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**REPORT FOR  
31<sup>th</sup> MEETING SESSION OF THE  
COMCEC**

**THE STANDARDS AND  
METROLOGY INSTITUTE  
FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SMIIC)**

**23 – 26 November 2015  
İstanbul – Republic of TURKEY**

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## SCOPE

This report gives basic information about the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), its activities and major developments for 2015.

## INTRODUCTION

SMIIC, an affiliated institution to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), as a sound mechanism for harmonization of standards among the OIC Member Countries and for the preparation of new ones, aims at realizing harmonized standards in the Member States and eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves. It shall establish certification and accreditation schemes for the purpose of expediting exchange of materials, manufactured goods and products among Member States.

SMIIC also aims at achieving uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States and providing education and training as well as technical assistance to the OIC Member Countries in the domain of standardization, metrology and accreditation.

## HISTORY OF SMIIC

At the first meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of OIC chaired by the Turkish President in 1984, it was emphasized that the standardization bodies of the Member Countries should harmonize their national standards for the purpose of eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves.

In this context, The Expert Group and Coordination Committee have convened 7 times (totally 14 meetings) from 1985 to 1997. According to the resolutions made at these meetings, it was decided to establish the Standards and Metrology Organization for Islamic Countries (SMOIC). The Expert Group in its 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 1996 decided to submit the draft statute of the SMOIC to the 12<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting and it was decided that the name of the organization be changed to the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) in the 12<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting.

Following the 12<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting, member organizations sent their comments on the draft statute to the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE) and the OIC General Secretariat. During the 13<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1997 in İstanbul, it was decided that the draft statute of SMIIC should be reviewed with respect to both technical and judicial content in the frame of the opinions received from Member Countries.

In the frame of this decision, the 8<sup>th</sup> Expert Group Meeting was held on March 24-26, 1998 in Ankara with the participation of the experts representing their standardization bodies, Deputy Secretary General of OIC and OIC Chief Judicial Adviser. During this meeting, the draft statute was re-written in the frame of the opinions of Member Countries, judicial rules of OIC and international experience of TSE and circulated to the Member Countries as a final draft. Furthermore, the submission of the draft statute for its approval at 14<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting was decided.

The mentioned draft statute was included in the agenda (Article 7) of the 14<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1998 in İstanbul and approved after comprehensive negotiations. Consequently, an important step was taken in order to begin the official work of SMIIIC as a regional standardization organization.

The Statute of SMIIIC was first submitted to the Member Countries for signature during the 15<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting held on November 04-07, 1999 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

The Statute entered into force after fulfilling the ratification requirement of 10 OIC Member Countries on May 2010.

32 OIC Member States have membership in SMIIIC as of October 2015.

## OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of SMIIIC are:

- 1) To **develop** harmonized standards to **eliminate** adverse effects to trade among OIC Member States.
- 2) To **prepare** OIC/SMIIIC Standards enabling the OIC Member States to gain maximum benefit from the economic advantages of them.
- 3) To **achieve uniformity** in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States.
- 4) To **provide technical assistance** to the OIC Member States who do not possess such standard bodies.
- 5) To **establish accreditation scheme** for OIC Member States.

## STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITIES

### Technical Committees

The primary duty of a Technical Committee (TC) is the development and systematic maintenance of the OIC/SMIIIC Standards according to related activities within a particular scope of work (e.g.: TC1 Halal Food Issues, etc.).

The following TCs were established in the 4th SMIIIC BOD Meeting:

- 1) *TC 1 SMIIIC Halal Food Issues* has been established and working on the revision of the existing series of 3 OIC/SMIIIC Halal Food Standards.
- 2) *TC 2 Halal Cosmetic Issues* has been established and working on the formation of the *OIC/SMIIIC 4-Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines*.
- 3) *TC3 Service Site Issues* is in process of preparation of necessary documents, plans, etc.
- 4) *TC4 Renewable Energy* is in process of preparation of necessary documents, plans, etc.

- 5) *TC5 Tourism and Related Services* is preparing a standard for tourism in OIC countries.
- 6) *TC6 Agriculture Processes* is working on a common standard for cotton, in line with the Cotton action plan of the OIC.
- 7) *TC7 Transportation* is also working on a common Halal Logistics standard to protect the supply chain from farm to fork.

And recently in the first quarter of 2015, two new technical committees have been established:

- 8) *TC8 Leather and Tanning Material*
- 9) *TC9 Textiles and Related Products*

**Halal Food Issues SMIIC/Technical Committee 1 (TC1)** – TC1 is working on the revision of the series of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards. Draft scope and business plan have been completed.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of this committee was held in March 2013 in United Arab Emirates (UAE) where Working Groups (WG) were assigned and the revision process of the existing OIC/SMIIC Standards mentioned below (series of Halal Food Standards) are being carried out in the light of current market needs, inputs from various stakeholders and in compliance with the latest regulations:

- OIC/SMIIC 1: 2011, General Guidelines on Halal Food (with the references of CODEX, ISO 22000, ISO 22005 + Islamic Fiqh Rules),
- OIC/SMIIC 2: 2011, Guidelines for Bodies Providing Halal Certification (with the references of ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/TS 22003 + Islamic Fiqh Rules),
- OIC/SMIIC 3: 2011, Guidelines for the Halal Accreditation Body Accrediting Halal Certification Bodies (with the references of ISO/IEC 17011 + Islamic Fiqh Rules)

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TC1 was held on 16-17 November 2013 in Dubai, UAE with the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Iran, Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), Tunisia, Turkey and UAE. During the meeting the revision of OIC/SMIIC 1 continued in light of the comments received from the Member States.

Previously established WGs were restructured and established with task forces in order to answer pending questions on the Halal Food Issue such as stunning, food additives, etc. in collaboration with International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

The revision of OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 were assigned to the Joint WG with the Accreditation Committee.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of TC1 was held on the 23-24 June 2014 in Dubai, UAE. Works on the revision of the series of Halal Standards continued. Presentations were made by members, compilation of questions received from TC1 Member States regarding Islamic Fiqh matters to be sent to the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) were made, these questions were further discussed and evaluated in the meeting. The compiled questions were then sent to IIFA for reply. TC1 members also discussed the Codex Halal Standard Project and mutually agreed that they will encourage support of the SMIIC Standards as Codex Standards and requested the SMIIC General Secretariat to make the necessary official communication with Codex Alimentarius Commission in regard.

