

**REPORT
ON
THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF ICDT
DURING THE PERIOD
2006-2014**

PRESENTED BY

**THE ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT
OF TRADE**

TO THE

**30TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
CO-OPERATION OF THE OIC
(COMCEC)**

**Istanbul – Republic of Turkey
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Taking into account the relevant provisions of the “Ten-Year Programme of Action to meet the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st century of the Ten-Year Programme” adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Summit of the OIC, relating to economic cooperation, ICDT has undertaken the drawing up of a ten-year working plan including the projects that will be implemented during the financial years stretching from 2006 to 2016.

This plan encompasses a series of operational actions whose objectives is to boost trade in commodities and services and promote trade related investments between the OIC Member States.

This plan was drawn up on the basis of a diagnostic of the strong and weak points of intra-OIC trade, which remains below its potential and present capabilities due to a number of problems and impediments that have been identified by ICDT in its various reports and studies.

ICDT’s Plan of Action for the 2006-2016 period covers the following fields:

- Trade and investment promotion;
- Trade Negotiations
- Trade facilitation;
- Trade information and Electronic commerce;
- Training of human resources and capacity building;
- Studies and research.

The projects listed in the ICDT’s Plan of Action 2006-2016 are partly financed by the ordinary budget of ICDT; most of the projects are implemented either by sharing the costs with host Countries or in partnership with the Islamic Development Bank and other international institutions like COMCEC, GCC, WIEF (Malaysia), OIC BIZZ (Malaysia), WIPO, ITC, UNCTAD, WTO and private sector.

The present document takes stock of the activities of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade implemented recently in order to contribute to the achievements of the objectives adopted by the Extraordinary Summit Conference of the OIC Heads of States, held in Makkah Al Moukarramah on 7th and 8th December 2005, notably the increase of intra-OIC trade to 20% of the global trade of the OIC Member Countries by the year 2015.

I. STUDIES & RESEARCH: OVERVIEW ON THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF INTRA-OIC TRADE.

The trade volume of the OIC Member States (intra-OIC exports+intra-OIC) has increased considerably since the implementation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action (2005-2015) of the OIC, rising from US\$ 271.45 billion in 2005 to US\$ 778.75 billion in 2013, i.e. an increase by 187%.

Despite the effects of the international economic crisis, Member States tend to increase their intra-Community trade thanks to geographic proximity, the existence of bilateral and regional agreements, the similarity in consumption patterns, regional complementary and efforts aiming at boosting trade promotion, trade financing, insurance and export credit guarantee and trade facilitation actions of the Consultative Group but also thanks to the implementation of the Strategy of the COMCEC.

Thus, the share of intra-OIC trade in total trade of Member States rose from 15.50% in 2005 to 18.70% in 2013, i.e. an increase by 21%.

The main actors of intra-OIC trade in 2013 are: The **United Arab Emirates** (US\$ 105.1 billion, i.e. 13.5% of intra-OIC trade), **Turkey** (US\$ 82.2 billion, i.e. 10.6%), **Saudi Arabia** (US\$ 68.8 billion, i.e. 8.8%), **Indonesia** (US\$ 56.9 billion, i.e. 7.3%), **Iran** (56 billion US\$, i.e. 7.3%), **Malaysia** (US\$ 50.2 billion, i.e. 6.4%), **Pakistan** (US\$ 32.7 billion, i.e. 4.2%), **Iraq** (US\$ 29.8 billion, i.e. 3.8%), **Oman** (US\$ 28.2 billion, i.e. 3.6) and **Egypt** (US\$ 27.4 billion, i.e. 3.5%). These ten countries accounted for 69% of intra-OIC trade in 2013.

At regional level, the intra-OIC trade was dominated in 2013 by the Gulf countries, which accounted for 32% followed by Asia (31.4%), the Middle East (25%), 'Sub-Saharan Africa countries (6.2%) and the AMU countries (5.4%).

The main products traded between the OIC Member States in 2013 are: miscellaneous manufactured goods (28%), mineral fuels (21%), food products (21%), machinery and transport equipment (13%), chemicals (12%) and inedible raw materials (5%).

Between 2005 and 2013, about 33 countries have achieved the threshold of 20% of intra-OIC trade advocated by the Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA), these are in descending order: Syria (87.55 % of its trade was carried out with the OIC countries), Somalia (72.14%), Djibouti (66.28%), Palestine (54.02%), Tajikistan (50.97%) Jordan (46.10%), Kyrgyzstan (45.93%), Afghanistan (44.81%), Niger (44.47%), Lebanon (43.66%), Togo (42 56%), Pakistan (39.28%), Burkina Faso (35.81%), Senegal (35.75%), Oman (34.44%), Guinea Bissau (33.54%) , Iran (33.04%), Uzbekistan (31.35%), Côte d'Ivoire (31.08%), Benin (30.94%), Sudan (30.53%) , Yemen (28.65%), Egypt (28.63%), Turkmenistan (27.81%), Iraq (27.41%), Comoros (26.77%), Mali (25.43%), Bahrain (24.64%), Turkey (22.87%), Uganda (21.53%), the Maldives (21.01%), UAE (20.16 %) and Azerbaijan (20.01%).

Thus, these countries and the rest of the Member States should invest more in the area of capacity building, participation in fairs, international fairs and business forums, including those organized by ICDT but they should also reduce their procedure of foreign trade and intra-OIC investment in a bid to boost trade between Member States. Furthermore, diversification of exportable supply is a necessity for developing intra-OIC foreign trade and investment. It is also important that the OIC Member States participate actively in the activities of the Consultative Group for enhancing intra-OIC trade and the COMCEC projects within the framework of the Project Management Cycles (PCM).

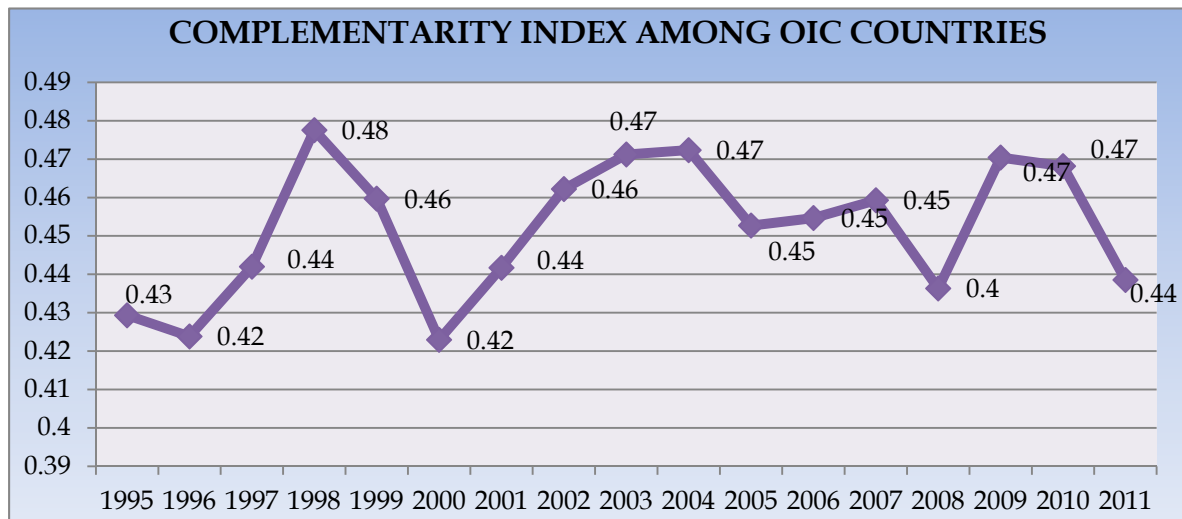
Table 1: Evolution of the OIC Member States' Trade between 2004 and 2013 (in US\$ billions)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Share of Intra-OIC Trade In total Trade of OIC in %	14.44%	15.50%	15.86%	16.64%	16.60%	16.65%	17.03%	17.80%	18.45%	18.70%
Value net Intra-OIC	102.54	135.73	166.68	210.30	275.51	213.38	269.50	340.80	375.8	389.4

Trade In billion \$US										
Value of total Intra-OIC Trade (intra- OIC exports- Intra-OIC imports) In billion \$US	205.07	271.45	333.36	420.6	551.02	426.75	539.00	681.60	751.70	778.8

Source : ICDT

The intra-trade potential of OIC Countries is still untapped for many reasons; the main obstacles hampering trade are non-tariff barriers and logistics and transportation constraints. Another obstacle is the lack of complementarity among many Countries; the average trade complementarity index is still below 50% (this index varies between 0 and 1, with the former meaning no complementarity, and the later indicating perfect complementarity). Therefore, promotion policies of intra trade should tackle the issue of building complementarities among countries with high trade potential.



Obstacles hampering intra-OIC trade expansion:

In spite of the considerable efforts that have been made at the level of the OIC, as well as by Member States aiming at expanding intra-OIC trade and alleviating the stumbling blocs, the growth of intra-OIC trade (volume and its share in global trade) is still low due to the following obstacles:

- Lack of complementarities among countries and the existence of non-diversified or limited export supply,
- Lack of competitiveness of exports of several Countries, which are not adapted to the international norms and standards;
- Obstacles at the level transportation and logistics: especially the weak of maritime connectivity, inadequate infrastructures and complex administrative procedures (customs, banking, port procedures etc...);
- Non-tariff barriers and the erosion of tariff preferences due to the proliferation of RTAs with non OIC Member States;
- Lack of a sound banking system and especially Exim Banks and export credit assurance corporations, in spite of the efforts carried out by the Islamic Development Group to that effect. The financial crisis revealed that a sound export credit and insurance scheme is a comparative advantage for export competitiveness of countries.

Lack of information on markets, products and business opportunities, in spite of the work carried out by the ITFC and ICDT and other OIC institutions in this domain.

Prospects of intra-OIC trade:

According to ICDT, after the sharp decline in 2009 by -16% due the financial crisis of 2008-09, intra OIC trade was propelled in 2010 and 2011 with a growth rate of 17% and 26%, respectively. ICDT forecasts that net intra-OIC trade is expected to grow at a moderate rate during the upcoming years by 7% on average per year and may reach nearly the amount of 500 billion US dollars in 2016 and the total volume may reach 1 trillion US dollars, if the price of oil and other commodities continue their upward trend and OIC countries recover rapidly from the crisis.

The prerequisites for accomplishing the target of 20% include not only the improvement of the international and regional environment and a quick recovery from the crisis and from the aftermath of the Arab Spring but also the alleviation of the obstacles identified as main stumbling blocks notably : the alleviation of NTBs and red tape measures, the enhancement of the maritime connectivity especially for landlocked and islands countries, the improvement of competitiveness and diversification of the structure of exports, the development of trade finance (export credit and exports insurance) in OIC Countries especially for SMEs (about 80 of enterprises).

Its worth recalling that exporting SMEs have weaker access to external finance or have to pay higher finance premium. Furthermore, the access to foreign market for SMEs is constrained by the internal funds availability.

Last but not least, the growth rate of intra-OIC trade shall be higher than the OIC global trade growth rate; in other words the integration in the OIC market shall be faster than the integration in the global market.

III. TRADE PROMOTION:

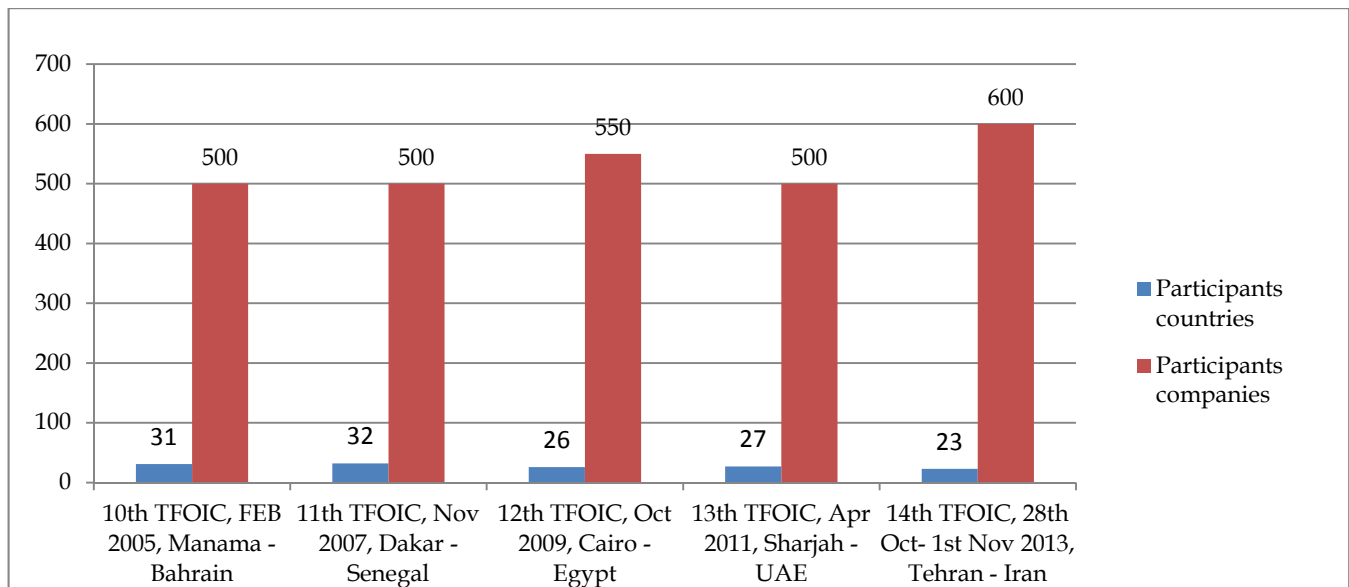
A/ FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS:

Since 1984, ICDT has been entrusted by the COMCEC Coordination Office to organize the General Trade Fair of OIC Member Countries once every two years. The main objective of this Fair is to contribute to the development of Trade Exchanges, to promote OIC products and services and enhance direct contacts and partnerships between OIC Economic Operators.

The Centre also embarked on the organization of Specialized Exhibitions since 2005.

The General Fairs and Specialized Exhibitions regularly organized by the Centre constitute the main core Business of ICDT's activities.

EVOLUTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN OIC GENERAL TRADE FAIRS (2005-2013)



1- The Trade Fair of OIC Member States:

- **Tenth Trade Fair of Islamic Countries (TFOIC):** Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, 5 – 9 February 2005.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organised the 10th Trade Fair of Islamic Countries from 5th to 9th February 2005 at Bahrain International Exhibition Centre. This event that was held under the High patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain was held under the theme “Role of the Private Sector in the Economic Integration of Islamic Countries”.

Thirty three countries participated in the 10th Trade Fair of Islamic Countries, which was held at Bahrain Exhibition Centre provided with an indoor exhibition space of 16,000 square meters divided into two exhibition halls of 800 square meters each.

The Fair lasted six days, it took place from 9.00 am. to 1.00 p.m. and from 4.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. The first three days were devoted to businessmen and the official delegations, and then the fair was open to the general public.

In implementation of article 15 of the Fairs’ regulations that were adopted by the 18th session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul from 22nd to 25th October 2002, the Trophies Committee composed of the representatives of Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry and of ICDT’s representatives was held to choose the worthiest and excellent stands on the basis of the criteria defined by the Fairs’ regulations.

The trophies were awarded to the following countries:

- Malaysia : First Prize
- State of Kuwait : 2nd Prize
- Sultanate of Brunei : 3rd Prize

Taking into account the criteria above mentioned and considering the tremendous efforts made by the Kingdom of Bahrain to make a success of this event, a special merit Prize was awarded to it.

Activities on the sidelines of the Fair:

- ✓ **Seminar on “The Free Trade Area of the OIC as a First Step for Establishing an Islamic Common Market”**

ICDT and the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised a seminar on “the Free Trade Area of the OIC as a First Step for Establishing an Islamic Common Market” on 8th February 2005.

This seminar was attended by about 80 participants representing about 20 Member States of the OIC.

The presentations of experts dealt with the following topics:

- General presentation of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC agreement;
- Methodology and structure of negotiations;
- The TPS/OIC agreement and the regional preferential trade agreements;
- The TPS/OIC agreement and the WTO agreements;
- Outcomes of Negotiations started in April 2004;
- The probable impact of the Agreement.

✓ **11th Private Sector Meeting for trade promotion and joint trade and investment ventures within Islamic Countries**

This event was organised by the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bahrain from February 5th to 7th 2005.

This event was attended by about 175 delegates coming from 31 Member States. This meeting was also attended by the Islamic Development Bank, ICDT, the GCC, the FADES and representatives from the Muslim communities in some non-OIC Member States.

• **11th Trade Fair of Islamic Countries:** (TFOIC: Dakar-Senegal, 21-25 November 2007)

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Commerce of Senegal and in collaboration with the International Centre of Foreign Trade of Senegal (CICES), the 11th edition of the Trade Fair of Islamic Countries, which was held from 21st to 25th November 2007 at the International Exchange Centre of Dakar in the Republic of Senegal under the theme “Intra-OIC trade and partnership for the Development of Africa”.

