syria
7. Dhaka Stock Exchange, Bangladesh
8. Dubai Financial Market, United Arab Emirates
9. Egyptian Exchange, Egypt
10. Iraq Stock Exchange, Iraq
11. Islamabad Stock Exchange, Pakistan
12. Istanbul Stock Exchange, Turkey
13. Karachi Stock Exchange, Pakistan
14. Kazakhstan Stock Exchange, Kazakhstan
15. Khartoum Stock Exchange, Sudan
16. Lahore Stock Exchange, Pakistan
17. Mozambique Stock Exchange, Mozambique
18. Muscat Securities Market, Oman
19. Nasdaq Dubai, United Arab Emirates
20. Qatar Exchange, Qatar
21. Tadawul Saudi Stock Market, Saudi Arabia
22. Tehran Stock Exchange, Iran
23. Tunis Stock Exchange, Tunisia

**B. CENTRAL DEPOSITORIES, CLEARING AND REGISTRY INSTITUTIONS  
OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES**

1. BRVM (Bourse Régionale des Valeurs Mobilières) Niger, Niger
2. Central Depository Company of Pakistan Limited, Pakistan
3. Central Registry Agency of Turkey, Turkey
4. Central Securities Depository of Iran, Iran
5. ISE Settlement and Custody Bank (Takasbank), Turkey
6. Muscat Clearing and Depository, Oman
7. National Clearing Company of Pakistan Ltd. (NCCPL), Pakistan
8. Securities Depository Center, Jordan

**C. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

1. Arab Federation of Exchanges
2. BMD Securities Inc. (Bizim Menkul Değerler), Turkey
3. Capital Markets Board of Turkey (CMB), Turkey
4. Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, Turkey
5. COMCEC Coordination Office
6. Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS)
7. Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB)
8. International Islamic Financial Market (IIFM)
9. Islamic Development Bank
10. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey
11. South Asian Federation of Exchanges (SAFE)
12. Standard & Poor's
13. Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
14. Thomson Reuters, USA

**Opening and Seminar Session**

3. Following a brief introduction of the program, the meeting was opened by Mr. Hüseyin Erkan, Forum Chairman, and Chairman & CEO of the Istanbul Stock Exchange. Mr. Erkan welcomed all delegates and seminar guests to Istanbul on the occasion of the fifth meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum and Capital Markets Linkages & Technology Seminar. Mr. Erkan, in consideration of those attending the Seminar on Capital Market Linkages, initially gave a brief introduction on the Forum, touching upon the mandate given by the COMCEC to the Istanbul Stock Exchange in 2005 to initiate the Forum, the members, the functioning, and activities of the Forum. Mr.

Erkan went on to say that the worldwide growth of Islamic finance was led by non-Muslim countries and companies, with the introduction of hundreds of instruments that were not necessarily Shariah-based, but Shariah-compliant. Such instruments became popular among investors, both Muslim and non-Muslim, seeking Shariah-compliance or not. Mr. Erkan reminded the audience that such instruments were introduced by major index providers, and more recently, by data vendors, and none came from Muslim countries. Therefore, the Forum came up with the idea to introduce an index of stock exchanges of OIC member countries and worked on the major areas of cooperation including the introduction of a series of common indices, structured products, and so forth, coming from different jurisdictions, settlement periods, public disclosure standards, etc. Mr. Erkan said that the Forum studied on standardization on such areas and added that the seminar to follow would provide the experience of major exchanges that will largely contribute to the Forum.

4. Mr. Emin Özer, Board Member of the Capital Markets Board of Turkey (CMB), saluted the guests and noted the fast progress that COMCEC had made in enhancing cooperation among OIC states on particularly financial issues. Mr. Özer said, in consideration of the increased integrated nature of the financial markets, countries should be better prepared to deal with the consequences of global macroeconomic fluctuations through enhanced cooperation in the regulatory area. Mr. Özer congratulated the Forum for the progress they had made in creating a benchmark index and making Islamic finance more visible internationally. Mr. Özer informed the audience of the establishment of OIC States' Capital Market Regulators Forum on the previous day, with the representation of thirteen countries, and the formation of four task forces, which will closely cooperate with their counterparts in the stock exchanges Forum.

5. Mr. Erkan, as moderator of the seminar, "Capital Markets Linkages: Experiences, Challenges and Solutions", invited the panellists, namely, Mr. Thomas Krabbe, Director, Corporate Development and Finance, Chicago Mercantile Exchange; Mr. Roland Bellegarde, Group Executive Vice-President, NYSE Euronext; Mr. Lauri Rosendahl, President, NASDAQ OMX Helsinki; Mr. Stephan Pouyat, Director, Global Reach Product Management, Euroclear; and Mr. Philippe Carré, Global Head of Connectivity, Global Trading, SunGard.

Mr. Krabbe, Mr. Bellegarde, and Mr. Rosendahl delivered presentations displaying the integration experience of, respectively, Chicago Mercantile Exchange, NYSE Euronext, and NASDAQ OMX Helsinki; through completely different models.

*(A copy of Mr. Thomas Krabbe's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 1)*

*(A copy of Mr. Roland Bellegarde's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 2)*

*(A copy of Mr. Lauri Rosendahl's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 3)*

Mr. Erkan went on to say that post-trade services are an indispensable part of capital markets linkages and invited the representatives of Euroclear and SunGuard to deliver their presentations.

*(A copy of Mr. Stephan Pouyat's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 4)*

*(A copy of Mr. Philippe Carré's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 5)*

Mr. Erkan invited the audience to present their questions to the panellists and the Q&A session was held.

6. Mr. Rushdi Siddiqui, Global Head of Islamic Finance, Thomson Reuters, delivered a presentation entitled "Does Islamic finance have AIR (Authenticity, Innovation and Reach)?"

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Rushdi Siddiqui is herewith attached as Annex 6)*

7. Mr. Ibrahim Idjarmizuan from IFSB delivered a presentation entitled "Islamic Liquidity Management".

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Idjarmizuan is herewith attached as Annex 7)*

8. Mr. Gürsel Kona, Bonds and Bills Market Department, Istanbul Stock Exchange, delivered a presentation entitled "A New Way of Sukuk Trading in the OIC Markets"

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Kona is herewith attached as Annex 8)*

9. Mr. Ijlal Alvi, CEO, IIFM, delivered a presentation entitled "IIFM Repo Project Discussion Points for Istanbul Stock Exchange"

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Alvi is herewith attached as Annex 9)*

10. Mr. Avşar Sungurlu, Assistant Managing Director, BMD Securities Inc., delivered a presentation entitled "The First Islamic ETF: Turkey's Experience".

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Sungurlu is herewith attached as Annex 10)*

Mr. Erkan, as Forum Chairman, opened the official Forum meeting.

11. Mr. M. Emin Eker, General Director, COMCEC Coordination Office, saluted the delegates, and stated that the growing economic challenges faced by the Islamic Community called for enhanced dialogue and cooperation, and mentioned the role of COMCEC as a platform to seek solutions for the common challenges of Islamic states. Mr. Eker went on to say that in addition to the ongoing cooperation among the OIC member states' central banks and stock exchanges, the capital markets regulatory authorities initiated a similar cooperation on the previous day. Mr. Eker noted that the cooperation endeavors would serve to the financial stability and growth of Islamic states while contributing to the removal of the barriers on the capital mobility, increasing product diversity, and deepening of the markets. Mr. Eker also underlined COMCEC's appreciation of the Task Forces' efforts and expressed his hopes that the benchmark indices to be introduced in the near future would add to the visibility of the Forum member stock exchanges. Mr. Eker stated also that the remarkable progress of the Forum gives COMCEC a chance to promote it as a "successful cooperation model" and "a source of inspiration" for the other cooperation initiatives under COMCEC umbrella. Mr. Eker concluded by underlining COMCEC's determination to continue to support all the efforts aimed at strengthening the solidarity among Islamic Ummah.

12. Mr. Hüseyin Erkan, ISE Chairman & CEO, in his role as the Forum Chairman, delivered a presentation on the background of the Forum and the tasks accomplished since the 4th Forum meeting in October 2010.

*(A copy of Mr. Hüseyin Erkan's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 11)*

13. Ms. Şenay Pehlivanoglu, Assistant Director, Foreign Securities Market, Istanbul Stock Exchange, presented the report of the Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products.

