



## REPORT

# THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

Istanbul, 25-28 November 2014



COMCEC Coordination Office

[www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)

Ankara, November 2014



**OIC/COMCEC/30-14/REP**

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

**REPORT**

**THIRTIETH SESSION**  
**OF THE COMCEC**

**İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014**

**COMCEC Coordination Office**  
**Ankara, November 2014**

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# **PART ONE**





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



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

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

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

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

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

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

**DECIDES:**

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

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

## **II**

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

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

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



### III

**CAIRO FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ  
OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE  
“THE MUSLIM WORLD: NEW CHALLENGES  
AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES”  
ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT  
(6-7 February 2013)**

**Final Communiqué No. (OIC/SUM-12/FC/FINAL)**

“... We welcome various initiatives aimed at expanding intra-OIC cooperation in such sectors as agriculture and food security, tourism, health, labour, environment, transportation and Islamic finance. In this regard, we commend the role of COMCEC and all OIC committees and programmes in operationalizing the OIC projects and activities, particularly the frameworks for tourism, transportation and agriculture, respectively as well as the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project. We call on the General Secretariat and IDB to take necessary measures to speed up the implementation of the project. We also commend the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait to establish a Decent Life Fund with US\$100 million, from which several Member States have benefitted to support their food security programme.” (Page 22, para 130)

“... We also commend the endeavours under the COMCEC for deepening economic and commercial cooperation among the member states, in particular the operationalisation of the Standard and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), the launch of S&P OIC/COMCEC Index 50 Shariah Index, establishment of COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators’ Forum, establishment of OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum and Transport Cooperation Framework within the OIC (Izmir Document 2011). We request the member states to actively participate in the programmes and projects developed under the auspices of the COMCEC.” (Page 23, para 131)

“... We welcome the COMCEC Progress Report submitted by H.E. President Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), and appreciate his valuable efforts and commendable stewardship for the COMCEC to enhance its effectiveness and improve its institutional set up.” (Page 23, para 132)





## **PART TWO**



**REPORT, AGENDA AND RESOLUTION  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC  
AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION**



**I**

**REPORT  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**



Original: English

**REPORT  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC  
AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC**

**(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**

1. The Thirtieth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) was held on 25-28 November 2014 in İstanbul.

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

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

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

3. Central African Republic, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Thailand and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the Session as observers.

4. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and Standing Committees, namely Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) and Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), the following subsidiary, specialized and affiliated OIC institutions attended the Session:

- 1- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- 2- Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- 3- Islamic Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA)
- 4- Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- 5- Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group
- 6- Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA)
- 7- Islamic University of Technology (IUT)
- 8- Organization of the Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA)
- 9- Association of National Development Financing Institutions (ADFIMI)



- 10- Federation of Consultants from Islamic Countries (FCIC)
- 11- Federation of Contractors from Islamic Countries (FOCIC)
- 12- Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC)

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

- 1- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- 2- Developing Eight D-8
- 3- Economic Cooperation Organization Trade and Development Bank (ECOBANK)
- 4- United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- 5- World Bank (WB)

(A copy of the List of Participants of the Thirtieth Session of the COMCEC is attached as Annex I.)

6. The Meeting of Senior Officials of COMCEC that preceded the Ministerial Session was held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Emre YUNT, Director General for Multilateral Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. The Senior Officials deliberated on the agenda items and prepared the Draft Resolutions for consideration by the Ministerial Session.

7. During the Meeting, the representative of the Islamic Conference Youth Forum – Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC) informed the Senior Officials about its affiliated platform the Islamic Countries Young Entrepreneurs Network (ICYEN) which aims at developing youth entrepreneurship in the OIC Countries and invited the member countries to support its activities, including the implementation of the “İstanbul Youth Declaration”.

### **Opening Session**

8. The Opening Ceremony of the Thirtieth Session of the COMCEC was held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Turkey and the Chairman of the COMCEC.

9. The Opening Ceremony commenced with a video screening on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of COMCEC.

10. Welcoming the delegates, H.E. ERDOĞAN underlined that the Islamic Countries have achieved significant progress in terms of trade as well as development indicators

in recent years. Sharing some figures, H.E. ERDOĞAN stated that over the last decade the share of the OIC Member Countries in the world trade has increased by about 50%. H.E. ERDOĞAN further mentioned that, during the same period, intra-OIC trade has also increased by 50%.

11. H.E. ERDOĞAN underlined that, while the above-mentioned figures undoubtedly reveal a successful economic performance, some member countries are facing greatest humanitarian and political crisis of the recent history at the same time. President ERDOĞAN also highlighted the huge disparity among the member states in terms of per capita income, with a particular emphasis on the fact that the 21 OIC Member Countries are LDCs.

12. H.E. ERDOĞAN expressed that the COMCEC Strategy which was operationalized last year envisaged a working method that Member Countries would take an active role in. In this regard, President ERDOĞAN underlined that the member countries' relevant institutions are expected to be involved in the implementation of the principles and objectives of the Strategy. H.E. ERDOĞAN called upon the all the Member Countries to actively participate in the COMCEC's efforts specifically working groups and reminded the member countries to include effectively all the relevant ministries to COMCEC cooperation efforts.

13. H.E. ERDOĞAN also touched upon some major projects and endeavours under the COMCEC agenda, namely Trade Preferential System of the OIC Member States, Standards and Metrology Institute for the Islamic Countries (SMIIC), S&P OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) and expressed his satisfaction with the progress achieved in these fields.

14. President ERDOĞAN concluded his speech by thanking all the delegates and OIC Institutions for their contribution and support to COMCEC.

(A copy of the text of the Inaugural Statement of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN is attached as Annex II.)

15. Following the Inaugural Statement made by H.E. ERDOĞAN, H.E. Iyad Ameen MADANI, Secretary General of the OIC, made a statement at the Opening Session.

16. Thanking the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the hospitality extended to the delegates, H.E. MADANI emphasized that since the establishment of the OIC in 1969, efforts have multiplied in the direction of creating effective institutional arrangements for multilateral economic cooperation among the Member States.

17. The Secretary General also underlined that he puts special emphasis on improving synergy and coordination among various OIC Institutions with a view to avoiding waste of time, resources and energy due to the absence of institutional coordination. He went on to say that a good example of this improved inter-agency coordination is the 1<sup>st</sup> Leadership Meeting in April 2014 between the General Secretariat and IDB Group and subsequent coordination efforts between the two institutions.

18. Finally, H.E. the Secretary General stressed the vitality of early signing and ratification of the various multilateral agreements in the area of economy and trade; as well as realizing the financial commitments made for the various funds for socio-economic cooperation would go a long way in deepening cooperation among the member states.

(A copy of the address of H.E. Iyad Ameen MADANI is attached as Annex III.)

19. The Heads of Delegations of the State of Qatar, Republic of Mali and Islamic Republic of Iran made statements on behalf of the Arab, African, and Asian regional groups, respectively. They expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for the warm hospitality and excellent organization of the Meeting. They also congratulated the election of H.E. ERDOĞAN to the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey and exalted his wise guidance and leadership in enhancing economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States.

20. The Heads of Delegations also expressed their support and commitment to the COMCEC and emphasized the need for improving cooperation under the auspices of the COMCEC.

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

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

22. H.E. Sheikh Saleh Bin Abdullah KAMEL, President of the ICCIA, also delivered a statement at the Opening Session. H.E. KAMEL emphasized the role of the private sector in promoting economic and commercial cooperation among the member countries.

(The text of the Statement of the President of the ICCIA is attached as Annex V.)

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

(The text of the Statement of the President of the TOBB is attached as Annex VI.)

24. On the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the COMCEC, a special award ceremony was held at the end of the Opening Session. Gracing the Ceremony, H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN conferred the “COMCEC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards” in three categories:

i) COMCEC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Most Active Participation Awards:

- H.E. Mustafa Jassem AL – SHAMALI
- H.E. Oumar DIAWARA
- Mr. Dr. Abdulmalik bin Abdallah AL-HINAI
- Mr. Ishaq ABDULKAREEM
- Mr. Ali Hassan AL-KHALAF
- Mr. Ahmed Saleh AL-MOHANNADI
- Mr. Abdullah bin Abdulwahab AL-NAFISAH

ii) COMCEC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Awards:

- H.E. Iyad Ameen MADANI
- H.E. Ahmed Mohammed ALI
- H.E. Saleh Abdullah KAMEL
- H.E. Abdullatif Abdullah bin SULTAN
- H.E. Dr. El Hassane HZAINE

iii) COMCEC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Academic Awards for Islamic Economics and Finance:

- Prof. Dr. Masudul Alam CHOUDHURY
- Prof. Dr. Zubair HASSAN
- Prof. Dr. Sabri ORMAN
- Prof. Dr. M. Umer CHAPRA
- Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nejatullah SIDDIQI
- Prof. Dr. Abbas MIRAKHOR
- Prof. Mahmoud A. El-GAMAL

25. Following the Opening Ceremony, H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN received the Heads of Delegation.

### **Ministerial Working Session**

26. The Ministerial Working Session of the Thirtieth Session of the COMCEC was held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey.

27. The Session adopted the Draft Agenda of the Thirtieth Session of the COMCEC.

28. Following the adoption of the agenda, H.E. Ambassador Emre YUNT, as the Chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting, briefed the Session on the outcome of the Senior Officials Meeting as well as the recommendations of the Preparatory Workshop on “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member States” held on 30 September-1 October 2014 in Ankara, Turkey.

29. Following the presentation of H.E. Ambassador Emre YUNT, the Exchange of Views Session of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC was held with the theme of “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member States”.

30. Mr. Amr Abdel GHAFAR, Regional Director for the Middle East at the World Tourism Organization made presentation as keynote speaker.

30a. Afterwards, the Ministers discussed various aspects of the subject and elaborated on ways and means of increasing public-private partnerships in the tourism sector in the Member Countries as well as the COMCEC cooperation in this area.

### **Side Events/Special Sessions**

31. The 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee was held on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 as a sideline event with the participation of the relevant OIC Institutions.

(A copy of the report of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee is attached as Annex VII )

32. Presentations on the “Promotion of Successful Projects funded by the COMCEC Project Funding” were made on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014. During the event, owners of the successful projects that were funded under the first project call of the COMCEC Project Funding made presentations regarding the implementation of their projects.

33. The special session on “The Role of NGOs in the Development Efforts of the Islamic Countries” was held on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The keynote speaker of the session was H.E. Bouabdellah GHAMALLAH, Former Minister of Awkaf and

Islamic Affairs of Algeria. The session was moderated by H.E. Dr. Savaş ALPAY, General Director of SESRIC. Sir Fazle Hasan ABED, Founder, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC); Mr. Ziad Abdel SAMAD Executive Director, Arab NGO Network for Development; Dr. Omar Farooq Sheikh AHMED, Prof. Emeritus of International Studies; and H.E. Hameed A. OPELOYERU, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs of the OIC were the speakers of this special session.

34. The special session on “Development Challenges of Islamic Countries and Post-2015 Development Agenda” was held on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The keynote speaker of the session was H.E. Prof. Dr. Numan KURTULMUŞ, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey. The session was moderated by Mr. Tarik YOUSEF, CEO of Silatech. H.E. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, Minister of International Cooperation of Republic of Guinea; H.E. Ahmed Mohammed ALI, President of the IDB Group; H.E. Dr. Abdul Halim bin Ismail Surin PITSUWAN, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and Former Secretary General of ASEAN; and H.E. Tun Musa HITAM, Former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and Chairman of the World Islamic Economic Forum were the speakers of this special session.

35. The IDB organized the “Economic and Social Impact of Epidemics and OIC Response: The Case of Ebola” event on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

36. H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC officially launched the “COMCEC’s 30<sup>th</sup> Year Exhibition” on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

37. H.E. the President also launched “Palestinian Trade and Business Expo 2014” and “Exhibition of Al-Quds Al-Sharif Photographs” on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

38. The 18<sup>th</sup> International Business Forum (IBF) and 15<sup>th</sup> MUSIAD International Fair were held on 24-29 November 2014.

39. FCIC&DEİK International Engineering Forum was held on 28-29 November 2014.

### **Closing Session:**

40. The Closing Session of the Thirtieth Session of the COMCEC was held on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey.

41. H.E. Yousaf JUNAID, Rapporteur of the Senior Officials Meeting, summarized the outcomes of the Senior Officials Meeting and highlighted some salient points in the Resolutions.

42. The Session adopted Resolution OIC/COMCEC/30-14/RES.

43. H.E. Ambassador Hameed OPELOYERU, Assistant Secretary General read out the message of H.E. Iyad Ameen MADANI, Secretary General of the OIC. In his message H.E. MADANI extended his congratulations to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC and to all participants for the successful conclusion of the Session.

44. H.E. Abdellah Albert TOIKEUSSE, Minister of Plan and Development of Cote d'Ivoire made a statement on behalf of all participating Member Countries. H.E. the Minister thanked the Republic of Turkey, OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, and all OIC and other institutions for contributing to the successful conclusion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC. H.E. TOIKEUSSE also thanked Turkey for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations.

