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

**COMCEC STRATEGY
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
2016**

COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE

November 2016

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) has been continuing its efforts with the aim of enhancing economic and commercial cooperation among the 57 OIC Member Countries since 1984. The main objective of the COMCEC is to address the economic challenges of the Islamic Ummah, to contribute to their development efforts and to enhance trade among the Member Countries. In this regard, COMCEC serves as a policy dialogue forum for producing and disseminating knowledge, sharing experience and best-practices, developing a common understanding, and approximating policies among the Member Countries.

In order to realize its objectives, COMCEC has initiated many programmes and projects. Since the adoption of the COMCEC Strategy by 4th Extra-ordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 14-15 August 2012, the efforts under the COMCEC have gained a new dynamism and visibility. The Annual Progress Reports are submitted to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions in order to present the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy. In this regard, this progress report provides an overview of the major achievements in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy, since the 31st Session of the COMCEC, particularly the progress in the implementation of two mechanisms of the COMCEC Strategy, namely COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding. Accordingly, for each cooperation area, the Report gives information about the outcomes of the most recent meetings of the relevant Working Group. Moreover, the activities of the OIC Institutions serving to the mission of the Strategy are also highlighted.

Since the 31st Session of the COMCEC, held in İstanbul, on 21-24 November 2015, 12 Working Group (WG) Meetings have been successfully held. For these meetings, 12 research studies and 6 sectoral outlook documents have been published by the COMCEC Coordination Office. After each WG Meeting, a proceedings document was published in order to reflect the outcomes of the meetings including the summaries of the presentations and discussions made during the meeting. All the publications regarding the working group meetings namely the research studies, sectoral outlooks and the meeting proceedings are available in e-book format on the COMCEC website: (<http://ebook.comcec.org>)

In line with the regular practice for each WG Meeting, the working groups have continued to conduct a policy debate session in their deliberations. The participants discuss policy recommendations on the theme of the meeting derived from the research studies as well as the responses by Member Countries to the policy questions, which are communicated to the focal points before each WG meeting. These policy recommendations are then referred to the Ministerial Session for consideration and adoption. Accordingly, the recommendations of the 7th and 8th rounds of WG meetings will be submitted to the 32nd Session of the COMCEC for further action.

Through the COMCEC Project Funding, the second implementation instrument of the Strategy, the Member Countries and OIC Institutions are mobilized to realize the principles and objectives of the COMCEC Strategy. The projects conducted under this mechanism are developed in the areas where the policy recommendations have been formulated by the WGs and adopted by the COMCEC Ministerial Meetings. Thus, this mechanism provides an important policy support instrument for the project owners and beneficiaries.

It also gives the member countries an opportunity to work together in order to overcome their common challenges. The Member Countries implement cooperation projects with at least two project partner countries. As such, the total number of beneficiaries of the projects is much higher than the project owners. During its second implementation year, 14 projects were successfully implemented in 2015 and more than 40 countries have reaped the benefits of COMCEC Project Funding. Moreover, this year, the third year of the implementation of COMCEC Project Funding, 9 projects are being implemented. With

the partner countries, about 30 member countries are benefiting from the COMCEC Project Funding. The Fourth Project call was made in September 2016.

The 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference was hosted by the Republic of Turkey on 10-15 April 2016 in İstanbul, Turkey. Accordingly, Turkey has assumed the Chairmanship of the Islamic Summit. “*The COMCEC Progress Report 2013-2016*”, which presents the progress recorded in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the amended Statute as well as in the cooperation efforts since the previous Summit, was prepared and submitted to the 13th Summit. The successful implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and revised Statute was welcomed by the Summit Conference, which “*expressed its profound appreciation for the successful implementation of the COMCEC revised statute and strategy adopted at the 4th Extraordinary Summit. It called on Member States to enhance the implementation of the revised COMCEC statute and strategy, in close coordination and cooperation with the General Secretariat and in accordance with the OIC Charter, and requested Member States to continue to actively participate in the work of the COMCEC under the chairmanship of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Turkey.*”

Furthermore, the 4th Annual Meeting of the COMCEC Focal Points was held in 1-2 June 2016 to discuss the substantive issues pertaining the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism with the Member Countries. During this meeting, the participants had a chance to discuss the progress achieved in the implementation of the policy recommendations of the WGs and the ways and means for their effective follow-up. The active involvement of the member countries to the knowledge production efforts under the COMCEC was also elaborated. A training session on the COMCEC Project Funding was also conducted, whereby the participants were informed on the details of the project submission under the fourth project call, which was to be made in September 2016.

This report also gives information regarding various activities that have been held over the course of last year that are in line with the COMCEC Strategy and organized by the relevant OIC Institutions, namely, COMCEC Coordination Office, ICCIA, ICDT, IDB Group, SESRIC, SMIIC and OISA. The activities of the OIC institutions aligned with the COMCEC Strategy plays a crucial role for the effective and successful implementation of the Strategy. A list of activities serving the objectives of the Strategy, and organized by the OIC institutions in 2015-2016 is annexed to this report.

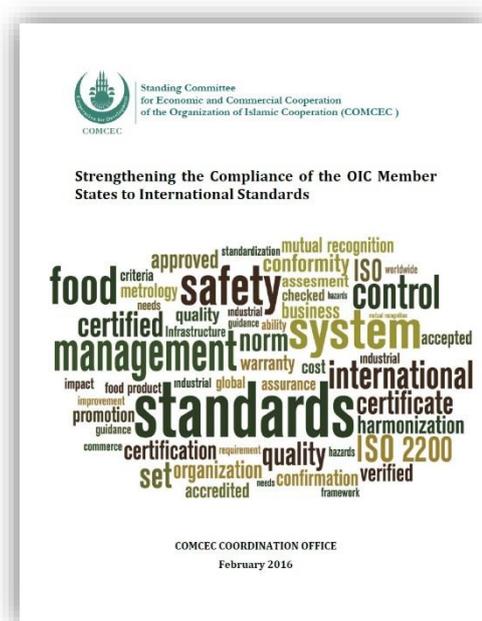
CHAPTER I: COOPERATION AREAS

1. TRADE

1.1. Trade Working Groups in 2016: Trade Facilitation

Trade facilitation has become one of the important topics in the global economic agenda. The COMCEC Trade Working Group (TWG) has specifically focused on the trade facilitation issues, which is also one of the important output areas of the COMCEC Strategy.

In this respect, the 7th Meeting of the Trade Working Group has elaborated on an important aspect of trade facilitation, which is compliance with international standards. The TWG has convened on February 25th, 2016, in Ankara, Turkey with the theme of “*Strengthening the Compliance of OIC Member States to International Standards.*” During the Meeting, the participants deliberated on standards as non-tariff barriers, development of quality infrastructure, and strengthening the compliance of member countries with international standards. The research study prepared for the meeting, highlighted the importance of compliance with international standards for the OIC Member Countries, especially for improving export competitiveness and trade facilitation through the elimination of barriers on trade. In this respect, active membership of the Member Countries to the relevant international standards organizations is of particular importance. The study indicated that, at present, there is a varying degree of involvement on the part of the Member Countries; 55 OIC Member Countries are members of Codex, while this figure is 35 and 11 for the ISO and IEC respectively. However, the study highlighted that there is still need for more active participation of the Member Countries to the technical work of international standardization bodies for increasing inclusiveness and large-scale adoption of international standards.



The following challenges, among others, have been identified by the above-mentioned research as well as the participants of the 7th Meeting of Trade WG:

- Low level of trade integration
- Inefficient standards related national infrastructure
- Low level of conformity assessment and mutual recognition

After the deliberations, the Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE TRADE WG

- *Developing/Strengthening a National Quality Infrastructure.*
- *Supporting the Member States' Efforts for their Active Participation in the work of International Standardization Bodies.*
- *Strengthening SMIIC for the Adoption of Harmonized Standards for the development of Quality Infrastructure in the OIC for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade.*

In addition to compliance to the international standards, border agency cooperation (BAC) is another important aspect of trade facilitation in global agenda. According to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, which was also signed by 15 OIC Member Countries, the concerned countries committed to cooperate in the following issues regarding cross border cooperation:

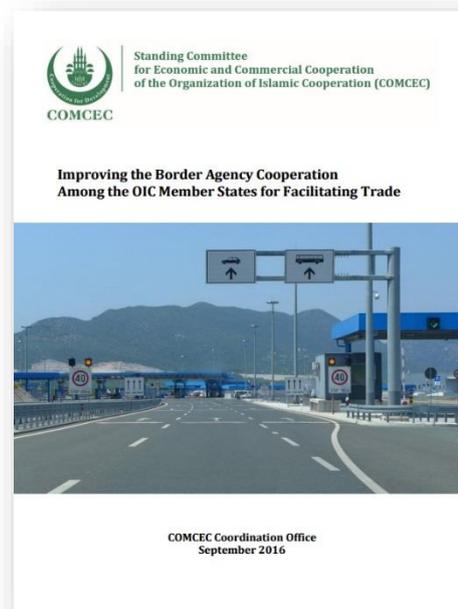
- ✓ alignment of working days and hours,
- ✓ alignment of procedures and formalities
- ✓ development and sharing of common facilities
- ✓ joint controls
- ✓ establishment of one stop border post control

The level of border agency cooperation of the OIC Member Countries varies according to the several indices measuring the countries' level of border agency cooperation. According to World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI), which measures the efficiency of the clearance process scaling from 0 to 5, the Asian Group countries have the highest average score of 2.53 in the efficiency of the clearance processes, followed by the Arab Group Countries with the score of 2.46. On the other hand, African Group Countries have the lowest average with the score of 2.30.

Moreover, OECD External Border Agency Cooperation (BAC) Indicator, scaling from 0 to 2, measures the border agency cooperation with neighbouring and third countries. Accordingly, the average of external cooperation for the Arab Group is 1.15, followed by the Asian and African Group countries with the score of 1.11 and 0.82, respectively.

Considering the importance of BAC for trade facilitation as well as increasing intra-OIC trade, the 8th Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group held on October 6th, 2016, was devoted to "Improving the Border Agency Cooperation among the OIC Member States for Facilitating Trade." The research study and the participants of the working group highlighted the major challenges faced by the Member Countries, among others:

- Lack of coordination and cooperation among border agencies
- Long, costly and inefficient customs procedures
- Lack of harmonized working hours among the countries
- Inadequate information exchange among the border agencies



The Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the Member Countries regarding the border agency cooperation:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE TRADE WG

- *Promoting the adoption of international standards in customs and other relevant cross border trade and logistics matters as well as accession to the relevant international conventions for harmonizing and simplifying rules and procedures related to the cross border trade and logistics operations,*
- *Promoting mutual recognition arrangements/agreements for border controls and trusted traders,*
- *Enhancing information exchange among the border agencies of the Member Countries through enhancing connectivity of information and communication technology systems, providing regular knowledge exchange platforms and participating in relevant international networks,*
- *Improving the infrastructure of land border crossing points and transport connectivity through the joint efforts of the neighboring countries, e.g. through establishing joint technical/working committees, which include relevant stakeholders to identify the factors which cause bottlenecks.*

1.2. Other Trade-Related Developments and Activities Organized by OIC Institutions

TPS-OIC:

TPS-OIC is the most important project of the COMCEC in the field of trade, based on three agreements, namely the Framework Agreement, the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) and the Rules of Origin. With the ratification of all three agreements by at least 10 Member States, the legal basis of the System was completed as of August 2011.

In order to make the TPS-OIC system operational, 10 Member States have to fulfill two conditions at the same time: The ratification of the three TPS-OIC Agreements and the submission of the list of concessions to the TNC Secretariat. Since the 31st Session of the COMCEC, the Islamic Republic of Iran has conveyed its concession list to the TNC Secretariat and the number of countries fulfilling the conditions of the TPS-OIC system has reached to 13. The List of the Member Countries signed/ratified TPS-OIC Agreements can be reached at:

<http://www2.comcec.org/UserFiles/File/TPS-OIC/TPS-OIC-Sign.pdf>

Moreover, the consultative meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the participating states held on the sidelines of the 31st Session of the COMCEC, reached a common understanding on the deadline of March 1st, 2016 for the full implementation of the TPS-OIC. Accordingly, the 31st Session of COMCEC invited all participating states which have ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements and submitted the concession lists, to finalize the necessary procedures, which include updating the previously submitted concession lists and notifying the TNC Secretariat on the relevant internal measures to be undertaken for the implementation of the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin by March 1st, 2016. As of September 2016, 6 Member Countries, namely, Turkey, Malaysia, Pakistan, Jordan, Bangladesh and Iran have conveyed their updated concession lists to the TNC Secretariat.

Furthermore, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) continues to organize awareness-raising events and seminars on TPS-OIC and its protocols for the government officials and private sector in the member countries. Within this framework, ICDT organized the Training Seminar for the Benefit of the African Member Countries on the “Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS-OIC)” in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 28-30 March 2016. Another seminar has been

organized for the benefit of executives of the State of Palestine and Jordan in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, on 4-5 April 2016.

2. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

2.1. Transport and Communications WGs in 2016: Road Maintenance and Safety

Modern transportation systems increasingly rely on roads and road transportation. According to the OECD ITF (International Transport Forum) Transport Outlook 2015, the growth in global surface passenger transport to 2050 ranges from 120% to 230%, depending on future fuel prices and urban transport policies. Furthermore, the growth in world surface freight volume to 2050 ranges from 230% to 420%, depending on freight intensity of future GDP growth. Given its importance, the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group (TCWG) has devoted its two consecutive meetings to the road transportation.

During the 7th TCWG Meeting, which was held on March 24th, 2016 with the theme of “*Enhancing Road Maintenance in the OIC Member Countries*”, the discussions specifically focused on the conceptual framework of road maintenance, overview of the current state of the road maintenance in the world and in the OIC, as well as the challenges faced by Member Countries and the policy recommendations to address them.

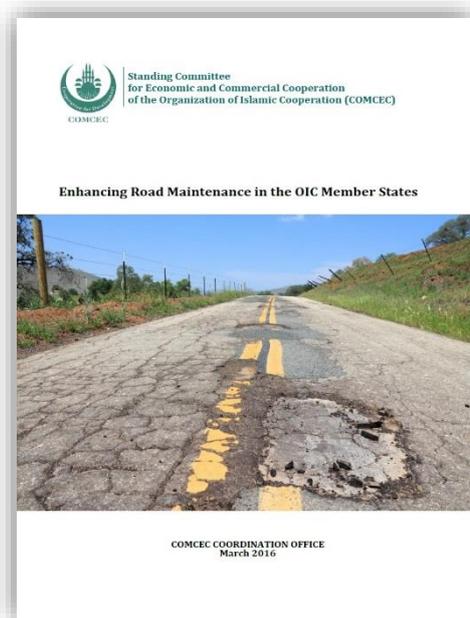
The research study specifically prepared for this meeting highlighted the major setbacks related to road maintenance practices in the OIC Member States;

- Lack of reliable and consistent data to support planning and programming
- Poor condition of road networks in most OIC countries
- Lagging behind international good practices concerning institutional development and practices in the road maintenance sector
- Poor governance in road maintenance.
- Inadequate funding of road maintenance
- Inadequate attention to the maintenance of rural road networks during the process of budget planning.

In light of the main findings of the aforementioned research study and the deliberations during the TCWG, the Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the MCs related to road maintenance and improving road maintenance services:

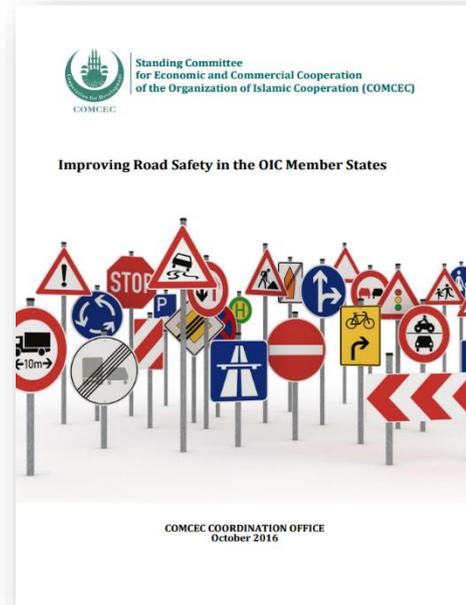
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE TCWG

- *Developing a National Road Maintenance Strategy Based on Evidence and Data*
- *Ensuring the Allocation of Adequate and Sustainable Funding for Road Maintenance and Increasing Effective Utilization of Available Road Funds through a Sound Legal Framework and Institutional Structure*
- *Making Use of Performance-Based Contracts in Road Maintenance*
- *Establishing a Road Database Management System*



During its 8th Meeting, the TCWG deliberated on another important issue of road transport, that is Improving Road Safety in the OIC Member Countries.