The International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) experts meeting on the questions received from TC1 and TC2 Member States regarding Islamic Fiqh matters on Halal was held on 11-12 February 2015 at the IIFA headquarters, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The draft questions to be submitted to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of IIFA Conference were prepared.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of IIFA Conference was held in Kuwait on 22-25 March 2015 with the participation of OIC Member States representatives and several fiqh scholars from muslim communities of Non-OIC region. During the sessions “TC1 and TC2 Questions”, and “Istihalah and Istehlak”, the participants discussed on the drafts answers prepared by the committees by taking into account different school of thoughts of Islam. After discussion, in the final closed session, the IIFA Assembly requested from the experts committee to resubmit the answers given to “TC1 and TC2 Questions” to the next Session of the IIFA Conference after revising them with more and detailed study since the issue is of high importance. And the draft resolutions on “Istihalah” were approved with some minor changes after discussions where the “Istehlak” issue was decided to be studied more in order to issue a resolution.

In consideration of these developments, TC1 and TC2 will prepare Committee Draft (CD) of relevant standards in line with the resolutions of the IIFA Assembly and Expert Committee decisions and then send the CDs to the SMIIC Standardization Department in order to be registered as Draft Standard (DS). Upon registration, Standardization Department will submit the DSs to the consideration of all SMIIC Member States.

**Halal Cosmetic Issues SMIIC/Technical Committee 2 (TC2) – TC2** is working on the formation of standards for Halal Cosmetics. Scope was defined and the business plan made. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting was held in March 2013. New Work Item Proposals were completed and merged into the document “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines” as a working draft (WD), a drafting Working Group (WG) was formed to further work out this draft.

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the committee was held on 07 November 2013 in Konya, Republic of Turkey, with the participation of Iran, Libya, Palestine, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE and IIFA. The committee continued the drafting of the WD “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines” in light of the comments received from Member States and IIFA representative’s view on fiqh issues. The committee established three task forces on Ingredients, Packaging, Labelling and Claims, and Testing Methods that will be work under the drafting WG for “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines” project.

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the committee was held on 25-26 June 2014 in Dubai, UAE. To aid the standards formation process presentations were made. One of the members expressed the responsibility of SMIIC TCs (through the activity of standardization) to avoid the commercialization/misuse of the term “Halal” and to ensure that the concept of Halal is retained in its original sense and the interest of the consumers is always protected. Compilation of questions received from TC2 Member States regarding Islamic Fiqh matters to be sent to the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) were made, these questions were further discussed and evaluated in the meeting. The compiled questions were then sent to IIFA for reply.

As explained above in TC1 latest developments, after discussion in the final closed session, the IIFA Assembly requested from the experts committee to resubmit the answers given to “TC1

and TC2 Questions” to the next Session of the IIFA Conference after revising them with more and detailed study since the issue is of high importance.

**Service Site Issues TC3** – The committee’s last meeting was held in Antalya 2012. The scope and business plan were introduced. However there is an important concern by the committee chairmanship on the committee’s scope to be too wide for a technical committee. The issue will be discussed and finalized with the Standardization Department in light of the committee members’ feedback.

**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy TC4** – The committee’s last meeting was held in Antalya 2012. Its title, scope was defined and chairman and the secretariat were allocated. Renewable Energy Chairmanship and secretariat have not performed any action (meeting, preparation of the business plan ...etc.) during the year 2014.

**Tourism and Related Services TC5** – The 2<sup>nd</sup> of SMIC Technical Committee (TC5) was held in Konya, Turkey on 09 November 2013 with the participation of Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and IIFA. During the meeting, the committee discussed the previously circulated draft scope and business plan and agreed to submit the documents to the members by correspondence. Based on the outcome of the discussion on possible references and the newly assigned liaison organisation - IIFA, the committee decided to start a preliminary work on possible halal requirements for hotels and tourism services in order to prepare a new work item proposal. In regards to this decision the members were given tasks such as the translation of the documents, literature search,...etc.

**Agricultural Processes TC6** – At the committee meeting in Antalya, the Committee was agreed to change the title of committee from Agriculture processes to Agriculture products which is subjected to the approval of the Standardization Department. The committee members were invited to submit the TC6 Focal Point Registration Form to the committee secretariat. The scope and proposed business plan have also been prepared.

The committee is carrying out the work which is mandated by OIC to SMIC on identifying the cotton classification systems of member states and developing international level OIC standards of cotton.

**Transportation TC7** – Mrs Gamze Canarslan from TSE was assigned as the new secretary of the committee. The previous documentation was shared with Mrs. Gamze.

**Leather and Tanning Material TC8** – has been established after obtaining the sufficient number of SMIC Member States approval and commitments as P-Members (27 Members in favour, 1 against and 1 abstained. 7 P-Members and 2 O-Members.) in the first quarter of 2015.

Since PSQCA is the originator of the proposal to establish the committee, the secretariat of the committee is allocated to PSQCA / Pakistan.

The committee is in the process of defining the final title and the scope. The initial title and scope is as follows:

Title: Leather and Tanning Material

Scope: Standardization in the field of Leather and Tanning Material

**Textiles and Related Products TC9** – has been established after obtaining the sufficient number of SMIIC Member States approval and commitments as P-Members (28 Members in favour, and 1 abstained. 8 P-Members and 2 O-Members.) in the first quarter of 2015.

Since PSQCA is the originator of the proposal to establish the committee, the secretariat of the committee is allocated to PSQCA/Pakistan.

The committee is in the process of defining the final title and the scope. The initial title and scope is as follows:

Title: Textiles and Related Products

Scope: Standardization in the field of Textiles and Related Products

### **New Technical Committees Proposals**

A New Field of Technical Activity on Information Technology and Cyber Security has been proposed by TSE-Turkey and on Halal Supply Chain by DSM-Malaysia. The proposal has been circulated to the members for consideration.