45. H.E. Dr. Cevdet YILMAZ, Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey, made a closing statement at the Session. H.E. YILMAZ expressed the role of developing countries as driving force of global growth in recent years. Mentioning the projections about developing countries' growth rate, H.E. YILMAZ stated that this tendency will continue in the foreseeable future. At this point, H.E. YILMAZ emphasized that OIC countries' share in the world total GDP remained stable at around 11% in 2013. H.E. YILMAZ stressed that as a group representing 23 percent of the world population, the OIC Member States are still significantly behind their potential. H.E. YILMAZ also underlined the importance of high value added, export oriented production to increase the national GDP and competitiveness in the international area. The share of OIC Member Countries in the global high tech exports accounted only for 4%.

45a. H.E. YILMAZ also underlined that the selection of "Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Service Delivery" as the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC has been quite pertinent as OIC Member Countries have an important role to play in the formulation and implementation of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

46. H.E. YILMAZ concluded his statement by expressing the significance for COMCEC Member Countries to actively participate in various cooperation programs and projects conducted under the COMCEC.

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

47. All documents submitted to the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC will be available on the COMCEC web site ([www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)).

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## **II**

### **AGENDA OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**



Original: English



**AGENDA  
OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**

1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda
2. Report on the COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation
3. The Implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action
4. World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries
5. Expansion of Intra-OIC Trade
6. Enhancing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation
7. Improving Transport and Communications
8. Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector
9. Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security
10. Eradicating Poverty
11. Deepening Financial Cooperation
12. Exchange of Views on “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member States”
13. Date of the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC
14. Any Other Business
15. Adoption of the Resolutions

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### **III**

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**



Original: English

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**

The Thirtieth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) was held on 25-28 November 2014 in İstanbul, Turkey;

Recalling the relevant Resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, including the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> Sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers, and the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member States to the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) adopted at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 7-8 December 2005 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, and to the COMCEC Strategy adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 August 2012 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah;

Commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of COMCEC, and applauding its contributions for the enhancement of intra-OIC economic and commercial cooperation;

Welcoming the finalization of the requirements for the operationalization of the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS-OIC);

Taking note of the submission of the progress reports, working papers and studies on the different agenda items submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC);

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

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

**Report on the COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation (Agenda Item: 2)**

- 1- **Takes note** of the Progress Report submitted by the COMCEC Coordination Office highlighting the progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy, and **requests** the Member States and OIC Institutions to extend their full support to the implementation of the Strategy.
- 2- **Welcomes** the progress achieved in the implementation of the projects that were funded under the first call of the COMCEC Project Funding. **Also welcomes** the second project call, made by the COMCEC Coordination Office in September 2014.
- 3- **Requests** the COMCEC Coordination Office to regularly report the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy to the COMCEC Sessions and to the Follow-up Committee Meetings.
- 4- **Welcomes** the activities organized by the relevant OIC Institutions (SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC) in 2014 in line with the COMCEC Strategy.
- 5- **Requests** the Member States which have not done so, to register to the COMCEC Working Groups and actively participate in the upcoming Meetings of the Working Groups.
- 6- **Encourages** the Member States which have registered to the COMCEC Working Groups to actively participate in the upcoming Meetings of the relevant Working Groups and benefit from the COMCEC Project Funding for realizing their cooperation projects.
- 7- **Takes note** with appreciation the holding of the Second Annual Meeting of the COMCEC Working Group Focal Points, organized by the COMCEC Coordination Office on 4-5 June 2014 in Ankara.
- 8- **Commends** the efforts of the Working Groups towards approximating policies among the Member States in their field of competence and **welcomes** the policy recommendations made by the Working Groups in their meetings held in September and October 2014.



9- **Expresses** its appreciation to the COMCEC Coordination Office, SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC for their efforts towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy.

10- **Adopts** the recommendations of the 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

**Implementation of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) (Agenda Item: 3)**

11- **Reaffirms** its commitment to the realization of the objectives of the TYPOA and **calls upon** the Member States and the OIC Institutions to extend required efforts towards reaching the objectives of the TYPOA.

12- **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to submit a comprehensive evaluation report to the 31<sup>st</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting of the COMCEC on the implementation of the economic and commercial component of the 10 Year-Programme of Action during the last 10 years, with specific emphasis on the achievements and challenges, as well as recommendations for the successor programme.

13- **Also requests** the OIC General Secretariat to submit a progress report on the preparations of the successor Programme of Action to the 31<sup>st</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting of the COMCEC.

14- **Invites** the OIC General Secretariat, in preparing the new 10-Year Programme of Action, to involve all member states and OIC Organs, to give due regard to the COMCEC Strategy in formulating the economic and commercial component to avoid duplication.

15- **Underlines** the importance of the active follow-up of the economic and commercial section of the new 10-Year Programme of Action by the COMCEC.

**World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member States (Agenda Item: 4)**

16- **Entrusts** the SESRIC to continue monitoring the world economic developments and their implications on the Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC.

17- **Takes note with appreciation** the sectoral outlook reports prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office and submitted to the relevant Working Group meetings.

18- **Requests** the IDB and COMCEC Coordination Office to conduct a joint study reflecting the perspective of the OIC on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Post-2015 Development Agenda and submit it to the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

#### **Expansion of Intra-OIC Trade (Agenda Item: 5)**

19- **Welcomes** the holding of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Facilitating the Intra-OIC Trade: Improving Efficiency of the Customs Procedures in the OIC Member States”.

20- **Also welcomes** the holding of the Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Preferential Trade Agreements and Trade Liberalization Efforts in the OIC Member States with special focus on the TPS-OIC”, and **takes note of** its policy recommendations, namely:

- Increasing the member state capacity for successful implementation of the PTAs;
- Preparing the ground for the implementation of TPS-OIC; and
- Raising awareness on TPS-OIC.

(Ref: Document code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(9))

21- **Urges** the Member States which have registered to the COMCEC Trade Working Group to attend the Fifth Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group to be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Improving the role of Eximbanks in the OIC Member States for Increasing their Exports”, and the Sixth Meeting to be organized on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of “Establishing Well-Functioning National Trade Facilitation Bodies in the Member States”.

22- **Requests** the Member States to actively participate in the trade activities to be organized by the COMCEC Coordination Office, SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group (ITFC), ICCIA, and SMIIC in 2015 and **calls** on these institutions to send invitations to the Member States sufficiently in advance of their meetings so as to ensure the widest possible participation.

23- **Requests** the ICDT, in collaboration with IDB to organize a seminar and conduct a study on the new generation of free trade agreements (FTAs) and the feasibility of signing these agreements among the regional economic groupings consisting of the

OIC Member States, including their impact on intra-OIC trade, and submit a report to the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of COMCEC.

*i) TPS-OIC*

24- **Takes note** with appreciation the positive developments regarding the TPS-OIC since the 29<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session, particularly the ratification of the Rules of Origin by Bahrain, and submission of the concessions list by Morocco.

25- **Welcomes** and **applauds**, on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the COMCEC, the announcement of Kuwait on its ratification of the PRETAS and the Rules of Origin and thus the finalization of the requirements for the operationalization of the TPS-OIC System and **requests** the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) to consider convening its session in 2015.

26- **Requests** the TNC Secretariat to circulate the concessions lists among the participating states of the TPS-OIC.

27- **Reiterates** its call on the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified TPS-OIC Agreements, namely the Framework Agreement, PRETAS and Rules of Origin, to do so and complete the following procedures at their earliest convenience:

- Notify their specific annual installments of reduction along with the list of products and the MFN applied rate applicable on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.
- Complete the necessary internal legislative and administrative measures, which include printing TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and conveying specimen impressions of stamps to the Trade Negotiating Committee Secretariat.

28- **Expresses** its appreciation to the ICDT and the ICCIA for organizing sensitizing events towards increasing awareness on the benefits of TPS-OIC among the government officials and the private sector in the Member States.

29- **Welcomes** the offer of the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB), in collaboration with the COMCEC Coordination Office, to organize a training seminar on the implementation of the Rules of Origin on 26-27 January 2015 in Ankara.

*ii) Islamic Trade Fairs*

30- **Commends** the improvements in the number and quality of Islamic Trade Fairs and Exhibitions, and **expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the following Member

States for hosting Islamic Trade Fairs and Exhibitions in coordination with ICDT:

- The State of the United Arab Emirates (Emirate of Sharjah) for organising the “2<sup>nd</sup> OIC Halal Expo & Congress” on 16-18 December 2013;
- The Republic of Senegal for hosting and to ICDT for organizing the “2<sup>nd</sup> Health Exhibition of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on 26-29 June 2014;
- Malaysia for organizing the “5<sup>th</sup> OIC WORLD BIZ” and the 3<sup>rd</sup> OIC-Asia Business Forum on 10-12 November 2014.

31- **Takes note** of the apology of the Republic of Guinea for not being able to organize the 15<sup>th</sup> Trade Fair of Islamic Countries in 2015 and **invites** the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host this edition in 2015 or in 2016, and requests the ICDT to coordinate this issue with the relevant authorities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and also **takes note** the offer the Republic of Guinea to host the 17<sup>th</sup> edition in 2019.

32- **Welcomes** the offers of the following Member States to host Islamic Trade Fairs and Exhibitions in collaboration with ICDT in 2014/2019:

- The State of the United Arab Emirates (Emirate of Sharjah) to host the “2<sup>nd</sup> Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States” on 19-21 October 2015;
- The State of the United Arab Emirates (Emirate of Sharjah) to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> OIC Halal Expo & Congress respectively on 8-10 December 2014 and 9 - 11 December 2015;
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the “8<sup>th</sup> Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries of the OIC Member States” on 17- 20 May 2015;
- The Republic of Tunisia to organize the 1<sup>st</sup> Exhibition of Organic and Local Products of the OIC Member States on 29 October -1<sup>st</sup> November 2015.
- The Arab Republic of Egypt to host the “3<sup>rd</sup> Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States” in 2016.
- The Republic of Iraq to host the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Trade Fair of the Islamic Countries in 2017.

33- **Requests** ICDT to continue holding sector specific fairs in cooperation with the Member States and submit regular progress reports on the fairs to the COMCEC Sessions.

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

34- **Takes note** of the report of the “6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC trade” held in Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco, on 3-4 February 2014, and **requests** the Consultative Group to carry out its remaining work with the active participation of the OIC Institutions in line with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC and in accordance with its mandate.

35- **Thanks** the ICDT and other members of the Consultative Group for their efforts towards enhancing intra-OIC trade, and **requests** the Group to successfully conclude the implementation of the Executive Programme in 2015.

36- **Requests** the ICDT, in collaboration with other relevant OIC Institutions, to prepare a comprehensive evaluation report on the implementation of the Road-Map and submit it to the 31<sup>st</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting and the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

37- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the “Asia/GCC/Africa Business Forum 2015” to be organized by ICDT in collaboration with the Islamic Exhibition on Muslim Business (SIBM), the OIC International Business Center (Malaysia), and the Federation of GCC Chambers in March 2015 and **urges** the Member States to actively participate in this event.

38- **Welcomes also** the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum and Specialized Exhibition on “Higher Education Services in the OIC Member States” to be organized by the ICDT with the Ministry of Highest Education and Research of Senegal in 2016 in Dakar and **urges** the Member States to actively participate in this event.

39- **Also requests** the Member States to keep on providing the ICDT with data relating to trade and investment statistics and regulations.

40- **Welcomes** the capacity building activities in the field of competition policy organized by Competition Authority of Turkey.

*iv) WTO Related Technical Assistance*

41- **Welcomes** the accession of Yemen to the WTO, and **encourages** the non-WTO Member OIC Countries, to join this organization and **requests** the WTO Member OIC Countries to support the Member States which are in the accession process to the WTO.

42- **Calls on** IDB and ICDT to continue providing technical assistance to the Member States on WTO-related issues and report their activities to the COMCEC Sessions.

43- **Invites** the World Trade Organization (WTO), through the OIC General Secretariat, to consider favourably granting observer status within WTO to the ICDT in order to help it follow-up WTO matters, including studies, research, capacity building and reports to OIC Fora.

44- **Welcomes** the candidacy of the Republic of Turkey to host the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference, expected to be held in December 2015 and **calls on** the Member States to support this candidacy.

*v) Trade Financing Activities*

45- **Appreciates** trade finance and trade promotion activities of IDB Group (ITFC) which have achieved trade finance approvals amounting to USD 5.1 billion in 2014.

46- **Welcomes** the regional and thematic trade development programs of the ITFC, namely the Aid for Trade Initiative for Arab States (AFTIAS), Aid for Trade Initiative for the SPECA Region, OIC Trade Development Forum, and Arab-Africa Trade Bridge Program, and **invites** the concerned Member States to actively participate and support the implementation of these initiatives.

47- **Congratulates** the ICIEC on its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and **appreciates** its continuous services for the Member States.

48- **Invites** the Member States to complete their membership requirements for the institutions of the IDB Group (ITFC and ICIEC) so that the IDB Group implements its mandate successfully.

*vi) Trade Related Activities of SMIIC*

49- **Welcomes** the increased activity of the SMIIC through organizing capacity building activities in its field of competence.