Road traffic injuries are a major global public health problem with severe economic and social consequences. They hinder achievements in economic and human development. According to the research study prepared specifically for this meeting, low income countries have only 1 percent of the total registered vehicles and 16 percent of road deaths in the world. This share is only 10 percent for the developed countries, which account for 46% of the total registered vehicles. The middle income countries have 53 percent of registered vehicles, meanwhile, 74 percent in total traffic fatalities are recorded. Among the low and middle income OIC Member Countries, vehicle ownership rates are generally low, whereas traffic mortality rates are relatively higher when compared to high income countries¹.



On the other hand, road traffic injuries and fatalities can be prevented by actions to be taken by the governments, through addressing road safety in a holistic manner. According to the aforementioned research study and the deliberations during the TCWG, the following challenges should be addressed for improving road safety in member countries:

- Lack of appropriate and enforced legislation as well as national strategy for road safety,
- Lack of crash investigation and post-crash management,
- Lack of adequate funding for road safety,
- Lack of appropriate resources (such as organizational and human capacity),
- Inadequacy in driver training,
- Inconsistency of road and traffic engineering.

The TCWG has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the MCs in road safety issues and improve road safety implementations:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 8TH MEETING OF THE TCWG

- *Raising Awareness of Road Safety in the Member States*
- *Adhering to the Major UN Road Safety Agreements and Conventions and Adapting the Safe Systems Approach to the National Road Safety Management System*
- *Establishing a Reliable and Sustainable Road Safety and Crash Data System*
- *Developing a National Road Safety Strategy and Assigning a National Lead Agency/Institution Responsible for Road Safety Management*

¹ COMCEC Coordination Office, Improving Road Safety in the OIC Member States, 2016

3. TOURISM

3.1. Tourism WGs in 2016: Muslim Friendly Tourism

In recent years, Muslim-Friendly Tourism (MFT) has become a new emerging segment in the tourism sector, which has a considerable share in the global tourism market. The Muslim population is expected to increase to 2.2 billion by 2030, which is the key catalysts for growth of the MFT sector.²

In 2014, the total number of Muslim tourists has reached 116 million, and this number would increase to 180 million within five years. Regarding the state of MFT in the OIC, the total number of Muslim arrivals in the OIC Member Countries was 64 million in 2014, and this number is expected to reach 98 million in 2020³.

Given the importance of MFT sector in tourism area, COMCEC has devoted its three Tourism Working Group Meetings to the Muslim-Friendly Tourism. During the 7th Tourism WG Meeting, which was held on February 4th, 2016 with the theme of “*Muslim-Friendly Tourism: Understanding the Demand and Supply Sides in the OIC Member Countries*”, the discussions specifically focused on the conceptual framework of the MFT, overview of the current state of the MFT sector in the world and OIC Member Countries, as well as the challenges faced for developing the MFT sector in the Member Countries.



The research study, specifically prepared for this meeting, highlighted that in 2014, the total number of Muslim tourists reached 116 million, and this number would increase to 180 million within five years. Regarding the state of MFT in the OIC, the total number of Muslim arrivals in the OIC Member Countries was 64 million in 2014, and this number is expected to reach 98 million in 2020.

In light of the main findings of the aforementioned research study and the deliberations during the TWG, the following challenges were identified:

- Lack of awareness on the MFT market
- Lack of unified and harmonized standards on MFT products and services
- Increasing competition from non-OIC Countries
- Misperceptions about Islam and rise of Islamophobia
- Insufficient air linkages

² COMCEC Coordination Office, Muslim-Friendly Tourism: Understanding the Demand and Supply Sides in the OIC Member Countries

³ Ibid.

The Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the Member Countries in the MFT sector and to improve the MFT related services:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE TOURISM WG

- *Developing basic guidelines for improving the basic MFT related services*
- *Increasing awareness of the MFT market among the travel industry stakeholders through standardizing terminology used in MFT, introducing market awareness and customer service training programmes and utilizing social media for promotion and marketing.*
- *Developing healthcare services and facilities for the MFT market through identifying the different strengths of the OIC Region, building specialization hubs, developing alternative/traditional treatments and wellness programmes*
- *Launching an alliance among the Muslim-friendly travel agents/ tour operators targeting the MFT market*

Moreover, the growing demand in the Muslim-Friendly Tourism requires development of new MFT products and services as well as their effective marketing. In this respect, the 8th Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism WG was held on September 1st, 2016 with the theme of “*Muslim Friendly Tourism: Developing and Marketing MFT Products and Services in the OIC Member Countries.*” During the meeting, the participants from the Member Countries discussed the current trends in the development of marketing MFT products and services, government policies for supporting the MFT sector, challenges faced by the member countries as well as the policy recommendations for effective MFT product development and marketing strategies.



The research study titled “*Muslim Friendly Tourism: Developing and Marketing MFT Products and Services in the Member Countries*” highlighted that the availability of Muslim-friendly services is one of the most important destination selection criteria for Muslim tourists. Moreover, according to the survey conducted for this research study, Muslim tourists are increasingly conscious about their faith-based needs such as certified halal food, prayer and ablution facilities, iftar and sahoor facilities in Ramadan etc. during their travels.

Therefore, developing and marketing products and services for catering to the faith-based needs of the Muslims is crucial for getting a remarkable share from this emerging sector. While the Member Countries have a comparative advantage due to their knowledge of Islam and Muslim needs, the development level of MFT sector varies from one country to another. According to the above-mentioned research study, and the deliberations during the meeting, major challenges identified for

developing and marketing MFT products in the OIC destinations are as follows:

- lack of universal standards on MFT
- lack of well-developed MFT products and services in many Member Countries
- Catering for different needs of Muslim and Non-Muslim tourists
- Marketing to Muslim and Non-Muslim consumers
- Reluctance of investors to finance MFT products and services

To overcome these challenges, the WG decided on the following policy recommendations:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE TOURISM WG

- *Developing a national Muslim Friendly Tourism strategy that links to the country's overall tourism goals through focusing on building stakeholder awareness, establishing a dedicated MFT body/committee and developing a national MFT products/services and marketing development strategy*
- *Conducting government-led MFT-focused destination marketing through developing an MFT branding and positioning for the benefit of local service providers and measuring the potential of a destination for MFT by funding/organizing short-term campaigns.*
- *Supporting SMEs through developing training and mentorship programmes*
- *Developing bilateral tourism cooperation within the OIC through technical knowledge exchange and joint promotion efforts for MFT destinations*

The next (9th) Meeting of Tourism Working Group will also focus on Muslim Friendly Tourism sector, with a specific reference to the MFT regulations for accommodation establishments in the OIC Member Countries.

3.2. OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum: Promoting Muslim Friendly Tourism Products and Services

The OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum, which provides a regular communication channel for the private sector representatives of the Member Countries, has also focused on the Muslim Friendly Tourism sector in its recent meeting. Since the 31st COMCEC Session, the Forum has convened its 4th Meeting with the theme of “*Promoting Muslim Friendly Tourism (MFT) Products and Services*” on 14-15 January 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey. During the meeting, the participants highlighted the importance of raising the awareness about MFT, not only in the OIC Member Countries, but also in the Non-OIC World. The participants also underlined the need for increasing investments in MFT, particularly through utilizing Public Private Partnerships. They also emphasized the significance of the development and harmonization of standards in the MFT sector in the Member Countries.

During the Meeting, the private sector representatives of the Member Countries had an opportunity to conduct B2B Meetings with their counterparts.

3.3. The Islamic Conference of the Ministers of Tourism

The 9th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) was held on 21-23 December 2015 in Niamey/Republic of Niger with the participation of 17 Member States. In the Conference, Madinah al-Munawwara and Tabriz were selected as the OIC Cities of Tourism for 2017 and 2018, respectively. The Session discussed the importance of promoting Islamic Tourism through the development of relevant hotels and resorts, Halal food, entertainment and sport facilities, in addition to branding Islamic Tourism in the international fora.

Moreover, the 10th Session of the ICTM will be hosted by the People's Republic of Bangladesh in 2017.

4. AGRICULTURE

4.1. Agriculture WGs: On-Farm and Post- Harvest Food Losses

According to the UN, world population is expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, which implies that global food supplies would need to increase by 60% in order to meet the food demand⁴. This demonstrates the urgent need to increase agricultural productivity as well as to reduce on-farm and post-harvest food losses and food waste for ensuring food security.

According to the FAO, 32 percent (approximately 1.3 billion tonnes) of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year gets lost or wasted. The economic value of food losses and waste amounts to roughly 680 billion USD in developed countries and 310 billion USD in developing countries.⁵ The research reveals that many smallholder farmers in the OIC Member Countries live on the margins of food insecurity, and a reduction in food losses could have an immediate and significant impact on their livelihoods⁶. Furthermore, the pattern and size of food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain remains poorly understood in the vast majority of the OIC Member Countries.

Taking into consideration the importance of food losses and waste, the COMCEC Agriculture WG has devoted its three meetings to different dimensions of this subject namely: On-Farm Food Losses, Post-Harvest Losses and Food Waste. In this regard, the 7th Meeting of the Agriculture WG was held on March 3rd, 2016 with the theme of “Reducing On-Farm Food Losses in the OIC Member Countries”.

The Research Study, which was prepared specifically for the above mentioned meeting, indicates that roots and tubers, and fruits and vegetables have high level of on-farm losses, marking 30-50 percent. The level of losses for cereals, oilseed and pulses is measured as moderate, ranging between 10-30 percent. For milk and dairy products, it is rated at a moderate level ranging between 10-30 percent. Fish and Seafood have similar rates of on-farm losses in production, harvesting and handling, with a moderate sum of aquaculture production or fishing losses of 10-30%⁷.



The Study also emphasized the following challenges faced by the Member Countries:

- Pests and inadequate pest management
- Poor water management or drought,
- Lack of proper storage facilities,
- Poor harvesting practices,
- Poor cultural practices (pruning, fertilizing, and pesticide spraying),
- Lack of proper processing and packaging,
- Climatic conditions and poor temperature management
- Poor information and planning, and

⁴ UN, World Population Prospects the 2015 Revision, (2015)

⁵ COMCEC Coordination Office, Reducing Postharvest Losses in the OIC Member Countries, 2016

⁶ FAO, Global Food Losses and Food Waste, 2011

⁷ COMCEC Coordination Office, On-Farm Food Losses in the Member Countries, 2016

- Delays in transport or distribution.

In light of the main findings of the research study and the discussions that took place, the Working Group came up with the following policy recommendations in order to overcome the mentioned challenges:

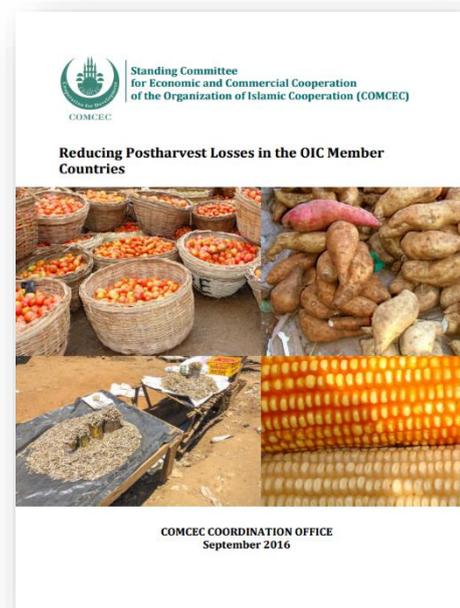
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WG

- *Identifying the knowledge and information gaps regarding the levels and specific causes of on-farm food losses for key crops and food products with a view to providing solutions for each OIC Member Countries*
- *Improving/developing agricultural extension, training and outreach activities for reducing on-farm food losses*
- *Developing specific programmes/projects to address on-farm losses in agricultural value chains in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions*

Furthermore, the level of losses that occur during postharvest (handling, storage, processing, packaging, transportation, distribution and marketing) stages is also very high in most of the OIC Member Countries. Thus, the 8th Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group was held on October 13th, 2016 with the theme of “Reducing Postharvest Losses in the OIC Member Countries.”

The research study conducted for 8th AWG Meeting revealed that in the OIC Countries, the level of post-harvest losses for perishables, such as fruit and vegetables, is around 40-50 percent. Moreover, the level of food losses in durables, such as for cereals, is around 20-30 percent. The Study also highlighted that postharvest losses and their causes are complex and vary for each commodity group. In this respect, the Study demonstrates the major causes of the post-harvest food losses in each specific commodity group as follows:

- For cereals, physical losses mostly related to harvesting, drying, transport, threshing and shelling.
- For fruit and vegetables, the main reasons are poor packaging and transport.
- For oilseeds and pulses, main causes are poor postharvest handling methods, poor storage and shelling.
- For fruit and vegetables, it is poor packaging and transport and poor temperature management, poor information and planning, and delays in transport or distribution.



At the end of the Meeting, the Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the Member Countries:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WG

- *Setting up national postharvest losses reduction coordination committees with a view to identifying, prioritizing and sharing postharvest losses data and practices across a range of strategic commodities and raising awareness on postharvest losses*
- *Mobilizing agricultural finance providers to allocate more financial resources with a view to addressing agricultural infrastructure investment needs in postharvest losses*
- *Improving and developing agricultural extension, training and outreach research activities for reducing postharvest losses*

4.2. OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development

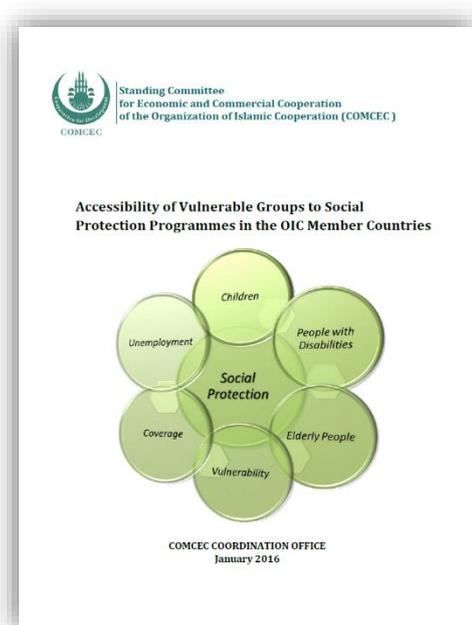
Another important platform where common problems of the OIC Member Countries are discussed in field of agriculture is the OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development. The 7th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture held on 26-28 April 2016 in Astana, Kazakhstan has deliberated on the common constraints and challenges of agricultural development and food security in the OIC Member States, especially the agricultural production and productivity, trade in agriculture commodities, water resources and their use in agriculture.

5. POVERTY ALLEVIATION

5.1. Poverty Alleviation WGs: Social Protection and Forced Migration

In general, the OIC Member Countries have a broad range of social assistance, social insurance and labour market programmes. However, the coverage of the poor and vulnerable groups of society remains at low levels and, in some cases, non-existent. Public expenditures on social protection also vary greatly even within the same income groups and are insufficient to address the challenges of vulnerable groups. Regarding social insurance which is an important component of social protection, only about 30 percent of OIC population is covered by formal social insurance schemes⁸. Large segments of the population in the member countries are outside the frame of social insurance policies, mostly due to high informal employment.

In this respect, considering the importance of social protection for reducing poverty, Social Safety Net (SSNs) programmes of the OIC Member Countries have been studied from different aspects, namely targeting, monitoring and institutional structure in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Meetings of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group respectively. In addition, the 7th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation WG held on February 11th, 2016 was devoted to social protection with a special focus on vulnerable groups. A research study titled



⁸ COMCEC Coordination Office, Accessibility of Vulnerable Groups to Social Protection Programmes in the OIC Member Countries, 2016

“Accessibility of Vulnerable Groups to Social Protection Programmes in the OIC Member Countries” was prepared for the Meeting. The discussions during the Meeting specifically focused on the conceptual framework of the social protection for vulnerable groups, overview of the current state of the social protection programmes in the world and OIC Member Countries, as well as the challenges in extending coverage and improving effectiveness of these programmes in the Member Countries.

In light of the main findings of the aforementioned research study and the deliberations during the PAWG, the following challenges have been identified:

- Informal employment,
- Malnourishment,
- Inadequate access to basic services, particularly to education and health care services,
- Lack of differentiation between people who can work and people who cannot work, while designing Social Safety Net (SSN) programmes,
- Low and inefficient public expenditures for social protection policies.

The Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the MCs in social protection for vulnerable groups, and to improve the social protection related programmes:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WG

- *Promoting formalization in the labor market through creating a regulatory environment for facilitating the transition of informal businesses to formal sector, and increasing the productivity of informally employed and long-term unemployed people via training and skill-development programmes, credit and business development services*
- *Promoting free and universal health care coverage for vulnerable groups*
- *Developing specific social safety net programmes to improve the access of vulnerable children to health and education services for preventing intergenerational transmission of poverty*
- *Designing specific social safety net programmes to offer a minimum regular income to people who cannot work (disabled, poor female-headed households, elderly without a pension) as well as developing social safety net programmes (including activation programmes) for people who can work*

Having an important place in the development agenda and being a significant issue regarding poverty, forced migration has become prominent in the OIC Member Countries in recent years. Nearly two thirds of all forced migrants originate from OIC member states (36 million people), and OIC countries are host to over half (55 percent) of refugees and asylum seekers worldwide.

The top three refugee producing countries -Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia- are also OIC members and together account for nearly half of worldwide flows of forced migrants. The majority of these forced migrants coming from OIC Member Countries reside in other member countries: 74 percent have registered as refugees in a fellow OIC country. Indeed, 86 percent of the 4.9 million Syrian refugees have been under protection in neighboring countries, namely; Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon.⁹

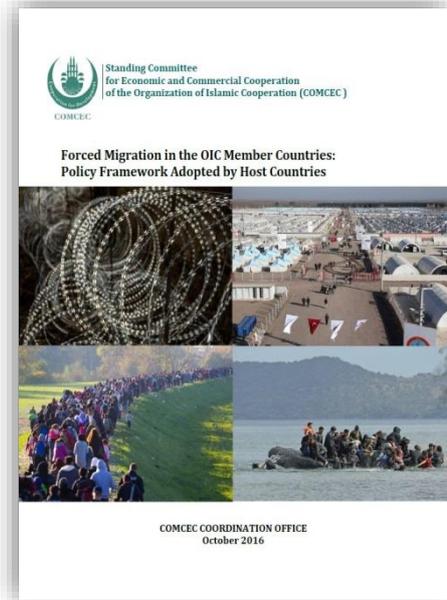
⁹ COMCEC Coordination Office, *Forced Migration in the OIC Member Countries: Policy Framework for Adopted by Host Countries*, 2016

Given the vital importance of the issue, the Eighth Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group was held on November 3rd, 2016 in Ankara, Turkey with the theme of “Forced Migration in the OIC Member Countries: The Policy Framework Adopted by Host Countries”. During the Meeting, the research study entitled “*Forced Migration in the OIC Member Countries: The Policy Framework Adopted by Host Countries*” was considered by the participants.

In light of the main findings of the aforementioned research study and the discussions during the 8th Meeting of the PAWG, the following challenges were identified:

- Lack of ability to legally earn a living in displacement and informal employment
- Lack of implementation capacity for protection at the national and local level
- Immigrant children's risk of being a lost generation due to insufficient access to education services
- Insufficient access to medical care
- Low access to safe and affordable housing

The Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations in order to address the challenges faced by the MCs in forced migration:



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 8TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WG

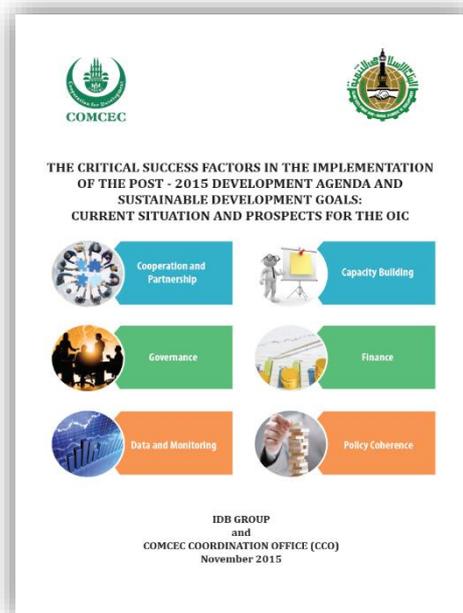
- *Developing a sound policy framework at the national level in the host countries and strengthening their institutional and human capacity in order to manage forced migration flows and address the needs of migrants*
- *Facilitating access to safe and affordable housing with a view to decreasing housing shortages and the economic burden on both migrants and host communities.*
- *Increasing the forced migrants’ access to labour market through providing work permits and developing programmes for upgrading their skills*
- *Ensuring forced migrants’ access to health and education services through eliminating the practical barriers including linguistic disparities and service fees*

5.2. Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Given its crucial place in the global development agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been followed closely under the COMCEC. Based on the relevant resolution of the 30th COMCEC Session held on 25-28 November 2014, a study titled “*The Critical Success Factors in the Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals: Current Situation and Prospects for the OIC*” was prepared jointly by the IDB Group and COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) and submitted to the 31st Session of the COMCEC. This Study was welcomed by the 31st COMCEC Ministerial Session held on 23-26 November 2015.

Recalling the above-mentioned joint study, the 32nd Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC requested the IDB and CCO in collaboration with SESRIC to further study this matter with a view to identifying possible contributions of the relevant OIC Institutions to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Member Countries and report their findings to the 32nd Session of COMCEC.

Moreover, SESRIC organized a Special Session on SDGs with the theme of “Intra-OIC cooperation for the implementation of SDGs in the OIC Member Countries” on October 3rd, 2016, in Ankara, Turkey. During the meeting, the participants had an opportunity to discuss three thematic areas regarding SDGs: Policy Dialogue, Data and Monitoring and Institutional Capacity.



5.3. Other Efforts under the COMCEC by the OIC Institutions

Other ongoing programmes for alleviating poverty under the COMCEC are: Special Program for the Development of Africa - SPDA (within the Islamic Development Bank), Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development - ISFD (within the Islamic Development Bank), OIC Vocational Education and Training Programme - OIC-VET (Within SESRIC) and OIC Cotton Program.

The Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) is a special fund established with the purpose of poverty alleviation through enhancing the productive capacity of the poor, reducing illiteracy and eradicating diseases and epidemics, particularly Malaria, Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS, in the Member Countries. The targeted budget of the Fund is USD 10 billion. The total amount of received contributions as of 2016 is US\$ 2.42 billion. 65 projects are currently being implemented under the ISFD portfolio.

The Special Program for the Development of Africa (SPDA), is another program developed to alleviate poverty in the Member States in Africa. The target capital of the SPDA is USD 12 billion. As of January 2016, the amount of total disbursements is US\$ 1,618 million representing 43 percent of total approvals. So far, 67 projects have been implemented under the SPDA.

The Vocational Education and Training Program for the OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) is implemented by SESRIC in order to improve the quality of vocational education and training in the member countries. Within this framework, SESRIC has been organizing various capacity building programmes under the OIC-VET.

Within the framework of the OIC cotton initiative, the OIC Five-Year Cotton Action Plan (2007-2011) was prepared in order to enhance trade, investment and technology transfer in/among cotton producing Member States, particularly in Africa. The Action Plan has been extended for a further five years (2012-2016). So far, eight projects have been approved to be financed by the IDB. The Program’s term will be completed by the end of 2016.

6. FINANCIAL COOPERATION

6.1. Financial Cooperation WGs: Islamic Finance: National and Global Perspectives

Islamic Financial Services Industry (IFSI) is one of the fastest growing constituent of the global financial industry, with the actual size of 2.1 trillion USD in 2015. The potential size of the Industry is estimated as 7.096 trillion USD.¹⁰ IFSI may have an important role in the stabilization of the global financial system with its strong ethical principles and asset based approach. Furthermore, according to World Bank Global Financial Development Report 2014, Shari'ah-compliant financial products and instruments can have a significant function in enhancing financial inclusion among Muslim populations.



In this regard, the Financial Cooperation Working Group has devoted its two consecutive Meetings held this year to Islamic Finance. The 6th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group (FCWG) was held on 17-18 March 2016 in Ankara with the theme of “Developing Islamic Finance strategies in the OIC Member Countries.” The working group deliberated on the current state of the IFSI in the Member Countries, especially focusing on the development of Islamic Finance Strategies, as well as the challenges faced by the Member Countries in this regard.

In light of the main findings of the research study prepared specifically for the Meeting and the deliberations during the FCWG, the following challenges were identified:

- Weak regulatory systems
- Lack of Shari'ah governance and necessary institutional infrastructure
- Lack of Islamic financial instruments and services
- Lack of initiatives for increasing public awareness or specialized Islamic finance academic and training programmes

The WG has also come up with a set of policy recommendations under the following 6 headings:

1. Legal, Regulatory, Accounting and Taxation Frameworks
2. Shari'ah Governance and Supervision
3. Infrastructure
4. Products and Services
5. Initiatives
6. Talent Development

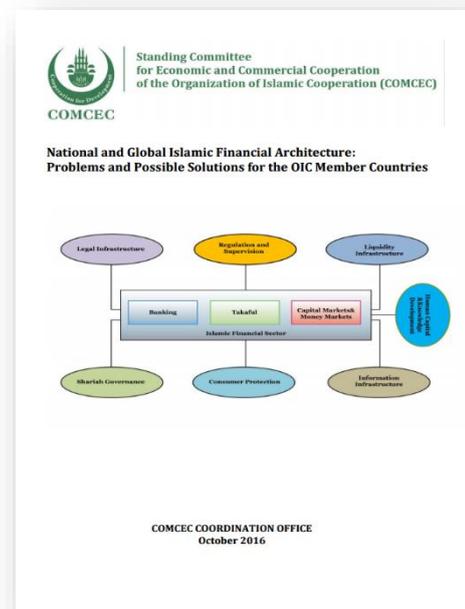
Moreover, this Meeting has served as a preparation for the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session of the 32nd COMCEC Session to be held on November 21-24th 2016 with the same theme. During the Session, the Ministers responsible for Islamic finance will elaborate on the policy recommendation taken

¹⁰ Global Islamic Finance Report 2016, Edbiz Consulting, May 2016

by the 6th Financial Cooperation Working Group. The details of the policy recommendations to be submitted to the 32nd COMCEC Session are available on the COMCEC website. (www.comceec.org)

Financial architecture institutions are the main bodies which are working on developing various institutional standards, tools and policies necessary for the creation of a sound framework for the development of the financial sector. They are critical for the development and resilience of the Islamic financial industry. While the financial architecture created for conventional finance used for Islamic finance, there is a need to develop a sound institutional architecture specifically for Islamic finance considering its unique feature based on the core tenets of Islam, concerning property rights, social and economic justice, wealth distribution, and governance.

Considering the importance of Islamic Financial Architecture, the 7th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group was held on October 20th, 2016 with the theme of “National and Global Islamic Financial Architecture: Problems and Possible Solutions for the OIC Member Countries.” During the meeting, the participants discussed how to improve Islamic financial architecture under the following headings as determined by the research study submitted to this meeting;



- legal infrastructure
- regulation and supervision framework
- Shari’ah governance framework
- liquidity infrastructure
- information infrastructure and transparency
- consumer protection architecture
- and human capital and knowledge development framework

The Working Group has come up with the following policy recommendations:

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION WG

- *Developing/ Supporting Legal Framework for Islamic Finance by Reviewing Islamic Financial Laws, Tax Regimes, Dispute Settlement Framework and Bankruptcy Law*
- *Developing Necessary Regulatory and Supervisory Institutional Framework for the Islamic Financial Services Industries (IFSI) through Adopting Standards Developed by Islamic Financial Architecture Institutions and Improving the National Framework*
- *Establishing a Sound Governance Framework by Introducing the Requirement of Shari’ah Governance at the Financial Institution Level in Islamic Financial Laws and in Regulations*
- *Enhancing Consumer Protection and Financial Education through Ensuring Full Disclosure in Islamic Finance Contracts and Having Financial Education Programmes to Increase Awareness and the Level of Understanding of Islamic Financial Transactions*
- *Developing Liquidity Infrastructure for Islamic Financial Sector by Issuing Shari’ah Compliant Liquidity Instruments, Developing an Active Islamic Money Market and Ensuring Lender of the Last Resort to Offer Shari’ah Compliant Facilities*

6.2. Efforts of the COMCEC Financial Forums

OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum

The OIC Member States Stock Exchanges Forum, established in 2005, aims to enhance cooperation among the stock exchanges of the OIC Member Countries and relevant institutions and focuses on the harmonization of the rules and regulations governing market operations. The 10th OIC Member States Stock Exchanges Forum will be held on October 27th, 2016 in İstanbul.

Moreover, since 31st Session of the Follow-up Committee Meeting, the Forum has been working on the “Gold Exchange Initiative for the OIC Member Countries” in line with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC. The Forum Secretariat will submit a report on the initiative to the 32nd Session of the COMCEC. Details regarding the Forum activities are available on the Forum website. (www.oicexchanges.org)

COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum

The COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum was founded in 2011 to develop a cooperation mechanism for capital markets regulatory bodies of the Member States. The 5th COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum will be held on October 27th, 2016 in İstanbul.

In addition to the existing efforts to boost cooperation among the capital markets regulatory bodies of the Member State, the Forum has also been working on “Real Estate Securities Exchange Initiative” in light of the relevant resolutions of 30th and 31st Sessions of the COMCEC. The Forum Secretariat will present a report on the mentioned initiative to the 32nd Session of the COMCEC.

Detailed information regarding the Forum activities are available on the Forum website. (www.comceccmr.org)

7. PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION

The private sector is an important driver of economic growth and sustainable development. It is the main source of income generation, job opportunities and poverty eradication. As the OIC Member Countries have a wide range of development levels, some member countries have a dynamic and resilient private sector, whereas others do not fully benefit from the opportunities generated by the private sector. Therefore, there is a primary need for developing private sector in the member countries to enable them to be incorporated into the development endeavours.

Considering the importance of the private sector for the economies of the Member Countries, some important events, fairs and exhibitions are organized by the ICDT and ICCIA in order to strengthen the private sector cooperation under the OIC. These activities are reviewed during the COMCEC annual Meetings.

Islamic Trade Fairs:

Islamic Trade Fairs are held biennially in order to promote intra-OIC trade and introduce the products, industries and services of the OIC member countries. The 15th Islamic Trade Fair was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on 22-26 May 2016 under the auspices of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. During the Fair, the participants from more than 30 Member Countries had a chance to discuss trade and investment opportunities among the businessmen and traders from the Member Countries

In addition to the Islamic Trade Fairs, sector specific fairs and exhibitions are also organized by the Member Countries in cooperation with ICDT. In this regard, in line with the relevant decisions of the

31st Session of COMCEC, the 4th Halal Food Exhibition of the OIC Member States and 2nd OIC Tourism and Travel Fair were held on 8-10 December 2015 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. Moreover, the 3rd "Health Expo of the OIC Member States" was held on 24-27 March 2016 in Casablanca, Morocco and the 3rd Exhibition on "Higher Education Services in the OIC Member States" was held on 9 – 12 May 2016 in Dakar, Republic of Senegal.

Private Sector Meetings/ Businesswomen Forum

17th Private Sector Meeting was held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia along with the 15th Islamic Trade Fair on 22-26 May 2016. Moreover, on the sidelines of the Private Sector Meeting, 9th Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries was also held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on May 25th, 2016.

CHAPTER II: KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION EFFORTS: COMCEC PUBLICATIONS

The COMCEC Strategy identifies the COMCEC’s mission as to provide a forum to produce and disseminate knowledge, share experiences and best-practices, develop a common understanding and approximate policies in cooperation areas to find solutions to the challenges faced by the Member Countries. To that end, the COMCEC Working Group, which provides a regular policy dialogue forum for the Member Countries for exchanging the knowledge and experience, are designed as an instrument for the realization of this mission of the COMCEC. In this regard, research studies are prepared specifically for each WG meeting to form a basis for the discussions made during the Meetings.

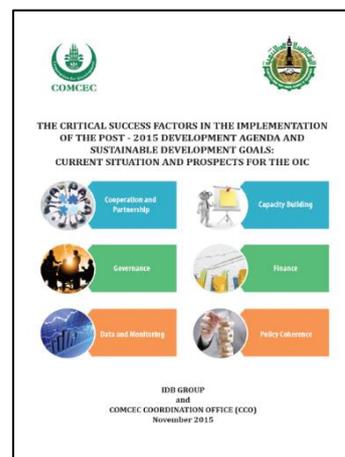
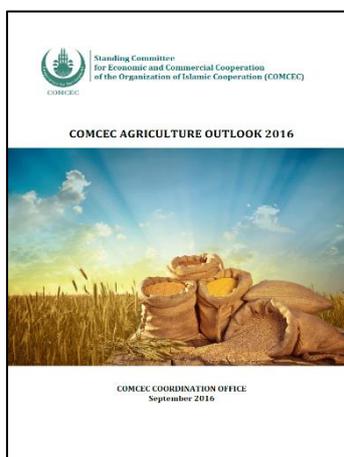
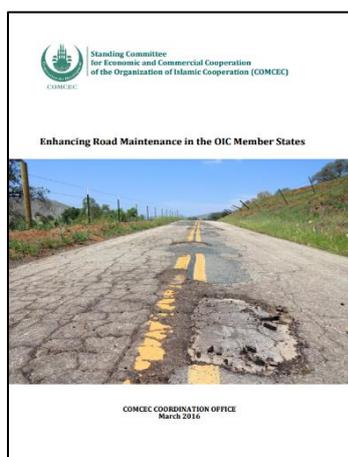
Each research study focuses on the specific theme of the Working Groups and is prepared by world-class consulting firms, international organizations having experience on the specific theme or academicians from high-ranking universities around the world. The COMCEC Coordination Office conducts the study in close cooperation with the consultants to ensure high-quality research studies. The studies begin with a conceptual framework and an overview of the specific theme in the world and the member countries, followed by an in-depth analysis of a few member countries based on field visits, surveys and interviews. At the end of each study, some policy recommendations are given for the Member Countries as well as international cooperation efforts under the umbrella of the COMCEC.