This event, held under the high patronage of His Excellency Maître Abdoulaye WADE, President of the Republic of Senegal was attended by 32 OIC Member States as well as by the Muslim Communities in Non OIC Member Countries (such as France). Almost the majority of participants expressed their great satisfaction with respect to the fruitful business contacts with partners from different countries, particularly with those of the host country; Senegal.

The Islamic Development Bank participated in this event by sponsoring the participation of the LDCs, OIC Members quoted here above.

Appraisal of the Event:

The evaluation of this Fair that was organised for the first time in a Sub Sahara African OIC Member Country, has brought out that almost the majority of exhibitors were able to establish fruitful business contacts. Several exhibitors have even requested the Centre to hold this event on an annual basis.

Thanks to an advertising campaign, which lasted several months, thousands businessmen flocked to the exhibitor’s stands seeking trade opportunities. The large number of visitors (general public) has also met expectations. Thus was reflected by the total sale of exhibits displayed in several stands.

32 OIC Member Countries participated in this fair with an area of 10.000 square meters in the International Centre for Exchange of Dakar. During the 5 days fair’s activities, more than 3000 businessmen from different OIC countries visited the Fairground seeking trade opportunities. In fact, preliminary information from exhibitors showed that they made business deals and contracts. Those deals were related to products like Handicrafts, fresh fruits, canned products, electronic equipment, home & office furniture and transport equipment...

The trophies were awarded to the following countries:

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia : First Prize
- Kingdom of Morocco : Second Prize
- Republic of Turkey and the State of Kuwait : Third Prize Equally placed
- Republic of Senegal : Special prize.

- 12th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (OIC-EXPO): Cairo-Egypt, 11-16 October 2009

Within the framework of strengthening economic and commercial cooperation among the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and increasing the volume of intra-OIC trade and boosting investment among the OIC Member States and in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and those of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), the General Organisation for International Exhibitions and Fairs (GOIEF) and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade organised under the High Patronage of the President of Egypt, the 12th Trade of the OIC Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC/EXPO) in Cairo from 11th to 16th October 2009 under the Theme “New Economic Partnership in the Service of the Ummah”.

The Fair lasted 6 days and was open to professionals, economic operators and the General Public from 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.

The 12th Edition of the Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (OIC/EXPO) was attended by 26 OIC Member States as well as by Institutions and the Muslim Communities in Non OIC Member Countries.

The official opening Ceremony of the 12th Trade Fair of the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation took place on 11th October 2009 at Cairo Fair Ground and was chaired by the Minister of Trade and Industry of Egypt. It is worth noting in this regard, that this event was held for the second time in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by HE Prof. Ekmeleddin IHSAONGLU, Secretary General of the OIC, His Eminence Mohammed SAYYED TANTAOUI, Sheikh AL-AZHAR, Dr. Ahmad AL TAYYEB, President of the AL-AZHAR University, Mr. Allal RACHDI, Director General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Organization for International Exhibitions and Fairs (GOIEF) and the Ambassadors of the OIC Countries accredited to Cairo and the Heads of Delegations of participating Countries in the Fair.

On the sidelines of the Fair, the following activities were organised:

- Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the OIC on 11th October 2009;
- Workshop on “Trade and investment in the Cotton Sector in the OIC Member States”, 12-13 October 2009;
- 13th International Businessmen Congress- 13th IBF: Cairo from 13th to 15th October 2009.

In implementation of article 15 of the Regulations of the Trade Fair of Islamic Countries, trophies were awarded to the following countries:

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia : First Prize
- Kingdom of Morocco. : Second Prize
- State of Kuwait equally placed with Pakistan : Third Prize

Taking into account the great and commendable efforts deployed by the Arab Republic of Egypt to make a success of this event, a special prize was awarded to this country and participation certificates to other participating countries.

- **13th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (OIC-EXPO):** Sharjah, State of United Arab Emirates, 24- 29 April 2011.

Within the framework of strengthening economic and commercial cooperation among the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and increasing the volume of intra-OIC trade and boosting investment among the OIC Member States and in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the 24th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC), which welcomed the offer of the State of the United Arab Emirates to host the 13th Trade Fair of the Member States of the organisation of Islamic Cooperation”, the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade organised under the auspices of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharjah, held the 13th Trade Fair of the Member States of the organization of Islamic Cooperation “OIC EXPO 2011” in Sharjah EXPO Centre from 24th to 29th April 2011 under the theme “Economic Partnership and Sustainable Development”.

The Fair lasted 6 days and was opened to professionals, economic operators and the General Public from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This event was attended by 27 OIC Member States as well as by the Muslim Communities in Non OIC Member Countries (India, China and Thailand).

The following Countries attended the Fair: Republic of Azerbaijan; People’s Republic of Bangladesh; Republic of Benin; Arab Republic of Egypt; Republic of Indonesia; Republic of Iraq; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Republic of Kazakhstan; State of Kuwait; Malaysia; Kingdom of Morocco; Republic of Cameroon; Republic of Mali; Republic of Mozambique; Republic of Niger; Sultanate of Oman; Islamic Republic of Pakistan; State of Palestine; Republic of Senegal; Republic of Sudan; Syrian Arab Republic; Republic of Tunisia; Republic of Turkey; State of the United Arab Emirates; Republic of Uganda; Republic of Yemen.

Distribution of Trophies and Certificates:

In implementation of article 15 of the Regulations of the Trade Fair of Islamic Countries, the Committee of Trophies, composed of the Representatives of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry met under the co-chairmanship of H.E Mr. Allal RACHDI, Director General of ICDT and H.E Mr. Ahmed Mohammed AL MIDFA, Chairman of Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry to select the most deserving stands by applying the criteria defined by the Rules of the Fair, namely:

- The area;
- The quality of exhibits;
- The number of participating companies;
- The number and level of the official commercial representation;
- The steadiness of participation to date.

The trophies were awarded to the following countries:

- Republic of Indonesia : First Prize
- State of Kuwait : Second Prize
- Republic of Tunisia placed equal with the Republic of Sudan : Third Prize

- **14th OIC-EXPO:** 28th October - 1st November 2013, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.

The official inauguration of the exhibition took place on 28th October, 2013 at the Permanent Exhibition Centre in Tehran and was chaired by HE Dr. Hassan Rohani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and HE Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation OIC, accompanied by their Excellencies : Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali - Chairman of the IDB Group, Dr. El Hassane HZAINI - Director General of ICDT, Dr. Mohammed Nahavandian - President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Eng. Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh - Minister of Commerce, industry and Mines of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Sheikh Saleh Kamel - Chairman of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) and of their Excellencies some Ambassadors of OIC countries accredited to Tehran and heads of delegations participating States in this fair.

During their visit to the various pavilions of the Fair, the Personalities stopped in the various booths to listen to the explanations of the officials of the pavilions of the participating countries and to review the economic development level of countries of the participants in the fair.

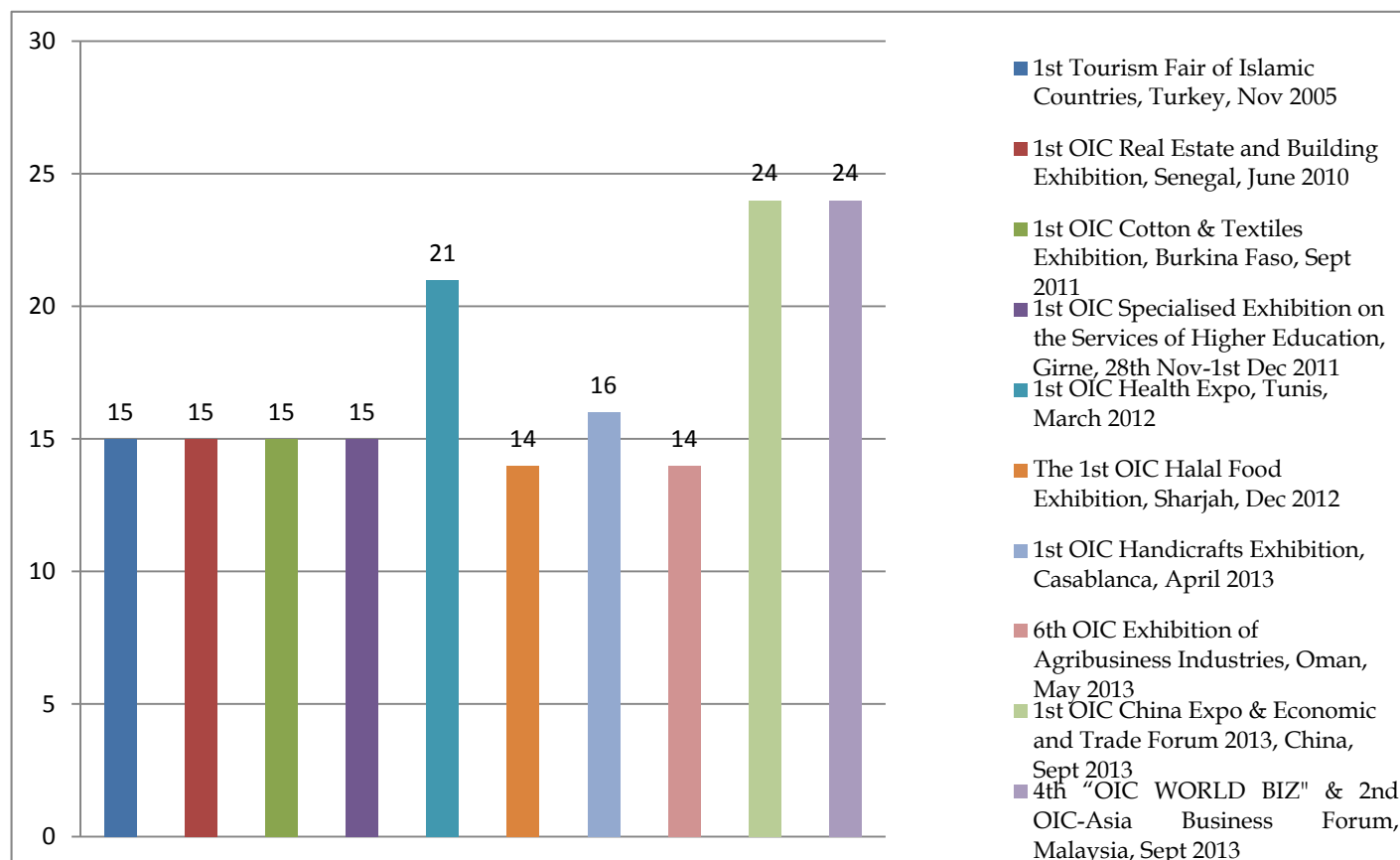
It should be noted that the opening ceremony of the exhibition was widely covered by the media: television channels, newspapers and other media of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The following countries participated in this event:

- ❖ Republic of Albania;
- ❖ People's Republic of Bangladesh;
- ❖ Republic of Benin ;
- ❖ Republic of Cameroon;
- ❖ Arab Republic of Egypt ;
- ❖ Republic of Guinea ;
- ❖ Republic of Guinea-Bissau ;
- ❖ Republic of Indonesia;
- ❖ Islamic Republic of Iran;
- ❖ Republic of Iraq ;
- ❖ Republic of Kazakhstan;
- ❖ Malaysia ;
- ❖ Republic of Mali ;
- ❖ Kingdom of Morocco ;
- ❖ Islamic Republic of Pakistan ;
- ❖ Republic of Senegal ;
- ❖ Republic of Somalia;
- ❖ Republic of Sudan;
- ❖ Syrian Arab Republic ;
- ❖ Republic of Tajikistan;
- ❖ Republic of Tunisia;
- ❖ Republic of Uganda;
- ❖ Republic of Yemen.

2- Specialised Exhibitions:

EVOLUTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN OIC SPECIALISED EXHIBITIONS (2005-2013)



- 1st Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and 13th Food/ Hotel/ PROPAC Arabia: 18th to 22nd May 2008 Jeddah (Saudi Arabia)

ICDT organized in coordination with Al-Harithy Company for Exhibitions Limited, the 1st Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and 13th Food/Hotel/Propac Arabia from 18th to 22nd May 2008 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This Exhibition was attended by a dozen OIC Member States.

On this occasion both parties signed an MOU on 18th May in the presence of H.E. Prof Dr. Ekmekddin IHSANOGLU, the OIC Secretary General.

The aim of such an initiative is to contribute to the achievements of the objectives adopted by the Extraordinary Summit Conference of the OIC Heads of States, held in Makkah Al Moukarramah on 7th and 8th December 2005, notably the increase of intra-OIC trade to 20% of the global trade of the OIC Member Countries by the year 2015.

- 2nd Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and 14th Food/Hotel/PROPAC Arabia: 24th to 28th May 2009 Jeddah (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

ICDT jointly organized with Al-Harithy Company for Exhibitions Limited, the 2nd Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and the 14th Food/Hotel/Propac Arabia from 24th to 28th May 2009 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This Exhibition was attended by several OIC Member States.

It should be recalled in this regard that the organization of this event falls within the framework of the MOU signed by both parties on 18th May in the presence of H.E. Prof

Dr. Ekmeleddin IHSANOGLU, the OIC Secretary General.

- **3rd Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and the 15th Food/ Hotel/ Propac Arabia:** Jeddah-Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 16th to 19th May 2010

The 3rd Edition was jointly organized by ICDT with Al-Harithy Company for Exhibitions Limited, the 3rd Agribusiness Exhibition of the OIC Member States and the 15th Food/ Hotel/Propac Arabia from 16th to 19th May 2010 at the Jeddah Centre for forums and Events, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This Exhibition lasted four days and it was open to professionals as well as to the general public. This exhibition recorded the participation of 13 Member States, and 11 Countries from Asia, Europe and America. On the sidelines of this show, two important events took place, namely the Top Chef Arabia Contest and the Art Table Competition organised by the Saudi Arabian Chef Association in which the best chefs displayed their culinary skills and best table display. This competition aimed at inciting competitors to enhance the level of cooking and food preparations and keep up with international standards in this field.

- **4th Exhibition of Agri-Business Industries in the OIC Member States and the 16th Food/ Hotel/PROPAC Arabia:** 29th May to 1st June 2011, Jeddah-Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Saudi Company "AL-HARITHY Company for Exhibitions Limited" organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,, the 4th Exhibition of Agri-Business Industries in the OIC Member States concomitantly with the 16th Food/ Hotel/PROPAC Arabia from 29th May to 1st June 2011 in Jeddah Centre for Forums and Events, in Jeddah Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

This Exhibition lasted four days and it was open to professionals of the Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Sectors as well as to the general public. This event recorded the participation of 350 enterprises from 13 Member States (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Lebanon, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of the Sudan, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Republic of Tunisia, Syrian Arab Republic, State of the United Arab Emirates, Republic of Turkey. It was also attended by Brazil, Poland, China, Germany, Ethiopia, Singapore, India, United States of America, Holland, Sri Lanka and Switzerland.

On the sidelines of this show, the Top Chef Arabia Contest and the Art Table Competitions were organised by the Saudi Arabian Chef Association in which the best chefs displayed their culinary skills and best table display from 5 stars hotels and famous restaurants. This competition aimed at inciting competitors to enhance the level of cooking and food preparations and keep up with international standards in this field.

- **5th Exhibition of agri-food industries in the OIC Member States:** Jeddah- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 20-23 May 2012.

Within the framework of the implementation of the cooperation program signed in May 2008, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Saudi Al Harity Company for Exhibitions Limited (ACE)", organized from 20th to 23rd May 2012, under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, concomitantly with the 17th Food/Hotel/PROPAC Arabia, the 5th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries in the OIC Member States, in the Jeddah Centre for Forums and Events, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

This exhibition, which was open from 17.00 to 22.00 to the General Public and to the professionals of the sector, was attended by a large number of visitors during the four days of the exhibition. 350 companies representing the following OIC Member States also participated in this event:

- ✓ Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
- ✓ Kingdom of Morocco,
- ✓ Arab Republic of Egypt,
- ✓ Republic of Indonesia,
- ✓ Malaysia,
- ✓ Republic of Lebanon,
- ✓ Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- ✓ Republic of Niger,
- ✓ Republic of Tunisia,
- ✓ State of the United Arab Emirates,
- ✓ Republic of Turkey.

Twelve non-OIC Member States also participated in this event: Belgium, France, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Italy, United States of America, Taiwan, South Korea and Switzerland.

- 1st Real Estate and Building Exhibition of the OIC Member States (OIC Building EXPO): Dakar, Republic of Senegal, 24-27 June 2010.

Within the framework of cooperation between the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the International Centre for Foreign Trade of Senegal (CICES), both parties organized the 1st Building and Real Estate Exhibition of the OIC Member Countries (OIC BUILDING EXPO), from 24th to 27th June 2010 in the Exhibition Grounds of the International Exchange Centre of Dakar (CIED) – Republic of Senegal.