50- **Requests** the SMIIC Member States to actively participate in the meetings of the technical committees of the SMIIC as well as Accreditation Committee and Metrology Committee under SMIIC with their national competent authorities.

51- **Welcomes** the joining of Malaysia as member, and Bosnia and Herzegovina as observer to SMIIC, and **requests** the Member States which have not done so far, to join SMIIC to benefit from its services.

**Enhancing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation (Agenda Item: 6)**

52- **Takes note** of the recommendations of the 16<sup>th</sup> Private Sector Meeting for OIC Member States held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates on 19-20 March 2014, as well as the Sharjah Declaration.

53- **Welcomes** the efforts of the ICCIA, in bridging the information gap, between the private sectors of the Member States by creating Business Development Centers (Al-Masfaq), holding Business Forums, Training programs and Seminars, and **called upon** the ICCIA to continue with these activities.

54- **Calls upon** the private sector of the Member States to actively cooperate and interact with the ICCIA in order to fulfill its tasks.

55- **Takes note of** the organization of the 15<sup>th</sup> MÜSIAD International Fair & 18<sup>th</sup> International Business Forum; “the Palestinian Trade and Business Expo 2014” organized by TOBB and IDB; and the International Engineering Forum organized by the FCIC and DEİK on the sidelines of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

56- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the Second Workshop on “Enhancing Cooperation among the Trade Registry Agencies in the OIC Member States” in the second half of 2015.

57- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Tunisia to organize a conference on Competition Policy in the OIC Member States in the last week of February 2015, and to organize a forum on offshoring services in the second half of 2015, in cooperation with ICDT.

**Improving Transport and Communications (Agenda Item: 7)**

58- **Welcomes** the convening of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Developing Multimodal Freight Transport (MFT) among the OIC Member States: Status of the Implementations of MFT among the OIC Member States”.

59- **Also welcomes** the convening of the Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Developing Air Linkages to Sustain Tourism among the OIC Member

States” and **takes note** of the policy recommendations of the Meeting, namely;

- Increasing Air Transport Liberalization in the OIC Member States
- Making Better Use of PPPs in Airport Infrastructure
- Opening Domestic Markets to Low-Cost Airlines

(Ref: Document code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(21))

60- **Requests** the Member States to participate in the Fifth Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group to be held on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of “Evaluating the Ownership, Governance Structures, and Performances of Ports in the OIC Member States”, as well as its sixth meeting to be held in October 2015 with the theme of “Review of the Urban Transport in OIC Megacities”.

61- **Welcomes** the recent developments with regard to the final prefeasibility studies on the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project in the framework of cooperation between OIC and African Union and **requests** the participating Member States to submit the relevant documents on their national segments on the railway line for further action before eventual convening of a donors conference on this project.

62- **Requests** the Member States to encourage their shipping companies to register their ships to the Islamic Indemnity and Protection Club (Islamic P&I Club) developed by the OISA to promote shipping in the Member States.

63- **Welcomes** the readiness of the Republic of Turkey to share its experiences in the field of air service liberalization.

### **Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector (Agenda Item: 8)**

64- **Welcomes** the convening of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Enabling Tourism Investment Climate in the Member States.”

65- **Also welcomes** the convening of the Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Enhancing the Capacity of Tourism Workforce in the Member States for Improved Tourism Service Quality”, and takes note of the policy recommendations of the meeting, namely;

- Developing Tourism Workforce Development Strategies in the Member States and supporting the effective implementation of the existing ones,
- Enhancing the capacity of tourism workforce in the Member States

(Ref: Document code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(25))



66- **Requests** the Member States to participate in the Fifth Meeting of the Tourism Working Group to be held on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of “Travel Facilitation for Enhancing Mobility in the OIC Member States”, as well as the Sixth Meeting to be held on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 with theme of “Effective Marketing Strategies: Innovative ICT Solutions.”

67- **Takes note of** the resolutions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) held on 3-5 December 2013 in Banjul, Republic of the Gambia.

68- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Niger to host the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers in 2015 and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in this event.

69- **Takes note** of the report of the “Second Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum” held on 16-17 of December 2013, in İstanbul, Turkey.

70- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum on 29-30 January 2015 in İstanbul with the theme of “International Promotion, Marketing and Branding of Tourism Destinations”, and **requests** the Member States to encourage their private sector representatives in tourism sector to actively participate in this event.

71- **Takes note of** the Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Coordination Committee on Tourism held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia.

72- **Welcomes** the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 5<sup>th</sup> OIC Health Tourism Conference in 2015 in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran.

### **Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security (Agenda Item: 9)**

73- **Welcomes** the convening of the Second Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Ankara with the theme of “Encouraging Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in the OIC Member States for Increasing Agricultural Productivity.”

74- **Also welcomes** the convening of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Improving the Statistical Capacity of the Agriculture Sector in the OIC Member States.”

75- **Further welcomes** the convening of the Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of

"Facilitating Smallholder Farmers' Market Access in the OIC Member States" and **takes note** of the policy recommendations of the Working Group, namely;

- Promoting the Establishment of the Producer Organizations and Increasing the Effectiveness of the Existing Ones
- Disseminating Technical and Market Information to Smallholder Farmers
- Encouraging Contract Farming

(Ref: Document code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(34))

76- **Requests** the Member States to participate in the Fifth Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group to be held on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of "Strengthening Institutional Capacity: Establishing and Strengthening Farmer Organizations in the OIC Member States", as well as its Sixth Meeting to be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of "Promoting Agricultural Value Chains in the OIC Member States."

77- **Takes note with appreciation** of the efforts of the Republic of Turkey and the SESRIC in organizing training courses on different technical agricultural and food security aspects in the Member States within the framework of the OIC Agriculture Capacity Building Program.

#### **Eradicating Poverty (Agenda Item: 10)**

78- **Welcomes** the convening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group held on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Ankara, with the theme of "Targeting Mechanisms of the Social Safety Net Systems in the OIC Member States".

79- **Also welcomes** the convening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group held on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara, with the theme of "Monitoring Mechanisms of the Social Safety Net Programmes in the OIC Member States".

80- **Further welcomes** the convening of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group, held on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 with the theme of "Institutional System of the Social Safety Net Programmes in the OIC Member States", and **takes note of** the policy recommendations of the Meeting namely;

- Increasing the capacity of the human resources in the SSN system
- Promoting the establishment of Management Information System /expanding the coverage of the existing ones in the Member States

(Ref. Document Code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(39))

81- **Requests** the Member States to actively participate in the Fifth Meeting of the Working Group to be held on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Activation Policies for the Poor in the OIC Member States”, as well as its sixth meeting to be held on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of “Improvement of Basic Services Delivery in the OIC Member States”.

***i) Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) and Special Program for Development of Africa (SPDA)***

82- **Reiterates** its request to the Member States which have pledged to the ISFD to fulfill their commitments so as to enable it to finance more projects in Member States.

83- **Takes note of** the initiative of IDB Group for development of a Strategy for the period 2015-2017 for the effective implementation of the projects and the effectiveness of the ISFD.

84- **Welcomes** the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) for mobilization of resources from different financing institutions for the implementation of the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA).

85- **Welcomes** the outcome of the IDB Workshop on “Economic and Social Impact of Epidemics and OIC Response: The Case of Ebola” and **calls on** Member States, the OIC General Secretariat, and the IDB to extend necessary support to the countries affected by the outbreak of the Ebola Virus.

***ii) OIC Cotton Plan of Action***

86- **Takes note** of the report of the 5<sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meeting of the OIC Cotton Action Plan held on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and **requests** SESRIC to combine 14 projects into one capacity building project and submit it to the IDB for funding.

87- **Takes note with appreciation of** the efforts of SESRIC in organizing training courses on various cotton-related aspects in the Member States within the framework of the OIC Cotton Training Programme (OIC-CTP).

***iii) OIC-VET Program***

88- **Takes note of** the report of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee of the OIC-VET Programme held on 12-13 November 2014 in Ankara,

Turkey and **appreciates** the continuous efforts of SESRIC towards initiating and implementing various capacity building programmes and training courses in different fields and areas of interest to the Member States with a view to enhancing the capacities and quality of human resources in these countries.

89- **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the COMCEC, **thanks** the IDB and SESRIC for conducting the revised version of the study, entitled “Managing Natural Disasters and Conflicts in OIC Countries” after taking into consideration the observations of the Member States and **calls upon** the Member States and IDB to implement the recommendations of the Study.

### **Deepening Financial Cooperation (Agenda Item: 11)**

90- **Welcomes** the convening of the First Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Ankara with the theme of “Enhancing Capital Flows in the OIC Member States”.

91- **Also welcomes** the convening of the Second Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Enhancing Financial Inclusion in the OIC Member States”.

92- **Further welcomes** the convening of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara with the theme of “Risk Management in Islamic Financial Instruments” and **takes note** of the policy recommendations of the Working Group, namely;

- Developing Necessary Legal and Institutional Infrastructure for the Islamic Financial Services Industries (IFSI)
- Developing Islamic Finance Strategies at National Level
- Increasing Financial Literacy and Awareness on Islamic Finance, and Developing Human Capacity
- Diversification of Islamic Financial Instruments and Services

(Ref: Document code OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(48))

93- **Requests** the Member States to actively participate in the Fourth Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group to be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with the theme of “Improving Institutional and Supervisory Mechanism in the Banking Sector of the OIC Member States”, as well as its fifth meeting to be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with theme of “Payment Systems in the OIC Member States”.

*i) OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum*

94- **Takes note** of the report of the Eight Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in İstanbul.

95- **Welcomes** the offer of the Borsa Istanbul to host the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum in 2015 in İstanbul and **requests** all the Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

96- **Requests** the Member States and IDB to further their support for the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC Index in the Member States with a view to making it an effective investment instrument.

*ii) Cooperation among Capital Markets' Regulatory Bodies*

97- **Takes note** of the report of the Third Meeting of the COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in İstanbul.

98- **Welcomes** the efforts carried out by the Task Forces of COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum on Islamic capital market challenges, database, financial literacy as well as capacity building, and also **invites** the Member States to support the efforts of the Forum through participating its meetings, contributing to the accomplishment of the mandates of the Task Forces.

99- **Welcomes** the offer of the Capital Markets Board of the Republic of Turkey, as the Forum Secretariat, to host the Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC CMR Forum in 2015 in İstanbul and **requests** all the Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

*iii) Cooperation among the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities*

100- **Expresses** its appreciation to the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member States on 5-6 November 2014 in Surabaya/Indonesia with the theme of “Dealing with Financial Stability Risks: Macro-prudential Policy and Financial Market Deepening in Islamic Finance” and **takes note** of the report and final communique of the Meeting.

101- **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Suriname to host the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member States in 2015 and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in this meeting.

102- **Welcomes** the training and capacity building programs organized by the SESRIC in the field of Central Banks and **requests** the SESRIC to continue organizing such activities for the relevant institutions of the Member States.

**Exchange of Views on “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in OIC Member States” (Agenda Item: 12)**

103- **Takes note** of the report and recommendations of the workshop on “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in OIC Member States” organized by the COMCEC Coordination Office and SESRIC on September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 in Ankara, Turkey.

***Theme of the next Exchange of Views Session***

104- **Decides** on “Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Service Delivery” as the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC and **requests** the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 31<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Session.

**Date of the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC (Agenda Item: 13)**

105- **Decides** that the 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 13-14 May, 2015 in Ankara, Turkey and the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC will be held on 23-26 November, 2015 in İstanbul, Turkey.