Moreover, sectoral outlooks are prepared annually for each cooperation area. These documents are prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office with a view to exploring the global trends and current situation in the OIC Member Countries in the respective area and enriching the discussions during the Working Groups Meetings by providing up-to-date data.

Finally, as an outcome of each working group meeting, a proceedings document, which includes the summary of the presentations and discussions, is prepared to reflect the essence of the discussions that take place during the working group meetings. A study titled “*The Critical Success Factors in the Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals: Current Situation and Prospects for the OIC*” was prepared jointly by the IDB Group and COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) and submitted to the 31st Session of the COMCEC. Furthermore, “COMCEC Progress Report 2013-2016” was submitted to the 13th Islamic Summit, held on 10-15 April 2016 in İstanbul, Turkey.

Since the 31st Session of the COMCEC, 12 research studies on sectoral themes, 6 sectoral outlook reports and 12 proceedings documents have been prepared for the Working Group Meetings.

All these publications are available on the COMCEC web-site accessible in e-book format at COMCEC E-book Website: <http://ebook.comcec.org/>



CHAPTER III: INVOLVEMENT OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN COOPERATION EFFORTS: COMCEC PROJECT FUNDING

The COMCEC Project Funding, which is one of the two instruments of the COMCEC Strategy, aims to mobilize the capacity and expertise of the Member States and the OIC institutions to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Strategy.

This instrument enables the Member Countries and OIC Institutions to get involved in cooperation efforts to overcome the common challenges of the Member States in cooperation areas. It provides an opportunity to the Member Countries to propose multilateral projects in priority areas identified by the COMCEC Strategy, the working groups and the policy recommendations. It also enables the realization of the policy recommendations by providing support to the policy environment in the Member Countries.

COMCEC Project Funding also improves the institutional and human capacity of the relevant institutions and ministries of the Member Countries working on the cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy. Each funded project is implemented through the cooperation of at least three member countries. From this point of view, this mechanism not only enables sharing knowledge and experience in a specific theme, but also improves the ability of the Member Countries to work together in addressing the common problems through the implementation of multilateral projects.

Project proposals can be submitted by the relevant ministries of the Member Countries, which have registered to the relevant Working Groups by notifying focal points, and the OIC Institutions working in the economic domain. These projects should serve the Strategy's principles, the strategic objectives, output areas and policy recommendations formulated by the working groups and adopted by the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions.

During 2015, the second implementation year of the COMCEC Project Funding, 14 projects have been implemented. The list of the implemented projects in 2015 is demonstrated in table 1.

Through the COMCEC Project Funding, not only the project owners, but also the project beneficiaries benefit from the services provided. In this regard, more than 40 countries in 2015 have reaped the benefits of COMCEC Project Funding.

Table 1: The List of Implemented Projects in 2015

No	PROJECT OWNER Project Partners	Cooperation Area	Project Title
1	CHAD Turkey and Burkina Faso	Agriculture	Project for supporting the Agricultural training centers in Chad
2	INDONESIA The Gambia, Egypt and Sudan	Agriculture	Improving the income of small and medium scale farmers in OIC Member States through Integrated Farming System
3	SURINAME Guyana and Turkey	Agriculture	Gaps for greenhouse vegetable Crops; Principles for tropical climate areas
4	TURKEY 19 Member Countries	Agriculture	The establishment of database, network connection and web pages of smallholders/family farmer's agricultural cooperatives between COMCEC member states.
5	THE GAMBIA Nigeria and Sierra Leone	Financial Cooperation	Capacity Building on Islamic Financial Instruments
6	MALAYSIA Azerbaijan, Turkey, UAE	Financial Cooperation	Islamic Capital Market Capacity Building Programmes
7	CAMEROON Nigeria and Benin	Poverty Alleviation	Building productivity capacities of agriculture small scale producers of the coffee and cocoa within some Central African and West African States through the improvement of phytosanitary practices
8	IRAN Malaysia and Indonesia	Poverty Alleviation	The Role of Community-Based Rehabilitation in Poverty Reduction: A Comparative Study by Iran, Malaysia , and Indonesia

No	PROJECT OWNER Project Partners	Cooperation Area	Project Title
9	SESRIC More than 25 Member Countries	Poverty Alleviation	Improving Statistical Capacities of OIC Member Countries in Poverty Statistics
10	SURINAME Turkey and Guyana	Poverty Alleviation	Design and implementation of the Management Information System for SSN's within the Ministry
11	THE GAMBIA Senegal and Guinea Bissau	Tourism	Strengthening Community Resilience through Eco tourism
12	THE GAMBIA Turkey and Senegal	Trade	Capacity-building and Institutional Strengthening of The Gambia Standards Bureau for the Adoption and Implementation of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards and related Conformity Assessment
13	QATAR 5 Member Countries	Trade	Trade Agreements and Economic Diversification in Qatar, Opportunities and Challenges for Entrepreneurs
14	TURKEY 6 Member Countries	Transport and Communications	Measuring and Benchmarking of "PMPI (Passenger Movement Performance Index)" among the OIC countries

Source: COMCEC Website (www.comcec.org)

For the third year of the implementation of COMCEC Project Funding, 9 projects have been final-listed and are being implemented in 2016. With the partner countries, about 30 member countries benefit from the COMCEC Project Funding. The table given below defines the List of Projects financed by the COMCEC Coordination Office in 2016.

Table 2: The List of Projects implemented in 2016

No	PROJECT OWNER Project Partners	Cooperation Area	Project Title
1	IRAN Azerbaijan and Turkey	Agriculture	Rural household empowerment on management of production, supply and market access
2	PALESTINE Palestine, Jordan and Tunisia	Agriculture	Improving small ruminates productivity by using different technologies as silage, feed block and hydroponic in Palestine, Jordan and Tunisia
3	TURKEY 24 Member Countries	Agriculture	Establishment of database, network connection and webpages of smallholders/ family farmers' agricultural cooperatives between COMCEC Member States
4	GAMBIA Nigeria and Sierra Leone	Financial Cooperation	Towards an improved institutional framework for Islamic finance
5	INDONESIA Malaysia and Turkey	Poverty Alleviation	Developing local initiatives for poverty alleviation through community based sustainable livelihood in OIC Member Countries
6	MALAYSIA 10 Member Countries	Tourism	Short course on strategies in enhancing tourism workforce in community-based tourism within OIC Member Countries
7	The GAMBIA Senegal, Mali	Tourism	Enhancing the capacity of craft producers in OIC Member Countries
8	UGANDA Turkey and Egypt	Trade	Improving delivery of trade facilitation services
9	TURKEY Mozambique, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tunisia	Transport and Communications	Assessment and enhancement of air cargo interconnectivity among the OIC Member States: the Air Cargo Co-modality Approach (ACCMA) to Facilitate Intra-OIC Trade

Source: COMCEC Website (www.comcec.org)

Within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding, the CCO made the fourth project call in September 2016. Accordingly, 57 project proposals, submitted by 20 Member Countries and 2 OIC Institutions were reviewed by the CCO. The projects found eligible for funding will be announced in November 2016.

CHAPTER IV: PREPARATIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS SESSION

Exchange of views sessions are held regularly at the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. The 31st Session of the COMCEC determined the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views of the next COMCEC Session as **“Developing Islamic Finance Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”** and requested the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 32nd COMCEC Session. Consequently, the 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group held on 17-18 March 2016 in Ankara was devoted to this topic.

The FCWG, in its 6th Meeting, deliberated on the preparations regarding the Exchange of Views Session and has come up with a set of policy recommendations under 6 components, namely regulatory, Shari’ah, infrastructure, products and services, initiatives, and talent development which will be submitted to the 32nd COMCEC Session. The details of the policy recommendations to be submitted to 32nd COMCEC Session are available on the COMCEC website (www.comcec.org)

A keynote address will be made in this session by Dr. Zamir IQBAL, Director of the World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center.

CHAPTER V: SIDE EVENTS OF THE 32nd COMCEC SESSION

On the sidelines of the 32nd Session of the COMCEC, a number of high-level panels will be organized on different aspects of Islamic finance, which is also the theme of Ministerial Exchange of Views Session, considering the importance of the Islamic Finance Strategies. In this regard, to raise awareness on the potential and opportunities offered by Islamic Finance and to discuss the ways and means of addressing the challenges faced by the Member Countries to promote Islamic Finance, four special sessions will be organized on the sidelines of the 32nd Session of the COMCEC. These special sessions will take place on November 24th, 2016 with the following topics:

- Governors' Perspective on Designing National Strategies to Develop Islamic Finance
- Private Sector Perspective on Designing National Strategies to Develop Islamic Finance
- Essentials of Islamic Finance
- Utilizing Islamic Finance in Financing Infrastructure Projects

The main objective of these events is to complement the discussions of the Exchange of Views Session with different aspects from the other stakeholders of Islamic Financial Service Industry. The speakers of the panels will include dignitaries from the Member States, representatives of International and OIC Institutions, civil society and private sector organizations, think-tanks and the academia. All delegations of the OIC Member States attending the 32nd COMCEC Ministerial Session, as well as representatives of civil society, media, academia and private sector are expected to attend these events.

Moreover, the Panel on “*Promotion of Successful Projects funded by COMCEC Project Funding*” will also be held on November 22nd, 2016, on the sidelines of the 32nd Session of COMCEC.

More information about these events can be found on the COMCEC website, <http://www.comcec.org>

CHAPTER VI: 32nd MEETING OF THE COMCEC FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE

The Follow-up Committee is one of the organs of the COMCEC to review the progress in the implementation of the programmes and projects approved by the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. The Committee also prepares the draft agenda of the COMCEC Sessions. The Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC convenes annually, in May, in the Republic of Turkey.

In this regard, the 32nd Meeting of the COMCEC Follow-up Committee was held on 17-18 May, 2016 in Ankara, Turkey. The Committee reviewed the progress implementation in the COMCEC Strategy and its mechanisms, namely the Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding. Moreover, the Committee elaborated on the programmes, projects and activities in the COMCEC agenda.

The Committee has prepared a set of recommendations to be submitted to the 32nd COMCEC Session. Accordingly, the Committee welcomed, among others, the Progress Report submitted by the COMCEC Coordination Office particularly highlighting the progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy, and commended the Member States and OIC Institutions for their valuable contributions to the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy. The Committee also requested the Member States and OIC Institutions to further their full support to the implementation of the Strategy.

CHAPTER VII: 28TH MEETING OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

The Sessional Committee, which consists of the OIC Institutions working in the field of economy, meets on the sidelines of each COMCEC Ministerial Session and Follow-up Committee meeting to review and coordinate the activities and programmes of the relevant OIC institutions. Along with the OIC General Secretariat and the COMCEC Coordination Office, the Sessional Committee Meetings are attended by the relevant OIC Institutions, namely ICCIA, ICDT, IDB Group, SESRIC, SMIIC and OISA.

In this regard, on the sidelines of the 32nd Meeting of the COMCEC Follow-up Committee, 28th Sessional Committee Meeting was held on May 16th, 2016. During the Meeting, the OIC Institutions discussed their planned activities aligned with the COMCEC Strategy and the COMCEC policy recommendations. Moreover, the possible roles and responsibilities of the OIC Institutions for the implementation of the economic cooperation section of the OIC-2025 and enhancing cooperation with other regional and international organizations were also discussed during the 28th Sessional Committee Meeting.

All reports and documents submitted to the 32nd Meeting of the COMCEC Follow-up Committee and 28th Meeting of the Sessional Committee are available at the COMCEC website (www.comcec.org).

CHAPTER VIII: 13TH ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

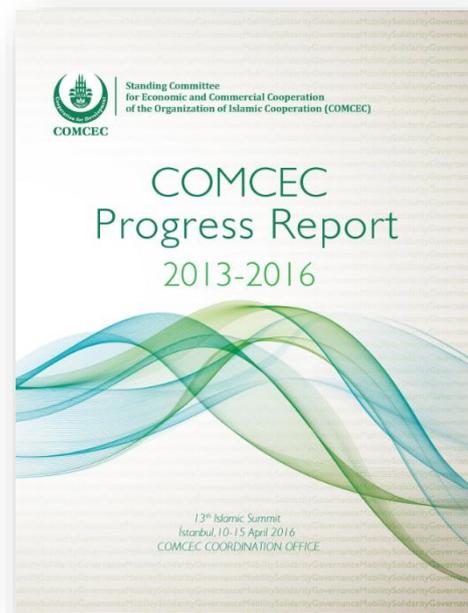
The 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, hosted by the Republic of Turkey was held on 10-15 April 2016 in İstanbul, Turkey, under the theme of “Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace.” With this Summit meeting, Turkey has assumed the Chairmanship of the Summit until the next Islamic Summit.

“*The COMCEC Progress Report 2013-2016*”, which presents the progress recorded in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the amended Statute as well as in the cooperation efforts since the previous Summit, was prepared and submitted to the 13th Islamic Summit.

During the Summit, the successful implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and revised Statute was welcomed by the heads of state of the OIC Member Countries. In the Final Communique, the Summit Conference “*expressed its profound appreciation for the successful implementation of the COMCEC revised statute and strategy adopted at the 4th Extraordinary Summit. It called on Member States to enhance the implementation*

of the revised COMCEC statute and strategy, in close coordination and cooperation with the General Secretariat and in accordance with the OIC Charter, and requested Member States to continue to actively participate in the work of the COMCEC under the chairmanship of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Turkey”.

Furthermore, in the “*Istanbul Declaration on Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace*”, the Heads of State “*express with satisfaction the successful implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and its revised Statute which brought a new dynamism and visibility to the economic and commercial cooperation, and rendered COMCEC a platform for policy dialogue, producing and disseminating knowledge, sharing experiences and best practices and approximating policies among the Member States, further express deep appreciation for the Chairman of the COMCEC for his active role in the execution of the said documents and call upon the Member States and relevant OIC Institutions to make better use of them.*”



CHAPTER IX: 4th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMCEC FOCAL POINTS

Since the launch of the COMCEC Strategy in 2013, the CCO has been organizing annual focal points meetings with a view to providing a regular platform for interaction and consultation between the COMCEC Secretariat and the Member Countries with the aim of improving the overall work of the COMCEC, as well as the implementation of both instruments of the COMCEC Strategy: Working Groups and COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism. These meetings provide an opportunity for the member countries to share their feedbacks and observations on the implementation of these instruments. Through these interactive gatherings, communication and collaboration is improved between the CCO and the Member States, resulting in better realization of the goals and objectives of the Strategy. Therefore, these meetings have proven themselves as important gatherings, demonstrating the member-driven character of the COMCEC.

In this respect, the 4th Annual Focal Points Meeting of the COMCEC Working Groups was held on 1-2 June 2016 in Ankara. The Meeting was attended by COMCEC Working Group Focal Points and COMCEC National Focal Points from 31 Member States which have notified their focal points for the COMCEC Working Groups.

During the meeting, the participants were informed about the overall picture of the COMCEC activities, through the comparison between the outcomes of the COMCEC before and after the introduction of the Strategy. Moreover, the CCO briefed the participants on the role of focal points in the realization of the COMCEC Strategy, particularly in the preparation, coordination and follow up of the policy recommendations formulated by the Working Groups. In this respect, it was stressed that the focal points may play a crucial role in following up the implementation of the policy recommendations and reporting the progress to the COMCEC Coordination Office accordingly. In this regard, the participants agreed on a timeline for the follow-up of the implementation of the Policy Recommendations.

Furthermore, it was underlined that the active involvement of the focal points in the knowledge production efforts during the preparation of research studies is crucial. These include assistance in the collection and verification of country specific data, sharing the studies with the relevant Ministries/Institutions and providing feedbacks to the research studies. It was also highlighted that focal points are vital to ensure active participation to the WG Meetings which includes sharing of relevant documents (invitation letters, research studies etc.) with the relevant institutions/departments, facilitation of qualified experts' participation to the WGs and sharing country experiences during the meetings.