## **METROLOGY ACTIVITIES**

Since metrology forms the backbone of standards, it is one of the main areas of concern of SMIIC. In order to achieve uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among Member States, the following actions are currently on the agenda of SMIIC:

- 1) Having an inventory of existing calibration standards and establish a chain of traceability reaching reference standards for each basic unit.
- 2) Acting as intermediary, for any unit, for meeting calibration requirements which may arise at any link of the chain to be established. It shall, through its staff of experts, certify the extent of accuracy and precision with which any calibration laboratory offers services.
- 3) Supplying metrology services by making the most efficient use of the existing potentials in the Member States and aid in solving their problems in the field of metrology through coordinated research.

### **SMIIC Metrology Committee**

Metrology Committee (MC) was established during the 5<sup>th</sup> SMIIC BOD Meeting and has commenced its activities, to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States.



SMIIC MC has a total of 34 OIC Member States' membership (including Full and Associate Members and two liaison organisations) as of October 2015.

The Second Meeting of the Metrology Committee was held on the 15-16 of December 2014 and hosted by TUBITAK UME, Gebze-İstanbul TURKEY. The meeting was attended by representatives from Azerbaijan, Benin, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Iran, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Nigeria, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, - and Yemen.

Dr. Mustafa Çetintaş, Director of TÜBİTAK UME was elected as the Chairman upon the resignation of Dr. Fatih Üstüner who was promoted to another unit of TUBITAK. An action plan of the SMIIC MC for 2015 was developed according to the activities and goals of the SMIIC MC:

- a. A Strategy and Action Group was established consisting of the membership of Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Iran and Nigeria, the group will conduct a survey of member countries metrology infrastructure and human resources, draft a strategy for the Metrology Committee at the same time each member will follow up/monitor on agreed MC actions in own region.
- b. A Working Group Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) for Halal Foods was established consisting of the membership of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Turkey, Egypt, Iran and Malaysia. The working group will work on the forming/identification of certified reference material for Halal.
- c. Training Activities in the areas of:
  - i. Fundamental Metrology Training
  - ii. Legal Metrology Training
  - iii. Scientific Metrology Training
  - iv. Metrology in Chemistry and Biology Training

have been planned to be given to Members of the Metrology Committee in 2015, hosted by possibly by the following members: Iran, Turkey, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Tunisia.

## ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

### SMIIC Accreditation Committee

#### What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is the independent evaluation of conformity assessment bodies against recognized standards to ensure their impartiality and competence. Through the application of OIC/SMIIC standards, government, producers and consumers can have confidence in the calibration and test results, inspection reports and certifications provided.

Accreditation bodies are established in many countries with the primary purpose of ensuring that conformity assessment bodies are subject to oversight by an authoritative body.

Accreditation bodies, which have been evaluated by peers as competent, sign agreements that enhance the acceptance of products and services across national borders, thereby creating a framework to support international trade through the removal of technical barriers.

These agreements will be managed by the SMIIC Accreditation Committee (AC), in the fields of halal conformity assessment, laboratory and inspection accreditation.

### **When was SMIIC AC established?**

The SMIIC AC was established in the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (GA) Meeting of SMIIC held on 02-03 August 2010 with the below stated resolution:

“The Meeting examined and approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for Establishment of an Accreditation Committee for the Islamic Countries. The Meeting was also briefed of the fact that national accreditation bodies of all OIC Member States are eligible to be members of the Accreditation Committee.”

### **What was highlighted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Version Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIC AC?**

#### ***“Membership:***

*All OIC Member States’ national accreditation bodies shall have the possibility of being a full member of the accreditation committee.*

#### ***Administrative Arrangements:***

*The committee will have a secretariat. Secretariat facilities are provided by the SMIIC for administrative arrangements.*

*The committee will elect its chairman and three vice-chairmen among its members considering the OIC’s regional sensitivity.*

*The venue and the time of the first meeting will be determined by the SMIIC secretariat. The subsequent meetings will be decided by the Committee.*

*The details of this ToR and other activities will be discussed and decided at the first meeting of the committee.”*

### **What is the legitimacy of SMIIC AC?**

The legal infrastructure of SMIIC AC is subject to the below stated Clause of SMIIC Statute:

#### ***“6.4 Accreditation Committee:***

*Accreditation Committee is the unit carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States.*

*Accreditation Committee is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of accreditation concept within the OIC Member States.*

*This Committee shall be responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards, performing peer assessment activities and issuing related certificates.*

*Accreditation Committee shall provide the world wide recognition of accreditation certificates and protect against unfair uses.*

*Accreditation services shall be performed against payment within the framework of principles described in relevant procedures.*

*Secretariat facilities of the Accreditation Committee are provided by the SMIIC General Secretariat for administrative arrangements only.”*

### **What is the recognition of SMIIC AC in the OIC level?**

The Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of OIC considers the means for the implementation of the general policy of the Organization by adopting decisions and resolutions on matters of common interest in the implementation of the objectives and the general policy of the Organization.

In the Resolutions of Economic Issues (OIC/CFM-40/2013/ECO/RES/FINAL) which was the 40th Session of the CFM held on 09-11 December 2013 in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, below stated resolution was adopted by the CFM:

***“Encourages the National Accreditation Bodies of the OIC Member States to become a member of SMIIC Accreditation Committee (AC) in the area of Accreditation whose activities are independent.”***

In the Resolutions of Economic Issues (OIC/CFM-42/2015/ECO/RES/FINAL) which was the 42th Session of the CFM held on 27-28 May 2015 in Kuwait, State of Kuwait, below stated resolution was adopted by the CFM:

***“Encourages the National Accreditation Bodies of the OIC Member States to become a member of SMIIC Accreditation Committee (AC) in the area of accreditation, and welcomes the activities of the SMIIC Accreditation Committee in the establishment of an OIC Halal Accreditation Scheme and training programmes in this regard, and requests from the National Accreditation Bodies of OIC Member States to sign Multilateral Agreement (MLA) with SMIIC Accreditation AC, which acts as an umbrella organization for the accreditation activities.”***

### **The Member States of SMIIC AC:**

Accreditation bodies/authorities, multi economy accreditation bodies of OIC Member States can be member of SMIIC AC. Representation in the SMIIC AC is Member States based.