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





# **ANNEX**

## **1**



Original : English

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 25 - 28 November 2014)**

**A. MEMBER STATES OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**

- H.E. ABDUL HADI ARGHANDEHWAL  
Minister of Economy
- Mr. MOHAMMAD ISMAIL RAHIMI  
Director General of National Development Policy
- Ms. MARIAM GUTH  
Technical Advisor

**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

- Mr. EDUARD OSTROSI  
Director of EU Integration Coordination of IPA Project and Foreign Funds

**PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA**

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- Mr. NIZAR FAYSAL ALMASHAL  
Director of Department for Economic Agreement and Joint Committee,  
Ministry of Economy
- Mr. TAREQ AL MARZOOQI  
Director of Government Communications, Ministry of Economy
- Mr. SAEED HASAN ALDHANANI  
Second Secretary of Department of Economic Affairs,  
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**REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

- Mr. AZIZBEK SALAHIDDINOV  
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**REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

- H.E. Dr. MUTAHAR ABDULAZIZ AL ABBASI  
Vice Minister of Planning and International Cooperation
- H.E. ABDULWALI ABDULLAH ALAQEL  
Advisor to the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
- H.E. NORIA ALHAMAMI  
Ambassador, General Director of the Department of  
International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**B. OBSERVERS**

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

- Mr. KEMALETTİN ÖZDEMİR  
Honorary Consul
- Mr. OSMAN BURAK AKDIKMEN  
Hon. Consul General



## **TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS**

- H.E. SERDAR DENKTAŞ  
Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy, Culture, Tourism and Sport
- Mr. RAUF DENKTAŞ  
Counsellor of Deputy Prime Minister
- Ms. ASU MUHTAROĞLU  
Consul of TRNC
- Dr. HÜDA HÜDAVERDİ  
Counsellor of Prime Minister
- Mr. ORÇUN KAMALI  
General Coordinator

## **KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

- H.E. PATAMAPONG PRATHOMPAT  
Vice Minister of Commerce
- Ms. AEKTHIDA VONGKAMHANG  
Director of Africa and Eastern Europe Affairs Section,  
Ministry of Commerce
- Ms. KUNTIDA BUNDHURATANA  
Trade Officer, Ministry of Commerce
- Mr. NIWAT HANSAWARD  
Director, Thai Trade Center, Royal Thai Consulate General  
in İstanbul
- Ms. MİHRİBAN AKYOL AKIN  
Trade Officer

## **THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

- H.E. KONSTANTIN SHUVALOV  
Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. ALBINA RAKHIMULLINA  
Deputy Trade Representative, Ministry of Economic Development

## **C. THE OIC GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

### **THE OIC GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

- H.E. IYAD AMEEN MADANI  
Secretary General, OIC

- H.E. Amb. HAMEED A. OPELOYERU  
Ambassador, OIC Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs
- Mr. GHOLAMHOSSEIN DARZI  
Director, Department of Economic Affairs
- Mr. BILAL SASSO  
Director, Protocol Department
- Mr. NAGHI JABBAROV  
Professional Officer, Department of Economic Affairs
- Mr. WAJDI SINDI  
Professional Officer, Information Department
- Mr. ADOUM MAHAMAT  
Professional Officer, Cabinet of the Secretary General of the OIC

**D. OIC SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**

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

- Prof. Dr. SAVAŞ ALPAY  
Director General
- Mr. NABIL DABOUR  
Director of Research Department
- Mr. KENAN BAGCI  
Senior Researcher

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

- Dr. EL HASSANE HZAINÉ  
Director General
- Mr. MAMODOU BOCAR SALL  
Head of Department of Training and Studies

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

- Dr. HALİT EREN  
General Director
- Mr. NEZİH MARUF  
Head of Crafts Development Program

- Ms. ZEYNEP DURUKAL  
Intercultural Relations Research
- Mr. AMIR PASIC  
Head of Arch, Department
- Mr. SADIK ÜNAY  
Senior Researcher
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**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (IUT)**

- Prof. Dr. MOHAMMED IMTIAZ HOSSAIN  
Vice Chancellor, IUT

**E. SPECIALIZED ORGANS OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB GROUP)**

- H.E. Dr. AHMAD MOHAMED ALI  
President, IDB Group
- Mr. KHALED ALABOODI  
CEO of IDB Group
- Mr. WALEED AL WOHAIB  
CEO of ITFC and Acting CEO of ICIEC
- Mr. HANI SALEM SUNBOL  
Deputy CEO, ICIEC
- Mr. MANSOUR BIN FETEN  
Director of the Bank's Trust Funds Department
- Mr. YASSER ALAKI  
Acting Director of Business Development Dept., ICIEC
- Dr. ABDUL HAKIM ELWAER  
Director
- Mr. MOHAMMED JAMAL AL-SAATI  
Director
- Mr. JAMAL AL SAYED OMAR  
CEO of Office Manager, ITFC
- Mr. MAHMOUD ALI IBN ALI TALIB  
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- Mr. ABIDA MOHAMED  
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- Mr. HUSSEIN JAMA  
Adviser to the CEO, ICIEC
- Mr. MUHAMMAD IQBAL AZAD  
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- Mr. SALEH JELASSI  
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Advisor, ITFC
- Mr. ÖMER BUĞU  
Project Officer
- Mr. ABDUL BASIT JAM  
Cooperation Specialist
- Mr. AZHARI AHMED  
Lead Economist
- Mr. AZHARI GASIM  
Senior Economist
- Mr. JAMELEDDINE ZARROUK  
Chief Economist
- Mr. SALEH JELASSI  
Technical Advisor
- Mr. HARUN CELIK  
Project Manager, ITFC
- Mr. MUHAMMAD JAMELL YUSHAU  
Senior Communications
- Mr. MARWAN ABID  
Technical Assistant, ITFC
- Mr. MOHAMMED ALI DIN MOHAMMADI

**F. AFFILIATED ORGANS OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE (ICCIA)**

- Mr. SALEH ABDULLAH KAMEL  
President
- Ms. ATTIYA NAWAZISH ALI KHAN AYAZ  
Assistant Secretary General
- Mr. MOHAMED MAHMOUD ALIBADAWY ELBANNA  
Deputy Secretary General

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

- H.E. Dr. ABDULLATIF ABDULLAH BIN SULTAN  
Secretary General
- Ms. HEBA ABDULLATIF BIN SULTAN  
HR & Legal Manager

**ISLAMIC CONFERENCE YOUTH FORUM FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION (ICYF-DC)**

- Amb. ELSHAD ISKANDAROV  
Secretary General, OIC Youth Forum Chairman
- Mr. ABDURRAHMAN TOPBAŞ  
Vice President
- Mr. ELMADDIN MEHDIYEV  
Head of Cabinet
- Mr. ESRA ÖZTÜRK  
Head of Department

**ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADFIMI)**

- Mr. M. EMİN ÖZCAN  
Chairman
- Dr. JAMEEL ABDELHAMEED MOHAMED  
Member of the Board
- Mr. NURİ BİRTEK  
Secretary General

**FEDERATION OF CONTRACTORS FROM ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (FOCIC)**

- Mr. ABDERRAHIM ALAMI LAHJOUJI  
President
- Mr. BEN ADER  
Secretary General

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

- Mr. HULUSİ ŞENTÜRK  
President
- Mr. HALUK DAĞ  
Secretary General
- Mr. İHSAN ÖVÜT  
Elected Secretary General
- Mr. ÇAĞRI CANKURTARAN  
Adviser
- Ms. EMEL GÖNÇ  
Assistant to Secretary General
- Mr. YASİN ZULFİKAROĞLU  
Expert
- Ms. SEVDE ÖZBEY  
Secretary

**G. STANDING COMMITTEES**

**STANDING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC)**

- Mr. CHEÏKHOU OUMAR SECK  
Ambassador, COMIAC
- H.E. PAPA OUSMANE SEYE  
Permanent Representative in Senegal, O.I.C.

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

- Dr. MOHAMMED ALI MAHESAR  
Assistant Coordinator General

## **H. OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

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

- Mr. FAISAL ALI ALBUAINAIN  
Counsellor, Head of Commercial Organizations
- Mr. SAAD ALSEKAIAAN  
Second Secretary
- Mr. ABDULLAH ALSHIEKH  
First Attaché

### **DEVELOPING EIGHT (D-8)**

- Dr. SEYED ALIMOHAMMAD MOUSAVI  
Secretary General
- Mr. ZIAUL HASAN  
Director of Economy, Implementation and External Relations
- Mr. HARUN KUCUKALADAGLI  
Finance Officer

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

- Mr. HOSSEIN GHAZAVI  
President
- Mr. FAZLI SAK  
Director Policy and Strategy Department
- Mr. ÖMER FARUK BAYKAL  
Chief Economist

### **WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (UNWTO)**

- Mr. AMR ABDEL GHAFAR  
Regional Director for the Middle East
- Ms. ESENCAN TERZİBAŞOĞLU  
Program Director, Destination Management & Quality

### **WORLD BANK**

- Mr. MARTIN RAISER  
Director

- Mr. ZAMIR IQBAL  
Director, Global Islamic Finance Development Centre

**I. GUEST AWARDS**

- H.E. Dr. ABDULMALIK BIN ABDALLAH AL HINAI  
Adviser, Ministry of Finance
- H.E. Prof. Dr. M. UMER CHAPRA  
Adviser at IRTI, IDB
- Mr. ALI HASSAN ALKHALAF  
Former Economic Adviser, Ministry of Economy and Commerce
- Prof. Dr. MASUDUL ALAM CHOUDHURY  
Visiting Professor, University of Toronto
- Prof. Dr. SABRİ ORMAN  
Member of the Board of the Central Bank, Turkey
- Prof. Dr. ZUBAIR HASAN  
Professor, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance

**J. KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

- H.E. NUMAN KURTULMUŞ  
Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and  
Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC
- Mr. BOUABDELLAH GHAMALLAH  
Former Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs of Algeria

**K. SPEAKERS**

- Mr. ZIAD ABDEL SAMAD  
Executive Director, Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)
- H.E. Dr. ABDUL HALIM BIN ISMAIL SURIN PITSUWAN  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and Former Secretary General of ASEAN
- H.E. TUN MUSA HITAM  
Former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and Chairman of the World Islamic Economic Forum
- Prof. Dr. OMAR FAROOQ SHEIKH AHMED  
Emeritus of International Studies
- Mr. FAZLE HASAN ABED  
Founder, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)



- Mr. TARIK YOUSEF  
Economist, Chief Executive Officer, SILATECH

**L. PCM PANELIST**

- Mr. JEAN MARC BAOH  
Project Coordinator
- Mr. FASEEH-UR REHMAN  
Project Coordinator
- Mr. TURKAN RUSTAMOVA  
Project Coordinator

**M. COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**

- Mr. METİN EKER  
Director General
- Mr. MUSTAFA TEKİN  
Head of the Department
- Mr. SELÇUK KOÇ  
Head of the Department
- Mr. FATİH KAYA  
Head of the Department
- Mr. FATİH ÜNLÜ  
Senior Expert
- Mr. SEYFİ UYANIK  
Press Relations
- Mr. ALİ İŞLER  
Expert
- Ms. AYLİN ŞENOL GÜN  
Expert
- Mr. DENİZ GÖLE  
Expert
- Mr. EKREM KARADEMİR  
Expert

- Mr. HAKAN GÜNLÜ  
Expert
- Ms. HANDE HACİMAHMUTOĞLU  
Expert
- Mr. KAĞAN AKDOĞAN  
Expert
- Ms. SİRMA DEMİR ŞEKER  
Expert
- Mr. UTKU ŞEN  
Expert
- Ms. VİLDAN BARAN  
Expert
- Mr. AHMET OKUR  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. ALİ ORUÇ  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. AYKUT YILMAZ  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. ENİS YILDIRIM  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. EREN SÜMER  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. HASAN YENİGÜL  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. MEHMET AKİF ALANBAY  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. MEHMET C. AKTAŞ  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. MEHMET FİDAN  
Assistant Expert

- Mr. MUSTAFA ADİL SAYAR  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. NİHAT AKBALIK  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. OKAN POLAT  
Assistant Expert
- Mr. AHMET ORHAN ÖZTAŞKIN  
Press and Protocol Relations
- Ms. BİLGE GÜLLÜ  
Executive Secretary
- Mr. CAFER ERDOĞAN  
Stock Coordinator
- Ms. EMİNE DEMİREL  
Assistant Coordinator of Documentation Centre
- Mr. ERCAN İBİK  
Assistant Coordinator of Meeting Rooms
- Ms. HANDE ÖZDEMİR  
Coordinator of Registration Office and Accommodation
- Ms. HATİCE GÜL SAYIN  
Coordinator of Documentation Centre
- Mr. KEMAL ARSLAN  
Coordinator of Meeting Rooms
- Mr. MEVLÜT YAŞAR  
Coordinator of Transport and Personnel Relations
- Mr. NAZIM GÜMÜŞ  
Protocol Relations

- Ms. NAZİFE GÜLGEN  
Social Program
- Mr. TAYFUR YÜKSEL  
Security Relations
- Ms. ZEHRA LEYLA AŞK  
Bilateral Talks

# **ANNEX**

**2**



Original: Turkish

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**INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY  
H.E RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
TURKEY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC  
AT THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF COMCEC  
(Istanbul, 27th of November, 2014)**

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

I would like to express my pleasure in gathering with the esteemed delegates of member countries, and wholeheartedly greet you all at the 30th Ministerial Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC).

ESSELAMU ALEYKÜM, VE RAHMETULLAHİ, VE BEREKATÜH.

MAY THE PEACE, MERCY AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON YOU.

I would like to welcome all guests in Istanbul, Turkey.

I would like to express **my pleasure** and **excitement** to host esteemed guests for the first time in my capacity as the Chairman of COMCEC.

For the next five years, we will hopefully be carrying out COMCEC endeavors all together as I closely followed its activities and exerted every effort to support them during my tenure as a Prime Minister

It will be my and, I believe, all members' goal for COMCEC to take constructive steps for member countries, people and the entire humanity during this period of time.

If we act from our very best intentions, the outcome will never be a failure.

As I inaugurate the 30th Session, I wish Allah blesses our path, fate, and efforts and I pray for that.

Distinguished brothers...

Islamic countries have made major strides in recent years in terms of both commercial and development indicators.

The share of the Islamic countries in global trade has increased by almost 50 % in the past decade.

The domestic trade has also made considerable progress within the same period of time, and the intra-OIC trade has increased by more than 50 percent.

Likewise, the average global real growth rate was 2.7 percent between 2002 and 2012 whereas Islamic countries grew by 5.4 percent during the same period of time.

There is no doubt that such figures show that Islamic countries have delivered a successful performance in economy.

However, as you may know, Islamic countries with such a good performance in economy concurrently suffer from the worst crises of human history in humanitarian and political terms.

Distinguished brothers...