As a sideline event of the Meeting, the COMCEC Coordination Office has organized a training program on the COMCEC Project Funding. At the training, COMCEC WG Focal Points had the opportunity to make an exercise on project preparation.

ANNEX: LIST OF ACTIVITIES

LIST OF ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE OIC INSTITUTIONS ALIGNED WITH THE COMCEC STRATEGY December 2015- November 2016

No	OIC Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Relevant Output Area/Expected Outcomes in the COMCEC Strategy	Partner(s)	Date and Venue	Outcomes of the Activity
1.	ICCIA	9th Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries	Forum	Trade	Enhanced communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	Council of Saudi Chambers	May 25, 2016 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	Strengthened the institutional role, in creating a sustainable channel for introducing investment opportunities in the Islamic countries. Enabled the businesswomen to meet one another, interact and discuss new avenues for cooperation and commercial exchange.
2.	ICCIA	Workshop on Key Infrastructure Development for Rural Growth for OIC Countries	Workshop	Trade	Enhanced communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	FAO/BIPP, PGTF / UNOSSC	29th Nov. – 1st Dec. 2016 Lahore, Pakistan	Provided an overall review of problem, issues and strategic option in developing backbone and supporting infrastructure for rural development. The thrust of the workshop was on Cold Chain System and other related infrastructure in developing a competitive rural economy. Highlighted the importance of developing the clusters of profitable small-medium-and large-scale farms and associated agribusinesses in selected Corridors from OIC region.
3.	ICCIA	1 st Training Programme for Women Skill Development and Networking	Training Programme	Trade	Enhanced communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	Local Academia	August 26, 2016 ICCIA's Headquarters, Pakistan	Promoted entrepreneurial activities for women and youth who were either doing business or planning to start businesses. The participants were educated on the latest concepts of enterprise development for setting-up of small scale business ventures. Networking session provided the participant with opportunities to share their ideas, experiences and future business planning.
4.	ICCIA	2 nd Training Programme for Women Skill	Training Programme	Trade	Enhanced communication among private	Local Academia	4 th October 2016	It was a series of 2 nd Training Programme as mentioned in S.No. 2, organized for women and youth. The topic was 'Elements of Writing an

		Development and Networking			sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	ICCIA's Headquarters, Pakistan	Effective Business Plan' The participants were educated on how to make an effective business plan. The participants were brief about the core elements of business plan such as: market need, target customer, market size, business model, go-to-market strategy and key Risks.	
5.	ICDT	Seminar on e-commerce	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	AIDMO	1-4 December 2015 Casablanca/Morocco	<p>The objective of this workshop is to raise awareness among artisans on the importance of ICTs in the promotion and the marketing of Handicraft products and to inquire on the latest techniques of E-commerce.</p> <p>This workshop was also an opportunity for participants to learn about the successful national experiences and strengthen cooperation in the field of technical assistance in the creation of commercial websites.</p> <p>Sensitizing of the promotion of e-commerce in Arab Countries and establishing a portal on e-commerce on Handicraft</p>
6.	ICDT	4th OIC Halal Exhibition	Fair	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry	8th – 10th December 2015 Sharjah/United Arab Emirates	<p>This exhibition gathered actors of Halal industry in the OIC countries to promote their products and services and increase investments in this sector notably food, cosmetics, clothing and fashion as well as services related to Halal certification.</p> <p>The area surface of the exhibition was 2000 square meters and the Fair recorded the participation of 1000 businessmen 125 Companies from the OIC Member States.</p>
7.	ICDT	2nd Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States	Fair	Tourism	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry	8th – 10th December 2015 Sharjah/United Arab Emirates	<p>Promoting family tourism in the OIC Member States. The Exhibition was attended by approximately 125 Companies representing 25 Member States and recorded the participation of 1000 businessmen</p>
8.	ICDT	Administration of RTAs and the prospects of Regional Integration in the OIC African and Arab Member States	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Cooperation and Integration Dept/IDB	21-23 December 2015 Casablanca/ Morocco	<p>This workshop aimed to make on the one hand the inventory of bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements and the Free Trade Area Agreements (FTAs) of the Africans and Arab Member States of the OIC, as well as to evaluate the impact of these agreements on the sustainable development of their economies and to formulate practical recommendations enabling them to refine their national strategies in order to facilitate regional integration.</p>

								Main outcomes: sensitizing the importance of RTAs and FTA in enhancing intra-OIC Trade.
9.	ICDT	Seminar on Trade in Services in RTAs: What Lessons for the Quad Countries?	Training Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Agadir Technical Unit	21-23 December 2015 Cairo/Egypt	<p>The objectives of this seminar were to:</p> <p>Deepen participants' knowledge on the role of services and trade in services in the context of globalization;</p> <p>Increase knowledge of participants on the provisions and rules of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) within the framework of the WTO;</p> <p>Deepen participants' knowledge on the technical and political aspects to complete with success the negotiations on the liberalization of services at international and regional levels;</p> <p>Discuss the opportunities and challenges facing the Countries of the Agadir Agreement in the field of negotiations on the liberalization of trade in services.</p> <p>Participants benefited from the last services negotiations methods and strategies in order to enhance their trade in services.</p>
10.	ICDT	14th Meeting of the Economic Counsellors of the OIC Embassies accredited in Rabat	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC Member States	14 January 2016 Rabat/Morocco	The meeting aimed at informing the Economic counsellors about the last development on intra-OIC Trade and trade promotion events to be organized by ICDT and its technical assistance to their countries.
11.	ICDT	Regional Conference on International Investment Agreements	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Investment	Ministry of Economy and Finance of Morocco and UNCTAD	12-15 January 2016 Casablanca/Morocco	The objective of this Conference is to deepen participants' knowledge of International Investment Agreements, (IIA) which could help achieve the goal of sustainable development and inclusive growth, identify and consider issues related to international investment. This Conference helped participants to understand the impact IIA to attract foreign investment in Countries.
12.	ICDT	Training workshop on setting-up bankable tourism projects of the Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a	Workshop	Tourism	Developing intra-OIC Tourism	SESRIC/ UNTWO/Regional Coordinator (Guinea)	15-17 February 2016 Casablanca/Morocco	The Training Workshop on the Setting up of Tourism Projects was organized for the benefit of the focal points of the beneficiary Countries in order to familiarize them with the methodologies and procedures of the Arab, African and

		Network of Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa						international Financial Institutions. On this occasion, the participants discussed the following topics: Recent Developments of the Project; Issues related to the elaboration of cross-border bankable projects forms; Presentation of the Results of the 1st Donors Conference and the preparations of the 2nd Conference scheduled to be held in 2017; Creation of Regional Coordination Unit of the Project.
13.	ICDT	Seminar on the Outcome of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference and Accession to the Trade Facilitation Agreement	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry in Charge of Foreign Trade of Morocco and WTO	25 February 2016 Casablanca/ Morocco	The objective of the seminar was to inform the participants about the main outcomes of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference of Nairobi, and to introduce the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and its impact on the foreign trade development of the OIC Member Countries. Participants recommended to continue to organise such events for the benefit of Public and Private sectors including parliamentaries in order to more sensitise this agreement.
14.	ICDT	2nd African Forum on Halal Business	Expo and Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ICDT/Senegal	3-5 March 2016 Dakar/Senegal	This 1st International Forum of Business Halal aims to enhance trade and investment in Halal Sector in OIC African Countries. 14 Member States attended this Forum which highlighted the problems facing the sector, including the lack of investment and training for the benefit of the sector operators. They expressed the wish for the establishment of a strategy and an action plan for the development of Halal industry at the OIC level and the strengthening of collaboration in training on the Halal industry and exchange of experience among the Member States (reverse linkage).
15.	ICDT	3rd OIC Health Expo	Fair	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry of Health of the Kingdom of Morocco, OFEC	24th -27th March 2016 Casablanca/ Morocco	The Exhibition brought together stakeholders of the health sector (pharmaceutical Industry, service providers, professionals in nutrition and dietetics, surgery, care and wellness etc ...) of the OIC countries and was attended by the 20 OIC

								Countries in order to promote trade and investment in this sector.
16.	ICDT	Training Seminar on The "Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States (TPS OIC) and its Protocols" for the benefit of the African Countries,	Training Seminar	Trade	Raising awareness of OIC African Member States to sign and ratify TPS/OIC and its protocols	Dept of Cooperation and Integration /IDB	28-30 March 2016 Casablanca - Morocco	<p>The objective of this seminar is to raise awareness among the Member States of the OIC African Regional Economic Groupings (REG) on the TPS/OIC Agreement and its protocols in order to accelerate its signature and ratification by these groupings to strengthen the development of intra-OIC trade.</p> <p>20 Member countries attended this Seminar. The participants proposed the following recommendations: the transmission of the results of the study on the impact on trade of (TPS/OIC) in WAEMU countries to the OIC General Secretariat, IDB and the WAEMU Commission and conducting impact studies of the TPS / OIC on the other OIC regions.</p>
17.	ICDT	Training Seminar on " TPS/ OIC Agreement and its protocols for the benefit of executives of the state of Palestine and Jordan	Training Seminar	Trade	Capacity building of negotiations dealing with TPS/OIC	Ministry of National Economy-Palestine Ministry of Trade, Industry and Supply- Jordan	4-5 April 2016 Amman/Jordan	<p>The objective of this seminar is to raise awareness among Palestinian and Jordanian executives of the public and private sector on the importance of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols in order to contribute to the development of trade between these countries and the other OIC Member States.</p> <p>The participants proposed the following recommendations:</p> <p>The importance of implementing the TPS-OIC to enable the Palestinian economy to benefit from it, and to increase synergy as well as economic and trade integration between Palestine and the other OIC Member States</p> <p>Provide technical support to the Palestinian institutions from the public and private sectors in order to benefit from the COMCEC and the IDB Group projects.</p> <p>The importance of holding the meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee of the OIC Member States in order to expand the TPS/OIC to trade in services, dismantling of the mechanism of Non-Tariff Barriers, and specific and effective rules for dispute settlement;</p> <p>To ensure that the State of Palestine submit its list of concessions in order to allow the Palestinian</p>

								economy to benefit from the Trade Negotiations of the participating Countries, and to provide it with technical assistance for establishing the positive lists of products for the implementation of this Framework Agreement.
18.	ICDT	Regional on line Marketing Workshop of the WIEF Foundation	Workshop	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	WIEF	18-21 April 2016 Amman/Jordan	<p>This event was organised by ICDT and the WIEF in collaboration with the Agadir Technical Unit (ATU).</p> <p>This workshop, held for the benefit of business women, was aimed, on the one hand, to assist women entrepreneurs in the design of their website and the online commercialization of their products and services, and to provide the necessary tools in order to familiarize them with online marketing strategies on the other.</p> <p>The workshop, attended by twenty businesswomen who created in 5 days their own commercial website in order to sell online their products and services.</p>
19.	ICDT	2nd Higher Education Expo and Forum	Expo and Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ICDT/Senegal	9-12 May 2016 Dakar/Senegal	<p>This Forum aimed to promote higher education services and to develop partnerships among the OIC Member States and to establish direct contacts between the various stakeholders in the field of training and Higher Education, in order to promote investment in this sector and to develop partnerships between Senegalese universities and those of OIC Member States; particularly through the exchange of students and trainers.</p> <p>The Fair covered 3000 sqm, among which 1,200 sqm net, recorded the participation of 12 OIC countries.</p>
20.	ICDT	9th Edition of Agri-food industries in OIC Member Countries	Exhibition	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ICDT/KSA	9-12 May 2016 Jeddah / KSA	<p>This exhibition is organised in order to boost intra-OIC Trade and Investment in Agribusiness sector. The net exhibition space was spread over approximately 4000 square meters and recorded the participation of 350 companies representing 22 States.</p>
21.	ICDT	Seminar on Export Auditing and SMEs Competitiveness	Training Seminar	Trade	Capacity building program for exporters		16-19 May 2016 Casablanca - Morocco	<p>The objective of this workshop is to ensure an upgrading of the Human Resources operating in the field of International Trade in order to benefit from the new methods and techniques applied to International Trade particularly in Audit-Export and Development of Competitive capabilities of SMEs. Main recommendations :</p> <p>Participants stressed the importance of the topics and quality of the experts and recommended the</p>

								following: The duplication of the workshop at the national and regional levels with more case study; The organization of sectoral workshops for the benefit of foreign trade Executives.
22.	ICDT	15th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States "OIC-EXPO 2015"	Fair	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry of Commerce & Industry of Saudi Arabia	22nd – 26th May 2016 Riyadh/Saudi Arabia	The Exhibition area of the Fair reached 11.200 Square meters, 271 enterprises exhibited their products in the Fair, which was visited by 2200 businessmen from the 36 OIC Member States. It was also observed that most of added value exhibited products are reflecting the real economic and industrial progress recorded by some Member States. As well as the High Technological and technical development level of participating countries. An awards ceremony was also held and prizes were awarded to the following countries: First Prize: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Second Prize: Kingdom of Morocco, Third Prize: People's Republic of Bangladesh.
23.	ICDT	2nd Forum TPOs of the OIC Member States	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry of Commerce & Industry of Saudi Arabia; ITFC, TPOs, ITC	23rd May 2016 Riyadh/Saudi Arabia	The Forum was attended by representatives of trade promotion organs from 31 Member States. The meeting recommended the following: Supporting OIC Trade Promotion Organs (Launchinh the TPOs Virtual Network of the OIC Member States and invite OIC Member States to contribute to its improvement and update, holding the OIC TPOs regional forum once every year in order to review progress and make recommendations of the work of the Network of TPOs and organising capacity building activities in various fields of international trade.
24.	ICDT	Forum of IPAs of the OIC Member States	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Investments	Ministry of Commerce & Industry of Saudi Arabia; ITFC, IPAs, UNCTAD, ICIEC	24th May 2016 Riyadh/Saudi Arabia	82 participants from 18 OIC countries and 7 OIC institutions attended the Forum. the Forum agreed to: create a regular mechanism for consultation among the Investment promotion Agencies of the Member States of the OIC to review the common challenges and opportunities on investment issues. In this regard, participants recommended the holding of similar forums for OIC Investment Promotion Agencies every two years, on the margin of the OIC Islamic Trade Fair or at any other venue as may be deemed appropriate.
25.	ICDT	Implications of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Post-Nairobi and OIC	Training Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Cooperation and Integration Dept /IDB, Ministry in Charge of	30 May-1st June 2016 Casablanca - Morocco	The objective of this seminar is to sensitize the public and private sectors of OIC Member States of the importance of the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and its impact