*(A copy of the presentation of the Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products is herewith attached as Annex 12)*

14. Mr. Charbel Azzi, Director, Head of Client Coverage (MEA), S&P Indices, delivered a presentation on S&P's activities with regard to OIC exchanges, S&P's proposal for two Shariah indices, and gave the audience information on the methodology, branding, costs and revenues, marketing and data dissemination for such indices.

*(A copy of the presentation by Mr. Azzi is herewith attached as Annex 13)*

15. Mr. Wan Rizaidy Head, Product Development Islamic Capital Markets, Bursa Malaysia, talked about the work of the Task Force for the Promotion, Awareness and Investor Education about Islamic Financial Markets. Mr. Rizaidy said that the Task Force had been working on creating an OIC Exchanges Directory, however, received responses from six members only. Mr. Rizaidy invited all the delegates to the conference on Islamic

liquidity management organized by Bursa Malaysia at Ritz Carlton Hotel in Istanbul on September 28-29, 2011, and left the floor to Dr. Polat to provide information about the developments on the Forum website.

16. Dr. Eralp Polat, Director, International Relations, Istanbul Stock Exchange, delivered a presentation on the developments on the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Website.

*(A copy of the presentation by Dr. Polat is herewith attached as Annex 14)*

17. Dr. Abolfazl Shahrabadi, Director, Public Relations and International Department, Tehran Stock Exchange, and Mr. Hamed Soltaninejad, Vice President of CSD of Iran, presented the report of the Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products.

*(A copy of the presentation by Dr. Shahrabadi is herewith attached as Annex 15)*

18. Ms. Filiz Kaya, Managing Director, ISE Settlement and Custody Bank (Takasbank), on behalf of the Task Force for Post-Trade Services, said that the Task Force cooperated with and supported the Istanbul Stock Exchange for the preparations of the Capital Markets Linkage conference. Ms. Kaya gave a brief summary of the activities of the Task Force, including the preparation of questionnaires, sharing information among the member post-trade institutions, and initiation of opening correspondent accounts with post-trade institutions. Ms. Kaya said such efforts have provided useful for all the members. Nevertheless, in order to provide a more efficient platform and achieve more tangible results, the Task Force proposes to change the working methodology to project-based efforts; that is, to work on concrete projects to be determined by the members bi-laterally or multi-laterally.

## 19. PROPOSALS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

The following proposals and recommendations were made and decisions were taken at the meeting:

1. a) The Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products will continue to coordinate the work with the index provider; i.e., S&P. The members that have not signed the agreement yet are encouraged to do so by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. S&P will launch the indices in the beginning of 2012 with the signatory members. Those who sign the agreement on a further date will be later included in the indices at subsequent review dates. S&P is requested to review the criteria in order to increase the number of member exchanges included in the indices, if feasible. The Task Force will also consult with S&P to create a family strategy for the OIC indices and to work on the promotion of such indices. The

Task Force will also consult the Forum members to approach investment banks in order to create structured products on the OIC indices.

b) Additionally, the Task Force will continue to work on the introduction of sukuk and other Islamic capital market instruments trading on organized markets in coordination with IIFM and IFSB.

2. The Forum appreciates the recently established COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum, which will highly contribute to the work of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum.
3. Task Force for Capital Market Linkages and the Task Force for Post-Trade Services will be converted into a project group of volunteering exchanges and post-trade institutions. Members of such project group will endeavour to realize bi-lateral and/or multi-lateral linkages, including trading, post-trade services, technological infrastructure, and so forth. The project group will cooperate with the Forum of regulatory bodies with regard to the legal framework.
4. The Forum Secretariat will continue to work on the development of the Forum web site and continue to act as the facilitator and coordinator with regard to the work of the Task Forces and project groups. Members are recommended to provide links from their own web sites to the Forum website. Members are also encouraged to share information regarding their work with their own members. The Secretariat will work with facilitators such as Thomson Reuters to establish an OIC stock exchange chat room.
5. The Forum will seek the assistance of COMCEC in securing IDB's support for the work on possible structured products to be created on the OIC indices.
6. Task Force for the Promotion, Awareness and Investor Education about Islamic Capital Markets will cease to continue as its work will be continued by the Forum Secretariat.
7. The volunteering exchanges for linkage are as follows: Egyptian Exchange, Dubai Financial Market, Qatar Exchange, Istanbul Stock Exchange, Tehran Stock Exchange, Lahore Stock Exchange
8. The conclusions of the meeting will be reported to the 27<sup>th</sup> session of COMCEC to be held in Istanbul on October 17-20, 2011.
9. The next annual meeting of the Forum will be held in Istanbul in October 2012.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Draft Report of the Fifth Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum

### ANNEXES

- I. Presentation by Mr. Thomas Krabbe
- II. Presentation by Mr. Roland Bellegarde
- III. Presentation by Mr. Lauri Rosendahl
- IV. Presentation by Mr. Stephan Pouyat
- V. Presentation by Mr. Philippe Carré
- VI. Presentation by Mr. Rushdi Siddiqui on behalf of Thomson Reuters
- VII. Presentation by Mr. Ibrahim Idjarmizuan on behalf of IFSB
- VIII. Presentation by Mr. Gürsel Kona from the Istanbul Stock Exchange
- IX. Presentation by Mr. Ijlal Alvi on behalf of IIFM
- X. Presentation by Avşar Sungurlu, on behalf of BMD Securities Inc.
- XI. Presentation by Mr. Hüseyin Erkan, as Forum Chairman
- XII. Presentation by Şenay Pehlivanoğlu on behalf of the Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products
- XIII. Presentation by Mr. Charbel Azzi on behalf of S&P Indices
- XIV. Presentation by Dr. Eralp Polat on behalf of the Forum Secretariat
- XV. Presentation by Mr. Abolfazl Shahrabadi and Mr. Hamed Soltaninejad on behalf of the Task Force for Customized Indices and Exchange Traded Islamic Financial Products

# **ANNEX**

**12**



Original: English

**REPORT OF THE COMCEC CAPITAL MARKETS  
REGULATORY AUTHORITIES CONFERENCE  
AND ROUNDTABLE**

**(İstanbul, 16 September 2011)**

1. COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Conference and Roundtable convened in Istanbul on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of capital market regulatory authorities from the following COMCEC Member States:

- Commission d'Organisation et de surveillance des Opérations de Bourse, COSOB
- La Banque Centrale du Cameroun
- Indonesia Capital Market and Financial Institutions Supervisory Agency (BAPEPAM-LK)
- Securities & Exchange Organization of Iran (SEO)
- Iran/Central Securities Depository of Iran (CSDI)
- Jordan Securities Commission
- Financial Supervision Committee of the National Bank of Kazakhstan
- Khartoum Stock Exchange
- Bursa Malaysia
- Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan
- Capital Market Authority of Saudi Arabia
- Syria Commission on Financial Markets and Securities, Syrian Arab Republic
- Securities and Commodities Authority of United Arab Emirates

3. Representatives from COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and also Istanbul Stock Exchange (ISE) attended the Meeting.

(The list of participants is attached in Annex 1).

**OPENING SESSION**

4. The Meeting was opened by Mr. A. Vedat AKGIRAY, Chairman of Capital Markets Board of Turkey. Mr. AKGIRAY briefly informed the participants about the

COMCEC and the OIC Stock Exchange Forum progress since 2005. He emphasized that working together, supporting each other whether this is for market development, product diversification or compliance to international standards shall provide momentum to the improvement OIC financial markets.

While Mr. AKGIRAY underlining the need for cooperation, as high up on the agenda for regulatory and supervisory authorities worldwide, he mentioned that this conference has been arranged in response to the calls by the 25th and the 26th COMCEC Meetings in 2009 and 2010 for establishing a “*COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Forum*”.

Mr. AKGIRAY stated that Islamic finance is becoming much more important throughout the financial institutions of the world and rather than being a rapidly growing industry evolving to a mainstay of finance. He also added that cooperation mechanisms, IFSB or OIC working together or on their paths shall together raise the bar for the OIC member states’ financial markets and economies.

Each member state has its own different financial market pattern such as, conventional, Islamic or co-existence. In accordance with this issue, Mr. Chairman depicted the diversification and the variety in OIC financial markets structure and instruments of member state countries. Therefore for the productivity of cooperation, a Forum structure which will embrace all these patterns should be favored

The Chairman concluded his speech with his full support for finding a common ground with the best spirit of cooperation and a level playing field for establishing a Forum with its Task Forces, Working Committees, regular meetings, technical assistance arrangements.