Some member countries rank among the top countries around the world in per capita income while many others rank at the bottom.

21 out of 57 member countries are in the United Nations' list of the least-developed countries.

We are all human beings after all...

Rest assured that there is no way to explain it to ourselves.

In addition, we all have faith in Allah, the one and only God, and we believe in the DAY OF RECKONING.

Even if we can explain it to ourselves and our conscience, there is no way to explain such an income gap on the Day of Reckoning, in that Great Court.

We all are members of the Ummah of a Prophet who answered his hunger by a few dates a day.

We all are followers of a Prophet who shared a few dates presented to himself with neighbors and companions even though he, his family and grandchildren hardly had food, and never left the table with a full stomach even for once throughout his entire life.

We follow the footsteps of our Prophet who warned his neighbors saying: He is not a believer whose stomach is full while his neighbor is hungry.

As the followers of Islam, the religion of brotherhood and sharing, we are very well aware that there is no way to explain and justify this current situation.

It is not only a question of poverty or income inequality...

My brothers and sisters...The Islamic world has never been identified with blood, pain, tear and conflicts this much.

We bear witness to another battle of Karbala in various countries each and every day.

Our brothers and sister lose their lives every day.

Every day, our children die, our children are orphaned. **Our women die.**

Our mosques, masjids, tombs, which are supposed to be the safest places, unfortunately are dreadfully, barbarically and violently turned into grounds of massacre by the very people who claim to be Muslims.

As we fail in making our own mosques the safest places from the murderers who refer to themselves as Muslims, one of our most sacred places Masjid Al-Aqsa is trampled by barbarians right in front of our eyes. **Can we raise our voice? Can we talk? No.**



Brothers and sisters....Believe me, we have the power to solve our own problems and to stop the attacks from outside, and establish peace permanently both across our region and on the Earth.

If so demanded, it might be possible to stop the bloodshed in Iraq.

If so desired, we can prevent the death of children in Syria.

**If we act in unison...We have just heard the verses of the Allah the Almighty. In these verses, Allah warns us and alerts us while doing so. And these warnings tell us to take sides against the tyrant until we establish the justice. Everything is loud and clear. If we unite and act in solidarity, we can put an end to the shame of Palestine's solitude which has lasted for almost a century.**

No one from outside will come and solve our problems. We and only us who are to solve our problems.

Look, I say bluntly: Those who come from the outside **love** the oil, gold, and diamonds of the Islamic World, and they love its cheap labor, its conflicts, its fights and its disagreements. **Believe me, they do not like us.**

Yes...Those who come from the outside, those who seem to be our friends, love our corpses, and the corpses of our children.

How long shall we remain indifferent?

How long shall we be patient about this, how long shall we tolerate?

How long shall we seek refuge in excuses for this gloomy scene?

I ask once again: **This is a family council and the world is watching us:** Can being a Shiite be an excuse to watch children being killed in Syria, 300 thousand innocent people being murdered in Syria, 7 million displaced?

I ask again: Can being a Sunni justify the attacks at the tombs, the terrorist organizations, the ouster of elected officials by a coup d'état, the shooting of people protesting in the streets to demand their rights?

I wholeheartedly, frankly and consideringly call upon and invite the entire Islamic World and all my Muslim brothers and sisters regardless of their sects:

Please, stand aside and look at the scene.

Who wins? Who loses?

Who benefits from the deaths?

Who benefits from the conflicts?

Who benefits from the existing problems amongst us?

If we can provide these questions with answers, if we can take even the smallest step required by those answers, only then will it mean that we paved the way for solutions.

Brothers and sisters...I have been subject to the harshest criticism and insults by the Western media because I have attracted the attention to the centenary of the World War I, to the policies framed for the Islamic World.

Only 2 weeks ago, at the First Latin American Countries Muslim Religious Leaders

Summit, I said that the Americas were discovered by Muslims before Columbus. And the Western media and those alienated people with inferiority complex targeted me since I simply reiterated this thesis based on scientific facts.

Those who label Muslims as ‘terrorists’ without any exception do not take any notice of our warnings about Islamophobia.

Those who label Muslims as ‘backward’ turn a deaf ear to our warnings about racism, injustice, and double standards.

They do not want us to ask any question.

They do not want us to question at all.

They are extremely annoyed by the fact that we remind them of historical facts, history of civilizations, politics, military, and science.

They are even annoyed by the fact that we defend the rights of the poor regardless of their religion, language and race, and that we speak of solidarity and peace across the entire world.

And believe me they do whatever it takes for the sake of an economic system built on injustice.

But neither to them nor to us shall we deem proper such discrimination.

We can never join the ranks of people who take lives, even the lives of children, out of lasting greediness for oil, diamond, gold and energy routes.

We can not have tolerance towards terrorism, attacks on temples, racism and anti-semitism.

We will not be merciless and offensive against them or ourselves.

Brothers and sisters...What is more painful than the sufferings of the Islamic World is, believe me, the ongoing meaningless conflicts.

What is more severe than the tragedy we have been experiencing is indifference, silence and taking refuge in groundless excuses.

In the world, we can find justifiable excuses but as the Surah al-Fatihah **says when the Day of Reckoning comes, all of these excuses will be void.** The innocent children and **all those downtrodden people** of Iraq, Palestine and Syria will hold accountable not only those killers but also those who pat the back of those killers and even those who remain silent against those killers.

On the occasion of this Meeting, I would like to remind and reiterate:

As Turkey, we never ever have any intentions towards a country’s territorial integrity, internal peace, local affairs and politics.

Turkey is a country that seeks to be a member of the European Union, looks towards the West **on one side**, yet wishes to longingly embrace her brothers neglected for decades **on the other.**

We do not look at any issue in our region from the perspective of interest.

Just like you, we look at every issue in our region from humanitarian and Islamic perspective.

Brothers and sisters...

Unity, solidarity and alliance are essential to overcome crises in the Islamic World that has been going through the most unfortunate days in its history.

Rest assured that we can solve anything.

Rest assured that we can overcome any problem.

As long as we are one.

As long as we stand together

As long as ‘we hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided’ as commanded by the Holy Quran.

Whoever has any personal problems, whoever has any sectarian problems or even national interest, must leave them aside and strive for the peace, stability and welfare of the region.

REP98I would like to point out that, with its 57 member countries and 5 observer countries, the Organization for Islamic Cooperation has the highest number of members after the United Nations.

As the United Nations remain indifferent while our children are bleeding, the Organization for Islamic Cooperation cannot stand and watch.

With the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, COMCEC, other committees, our institutions, our non-governmental organizations and our universities, we have the strength to make a difference for the world peace.

We can again make great contributions to global science.

We can make greater contributions to world peace and world politics.

We can mitigate any conflict not only in our region but also in the world and we can hold the hand of any downtrodden or poor people.

We have already made great contributions in the global economy, but we can also set the course for the global economy

Praise be to Allah, we have all the power, know-how, experience and the potential to put all that into effect.

All we need is alliance, unity and to fulfill the requirements of the law of fraternity.

It is our greatest wish that the 30th Session of COMCEC will be a new beginning for this new concept of alliance.

**We talk about the United Nations. Has the United Nations ever offered a solution for all that's happened so far? Has it ever produced a solution? To begin with, is there any justice in the United Nations Security Council? It takes only one no vote of the permanent members of the UN Security Council to lead all issues to a dead end. Is there any Islamic country among the five permanent members? Are continents represented in the Security Council? Everything is obvious: Only Europe, Asia and America are represented in the Security Council. There is no Islamic country among the permanent members. It is a unilateral structure in terms of sects and religions as well. There is no Muslim country among them, either. Can a council with no justice provide trust in the world? They call us non-permanent members. Does it mean**

anything? It does not. Everything takes place among those permanent members, and depends on them. You can not expect justice from such a council. They do not raise any positive voice at all for what is currently going on in Iraq, Syria and the Middle East. They will not. Let us not wait in vain and expect them to do so. And I said in the United Nations Security Council that the world is more than 5 but unfortunately it is currently doomed to 5. First of all, it is necessary to save the world from this obligation. That is to say, the United Nations is in need of a true reform. Has the Organization of Islamic Cooperation managed to do any activity as a whole to this end? There are 197 member countries 57 of which are also members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Have we managed to do anything? Have we? No. When and what steps are we going to take?

**Distinguished brothers and sisters...**

**We need to revise our Strategies in every aspect. We need to take major steps in reforming the United Nations.**

Distinguished brothers and sisters...

The COMCEC Strategy, which we have started to implement last year, envisions a working method in which the member countries play active roles.

We expect the relevant institutions of our member countries to be driving forces in the realization of the principles and objectives of the Strategy.

**I consider it as a duty** to take this occasion to call upon my esteemed brothers and sisters.

Let us please actively participate in all COMCEC endeavours, particularly in the working groups established for the main cooperation areas.

Let us efficiently engage all our relevant ministries in COMCEC efforts.

Distinguished delegates,

As known to you, the Trade Preferential System of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which is the most important project of COMCEC in the area of trade, has been pending for almost twenty years. **With whom else are we supposed to put the Trade Preferential System into effect unless we do so among ourselves? I ask once again: With whom?**

Only a few steps need to be taken by our relevant member countries in order for the Trade Preferential System, the legal ground of which has been finalized in 2011, to be operational.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to call upon all relevant countries and kindly request them to take the necessary steps for the Trade Preferential System to be operational as soon as possible.

**Iranian brothers have a saying: They say: “Nişestend u gofdend u berhastend”. They sat, they talked and they left. Unless we take a major step in this regard, we will just sit, talk and leave. So, what does this mean? It means meetings with no output. We need to hold meetings with outputs. And we need to check ourselves on a regular basis. We are not going to skid. We now have to overcome such problems. It is high time to achieve results.**

Another most important project of COMCEC in the field of trade is the Standards and Metrology of Islamic Countries.

I would like to express my appreciation for the **establishment** and the completion of the organizational infrastructure of this Institution and for the fact that the number of members is increasing day by day and I expect all our member countries to maintain their invaluable support

Another prominent topic related to trade, which has been considered important by COMCEC, is Trade Financing.

### **Brothers and sisters...**

**I would like to ponderingly yet explicitly speak my mind.** Trade Financing has played a major role in increasing the Intra-OIC trade from 10 percent from 15 years ago, to over 18 percent since 2013. **Is this enough? To me, it is not. Have we managed to provide solidarity in financing as a whole? Have we managed to make use of our financing capabilities among Islamic countries? Where do we invest this financing potential in? To whom do we transfer this financing potential? We need to dwell on these issues. And our financing potential unfortunately brings about extremely adverse effects on so many levels. We have to think it over. And perhaps we need to talk it over in a different way in timetables as a Working Group effort, or a new working method. What do we need to do in financial management? What do we need to do in information management? We need to put a particular emphasis on them.**

The trade financing provided by the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation, which has been operating under the umbrella of the Islamic Development Bank Group, has reached a significant level. **However, I am sure that it can reach a much more significant level and I can not accept this current level given the realities of the world.**

I would like to thank these two institutions and congratulate them on their vigorous efforts but **also express that they are not enough.**

There are many endeavors in which both sector representatives and institutions of member countries have contributed under COMCEC.

Stock Exchanges Forum, COMCEC Capital Markets Regulatory Bodies Forum and Central Banks and Monetary Authorities Meetings have been carrying on their activities in a highly successful manner.

I believe that the COMCEC Stock Exchanges Index, which is a result of the efforts exerted under the Stock Exchanges Forum, will contribute substantially to the capital flows into our member countries in the upcoming period. **I now would like to bring forward something new in this meeting and I find it beneficial to discuss it over. In my opinion, the COMCEC will reap great benefits from the establishment of a Real Estates Exchange in addition to the Stock Exchange. For us, Real Estates now stand for a new value in the world. It is necessary to take a step for the establishment of the COMCEC Gold Exchange. I attach major importance to this matter. It is because gold is an asset with a defining and high-level role compared to paper. We need to dwell on this matter, as well. We can establish the legal basis for it. We can also work on its context from the international law perspective. They all have a way out.**

I would like to tell all member countries and respective institutions that **taking these steps are beneficial in terms of establishing the justice in this regard. I believe that it is beneficial for this index to play an active role and grow into active investment components. For this reason, I would like to point out that I attach importance to exerting efforts in this respect.**

Distinguished brothers...

We hold a series of special events such as panels, special sessions and exhibitions in this year's meeting on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the COMCEC.

I hope that you, distinguished ministers and delegates, will actively participate in these events which I believe will be very useful.

I expect that the 15th International Fair organized by MUSIAD will particularly attract your interest. **I paid a visit to it the other day. It was really good.** I strongly recommend you to visit this fair.

International Business Fora of MUSIAD and DEIK (Foreign Economic Relations Council) will, I believe, make our COMCEC summit more colorful.

The Palestine Business Forum and the Palestinian Products Exhibition organized by Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges and Islamic Development Bank are also expecting your interest.

Before I conclude my remarks, I once again supplicate to Allah almighty that the 30th Session of the COMCEC will be a channel for the accomplishment of the good.