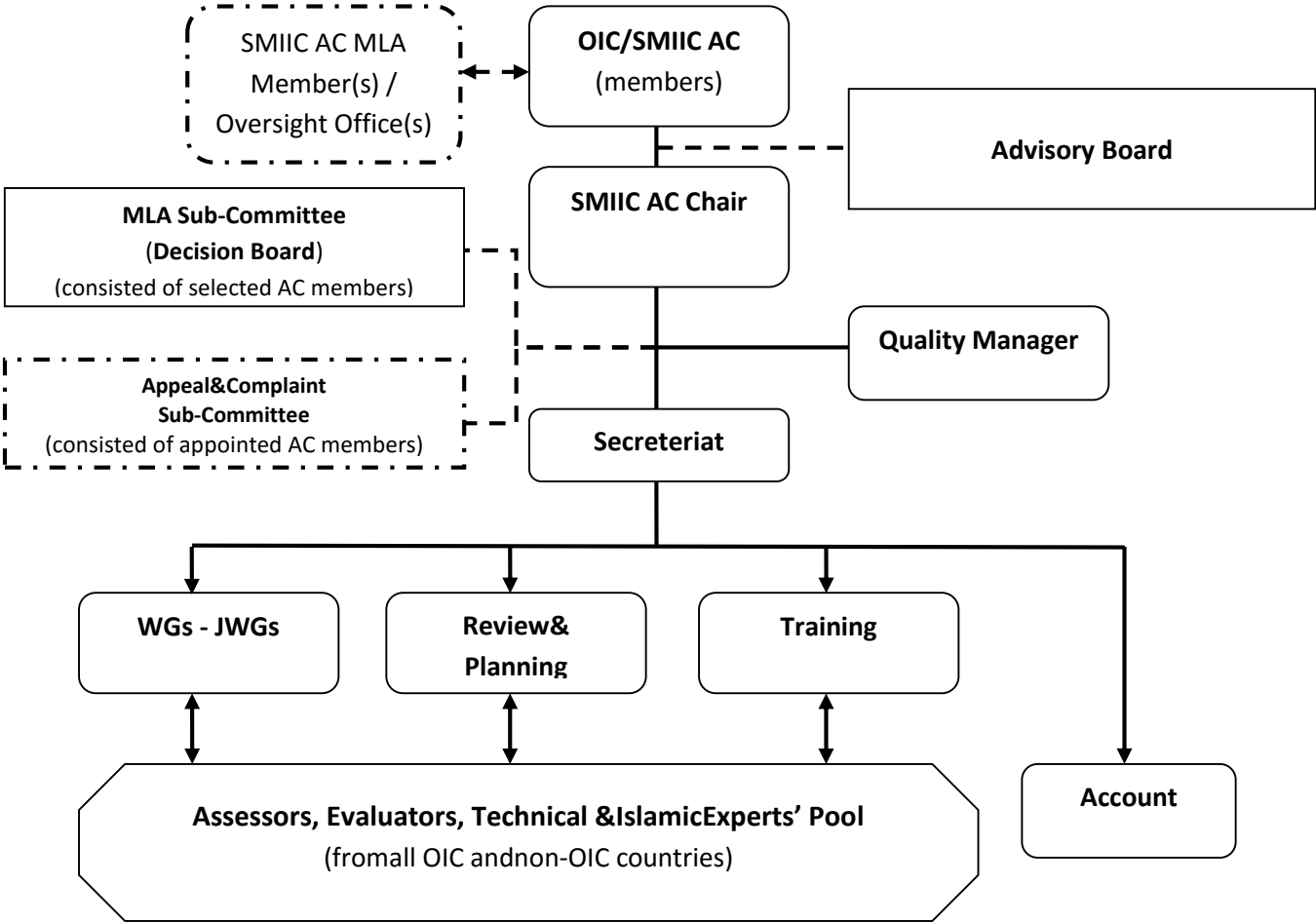
So if there is more than one accreditation body from a Member State represented in the SMIIC AC and since each Member State holds one vote, a co-decision must be obtained among the Member Bodies of a Member State and a Member Body to represent the Member State shall be informed to the SMIIC AC Secretariat.

25 OIC Member States have membership in SMIIC AC as of September 2015.

**The Meetings of SMIIC AC:**

- 1) The First Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 04 May 2012.
- 2) The Second Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey on 06-07 November 2012.
  - Working Groups under SMIIC AC were formed.
- 3) The Third Meeting of the SMIIC Accreditation Committee and its Working Group meetings were held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 15-17 November 2013.
- 4) The Fourth Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey on 26-28 May 2014.
- 5) The Fifth Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 09-11 September 2014.
  - SMIIC AC Planned Tasks and Deadlines were formed.
- 6) The Sixth Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 12-13 November 2014.
  - MLA Sub-Committee has been formed.
  - Training on SMIIC AC Peer Evaluation Mechanism was held.
- 7) The Seventh Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina on 17-19 March 2015.
  - It has been decided to hold a TC 1 & SMIIC AC Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting to prepare drafts for the amendment of the existing OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 standards.
- 8) The Eight Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) was held in in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 29-30 August 2015.
  - Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIC AC has been revised.
  - SMIIC AC will carry out both recognition of halal accreditation bodies according to OIC/SMIIC 3 in parallel with conducting assessment activities for a period of 3 (three) years and any extension is subject to the decision of SMIIC AC Members.
  - SMIIC AC requested its members to submit their MLA application for starting peer evaluation process and recognizing them and will provide authorization for "SMIIC AC MLA Member/Oversight Office" to the Accreditation Bodies of OIC Member States for Halal Accreditation.
  - SMIIC AC will develop, plan, improve and manage the implementation and maintenance of SMIIC AC MLA for Accreditation Bodies/Authorities operating in OIC Member States accrediting HCABs in line with the SMIIC AC R1:2014, SMIIC AC R2:2014 and SMIIC AC R3:2014 documents.