		Single Window Facility				Foreign Trade of Morocco/WTO/ITC/WCO		on the development of foreign trade among Member States on the one hand, and to share experiences and best practices regarding the implementation of national trade facilitation programs on the other, in particular the establishment and the strengthening of national Single Windows of Foreign Trade and the reflection on interoperability between those Single Windows. 18 countries took part in this seminar. Participants recommended to organise a meeting of Customs administrations of the OIC countries; duplicate the organization of regional awareness raising seminars on WTO TFA to accelerate the ratification of its protocol of amendment; and implement a program of technical assistance and sharing of experience in the creation of Single Windows between the developed countries of the OIC and other Member States.
26.	ICDT	Moroccan Malaysian Business Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Matrade/Embassy of Malaysia to Morocco	2 June 216 Casablanca Morocco	The aim of this visit is to organize B2B meetings between Malaysian Businessmen and their Moroccan counterparts. The Forum allows the Malaysian delegation to explore the following sectors: food industry (cereals, canned, bottled products, snacks, sauces, and instant food), pharmaceuticals latex products, automotive equipment (speakers, accessories and car parts), construction (paint, coating) and bedding in Morocco.
27.	ICDT	World Investment Forum	Forum	Trade	Attracting more FDI	OICGS/COMCEC/ IDBG/ICCIA/ SESRIC /UNCTAD	17-21 July 2016 Nairobi/Kenya	ICDT, SESRIC and ICIEC participated under the “OIC Pavillion” in the investment village Exhibition that was attended by 15 countries and was a platform for participating countries to promote their Business climate in their respective countries through a professional exhibition and an opportunity to be informed about the latest innovations to promote investments. This Panel was an opportunity to review the initiatives taken by the OIC Institutions and OIC Member States to improve the investment climate and increase the attractiveness of their economies to FDI.
28.	ICDT	Moroccan Indonesian Business Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	President Special Envoy/Embassy of Indonesia to Morocco	28-29 September 216 Casablanca Morocco	The aim of this visit is to organize B2B meetings between Indonesian Businessmen and their Moroccan counterparts. This forum witnessed the organization of a seminar and B2B meetings between Moroccan and Indonesian economic operators in the following areas: food industry, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, building materials,

								crafts, Furniture & decoration, various consumer goods. Postponed in 2017
29.	ICDT	Administration of RTAs and the prospects of Regional Integration in the OIC English Speaking Countries	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Cooperation and Integration Dept/IDB, Ministry of Economy of Turkey/COMCEC	September/October 2016 Istanbul/Turkey	
30.	ICDT	7th OIC World Biz and 2nd OIC-Central Investment Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC International Business Centre/Malaysia	18-22 October 2016 Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia	The objective of this Forum is to enhance intra-OIC Trade and Investment in general and increase trade and investment between Asian and other OIC Member Countries in particular. The Forum allows participants to explore business opportunities in key sectors such as Agribusiness, Halal Industry, Medical and Family Tourism , Higher education services.
31.	ICDT	Regional Training workshop on “Export strategies for primo-exporters of TRNC”	Training workshop on	Trade	Capacity building program for exporters	MFA of TRNC	25-27 October 2016 Lefkosa, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC).	Posponed in 2017 due to constraints of time and low level of confirmation of participating countries
32.	ICDT	2nd OIC-Asia Investment Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC GS/COMCEC/ICCIA /SESESRIC/IDBG/ UNCTAD/	October 2016 Tashkent/Uzbekistan	Postponed sine die by the Government of Uzbekistan
33.	IDB Group	Aid For Trade Initiative for Arab States	Regional Eco. Coop. Prog.	Trade	Trade Liberalization Trade Facilitation Trade Promotion Cap. Development	Int. Dev. Institutions, Donor, MCs	2014-2016 Arab States	Regional trade enhanced, new jobs created, human and institutional capacities developed
34.	IDB Group	Enhanced Performance of border control management at selected border posts of Arab States	Technical Assistance (TA) Program	Trade	Trade Facilitation	UNDP	March-Dec 2014 Egypt, Jordan, Suda, KSA	Trade cost for crossborder trade reduced
35.	IDB Group	Strengthening Capacity of the League of Arab States to promote trade integration	TA Prog.	Trade	Capacity Development	UNDP	March-Dec 2014 Cairo, Egypt	Human and institutional capacity at LAS strengthened
36.	IDB Group	NTM Study & Action Plan to eliminate existing obstacles to promote intra-Arab regional trade	Study & Workshop	Trade	Trade Facilitation	ITC	April-Dec 2014 Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Palestine	Regulatory and procedural barriers to trade identified and recommendations for NTMs developed
37.	IDB Group	TA for Comoros & Sudan in acceding to WTO	TA & cap. building	Trade	Trade Liberalization	UNCTAD	March-Dec 2014 Comoros, Sudan	Understanding of staff on WTO matters improved

38.	IDB Group	Skills for Trade and Economic Diversification (STED)	Study & cap. Building	Trade	Capacity Development	ILO	March-Dec 2014 Tunisa- Egypt	Sectoral skill development need assessment conducted & skill dev. Program prepared
39.	IDB Group	Youth Training & Employment on International Trade	Training Program	Trade	Capacity Development	FTTC	2015-2016 Egypt	Around 1000 youth will be trained on international trade and employed
40.	IDB Group	2nd phase of STED Program	TA & Cap. Dev.	Trade	Capacity Development	ILO	2015-2016 Egypt-Tunisia	Implementation phase
41.	IDB Group	Regional Seminar on Reducing trade Cost	Workshop & Seminar	Trade	Trade Facilitation	Int. Org. Arab MSs	21-23 Apr 2015 Amman, Jordan	Knowledge, experience shared related to trade cost reduction measures
42.	IDB Group	Validation Workshop of Special Program for Central Asia	Workshop	Trade		Inter. Inst. MDBs	14-15 March 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	Program document presented to MCs and development partners, feedbacks comments received
43.	IDB Group	IDBG-WBG Deep Dive Initiative	Partnership Program	Trade				
44.	IDB Group	Workshop Cooperation on Transport Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation	Knowledge Event & Seminar	Trade	Capacity Development	WBG	23-24 Feb. 2016 Amman, Jordan	Experiences of MDBs in supporting physical infrastructure development & trade facilitation & private sector development presented to MCs.
45.	IDB Group	Arab Africa Trade Bridge Program	Trade Promotion	Trade				
46.	IDB Group	EXPOLINK Marmomacc Somoter Africa & Middle East 2015 Exhibition	Int. Exhibition	Trade	Trade Promotion	SMEs from LDMCs	15-16 Nov. 2015 Cairo, Egypt-	Participation of SMEs from African MCs int the exhibition sponsored
47.	IDB Group	Regional Buyers– Sellers Meeting in Pharmaceutical & Related Industries	Int. Exhibition B2B Meeting	Trade	Trade Promotion	SMEs from LDMCs	11-12 Nov. 2015 Amman, Jordan	Participation of SMEs from African MCs int the exhibition sponsored
48.	IDB Group	1st African Halal Industry Exhibition	Int. Exhibition Seminar	Trade	Trade Promotion	Organizer	3-5 Mar. 2016 Dakar, Senagal	Organization of the seminar & Exhibition sponsored
49.	IDB Group	Saudi-Indonesia B2B Meeting	Seminar/B2B	Trade	Trade Promotion	SMEs	17 May 2016 Jakarta, Indonesia	Promoting bilateral trade between MCs, develop new business partnership
50.	IDB Group	OIC level Initiatives/Activities		Trade				
51.	IDB Group	Workshop on Competition Policy in OIC MCs	Workshop & Seminar	Trade	Trade Facilitation	MCs	25-26/ Feb. 2015 Tunis, Tunisia	Knowledge, experience and expertise on the competition policies shared by participating MCs
52.	IDB Group	Workshop on Single Window Modality and E-Trade and their role in promoting Intra-OIC Trade	Workshop Seminar	Trade	Trade Facilitation	OIC Inst. Int. Org. MCs	9-10 Nov. 2015 Casablanca, Morocco	Knowledge and experience of participants on E-single window modality presented
53.	IDB Group	The First Meeting of Trade and Investment Sub-Committee	Workshop	Trade	Trade Facilitation Trade Promotion Capacity Dev.	OIC Inst.	16-17 March 2016 Marakash, Morocco	Various subject related to intra-OIC trade discussed, main intervention areas identified

54.	IDB Group	The first Technical Meeting of TISC	Meeting	Trade	As above 6.4	OIC Inst.	22-26 May 2016 Jeddah, KSA	Preparation of Joint Action Matrix of Task Team
55.	IDB Group	OIC Islamic Fair & OIC TPOs Meeting	Int. Exhibition	Trade	Trade Promotion	SMEs from LDMCs	May 2016 Riyad, KSA	Participation of SMEs from LDMCs sponsored
56.	SESRIC	Science, Technology, and Innovation Statistics	Statistical Training	Transport and Communications	Institutional and Human Capacity	State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan + Turkish Statistical Institute	26-28 September 2016 Baku, Azerbaijan	In the COMCEC Strategy, it is stated that “COMCEC will promote studies and activities that aim at improving the institutional and human capacity of relevant government and nongovernment institutions of the member countries”. In this respect, the training contributed on increasing interactions between peer institutions of the Member States and enhancing professional skills of human resources.
57.	SESRIC	Transport Statistics	Technical Mission	Transport and Communications	Institutional and Human Capacity	Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economics of Kazakhstan + Turkish Statistical Institute	26-30 September 2016 Astana, Kazakhstan	In the COMCEC Strategy, it is stated that “COMCEC will promote studies and activities that aim at improving the institutional and human capacity of relevant government and nongovernment institutions of the member countries”. In this respect, the training contributed on increasing interactions between peer institutions of the Member States and enhancing professional skills of human resources.
58.	SESRIC	Information Society Statistics	Statistical Training	Transport and Communications	Institutional and Human Capacity	National Office of Statistics of Mauritania + Directorate of Statistics of Morocco	10-13 October 2016 Nouakchott, Mauritania	In the COMCEC Strategy, it is stated that “COMCEC will promote studies and activities that aim at improving the institutional and human capacity of relevant government and nongovernment institutions of the member countries”. In this respect, the training contributed on increasing interactions between peer institutions of the Member States and enhancing professional skills of human resources.
59.	SESRIC	Multidimensional Poverty Measurement	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	COMCEC, OPHI, ISFD	30 November - 06 December 2015 Dakar, Senegal	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.

60.	SESRIC	Poverty, Living Conditions, and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Study Visit	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	Central Statistical Organization of Iraq + Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt	27-29 December 2015 Cairo, Egypt	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.
61.	SESRIC	Poverty, Living Conditions, and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Statistical Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	Central Bureau of Statistics of Sudan + Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt	08-10 February 2016 Khartoum, Sudan	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.
62.	SESRIC	Poverty, Living Conditions, and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Statistical Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan + State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan	15-17 February 2016 Dushanbe, Tajikistan	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.
63.	SESRIC	Poverty, Living Conditions, and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Statistical Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	Central Statistical Organization of Yemen + Department of Statistics of Jordan	16-18 February 2016 Amman, Jordan	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops

								that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.
64.	SESRIC	Living Conditions and Poverty Statistics	Statistical Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics of Qatar + Department of Statistics of Jordan	4-8 September 2016 Doha, Qatar	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the poverty alleviation is monitoring poverty. The Strategy points out the significance of increasing the awareness in poverty alleviation efforts and additionally emphasizes development of “appropriate solutions based on reliable data monitoring and reporting regarding poverty”. In this regard, the short term trainings and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC, contribute to obtain advanced collection of accurate and reliable data as much as obtaining enhanced capacity of the member states in monitoring poverty.
65.	SESRIC	Module 2: Quarterly National Accounts	Technical Mission	Finance	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Statistics Organization of Afghanistan + Statistical Centre of Iran	23 January-12 February 2016 Kabul, Afghanistan	Within the COMCEC Strategy, financial cooperation has the main purpose of contributing to financial stability and growth of the member countries. In Chapter 3.6, the Strategy demonstrates the training, R&D Activities and Statistics as one of the output areas of Finance. The importance the output area is to facilitate building human resource capacity and meeting the product development requirements of financial markets of the member countries.
66.	SESRIC	Social Accounting Matrices	Statistical Training	Finance	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Information and e-Government Authority of Bahrain + Directorate of Statistics of Morocco	25-27 April 2016 Manama, Bahrain	Within the COMCEC Strategy, financial cooperation has the main purpose of contributing to financial stability and growth of the member countries. In Chapter 3.6, the Strategy demonstrates the training, R&D Activities and Statistics as one of the output areas of Finance. The importance the output area is to facilitate building human resource capacity and meeting the product development requirements of financial markets of the member countries.
67.	SESRIC	Stakeholder Meeting on Developing Islamic Financial Industry Database of OIC Member Countries	Meeting	Finance	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	World Bank	9 October 2016 Washington DC, USA	Within the COMCEC Strategy, financial cooperation has the main purpose of contributing to financial stability and growth of the member countries. In Chapter 3.6, the Strategy demonstrates the training, R&D Activities and Statistics as one of the output areas of Finance. The importance the output area is to facilitate building

								human resource capacity and meeting the product development requirements of financial markets of the member countries.
68.	SESRIC	Balance of Payments and International Trade Statistics	Statistical Training	Trade	Trade Promotion	Information and e-Government Authority of Bahrain + Central Bank of Republic of Turkey	15-17 March 2016 Manama, Bahrain	The COMCEC Strategy refers to improvement of trade related institutional and human capacity of the member states by facilitating exchange of experiences and know-how among them. In Chapter 3.1, the Strategy gives place to Trade Promotion as one of the outputs of Trade. In this regard, the training programmes and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC contribute to increase awareness of ongoing trade projects and enhance communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the member states.
69.	SESRIC	International Trade Statistics	Statistical Training	Trade	Trade Promotion	Department of Economic Planning and Development (JPKE) of Brunei Darussalam + Department of Statistics (DOS) of Malaysia	20-22 September 2016 Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei	The COMCEC Strategy refers to improvement of trade related institutional and human capacity of the member states by facilitating exchange of experiences and know-how among them. In Chapter 3.1, the Strategy gives place to Trade Promotion as one of the outputs of Trade. In this regard, the training programmes and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC contribute to increase awareness of ongoing trade projects and enhance communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the member states.
70.	SESRIC	Business Registers	Statistical Training	Trade	Trade Promotion	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt + Department of Statistics of Malaysia	26-28 April 2016 Cairo, Egypt	The COMCEC Strategy refers to improvement of trade related institutional and human capacity of the member states by facilitating exchange of experiences and know-how among them. In Chapter 3.1, the Strategy gives place to Trade Promotion as one of the outputs of Trade. In this regard, the training programmes and workshops that have been organized by SESRIC contribute to increase awareness of ongoing trade projects and enhance communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the member states.
71.	SESRIC	Tourism Satellite Accounts	Workshop	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programs	UNWTO	30 November - 03 December 2015 Almaty, Kazakhstan	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the tourism sector is capacity building and training programs. In Chapter 3.3, the Strategy clearly puts forward that “tourism data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and

								additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sector and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in tourism statistics and increase institutional capacity.
72.	SESRIC	Tourism Statistics	Statistical Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programs	BPS-Statistics Indonesia + Suriname Tourism Foundation	09-11 August 2016 Paramaribo, Suriname	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the tourism sector is capacity building and training programs. In Chapter 3.3, the Strategy clearly puts forward that “tourism data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sector and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in tourism statistics and increase institutional capacity.
73.	SESRIC	Tourism Statistics	Statistical Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programs	Gambia Bureau of Statistics + Uganda Bureau of Statistics	24-26 August 2016 Serre Kunda, Gambia	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the tourism sector is capacity building and training programs. In Chapter 3.3, the Strategy clearly puts forward that “tourism data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sector and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in tourism statistics and increase institutional capacity.
74.	SESRIC	Agriculture Statistics	Statistical Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-To-Date Data	Department of Economic Planning and Development of Egypt +	29-31 August 2016 Cairo, Egypt	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the agriculture sector is Reliable and Up-To-Date Data. The Strategy indicates the critical role of the agriculture sector, as welfare of many

						Department of Statistics Jordan		COMCEC members, especially LDCs, depend on it. In this regard, the short term trainings that have been organized by SESRIC contributed in enhancement of the sector by obtaining reliable and up-to-date data collection with a view to ensuring sound analysis of the sector.
75.	SESRIC	Agricultural Surveys	Statistical Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-To-Date Data	Gambia Bureau of Statistics + Uganda Bureau of Statistics	20-22 September 2016 Serre Kunda, Gambia	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the agriculture sector is Reliable and Up-To-Date Data. The Strategy indicates the critical role of the agriculture sector, as welfare of many COMCEC members, especially LDCs, depend on it. In this regard, the short term trainings that have been organized by SESRIC contributed in enhancement of the sector by obtaining reliable and up-to-date data collection with a view to ensuring sound analysis of the sector.
76.	SESRIC	Agricultural Surveys	Statistical Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-To-Date Data	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics + BPS-Statistics Indonesia	20-22 September 2016 Islamabad, Pakistan	In the COMCEC Strategy, one of the output areas of the agriculture sector is Reliable and Up-To-Date Data. The Strategy indicates the critical role of the agriculture sector, as welfare of many COMCEC members, especially LDCs, depend on it. In this regard, the short term trainings that have been organized by SESRIC contributed in enhancement of the sector by obtaining reliable and up-to-date data collection with a view to ensuring sound analysis of the sector.
77.	SESRIC	Labour Cost	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	National Institute of Statistics of Mali + Institute of National Statistics of Cote d'Ivoire	28-30 December 2015 Bamako, Mali	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.

78.	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	National Centre for Statistics & Information of Oman + Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics	18-20 April 2016 Muscat, Oman	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.
79.	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics + State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan	16-18 August 2016 Tashkent, Uzbekistan	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.
80.	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	Department of Economic Planning & Development Brunei + BPS-Statistics Indonesia	6-8 September 2016 Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC could enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.

81.	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	National Institute of Statistics & Economic & Demographic Studies of Togo + National Institute of Statistics & Economic Analysis of Benin	13-15 September 2016 Lomé, Togo	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.
82.	SESRIC	Health Statistics	Statistical Training	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, BPS-Statistics Indonesia	11-13 August 2015 Dhaka, Bangladesh	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC could enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.
83.	SESRIC	Health Statistics	Study Visit	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	Libyan Bureau of Statistics & Census + National Institute of Statistics of Tunisia	26-29 September 2016 Tunis, Tunisia	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.