I would like to say **“May our late brothers, who actively contributed to the works of COMCEC for 30 years, rest in peace.** I would like to extend my appreciation to our ministers and delegates who **actively keep making contributions** to the works of the COMCEC and, the scientific community and our respective institutions that contribute to deepen our cooperation through their academic studies, and **I believe this will lead to solidarity for all private sector companies. For this reason,** I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to them.

Once again I would like to reiterate the pleasure of hosting you in our beautiful city of Istanbul and I hope the works of COMCEC would bring fruitful outcomes for our countries, nations and the entire humanity and I salute you all with my deepest love and respect.

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# **ANNEX**

## **3**





**SPEECH OF H.E. IYAD AMEEN MADANI,  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANISATION  
OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC),  
AT THE OPENING SESSION  
(İstanbul, 27 November 2014)**

Your Excellency, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC,  
Your Excellencies, Ministers and Heads of Delegation,  
Honourable Delegates  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to address the 30<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the OIC Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC). Allow me to, first and foremost, congratulate the Chairman of COMCEC, His Excellency, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey for his widely acknowledged and constant support for the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation over the years.

The dedication and commitment of the Turkish leadership are manifest in the fact that today we are commemorating three decades of partnership among OIC Member States through the annual COMCEC meetings here in Istanbul. The series of meetings and workshops have provided ample opportunities to senior officials from OIC member states and institutions to deliberate and make recommendations, aimed at improving our joint action on deepening economic growth and development in our respective member states.

The 30<sup>th</sup> session of COMCEC General Assembly, since its establishment as a Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC, is taking place at an important time in the history of our Organisation. The OIC is currently pre-occupied with the task of transforming all its potentials to actual welfare and prosperity for our teeming populations, especially the vulnerable and poor segments. Since the establishment of the OIC in 1969, efforts have multiplied in the direction of creating effective institutional arrangements for multilateral economic cooperation among our Member States.

The initial task was that of mobilising the entire Muslim Ummah behind the principal cause of restoration of the national rights of the Palestinians and the liberation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the third holiest mosque of all Muslims.

Subsequently, additional priorities were mapped out with a view to translating Islamic solidarity, anchored on our age-old cultural heritage, into concrete achievements in the socio-economic domain. For this purpose, many economic institutions were created to implement our collective vision and desire for inclusive growth and sustainable development. Such institutions include the Islamic Solidarity Fund, which was established in 1974, the Islamic Development Bank in 1975, the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs in 1976, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research Centre for Islamic Countries (popularly known as Ankara Centre) in 1977, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (also known as Casablanca Centre) in 1981; and COMCEC in 1984.

The creation of these institutions and the accompanying elaboration of several multilateral agreements began to re-position our Organisation as a credible global actor for South-South cooperation. In the same vein, the image of the Organisation as the second largest international organisation began to loom larger on the global plane.

Today, and thanks to these institutions, our Organisation has provided emergency relief assistance in many of our member states, and supporting educational institutions in several countries within the framework of the Islamic Solidarity Fund. It is noteworthy that the ISF has so far executed 2484 projects in 122 countries, valued at US\$ 212 million as at 2014. In the domain of infrastructure development, the Islamic Development Bank has also intervened cumulatively in 56 countries to the tune of US\$ 97.8 billion as at 2013. The intervention by other members of the IDB Group in the domain of trade financing, investment and export insurance, and micro-finance has also increased cumulatively to US\$ 10.6 billion as at 2013. These commendable feats have earned the Islamic Development Bank Group global recognition as an effective multilateral development institution, judging from its triple A's rating by renowned world agencies, such as Fitch, Moody's, Standards & Poor's, respectively.

Mr. President,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

In addition to the foregoing, the implementation of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action, which was adopted at the Makkah Summit in 2005, made several innovations for enduring and mutually-rewarding collaboration. The disbursements made under the OIC poverty alleviation fund and the Special Programme for the Development of Africa have provided micro-finance support for Small and Medium Enterprises, including funding for food security. This is in addition to supporting infrastructure development of key importance in African countries and

the on-going efforts to scale up OIC interventions through the OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia. This paradigm shift accords priority to regional and cross-border projects as a deliberate strategy for achieving socio-economic integration of the Muslim Ummah.

There is no doubt that the role played by our various institutions and organs including COMCEC has been of key significance in bringing these achievements to pass. This involves the elaboration of the various multilateral agreements such as the General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation (1977), the Agreement for the Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments (1981), and the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System (TPS-OIC)(1990). In the elaboration of TPS-OIC, the annual meetings of COMCEC has greatly facilitated this singular achievement.

Accordingly, the need to reposition our Organisation through building on these achievements has become more pronounced at this key moment. The challenges facing our different communities remain daunting. The problems of youth unemployment, food and nutrition insecurity, low agro-industrial productivity and social exclusion have assumed such a dimension that requires a collective approach to addressing them. With a few reforms in our cooperation framework, our Organisation can increase our export capacities beyond the current total value of US\$ 2.2 trillion. Similarly, our imports can surpass the current value of US\$ 1.9 trillion, while our total Growth Domestic Products (GDP) has the potential to raise beyond the present 10% of world output. Consequently, intra-OIC trade can surpass the target of 20%, which we set to achieve by 2015.

The foregoing demarches include the implementation of institutional reforms and improved synergy and coordination among our various institutions. Since my assumption of duty at the beginning of the Year, I have put due emphasis on institutional coordination and synergy. There is the realization that a lot of time, resources and energy are wasted due to absence of institutional coordination, leading to a less effective implementation of the various resolutions approved by the OIC.

Consequently, the deepening of coordination with the Islamic Development Bank Group, as exemplified by the convening of the 1<sup>st</sup> Leadership Meeting in April 2014 between the General Secretariat and IDB has triggered a series of coordination efforts among our executive institutions. Recently, this synergy led to the successful staging of the 1<sup>st</sup> Investment Forum on the OIC Plan of Action for Central Asia, in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 27-28 October 2014. The outcome of the Investment Forum was the identification of developmental projects aimed at creating meaningful cooperation with the Central Asia sub-region. These collaborative efforts have also been brought to bear on the on-going arrangements to consolidate the structures of the

new OIC specialised institution for food security to be headquartered in Astana, Kazakhstan. All these efforts have greater potentials to rejuvenate our joint action in the socio-economic domain.

Mr. President,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

The significance of adequate inter-agency coordination among our institutions as well as the need for ownership and leadership of the OIC programmes by our Member States, have emerged clearly in the on-going contributions to the new OIC Programme of Action (2016-2025). It is my sincere hope that such principles as allocation of adequate resources, result orientation and strong institutional capacity would under-pin our renewed efforts towards creating a dynamic Organization, capable of addressing our contemporary developmental challenges.

Another important issue is the need for the empowerment of the poor and rural population in our Member States. To this end, our institutions should continue to put adequate emphasis on Islamic micro and social financial schemes. With the size of the Islamic financial market valued at US\$ 1.7 trillion in 2013, the current trend, which is favourable to the growth of sukuk (Islamic bonds) outside the Arab and South East Asian sub-regions, should be encouraged. The promotion of Zakat-based micro-finance and waqf products would support our poverty alleviation programmes as well as promoting financial inclusion of the poor and vulnerable segments. In this regard, arrangements are underway to convene an OIC stockholders forum in this sector in the coming year.

With regard to tourism sector, let me seize this opportunity to recall one of the significant decisions of the last coordination meeting chaired by the Chairman of the Islamic Ministers of Tourism Conference held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 2-3 June 2014. The selection of the OIC City of Tourism for the next two years has been made after due scrutiny of the several presentations submitted by OIC Member States. I am, therefore, pleased to announce to you all that Al-Quds Al-Sherif has been awarded the OIC City of Tourism for 2015. Similarly, Konya in Turkey was has been selected for the year 2016.

While congratulating the various awardees, I would like to seize this opportunity to thank those OIC institutions, which have announced their contributions to the Award prizes, including financial allocations, training of officials, emblem, workshops, and support for educational and cultural institutions in the awardee cities.

Mr. President,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I may also seize this auspicious occasion to call on our member states to support the various efforts, aimed at consolidating the gains already made by the OIC in meeting the aspirations of our peoples for greater economic growth, welfare and development. The early signing and ratification of the various multilateral agreements in the area of trade and agricultural development as well as accession to the statute of those institutions established for trade promotion, investment and export insurance, and Private Sector support would go a long way in deepening cooperation among our member states.

In the same vein, making good of the various financial commitments to the various dedicated funds for socio-economic cooperation would assist our objectives of building a multilateral organisation that can respond quickly and effectively to the challenges of socio-economic development of the OIC.

As I conclude this speech, let me wish this anniversary COMCEC meeting a great success.

*Assalam alaekun warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu.*

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# ANNEX

4





**ADDRESS BY**  
**H.E DR. AHMAD MUHAMMAD ALI**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP,**  
**AT THE OPENING SESSION**  
**(İstanbul, 27 November 2014)**

In the Name of Allah Arrahman The Merciful  
Praise be to Allah, and May Allah Grant Peace and Blessing upon His  
Messenger,  
and upon all his virtuous family and companions

H.E. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMEC)

H.E. Dr. Cevdet Yilmaz, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey

H.E Iyad Ameen Madani, Secretary General of the OIC

Honorable Ministers - Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamo Alaikom Warahmatollahi Wabarakato,

I begin by expressing my deep appreciation for the opportunity that has always been granted to the IDB Group to address your august Committee, and I congratulate your excellency, for your valuable speech delivered at the first conference to convene after your assumption of the COMCEC chairmanship. A speech that reflects a sound judgment, insight, right-mindedness, and a profound understanding of the challenges facing our Ummah. It is indeed a fortunate event that you assume the leadership of the COMCEC, at its thirtieth anniversary, for the prospects of development and enlightenment in our region. I congratulate the COMCEC for working under your leadership, where there is a need and an aspiration to learn from your wisdom and observe your guidance, for further success.

**Your Excellency,**

In your organization, the Islamic Development Bank Group, we consider this meeting as exceptionally important, based on two aspects: The first aspect evaluates the performance of our robust Committee, after three decades of existence, and the second aspect depicts the prospects of enhancing its service to be provided to the member states in the next decade. We are eager to seize the opportunity to muster the thoughts deriving from past evaluation, and to exchange insightful views for future planning.

While I do not anticipate the desired outcome in the context of our Committee, I see, at the thirtieth anniversary of the COMCEC, the evaluation and planning process intersecting with many drawn messages and learned lessons, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the IDB, celebrated last June. It is not surprising when we consider our deep-seated ties, our close relationship, and our compatible goals and aims.

We draw three common lessons:

**The first lesson:** At the third OIC Summit Conference held in Makka Almokarrama and Atta-ef, endowed with insight, guidance and success, the founders of the Committee initiated its establishment, and then its chairmanship was accorded to the Republic of Turkey. Thereupon, numerous gains were attained by the Committee, and they are now enshrined in the longstanding records of its economic and commercial cooperation. These achievements are the cornerstone for the IDB Group whose funds exceeded 100 billion USD, allowing it to maintain the highest credit rating (AAA) secured from all international credit rating agencies over a period of more than ten years. This was attained with the Bounty of Allah, and the strong support provided by all member states, chiefly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - the headquarters state. The IDB Group is highly proud that the numerous activities and initiatives undertaken by the Group were the result of the work of your august Committee, such as ICIEC and ITFC. They achievements and gains are the source of our pride and satisfaction. With our member states, we see today these results as the culmination of the work achieved by the COMCEC, and reckon that had it not been established thirty years ago, it would have been a necessary step to establish it today.

**The second lesson:** While the COMCEC has been realizing many gains and initiatives, the path needs deepened views and strengthened ties, whereby, our states will realize together growth commensurate with the wealth of human and natural resources they possess. To this end, the first steps would be for the COMCEC to work with the OIC secretariat and the IDB Group, so that they merge all their plans into one program, as a guiding model for the next ten

years; hence, allowing our organization to appropriately contribute to attaining the Millennium Goals, and playing a leading role in the global development endeavors, after 2015. One program would be used by our member states to prevail over the local development hindrances, and by our organization to overcome global economic competition barriers.

**The third lesson:** The economies of our member states need to adopt a new cooperation model, and to establish a new development approach. In my speech delivered last month, before the World Islamic Economic Forum held in Dubai, I described it as the common work for the economic maximization of growth resources, and the ethical awareness of the benefits to be reaped from such growth. Our economies need a model that overcomes new challenges attached to the requirements of the global economic competition in our world village, deals with financial crises, anticipates catastrophes, and preempts conflicts. An approach that establishes two compelling paths.

- A path for competition based on education. The IDB has agreed with the World Bank to develop a program to help the Member States establish effective education systems that enable them release the full potential of their human resources and help them compete within a context where the capacities of the national economy adapt to the changing circumstances of the global market.
- A new path for dealing with the victims of natural and man-made disasters and for modeling means of cooperation to face the grave economic and social repercussions of such disasters based on the results of the study which your esteemed Committee has entrusted to the IDB and SESRIC for preparation on the topic and which has received your approval.