In this context, the two parties held five coordination meetings during which, they adopted and implemented a promotional and organizational planning of this show, the of which was initially fixed for from 11th to 14th March 2010 and postponed upon the request of Member States to 24th to 27th June 2010. Fifteen countries participated in this Exhibition.

A first evaluation of the exhibition shows that almost all exhibitors were able to establish fruitful relationships. Many exhibitors have even asked ICDT to hold this event on a regular basis.

Sixty enterprises of participating countries exhibited their products over a surface area of about 1200 square meters. During the four days of the show, the exhibitor's stands were visited by 300 businessmen from different OIC Member States seeking business opportunities. To that effect, information collected from exhibitors have disclosed their satisfaction at the business contacts and contracts concluded during this show. These contracts mainly concerned waterproof products, thermal insulation, cement factories, waste water treatment, partnership in the hydraulic field, concrete products, urban planning and housing, social housing.

- 1st Cotton and Textiles Exhibition in the OIC Member States: 21-25 September 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Within the framework of the Plan of Action of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) dedicated to the cotton sector, to promote production and improve

competitiveness of the cotton and textiles industry, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank Group, the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) and the National Foreign Trade Office (ONAC) of Burkina Faso organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Handicrafts of Burkina Faso, the first Cotton and Textiles Exhibition in the OIC Member States, from 21st to 25th September 2011 at the Exhibition Grounds of the International Handicrafts Exhibition of Ouagadougou (SIAO) - Burkina Faso. This first exhibition took place under the theme: "Cotton-textiles, Growth Factor of the Economies of the OIC Member States".

The Exhibition lasted five days and was opened to the General public and to businessmen from 09.00 to 21.00.

This first edition of cotton and textiles of the OIC Member States recorded the participation of the following OIC Member States:

Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Chad, Republic of Mali, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Niger, Republic of Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Togo, Republic of Tunisia and Republic of Turkey.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was represented by:

- Ambassador Nabika Diallo, Advisor to H.E the Secretary General;
- H.E Sheikh Omar T. Sow, Director General of Economic Affairs.

ICDT was represented at the Exhibition by:

- Dr. El Hassane HZAINI, Director General;
- Mr. Houcine RAHMOUNI, Advisor to the Director General;
- Mr. Amadou Ciré Sall, In charge of the Trade Information System;

And the Islamic Development Bank Group was represented by Mr. Othman EL-FIEL.

The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) - Islamic Development Bank Group has provided funding for this event by sponsoring the participation of LDCs, OIC Members States participating in this exhibition. For its part, the ICDT has sponsored the participation of the following countries: Arab Republic of Egypt, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Cameroon, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Tajikistan and Republic of Tunisia.

The Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB) financed the activities organised on the sidelines of this exhibition and granted donation to the Host country.

- Activities on the sidelines of the Exhibition:

On the sidelines of the exhibition the following thematic conferences and OIC institutional meetings took place:

- ✓ Fourth Meeting of the Project Committee and the Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee for the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action for Cotton (22nd September 2011);
- ✓ Seminar on the Development of the cotton and textiles sector in the OIC Member States (morning of 23rd September 2011).

This seminar was attended by 150 persons and B2B meetings were also held between the

businessmen of the sector.

- Forum and Specialised Exhibition on the Services of Higher Education in the OIC Member States: Girne, TRNC, 28th November to 1st December 2011.

In implementation of resolution n° 3/11-P (IS) adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on March 13th and 14th, 2008 in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus will organize in collaboration with the Islamic Development Group (IDB), the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Forum and Specialized Exhibition on "Higher Education Services in the OIC Member States" from November 28th to December 1st, 2011 at Acpulco Hotel, in Girne Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

The main objectives of this Forum and Exhibition were to ensure the promotion of Higher Education Services in the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), in general, and those of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in particular, to establish direct contacts between the stakeholders in the field of training/education, encourage investment in this sector and develop partnerships between the Universities in the OIC Member States, notably through the exchange of students and trainers.

This event was attended by senior officials of national Education in several OIC countries namely: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Turkey, the consortium of six universities of the Turkish Cypriot State, other countries like Singapore, Australia and Bosnia Herzegovina and Representatives of Higher Education Institutions and the OIC Specialized Institutions, Subsidiary and Affiliated Organs (Islamic Development Bank Group "IDB", Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization "ISESCO», Statistical, Economic, Social and Training Centre of Islamic Countries "SESRIC ") and COMSTECH.

The inauguration ceremony of the Fair was chaired by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), accompanied by H.E Mr. Hüseyin Özgürün, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Cypriot State, H.E Amb. Nabika Diallo, Advisor to the Secretary General of OIC, Dr. El Hassane HZaine, Director General of ICDT and Dr. Savas Alpaya, Director General of SESRIC.

On this occasion, Dr. El Hassane HZAINÉ chaired the Session on: "Promoting partnership and cooperation in higher education in the Muslim World, Quality Certification and accreditation" organised on the sidelines of the forum and submitted a paper on "Trade in higher education services in the OIC Member States: Current situation and Challenges".

- 1st OIC HEALTH EXPO IN TUNISIA, the Exhibition grounds and International Trade Centre of Tunis: Tunis, 1st - 4th March 2012 - Tunisian Republic.

In implementation of the resolution n° 13 adopted by the 3rd Islamic Conference of Health Ministers held from 29 September to 1st October 2011 in Astana - Republic of Kazakhstan and the resolution n° 9 adopted by the 7th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held on 28-30 November 2010 in Tehran - Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the "Société des Foires Internationales de Tunis" (ITF) organized under the auspices of the Ministries of Industry and Handicrafts

and Public Health of the Republic of Tunisia, the 1st OIC HEALTH EXPO from 1st to 4th March 2012 in the Exhibitions Grounds of Kram – Tunis.

The Exhibition lasted four days and was open to the public and professionals in the health sector from 09.00 to 19.00.

This first edition of the Health exhibition in the OIC Member States recorded the participation of the following OIC Member Countries: Republic of Benin; Burkina Faso; Republic of Cameroon; Republic of Côte d'Ivoire; Republic of Gabon; Republic of Guinea; Republic of Iraq; Islamic Republic of Iran; Republic of Indonesia; Libya; Republic of Mali; Kingdom of Morocco; Islamic Republic of Mauritania; Republic of Niger; Islamic Republic of Pakistan; Republic of Senegal; Republic of Sudan; Sultanate of Oman; Republic of Chad; Republic of Togo and Republic of Tunisia.

The Exhibition was also marked by the participation of enterprises from the OIC Observer States (Central African Republic), Muslim minorities in non-Member countries (Autonomous province of Ningxia-Hui - People's Republic of China), and the following Non-Member States : Germany, France, the Netherlands and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is worth mentioning that ICDT sponsored the participation of the Kingdom of Morocco and Republic of Senegal in this exhibition.

Activities on the sidelines of the exhibition:

On the sidelines of the Exhibition, ICDT organized on 2nd March, 2012, respectively in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Health and GS1 Tunisia the following seminars:

- "The development of trade and partnership in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors in the OIC Member States";
- The GS1 Standards in the Health sector.

At the seminar on "the development of trade and partnership in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors in the OIC Member States", the Director General of ICDT presented the following papers:

- Study on the Pharmaceutical Industry in the OIC Member States;
- Regulation of International Trade in Medicines.

Other thematic conferences were also held during the Fair, including:

- Training and employment in the trades of Health in Tunisia;
- Concepts of innovative buildings at the service of the Health sector;
- The Clinical Research in Tunisia;
- Hospital hygiene and management of healthcare waste;
- Endobiogénie, herbal medicine clinic, advanced drug plants, medicinal applications in Tunisia;
- Health Sector and the South-South relations.

B2B meetings were also held between the businessmen of the sector.

The 1st OIC Halal Food Exhibition, Sharjah Expo Centre, Sharjah - State of the United Arab Emirates, 10-12 December 2012.

Within the framework of the activities aiming at achieving the Ten-Year Program of Action of the OIC adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the OIC Summit Conference held in December 2005 in Makkah Al Mukaramah (Saudi Arabia), in particular, the goal of raising the level of intra-OIC trade to 20% of the foreign trade of

the OIC Member States by the year 2015, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, organized under the patronage of HE Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Member of the UAE Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah and in collaboration with the Expo Centre of Sharjah, the First Halal Food Exhibition of the OIC Member States from 10 to 12 December 2012 at Expo Centre of Sharjah in the UAE.

The Exhibition, which lasted three days, was opened to the General public and professionals from 10.00 am to 17.00 pm.

90 companies and businessmen originating from the following Member States participated in this fair:

- United Arab Emirates
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- Republic of Lebanon
- Republic of Azerbaijan,
- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,
- Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Arab Republic of Egypt,
- Republic of Turkey
- Republic of Tunisia
- People's Democratic Republic of Algeria,
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Sultanate of Oman
- The Kyrgyz Republic,
- Malaysia.

Other non-OIC Members States also attended this event, namely Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, USA, Australia, Austria, Italy, Canada, Thailand, Japan, Germany, India, Belgium, South Africa, Netherlands, Ukraine, Taiwan, Great Britain, Russia, Denmark, Nepal.

The institutions operating in the field of the standards of Halal Food products participated in the Fair, including: The Institute of Standardization and Metrology for the Islamic Countries (SMIIC), the Islamic Council of Food and Nutrition in the United States of America, the European Institute of Halal Certification, Germany Halal, Italy Halal, the National Institute of Halal Products in South Africa, Pakistan Council for the Development of Halal Products.

The Fair was officially inaugurated by HE Sheikh Saquer bin Mohammed bin Khalid Al-Qasimi, Chairman of Islamic Affairs and Waqf of Sharjah (UAE), in the presence of H.E Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin IHSANOGLU, Secretary General of the OIC, HE Makhdoom Amin Fahim, Minister of Commerce of Pakistan, and a number of Eminent Personalities and Ambassadors of the OIC Member States accredited to the State of the United Arab Emirates.

- **1st Handicrafts Exhibition of the OIC Member States:** Casablanca – Morocco, 11- 14 April 2013

In compliance with the resolution adopted by the 28th Ministerial Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), held from 8th to 11th October 2012 in Istanbul - Republic of Turkey, which welcomed the offer of Kingdom of Morocco to host the First Edition of Commercial Handicrafts Exhibition of

the OIC Member States in 2013, the Ministry of Handicrafts of the Kingdom of Morocco organized jointly with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and in collaboration with the Office of Fairs and Exhibitions of Casablanca (OFEC), the 1st Commercial Handicrafts Exhibition of the OIC Member States, from 11th to 14th April 2013 at the exhibition grounds of the Office of Fairs and Exhibitions of Casablanca - Kingdom of Morocco.

This Exhibition lasted 6 days and was open to the General public from 9:00 to 18:00.

The First Edition of the First Commercial Handicrafts Exhibition of the OIC Member States recorded the participation of following 16 OIC Members States:

- People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
- Republic of Benin;
- People's Republic of Bangladesh;
- Burkina Faso;
- Republic of Cameroon;
- Republic of Guinea;
- Republic of Indonesia;
- Malaysia;
- Republic of Mali;
- Kingdom of Morocco;
- Islamic Republic of Mauritania;
- Republic of Niger;
- State of Palestine;
- Republic of Senegal;
- Syrian Community in Morocco;
- Republic of Tunisia.

This event was also attended by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Bayt Mal Al Quds Agency, the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining (AIDMO) and the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC).

- **6th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries in the OIC Member States:** 13-16 May 2013, Muscat - Sultanate of Oman.

Within the framework of cooperation strengthening between the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Sultanate of Oman in order to contribute to the implementation of the "Ten Year Programme of Action to meet challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century" adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Summit Conference held in Makkah Al mukarramah in December 2005, notably the objective of rising the Share of Intra-OIC trade to 20% by 2015, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and Al-Sha'am for organizing Exhibitions and Festivals L.L.C Sultanate of Oman organized the 6th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries in the OIC Member States from 13th to 16th May 2013 at the International Exhibition Centre of Oman in Muscat (Sultanate of Oman).

This Exhibition offered the economic operators of the agribusiness industries the opportunity to make known their products and services, conduct business transactions and establish partnerships, and encouraging investment in this vital sector for the economies of the OIC Member States.

The Fair, which lasted for four days, was opened to professionals and the public from 10.00 am to 13.00 pm and from 17.00 to 20.00.

The following Member States participated in this event:

- ✓ Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- ✓ Islamic Republic of Iran
- ✓ Arab Republic of Egypt
- ✓ Republic of Turkey
- ✓ Republic of Senegal
- ✓ Republic of Cameroon
- ✓ Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- ✓ Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ✓ Republic of Sudan
- ✓ Kazakhstan
- ✓ Libya
- ✓ Republic of the Gambia
- ✓ Republic of Niger
- ✓ Sultanate of Oman

This event was also attended by exhibitors from the Syrian Arab Republic as well as representatives of non-Muslim minorities from non OIC Member States, originating from the province of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China and represented by the Expo Bureau of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.

It was also attended by the representatives of international organizations and the following institutions:

- ✓ The OIC General Secretariat;
- ✓ The Institute Of Standards And Metrology For The Islamic Countries;
- ✓ International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
- ✓ Halal Products Development Council of Pakistan (HDC).

- **OIC China Expo and Economic and Trade Forum 2013:** Yinchuan-Autonomous Province of Ningxia Hui- People's Republic of China, 12-16 September 2013.

Within the framework of actions aiming at strengthening the economic and trade relations between the Members States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the Muslim minorities of non- Member States, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the Expo Bureau of Ningxia Hui held under the auspices of the Government of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Province, the 1st OIC-China Expo and the Economic and Trade Forum on 15 to 19 September 2013 in Yinchuan, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Province , People's Republic of China.

The aim of this event was to boost economic and trade relations between the OIC and China, especially between China and the Arab countries in the fields of energy, agriculture, and in particular Halal food products, finance and investment, infrastructure, tourism, mining and new information and communication technologies (ICTs).

The Exhibition and forums on cooperation dealt with the fields of agriculture, infrastructure investments, finance, education, tourism, mining and cooperation between SMEs, chambers of commerce and young entrepreneurs. The following OIC Member States took part in the aforesaid events: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco,

Mali, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, Turkey and Yemen.

Besides, the Delegation of ICDT participated in the forum on investment and infrastructure financing at which Dr. HZAINÉ presented a paper on Public /Private Partnership as a solution for financing infrastructure between China and the OIC countries. Mr. SALL made a presentation in which he tackled cooperation in the fields of trade and investments among the OIC Member States and China in the field of food products as well as in the agricultural sector.

During the Exhibition and forums, 158 agreements on economic and trade cooperation were signed, i.e. a value of USD 43 billion, of which 31 agreements relating to the Arab countries for a total amount of US \$ 8 billion.

- 4th "OIC WORLD BIZ" and 2nd OIC-Asia Business Forum, Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia
25-28 September 2013.

Kuala Lumpur, the economic capital of Malaysia, hosted from 25th to 28th September 2013 the 4th Edition of "OIC Biz World" under the theme "Enhancing the borderless economy" held concomitantly with the 2nd OIC/Asia Forum.

This event, organized by the Malaysian "OIC International Business Centre" and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and in collaboration with the Arab League with the main aim of promoting trade among Islamic Countries, was inaugurated in the presence of the Malaysian Senior Government Authorities namely, their Excellencies YB Dato' Sri Mustapha Mohamed - Minister of Trade and Industry, YB Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh - Minister of Education, YB Dato 'Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz - Minister of Tourism and Culture and the Mayor of the city of Kuala Lumpur, His Excellency YBhg Datuk Seri Md Phesal.

This meeting was also attended by Dr. El Hassane HZAINÉ - Director General of ICDT and Dato Raja Mohamad Abdullah, Manager of "OIC International Business Centre" as well as by the Representatives of universities and Islamic institutions and the tourism stakeholders and businessmen of Islamic Countries.

This event, which included in its program the organization of an exhibition, a forum and several thematic conferences, had a huge impact because it has mobilized 30,000 visitors, 421 exhibiting companies and 55 countries, including 24 Member States of the OIC (Algeria, Bangladesh, Brunei, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Turkey, UAE Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen).

The 1st International Exhibition of Muslim Business, 12th - 16th November 2013, Dakar, Republic of Senegal.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organized under the Patronage of the Ministry of finance and Economy of Senegal and in collaboration with the Professional Chair and Interethnic and Intercultural Research of the University of Quebec and the International Company of Investing and Consulting SA (ICIC) from 12 to 16 November 2013 in Dakar, the First International Exhibition of Muslim Business in the WAEMU space. This event gathered all the actors of the public and private sector of the financial and economic circles in order to promote the halal services and products in the Sub-Saharan space.