84.	SESRIC	Impact of Post-2015 Development Agenda on the Education Sector	Workshop	All Cooperation Areas	Statistical Skills Enhancement Programmes	UNESCO UIS + ISESCO	29-30 November 2016 Ankara, Turkey	In several chapters of COMCEC Strategy, capacity building and training programs have been defined as output areas. The Strategy clearly puts forward that “data collection in many COMCEC members is inadequate to either limited capacity in data collection or lack of awareness regarding its importance” and additionally underlines that “Unavailability of reliable data hampers producing a sound analysis of the sectors and hence, an effective cooperation framework”. In this respect, the training programmes and workshop that have been organized by SESRIC enhance data collection and data analysing capacity, increase quality of service in related statistics and increase institutional capacity.
85.	SESRIC	The Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	OIC GS	3-4 October 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The workshop is an input during the Senior Official Meeting of the Sixth Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States.
86.	SESRIC	First Expert Meeting of the OIC Network on Population and Reproductive, Maternal, New-born and Child Health (OIC RMNCHNet)	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	UNFPA	2-4 December 2015 Ankara, Turkey	The OIC Network serves as a deposit of innovative ideas, problem solving and best practices as well as a platform for disseminating knowledge to OIC countries.
87.	SESRIC	Emergency and Disaster Medical Services	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	Ministry of Health of Turkey + Aksi Cepat Tanggap Foundation of Indonesia	28 February-10 March 2016 İzmir, Turkey	The training aims to build capacities of 15 experts in the following topics: Emergency Medical Services, Ambulance Equipment and Implementations, Basic and Advanced Life Support, Trauma Advance Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation Program, Pediatric Advance Life Support Health Services in Disasters, Practice and Exercise
88.	SESRIC	OIC RMNCH Network Expert Group Meeting	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	UNFPA	16-17 August 2016 Amman, Jordan	The aim of the meeting was to review the RMNCH component of the OIC SHPA (2014-2023) in the light of the 2030 SDGs agenda and present a road map for the way forward.
89.	SESRIC	Exploring Tourism Potential of Al-Quds Al- Sherif City	Workshop	Tourism	Regulatory Framework, Capacity	Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of State of Palestine	24-25 November 2015	Exploring and introducing the potential of Tourism in Al Quds Al Sherif City and designing strategies to exploit them;

					Building and Training Programmes		Istanbul, Turkey	<p>Exchanging and sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices in the tourism sector that can be applied to Al Quds Al Sherif City;</p> <p>Exploring feasible and implementable ways and means for collaboration among government entities, OIC institutions and the private sector to support the development of tourism sector in Al Quds Al Sherif City.</p>
90.	SESRIC	Setting-up Tourism Projects and Steering Committee Meeting of the Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa	Workshop and meeting	Tourism	Regulatory Framework, Capacity Building and Training Programmes	ICDT	15 - 17 February 2016 Casablanca, Morocco	The Training Workshop on Setting-up Tourism Projects was devoted to the sessions in which presentations and technical discussions were made by experts for the beneficiary countries, which were mainly about the management aspects of this kind of projects ranging from the steps for setting up the projects to the issues related to financing.
91.	SESRIC	Special Session on Intra-OIC Cooperation for the Implementation of SDGs in OIC Member Countries	Meeting	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	-	03 October 2016 SESRIC HQ	<p>Specific new modalities and approaches for enhancing the role of SESRIC in the mandated areas to facilitate the implementation of SDGs in OIC Member Countries;</p> <p>Some proposals for partnership in specific activities and programmes with relevant national, international, regional and NGOs institutions.</p>
92.	SESRIC	The future of tourism development in Konya	Workshop	Tourism	Regulatory Framework, Capacity Building and Training Programmes	ICDT	15-16 November 2016 Konya, Turkey	The workshop aims to provide the participants an opportunity to deliberate and to exchange views, knowledge and expertise with a view to determining ways and modalities for future development of tourism in Konya. The workshop is expected to generate concrete and implementable recommendations and project proposals for developing sustainable tourism in Konya that can be presented to the 10 th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers to be hosted by Bangladesh in 2017.
93.	SESRIC	Third International Islamic Economics and Finance Summer School	Summer School	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D	Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University International Research and Study Center of Islamic Economics and Finance (IRCIEF)	27-31 August 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	Students, academics and officials from Islamic Finance Institutions from OIC Member Countries benefitted from the programme.

					Activities and Statistics			
94.	SESRIC	International Joint Conference on Islamic Economics and Finance	Conference	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University & Sakarya University Finance (IRCIEF) + Participation Banks Association of Turkey (TKBB) + Borsa İstanbul + World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center	1-3 September 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	Students, academics and officials from Islamic Finance Institutions from OIC Member Countries benefitted from the programme.
95.	SESRIC	Risk Management in Islamic Financial Institutions	Training Course	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Bank Indonesia + National Bank of Kazakhstan	7-8 September 2016 Almaty, Kazakhstan	Officials of National Bank of Kazakhstan benefitted from the programme.
96.	SESRIC	Liquidity Management for Islamic Banks	Training Workshop	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Bank Negara Malaysia	19-23 September 2016 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Relevant officials from Central Banks of OIC Member Countries have been supported for and benefitted from the programme.
97.	SESRIC	Internal Audit and Corporate Governance	Training Workshop	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	ADFIMI + Central Bank of Republic of Turkey (CBRT) + Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam	11-13 October 2016 Brunei, Darussalam	Relevant officials from Central Banks and development Finance Institutions of OIC Member Countries benefitted from the programme.
98.	SESRIC	Organisational Development (HRM, Governance, Strategic Planning)	Training Course	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) + Central Bank of Guinea	19-20 October 2016 Conakry, Guinea	Officials from Central Bank of Guinea benefitted from the programme.

99.	SESRIC	Macprudential Analysis & Policy Framework	Training Workshop	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Bank Negara Malaysia	31 October-4 November 2016 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Relevant officials from Central Banks of OIC Member Countries have been supported for and benefitted from the programme.
100.	SESRIC	Monetary Policy Transmission Mechanism	On-Site Training	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of Republic of Turkey (CBRT)	31 October-19 November 2016 Ankara, Turkey	One official from Central Bank of Kyrgyzstan had on-site training for 3 weeks at the relevant department of CBRT.
101.	SESRIC	6 th Global Islamic Microfinance Forum	Forum	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking & Economics (CIBE)	08 -09 November 2016 Nairobi, Kenya	The participants gained global practices on Islamic Microfinance by using learned national and international experts.
102.	SESRIC	Shariah Foundation, Sustainable Operational Strategies and Innovation – Conception to Practices	Training Workshop	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking & Economics (CIBE)	11-12 November 2016 Nairobi, Kenya	The participants gained global practices on Islamic Microfinance by using learned national and international experts.
103.	SESRIC	Financial Tables based Real Sector Statistics	Training Course	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of Republic of Azerbaijan + Central Bank of Kyrgyz Republic	2-3 November 2016 Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic	Officials from Central Bank of Kyrgyz Republic benefitted from the programme.
104.	SESRIC	Monetary Policy Formulation	Training Course	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of Republic of Turkey (CBRT) + Central Bank of Jordan	2-3 November 2016 Amman, Jordan	Officials from Central Bank of Jordan benefitted from the programme.
105.	SESRIC	Company Valuation of Start-up Companies	Training Course	Finance	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation, Training, R&D	Borsa Istanbul + Baku Stock Exchange	7-8 November 2016 Baku, Azerbaijan	Officials from Baku Stock Exchange benefitted from the programme.

						Activities and Statistics		
106.	SESRIC	Basics of Competition Law	Training Course	Trade	Trade liberalization	Awards and Investment Promotion Agency of the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance, Kingdom of Morocco + Directorate of Interior Trade and Competition of Guinea	25-26 January 2016 Conakry, Guinea	Officials from Directorate of Interior Trade and Competition of Guinea benefitted from the programme.
107.	SESRIC	Competition Law Enforcement in Regulated Markets and Bid-Rigging	Training Course	Trade	Trade liberalization	Turkish Competition Authority + Competition Commission of Pakistan	25-27 January 2016 Islamabad, Pakistan	Officials from Competition Commission of Pakistan benefitted from the programme.
108.	SESRIC	Competition Law and Policy	Training Course	Trade	Trade liberalization	Turkish Competition Authority + National Competition Authority of Cameroon	18-20 April 2016 Yaounde, Cameroon	Officials from National Competition Authority benefitted from the programme.
109.	SESRIC	Rural Development Projects Impact Assessment	Training Course	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring poverty	NGO World Foundation	21-23 December 2015 Islamabad, Pakistan	The course was designed for NGOs working in development areas in Islamabad with a view to building their capacity in the field of project impact analysis.
110.	SESRIC	Public Media Services and Broadcasting Principles	Workshop	Transport and Communications	Regulatory Framework, Information and Communications Technologies	OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (IBRAF)	12-13 January 2016 Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	The workshop enabled participants to share information and experience in order to enhance the cooperation in the field of broadcasting regulation and principles among broadcasting regulatory authorities and/or institutions with similar functions and responsibilities in OIC Member States.
111.	SESRIC	Reintegration and Development in Libya: The Role of Think-Tanks	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness, Productive Capacity of the Poor, Monitoring Poverty	The Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research (SETA) + The Libyan Programme for Reintegration (LPRD) + Development and the Libyan Organization of Policies and Strategies (LOOPS)	22-23 February 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The workshop supported independent policy research institutions in their efforts to carry out rigorous and independent research for better policymaking process and enhanced the capacities of the Libyan think-tanks to synthesize and package knowledge and evidence by translating research results into relevant and digestible content for varying audiences.

112.	SESRIC	Syrian Refugees: Prospects and Challenges	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	All output areas regarding Poverty Alleviation	-	25-26 February 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The workshop enabled an interactive forum for countries which are hosting Syrian refugees in order to share their experience on the Syrian refugee crisis and to contribute and benefit from each other's experiences. The workshop led for the preparation of a common way for common problems and emergency plans.
113.	SESRIC	Radicalism and Violent Extremism	Expert Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	Centre for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM) + Foundation for Political and Social Research (SETA)	02 March 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The meeting helped the core "SESRIC-ORSAM-SETA" research team to produce research outputs (i.e. research reports) that have practical implications in helping OIC member countries understand and combat radicalism and violent extremism.
114.	SESRIC	Strengthening Intra-OIC Cooperation for Development: The Role of SESRIC	Roundtable Meeting	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	-	06 May 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The Roundtable Meeting enabled exchange of views on ways and means of strengthening technical cooperation among OIC member countries in various fields and areas of interest; provide recommendations on some new modalities and approaches for enhancing the role of SESRIC in the mandated area of technical cooperation; and explore some scenarios for partnership in specific activities and programmes with relevant national, international, regional institutions.
115.	SESRIC	Enhancing the Capacity of Al-Nahrain Center for Strategic Studies	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty, Productive Capacity of the Poor	Centre for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM) + Al-Nahrain Center for Strategic Studies	16-20 May 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The training increased the research capacity of the Centre through organising a series of training sessions and study visits to the various Turkish governmental institutions, think-tanks and research centres in Ankara.
116.	SESRIC	Roadmap for the Education of Syrian Refugee Children	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	All output areas regarding Poverty Alleviation	Foundation for Political and Social Research (SETA) + OIC-ICHAD	01-02 June 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	The workshop discussed the current status of the education of Syrian children in Turkey in order to advise applicable policy recommendations on removing barriers to education and to improve coordination mechanism among partners. Within the scope of the workshop, the participants had opportunity to work on how to increase the number of enrolment of Syrian children in schools and take part in other educational programs, and remove them from the workforce, or at least minimize the negative effects of working while continuing their education.

117.	SESRIC	Enhancing the Medical Teaching Environment for The Gambia	Study Visit	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	School of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences at the University of the Gambia (SMAHS) + Yıldırım Beyazıt University + IDB	05-09 September 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The study visit aimed to build a strong interdisciplinary research culture, generating knowledge in allied health sciences and translating knowledge to address and sustain the need of having enough and qualified national doctors and lecturers in The Gambia.
118.	SESRIC	Trade Unionism in the Islamic World	Symposium	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	Confederation of Public Servants Trade Unions (MEMUR-SEN)	13-14 October 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	The Symposium shared knowledge and experience on trade unionism in OIC Member Countries and to discuss ways and means for overcoming common challenges and problems by developing joint projects and initiatives among different stakeholders and establishing a knowledge network among participants for sustainable cooperation and collaboration in the future.
119.	SESRIC	Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in OIC Member Countries: Needs and Capacity Assessment	Workshop	Trade and Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	IDB + GED + UNDP IICPSD	09-11 May 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The workshop discussed the current situation of the technical and vocational education and training in OIC Member Countries, as well as challenges and problems faced by TVET institutions to provide necessary skills and competencies needed for the market. The workshop developed proposals for improving the quality of TVET systems in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of 2030 Agenda.
120.	SESRIC	SESRIC Internship Programme	On-the-job training	Trade and Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	-	December 2015 – November 2016 Ankara, Turkey	SESRIC Internship Programme contributed to the development of professional skills; created opportunities for cooperation in the academic field; promoted academic, personal, and career related development.
121.	SESRIC	Water Management: Using Modern Irrigation Facilities	Training Course	Agriculture	Increasing Productivity, Market Performance and Access	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock + Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	06-07 December 2015 Kabul, Afghanistan	Increased resilience of agricultural sector in the face of future crisis.
122.	SESRIC	Seed Development: Biotechnology Studies	Training Course	Agriculture	Increasing Productivity, Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Azerbaijan	09-10 December 2015 Baku, Azerbaijan	Encouraged entrepreneurs and farmers to enhance their investments.

123.	SESRIC	Greenhouse Farming	Training Course	Agriculture	Increasing Productivity, Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) + Alata Research Centre	14-18 March 2016 Adana, Turkey	Encouraged entrepreneurs and farmers to enhance their investments.
124.	SESRIC	Development of Sustainable Aquaculture for OIC Countries	Study Visit	Agriculture	Increasing Productivity, Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	IDB + Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey (MoFAL)	30 May - 03 June 2016 Muğla and Izmir, Turkey	Participants were informed about Turkish aquaculture applications; and private sector partnership was developed to set up joint fish farms.
125.	SESRIC	Plant Tissue Culture Technology Transfer	Training Course	Agriculture	Increasing Productivity, Market Performance and Access	COMCEC + Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey	30 May - 02 June 2016 Bademli-Izmir, Turkey	Increased transparency of agricultural markets.
126.	SESRIC	Basics of Competition Law in Guinea	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of General Affairs and Governance, Kingdom of Morocco and National Directorate of Interior Trade and Competition, Republic of Guinea	25-26 January 2016 Conarky, Guinea	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the National Directorate of Interior Trade and Competition, Republic of Guinea under; Competitive Practices; Economic Concentrations; The Role of Competition Authorities; Relationship between Competition Authorities and Sector Regulators.
127.	SESRIC	Competition Law Enforcement in Regulated Markets and Bid-Rigging	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Turkish Competition Authority and Competition Commission of Pakistan	25-27 January 2016 Islamabad, Pakistan	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Competition Commission of Pakistan under; Providing Leniency; Establishing a Price\Margin Squeeze; Applying a Regulated Conduct Defence Test; Building Relationships with Sector Regulators and Failing Firm Defence.
128.	SESRIC	Competition Law and Policy	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Turkish Competition Authority and National Competition Authority of Cameroon	18-20 April 2016 Yaounde, Cameroon	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the National Competition Authority of Cameroon under; Providing Leniency; Establishing a Price\Margin Squeeze; Applying a Regulated Conduct Defence Test; Building Relationships with Sector Regulators and Failing Firm Defence; Competitive Practices; Economic Concentrations; and The Role of Competition Authorities.
129.	SESRIC	Second Meeting of the OIC Public	Network Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Turkish Employment Agency, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	27-28 September 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The main outcome of the Second Meeting of OIC PESNET was to review the progress of the actions and activities accomplished since the First Meeting

		Employment Services Network						of the Network in April 2014 and discuss the modalities of closer collaboration among PES Authorities in OIC Member Countries and introduce current state, challenges of and improvements achieved in Public Employment Services in their respective countries.
130.	SESRIC	Technical Training Course on 'Occupational Hygiene and Safety'	Training Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Turkey	14-18 December 2015 Ankara, Turkey	The outcome of the event was to form basis for mutual knowledge and experience sharing among member countries, and brought together technical experts of Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) authorities of the OIC Member Countries, namely from Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine and Sudan.
131.	SESRIC	Occupational Safety and Health in Construction Sector and Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Turkey and Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman	04-06 April 2016 Muscat, Oman	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman under the following subjects of OSH; Chemical Exposure and Health Affects; Personnel Air Sampling; Chemical Exposure and Health Affects; Chemical Storages; Thermal Comfort and Noise Exposure.
132.	SESRIC	Occupational Health: Chemical Exposure	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Turkey and Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Kingdom of Bahrain	05-07 April 2016 Manama, Bahrain	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Kingdom of Bahrain under the following subjects of OSH; Chemical Exposure and Health Affects; Personnel Air Sampling; Chemical Exposure and Health Affects; Chemical Storages; Thermal Comfort and Noise Exposure.
133.	SESRIC	Occupational Safety and Health Management System: Hazard Identification Risk, Control Risk Assessment, Incident Investigation and Reporting	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	National Occupational Safety and Health Institution, Malaysia and Saeed Ahmed Awan Centre for the Improvement of Working Conditions & Environment, Pakistan	18-20 April 2016 Lahore, Pakistan	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Saeed Ahmed Awan Centre for the Improvement of Working Conditions & Environment, Pakistan under the following subjects of OSH; Hazard Identification; Risk Assessment & Risk Control; Root Cause Analysis; Principle of Accident Investigation; Analyse Data of Accident; Accident Investigation Methodology; Accident Case Studies; and the Notification of the Procedure Accident Investigation.