**Organizational Chart of SMIIC AC**



**SMIIC AC Approved Internal Regulations:**

- **Terms of Reference (ToR)** – Approved at 5th SMIIC AC Meeting on 09-11 September 2014 and revised at 8th SMIIC AC Meeting on 29-30 August 2015.
- **SMIIC AC R1: 2014 SMIIC AC Multilateral Recognition Arrangements Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Halal Accreditation Body** - Approved at 6th SMIIC AC Meeting on 12-13 November 2014
- **SMIIC AC R2: 2014 SMIIC Guidelines on Qualifications, Competence and Monitoring of Personnel Involved in Accreditation Activities** - Approved at 6th SMIIC AC Meeting on 12-13 November 2014
- **SMIIC AC R3: 2014 Cross-Frontier Accreditation Principles for Cooperation** - Approved at 6th SMIIC AC Meeting on 12-13 November 2014
- **SMIIC AC Logo** - Approved at 7th SMIIC AC Meeting on 17-19 March 2015
- **SMIIC AC Layout And Format Document** - Approved at 7th SMIIC AC Meeting on 17-19 March 2015
- **Rules of SMIIC AC Logo** - Approved at 7th SMIIC AC Meeting on 17-19 March 2015

- **SMIIC AC Document Master List** – Approved at 8th SMIIC AC Meeting on 29-30 August 2015.

### **SMIIC MLA Sub-Committee:**

The composition of SMIIC MLA Sub-Committee has been formed at the 6th SMIIC AC Meeting held on 12-13 November 2013.

### **Role of SMIIC AC:**

The primary purpose of SMIIC AC is two-fold. Firstly, to ensure that its accreditation body members only accredit bodies that are competent to do the work they undertake and are not subject to conflicts of interest. The second purpose of the SMIIC AC is to establish mutual recognition mechanism using specific agreements, known as SMIIC AC Multilateral Recognition Agreement (SMIIC AC MLA), between its accreditation body members which reduces risk to business and its customers by ensuring that an accredited certificate (as one of conformity assessment tools) may be relied upon anywhere in the OIC region and in the world.

The MLA contributes to the freedom of intra-OIC trade by eliminating technical barriers to trade. SMIIC AC will work to find the most effective way of achieving a single system that will allow companies with an accredited conformity assessment certificate in one part of the OIC, to have that certificate recognized elsewhere in the OIC. The objective of the SMIIC AC MLA is that it will cover all accreditation bodies in all countries in the OIC region, thus eliminating the need for suppliers of products and/or services to be certified in each country where they sell their products and/or services.

### **Role of SMIIC AC in Halal Accreditation and Conformity Assessment**

One of the reasons why the halal industry cannot grow faster, despite rising demands for halal products worldwide, is because there is no consensus on a halal standard. Each country has its own certification body, which leads to disagreements over animal feed, slaughtering methods, packaging, logistics and other issues. Indeed, all sectors of the market from inter-government agencies to the smallest trader have recognized the need for one global halal standard that is recognized by all importing countries. Among the growing number of agencies issuing halal certificates, there is also an increasing trend for local government departments to take charge of halal certification as a result of the increasing demand for the export of halal goods. It would be very difficult for countries to collectively agree on one global halal standard in the absence of a recognition mechanism. As a conclusion, uniformity and consensus especially among OIC Member States is very much important in order to ensure halal standard, conformity assessment and accreditation for OIC Member States.

In the context of international trade, from a global point of view, uniformity and consensus of halal standards which unite OIC Member States and Muslim majority countries worldwide are the targeted ideals. This harmonization, will strengthen the halal industry and avoid confusion among the various schools of thoughts or mazhabs. The unresolved issues will remain to be addressed, as long as there are no governing bodies with regards to halal standard which serve as a platform for the accreditation of the Halal Certification Bodies. Hence, SMIIC Accreditation Committee (AC) shall go into action with the aim of assuring of **“once certified, accepted anywhere”**.

## **What are the benefits of the SMIIC AC MLA?**

Accreditation bodies among the OIC, which have been evaluated by peers as competent, will sign an agreement that enhances the acceptance of products and/or services across national borders.

The purpose of the agreement, the SMIIC AC Multilateral Recognition Agreement (SMIIC AC MLA), is to ensure mutual recognition of accredited certification between signatories to the MLA, and subsequently acceptance of accredited certification in many markets based on one accreditation.

**For Government** - The SMIIC AC MLA will provide governments with a credible and robust framework on which to further develop and enhance government to government bilateral and multilateral international trade agreements. The long-term aim is the fully accepted use and recognition, by both public and private industries, of accredited certification, including certificates from other countries. In this way, the free-trade goal will be realized.

**For Regulators** - The SMIIC AC MLA will represent an internationally recognized “stamp of approval” to demonstrate compliance against agreed standards and requirements. Consequently, risk is minimized, as decisions will be based on reliable certificates. Many stakeholders have recognized the importance of credible accreditation programs that are developed against internationally recognized standards. Accreditation and the SMIIC AC MLA will help regulators meet their own legislated responsibilities by providing a globally recognized system to accept accredited certification.

**For Business** - The SMIIC AC MLA will provide businesses that are procuring halal products and services with greater confidence in their consistency of quality. Businesses can therefore select suppliers from further afield in the knowledge that they will receive products and services that conform to OIC/SMIIC standards.