A training seminar on Islamic Finance was organized on the sidelines of this exhibition by the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB) on the themes of microfinance, Islamic investments funds and Waqf.

B/ OTHER PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

1. Setting up of a Business Centre:

The ICDT's business Centre is operational since 1st December 2013, it's a platform for business matching and concluding deals for individuals or business delegations alike.

2. Virtual Fair:

The project of a virtual Fair adopted by the 17th Session of ICDT's Board of Directors has been developed on the Internet Site of ICDT. Henceforth, the OIC countries' enterprises can promote their products through this virtual fair with a presentation of a catalogue, prices and patterns etc. A plan for the promotion of this Fair has been launched since July 2002 at the level of the enterprises of the OIC countries.

- First Annual Meeting of the Network of African French-speaking OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs: Casablanca, 23-24 December 2009.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the Kingdom of Morocco and in collaboration with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) the "*First Annual Meeting of the Network of African French-speaking OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs*", on 23rd and 24th December 2009 in Casablanca at ICDT's headquarters.

The most salient recommendations contained in "*Casablanca Declaration*" is the launching of the "*Global Network of the OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs (OIC TPO Network)*" within 2010 in order to start a new era and give an impetus to cooperation among the ICDT, ITFC and the TPOs through a new approach.

This new approach stipulates that ICDT, ITFC and the TPOs will proceed as follows:

- 1.** At a first stage the "*Network of French-speaking OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs*" have been launched on 24th December in Casablanca,
- 2.** At a second stage launching of the "*Networks of Arab and English speaking OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs*";
- 3.** And finally at the 3rd and ultimate stage holding of the Global Conference of Trade Promotion Organs of the OIC in 2010 in order to launch the "*Global Network of the OIC Member States' Trade Promotion Organs (OIC TPO Network)*" and adopt a "*Framework Agreement*" along with a specific Plan of Action devoted to cooperation among ICDT, ITFC and TPOs.

Participants decided to assign the Secretariat of the French Speaking Countries Network to the Senegalese Export Promotion Agency (ASEPEX) for a four years mandate.

- First Meeting of the OIC of the Arabic-speaking Member States' Trade Promotion Organs: Tunis 3-4 November 2010.

Within the framework of Trade and Investments promotion activities in the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the implementation of the Ten Year Programme of Action to meet the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century, adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukkaramah in December 2005, and in pursuance of the Casablanca Declaration adopted

by the "1st Meeting of the OIC French Speaking Countries Trade Promotion Organs" in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, in December 2009, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) jointly organized, under the auspices of the Ministry of Commerce , Industry and Handicrafts of the Republic of Tunisia and in collaboration with the Tunisia Export (CEPEX), the "1st Meeting of the OIC Arabic Speaking Countries Trade Promotion Organs" in Tunis, on 3rd and 4th November 2010.

In addition to reinforcing cooperation and exchange of experiences between the OIC Arabic Speaking Countries Trade Promotion Organs, participants agreed to launch in "**Tunis Declaration**" the Network of the OIC Arabic Speaking Countries Trade Promotion Organs and Tunisia Export is entrusted as the Secretariat of this Network.

On this occasion, several OIC Arabic Speaking Countries of which Morocco, Egypt, Mauritania, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Tunisia, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Oman as well as the IDB Group and Experts of the following Institutions and Regional Groupings such as League of Arab States participated in this event.

- Conference of the Global Network of the Trade Promotion organs (TPOS) of the OIC Member States.

After the launching of the TPOs' Networks of the French and Arabic speaking countries of the OIC Member States in Casablanca and Tunis respectively, in December 2009 and November 2010, ICDT will organize in collaboration with ITFC (IDB Group), the First Meeting of the Global Network of the OIC Member States (TPOs), which will be preceded by the launching of the Network of the English Speaking OIC Member States.

This Global Conference of the TPOs of the OIC Member States will officially launch the "Global OIC TPO Network" and adopt a Cooperation Framework Agreement provided with a Plan of Action.

Trade Missions:

Following the visit of the President of the Moroccan Exporters Association (ASMEX) to the headquarters of ICDT on January 29, 2013, the two sides scheduled to conduct respectively bilateral trade missions in the countries of East Africa, Asia and the Middle East and the tripartite missions (ICDT ASMEX and Export Morocco) in collaboration with the International Business Centre, Malaysia (OIC International Business Centre Sdn-Bhd - Malaysia) at the level of the OIC Asian Member States..

BUSINESS FORUMS:

- 4th World Islamic Economic Forum: Kuwait, from 29th April to 1st May 2008.

REMINDER:

ICDT is involved in the organization of the World Islamic Economic Forum since 2006.

ICDT contributed jointly with the Foundation of the World Islamic Economic Forum to the organisation of the 4th Edition of the World Islamic Economic Forum held in Kuwait from 29th April to 1st May 2008.

This Forum, which was inaugurated by the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, was attended by several Heads of States, Governments and Eminent Personalities such as His Majesty, KING ABDALLAH II, of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Maître Abdoulaye WADE, President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E Mr. Hamid

KARZAI, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, H.E Dr. Haris SILADZIC, President of Bosnia-Herzegovina, H.E. Mr Abdullah BADAWI, Prime Minister of Malaysia and the former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Mr Tony Blair and BOB HAWKE, Past Prime Minister of Australia.

The sessions of this Fourth Edition tackled several topical issues, notably the issues relating to the competitiveness of Islamic Countries, Telecommunications, development of infrastructures, the role of the private sector and that of education in development... Two topical issues were also discussed and aroused special attention, notably “the future of energy in a changing world” and the “food crisis in the world”.

This forum was marked by the decision of HRH, the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad-Al Jaber-Al Sabah to create a “Fund for Decent Living” amounting to 100 million US dollars to meet the needs of the most deprived people of the Islamic Ummah affected by the food crisis.

A part from the proceedings of the different sessions of the Forum, several events were organised on the sidelines of this event, notably:

- The businesswomen forum chaired by Sheikha Hissa Saad Al-Abdullah Al Sabah, Chairman of the Council of Arab businesswomen;
- The meeting of the young leaders, chaired by HE Mr Jamal Al-Shihab, Minister of Justice and labour and Social Affairs of Kuwait;
- Exhibition on the investment opportunities in Kuwait organised under the High Patronage of His Royal Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait and inaugurated by HE Mr. Mustafa Jassem Al-Shamali, Minister of Finance of Acting Minister of Commerce and Industry of the State of Kuwait.

- **5th World Islamic Economic Forum:** Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, 1-4 March 2009.

A Delegation from ICDT took part in the 5th World Islamic Economic Forum organised under the high patronage of His Excellency Mr. SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO, President of the Republic of Indonesia and H.E HON DATA SERI ABDULLAH HAJ AHMAD BADAWI, Prime Minister of Malaysia, by the WIEF Foundation in Jakarta from 1st to 4th March 2009.

ICDT participated in the proceedings of the Forum and the exhibition, which took place in parallel of the Forum.

It should be recalled in this regard that the Director General of ICDT participated in two meetings of the follow up committee of the world Islamic Economic Forum in Jeddah in September 2008 and in Jakarta on 28th February 2009.

- **7th World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF):** Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, 7-9 June 2011.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade was represented by Mr. Amadou Ciré SALL at the 7th World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) held in Astana from 6 to 9 June 2011.

This forum is organised by the WIEF Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

This forum recorded more than 2,500 participants coming from about forty countries of which 26 OIC Member States.

- **OIC-Central Asia Business Forum:** Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, 22-23 November 2011.

Within the framework of the implementation of the resolutions of the 3rd Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference of Makkah Al Mukaramah held in December 2005 and the 38th session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States held in Astana in June 2011, which adopted respectively the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action and the Special Programme for Central Asia, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the National Export & Investment Agency of Kazakhstan “KAZNEX INVEST” and the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC, member of Islamic Development Bank Group), organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry and New Technology (MINT) of the Republic of Kazakhstan, “*the 1st OIC and Central Asia Business Forum*” in Astana, from 22nd to 23rd November 2011.

The main goal of this forum is on the one hand, to sensitise the economic operators to potential and real trade opportunities between the two areas and to inform participants about the different services and products offered to the business circles by the regional and international institutions on the other.

The following Member States attended this Business Forum: The Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Gabon, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the State of Kuwait, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Libya, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Malaysia, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Tunisia and the Republic of Turkey. The Business Forum was also attended by the following Institutions: the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credits (ICIEC)/IDB Group, the Regional Office of IDB Group in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the League of Arab States, the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), the World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) and the Kazakhstan Agencies and Institutions specialised on trade and investment.

- **Forum on the Development of Food Industries in Africa:** Bamako, Mali, 25-27 February 2009.

The Government of the Republic of Mali, the OIC General Secretariat, ICDT and the IDB Group (ITFC, ICIEC, etc...) organised from 25th to 27th February 2009 a forum on the Development of Food Industries in Africa”.

The objectives of the Forum are the following:

- ✓ To promote trade among the OIC Member States in the agribusiness industry;
- ✓ To promote investments in the agribusiness sector in Africa;
- ✓ To establish partnership links between African economic operators and foreign investors;
- ✓ To re-launch economic growth in Africa.

ICDT contributed directly on the one hand, to the organisation and moderation of the special session on “The role of the OIC Institutions in the promotion of the agribusiness in Africa” and to the organisation of the buyers/sellers meeting of agribusiness on the other.

ICDT was provided with a stand within the Fair/exhibition, which was organised in parallel with the forum.

IV/ PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE CENTRE:

A/ The OIC Cotton Project:

- **Buyers-sellers Workshop on "Trade and Investment in the Cotton Sector in OIC Member States":** Cairo, 12th - 13th October 2009.

In pursuance of the relevant resolutions of the 24th Ministerial session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul in October 2008, the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) in collaboration with the General Organization for International Exhibitions and Fairs (GOIEF) and the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) organized a Workshop on "Trade and Investment in the Cotton Sector in OIC Member States" in Cairo on 12th - 13th October 2009 on the sidelines of the 12th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (12th OIC/EXPO 2009, 11th - 16th October 2009) in the Conference Hall AHMOUSS of the General *Organization for International Exhibitions and Fairs*.

This workshop was composed of three tracks:

- A seminar (12th October 2009);
- Buyers/sellers meeting and visits to some leading Egyptian factories working in the cotton sector and products thereof in Alexandria (13th October 2009).

The Representatives of the following OIC Member States attended this Workshop:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Niger, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan.

As well as:

- **The OIC following Institutions:**
 - The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC);
 - The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).
 - The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT).

And:

- **The Representatives of the following International and Regional Organizations:**
 - The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC);
 - The African Cotton Association (ACA).

- **Fourth Steering Committee Meeting and the Third Project Committee Meeting on Cotton:** Casablanca- Kingdom of Morocco, 27-28 September 2010

In compliance with the Resolution n° 70 of the 26th Follow up Committee Meeting of the COMCEC held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey, from 11 to 12 May, 2010, the "Third Project Committee Meeting and the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan" were organised by the OIC General Secretariat, ICDT and IDB Group in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 27-28 September 2010.

The 4th Meeting of the Steering Committee for the implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan was held on 28 September 2010 in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, for the final approval of the project proposals and suggestions presented in the Third Project Committee Meeting.

The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Ismail KALENDER, the Chairman of the Steering Committee (General Manager, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Republic of Turkey).

The following OIC Member States attended the Meeting:

- The Republic of Azerbaijan;
- The Syrian Arab Republic;
- Burkina Faso;
- The People's Republic of Bangladesh;
- The Republic of Cameroon;
- The Republic of Indonesia;
- The Kingdom of Morocco;
- The Republic of Mozambique;
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- The Republic of Senegal;
- The Republic of Turkey;
- The Republic of Uganda.

In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting as members of the Steering Committee:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB Group)

During this meeting, participants mentioned the necessity of the funding mechanism to include all national, regional and international stakeholders such as Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA), Saudi Fund for Development, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, African Development Bank (ADB) and West African Development Bank (BOAD), for this purpose. Similarly, the various regional economic agencies, such as ECOWAS, NEPAD, ECO, D8, COMESA, GCC, and others do have programmes that can complement our ongoing initiatives in the cotton sub-sector.

Apart from giving the needed technical support, this approach would seek to mobilize resources for the projects from all possible sources for their timely implementation.

The Committee examined the issue of the extension of the OIC Five Year Cotton Action Plan for another five year additional period from 2011 to 2016.

The next meeting will be organized by ICDT in collaboration with IDB Group in Ouagadougou on September 22nd, 2011 on the sideline of the First Cotton and Textiles Fair of the OIC Member States.

- **4th Project Committee Meeting for the implementation of the OIC Cotton Action Plan:** Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso, 22 September 2011

ICDT and IDB Group organized the Fourth Meeting of the Project Committee on 22 September 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Dr. Osman Mahgoub ELFIEL, from the IDB Group, Chaired the Fourth Project Committee Meeting.

The OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, Members countries of the Steering Committee, the Centres of Excellence, OIC concerned institutions, namely, ICDT and IDB Group and following Member States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon,

Mali, Morocco, Senegal, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey) took also part in this meeting.

Opening the meeting, the Chairman made a brief introduction on the importance of the deliberations of the Project Committee. He also recalled the work and recommendations of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Project Committee Meetings.

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

B/ The “OIC High Level Forum on Trade Facilitation & Single Window Initiatives for Enhanced Regional Economic Cooperation”: Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, 25-26 February 2013

With a view to facilitating trade among the OIC Member Countries and accelerating the achievement of the target consisting of increasing intra-OIC trade share in total trade of Member States to 20% by 2015 as recommended in the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the 3rd OIC Extraordinary Summit, held in Makkah Al-Mukkarama in December 2005;

and in compliance with the resolution n° 26 of the 28th session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), relating to the organization of an OIC High Level Forum on Trade Facilitation and Single Window, which urges Member Countries to actively participate in the Forum and requests the organizers to submit a report to the next session of the COMCEC,

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and New Technologies of the Kingdom of Morocco, the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC - Member of the Islamic Development Bank Group) and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organized in Casablanca, Morocco, the “OIC High Level Forum on Trade Facilitation & Single Window Initiatives for Enhanced Regional Economic Cooperation” in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) from 25-26 February 2013.

Objectives:

The objectives of the forum are as follows:

- sharing knowledge and experiences, best practices among the participants on the implementation of national trade facilitation programs as well as promoting the use of international standards and applications in single window & paperless trade projects;
- strengthen cooperation and collaborations amongst Customs Administrations and Trade Ministries and across the borders in order to harmonize, simplify trade and customs procedures, enhance information and data exchange in trade related areas towards the objective of enhancing regional economic integration and cooperation;
- discuss various trade facilitation projects to be implemented at national and regional level, which includes:
 - 1) The Feasibility Study on Establishing OIC Single Window System (at the initial stage for 10 OIC MCs which signed and ratified OIC PRETAS Agreement);
 - 2) Establishing regional single windows at sub regional levels to promote intra trade;
 - 3) Establishing regional trade information portal/market access websites;
 - 4) Replication of successfully implemented trade facilitation measures in other OIC MCs through twining projects, institutional capacity development programs and reverse linkages.

Representatives of the following Member States attended the High Level Forum:

The Kingdom of Bahrain, Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Gabon, Republic of Guinea, Republic of Iraq, State of Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Republic of Mali, Kingdom of Morocco, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Republic of Niger, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Sultanate of Oman, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Sudan, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Yemen.

Representatives of the following Non Member States: Republic of the Congo and Singapore.

The High Level Forum was also attended by the following OIC Institutions:

1. The OIC General Secretariat;
2. COMCEC Coordination Office,
3. Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB Group),
4. International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC)
5. Islamic Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA),
6. Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT).

Representatives from:

1. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),
2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
3. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD),
4. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA),
5. United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA),
6. Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA),
7. League of Arab States (LAS)
8. Dagan Net Technologies
9. West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)
10. Global Coalition For Efficient Logistics (GCEL)
11. International Road Transport Union (IRU).
12. African Alliance for Electronic Trade (AAE)

At the end of the HLF, in line with the content of the agenda and as an overview of the discussions and exchanges arising from the presentations, participants took part in a lively discussion aimed at defining a set of specific strategic actions to be taken in the short and medium term within the framework of the OIC High Level Forum on Trade Facilitation & Single Window Initiatives for Enhanced Regional Economic Cooperation.

In this regard, participants entrusted the ICDT and ITFC to follow up this matter and submit progress reports to the OIC fora.

C/Regional Project “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”:

In compliance with the decision of H.E the OIC Secretary General, ICDT ensures, since 2006, the follow up of the implementation of the project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas”. This project includes ten OIC Member States (Benin, Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone).

REMINDER:

- **1st Meeting of the Committee on the Regional Project of “Sustainable Tourism**

Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa": Casablanca, 10-11 July 2006.

A meeting of the Project Committee was held on 10th and 11th July 2006 in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) at the headquarters of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT).