134.	SESRIC	3 rd Meeting of the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET)	Network Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Turkey	10 May 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	The outcome of the Third Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET was to review the progress of the actions and activities accomplished since the inception of the Network in Ankara on May 2011 and discussed the modalities of closer collaboration among OSH authorities in the OIC Member Countries. One of the major part of the Meeting was to revise and adopt “Istanbul Recommendation on Sustainable OSH Services in OIC Member Countries”, towards accomplishing Sustainable Development Goals of 2030 Agenda.
135.	SESRIC	Panel Session on ‘The Role of National and International OSH Organisations’ in the Eighth International Conference on Occupational Safety and Health	Panel Session	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Turkey	10 May 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	The outcome of the Panel Session was to identify the The Roles of National and International OSH Organisations for generating safer workplaces.
136.	SESRIC	Organisational Development and Poverty Analysis	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Family and Social Policies of the Republic of Turkey and Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), Republic of Indonesia	22-23 March 2016 Jakarta, Indonesia	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), Republic of Indonesia, under the following subjects; Project Impact and Analysis; Information Technology for Poverty Alleviation; Organizational Development; Project Development ; and Governance and Cooperation with Civil Society.
137.	SESRIC	Knowledge Sharing Workshop on OIC Social Security Systems	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Family and Social Policies of the Republic of Turkey	04-06 April 2016 Ankara, Turkey	The outcome of the event was to form basis for mutual knowledge and experience sharing among member countries, and brought together technical experts of Social Security Authorities of the OIC Member Countries, namely from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Gambia, Senegal, Tunisia, Turkey and Uganda. Another outcome was to form a network of Social Security Institutions in OIC Member Countries.
138.	SESRIC	Pension System	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	National Social Security Fund of Tunisia and Pension Fund of Togo	11-12 July 2016 Lome, Togo	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of Pension Fund of Togo under the following subjects; Actuarial and Financial Management; Information Technology; Pension; General Health Insurance; and Insurance Premiums.
139.	SESRIC	Policies to Fight Against Informal Employment	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	National Social Security Fund of Tunisia and Insurance Regulatory	29-30 August 2016 Kampala, Uganda	The outcome of the training course was to increase the expertise capacity of the Insurance Regulatory Authority of the Republic of Uganda under the

						Authority of the Republic of Uganda		following subjects; Historical Overview; What's Informal Employment; Informal Employment and Economy in African Countries; and Policies Used to Fight Against Informal Employment.
140.	SESRIC	Conference on Employment of Persons with Disabilities in OIC Member Countries: Raising Awareness & Employment Opportunities	Conference	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	Ministry of Family and Social Policies of the Republic of Turkey	26-28 October 2016 Istanbul, Turkey	The outcome of the conference was to raise awareness and share knowledge and best practices in the area of employment of persons with disabilities. The two day conference was the arena of the employment scope of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and the process of creation of employment indicators, the current situation and challenges of persons with disabilities in the labour market of OIC Member Countries and activities regarding vocational training and rehabilitation.
141.	SESRIC	Technical Training Workshop on 'Confined Spaces'	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Aid Effectiveness	National Occupational Safety and Health Institution, Malaysia	07-11 November 2016 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia	The outcome of the event was to form basis for mutual knowledge and experience sharing among member countries, and brought together technical experts of Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) authorities of the OIC Member Countries, namely from Albania, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Bangladesh, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine and Turkey.
142.	SESRIC	International Tourism in the OIC Countries: Prospects and Challenges 2015	Research	Tourism	Regulatory framework, Community based tourism, Marketing strategies	-	28 December 2015 SESRIC	This report examines the performance and the economic role of the international tourism sector in OIC member countries and sheds light on the challenges of tourism development and proposes recommendations for tourism development.
143.	SESRIC	The State of Transportation in the Member Countries of D-8	Research	Transport and Communications	Regulatory framework, Transport infrastructure policies	D-8	January 2016 SESRIC	This report investigates the performance of different modes of transportation by highlighting the relationship between transportation and trade and tourism. The report concludes with some broad policy recommendations aiming at improving the efficiency of the transportation sector in the D-8 countries.
144.	SESRIC	Transportation Networks in the OIC Member Countries: Impact on Trade and Tourism	Research	Transport and Communications	Regulatory framework, Transport infrastructure policies	-	30 March 2016 SESRIC	This report investigates the transport performance of OIC countries by looking at their transport capacity and its effective use for the promotion of trade and tourism sectors. The report concludes with specific policy recommendations.

145.	SESRIC	Agricultural and Food Security in OIC Member Countries 2016	Research	Agriculture	Diverse	-	02 May 2016 SESRIC	This report highlights the recent state as well as the constraints and challenges of agricultural development and food security in the OIC countries, sheds light on the importance of promoting intra-OIC investment in the agriculture sector and proposes projects and policy recommendations in this regard.
146.	SESRIC	Mapping Turkey's Resource Centres 2016	Research	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	IDB	24 May 2016 SESRIC	This study provides an analysis of Turkey's institutional capacity for international development cooperation by showcasing best practices and South-South cooperation potential in some selected areas, including agriculture, livestock and food security, health and nutrition, technical and vocational education and training, transport and communications, disaster and emergency management.
147.	SESRIC	Somalia: Overview of Socio-Economic Development	Research	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	-	June 2016 SESRIC	This report highlights the socioeconomic development performance of Somalia during the last 10 years with special emphasis on the current bottlenecks and challenges which are still impeding the developmental efforts of the country. The report concludes with a set of policy recommendations to serve as a broad guidance for policy-makers.
148.	SESRIC	Humanitarian Needs of Syrian Refugees: Challenges of the Neighbouring Countries 2016	Research	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources, Diverse	-	29 July 2016 SESRIC	This report assesses the humanitarian as well as employment, health and educational requirements of the Syrian refugees in neighboring countries keeping in view the forecast for future increase in their numbers.
149.	SESRIC	The State of Tourism in the Member Countries of D-8	Research	Tourism	Diverse	D-8	September 2016 SESRIC	This report analyses and examines the trends in the major tourism indicators and looks at the intra-D-8 tourism trends to reveal the level of integration in this domain.
150.	SESRIC	OIC Economic Outlook 2016	Research	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	-	November 2016 SESRIC	This report provides a detailed analysis of trends in major economic indicators during the latest five-year period and highlights a number of constraints and challenges confronting the OIC member countries in their efforts to enhance economic development and progress.

151.	SESRIC	Moving from MDGs to SDGs: Prospects and Challenges for OIC Member Countries	Research	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	-	November 2016 SESRIC	This study makes a comprehensive analysis of the progress towards achieving the MDGs in OC countries based on the latest statistics and information. The study will also try to identify the major challenges and prospects for achieving the SDGs in OIC countries.
152.	SMIIC	1st OIC Stakeholders' Forum on Unified Halal Food Standards and Procedures	Conference	Trade	Trade liberalization	OIC General Secretariat	09-10 December 2015 Jeddah / KSA	The forum emphasized the importance of unified Halal accreditation scheme based on the OIC/SMIIC Standards.
153.	SMIIC	SMIIC Halal Conference	Conference	Trade	Trade liberalization	SMIIC GS and Department of Standards Malaysia	14-15 December 2015 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	The Conference has provided a platform for SMIIC Members to discuss and exchange views and experiences in the development and implementation of halal standards.
154.	SMIIC	Metrology Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade Facilitation	SMIIC GS and SMIIC Metrology Committee	18 January 2016 Kocaeli, Turkey	The meeting guided Member States in enhancing their capacity building in metrology field.
155.	SMIIC	Scientific Metrology Training	Technical Training	Trade	Trade liberalization	TÜBİTAK-UME, SESRIC	22- 26 February 2016 Kocaeli, Turkey	The training helped Member States to improve their human resources by training their experts in scientific metrology field.
156.	SMIIC	Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (SMIIC/CCA)	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade liberalization	SMIIC GS	23-24 March 2016 İstanbul / Turkey	It was decided that SMIIC Technical Committees (TCs), Metrology Committee (MC) and Accreditation Committee (AC) to become liaisons of SMIIC/CCA and SMIIC/CCA Members shall submit, if any, the existing works on conformity assessment or new work item proposals on potential standards, guides or other technical specifications relating to conformity assessment and related areas.
157.	SMIIC	SMIIC Information System Training (IS)	Technical Meeting	Trade	Institutional and Human Capacity	SMIIC GS and SMIIC Technical Committees	19-21 April 2016 İstanbul / Turkey	The SMIIC IS which is aimed at harmonizing and simplifying the registration and management of data was introduced to the users who act as SMIIC member body representatives in technical committees, subcommittees and working groups.
158.	SMIIC	9th Meeting of SMIIC General Assembly	Meeting	Trade	Trade liberalization	SMIIC Member States	24 May 2016 İstanbul/Turkey	It was a regular meeting in which the General Secretariat briefed the General Assembly by presenting a comprehensive report on the latest developments and activities of SMIIC, Technical Committees (TCs) and SMIIC/CCA. Metrology Committee Secretary also briefed the GA on the recent activities carried out.
159.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	Trade Facilitation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February 25th, 2016 Ankara	During the Meeting, the participants deliberated on standards as non-tariff barriers, development of quality infrastructure, and strengthening the compliance of member countries with international standards. The research study prepared for the meeting, highlighted the importance of compliance with international standards for the OIC Member

								Countries, especially for improving export competitiveness and trade facilitation through the elimination of barriers on trade. The policy recommendations were formulated during the WG Meeting in this regard.
160.	CCO	8th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	Trade Facilitation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 6th, 2016 Ankara	8th Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group was devoted to “Improving the Border Agency Cooperation among the OIC Member States for Facilitating Trade.” The research study and the participants of the working group highlighted the major challenges faced by the Member Countries. The policy recommendations were formulated during the WG Meeting in this regard.
161.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	Diversified tourism products and destinations	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February 5th, 2016 Ankara	During the 7th Tourism WG Meeting, which was held with the theme of “Muslim-Friendly Tourism: Understanding the Demand and Supply Sides in the OIC Member Countries”, the discussions specifically focused on the conceptual framework of the MFT, overview of the current state of the MFT sector in the world and OIC Member Countries, as well as the challenges faced for developing the MFT sector in the Member Countries. The policy recommendations were formulated during the WG Meeting in this regard.
162.	CCO	8th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	Diversified tourism products and destinations	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	September 1st, 2016 Ankara	8th Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism WG was held with the theme of “Muslim Friendly Tourism: Developing and Marketing MFT Products and Services in the OIC Member Countries.” During the meeting, the participants from the Member Countries discussed the current trends in the development of marketing MFT products and services, government policies for supporting the MFT sector, challenges faced by the member countries as well as the policy recommendations for effective MFT product development and marketing strategies. The policy recommendations were formulated during the WG Meeting in this regard.
163.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	Institutional and Human Capacity Improved national transport policy-making and	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 24th, 2016 Ankara	During the Meeting, the Transport and Communications Working Group shared their country’s experiences regarding their road maintenance practices. The participants made deliberations on how to align their policies on road maintenance issue. The Meeting came up with

					<p>planning capacity of the member states Enhanced professional skills of human resources</p> <p>Transport Infrastructure Policies Development of sound infrastructure policies Enhanced private sector involvement in infrastructure projects and promoted innovative financing modalities, including PPP</p>			<p>sound policy recommendations with a view to addressing the challenges they face with respect to road maintenance.</p>
164.	CCO	8th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	<p>Institutional and Human Capacity Improved national transport policy- making and planning capacity of the member states Enhanced professional skills of human resources</p> <p>Transport Infrastructure Policies Development of sound infrastructure policies Enhanced private sector involvement in</p>	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 27th, 2016 Ankara	<p>During the Meeting, the Transport and Communications Working Group exchange their experiences with respect to the road safety. The delegates also discussed on how to align their policies for improving safety of their roads. The Meeting came up with practical policy recommendations to be implemented for improving road safety.</p>

					infrastructure projects and promoted innovative financing modalities, including PPP			
165.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	<p>Visibility of Financial Markets Enhanced awareness on Islamic Financial Markets</p> <p>Training, R&D Activities and Statistics Developed human resources and increased financial literacy</p> <p>Regulatory and supervisory cooperation Developed legal, regulatory and institutional framework</p>	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	17-18 March 2016 Ankara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for sharing experiences, achievements and challenges on developing Islamic Finance Strategies • Producing policy recommendations for 32nd COMCEC Ministerial Exchange of Views Session • Raising awareness on Islamic Finance • Strengthening cooperation among member countries by creating communication channels among Member States experts • Producing a comprehensive research report on the theme of Working Group Meeting • Proceeding report of the Working Group Meeting
166.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	<p>Visibility of Financial Markets Enhanced awareness on Islamic Financial Markets</p> <p>Training, R&D Activities and Statistics Developed human resources and increased financial literacy Enhanced monitoring of financial</p>	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 20th, 2016 Ankara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for sharing experiences, achievements and challenges on improving Islamic Financial Architecture • Producing policy recommendations for improving Islamic financial architecture in the member countries • Raising awareness on Islamic Finance • Strengthening cooperation among member countries by creating communication channels among Member States experts • Producing a comprehensive research report on the theme of Working Group Meeting • Proceeding report of the Working Group Meeting • Producing a financial outlook report

					institutions and markets			
					Regulatory and supervisory cooperation Developed legal, regulatory and institutional framework			
167.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 3rd, 2016 Ankara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a platform for share of experiences among Member Countries with regards to on-farm food losses. • Conducted research report titled “Reducing On-Farm Food Losses in the OIC Member Countries.” • Encouraged the Member Countries for improving their produce and disseminate data on on-farm food losses. • Produced policy recommendations for reducing on-farm food losses in the OIC Countries. Thus, supported member countries to approximate policies. • Providing a platform for share of experiences among Member Countries regarding their current programs/project in the field of on-farm food losses.
168.	CCO	8th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing productivity • Reduction of post-harvest losses 	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 13th, 2016 Ankara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a platform for share of experiences among Member Countries with regards to post-harvest losses. • Conducted research report titled “Reducing post-harvest Losses in the OIC Member Countries.” • Encouraged the Member Countries for improving their produce and disseminate data on post-harvest losses. • Produced policy recommendations for reducing post-harvest losses in the OIC Countries. Thus, supported member countries to approximate policies. • Providing a platform for share of experiences among Member Countries regarding their current programs/project in the field of post-harvest losses.
169.	CCO	7th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Streamlined and more efficient allocation of poverty related	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February 11th, 2016 Ankara	During the Meeting, Poverty Alleviation Working Group made deliberations for policy approximation among the Member Countries regarding enhancing vulnerable groups’

					funds in the COMCEC region			accessibility to social protection programmes. The Meeting came up with policy recommendations with the aim of increasing the accessibility of social protection programmes for vulnerable groups.
170.	CCO	8th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Increasing productive capacity of the poor	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	November 3rd, 2016 Ankara	During the Meeting, Poverty Alleviation Working Group made deliberations for policy approximation among the Member Countries regarding forced migration. The Meeting came up with policy recommendations with the aim of ensuring better life conditions for the forced migrant as well as increasing their productive capacities to enhance their employability.
171.	CCO	4th Annual Meeting of the COMCEC Focal Points	Meeting	All Cooperation Areas		MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	Ankara	During the meeting, the participants were informed about the overall picture of the COMCEC activities, through the comparison between the outcomes of the COMCEC before and after the introduction of the Strategy. Moreover, the CCO briefed the participants on the role of focal points in the realization of the COMCEC Strategy, particularly in the preparation, coordination and follow up of the policy recommendations formulated by the Working Groups. In this respect, it was stressed that the focal points may play a crucial role in following up the implementation of the policy recommendations and reporting the progress to the COMCEC Coordination Office accordingly. In this regard, the participants agreed on a timeline for the follow-up of the implementation of the Policy Recommendations.