### **Your Excellency,**

I would like to go back to the point of evaluating and planning and say that the area of economic and commercial cooperation, patronized by your esteemed Committee, is only a crucible to what I would like to call “joint investment to expand the sources of growth” and “joint action to disseminate the benefits of growth”. This is an area in which Turkey has excelled during the past decade; first, in Central Asian countries directly following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and second, in Africa. Today, Turkey possesses a vast experience, in this area, which it can share with our Member States.

Not only have you achieved high levels of growth after rationally investing in your natural resources and wisely benefiting from your geographic location, but you have also spread your seeds of growth in your brotherly countries in Central Asia and

Africa. For that, I salute you. To date, everyone is still astound by the visit your good self and family have paid to the Somalian people when almost everyone else has turned their back on them. Furthermore, everyone is impressed with how Turkish Airlines operates regular flights that link Mogadishu with the rest of the world via Istanbul. Once again, the Turkish people set an example to be followed in both extending a helping hand to, and connecting with, sub-Saharan Africa and enabling brotherly peoples in Central Asia. This can be seen in the increasing number of Turkish embassies in the African continent, in the pinnacle point Turkish Airlines has reached in terms of the number of destinations it flies to worldwide – it now ranks number one, and in the 54 African destinations it has targeted for 2015. Tomorrow, the world will congratulate you on hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference, where you will pave the way for Africa and the developing countries to witness further integration into, and benefit from, globalized trade, as a step towards their development. In doing so, you are erecting bridges of dialogue and intercommunication that go a long way in entrenching the foundations of peace and harmony; bridges of affection and compassion that reflect not only the unity of the nation and its solidarity in good times and bad, but also its cooperation in piety and righteousness.

**Your Excellency,**

It was very pleasing to see that amongst the proceedings of the conference are an exhibition for Palestinian products and a seminar on the economic and social repercussions of the Ebola epidemic. This is, without a doubt, a kind gesture made to two topics that have not received the sufficient attention they deserve from the world.

- Within the context of the first kind gesture, I cannot but pay tribute to the attention Turkey has paid to the people of Palestine and their cause as well as to the feelings the Turkish leadership and people have attributed to the anguish and suffering of the victims of the aggression and siege that took place in the environs of Jerusalem. Not only has this been on the humanitarian level, but on the economic and commercial cooperation level as well. It is here, in the environs of Istanbul, that the Palestinian people eagerly await the birth and flourishing of initiatives that bring about feelings of brotherhood and develop twinning activities and synergy in various fields with the Palestinians. Twinning between Turkish and Palestinian chambers of commerce; twinning between Turkish and Palestinian municipalities; twinning between Turkish and Palestinian universities; twinning between Turkish and Palestinian hospitals; and so on and so forth for all other economic and social institutions and events.

- The second gesture has to do with the seminar, scheduled to be held tomorrow morning, on the economic and social risks of the Ebola epidemic. This has a strong correlation with the recommendations, made at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit held upon the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques – may Allah protect him – in Makkah-al Mukarramah in 1426 A.H, to establish programs controlling diseases and epidemics and to have your esteemed Committee incur the exorbitant economic costs and deal with the extravagant social repercussions of the disasters – be they natural or man-made – in our Member States. I hereby call upon all your excellencies and guests to take part in this seminar and enrich it with ideas and initiatives that make out of the Ebola challenge an opportunity to model means of cooperation in the face of disasters.

**Your Excellency,**

In evaluating the past thirty years, our Committee is being put to great test. A test that builds on the accomplishments of the past to develop a new common platform for economic growth, as a matter of synergy and integration. A test that builds on the accomplishments of the past to develop a new model for the dissemination of the benefits of such growth, as a matter of solidarity and interdependence. This is our ticket to advancement and empowerment in the twenty first century. Have we any other alternative?

I thank you all, *Wassalamu alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh*.



# **ANNEX**

## **5**





**STATEMENT OF H.E SHAIKH SALEH BIN ABDULLAH KAMEL,  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE (ICCIA),  
AT THE OPENING OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 27 November 2014)**

***In the name of Allah, the Beneficent and the most Merciful***

In the name of Allah, who says “Truly! This, your Ummah [Sharia or religion (Islamic Monotheism)] is one religion, and I am your Lord, therefore worship Me (Alone)” and I prayers and peace upon the beloved Prophet who says “The example of the believers in their affection, mercy, and compassion for each other is that of a body. When any limb aches, the whole body reacts with sleeplessness and fever”.

Excellency The President .... Brothers and Sisters,

Assalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh

At the outset, I congratulate the Brotherly Turkish People for the presidency of Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. I also salute him for leading this great Nation, when you were Prime Minister, in bringing about an economic renaissance, that put Turkey on a higher rank on the ladder of development.

It brought about sustainable prosperity and growth. Today Excellency, you are chairing COMCEC, which is the most supreme Islamic economic body. You are aware, that our Islamic States are living in a condition that pleases the enemy and would not at all please, a friend. I am not saying all, but some are under the wicked three lines of poverty, ignorance and sickness. It is a condition, that is not suitable for the best of Ummah or mankind.

Now comes a new burden on your shoulder... a huge economic burden... I wish to take the liberty of our friendship and my admiration between us, for many years... By virtue of this, I call upon you to accelerate in planning for a real economic cooperation that would lead to the creation of Islamic Common Market. This would facilitate movement of people, capital and goods, and would effectively contribute to the enhancement of intra-Islamic trade.

We call upon you to strengthen the Quranic concept of a unified nation, and the realization of solidarity, on the basis of mutual Affection, Mercy, and Compassion for each other. Hence what connects and gathers this Ummah is far more than what divides it. The religion is the main factor for unity and the Quran is its loudest voice. Nothing had weakened these ties other than politics and no cure for this weakness

other than the economic integration, which would feed the poor, educate the ignorant and cure the sick.

Then, and only then, we can by the help of Allah end the status of political separation and religious divisions, which widely spread under the themes of sectarianism, groups and sects. This is, what put us at the end of the caravan of nations, and it is what made Islam to be misunderstood, unlike its essence, of which it was originally revealed from heaven.

Excellency, you know better that Islam is the religion which respects the work as much as worship, perhaps more. This is supported by the Hadith of the Prophet Peace be Upon him, on the axe, which made the work more important than attending the Jumma Prayers in his holy mosque under his Shareef Imam.

Excellency, you know that Islam is a religion of sustainable development and will remain to be so until the Day of Judgment. This is supported by the Hadith (If the Final Hour comes while you have a palm-cutting in your hands and it is possible to plant it before the Hour comes, you should plant it).

Excellency, you do not only know but worked with the guidance of these texts, and experimented it in your countries economy and succeeded. Thus, from here on your responsibility today is greater, so as to call for and work for the economic unity of the Islamic Ummah. Politics alone, will not bake bread for the poor or give medicine for the patient. The time clock cannot be reversed, it always clicks on the rhythm of a present that leads to future. Allah, who created us and provided us with provision (Rizq), prefers the latter (Al-Akhira) over the initial (Al-Oula). Almighty Allah says to his Prophet (And indeed the Hereafter is better for you than the present (life of this world) and verily, your Lord will give you (all i.e. good) so that you shall be well-pleased).

The latter (Al-Akhira) is not only the Day of Judgment, but all the future of the present is Akhira which is preferred to the present. So let us work for the Al-Akhira, in both sense, since it contains the goodness (Khair) and satisfaction (Ridha)

Excellency, Mr. President ... Brothers and Sisters

You are aware that I stopped addressing this conference for the last few years. This because I had an inescapable conviction, which grew increasingly within me, that our works over here, are mostly of a protocol nature. It would not produce tangible work or bring about hope, advance our economy and contribute in realizing the greatest

objectives that would unify the entire Ummah, on an economy that would bring back its glorious status and role, with its plentiful bounties and capabilities bestowed by Allah. But it is the politics, which divides more than unifies and would keep a part more than gathers at the time when the world around us is making their economies a basis for all their policies and a foundation for all their orientations. As a result they are unified and we are divided. They are in agreement and we are in disagreement. They are advancing and we are retreating.

Excellency Mr. President and Chairman,

I once again, congratulate you for the Presidency of the beloved Republic of Turkey and for your Chairmanship of the Standing Committee for Economic & Commercial Cooperation of OIC Countries (COMCEC). May Allah help you with this massive responsibility and in this regard you will find us Inshallah, by your side, in the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and in the General Council of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions, for which I have been honored by my brothers to preside over. We will support you to reframe from the conventional framework and we shall collectively work by the support of Allah for the growth of the Islamic countries and providing employment to their kind people in realization of the objectives of this organization and in demand for the Thawab and Ajr (Reward) from Almighty Allah.

Your Excellency, the Secretary General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), while attending your first session of COMCEC in your capacity as Secretary General of OIC, you are facing a great challenge, which is to sail with the OIC towards a prosperous shore. We put lots of hopes on you, as you had a history of success that I know about you in all the works exercised in the past, where you had important slots and we are confident that under your leadership, OIC will make many accomplishments particularly with regard to its economic role and with the support of its arms of the affiliated economic institutions. May Allah guide you all and us towards the righteous path.

Wassalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh



# ANNEX

## 6



Original: Turkish

**STATEMENT OF MR. RİFAT HİSARCIKLIOĞLU,  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF CHAMBERS  
AND COMMODITY EXCHANGES OF TURKEY (TOBB),  
AT THE 30<sup>th</sup> OPENING SESSION  
(İstanbul, 27 November 2014)**

His Excellency Mr. President,

Distinguished Guests,

I would like to greet each and every one of you on my behalf and on behalf of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey.

Thank you very much for giving the Turkish private sector this opportunity at the 30th COMCEC Session.

During Mr. President's term as the former Prime Minister, significant reforms that would pave the way for the Turkish private sector have been introduced.

Thanks to stability and confidence that was instilled, Turkey has taken a huge development lunge.

During this process, Mr. President has also taken a close interest in the problems of the Islamic World.

He has taken the problems of the Islamic World to the attention of the international community.

He has owned up to and still owns up to our common values, mainly the Palestinian issue.

Today, he has been most kind to the business communities of Islamic countries at this meeting, which he is presiding.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Mr. President before you on behalf of the Turkish business community.

Distinguished Guests,

The world is going through a rapid transformation since the global economic crisis.

Economic and political balance is changing. It is the pains of a new global period.

The key to success in this period is to understand this change and to be well prepared for this change in advance.

We, the Islamic World, should be aware of what is going around us. We should see this transformation.

However, as we are getting prepared for this new period, we should also be self-critical.

We, the Islamic countries, are blessed with great wealth.

According to SESRIC data, the population of the Islamic region is 23% of the world population.

% 69 of the world oil reserves and 57% of the world natural gas reserves are in Islamic countries.

We have a significant geographical advantage. We hold the key to the trade and energy corridors of the world.

We occupy the entire region between Asia and Europe where the world trade is the most intensive.

We also have the Red Sea and the Suez Canal connecting the Indian Ocean with the Mediterranean; we have the Bosphorus, which connects North and South.

But, despite all these advantages, the share of 57 Islamic countries in the world's wealth is just a mere 11%.

USA alone has a share of 19% and China has a share of 13% of the wealth in the World.

We, 57 countries in total, could not achieve such wealth.

What is worse is that 21 out of 48 least developed countries in the world are unfortunately Islamic countries.

On the other hand, the gaps and discrepancies between each other are vast.

The difference between the richest and the poorest OIC member country is 630 folds according to per capita income.

This situation must be upsetting for all of us.

The only way to become wealthier and close this gap is to promote trade, specifically intra-OIC trade.

Western countries are setting up new alliances to be winners in the new global order.

USA, the European Union and Asia-Pacific countries are negotiating to become a single economic block.

The already rich countries are coming together to get even richer.

We, the Islamic countries, also have to act fast in this respect.

The priority here is to enforce the Preferential Trade Agreement, which will promote trade across Islamic countries.

10 out of 57 countries have signed TPS-OIC and these 10 countries have ratified TPS-OIC.

However, TPS-OIC is still not operational since concession lists have not been prepared.

We expect the political authorities of Islamic countries to take steps necessary to enforce the agreement and thus, to pave the way for us.

Another important matter is the visa practices.



In our culture, brothers and sisters come in the house not with a visa but just with a salute.

However, we keep putting obstacles in front of each other.

Let's not forget that people do business with countries, which are easily accessible, not with countries where entry and exit is a problem.

Turkey has taken significant steps in this area under the leadership of His Excellency Mr. President.

We now have the opportunity to go to many countries without a visa.

We have reaped the fruits of this in a very short period of time.

Bilateral trade volume and tourism activities with these countries have significantly increased.

Turkish business community expects Islamic countries to device a total inclusive policy for this matter.

Esteemed Guests,

Turkey is the only country in this region, which managed to prosper by private sector activity and without oil and natural gas.

We, as Turkish private sector and TOBB, are ready to share our entrepreneurial experience with our sisters and brothers.

We are running capacity-building programs for Islamic countries to set up a Chamber of Commerce and Industry system that produces services and supports entrepreneurship.

By the same token, we are organizing various programs under which we share our experience in fields like organized industrial zones, improvement of investment climate, transportation and modern commodity exchanges.

As a part of the Islamic region, we will get richer and more prosperous in an exponential manner as we share what we know with others.

Because in our faith, giving out does not deplete goods, knowledge, experience; on the contrary, it augments them.