This Committee is composed of the Regional Representative of the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) for Africa, the Regional Coordinator of the Project, Mr. Mohamed Sakho and SESRIC.

The aim of this meeting was to:

- Present the Activity Programme approved on the sidelines of the 44th Meeting of the UNWTO Committee for Africa held in Bamako (Mali) 8th May 2006;
- To discuss the support modalities to the mobilisation of needed resources for the working out of the feasibility study;
- To discuss the coordination mechanisms for the implementation of this project.

The outcomes of the meeting were as follows:

- Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between contracting parties;
- The setting up of a Follow up Permanent Committee (ICDT, SESRIC, Regional Coordinator and the UNWTO);
- Adoption of the draft terms of References of the Feasibility Study of the Project and submission of funding application of the project to IDB;
- Drawing up of a programme of Planned Activities;
- Contribution of the UNWTO for an amount of US\$ 50,000 within the framework of the financing of the feasibility study of the project whose total budget amounts to US\$ 425,000.

◆ **2nd Meeting of the Committee on the Regional Project of "Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa": Baku, Azerbaijan, 10th September 2006.**

In compliance with the recommendations of the First Meeting of the Committee on the Regional Project of *"Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa"* held in Casablanca from 10th to 12th July 2006, ICDT has invited the contracting parties to the project to a 2nd meeting of the said Committee extended to 9 Member Countries, the Representatives of the OIC General Secretariat and the IDB's Representative, which took place on 10th September 2006 in Gulustan Palace on the sidelines of the 5th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held at the same place from 9th to 12th September 2006.

Upon deliberations, the meeting recommended among other the following:

- Approves the Reports of the Regional Coordinator and those of ICDT and the terms of reference of the Feasibility Study of the Project with four components as presented for its financing;
- Recommends the sending within the shortest possible time of a Ministerial Delegation of Member States accompanied by the Representatives of the contracting parties to IDB to raise its awareness to the importance of this project and make it grant a substantial financial contribution to the concerned study;
- Kindly requests H.E the OIC Secretary General to get involved in this initiative;
- Requests the Republic of Guinea to prepare this mission in coordination with the

different contracting parties and to agree within the shortest possible time on the most convenient date to carry it out.

- ✦ **Meeting of the Committee on the Regional Project of “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”**: Casablanca, 24th March 2008.

Within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for the strengthening of Economic and Commercial Cooperation, 9 OIC Member States and the UNWTO: Benin, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra-Leone have initiated a project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas”.

To that effect, the Steering Committee held a meeting in Casablanca on 24th March 2008.

It is worth recalling that the Steering Committee was held successively in Dakar (March 2005), Bamako (May 2006), Casablanca (July 2006), Baku (September 2006), Accra (October 2007), Carthagène De Indias (November (2007).

The aim of this meeting was to take stock of the progress achieved in the implementation of the project and to update the Programme of planned activities for the year 2008/2009.

This meeting was attended by:

- Republic of Guinea,
 - Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Republic of Mali
 - Republic of Senegal,
 - The Regional Coordinator of the Project,
 - The OIC General Secretariat,
 - The United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO),
 - ICDT and SESRIC.
- ✦ **6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers**: Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, 29th June-2nd July 2008.

ICDT participated in the proceedings of the 6th Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) as well as in the preparatory Meeting of the Senior Officials, which took place in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 29th June to 2nd July 2008.

This Conference was attended by 36 Member States of the OIC in addition to the Representatives of the OIC General Secretariat, and the following subsidiary organs and specialised and affiliated institutions: SESRIC, IRCICA, ICDT, IDB, ISESCO, ICCI and ICYF-DC. The UNWTO and the Arab Tourism Organisation were also represented at this Conference.

- ✦ **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”**: Madrid, 6-7 February 2009.

The Director General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Mr. Allal RACHDI, participated in the meeting on the “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”, Madrid 6-7 February 2009 at the headquarters of the World Tourism Organisation in Madrid, Kingdom of Spain.

This meeting focused on the consideration of the results of the 1st stage of the Feasibility

Study prepared by the Consulting Company.

During this meeting, ICDT which ensures the coordination of the project at the level of the OIC reiterated the support of the OIC to this project and informed participants of the steps taken by the OIC and the Islamic Development Bank Group to ensure the implementation of this project.

- ✦ **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Regional Project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”**: Casablanca, 9-10 July 2009.

Within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for the strengthening of Economic and Commercial Cooperation, 9 OIC Member States and the UNWTO: Benin, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra-Leone have initiated a project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas”. To that effect, the Steering Committee held a meeting in Casablanca on 9th and 10th July 2009.

It is worth recalling that the Steering Committee was held successively in Dakar (March 2005), Bamako (May 2006), Casablanca (July 2006), Baku (September 2006), Accra (October 2007), Carthagène De Indias (November (2007), Casablanca (24th March 2008) and Madrid on (6th February 2009).

The following Member States and international organisations attended this meeting:

- Burkina Faso;
- Republic of the Gambia;
- Republic of Guinea;
- Republic of Mali;
- Republic of Niger;
- Regional Coordinator of the Project;
- UNWTO,
- ICDT
- Research Firm “Secheresse Consultants” .

The steering committee approved the strategic orientations proposed by the Research Firm “Secheresse Consultants” provided that the latter takes into account the recommendations, observations and suggestions formulated during the meeting for the working out of the final strategy of the project.

- ✦ **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the “Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross Border parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”**: Astana, 3rd October 2009.

ICDT participated in the Steering Committee of the “Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a network of Cross-border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa” met in Astana (Republic of Kazakhstan) to examine the remaining activities of the project. The Republics of Benin, Niger, Mali, Senegal, Mauritania and Burkina Faso were represented during this meeting in addition to the Ministers of Benin and Niger.

This meeting was held on the sidelines of the 18th Session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) which on this occasion adopted a resolution on the project.

- **Meeting of the Committee on the Regional Project of “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”:** Madrid, December 15th - 16th, 2009.

ICDT participated at the Steering Committee of the “Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa” held in Madrid, on December 15th - 16th, 2009.

This meeting was held in order to examine and endorse project proposals and related costs within the framework of the “Phase 3: Plan of Action” of the feasibility study on the “Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”.

This meeting was attended by:

- The Representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania and Niger;
- ICDT, SESRIC, UNWTO, UNWTO STEP Foundation; the Regional Coordinator of the Project, the Research Firm «Secheresse Consultants».

The Experts of the Research Firm “Sécheresse Consultants” presented a working paper entitled “Phase 3: Plan of Action” which proposes several projects, as well as related costs, to be implemented for the development of West African Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas. The Experts indicated that the amount of investments to realize on these Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas would reach around 45 678 742 Euros. They also proposed a planning of realization of these investments.

Participants agreed inter alia on the following:

1. The organization of a joint mission composed of the Director General of ICDT, the Regional Representative of the WTO for Africa and the Regional Coordinator of the Project to raise financial Institutions awareness, notably those located in the Gulf, participants requested the support of OIC for this mission;
2. The holding of a Seminar with the financial Institutions at the end of March 2010, in Dakar; the importance of the participation of the Ministers of Tourism of all concerned countries to this Seminar was stressed.

- **The Donors Conference for the Financing of the Regional Project of Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa:** 27-28 May 2011 - Dakar - Republic of Senegal.

In order to mobilize the funds needed to finance **the Regional Project of Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa**, the Steering Committee of the concerned project organized under the High Patronage of His Excellency Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal and Current Chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), a Conference of Donors in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 27 and 28 May, 2011.

This conference was preceded by the holding of a coordination meeting of the Steering Committee in the presence of focal points and managers of parks and protected areas on 26th May, 2011.

Besides, on the sidelines of the Conference and within the framework of the Steering Committee, it was decided to consider the possibility of organising a similar meeting with the private sector (donors, investors, and private funds donors) with a view to strengthening the implementation of this project in compliance with the recommendation

of the management of cross border parks and protected areas in public/private partnership while recommending to invite the recipient countries of the project to allow beforehand domain concessions to this end.

- ✦ **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the "Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected areas in West Africa":** Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, 7 – 8 February 2012.

The Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Regional Project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa” was held on 7th and 8th February 2012 in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) in order to consider the ways and means of implementing the Project and its extension to other West African States.

This meeting that aimed at establishing a new strategy for revitalizing the project has gathered the stakeholders responsible for its implementation namely, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) and the Project Regional Coordination represented by Her Excellency Mrs Baldé Hadja Mariama BAH, Minister of Hospitality, Tourism and Handicraft of the Republic of Guinea.

The meeting also recorded the participation of the Representatives of Burkina Faso, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Regional Office of the Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB) in Rabat.

Latest developments:

- ✦ **First meeting of the Technical Committee, Tourism, Transport and Communication of ECOWAS states:** 3rd to 5th April 2012 in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire.

With a view to reviving and boosting tourism in the West African Region, the first meeting of the Technical Committee, Tourism, Transport and Communication of ECOWAS States was held from 3rd to 5th April 2012 in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire.

This meeting was attended by the representatives of the ECOWAS Committee and the following countries: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Gambia, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo and Senegal.

This meeting was also attended by some experts as resource person of whom, Mr. Mohamed SAKHO, Regional Coordinator of the “Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”, who on this occasion reported on the latest developments of this project.

Given its relevance and its socioeconomic impacts, the Committee underscored the importance of the adherence of all ECOWAS Member States to this project and also recommended that ECOWAS should henceforth become the official implementation body of the project. In this regard, the Committee added that the implementation terms and conditions of this recommendation by ECOWAS must be determined in consultation with the stakeholders (UNWTO, OIC Member States and UNCTAD).

- ✦ **Meeting of the Steering Committee on the sidelines of the 20th General Assembly of the UNWTO and the Pan African Conference on the management of sustainable tourism in African Parks and Protected Areas:** Arusha, October 2012.

In compliance with the provisional activity programme for 2012-2013, the Steering Committee of the Project of “Sustainable Tourism Development in Cross Border Parks

and Protected Areas in West Africa will meet on 17th October in Arusha on the sidelines of the 20th General Assembly of the UNWTO and the Pan-African Conference on the management of sustainable tourism in African Parks and Protected Areas to be held in Arusha (Tanzania).

The Agenda items of the meeting deal with the following issues:

- ✦ Review and approval of the priority projects submitted to the appreciation of the Steering Committee by Member States.
- ✦ Assessment of the implementation of the provisional Activity programme for 2012-2013;
- ✦ Report of the meeting of the Tourism Ministers of the ECOWAS held on 21-22 June 2012 in Banjul;
- ✦ Proposals of financing mobilisation strategies at regional and international levels.
 1. Information and awareness raising meeting on the sidelines of the 8th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers scheduled to be held in November 2012 in Sudan.
 2. Organisation of the Donors Conference scheduled to be held in December 2012, which is open to the participation of Arab and Islamic Financial Institutions and to the private sector and holding of a Meeting of the Steering Committee for the assessment and approval of the outcomes of the Conference.

D/Project Committee on the “Technical Cooperation between the Industrial Property Offices in the OIC Member States”:

REMINDER:

Within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) adopted by the 7th OIC Summit in Casablanca in December 1994, which scheduled the holding of sector based meetings to bring out concrete cooperation projects in six priority areas of the Plan of Action, namely: Human development, training, agriculture, health, technical cooperation and trade.

And following the recommendations of the Standing committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC member States (COMCEC) at its session held in Istanbul-Republic of Turkey from 22nd to 25th November 2005, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) was entrusted to ensure the coordination of the technical cooperation project between the Patent Offices in the OIC Member States.

ICDT organises two conferences in collaboration with the Turkish Patent Institute.

- ✦ **First Conference on “Technical Cooperation between the Industrial Property Offices in the OIC Member States”:** Ankara, 14th - 15th December 2006.

In compliance with the resolution of the 22nd Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) held on November 21-24, 2006 in Istanbul, ICDT and the Turkish Patent Institute organised jointly from 14th to 16th December 2006 in Ankara a Conference on “Technical Cooperation among the Industrial Property Offices (IP) in the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)”.

The Representatives of the following 16 OIC Member States attended the Conference: Burkina Faso, Comoros, Guinea, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Morocco, Mozambique, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, in addition to the Islamic Centre for development of Trade (ICDT), Islamic Development

Bank (IDB) and other international institutions, namely the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), World Trade Organisation (WTO), European Patent Office (EPO) and the Patent Office of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

After the opening ceremony, presentations on the role of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in international trade and the recent developments and common problems of IP Offices in the OIC Member States, were made by representatives from WIPO, WTO, EPO, Hungarian, Moroccan and Turkish IP Offices.

After fruitful discussions, two sub-committees were formed on:

- 1) "Institutional Capacity Building" to be coordinated by the Turkish Patent Institute;
- 2) "Information Technology" to be coordinated by the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC).

In order to launch the proceedings of these two sub-committees an action plan was adopted.

- **2nd Conference on "Technical Cooperation among the Industrial Property Offices in the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)":** Casablanca-Kingdom of Morocco, 11-13 July 2007.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) in collaboration with the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC) organised the Second Conference on "Technical Cooperation among the Industrial Property Offices in the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation" from 11th to 13th July 2007 in the Complex of the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC) in Casablanca-Kingdom of Morocco.

The main goal of this Conference is to adopt the work programmes of the two sub-committees that were set up during the 1st Conference held in Ankara in December 2006, on the basis of the answer to the questionnaire sent by ICDT to the Industrial Property Institutions in March 2007.

This Conference was attended by:

- The Representatives of the Industrial Property Offices in the following Member States: Albania, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Iran, Jordan, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iran, Mali, Malaysia, Nigeria, Palestine, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia. Arab Maghreb Union (UMA) and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Recent developments:

- Two workshop activities took place in close cooperation between the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) and WIPO in 2009, namely:

1. The Inter-regional Workshops on Industrial Property Policies and innovation:

In this regard, the Turkish Patent Institute has invited the Institutes of Saudi Arabia and Malaysia on September 2008 to renew their commitment to organize their respective workshops. TPI has not received any information from these Offices so far regarding the date of organization of these workshops. In this regard, the TPI has requested the assistance of WIPO in order to facilitate the process.

TPI organized a workshop on Industrial Property Policies (18-19 March 2012 and OMPIC (Morocco) held a workshop on Innovation from 27th to 28th May 2012 in Casablanca

A Portal dedicated to Intellectual Property Information (PI) in the OIC Member States:

ICDT set up in close collaboration with the OMPIC (Morocco) a Portal dedicated to Intellectual Property Information (PI) in the OIC Member States that will be hosted by ICDT.

This portal will provide access to the general information on the IP in the OIC Member States, the laws and inquiry forms, procedures, search engines, on brands in a first stage and later on, it will be extended to other fields of the IP.

It will also contain an extranet as platform for discussions and information exchange between the staff of the Industrial Property Offices.

Assistance will be extended to the LDCs to enable them to have access to the Extranet and participate in the information dissemination within the portal.

ICDT has sent the terms of references of this portal to IDB Group in July 2008 in order to examine the possibility of financing this project.

TPI and ICDT informed the meeting that the duration of this project shall be extended in order to achieve the remaining activities included in the business plan adopted by the 2nd Conference on "Technical Cooperation between the Industrial Property Offices in the OIC Member States" held in Casablanca from 11th to 13th July 2007.

- **Seminar on the Industrial Property Policies in the OIC Member States:** Ankara, Republic of Turkey from 8th to 9th November 2012.

The Turkish Patent Institute (TPI), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Turkish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (TIKA) and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade organized a seminar on "Industrial Property Policies of the OIC Member States held in Ankara, Republic of Turkey from 8 to 9 November 2012".

This meeting was attended by the following organizations: ICDT, COMCEC SESRIC, WIPO, the ECO Secretariat and the following 25 countries: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Morocco, Oman, Uganda, Pakistan, Qatar, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Observer State), Japan and Germany.

Seminar on the promotion of R & D, Technological Innovation and Intellectual Property of the OIC Member States: 24th to 25th October 2013, Casablanca, Morocco.

Within the framework of the implementation of the COMCEC's project on "Technical Cooperation between the Office of Industrial Property of the OIC Member States", the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC) in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) will organize under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and New Technologies of The Kingdom of Morocco, a seminar on "*the promotion of R & D, Technological Innovation and Intellectual Property of the OIC Member States*" from 24th to 25th October 2013 in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

This seminar is open to the participation of executives working in the field of industrial

and intellectual property of the OIC Member States as well as Experts of regional and international institutions and academics.

The objective of this seminar is to review the latest developments in the field of the valorization of R & D, technological innovation and intellectual property in the international arena and in the OIC Member States and to promote South-South cooperation in this area.

The seminar will cover the following issues:

- ❖ Intellectual property and the valorization of R & D.
- ❖ Management infrastructures of the valorization and the intellectual property.
- ❖ Promotional Tools of technological intelligence and intellectual property.