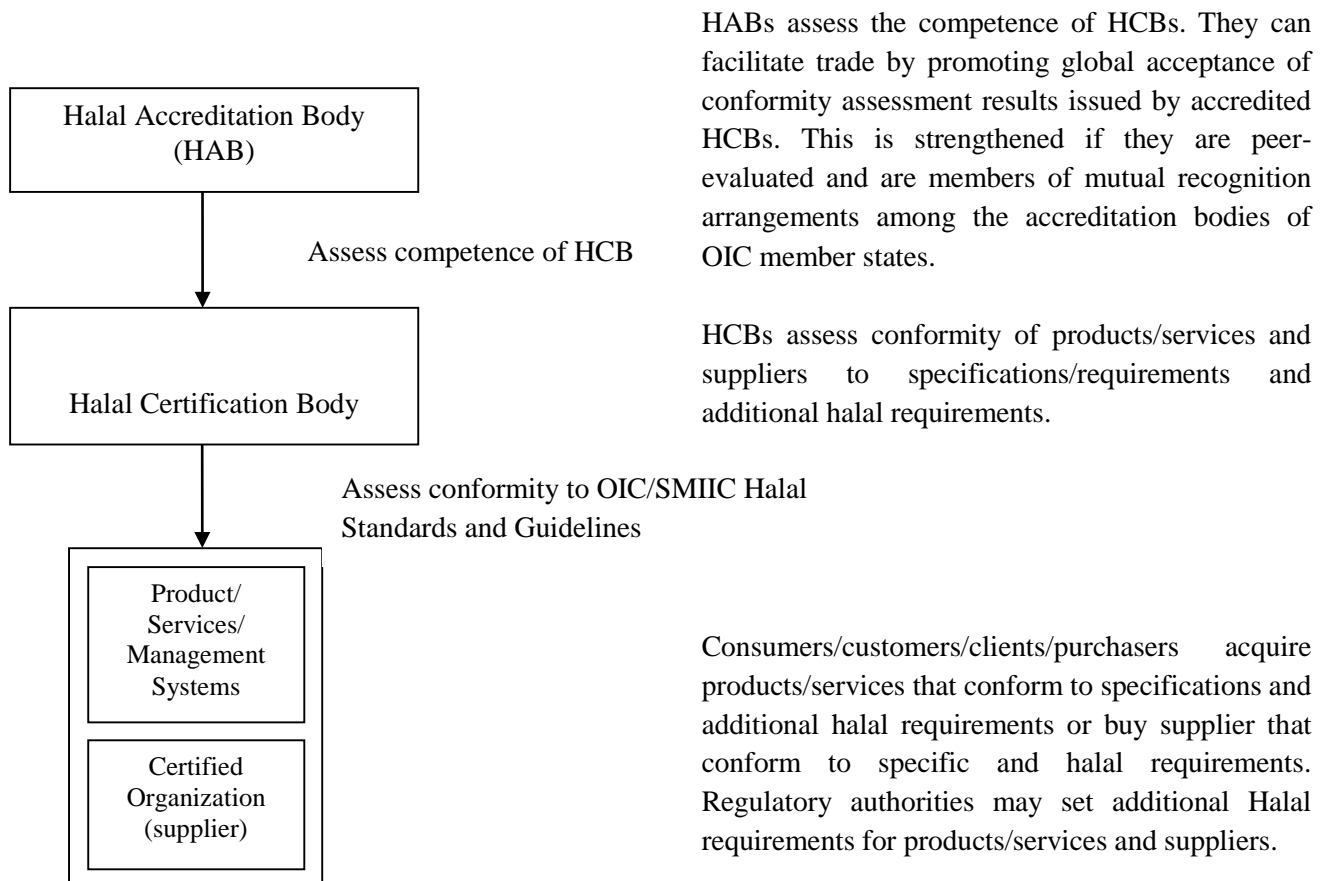
**For Manufacturers** - Having products assessed and certified as conforming to a particular standard allows manufacturers and service providers to distinguish themselves from less reputable suppliers, thereby creating a competitive advantage.

The SMIIC AC MLA will ensure that standards, specifications and conformity assessment methods are the same, allowing one certificate or certification to be recognized among the OIC Member States. This lowers the cost of accredited certification and reduces the risk of products or services being rejected by trading partners.

**For Consumers** - Consumer confidence can be gained from goods or services that bear a mark or carry a certificate of conformity. The SMIIC AC MLA will ensure that such goods/products and services placed on the market, from which ever country of origin, meet standards of quality and safety.

## What is the foreseen role for SMIIIC AC in the OIC/SMIIIC Standards?

In OIC/SMIIIC 3 standard, the role of SMIIIC AC according to the existing accreditation process recognized all over the world is structured as follows:



## What are the critical points with regards to the structure of Halal Accreditation Bodies?

As defined in the OIC/SMIIIC 3 standard, Islamic responsibility and legal responsibility are the key features with regards to the execution of halal accreditation bodies which form the structure of SMIIIC AC:

### 4. HALAL ACCREDITATION BODY

#### 4.1 Islamic responsibility and integrity

The halal accreditation body shall have the responsibility to comply with all Islamic requirements.