5. Hüseyin ERKAN, Chairman & CEO of the Istanbul Stock Exchange, has expressed his support to the establishment of a separate forum. Mr. ERKAN has informed the participants about the ongoing activities, projects of the OIC Stock Exchanges Forum. He has illustrated the way Islamic financial markets are functioning and emphasized the necessity of a common index and a more transparent market.

6. M. Metin EKER, General Director of COMCEC Coordination Office, saluted the delegates and underlined the importance of financial cooperation in the COMCEC agenda. He mentioned his belief on establishing the “COMCEC Member States Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Forum” with the help of this conference and added that it will focus on regulatory and legal infrastructure in order to achieve more harmonized policies and regulations.

Finally, Mr. EKER concluded that given the uneven development of financial systems of the countries, this platform will render greater support to member countries

which need technical assistance and human resource capacity-building so as to promote the common development goals of the COMCEC members.

## **PRESENTATION SESSION**

After the Opening Session, the Meeting proceeded with the Presentation Session.

7. Seçil SAYIN GÜNDÜZ, Chief Legal Expert and Mustafa TAŞDEMİR, Expert, Capital Markets Board of Turkey, delivered a presentation on current state of COMCEC member states' capital markets. The first presentation is based on four topics including brief information about the OIC member states, COMCEC, the objective of the conference, a general outlook of the Turkish economy and capital markets main indicators. Besides, international cooperation of CMB is discussed and finally OIC Member States' financial landscape is generally illustrated in accordance with the survey responses from each country.

(A copy of Ms. Secil SAYIN GUNDUZ, Mr. Mustafa TAŞDEMİR's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 2)

8. Wan Rizaidy Wan Mamat Saufi, Head of Islamic Capital Markets, Bursa Malaysia delegate has depicted the building blocks of the Malaysian financial system such as regulatory structure, legal framework, Malaysian Islamic financial offerings and securities market. In addition, funds, Malaysian sukuk, bonds market and derivatives markets have been discussed so as to grasp the play of current state.

(A copy of Mr. Wan Rizaidy Wan Mamat Saufi's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 3)

9. Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan delegate has outlined Pakistan capital markets regulatory structure, securities market and stock exchanges covering non-banking finance companies sector and insurance sector. Following the overview of Pakistan economy and its financial indicators, major reforms, work in progress projects and suggestions for cooperation have been emphasized.

(A copy of Mr. Muhammad Ali's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 4)

10. Mats ISAKSSON, Head of Corporate Affairs Division, has made a speech on the OECD, its vision and corporate governance related work and also OECD's initiatives for the MENA and Eurasia regions, joint projects which were supported by the CMB and the ISE. He has declared OECD's support for further cooperation with the OIC member states. He has underlined that joint efforts of OECD will provide a

visible and substantial contribution to private entrepreneurship, successful cooperation and long-term economic growth.

11. Selcan OLCA, Chief Expert, Capital Markets Board of Turkey delivered a presentation on global financial crisis and its impact on emerging markets. This session highlights the impact of global financial crisis to the emerging markets. Also identifies the most common financial regulatory responses to the crisis in the emerging markets and the key observations from the emerging markets perspective have also been stressed on the basis of IOSCO Emerging Markets Committee survey results.

(A copy of Ms. Selcan OLCA's presentation is herewith attached as Annex 5)

### **ROUNDTABLE MEETING**

12. In this Session, the representatives of COMCEC Member State Capital Market Regulatory Authorities got the chance to share their views and ideas for possible cooperation topics and responding to the calls by the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meetings for establishing an *“OIC Member State Capital Market Regulatory Authorities Forum”*.

13. Mr. AKGIRAY, Chairman of the CMB, has brought forward two options available for cooperation mechanism whether establishing a separate COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Forum or joining the Current OIC Stock Exchange Forum. To this proposal, Iran delegate, Mr. Ali Saeedi stated that a separate forum alternative is more proper to harmonize the rules and responsibilities of the regulators. Following this remark, Pakistan delegate, Mr. Mohammad Ali supported to establish a separate forum emphasizing the difference between stock exchanges and market regulators pertaining to perspective, scope of duty and focus. And finally Malaysia delegate, Mr. Wan Rizaidy Wan Mamat Saufi, on behalf of Malaysia Securities Commission declared Malaysia's support for the establishment of a separate forum option.

14. Mr. AKGIRAY commented that a forum should have multilateral aspects. He noted that the CMB has concluded MoU with only six COMCEC member states so far, only 9 member COMCEC states are member of the IOSCO Multilateral MoU. If there is no regulatory understanding, problems occur. This might happen once in five years but these ones is the turning point. Global funds travel at places where internationally standards are applicable because money wants to feel safe. Therefore, it is essential to support cooperation effort between the regulators.

15. For having the approval of all member states' to establish a Forum, COMCEC Coordination Office has clarified that in 2009 and 2010 COMCEC meetings, a clear call was made to establish a forum and added that a clear adoption by the

representatives of authorities is necessary. At this point, referring to the fact that a political decision was already made in 2009-2011 COMCEC meetings, Mr. AKGIRAY suggested to establish a forum and clarified that this Forum will not be an alternative, a substitute to any other existing forum or cooperation mechanism. It will complement and can be used as an instrument for several purposes. Malaysia, Pakistan and United Arab Emirates have supported this proposal. After having discussed the name of the forum, 'COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum' proposal is considered to be appropriate and the forum is established by the participants' consensus.

16. Mr. AKGIRAY remarked that regional closeness matters for deciding on regional committees. Iran delegate stated that functional groups should be prioritized to regional groups. COMCEC Coordination Office also underlined the importance of determining some cooperation areas and clarifying the functions of sub-committees.

CMB Chairman introduced Turkey's cooperation areas proposal as follows:

- **Market development**
  1. Facilitate cross-border listing,
  2. Improve market infrastructure
  3. Physical, communication, ICT
  4. Product diversification (Conventional finance)
  5. Product diversification (Islamic finance)
- **Capacity building**
  1. Compliance to international standards
    - a. Financial reporting
    - b. Audit
    - c. Corporate governance
    - d. Transparency and information disclosure

The abovementioned issues should be realized through exchanging best practices and technical assistance programs.

- **Islamic Finance**
- **Financial Literacy**

17. Pakistan and UAE delegates, Mr. Muhammad Ali and Mr. Obaid Al Zaabi respectively, remarked that the proposals for cooperation, task forces lay a proper ground for working together. It was commented that equity financing is compliant with Islamic finance principles. Iran delegate, Mr. Ali Saeedi noted that Islamic financial market equals to conventional financial market plus some limitations. Malaysia delegate, Mr. Wan Rizaidy Wan Mamat Saufi depicted the importance of better regulation of Islamic finance.



18. Mr. AKGIRAY noted that the forum could be the voice of OIC members on international financial circles. Therefore, in order to enhance effectiveness and efficiency tele/video conferences and e-mail groups could be used. The participants also supported the view that the newly established “Capital Market Regulators Forum” could work in cooperation with the “OIC Stock Exchanges Forum” in accordance with market development and financial education task forces

19. The participants of the Roundtable concluded that CMB Chairman, Mr. AKGIRAY should be the Chair of the COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum and accordingly the CMB as, the secretariat of the Forum.

20. Finally, it is decided that the minutes of this conference, roundtable and member states’ responses about task forces will be sent to the COMCEC Coordination Office before 15 October 2011 for approval by the 27th COMCEC meeting in 17-20 October 2011.

### **PROPOSALS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS**

The following decisions were taken at the meeting:

1. “COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum” is established among the COMCEC member countries’ regulators. Mr. AKGIRAY is designated as the Chairman of the Forum and the CMB, as being the secretariat.
2. Regarding the structure of the Forum, it will have four Task Forces on the areas of:
  - Market Development
  - Capacity Building
  - Islamic Finance
  - Financial Literacy
3. Decisions of the Forum shall be submitted to the COMCEC Sessions.
4. The Forum will work in close cooperation with the “OIC Stock Exchanges Forum”.
5. The next meeting of the COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum shall be held in Istanbul on a date to be further announced by the Secretariat.
6. COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum shall be held once a year.