The seminar's program includes a study visit to the National Institute of Posts and Telecommunications (INPT) and the Moroccan Foundation for Science, Innovation and Advanced Research (MASCIR) of Rabat, which will be followed by a round table on the partnership model between the OIC countries in the dissemination and marketing of technological innovation, notably patents, in a bid to launch the second phase of the technical cooperation project between the Offices of Industrial Property of the OIC Member States.

E/ Project relating to the Technical Cooperation between the Competition Authorities of OIC Member States:

- **Regional Seminar on "Competition Policies and Regulations in the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)":** Tunis, Republic of Tunisia, 22-24 February 2010.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), a subsidiary Organ of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Ministry of Trade and Handicraft of the Tunisian Republic organised in collaboration with Islamic Research and Training Institute (IDB Group) an inter-regional seminar on "competition policy in the OIC Member States: present status and prospects" in Tunis, from 22nd to 24th February 2010.

The aim of this seminar was to take stock of the legal situation and competition policies in the OIC Member States with a view to examining the ways and means likely to promote competition law and facilitate intra-OIC trade and investments, and explore the launching modalities of the cooperation programme among the OIC Member States in the field of competition law and policies.

The aims of this seminar were:

- ✓ To train participants in the implementation of competition Law and policy and the application of reforms that prove to be necessary in this field;
- ✓ To explain to participants the need for establishing a national legislation on competition or to adapt the existing rules;
- ✓ To introduce participants to the fundamental principles of a competition policy and the link with the other sectors of national economic policy;
- ✓ To present to participants the instruments and methods of controlling the different aspects and competition rules;
- ✓ To provide participants with the means of getting information on the evolution of their institutional and legal structures;
- ✓ To compare the existing legislation in order to obtain information on the elements and necessary stages for the implementation of the useful reforms in the field of the national competition policy.

Twenty countries participated in this seminar.

- Istanbul Conference on "Needs Assessment of the OIC Member States in the field of Competition Law and Policy": Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 21st -22nd November 2011.

Istanbul Conference on "Needs Assessment of the OIC Member States in the Field of Competition Law and Policy" was held in Istanbul, on November 21-22, 2011.

This Conference was organized by the Turkish Competition Authority, ICDT and IDB Group.

More than 50 representatives attended this Conference from the following 28 OIC: Member (Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, the Gambia, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Palestine, the Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Yemen), 4 Observer States (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russian Federation, Turkish Cypriot State; Special Guest: Kosovo), COMCEC Coordination Office, Islamic Development Bank, SESRIC and invited speakers from United Kingdom, Ireland, Pakistan, ICDT and Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International).

F/ Project on the creation of an Observatory on Non-Tariff Barriers at ICDT's Headquarters:

Within the framework of intra-OIC trade development and the contribution to the gradual removal of non-tariff trade barriers, ICDT is planning to organise in collaboration with the COMCEC Coordination Office and the IDB Group, an Experts Group Meeting on Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade in the OIC Member States in Turkey in 2014.

The objective of this seminar is to identify NTBs and define a modality for the gradual elimination of these barriers (in accordance with the relevant articles of the PRETAS) in order to facilitate intra-OIC trade.

This meeting is open to the participation of Member States having ratified the TPS/OIC as well as regional and international bodies. It will also strengthen the capacity of the ICDT's Observatory of NTBs.

V. TRADE NEGOTIATIONS:

A/ TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE TPS/OIC:

REMINDER:

Since the coming into force of the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferences System among Islamic Countries and in compliance with the COMCEC's resolutions, ICDT and the COMCEC Coordination Office act as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee and have supervised the 1st and 2nd Rounds launched in Antalya (Republic of Turkey) in April 2004 and in Ankara in 2007 under the auspices of the COMCEC.

✦ **SECOND ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS:**

- ✦ **First meeting for the launching of the second round of trade negotiations for the establishment of a Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States:** Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 24-26 November 2006.

ICDT participated in the Ministerial Meeting for the launching of the second round of trade negotiations within the framework of the TPS/OIC held in Istanbul from 24th to 26th November 2006. This meeting was chaired by the Minister of State in charge of foreign trade of the Republic of Turkey Mr. Kursad TUZMEN.

- ✦ **Second Meeting for the launching of the Second Round of Trade Negotiations for Establishing the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States:** Ankara, March 2007.

ICDT participated in the Second Meeting of the 2nd Round of Trade Negotiations for Establishing a Preferential Trade System among the OIC Member States held in Ankara from 27th to 30th March 2007. The Centre was represented by Mr. HZAINÉ, Director of Studies and Training. This meeting mainly examined the following two points: the Rules of origin and the Para-Tariff and non-Tariff Measures contained in the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for the TPS/OIC (PRETAS).

- ✦ **Third Meeting for the launching of the Second Round of Trade Negotiations for establishing a Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States:** Ankara, June 2007.

ICDT participated in the Third Meeting of the Second Round of Trade Negotiations held in Ankara from 19th to 22nd June 2007. The Centre was represented by Mr. HZAINÉ, Director of Studies and Training.

During this meeting, the Trade Negotiations Committee examined the Draft Rules of Origin of the TPS/OIC based on the proposal made by Turkey in November 2006 and amended in compliance with the observations made by the Participating States during the Second Meeting.

- ✦ **Fourth Meeting for the launching of the Trade Negotiations Committee for establishing a Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States:** Ankara, 10th – 13th September 2007.

ICDT participated in the Second Ministerial Meeting for the launching of the Second Round of Trade Negotiations within the framework of the TPS/OIC held in Ankara from 10th to 13th September 2007. This Meeting was chaired by the Minister of State in charge of foreign Trade of the Republic of Turkey.

Previously, the Committee of Trade Negotiations had finalised the draft text of the Rules of Origin that is submitted for signature by the Participating States.

- ✦ **Evaluation Meeting of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) among the OIC Member States:** Ankara (Republic of Turkey), 17th - 19th June 2008.

ICDT participated in the Evaluation Meeting of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) of the TPS/OIC held from 17th to 19th June 2008 in Ankara (Republic of Turkey).

The agenda items mainly dealt with the evaluation of the results of the two negotiations rounds of the TNC and the required actions to be carried out for the implementation of the PRETAS and the Rules of Origin of the TPS/OIC on 1st January 2009) date fixed by

the COMCEC for its coming into force.

Sixteen countries of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) participated in this meeting of which The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which participated for the first time in this meeting as full member after having accomplished the ratification procedures of the TPS/OIC in August 2007.

Seven Member States also participated in this evaluation meeting as observers along with the Representatives of the following organisations: the Members of the TNC Secretariat (the COMCEC Coordination Office and ICDT), IDB, SESRIC and the West African and Monetary Union (WAEMU).

The Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for the TPS/OIC (PRETAS) was ratified by 17 Member States: Bahrain, Bangladesh, The Gambia, Iran, Jordan, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

The PRETAS came into force on 5 February 2010 and protocol on Rules of Origin in August 2012.

ICDT'S ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

- The 9th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation has entrusted to ICDT and the COMCEC coordination Office the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating committee.

Within this framework, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade provides to Member States technical assistance under the form of training sessions intended for the executive staff operating in the field of foreign trade or by submitting explanatory notes on the framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States and on the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS/OIC (PRETAS) and the protocol on the Rules of Origin.

It should be noted in this respect that the Trade Negotiating Committee has requested the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the COMCEC Coordination Office during the Evaluation Meeting held in June 2008 in Ankara to present explanatory notes on the dispute issues raised by some Member States.

In pursuance of this request, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade expounded the dispute issues on which some countries made official reserves or expressed divergent opinions and explanations. However, during the Twenty Fourth Session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul in October 2008, some countries noted that further discussions and investigations on these issues would be utterly useless since the meetings of the Trade Negotiations Committee has made final and irreversible decisions on them.

Still, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade is fully ready to provide comprehensive explanatory notes related to issues debated within the framework of negotiations on the Trade Preferential System (TPS/OIC), the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS and the Protocol on the Rules of Origin as soon as he receives official requests from your August Meeting or from any relevant organ of the organization of the Islamic Conference or from Member Countries.

In this regard, I would like to inform your August Meeting that the Islamic Centre for

Development of Trade has recently prepared explanatory notes on “the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States, the PRETAS Protocol, intended for the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Indonesia.

B/MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE WTO:

1. Meeting on the accession of the OIC Member States to the WTO: Jeddah 28-29 March 2006.
2. Round Table on “the WTO Negotiations”: What Stakes for the OIC Member States”, Casablanca.
3. Inter-regional Workshop on “the Geographical Indications”: Ankara, 3-4 April 2008.
4. Training Seminar on the “use by Developing countries of the flexibilities provided for in the Agreement of the “TRIPs”: 9-12 June 2008, Casablanca-Morocco.
5. Seminar on trade in services: Casablanca, 15-18 June 2009.
6. Seminar on Non-tariff Barriers and their impacts on the development of the OIC Member States: Tunis, 05-07 October 2009.
7. Study on “the lack of progress of the DOHA Round and its impact on the OIC Member States”.
8. Seminar on “the proliferation of regional and bilateral trade agreements on the Multilateral Trade System”: Casablanca, 16-19 February 2010.
9. Workshop on the Impact of the WTO Consultations on the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector: Casablanca, 15-17 March 2010.

- Seminar on “the proliferation of regional and bilateral trade agreements and their repercussions on the Multilateral Trading System”: Abu Dhabi, UAE, 17-19 May 2010.

ICDT participated actively in the moderation of the seminar organized in Abu Dhabi from 17th to 19th May 2010, by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the State of the United Arab Emirates and the Cooperation Department of the IDB Group on “the proliferation of the regional and bilateral agreements and their repercussions on the Multilateral Trading System”.

This seminar whose objective was to take stock on the interactions between the regionalism and multilateralism trends was attended by about thirty countries and experts from international and regional organizations.

- Seminar on Trade Facilitation: Damascus, Syria 6th to 8th July 2010.

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Cooperation Department with the participation of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organised in Damascus a seminar on “Trade Facilitation among Arab Countries and their integration into the Multilateral Trading System” from 6th to 8th July 2010.

On this occasion, OIC Institutions (IDB, ICDT) and the United Nations Institutions (WTO, UNCTAD, ITC) as well as the League of Arab States and the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Trade presented topics related to the theme of the seminar.

It is worth underlining that ICDT’s presentation untitled “Trade Facilitation among the OIC Member Countries: Realities and Prospects” contained among others recommendations to improve the business climate and facilitate trade between OIC Member States.

During this seminar, the national experiences of Syria and other Arab Member Countries

were also tackled.

- Seminar on “The proliferation of Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements and their impact on the regional integration process in Arab Countries”: 4-6 June 2012, Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco.

Within the framework of their technical assistance programme relating to the issues linked to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), The Islamic Development Group (IDB) and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organized a Seminar on “The proliferation of Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) and their impact on the regional integration process in Arab Countries” from 4th to 6th June 2012 in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

This Seminar aimed to assess the implications of RTAs on the development policies of the OIC Member States and emphasized on practical lessons regarding the various options available to the regional integration process.

It was attended by the following International and Regional Organization: World Trade Organization, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, International Trade Centre, Arab Maghreb Union, Technical Unit of Agadir Agreement and the following OIC Member States: Arab Republic of Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, State of Kuwait, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Sultanate of Oman, State of Palestine, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Sudan and Republic of Tunisia.

Experts reviewed the following issues:

- Analysis of the relation between Article XXIV of the GATT Agreement and the Rules of the WTO relating to the Regional Economic integration agreements;
- Review of the prospects of the OIC Member States to integrate the multilateral trade system and to meet the commitments with the WTO;
- Exploration of opportunities and challenges represented by these agreements for the OIC Member States;
- Study of the adequate conditions and national strategies to be adopted to derive benefit from regional integration;
- Presentation and analysis of the experiences of some regional Arab and African agreements;
- Presentation of national experiences relating to the current negotiations of the regional and bilateral agreements.

- Seminar on the «Multilateral Negotiations on Trade in Services as Leverage to Promote Intra-Trade in the Arab Region»: 22nd - 24th April 2013, Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

Within the framework of their Technical Assistance Programmes relating to the issues linked to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Islamic Development Bank Group (Cooperation and Integration Department) organised a Seminar on the “Multilateral Negotiations on Trade in Services as Leverage to Promote Intra-Trade in the Arab Region” from 22nd to 24th April 2013 in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

This Seminar was open to the participation of the executives of the Ministries of Foreign Trade of Arab Countries as well as to the Experts of Regional and International Institutions (WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, UE, League of Arab States, AMU, UNESCWA,

Technical Unit of Agadir Agreement....).

The objective of this seminar was to review the implications of Regional and Multilateral Trade Agreements on Trade in Services of Arab Countries and to draw lessons in order to facilitate the regional economic integration and enlarge it to the field of services.

The experts presented the following topics: Trade in Services: Economic Importance and integration in the multilateral system (WTO), Trade in Services within the framework of the GATS (I): Key Concepts (WTO), Trade in Services within the Framework GATS (II): Key Concepts (WTO), Regional Trade Agreements: positive list approach vs. negative list and bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) in the WTO, Regionalism in trade in Services: comprehensive review of the Article V of the GATS (WTO) Doha development Agenda and plurilateral negotiations (WTO), the exceptions for trade services of LDCs, Trade Policy in the field of services: development areas and challenges in the Arab Countries (UNCTAD) Trade in services between the OIC Member States: current Status and Future Prospects (ICDT), Arab perspectives on Trade in Services (League of Arab States) and national and sectoral experiences of Arab countries: Morocco.

All Arab countries took part in this meeting.

VI. TRAINING SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS:

- **Training Seminar on TPS/OIC:** Damascus-Syria, 30-31 January 2008.

This meeting was attended by about 25 executives from the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Arab republic of Syria.

The papers of ICDT's experts dealt with the following points:

- General presentation of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement;
 - Structure and methodology of negotiations;
 - The TPS/OIC Agreement and the regional preferential agreements;
 - The TPS/OIC and the WTO agreements;
 - Results of negotiations;
 - The probable impact of the Agreement on Syrian economy.
- **Training Workshop on "Exports Promotion and Investment Strategies in the Context of Globalization":** Casablanca, 12-16 January 2009.

Within the framework of the implementation of practical and operational activities with a view to promoting trade and investments among the OIC Member States and contribute to implementing "the Ten Programme of Action to meet the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century" adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Session held in Makkah AL Mukarramah in December 2005; the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Islamic Research and Training Institute of the IDB Group (IRTI) jointly organized a training workshop on "Exports and Investment Promotion Strategies in the Context of Globalisation" from 12th to 16th January 2009 at ICDT's headquarters in Casablanca.

In fact, ICDT and IRTI have invested training of human resources with a prime importance as one of its main missions. In so far as without a permanent and regular capacity building of human resources, all the efforts deployed at the level of the institutional and conventional system; promotion, financing or others, would remain ineffective if they are not coupled with efforts aiming at building the human capacities of Member States.

The aim of this workshop is to provide a capacity building and bringing up to the required standard the human resources operating in the fields of export and investment promotion in order to derive benefit from the new methods and techniques applied in these fields.

This workshop was attended by the following Member States:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea, Mali, Morocco (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and the New Technologies and the Moroccan Export Promotion Centre (CMPE)), Senegal and Tunisia.

At the end of this workshop, certificates were delivered to participants along with a much diversified pedagogical material including a CD-ROM and printed documents covering all the modules.

- **Workshop on the "Impact of Food Crisis on the Economies of the Member States of the OIC and the Developmental Prospects of Trade and Investments in the Agricultural Sector"**: Casablanca, 17th - 18th June 2009.

In compliance with the relevant Resolution of the 24th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States (COMCEC), held from 20th to 24th October 2008 in Istanbul and which decided that the next exchange of views of the 25th Session of the COMCEC shall deal with "The Impact of Food Crisis on the Economies of the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)", the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organised under the patronage of the Ministry of foreign Trade of the kingdom of Morocco and in collaboration with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) -Islamic Development Bank Group-, a workshop on the "**Impact of Food Crisis on the Economies of the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Developmental Prospects of Trade and Investments in the Agricultural Sector**": 17th and 18th June 2009 in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

This workshop was attended by:

- **The Representatives of the following OIC Member States:** Algeria, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Agriculture and Sea Fishery), Oman, Uganda, Pakistan, Senegal, Turkey, Tajikistan and Tunisia.
- **The OIC following Institutions:**
 - The coordination Bureau of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States (COMCEC);
 - The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC);
 - The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT);
 - Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Investment (ICD);
 - Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC);
 - The Department of economic Policy and Economic Planning (IDB Group);
 - The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC);
 - The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).
- **The Representatives of the following International and Regional Organisations:**
 - The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);
- The International Food Policy Research institute (IFPRI);
- The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
- The Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD);
- The General Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU);
- The African Development Bank (Regional Office in Rabat)

At the end of these proceedings, participants adopted the report and recommendations that were submitted for adoption to the 25th Ministerial Session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul from 5th to 7th November 2009.