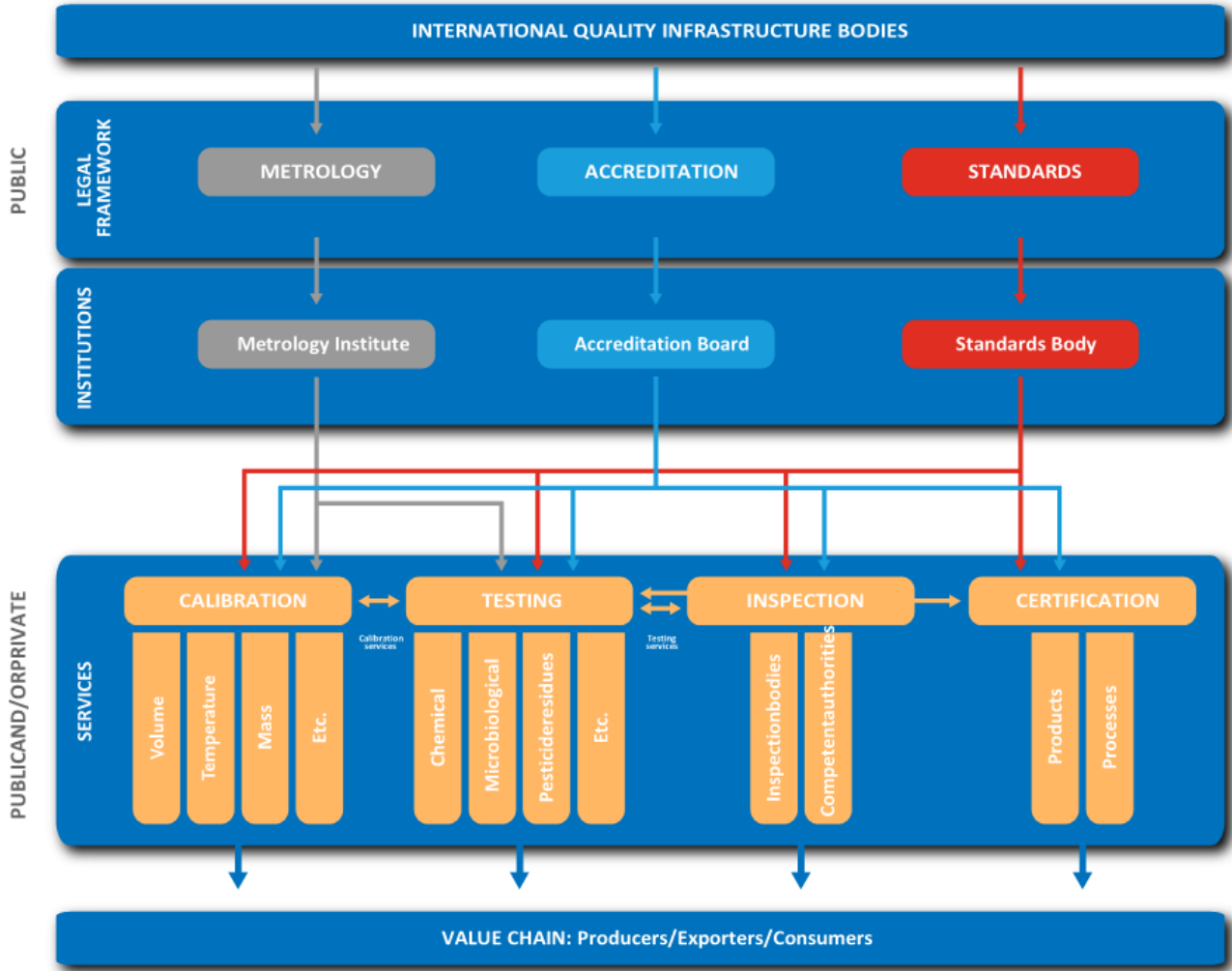
#### 4.2 Legal responsibility

The halal accreditation body shall be a registered legal entity by the member states of OIC.



**NOTE** - Governmental halal accreditation bodies are deemed to be legal entities on the basis of their governmental status. Where the governmental halal accreditation body is part of a larger governmental entity, the government is responsible for identifying the halal accreditation body in a way that no conflict of interest with governmental halal certification bodies occurs. This halal accreditation body is deemed to be the "registered legal entity" in the context of this guidelines.

**How is the compliance of the structure of SMIIIC AC to the international practices?**



Quality Infrastructure is generally understood to be the totality of the institutional framework (public and private) required to establish and implement standardization, metrology (scientific, industrial and legal), accreditation and conformity assessment services (inspection, testing, and product and system certification) necessary to provide acceptable evidence that products and services meet defined requirements, be it demanded by authorities or the market place.

It is important to understand that quality infrastructure, consisting of a number of institutions or service providers, can only function properly as a whole, and that the incompetence or absence of any one of the constituents will compromise the effectiveness and ultimately the efficiency of the whole system, thereby negatively impacting the business environment. The foundational parts of a quality infrastructure are the standards, metrology and accreditation organizations/institutions without which none of the others will be able to function properly.

Because of their importance, it is imperative that governments play an active and continuous role in their establishment and sustainability.

The integrated approach has been favoured for many years by especially the developing and transition economies, supported by members of the donor community that believed it to be the most effective way of setting up a quality infrastructure. It is common to find standards, metrology and accreditation within the same organization.

The integrated organization often enjoys legal protection against providers of similar services, i.e. they are the only recognized provider in the country by law. The advantage of this approach is that the administrative support is shared by all the elements, it facilitates integration of relevant legislation and a common approach for all the quality infrastructure elements and it makes optimum use of scarce resources (funding, personnel, equipment, buildings, etc.).

The important part is that the organization responsible for accreditation should not be the same organization(s) that provide inspection, testing and certification services. Otherwise a conflict of interest would arise.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Activities that took place in the last quarter of **2014** are briefly as follows:

**Attendance** at the 1<sup>st</sup> Investment Forum on OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan on 27-28 October 2014.

**Courtesy visit** to the Agency on Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Trade Inspection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on 28 October 2014.

**Attendance** at the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) held on 12-13 November 2014 in conjunction with the Training on SMIIC AC Peer Evaluation Mechanism which was held on 14-15 November, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

**Organized** the 9<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting of the SMIIC in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 19 November 2014.

**Organized** the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC General Assembly (GA) in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 20 November 2014.

**Attendance** at the GIES Leadership Series held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December, 2014 in Dubai, UAE.

**Attendance** at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Halal Congress Middle East Congress 2014 held on 08-10 December 2014, in Sharjah, UAE.

**Attendance** at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of SMIIC Metrology Committee (MC) held in Kocaeli, Turkey on 15-16 December 2014.

**Attendance** at the Thailand Halal Assembly held on 28-30 December 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Other activities that took place in **2015** (until November 2015) are briefly as follows:

**Attendance** at the meeting held by International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) held on 11-12 February 2015 at the IIFA headquarters, Jeddah, KSA.

**Courtesy visit** to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) General Secretariat on 12 February 2015.

**Courtesy visit** to the Islamic Developments Bank (IDB) headquarters on 12 February 2015.

**Attendance** at the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Consultative Group on Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade held on 02-03 March 2015, in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

**Meeting** with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT, the Moroccan Association of Exporters (ASMEX) and the Moroccan Institute for Standardization (IMANOR) ) on 04 March 2015 in Casablanca, Morocco.