-----

# **ANNEX**

**13**



Original: English

## **REPORT OF THE FOURTH PROJECT COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OIC COTTON ACTION PLAN**

**(22 September 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)**

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Project Committee was held on 22 September 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.
2. Dr. Osman Mahgoub ELFIEL, from the IDB Group, Chaired the Fourth Project Committee Meeting.
3. OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, members countries of the Steering Committee, the Centers of Excellence, OIC concerned institutions, namely, ICDT and IDB Group and following Member States (Benin/ Burkina Faso/ Cameroon/ Mali /Morocco / Senegal / Syria / Tunisia and Turkey) took also part at this meeting.
4. Opening the meeting, the Chairman made a brief introduction on the importance of the deliberations of the Project Committee. He also recalled the work and recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Committee Meetings.

After adoption of the Agenda, the following items were considered.

### **Agenda item 1: Briefing on the current status of projects approved during the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Committee Meetings (by IDB Group);**

5. To date, the project committee has approved 27 project proposals on cotton sector development in 12 Member Countries. The proposals cover wide range of activities targeting capacity building, training, research, production, marketing, pest management, etc. The cost of the proposed projects varies from US\$ 50,000 to US\$ 82 million (Annex-1 shows the summary of proposals received from OIC General Secretariat).
6. The 27 project proposals received from the project committee are being reviewed to assess their technical soundness and economic viability. As per IDB procedures, these proposals will be further discussed with the countries concerned to explore possible financing modalities to determine their priorities for inclusion in the country work program. Upon agreement on the financing modalities and receipt of the official request from the Governments of concerned

countries, these proposals will be considered by IDB for financing under different financing windows.

Up to date, eight (8) proposals have been approved for financing:

- 6 from IDB for Cameroon (3 combined projects), Turkey, Egypt and Mozambique;
- 2 from ICDT (Cairo Forum in 2009 and 1<sup>st</sup> Cotton and Textiles Exhibition in Ouagadougou 2011).
- In addition to that, three (3) projects are being processed by IDB for Syria, Afghanistan (being prepared by Turkey) and Azerbaijan. (See details in Annex 1)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEM 1**

**7. In this respect, the committee recalled the following previous recommendations that have been agreed upon regarding project processing**

- Each project shall be accompanied by official request from the relevant authority of the government;
- Each project shall be included in the priority list of projects of the country to be negotiated with the financial institutions;
- In order to streamline the format of the project proposals, a new update format has been circulated, project owners shall submit their project accordingly (project profile is attached in the annexes);
- To give priority to regional projects;

**8. IDB is requested to prepare a report on the status of the remaining sixteen (16) projects which have not yet received funding and submit it to the General Secretariat of the OIC and to the COMCEC Coordination Office.**

## **Agenda item 2: Reports from the Centers of Excellence (Egypt and Syria; Pakistan and Turkey; Nigeria and Senegal)**

**9. As agreed upon during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Project committee meeting and the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting in Casablanca (September 2010), the selected centers are supposed to present periodical progress reports highlighting their activities and achievements as well as constraints that they may face in the discharging of their duties. In this respect, the Meeting recommended that each Centre of excellence shall submit a periodical report to OIC General Secretariat and Nazilli Cotton Research Institute one month before the meeting. None of them has submitted a progress report as indicated above.**

10. Nigeria and Pakistan did not attend the meetings despite the offers made to them by the organizers to bear the costs of their participation (board and lodging, air ticket).

11. Egypt made a presentation on the training session that they are going to organize in November 2011 and requested interested countries to contact the Cotton Research Institute for additional information.

12. **Recommendations:** the Chairman of the Steering Committee should remind to the centres of excellences on their obligation to present a detailed report on their activities as mentioned in paragraph 9 above.

**Agenda item 3: Discussion on the Mid Term Review of the implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan:**

13. Two presentations have been made by the IDB Group and the General Secretariat of the OIC regarding the main constraints and proposals of the way forward. During the Project Committee, deliberations concentrated on highlighting the issues and constraints which were summarized in 3 clusters namely source of financing, project design and ownership and institutional set-up and linkages.

14. The Meeting agreed to refer the discussion on how to mitigate and address the above issues and constraints during the 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting.

**Agenda item 4: Any other business:**

15. With regard to the organization and budget of further Project Committee Meetings that will be held in the future, the Committee recommended that participants, institutions and project owners, should endeavor to meet their own expenses for the coming meetings, unless the host country or any other institution offer assistance in this regard.

16. The project committee decided to submit its report and recommendations to the steering committee for consideration.

17. The project committee expressed its appreciation to the Government of Burkina Faso for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to participants and for the excellent arrangement made for the holding of this meeting.

18. The project committee concluded its session with thanks to the chair for his efficient steering of the proceedings.

Original: English

**REPORT OF THE FIFTH STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OIC COTTON ACTION PLAN**

**(22 September 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)**

1. The Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee for the implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan was held on 22 September 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for the review of the OIC Cotton Action Plan and for the investment forum for resource mobilization for OIC Cotton Action Plan.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Mustapha SEPETCI, the Chairman of the Steering Committee. (Head of Department, Ministry of Customs and Trade of the Republic of Turkey).
3. The following OIC Member States attended the Meeting:
  - Burkina Faso
  - The Arab Republic of Egypt
  - The Syrian Arab Republic
  - The Republic of Mali
  - The Republic of Benin
  - The Republic of Cameroon
  - The Kingdom of Morocco
  - The Republic of Senegal
  - The Republic of Turkey
  - The Republic of Tunisia
4. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB Group) attended this meeting.

(The list of participants is attached in annex 1)

**Opening session**

5. The Meeting adopted and considered the following Agenda Items:
  - a) Evaluation of the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meeting Report and the monitoring of the projects adopted by the previous Committee Meetings.
  - b) Discussion of the Mid Term Review of the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan

**c) Discussions on the organization of the Investment Forum for Resource Mobilization for OIC Cotton Action Plan**

d) Any other business.

(The agenda and the programme are attached in annex 2)

**Agenda Item 1:**

6. The Chairman of the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meeting made a summary presentation on the deliberations of the project committee meeting. The 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting adopted the Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee meeting which was held on 22 September 2011.

(The report of the Fourth Project Committee meeting is in annex 3).

**Agenda Item 2: Discussion of the Mid Term Review of the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan**

7. The meeting further discussed the constraints already highlighted in the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meeting. Also the discussions focused on the measures to mitigate and address the highlighted constraints. The meeting made some recommendations to facilitate the implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan.

**8. Recommendations:**

- **Source of financing:** the Meeting recommended that efforts should be deployed to tap on available financing resources within the donor community (BADEA, EBID, TIKa, Saudi Fund for Development, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, OPEC Fund, Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), African Development Bank (ADB), West African Development Bank (BOAD), Central African Development Bank (BDEAC), FAO, UNIDO, IFAD, etc);
- A concrete proposal regarding the implementation of this recommendation through organizing a donors conference for the cotton sector will be presented under agenda item n°3.
- The Meeting agreed that all efforts should be exhorted to tap on the involvement of the Private sector in financing cotton processing and textiles projects. In this respect, the experience of ICD and other private sector entities in financing similar projects may be further explored.

**Project design and ownership:**

9. The Steering Committee put emphasis on having a more rigorous approving process regarding new projects submitted by Member States. In addition to the requirements already highlighted in the Report of 4<sup>th</sup> Project Committee, the Steering Committee recommends that IDB prepare comprehensive guidelines for preparation



and submission of proposals for the following operations: projects, feasibility studies, training programmes and capacity building operations.

10. The Meeting also put emphasis on the involvement of the centre of excellences in the reviewing process of new projects

11. Regarding the ownership, the meeting recommended to get endorsement from the appropriate government entities within a time frame of two (2) years to seek funding from available financing institutions.

**and Institutional set-up and linkages.**

12. The meeting highlighted the importance of the network of focal points of Member States. In this regard, the OIC General Secretariat was requested to reactivate the existing network and update the lists of focal points in Member States periodically and circulated it to all OIC institutions and Member Countries.

13. Within the framework of the extension of the OIC Cotton Action Plan for a second five-year term, the meeting recommended that the mandate of the advisory board should also be extended for another five years period.

14. The meeting further discussed the linkages of the OIC cotton committees with the other institutional arrangements and recommended that stronger relationship should be tightened to improve collaboration among all stakeholders involved the cotton and textiles industry.