- **Training Seminar on Logistics and Transportation and their Role in Trade Promotion between the OIC Member States:** Tunis, Republic of Tunisia, 14th - 17th November 2011.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Ministry of Trade and Tourism of the Republic of Tunisia jointly organized, in collaboration with the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI), a Seminar on “Logistics and Transportation and their Role in Trade Promotion between the OIC Member States” from 14th to 17th November 2011 in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia.

The following OIC Member States: attended this seminar: Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Republic of Cameroun, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire, Republic of Guinea, Republic of Mali, Kingdom of Morocco, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Republic of Niger, Republic of Togo and Republic of Tunisia.

Fifty (50) Tunisian Companies from the Public and Private Sectors also participated in this seminar. International and national experts and from ICDT as well moderated this training workshop.

- **Training and Awareness-raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols:** Tripoli-Libya, 13-14 March 2012.

ICDT organized an awareness-raising seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols for the benefit of the Executives of the Ministries of Economy, Foreign Affairs, the Export Promotion Centre, the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, the Union of the Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Libya and the Arab Labour Organisation in Tripoli on 13th and 14th March 2012.

The presentations dealt with the following topics:

- ✓ General Presentation of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols;
- ✓ Structure and Methodology of negotiations;
- ✓ The TPS/OIC Agreement and the WTO Agreements;
- ✓ Outcomes of negotiations;
- ✓ The probable impact of the Agreement on the Libyan Economy.

On the sidelines of this seminar, ICDT held a meeting with the Ministry of Economy and the Export Promotion Centre with a view to developing cooperation relationships with these entities. During this meeting, ICDT and the Export Promotion Centre of Libya have scheduled to sign an MOU in the near future.

Training and Awareness-raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols for the benefit of the Countries of the Arab League: Kuwait, 14-15 May 2012.

Within the framework of the implementation of the TPS-OIC and of its protocols, ICDT organized an awareness-raising seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols in collaboration with the Ministry of industry and Commerce of the State of Kuwait for the benefit of the Countries of the Arab League on 14-15 May 2012 in Kuwait City.

The State of Kuwait was represented by the Ministries of Commerce, Industry and Finance and by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

This event was also attended by the Representatives of the Ministries of Commerce and Industry of Saudi Arabia and Sultanate of Oman and the General Secretariat of the GCC.

During the seminar, the presentations of ICDT dealt with the following topics:

- ✓ General Presentation of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols;
 - ✓ Structure and Methodology of negotiations;
 - ✓ The TPS/OIC Agreement and the WTO Agreements;
 - ✓ Outcomes of negotiations;
 - ✓ The impact of the TPS-OIC Agreement and of the Free Trade Area of the OIC Countries on the Economies of the Countries of the League of Arab States.
- **Seminar in the field of International and Islamic Trade intended to the Officials of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Iraq:** 26-30 June 2012, Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco.

Within the framework of its program of technical assistance for the benefit of the OIC Member States, ICDT in cooperation with ITFC (IDB Group) organized a training seminar in the field of International and Islamic Trade for the benefit of the Officials of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Iraq at ICDT's Headquarters in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 26th to 30th June 2012.

On this occasion, the Centre made the following presentations:

- ✓ Activities of the OIC and the Ten Year Program of Action;
 - ✓ Intra-OIC Trade: Current situation and prospects;
 - ✓ Working out of market studies;
 - ✓ The Network of Trade Promotion Organs of the OIC Member States;
 - ✓ Trade promotion;
 - ✓ Role of Trade Information in Trade Promotion;
 - ✓ The Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States;
 - ✓ Matters related to trade negotiations and accession to the WTO;
- **Seminar on Foreign Trade Liberalisation and Trade Defence Systems in the OIC Member States:** Casablanca, 26-28 September 2012.

In Compliance with the work program 2012 adopted by the 28th Session of the Board of Directors, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) Member of the IDB Group, will organize in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and New Technologies of the Kingdom of Morocco, a "*Seminar on Foreign Trade Liberalization and Trade Defence System of the OIC French Speaking Member Countries*" in Casablanca, from 26 to 28 September 2012.

The main objectives of this seminar are as follows:

- Exchange of experiences between OIC Member States in the field of Trade Defence;
 - Presentation of Trade Defence Strategies within the framework of Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS/OIC) and those used at regional and international levels.
 - The Representatives of the following countries attended the seminar: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia and Turkey and guest countries such as Belgium, Spain, France, and the consulting firm King and Spalding of Geneva.
 - The following Regional and international organizations also took part in this seminar: the Regional Office of the Islamic Development Bank Group (IDB) in Rabat, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the European Commission (EU), West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and the Technical Unit of the Agadir Agreement (AA).
- **Seminar on “Exports and International Marketing Strategies”:** Casablanca, 17-19 December 2012

Within the framework of trade and investment promotion between the OIC Member States and with a view to contributing to the implementation of the "Ten Year Programme of Action to meet the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st century" adopted by the 3rd extraordinary Summit Conference of the OIC held in Makkah Al Mukarramah in December 2005, and at the request of Libyan Exports Promotion Centre, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) organized a Seminar training on "export Strategies and International Marketing" at Casablanca from 17 to 19 December 2012.

This seminar, which was held in the Arab Language, was attended by 20 officials from the Ministry of Commerce, Chambers of Commerce, the Libyan Exports Promotion Centre and the professional associations of Libya.

The seminar's objectives were to ensure and upgrade human resources of Libya operating in the field of international trade in general, and exports in particular, in order to derive benefit from the new methods and techniques applied in these areas.

- ✦ **Training and Awareness-Raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and the WTO Matters:** 17-19 March 2013, Baghdad-Republic of Iraq.

ICDT organized a Training and Awareness-raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols and the WTO Matters for the benefit of the Executives of the Ministry of Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Iraq from 17th to 19th March 2013 in Baghdad .

During the seminar, the presentations of ICDT dealt with the following topics:

- ✓ General Presentation of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols;
- ✓ Structure and Methodology of negotiations;
- ✓ The TPS/OIC Agreement and the WTO Agreements;
- ✓ Outcomes of negotiations;
- ✓ The probable impact of the Agreement on the Iraq' economy.

Several Iraqi Executives from the public and private sector attended this seminar.

ICDT has planned to organize more awareness-raising on seminars TPS/OIC and its

protocols in Tehran in collaboration with the Organization for Economic Development (ECO) and for WAEMU countries in 2013.

- **National Seminar for the popularization of ICDT's and IDB's Group Services:** 7th June 2012, Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco.

Within the framework of the promotion of their services, ICDT and the IDB Group organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and New Technologies of the Kingdom of Morocco, with the support of the Regional Office of the IDB Group in Rabat, a National Seminar for the popularization of ICDT's and IDB's Group Services on 7th June 2012, in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco.

On this occasion, ICDT presented the latest developments in the field of trade between the OIC Member States, the OIC Fairs and Exhibitions to be organized by the Centre, the Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC) and the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS/OIC).

Likewise, the Representative of the IDB Group presented the services related to financing, export insurance and financing of projects.

This Seminar was attended by the Presidents of the Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industries and the Representatives of Professional Associations, Banks and Moroccan Public Operators.

- **Holding of a coordination meeting with the Libyan Export Promotion Centre:** 18-19 July 2012, Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco

Following the visit of the Delegation of the OIC led by H.E Ekmeleddin IHSA NOGLU, Secretary General to Libya on 14th and 15th March 2012 and consultations undertaken by Dr. El Hassane HZAINI – Director General of ICDT on the sidelines of the National Conference on the importance of the TPS/OIC held in Tripoli in March 2012, ICDT received at its Headquarters in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) the visit of the Delegation of the Libyan Export Promotion Centre on 18 and 19 July 2012.

On this occasion, the Delegation led by Mr. Ali Ouhida Abdel Salam, Director General held a coordination meeting with ICDT's Executives to further discuss the possibilities of bilateral cooperation in the domains of exchange of information, studies, General/Specialized/Sectoral Fairs, Business Forums, training seminars and capacity building in the field of trade and investments.

At the end of this meeting, both parties signed a common bilateral cooperation program and a Memorandum of Understanding.

VII. STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS:

1. Annual Report on Trade among the OIC Member States, 2013 edition:

The ICDT's Annual Report on Trade among the OIC Member States was published on CD-Rom in January 2012. It presents the evolution of the foreign trade of the OIC Member States in general and intra-OIC trade in particular at the level of the product structure of exports and imports and at the level of the geographical orientation of trade flows.

Another chapter will deal with non-tariff measures and intra-OIC trade and investment development strategies.

It also includes statistical annexes, which present intra-OIC trade of each Member State

• **Other publications:**

- ✓ Technical study on negotiations within the framework of the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States;
- ✓ Follow reports on Multilateral Trade Negotiations within the WTO;
- ✓ Publication of the study on “the Impact of the High Energy and basic products Prices on the Foreign Trade of the OIC Member States”.
- ✓ Publication of the study on “the trade of products of information and communication technologies between the Member States of the OIC”.
- ✓ Publication of the Report and recommendations of the Worksop on “the Impact of the Foods Crisis on the Economies of the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the Developmental Prospects of Trade and Investment in the Agricultural Sector” organised by ICDT in Casablanca on 17th and 18th June 2009.
- ✓ Study relating to trade in utility and industrial vehicles of the Autonomous Republic of Tatarstan with the OIC Member States and the launching opportunities of these vehicles on the market of the AMU and the ECOWAS.
- ✓ Study on Pharmaceutical Industry in OIC Member States (2012).
- ✓ Study of on the SMEs’ Competitiveness at export level: barriers and improvement levers (2012).
- ✓ Magazine TIJARIS.

VIII. TRADE INFORMATION:

Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC):

In compliance with the COMCEC's relevant resolutions, I.C.D.T has set up since 1996 a Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC);

TINIC was redesigned and restructured in 2001, 2004, 2007,2009, 2010 and 2011 in order to meet the needs and expectations of the private and professional associations;

TINIC is operational and accessible on the following address <http://www.icdt-oic.org>.

The site's visitors can find all the databases existing in TINIC. Sophisticated search engines have been developed around the major databases in order to help the Internet users of our site to obtain screened information in a simple manner.

Besides, in implementation of the request of the ICDT’s Board of Directors made at its 24th Session, the Arabic version of the Centre’s web site has become operational since January 2008 and the French version since April 2012.

In addition, in order to save time and increase efficiency, registration forms are available and operational on our site to enable visitors wishing to subscribe to our data bases to do so directly through Internet.

It is extremely important to make periodical adjustments every three or six months at the most. Such adjustments will be absolutely necessary so as to take into account the latest technologies and trends of the New Telecommunications and Information technologies (NTIT) at world level.

Special efforts will be made by ICDT with a view to creating new databases and increasing coordination with the National Focal Points of TINIC, IDB and the other OIC institutions.

TINIC manages the following databases:

- Business Opportunities;
- Economic operators;

- Economic indicators;
- Trade statistics;
- Exhibitions and events;
- Virtual Fair;
- News;
- Customs tariffs;
- Trade guides per country;
- Studies and publications.

Aware of the increasingly pressing demand of the main economic actors, ICDT is doing its best to collect the largest number of information that can help economic actors find outlets for their products and also make known their trade opportunities to Member States as well as to the rest of the world.

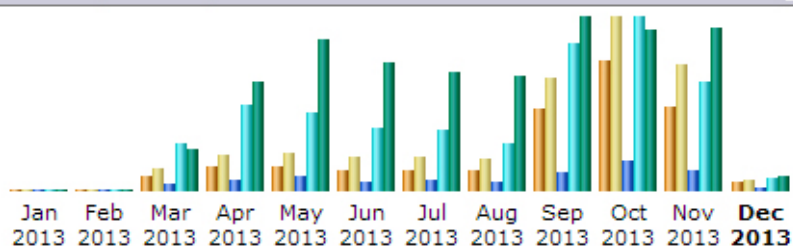
Thus, new databases are at currently being finalised and soon, it will be possible to consult them at ICDT's web site at the following address: <http://www.icdt-oic.org>.

These are:












































- ❖ Customs Tariffs:
 - Bound Tariffs databases of the WTO
 - Applied Tariffs databases
 - Preferential tariffs databases
 - Research per product and/or sector, or country
- ❖ NON-TARIFF MEASURES
 - Non tariff measures databases per country
 - Non tariff measures databases per measure
 - Non tariff measures databases per product
 - Search per country, measures or products
- ❖ SERVICES MEASURES
 - Commitments within the framework of the General Agreement on Trade in Services
 - Commitments per country
 - Commitment per measure,
 - Commitment per sector
 - Research by country, measures or sector
- ❖ VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS
 - Companies; country, address, telephone, Fax, E-mail and the Website
 - Products, quality, prices, photographs of the product, contact, advertising
 - Services: quality cost, contact, advertising
 - Research per country, company, services and prices
- ❖ MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS/WTO
 - The WTO's meetings
 - The results of negotiations
 - Ongoing negotiations
 - Accessions
- ❖ TRADE AND INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS
 - Bilateral agreements
 - Multilateral Agreements
 - Agreements between companies

YEAR	TASKS
2007	1. Meeting of TINIC's Focal Points 2. Review of cooperation between the different partners (TRAINS, OIC-TRADE, UNIDO)
2009	1. Meeting of TINIC's Focal Points
2010	1. Review of the functioning of TINIC
2012	1. Review of cooperation between the different partners (TRAINS, OIC-TRADE, UNIDO)
2014	1. Launching of the database on investment
2014	1. Launching of the database on transport and trade insurance.
2014	1. SENEGAL: Implementation of the project 2. Benin: Re-launching of the project along with the re-forwarding of the Terms of Reference 3. Web Sites for the benefit of the Embassies of the OIC Member States accredited to Morocco (Benin, Tunisia, Senegal, Mauritania etc...) 4. Launching of an observatory of Non-tariff barriers on ICDT's Web site including the complaints of economic operators.

Monthly history



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Feb 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Mar 2013	528	870	6,921	46,685	1.41 GB
Apr 2013	922	1,371	10,634	84,688	3.62 GB
May 2013	941	1,414	13,558	78,648	5.08 GB
Jun 2013	777	1,319	8,943	63,187	4.30 GB
Jul 2013	789	1,282	10,906	60,159	4.00 GB
Aug 2013	813	1,242	8,818	47,350	3.82 GB
Sep 2013	3,170	4,309	19,169	147,405	5.81 GB
Oct 2013	4,998	6,684	29,482	172,694	5.40 GB
Nov 2013	3,212	4,893	20,122	109,337	5.47 GB
Dec 2013	316	423	2,159	12,017	471.64 MB
Total	16,466	23,807	130,712	822,170	39.36 GB

Domains/Countries			Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
?	Unknown	ip	1,454	6,418	231.98 MB
	Network	net	379	3,038	66.67 MB
	Commercial	com	169	1,375	50.18 MB
	Ukraine	ua	23	23	71.13 KB
	United Kingdom	uk	20	156	2.57 MB
	Australia	au	16	139	2.60 MB
	Canada	ca	16	161	4.13 MB
	Morocco	ma	15	214	6.25 MB
	Finland	fi	14	103	2.03 MB
	Jordan	jo	8	76	1.63 MB
	China	cn	7	9	664.18 KB
	Poland	pl	6	47	900.54 KB
	Belgium	be	5	48	2.47 MB
	Kazakhstan	kz	4	66	1.29 MB
	European country	eu	4	14	2.24 MB
	Russian Federation	ru	3	3	2.16 KB
	United Arab Emirates	ae	3	58	1.08 MB
	Belarus	by	2	2	4.32 KB
	Germany	de	2	15	9.41 MB
	Sweden	se	2	2	133.42 KB
	Monaco	mc	1	7	328.23 KB
	Mexico	mx	1	1	2.16 KB
	Singapore	sg	1	6	0
	Non-Profit Organizations	org	1	1	296 Bytes
	Brazil	br	1	2	70.59 KB
	Iran	ir	1	1	2.16 KB
	Argentina	ar	1	1	54.85 KB
	Turkey	tr	0	1	162.45 KB
	Malaysia	my	0	1	196.19 KB
	Trinidad and Tobago	tt	0	1	171.32 KB
	France	fr	0	1	163.02 KB
	Ivory Coast (Cote D'Ivoire)	ci	0	1	732.71 KB
	India	in	0	11	2.46 MB
	Saudi Arabia	sa	0	1	156.97 KB
	Indonesia	id	0	2	242.73 KB
	Lebanon	lb	0	1	0
	Croatia	hr	0	1	166.74 KB
	Japan	jp	0	1	173.74 KB
?	Unknown	adsl	0	1	207.04 KB
	Sierra Leone	sl	0	1	330.09 KB
	Yemen	ye	0	1	199.60 KB
	Pakistan	pk	0	1	172.35 KB
	Italy	it	0	2	182.00 KB
	South Africa	za	0	2	326.77 KB
	Cameroon	cm	0	1	156.51 KB
	Others		0	0	78.82 MB

Electronic commerce:

ICDT is giving more and more importance to electronic commerce as an important tool for the development of intra-OIC trade. Towards this end, it has included in its work programme since 1997, a wide range of activities linked to electronic commerce, in this respect, it is worth quoting in particular, the development of a web site on Internet, the organisation of training seminars on electronic commerce.