**Attendance** at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Halal Conference and Expo 2015 held on 10-11 March 2015 in Lahore, Pakistan.

**Attendance** at the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Accreditation Committee (AC) held in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina on 17-19 March 2015.

**Attendance** at the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of OIC Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs (ICECS) held on 31 March - 2 April 2015, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Attendance** at the World Halal Summit held on 01-03 April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Courtesy visit** to the Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM) and Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) headquarters on 03 April 2015.

**Courtesy visit** to the National Standardization Agency of Indonesia (BSN) headquarters on 06 April 2015.

**Organized** the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 03 May 2015 in cooperation with the Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA).

**Organized** the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC General Assembly (GA) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 04 May 2015 in cooperation with the Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA).

**Organized** the SMIIC FORUM 2015: Standardization and Conformity Assessment on Halal Issues on 05 May 2015, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

**Courtesy visit** to the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) on 06 May 2015.

**Attendance** at the First Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) of SMIIIC Technical Committee (TC1) and Accreditation Committee (AC) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 06-07 May 2015.

**Attendance** at the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Ankara, on the sidelines of the 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

**Courtesy visit** to the Public Authority for Industry, Standards and Industrial Services Affairs (KOWSMD), Standards & Metrology Department, in Kuwait on 27 May 2015.

**Attendance** at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held in Kuwait City on 27-28 May 2015.

**Attendance** at the Philippine Halal Assembly in Manila, Philippines on 03-05 June 2015.

Secretary General of the GSO paid a visit to the SMIIIC headquarters on 29 July 2015.

**Attendance** at the Halal Expo Korea 2015 held on 07-09 August 2015 on Seoul, South Korea.

Joint delegation of Gambia and Senegal paid a visit to the SMIIIC headquarters on 26 August 2015.

**Hosted** the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SMIIIC Accreditation Committee (AC) in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 29-30 August 2015.

**Attendance** at the GSO-TSE Workshop and GSO Technical Council on 01-02 September 2015 in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

**Attendance** at the China (Ningxia) International Cooperation Forum on Halal Food Certification held on 11-12 September 2015 in Yinchuan, Ningxia, China.

**Meeting** with Acting Secretary General of ISO during the ISO meetings held on 14-18 September 2015 in Seoul, South Korea regarding the ongoing cooperation between SMIIIC and ISO.

**Attendance** at the MA-HAL EXPO 2015 held on 15-17 October 2015 in Casablanca, Morocco.

**Attendance** at the World Export Development Forum held on 20-21 October 2015 in Doha, Qatar.

**Meeting** with the Secretary General of the CEN-CENELEC on 26 October 2015 in Brussels, Belgium for establishing a mutual cooperation between SMIIIC and CEN.

**Meeting** with the Acting Secretary General of the ISO on 27 October 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland to enhance current level of cooperation between two institutions.

## CONCLUSION

As it is known, the idea of establishment of SMIIC can be traced back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in 1984. The Standardization Experts Group for Islamic Countries (SEG) which was established in 1985 for this purpose worked to this end and its work led to the approval of the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) Statute at the 14<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Meeting in 1998.

The Statute of SMIIC was first submitted to the member countries for its signature during the 15th COMCEC Meeting held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on November 4-7, 1999.

The Statute entered into force after fulfilling the ratification requirement of 10 OIC Member States on May 2010 and the Institute established in August 2010 after the 11 years that the Statute was first introduced which shows the degree of difficulty to establish such an organization under OIC.

The legitimacy of SMIIC depends on the existence of OIC which aims to promote cooperation among Member States to achieve sustained socioeconomic development for effective integration in the global economy, in conformity with the principles of partnership and equality.

The existence of SMIIC as an entity under OIC has to be utilized in a way that optimum benefit shall be provided to all Member States.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**SMIIC** shall be supported in a way that:

- It shall take active position in all related standardization, metrology and accreditation activities in addition to conformity assessment as well as focusing on capacity building, training etc. taking into consideration the needs of OIC Member States.
- It shall have the role of setting common standards that are applied across the whole of the OIC as a single market where SMIIC ensures the protection of consumers, facilitate cross-border trade, ensure the interoperability of products, encourage innovation and technological development, include environmental protection and enable businesses to grow.
- It shall foster the OIC economy in global trading, the welfare of Muslim community and the environment by providing a platform for the development of OIC/SMIIC standards and other technical specifications across a wide range of sectors as well as the metrology and accreditation to verify—against OIC/SMIIC standards—organizations that carry out evaluation services such as certification, verification, inspection, testing and calibration.
- It shall keep up to date its operations and provide proactive solutions in technical field for the OIC Member States which will be mostly the emerging countries in near future by the political support of OIC Member States.

- It shall work on all elements of quality infrastructure as standardization, metrology and accreditation prioritizing the needs of OIC Member States.
- It shall focus on technical improvement and capacity building and should play a directive function to guide the investment on laboratory etc and equal distribution of mentioned plans in OIC Member States.
- It shall closely work with especially sister OIC institutions which have various mandates with regards to the industry, science and technology, economic development etc. in coordination with OIC General Secretariat

**SMIIC AC**, with its important activities in the last 3 years with 8 meetings, shall be supported in a way that:

- It shall establish an accreditation scheme and provide accreditation assessment for Halal goods and services.
- It shall decide the requirements of accreditation and peer evaluation procedures for halal accreditation bodies (HABs) and halal conformity assessment bodies (HCABs).
- It shall develop, plan, improve and manage the implementation and maintenance of SMIIC AC MLA for Accreditation Bodies/Authorities operating in OIC Member States accrediting Halal Conformity Assessment Bodies.
- It shall act as an umbrella organization to provide peer evaluations for halal issues to the ABs.
- It shall provide technical assistance by nominated experts from member states for states to establish their own accreditation bodies.
- It shall deepen the experiences of the states with accreditation bodies.
- It shall operate as an independent and impartial organ according to SMIIC AC ToRs.

**General Secretariat, SMIIC**  
**October 2015,**  
**İstanbul / Republic of TURKEY**