**Agenda item n°3: Discussions on the organization of the Investment Forum for Resource Mobilization for OIC Cotton Action Plan**

15. The IDB Group made a presentation on the Investment Forum for Resource Mobilization for OIC Cotton Action Plan. The meeting recommended that new projects could be included in the remaining projects that have not been financed yet with the objectives of presenting them for possible funding during the investment forum. However it is the view of the meeting that only project proposals received before end of November 2011 will be considered.

16. The meeting stressed on the importance of an excellent preparation for the investment forum and the associated donors meeting. To this end, the meeting requested IDB to coordinate with the OIC General Secretariat and other OIC institutions regarding the venue and date and to agree on the list of participants.

17. The meeting also highlighted of the importance of the participation of the private sector to the Forum due regard to their vital role in cotton processing and textiles industries.

**Agenda item n°4: Any other business**

18. The Meeting conveyed special thanks to IDB Group and ITFC for their financial contributions regarding the Cotton Action Plan and encouraged them to continue their action in this domain.

19. The Committee proposed that the venue and the dates of the next meetings of the Project and Steering Committee be decided on the sidelines of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

20. The Committee expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Government of Burkina Faso for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to participants and for the excellent arrangement made for the holding of these meetings.

21. The Meeting welcomed the message of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin IHSANOGLU, the Secretary General of the OIC, and expressed its appreciation for his valuable support for the implementation of the OIC Five Year Cotton Action Plan.

22. The Meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for supporting the OIC Five-Year Cotton Action Plan, and to the Chairman of the Steering Committee for his contribution in the preparation and implementation of the said Plan.

23. The Meeting also expressed its thanks to the IDB Group for their financial contribution as well as to the COMCEC Coordination Office for its valuable support.

-----



# **ANNEX**

**14**



Original: English

**LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED  
AND/OR PRESENTED AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)**

1.	Report on the Implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among the OIC Member States by OIC.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(1)
2.	Annual Economic Report on the OIC Countries by SESRIC.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(2)
3.	Report of the 19 <sup>th</sup> Sessional Committee .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/Sc.Rep
4.	Annual Report on Trade Among the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC)-2011 .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(3)
5.	Note on TPS-OIC by CCO.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(4)
6.	Reports on Fairs and Exhibitions of OIC Member Countries Documents by ICDT .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(5)
7.	Follow up Report of the implementation of “The Executive Programme of the Road-map for Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets on Intra-OIC Trade” by ICDT .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(6)
8.	Report on the issues relating to the activities of the world trade organisation Presented by ICDT .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(7)
9.	Report on IDB Group’s WTO-related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(8)
10.	ITFC Progress Report on the Expansion of the Intra-OIC Trade .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(9)
11.	Report of SMIIC .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(10)
12.	Study on the Relevance of Establishing a Mechanism to Settle Intra-OIC Trade and Investment Disputes by IDB-ICIEC .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(11)
13.	Note on Agricultural Cooperation by CCO.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(12)
14.	Note on Tourism Cooperation by CCO.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(13)
15.	Note on Transport Cooperation by CCO.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(14)
16.	Transport Cooperation Framework Within the OIC “İzmir Document 2011” .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(15)
17.	Report of Expert Group Meeting on Transport Cooperation in the OIC Member Countries by SESRIC.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(16)
18.	Report and Recommendations of the Workshop on “Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” by SESRIC .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(17)
19.	Report of the Fifth Meeting of the OIC Member States’ Stock Exchanges Forum by ISE .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(18)

20.	Note on Cooperation Among the Central Banks of the OIC Member Countries by SESRIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(19)
21.	Report of the COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities Conference and Roundtable by ISE .....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(20)
22.	Report on the Activities of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) by IDB	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(21)
23.	Report on Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) by IDB.....	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(22)
24.	Report of the Fourth Project Committee Meeting for the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(23)
25.	Report of the Fifth Steering Committee Meeting for the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(24)
26.	Progress Report on Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) by SESRIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(25)
27.	Report for the 14th Private Sector Meeting for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture Investment Among Islamic Countries by ICCI	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(26)
28.	Results of the Questionnaire Circulated by the SESRIC to the Member Countries on the Proposed Themes for the COMCEC Exchange of Views Sessions	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(27)
29.	Final Report of the First Session of OIC-Statistical Commission by SESRIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(28)
30.	Progress Report on E-Government Applications and their economic impacts on the OIC Member Countries by SESRIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(29)
31.	Progress Report on Activities of the OIC Statistical Working Group (OIC-SWG) by SESRIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(30)
32.	Report on the Activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(31)
33.	ICDT's Progress Report on the Implementation of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(32)
34.	Report on the Project of the Free Trade Area Among the OIC Member States by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(33)
35.	Plan of Action of ICDT 2006/2016	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(34)
36.	Note on the Agreement on Investment Promotion, Protection and Guarantee Concluded Between the OIC Member States by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(35)
37.	Note on the Trade Preferential System Among the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(36)
38.	Report of the Third Meeting of the Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(37)
39.	Study on Transport and Trade Facilitation in the OIC Member States by ICDT	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(38)

40.	Report of the Workshop on Private Sector Cooperation For Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism by Turkey	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(39)
41.	OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia by OIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(40)
42.	Resolution for the Fifth OIC Ministerial Conference on Promoting Food Security and Agricultural Development in OIC Member States by OIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(41)
43.	Report by OISA	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(42)
44.	Report of the Workshop on Food Security and Agribusiness for OIC Countries by ICCI	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(43)
45.	COMCEC Annual Progress Report by CCO	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(44)
46.	Report of the OIC Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation by COMSTECH	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(45)
47.	Report and Recommendations of the Forum on Development of Agro-Food Industries in OIC Member States by OIC	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(46)
48.	Country Reports and/or Written Presentations on the “Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Republic of Turkey</li> <li>- Republic of Albania</li> <li>- Republic of Azerbaijan</li> <li>- Republic of Benin</li> <li>- Burkina Faso</li> <li>- People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria</li> <li>- Republic of Cote d’Ivoire</li> <li>- Republic of Chad</li> <li>- Kingdom of Morocco</li> <li>- Republic of Iraq</li> <li>- State of Qatar</li> <li>- Republic of Djibouti</li> <li>- Republic of Kazakhstan</li> <li>- Federal Republic of Nigeria</li> <li>- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</li> <li>- Arab Republic of Sudan</li> <li>- Republic of Lebanon</li> <li>- Republic of Indonesia</li> <li>- Sultanate of Oman</li> <li>- State of Kuwait</li> <li>- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</li> <li>- Kingdom of Bahrain</li> <li>- Republic of Guinea</li> </ul>	OIC/COMCEC/27-11/CR

-----





**BRIEFS OF  
THE COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**





## **CCO BRIEFS**

# **BRIEF ON TPS-OIC**

**COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE  
OCTOBER 2011**



## **BRIEF ON Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS-OIC)**

Trade constitutes the core of any economic cooperation initiative. Without a meaningful increase in trade flows, economic cooperation among countries will be of limited benefit. Realizing its importance, enhancing trade has always been a priority for the COMCEC. Yet, the current level of cooperation in this field does not reflect the member states' potential. Despite various efforts, the level of intra-OIC trade remained at a relatively low level with slightly higher than 17 percent in 2010. The situation is similar with regard to the global trade of the OIC Countries. While the OIC Member states represent nearly 22 percent of total world population, their share in world trade is limited to approximately 10 percent. More than half of the exports of OIC Countries are raw materials and 75 percent of total OIC exports are made by only 10 Member Countries. Thus, there is a need to diversify both geographical and sectoral distribution of OIC exports.

Various structural problems limit the expansion and deepening of the cooperation in the area of trade. High level tariffs, para-tariff and non-tariff measures are among the most important challenges to the free movement of goods among member countries. In order to address these challenges and to foster intra-OIC trade, the TPS-OIC project would provide a firm basis. Effective implementation of TPS-OIC would address the issues of high level tariffs and non tariff measures. While regular track in tariff reductions includes modest concessions, the fast track option allows participating countries to expand the product coverage and to deepen the concessions under the TPS-OIC System. In addition to tariffs, non tariff measures are frequently resorted by the member states. Relevant articles of PRETAS foresee, upon enforcement, elimination of non-tariff barriers.