The Centre organised in collaboration with the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI-IDB), training seminars for the benefit of focal points of TINIC on "Electronic Commerce and the use of the Information Technologies", in Casablanca in March 2000 and March 2001.

Seminars	Venue	Year
"Electronic Commerce and the use of the Information Technologies"	Casablanca	2000
"Electronic Commerce and the use of the Information Technologies"	Casablanca	2001
"The impact of electronic commerce and the use of the new information technologies on the promotion and development of intra-OIC trade".	Tunis	2003

These seminars were intended for the NFPs of TINIC of the English and French speaking Countries. Other training sessions intended for other OIC regions will be organised subsequently.

- ✦ The 17th session of the COMCEC follow-up Committee called on Member States "to co-ordinate their respective contributions to the data bases of TINIC in order to ensure a regular and quick Statistical, Economic data flow as well as other information that would contribute to promoting intra-O.I.C trade.

Aware of the importance of electronic commerce as an important trade promotion tool and in pursuance of the COMCEC's recommendations, ICDT organised from 10th to 12th June 2003 in Tunis a workshop on "**the impact of electronic commerce and the use of the new information technologies on the promotion and development of intra-OIC trade**". The recommendations of this workshop were submitted to the 19th session of the COMCEC in October 2003.

ICDT will continue its efforts in this field, in close collaboration with IDB and the institutions of interested OIC Member States, by laying stress on the following activities:

- a) The organisation of a large forum to define a prospective and efficient strategy of the OIC for the sustainable utilisation of electronic commerce as a means of intra-OIC trade promotion, while ensuring a better coordination between the different bodies of the OIC in this field;
- b) Continuation of the training cycles in the field of electronic commerce while giving priority to the private sector;
- c) Technical assistance to Member States, which request it in order to set up national strategies as well as the required regulations and institutions;
- d) Follow up of the trade multilateral negotiations of the WTO in this sector and coordination of the stances of Member States with a view to setting up a common platform of negotiations.

Virtual Fair:

ICDT has launched since 2003 on its website (<http://www.icdt-oic.org>), a virtual fair,

which is a showcase of the productions of goods and services of all the OIC 57 Member States.

Since 2003, the Centre has spared no effort to invite all the economic operators of the OIC Member States to promote their products and services through its Internet website in order to derive full benefit from the advantages of electronic commerce. Through this official showcase, the main objectives are the following:

- To organise a virtual exhibition through ICDT's website (<http://www.icdt-oic.org>), which of course will not require any physical transport of goods;
- To allow producers to exhibit their productions at the lowest cost and to an unlimited number of potential buyers;
- To avoid the transport expenses and decide by oneself the duration of the exhibition;
- To establish direct commercial contacts and give rise to on line orders.
- The virtual fair of the OIC Products and services started in the second semester of the year 2002 on ICDT's Internet site. Its promotion at the level of enterprises was launched at the beginning of 2003.

ICDT is planned to boost the promotion of this tool in order to develop exchanges, particularly with the SME/SMI and to make known through this window the supply of the products and services of the OIC Countries.

DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION:

The documentary material is progressively developing thanks to the contribution of Member States and international organisations: the documentation service steadily receives inquiries concerning Inter-Islamic Trade exchanges from businessmen or academics.

Technical Assistance:

ICDT's Technical Assistance to Member States	Venue	Year
Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the SMEs of the Republic of Guinea	CONAKRY	2002 19 th to 30 th April 2004 7 th December 2005 to 6 th January 2006
Technical Assistance to the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Dakar, Republic of Senegal	DAKAR	15 th to 17 th September 2010
Technical assistance to the ABePEC in Benin	COTONOU	5 th to 10 th February 2011
Technical assistance to Mauritania	NOUAKCHOTT	Under study
Technical assistance to Cameroon	YAOUNDE	Under study

ICDT initiated in collaboration with IDB a technical assistance programme for the benefit of the LDCs for the setting up of national trade information networks, the pilot experience started with the Republic of Guinea in 2002.

Within an IDB's delegation, ICDT participated in a mission in Guinea whose main task was to study the different possibilities of creating a Documentation and Trade and Information Centre, upon a request of the Guinean government.

At the end of this mission, a report on the feasibility and evaluation of the project was presented to IDB.

The Government of the Republic of Guinea has contacted ICDDT requesting it to propose experts for the implementation of this project. For this purpose, ICDDT submitted an offer in October 2001, which was accepted, with a view to implementing the stages 3 and 4 of the trade information and documentation project pertaining to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the SMEs of the Republic of Guinea. UNCTAD will achieve stage 1 and 2 of this project.

It is within this framework that ICDDT sent Mr. Amadou CIRE SALL, expert at ICDDT, from 19 to 30 April 2004 to launch the implementation of phases 3 and 4 of this project, whose completion has been assigned to ICDDT's expert.

The ICDDT's expert went to Conakry from 19th to 30th April 2004 to finalise this project and start the execution of phases 3 and 4 of this project.

ICDDT's Expert went to Conakry from 7th December 2005 to 6th January 2006 to finalise this project.

This second mission that was carried out concerned the network wiring and the electric installation of the DNCC; the design and the construction of the web site as well as of an interactive CD-ROM for the DNCC and SOPHOS Pure/Pure Message Anti Spam: Antivirus solutions. All the invoices were submitted to IDB, which is the financing partner with a view to having the agreement of the relevant senior executives of the Bank so as to allow the companies that have been selected to effectively start their work.

Pending the network wiring, the HP ML server PROLIANT G2 has been installed to be subsequently operated once the wiring is finished.

Within this framework, ICDDT has received a request for technical assistance made by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Cameroon, the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Benin with a view to setting up a Trade Information Network within the Ministry of Commerce or restructure those, which already exist. These requests are currently being examined by ICDDT in close collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank.

ICDDT is provided with a Roster's of Experts in international trade, nationals of Member States. The Centre updates this roster on a regular basis and resorts to it for the working out of studies and projects pertaining to its field of activities.

- **Technical Assistance to the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Dakar, Republic of Senegal.**

Within the framework of the Technical Assistance provided to the OIC Member Countries, the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Dakar (CCIAD) has sought ICDDT's services for the reorganization of its Documentation Centre.

From 15th to 17th September 2010, Mr. SALL Ciré undertook a first mission of prospection in order to:

1. Take stock of the situation of the existing infrastructure in terms of trade information;
2. Identify the project concerned by the Senegalese request;
3. Evaluate the needs in terms of equipment and human resources for the good functioning of the project.

In this regard, Mr. SALL as well as the Head of the Documentation Centre of the CCIAD, Mr. SABALY Abdoul Aziz, requested local suppliers to draw up estimates in order to establish a budget to facilitate the fund raising from the Islamic Development Bank Group.

At the end of the mission, both parties agreed that the second phase of the Technical

Assistance will be conducted as follows:

- ✓ Purchase and reception of furniture and equipments;
- ✓ Setting up of the CCIAD internal network;
- ✓ Installation and testing of new equipments;
- ✓ Setting up of applications for the exploitation of databases;
- ✓ Execution phase (testing and implementation of databases as well as training of human resources);
- ✓ Design and realization of the website along with an interactive CD Rom for the CCIAD;
- ✓ Purchase of the anti-virus: SOPHOS Pure Message/Pure message Anti Spam.

- Technical assistance to the ABePEC in BENIN:

Within the framework of the Technical Assistance provided to the OIC Member Countries, the Benin Agency for Trade Promotion (ABePEC) has requested the services of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) for the restructuration of ABePEC Trade Information System.

Mr. SALL Ciré was appointed to conduct a first mission from 5th to 10th February 2011 at ABePEC Headquarters in Cotonou, Republic of Benin, in order to proceed to the diagnosis phase of the Trade Information Network of this Agency.

This first mission enabled the Representative of ICDT to take stock of the existing infrastructure in terms of trade information and identify the subject of the project required by the Benin Agency.

The latter also seized the opportunity to meet the different Heads of department and services of the ABePEC as well as the Directors of the cabinet of the Ministries of Trade and Industry in order to identify the best ways and means that would efficiently develop the Department of Trade Information and Market Analysis of the ABePEC with a view to further promoting and developing Benin's trade exchanges at national and international levels in accordance with the National Trade Development Policy.

ICDT will continue extending technical assistance to Member States on request for the setting up national trade information Centres by providing consultancy and expertise services in this field.

Websites Project for the benefit of the OIC Embassies accredited to Rabat:

As part of technical assistance of the OIC Member States, and following the proposal made by ICDT at the 10th Meeting of the Economic Counsellors to the OIC Embassies accredited to Rabat held on 12th January 2012, ICDT launched a program for creating websites for the benefit of Embassies in a bid to develop E-commerce.

The pilot experience started on 5th April with the Embassies of the Republic of Benin and the Republic of Tunisia. To that effect, ICDT has been working to prepare a 'project type' in collaboration with Guidelines Group Company, this project was presented at the 10th Meeting of Economic Advisers of the Embassies of the OIC Member States accredited to Rabat, held on 12th January 2012 in Rabat-Kingdom of Morocco.

The Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Senegal adhered to this project on 18th April 2012. A pilot experience was launched with the Embassy of the Republic of Senegal accredited to Rabat and the web site of the Embassy was launched at the 11th Meeting of Economic Advisers to the Embassies of the OIC Member States accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco held on 16th January 2013 in Rabat.

E-embassy Project	Status
Embassy of the Republic of Benin	5 th April 2012 : still ongoing
Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia	5 th April 2012 : still ongoing
Embassy of the Republic of Senegal	Started on April 18 th 2012, launched on 16 th January 2013
Embassy of the Republic of Mauritania	18 th April 2012 : still ongoing
Embassy of the Republic of Guinea	17 th July 2012 : still ongoing

Portal for the benefit of the craftsmen of the OIC Member States:

Following the proposal by the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining (AIDMO) made to ICDT at the 10th Meeting of the Economic Advisers to the OIC Embassies accredited to Rabat held on 12th January 2012, relating to the possibility of creating a portal for the benefit of the craftsmen of the OIC Countries aiming at developing e-commerce in the handicraft sector, ICDT and AIDMO will launch a portal on handicrafts and products thereof.

This portal will provide access to general information on Handicraft in the OIC Countries, encompassing regulations in force, application forms, procedures, a search engine on the products in a first step and it will be extended to other areas of Intellectual Property thereafter. ICDT submitted Draft TOR relating to this portal to AIDMO for comment.

IX. COOPERATION:

ICDT has signed the memorandums of understanding with several national, regional and international organisations that were approved, previously, by its Board of Directors, notably with:

- Memorandum of Understanding with the Turkish Patent Institute (24th May 2006).
- University Hassan the Second, Faculty of Law, Economic and Social Sciences of Casablanca (June 2006).
- The Saudi Corporation “AL HARITY COMPANY FOR EXHIBITIONS” (ITFC) (18th May 2008);
- The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) (11th February 2009);
- Memorandum of Understanding with the International Centre for Foreign Trade of Senegal (CICES) (April 2009),
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Expo Bureau of the Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China ‘NINGXIA HUI’ (December 2011).
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Al Madina International Company for Exhibitions Co (MICE) for the organization of the 1st Fair on Furniture Decoration, Household and Electrical Appliances in the OIC Member States (24 January 2012);
- Memorandum of Understanding with Sharjah Expo Centre (State of the United Arab Emirates) for the organisation of the 1st OIC Halal Food Exhibition (27 February 2012);
- Memorandum of Understanding with Dagang Net of Malaysia for the creation of a Single Window for trade facilitation among the OIC Member States (25th April 2012);
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Expo and Convention Authority (Egypt for the organisation of the 2nd Tourism of the OIC Member States (OIC Tourism 2012) (31 May 2012);
- Memorandum of Understanding with Al Sha’am Company (Oman) for the

organisation of the 6th Exhibition of Agri-food Industries in the OIC Member States (12 June 2012);

- Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Commerce of The Islamic Republic of Iran for the organisation of the 14th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (9 July 2012);
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Exports Promotion Centre of Libya (19 July 2012).
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Coalition for Efficient Logistics May 2013
- Memorandum of Understanding with the League of Arab States on 23rd September 2013.

X. FOLLOW UP OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF THE ROAD-MAP FOR ACHIEVING INTRA-OIC TRADE TARGETS ON INTRA-OIC TRADE”.

After consultations between the COMCEC Coordination Office and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), in Istanbul on 24th October 2008 on the sidelines of the 24th Ministerial Session of the COMCEC and the adoption of the “*Road Map for Enhancing intra-OIC Trade*” by the Expert Group Meeting on “enhancing intra-OIC trade” was held in Ankara on 5th and 6th July 2008, the OIC Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade was created.

This Group is composed of the following Institutions:

- ✓ The General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (Department of Economic affairs);
- ✓ The COMCEC Coordination Office;
- ✓ The Islamic Development Bank GROUP :
 - The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC);*
 - The Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investments and Export Credit (ICIEC)*
 - The Islamic Cooperation for Development of Private Sector (ICD);*
 - The Cooperation and Integration Department of IDB Group;*
 - The Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI).*
- ✓ The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA);
- ✓ The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT);
- ✓ The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC);
- ✓ The Organisation of the Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA).

The Consultative Group took for Meetings in the Kingdom of Morocco as follows:

- First Meeting in Casablanca on 11th and 12th February 2009;
- Second Meeting in Casablanca on 31st May and 1st June 2010;
- Third Meeting in Casablanca on 3rd and 4th February 2011;
- Fourth Meeting in Marrakesh on 22-23 February 2012;
- Fifth Meeting in Casablanca on 26-27 February 2013;
- Sixth Meeting in Marrakesh on 3-4 February 2014.

Since 2009, national Trade Promotion Organs, Funds and International Organisations took also part in the meetings of this Group.

The Group adopted in its first session the Executive Programme of the Road-MAP for

Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets.

Thus, The 26th session of the COMCEC endorsed this programme and requested the OIC Institutions to carry out their activities according to the Executive Program and the IDB to provide necessary financial contribution for the achievement of the activities and projects included in the Executive Program and urged the Member States to give the required support to the OIC Institutions for the implementation of the Executive Program and to actively participate in those activities.

STRUCTURE OF THE GROUP:

The Coordination and Secretariat of the “Executive Programme of the Road-MAP for Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets” are assumed by the ICDT. The OIC institutions in charge of implementation are as follows:

- **Trade Financing and Export Credit Insurance:** ITFC and ICIEC;
 - **Trade promotion:** COMCEC, ICDT, ITFC and ICCIA;
 - **Trade facilitation :** COMCEC, OIC, ICDT, OISA, ITFC and ICCIA ;
 - **Development of Strategic Commodities :** ITFC, ICDT and SESRIC;
 - **Capacity Building:** SESRIC, ITFC, ICCIA and ICDT;
 - **Trade Negotiations:** COMCEC and ICDT.
- **The Executive Programme of the Road-Map for Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets: past, present & future:**

The “Executive Programme of the Road-MAP for Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets is composed of about 797 activities and projects from February 2009 to February 2014 and increased from 124 to 199 projects, i.e. a rise by 60% between 2010 and 2011 and by 50% between 2011 and 2012 and by 61% between 2012 and 2013 and by 89 % between 2013 and 2014 due to the implementation of projects by some institutions such as ITFC, ICDT, SESRIC, ICIEC and ICCIA.

Since February 2009, the activities and projects of the Group have been increasingly focusing on capacity building, with about 286 activities accomplished essentially by SESRIC, ITFC and ICDT, followed by trade facilitation accounting for 198 activities, mainly carried out by ICDT, ITFC and COMCEC and trade financing and export insurance credit with 126 predominantly fulfilled by the Institutions of the IDB Group, such as ITFC, ICIEC and ICD.

Thus, the capacity building activities are in the first position with 36%, followed by trade facilitation activities with 25%, Trade Financing and Export Credit Insurance with 16%, trade promotion activities with 14%, and the development of strategic commodities accounted for 9% in February 2014.

He underlined that the implementation of the “Executive Programme of the Road-map for Achieving intra-OIC Trade Targets” shows the following:

- About 50% of the projects were fully implemented up to February 2014, i.e. a decrease by 20% in comparison with February 2013 due to the rise in the projects partially implemented and newly proposed between 2014 and 2015 by the various institutions;
- 23% of the projects are being implemented because they cover several years of achievements ;
- 27% of the projects are on stand-by position and are to be implemented in the majority between 2014 and 2015.