As it is known, the TPS-OIC System includes three agreements, namely the Framework Agreement, the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) and the Rules of Origin. The Framework Agreement, which sets out the general rules and principles for the negotiations towards the establishment of the TPS-OIC, entered into force in 2002, and has been ratified by 25 Member States by October 2011 (List of signatures and ratifications of the TPS-OIC agreements are given below).

The PRETAS, which complements the Framework Agreement by laying down concrete reduction rates in tariffs in accordance with a time table for implementation, entered into force in February 2010. It also covers non-tariff barriers, anti-dumping and safeguard measures as other trade-related issues.

The Rules of Origin, to be applied for identification of the origin of products eligible for preferential concessions under the TPS-OIC, has entered into force with its ratification by Bangladesh as the tenth Member State in August 2011. Thus the legal basis of the System has been completed.

Nevertheless, signing and ratification of the agreements is necessary but not sufficient vis a vis ensuring effective implementation of the TPS-OIC. Therefore, the Member States who have signed and ratified the TPS-OIC agreements should fulfill their obligations arising from the provisions of these agreements.

In accordance with the Articles 3/4 and 2/2 of PRETAS, the Member States, which ratified PRETAS, should have notified the TNC Secretariat before 5 May 2010 of their specific annual installments of reduction along with the list of products, and the MFN- applied rates applicable as of October 1st, 2003. By October 2011, TNC Secretariat has received the schedules of concessions from Malaysia, Turkey and from the General Secretariat of Gulf Cooperation Council on behalf of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates.

Meanwhile, submission of the schedules of concessions by the Member States is a prerequisite and crucial for full implementation of the TPS-OIC. Moreover, the Member States, which ratified the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin, should complete the necessary internal legislative and administrative measures, such as printing TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and providing specimen impressions of stamps to the TNC Secretariat, so as to make TPS-OIC operational. By October 2011, TNC Secretariat has received only from Saudi Arabia and Turkey a copy of Certificate of Origin Form and approved stamps for the Certificate of Origin.

THE MEMBER STATES WHICH SIGNED / RATIFIED THE TPS-OIC AGREEMENTS (October 2011)							
	Framework Agreement		PRETAS		Rules of Origin		
	Signed	Ratified	Signed	Ratified	Signed	Ratified	Submission of List of Concessions
1	Bahrain	Bahrain	Bahrain	Bahrain			Bahrain
2	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	
3	Burkina Faso		Burkina Faso		Burkina Faso		
4	Cameroon	Cameroon	Cameroon		Cameroon		
5	Chad						
6	Comoros		Comoros		Comoros		
7	Cote d'Ivoire						
8	Egypt	Egypt	Egypt				
9	Gabon	Gabon					
10	Gambia	Gambia					
11	Guinea	Guinea	Guinea		Guinea		
12	Guinea-Bissau		Guinea-Bissau		Guinea-Bissau		
13	Indonesia		Indonesia		Indonesia		
14	Iran	Iran	Iran	Iran			
15	Iraq						
16	Jordan	Jordan	Jordan	Jordan	Jordan	Jordan	
17	Kuwait						Kuwait
18	Lebanon	Lebanon					
19	Libya	Libya					
20	Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia
21	Maldives	Maldives					
22	Morocco	Morocco	Morocco		Morocco		
23	Nigeria		Nigeria		Nigeria		
24	Oman	Oman	Oman	Oman	Oman	Oman	Oman
25	Pakistan	Pakistan	Pakistan	Pakistan	Pakistan		
26	Palestine						
27	Qatar	Qatar	Qatar	Qatar	Qatar	Qatar	Qatar
28	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia
29	Senegal	Senegal					
30	Sierra Leone		Sierra Leone		Sierra Leone		
31	Somalia	Somalia	Somalia	Somalia	Somalia	Somalia	
32	Sudan						
33	Syria	Syria	Syria	Syria	Syria	Syria	
34	Tunisia	Tunisia	Tunisia		Tunisia		
35	Turkey	Turkey	Turkey	Turkey	Turkey	Turkey	Turkey
36	UAE	UAE	UAE	UAE	UAE	UAE	UAE
37	Uganda	Uganda					
	<b>37</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>





OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(12)



## **CCO BRIEFS**

### **BRIEF ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION**

**COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE  
OCTOBER 2011**



## BRIEF ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

Agriculture is of critical importance to many OIC member countries, especially the least developed ones. On average, the agricultural population represents 37.4 percent of the total population in the OIC countries. In contrast, agriculture sector has relatively low performance in the OIC member countries. To illustrate, while the per-capita agricultural labor productivity amounts to \$570 in the OIC region, it was \$707 in the world in 2008 (see Table 1).

**Table 1: Some indicators of agriculture sector in the OIC, 2008**

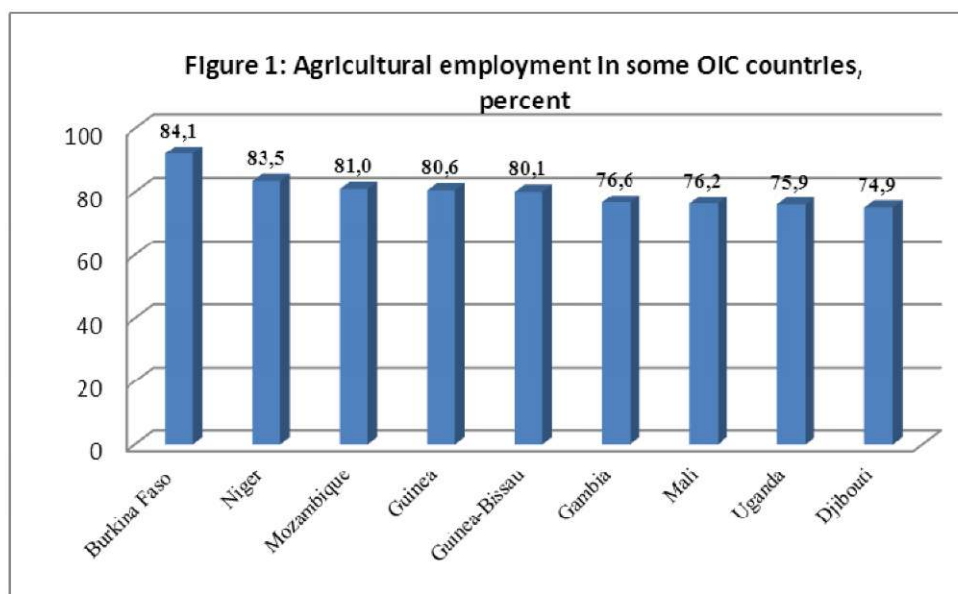
	OIC	Developing countries	World
<b>Agriculture / GDP</b>	10,5	9,5	5,0
<b>Agricultural population (%)</b>	37,4	44,9	38,8
<b>Rural Population (%)</b>	53,5	54,9	50,2
<b>Agricultural land (%)</b>	43,7	38,7	37,9
<b>Cultivated land/ agricultural land</b>	24,1	31,0	31,5
<b>Agricultural labor productivity</b> (Agricultural value added (US\$)/ Agricultural population)	570	490	707

**Source:** SESRIC Annual Economic Report, 2010

In many OIC countries, agriculture is not just about food production; It is a very important means of broad-based income generation. It remains the largest contributor to the livelihoods of the people living in rural areas. In some member states, the contribution of agricultural employment to total employment is estimated at more than 80 percent. Meanwhile, in a sizable number of member countries,, it accounts for more than 75 percent.(see Figure 1).

The majority of the member countries are not self-sufficient in food production and depend to a large extent on imports to meet their food demands. In addition, OIC agricultural production mainly concentrates in a few member countries, namely

Indonesia, Turkey, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Morocco. Their share in the total agricultural production is more than 75 percent.



Source: SESRIC

In the OIC countries, around 200 million people do not have access to sufficient food, which is the most basic need of human beings to healthily sustain their lives and pursue economic development. Without adequate food, it is not possible to climb the ladder of development.

It is worth to note that the agricultural sector, with better regulation, more effective management and well-designed policies can have considerable positive effects on the development efforts of the OIC countries. With more than half of their population living in rural areas and depending on agriculture for their income and survival, enhancing agricultural productivity in the the OIC countries is very essential for growth and development.

Issues related to water scarcity, inefficient use of water, inadequate technology, access to land and inputs, demographic pressures, lack of public and private investment, poor infrastructure, underdeveloped financial services and markets and weak policies and institutions are among the challenges faced by the OIC countries.

To deal with these challenges in the OIC countries, the important regulatory and supportive role of the governments needs to be soundly re-established in order to lead the



sector more efficiently and reduce the adverse effects of the volatility of food prices, predicted to become more frequent and persistent in the new global economic environment.

High and volatile food prices have particularly severe impacts on the poorest people, who spend a substantial portion of their available income on food. For this group of OIC member states, establishment of national and regional safety nets could help them with their immediate needs. Nevertheless, policies that enhance agricultural productivity and long-term resilience would provide long-term solution.

The status of food security, as described above, was further aggravated in the wake of the 2007-2008 food price crisis. Ensuring food security became increasingly a serious concern for most countries of the world, including the OIC countries. Public perception of agriculture has also reversed; International community and national governments have started to change course in favor of agricultural support.

In line with the above mentioned global developments, the COMCEC paid greater attention to the issue of agriculture and food security. This manifested remarkably in the COMCEC events following the crisis. COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009 decided to revitalize efforts in the area of agriculture and food security. In the same year, it established a Task Force on Food Security comprising OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, Islamic Development Bank and Food and Agriculture Organization.

Following the establishment of the Task Force, a series of OIC events were held to examine the issues of agriculture, rural development and food security situation in the OIC countries. The IDB Expert Group Meeting and Workshop, OIC High Level Expert Group Meeting, COMCEC Exchange of Views Session, and OIC 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference were held in 2010 to elaborate on agriculture and food security in the OIC countries.

As mandated by the COMCEC and, according to the recommendation of the 5<sup>th</sup> OIC Ministerial Conference on Agriculture, held in Khartoum in 2010, The COMCEC Task Force, has been working on developing a framework of cooperation and compiling of data and inventories on the agriculture sector in the OIC countries.

The 6<sup>th</sup> OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agriculture Development, hosted by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey, was held on 3-5 October 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey. Beside the significant level of participation and the

fruitful deliberations by the member states at this conference, the international community's expression of interest to take part in the OIC agricultural cooperation was quite notable.

The following were the main highlights of the Conference:

- Launching capacity- building programs in the form of OIC South-South Cooperation;
- Engaging in technical cooperation with the member states, whenever they need it, in various sub- sectors of agriculture such as effective utilization of water, modern techniques of animal breeding, conservation agriculture;
- Providing technical assistance on training and research and development (R&D) to the interested Member States; and
- Enhancing joint investment opportunities among member states.

The next Ministerial Conference is expected to be held in Senegal in 2012.

-----



## **CCO BRIEFS**

# **BRIEF ON TOURISM COOPERATION**

**COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE  
OCTOBER 2011**





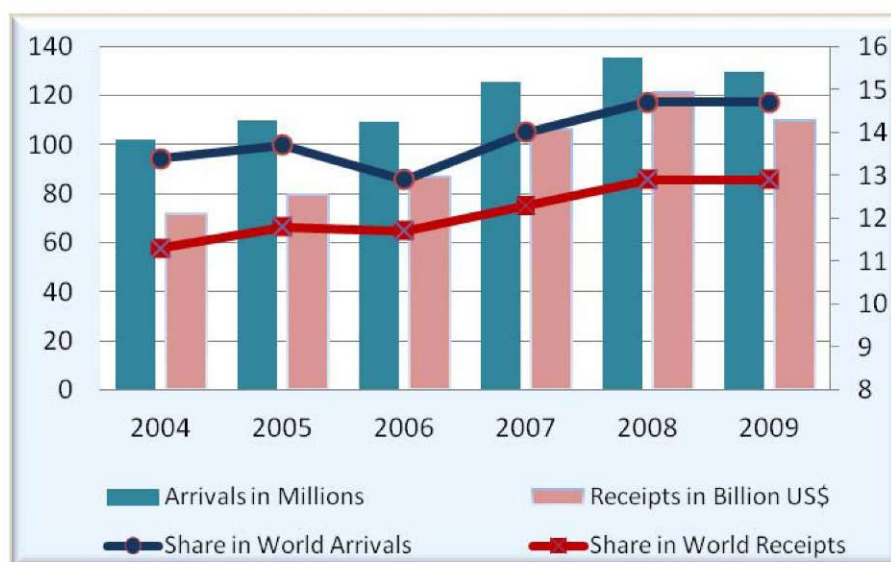
## BRIEF ON TOURISM COOPERATION

Tourism offers a great potential to both developed and developing countries in terms of income generation, foreign exchange earnings and employment creation. Besides the economic benefits it yields, tourism contributes to poverty reduction; fosters cross cultural understanding and well-being among countries.

In recent decades, international tourism market has become more dynamic and competitive. It is characterized by a wide geographical distribution and a continuous diversification of destinations. Although tourism activity is mainly concentrated in the traditional tourist-receiving regions, namely Europe and America, new tourist-receiving markets have been emerging in the developing regions of Asia, the Pacific, the Middle East and Africa. Accordingly, international tourism has become an important source of foreign exchange earnings and employment for many countries in those regions, including several COMCEC member countries.

Recently, international tourism activity in the COMCEC member countries has shown a positive trend in terms of both tourist arrivals and tourism receipts, shown in Figure 1. Despite this trend, the shares of the OIC region in world tourist arrivals as well as in world tourism receipts are still below the potential. In 2009, tourist arrivals and tourism receipts of the region account for 14,7 percent and 12,9 percent of the world tourism respectively.

*Figure 1: Tourist Arrivals and Tourism Receipts in the COMCEC Member Countries*



Source: SESRIC, *Annual Economic Report on the OIC Countries 2011*

In addition, international tourism in the region is concentrated in a few number of countries. In terms of tourism arrivals and tourism revenues, shown in Figure 2, Turkey, Malaysia and Egypt are the leading countries in the COMCEC region.

Figure 2: Top 10 Tourist Destinations and Tourism Earners in the COMCEC Region

Top 10 Tourist Destinations (2009)			Top 10 Tourism Earners (2009)		
(Arrivals in Millions)			(Receipts in Billions)		
Rank			Rank		
1	Turkey	25,5	1	Turkey	21,3
2	Malaysia	23,6	2	Malaysia	15,8
3	Egypt	11,9	3	Egypt	10,8
4	Saudi Arabia	10,9	4	UAE	7,4
5	Morocco	8,3	5	Morocco	6,6
6	UAE	7,2	6	Lebanon	6,4
7	Tunisia	6,9	7	Indonesia	6,3
8	Indonesia	6,3	8	Saudi Arabia	6,0
9	Syria	6,1	9	Jordan	2,9
10	Bahrain	4,7	10	Tunisia	2,7

Source: UNWTO

Given the rich and diverse natural resources and historical and cultural heritage of the COMCEC Region, tourism potential remains yet unutilized. The problems and challenges affecting tourism performance in the region ranges from, inter alia, the lack of technical know-how, weak promotional efforts, insufficient tourism-related infrastructure and investments to lack of tourism diversification and safety.

However, the international trends namely the gradual shift of international tourism towards the developing regions of the world and the emergence of new forms of tourism, such as ecotourism, adventure tourism, conference tourism and cultural tourism, have been providing a suitable ground for realizing the existing tourism potential of the COMCEC Region. Therefore, there is a need to develop sound policies for the utilization of the existing potential. Especially policies towards enhancing solidarity in tourism sector would enable exchange of experience and knowledge with a view to upgrading the quality of services, developing human resource and institutional capacity, harmonizing tourism standards and policies, and increasing tourism investments in the region.

Since 2000, COMCEC has increased its efforts to contribute to the development of tourism cooperation among its members. To date, seven Islamic Conferences of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) and several Expert Group Meetings, workshops, seminars, and private sector forums on tourism have been held.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICTM, held in the Syrian Arab Republic in 2008, adopted “The Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism between OIC Member States (2008-2018).” Some of the programs of action identified



by the Framework Document are increasing public awareness in the OIC countries about existing tourist attractions, resources and facilities; establishing direct contacts among the relevant parties; creating appropriate legal, institutional and administrative conditions and environment in the member states and developing a constructive dialogue with the private sector.

To set up an implementation mechanism of the Framework, a Coordination Committee was established. Till now, two Coordination Committee meetings were held (Syria (2009) and Turkey (2010)). The former one adopted Short Term Plan/Programme for implementation of the Framework Document while the latter reviewed the progress achieved in its implementation.

Besides these developments, the COMCEC Economic Summit, held in Istanbul on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 chose tourism as one of the three priority sectors and requested COMCEC to revitalize cooperation in this important field.

The following are some important activities organized in the field of tourism since the last COMCEC Session:

The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICTM was held in November 2010 in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Conference approved, inter alia, simplification of visa, customs and foreign exchange procedures, establishment of an OIC electronic visa network, and facilitation of joint tourism ventures and other investments by the private sector. It also approved the creation of an “OIC City of Tourism” and “Seal of Excellence for Handicrafts” awards.

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference and Exhibition on Health Tourism was organized in November 2010 in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism” was organized in December 2010 in the Republic of Turkey. The Workshop recommended the establishment of a COMCEC Tourism Platform, which is intended to bring private sector representatives together regularly to discuss common issues.

The activities planned for the future course of the tourism cooperation are as follows:

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Development of Tourism within OIC” will be held on 9-10 December 2011 in the Republic of Turkey with a view to finalizing the modality of COMCEC Tourism Platform.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Coordination Committee will be held in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2011.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> ICTM will be held in the Republic of Sudan in 2012.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tourism Fair will be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, in 2012.



OIC/COMCEC/27-11/D(14)



**CCO BRIEFS**

# **BRIEF ON TRANSPORT COOPERATION**

**COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE  
OCTOBER 2011**



## **BRIEF ON TRANSPORT COOPERATION**

Well-functioning, effective, and sustainable transport systems are one of the most important necessities for modern economic and social life. The conditions within which the transport networks operate and the quality of the transport services affect a range of economic activities from agricultural and industrial production to investments, from tourism to trade. Transport is also essential for accessing the basic public services such as health and education. Therefore, it has a direct impact on the development of countries.

Beginning from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the world witnessed a dramatic improvement in the transport sector. The advance of globalization and increased international competition have pushed the countries to improve their transport systems, thereby keeping pace with these developments. Nevertheless, not all countries have managed to bring the quality of their transport sector at par with the globally required level. Particular regions of the world are lacking inadequate transport infrastructure as well as access to proper transport services, a matter which impedes the development efforts and leads to their marginalization and impoverishment. The situation is particularly grave in some land-locked developing countries that depend on transit countries for access to seaports for their exports and imports. Poor infrastructure, prolonged cross-border formalities and counter-productive regulations in the transit countries result in high transport costs, rendering imports expensive and exports uncompetitive and, thereby, limit economic growth and trade competitiveness in the land-locked countries.

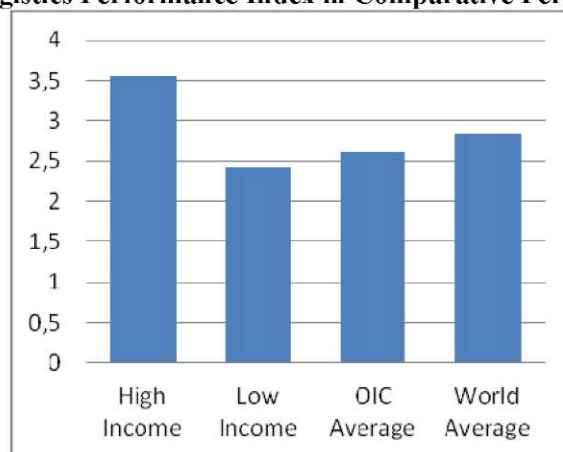
With regard to the situation in OIC countries, the overall picture of the sector seems to be quite uneven. While some member countries, through advanced and efficient transport infrastructure, are well integrated to the global economy and increasingly benefiting from it, a growing number of other countries that severely suffer from lack of accessibility, are exposed to the risk of further marginalization and exclusion, which reinforces their vicious cycle of economic and social deprivation.

Some major common problems of the transport sector in the COMCEC Region include: Poor infrastructure and maintenance services, high costs associated with the sector, complex and prolonged border-crossing procedures, inadequate human and institutional



capacity of relevant authorities and lack of a sound, harmonized, and straightforward legal and regulatory framework, both at national and regional levels. The need for a substantial improvement in particularly trade-related transport services in the OIC Region was also confirmed by the World Bank's Logistic Performance Index<sup>1</sup> of 2010, in which the OIC Countries in average have performed worse than the world average and slightly better than low- income group in terms of logistics performance.

**Figure I: Logistics Performance Index in Comparative Perspective**



Source: World Bank /LPI 2010

The current situation of the transport sector in our region calls for dedicated efforts to improve the functioning, effectiveness and sustainability of transport systems, which are also crucial for the development of the member countries, and are a key component of enhancing intra- economic and commercial cooperation. Increasing interconnectivity among member countries through transport facilitation would serve as a catalyst to create convergence between higher and lower-income member countries. It would also provide an opportunity for those member states that have remarkable experience and know-how in this area to share it with the relatively less developed member states.

<sup>1</sup> The Logistics Performance Index (LPI) is a multidimensional assessment of logistics performance, rated on a scale from one (worst) to five (best). It uses more than 5,000 individual country assessments made by nearly 1,000 international freight forwarders to compare the trade logistics profiles of 155 countries. The Index summarizes the performance of countries in six areas that capture the most important aspects of the current logistics environment: Efficiency of the customs clearance process; Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure; Ease of arranging competitively priced shipments; Competence and quality of logistics services; Ability to track and trace consignment; and Frequency with which shipments reach the consignee within the scheduled or expected time. The date used in this chart is taken from the 2010 edition of the World Bank's report entitled *Connecting to Compete*. The report, as well as a broader explanation on the Index, is available at <http://www.worldbank.org/lpi>.

The quality of transport-related public services has also a central role in the overall functioning of the sector. In this context, cooperation among the Member States would include harmonization of transport-related services and regulations with the internationally recognized standards.

Transparent, responsive, and effective institutions would substantially contribute to the development of the sector in our region. Therefore, enhancing institutional and human capacity through intensive training programs is another area that would bring substantial improvement to the sector.

Transport was one of the ten priority areas of the OIC Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, adopted in 1994. However, the level of cooperation in this sector has not been satisfactory. Currently, there are some transport-related cooperation projects in the agenda of the COMCEC all of which are in their initial phase.

In order to enhance cooperation among the Member States in the area of transport, the COMCEC Economic Summit, held on 9 November 2009, requested the COMCEC to revitalize cooperation in this important field. It is worthwhile mentioning that solidarity and cooperation would contribute to the improvement of transport sector in the Member States, which in turn would support efforts to increase trade, enhance tourism, and promote investment.

In this regard, the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC decided that the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC would be “Impact of Transport Networks on Trade and Tourism”. The Session also welcomed the offer of the Republic of Turkey to organize an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Transport in 2011, and requested the IDB and SESRIC to organize a preparatory workshop for the Exchange of Views Session.

The workshop was jointly organized by the IDB, Ministry of Transport of Turkey and SESRIC, on 7-8 June 2011 in İzmir, Turkey. It was attended by representatives of 21 Member States, relevant OIC Institutions and other international organizations. After several presentations made by the IDB, UNESCAP, UNECE, UNESCWA, UNECA, IRU and SESRIC, the participants deliberated the major obstacles and possible ways of enhancing cooperation among the Member States for the development of transport sector.

Following deliberations, the workshop defined the major obstacles in the field of transport and adopted recommendations for both national and OIC cooperation level.

Said workshop was followed by the OIC EGM on Transport, on June 9<sup>th</sup> 2011 in İzmir. The EGM was attended by representatives of 15 Member States, OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office and relevant OIC Institutions.

Having reviewed the outcomes of the workshop, the EGM considered Draft “Transport Cooperation Framework within the OIC (İzmir Document 2011)” proposed by the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Turkey. After extensive discussions, the EGM decided that the OIC General Secretariat would circulate the “İzmir Document 2011” to the Member States within one month and the Member States would send their final comments on “İzmir Document 2011” to the OIC General Secretariat by September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the latest.

After receiving the comments of the Member States, the “İzmir Document 2011” was revised and amended accordingly and submitted to the 27th Session of the COMCEC. The Session welcomed the “İzmir Document 2011” which draws the main guidelines and objectives as well as means of implementation.

-----