We should not forget that this is the only way we can enhance the wealth and peace of the ummah.

I am confident that we all have this belief and determination. I greet you all with respect.

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# ANNEX

*7*



Original: English

**REPORT OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE  
(November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, İstanbul)**

1. The 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in İstanbul, on the sidelines of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. M. Metin EKER, Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and COMCEC Coordination Office, the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA)
- Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- Organization of Islamic Ship-owners Association (OISA)

3. The Meeting agreed on the following agenda items:

- Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy: Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the COMCEC Strategy
  - The List of Activities of the OIC Institutions Aligned with the COMCEC Strategy
  - The COMCEC Project Funding
- Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination Among the OIC Institutions
  - Conducting Joint Activities
  - Raising Awareness of the OIC Institutions' Activities
  - Enhancing Cooperation with other Regional and International Organizations
- Any Other Business

**Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy: Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the COMCEC Strategy**

4. Highlighting the significance of the contributions of the OIC Institutions to the realization of the COMCEC Strategy, the Committee reviewed the lists of activities of the relevant OIC Institutions aligned with the COMCEC Strategy for 2014 and 2015 based on the cooperation areas, namely trade, transport and communications, tourism, agriculture, poverty alleviation and financial cooperation. The Committee appreciated the realization of a significant number of the activities in 2014.

5. The Committee noted that the activities have mainly been concentrated on a limited number of cooperation areas and certain type of activities. Therefore, the Committee invited the relevant OIC Institutions to give due importance to areas in which a limited number of activities were organized. Furthermore it was stressed that the type of activities also needs to be diversified i.e. research-related activities may be included in the list of activities for 2015.

6. The Committee also stressed the importance of having an integrated approach to the cooperation endeavors of the OIC Institutions and a continued dialogue and synergy among them for concerted outcomes.

7. The Committee invited the relevant OIC Institutions to consider designing activities aligned with the themes of the COMCEC Working Groups to be held in 2015.

*(The list of activities to be organized by the OIC Institutions aligned with the COMCEC Strategy in 2015 is attached as Annex 1.)*

8. The COMCEC Coordination Office briefly informed the Committee on the recent developments regarding the COMCEC Project Funding. The OIC Institutions shared their observations regarding the experiences in project implementation process within the framework of the first call of the COMCEC Project Funding.

### **Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination Among the OIC Institutions**

9. Regarding the first sub-item, namely Conducting Joint Activities, the Committee welcomed the progress achieved in the increasing number of the joint activities organized by the OIC Institutions.

10. The Committee was informed by the IDB Group representative of the preparations for the model project on joint activities including all the relevant OIC Institutions working in the field of economic and commercial cooperation. The Committee requested the IDB Group to finalize its work and present the findings to the next Sessional Committee Meeting.

11. The Committee also reviewed possible contribution of the OIC Institutions through joint activities to the promotion and implementation of some important COMCEC Programs/Projects such as TPS-OIC, S&P OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah Index and the OIC Cotton Program. The Committee welcomed the efforts of the IDB Group for their endeavors for the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah Index.

12. Regarding the second and third sub-items, the Committee deliberated on alternative occasions for raising the awareness in the Member Countries about the OIC Institutions and their activities and enhancing cooperation with other regional and international organizations.

13. For raising awareness; Business Forums, Trade Fairs, COMCEC Sessions, CFMs and Summits may be better utilized. MÜSIAD Business Forums and Fairs organized on the sidelines of the COMCEC Sessions, Trade Fairs and Forums to be organized in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Senegal in 2015 and 2016 respectively can also be utilized in this regard.

14. The Committee also underlined the importance of selecting the target audience such as the private sector, mass media, NGOs and other regional and international organizations for raising the awareness on the OIC Institutions and their programs/projects/activities.

15. The Committee stressed the need for combined and coordinated efforts for long term and sustained visibility of OIC Institutions and requested the ICCIA to prepare a guideline for increasing the awareness of the Member Countries and the private sector on their activities.

16. Regarding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the post-2015 period, the Committee highlighted the importance of reflecting the perspective of the OIC Member Countries to the Post-2015 development agenda. It was noted that the OIC-UN Coordination Meetings may be utilized in this regard.

17. The Committee took note of the proposal of CCO and SESRIC regarding the incorporation of the OIC Member Countries as a group in the statistical databases of the relevant international organizations and called upon the OIC Statistical Commission to consider this proposal in its forthcoming meeting.

***Any Other Business***

18. The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

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## LIST OF ACTIVITIES

### TO BE ORGANIZED BY THE OIC INSTITUTIONS ALIGNED WITH THE COMCEC STRATEGY

*(January 2015- December 2015)*

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
1.	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Iran	March-2015	Afghanistan
2.	SESRIC	Livestock management: Animal diseases and combat with animal diseases	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	January 2015	Saudi Arabia
3.	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Jordan	March-2015	Sudan
4.	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Senegal	February-2015	Niger
5.	SESRIC	Seed Development	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	February 2015	Senegal
6.	SESRIC	Organic Farming	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	March 2015	Kuwait
7.	SESRIC	Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	April 2015	Saudi Arabia
8.	SESRIC	Land Management	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	May 2015	Bangladesh
9.	SESRIC	Seed Development	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	May 2015	Kuwait



No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
10.	SESRIC	Cultivation of Arable Corps	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	June 2015	Azerbaijan
11.	SESRIC	Sustainable Soil Management	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	July 2015	Qatar
12.	SESRIC	Crop Cultivation	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	August 2015	Sudan
13.	SESRIC	Fiber Technology	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	October 2015	Togo
14.	SESRIC	Agromony	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	December 2015	Senegal
15.	SESRIC	Development of Cotton Production and Technology	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	January 2015	Mali
16.	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Turkey	October-2015	Albania
17.	SESRIC	Training on (Business and) Agricultural Surveys	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Turkey	August-2015	Bangladesh
18.	SESRIC	Using Molecular Techniques for Cotton Breeding	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	January 2015	Turkey
19.	SESRIC	Hybridisation	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	February 2015	Senegal

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
20.	SESRIC	Centres of Excellence - OIC Cotton Gene Bank Technologies	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	July 2015	Turkey
21.	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	National Statistics Office of Nigeria	June-2015	The Gambia
22.	SESRIC	United Arab Emirates	Training	Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture of MCs	August 2015	United Arab Emirates
23.	SESRIC	Training on Banking, Insurance, Financial Statistics	Training	Finance	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	March-2015	Qatar
24.	SESRIC	Training on Government Finance Statistics	Training	Finance	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	March-2015	Malaysia
25.	SESRIC	Training on Banking, Insurance, Financial Statistics	Training	Finance	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	July-2015	Algeria
26.	SESRIC	Payment Systems	Training	Finance	Central Bank of Turkey	May 2015	Saudi Arabia
27.	SESRIC	Training on Government Finance Statistics	Training	Finance	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	September-2015	Pakistan
28.	SESRIC	Forecasting Methods	Training	Finance	Central Bank of Turkey	July 2015	SESRIC
29.	SESRIC	Training on Informal Sector Statistics	Training	Finance	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	November-2015	Malaysia
30.	SESRIC	Bank Office Operations	Training	Finance	Ministry of Treasure of MCs	February 2015	Azerbaijan

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
31.	SESRIC	Strategic Management	Training	Finance	Ministry of Treasure of MCs	June 2015	Qatar
32.	SESRIC	Insurance and Private Pensions	Training	Finance	Ministry of Treasure of MCs	July 2015	United Arab Emirates
33.	SESRIC	Training on Health Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	April-2015	Bangladesh
34.	SESRIC	Poverty Reduction Projects	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Family and Social Policy	April 2015	Turkey
35.	SESRIC	Rural Development Projects	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Family and Social Policy	June 2015	Cameroon
36.	SESRIC	Social Assistance & Aid Programmes	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Family and Social Policy	October 2015	Iran
37.	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Palestine	June-2015	United Arab Emirates
38.	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Iraq	August-2015	Mauritania
39.	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Iraq	September-2015	Yemen
40.	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Nigeria	December-2015	Sierra Leone

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
41.	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	National Statistics Office of Palestine	January-2015	Kuwait
42.	SESRIC	Training on Tourism (including Tourism Satellite Accounts) Statistics	Training	Tourism	National Statistics Office of Morocco	June-2015	Cameroon
43.	SESRIC	Training on Tourism (including Tourism Satellite Accounts) Statistics	Training	Tourism	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	July-2015	Malaysia
44.	SESRIC	Training on Tourism (including Tourism Satellite Accounts) Statistics	Training	Tourism	National Statistics Office of Turkey	August-2015	Azerbaijan
45.	SESRIC	Training on Culture Statistics	Training	Tourism	National Statistics Office of Palestine	November-2015	Qatar
46.	SESRIC	Training on Mining Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	March-2015	Kazakhstan
47.	SESRIC	Training on Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	April-2015	Azerbaijan
48.	SESRIC	Training on Balance of Payments and International Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	May-2015	Uganda
49.	SESRIC	Training on Balance of Payments and International Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	June-2015	Senegal
50.	SESRIC	Training on Manufacturing Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	July-2015	Kazakhstan
51.	SESRIC	Training on Balance of Payments and International Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	August-2015	Bahrain

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
52.	SESRIC	Training on Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	National Statistics Office of Turkey	September-2015	Uganda
53.	SESRIC	Abuse of Dominant Position: Dominance/Market power	Training	Trade	Turkish Competition Authority	June 2015	Saudi Arabia
54.	SESRIC	Mergers and acquisitions: Economic analysis	Training	Trade	Turkish Competition Authority	March 2015	Iran
55.	SESRIC	Competition Advocacy	Training	Trade	Turkish Competition Authority	August 2015	Kuwait
56.	SESRIC	Islamic Capital Markets	Workshop	Trade	Relevant Stock Exchange Institutions of MCs	May 2015	Turkey
57.	SESRIC	Raising Capital in Capital Markets	Training	Trade	Relevant Stock Exchange Institutions of MCs	July 2015	United Arab Emirates
58.	SESRIC	Product Spectrum	Training	Trade	Relevant Stock Exchange Institutions of MCs	September 2015	Iran
59.	SESRIC	Customs Issues	Training	Trade	PTT	February 2015	Qatar
60.	SESRIC	Domestic Services	Training	Trade	PTT	June 2015	Senegal
61.	SESRIC	Training on Analytical and Critical Thinking	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	January-2015	Saudi Arabia
62.	SESRIC	Training on Education Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Senegal	January-2015	Benin

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
63.	SESRIC	Training on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Cote d'Ivoire	January-2015	Burkina Faso
64.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	January-2015	Pakistan
65.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Jordan	January-2015	Egypt
66.	SESRIC	Training on Data Analysis	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Morocco	February-2015	Senegal
67.	SESRIC	Training on Environment Statistics (including Environment Satellite Accounts)	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Jordan	February-2015	Palestine
68.	SESRIC	Training on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	February-2015	United Arab Emirates
69.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Jordan	February-2015	Oman
70.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Senegal	February-2015	Chad
71.	SESRIC	Training on Energy Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	April-2015	Bahrain
72.	SESRIC	Training on Energy Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	April-2015	Suriname
73.	SESRIC	Training on Household Surveys	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Morocco	April-2015	Lebanon
74.	SESRIC	Training on Income and Consumption Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Cameroon	April-2015	Cote d'Ivoire

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
75.	SESRIC	AIDS Recognition and Protection	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	May 2015	Cote D'ivoire
76.	SESRIC	Ultrasonography	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	June 2015	Burkina Faso
77.	SESRIC	Pediatrics-Nutrition and Pediatric Electrocardiography	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	January 2015	Saudi Arabia
78.	SESRIC	First Step Pregnancy Care Ultrasonography	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	February 2015	UAE
79.	SESRIC	Gynaecology	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	October 2015	Yemen
80.	SESRIC	Regional Workshop on MNCH	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	May 2015	Senegal
81.	SESRIC	Pharmacotherapy, quit-line services, counselling	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of health of MCs	January 2015	Kuwait
82.	SESRIC	Occupational Hygiene	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Labor	February 2015	Qatar
83.	SESRIC	Occupational Safety	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Labor	June 2015	Azerbaijan
84.	SESRIC	Institutional OSH Regulations	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Republic of Turkey Ministry of Labor	August 2015	Saudi Arabia
85.	SESRIC	Training on Data Editing and Data Linkage	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Yemen	May-2015	Libya

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
86.	SESRI	Training on Education Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	May-2015	Pakistan
87.	SESRI	Training on Effective Oral Communication Techniques	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	May-2015	Saudi Arabia
88.	SESRI	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Cote d'Ivoire	May-2015	Djibouti
89.	SESRI	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Jordan	May-2015	Kuwait
90.	SESRI	Training on Data Dissemination, Data Warehousing	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Senegal	June-2015	Morocco
91.	SESRI	Water Resources Management	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of Environment of MCs	May 2015	Cameroon
92.	SESRI	Training on Understanding the Business of Statistics and Project Management	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Bahrain	June-2015	Oman
93.	SESRI	Training on Analytical and Critical Thinking	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	July-2015	Iraq
94.	SESRI	Training on Effective Oral Communication Techniques	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Uganda	July-2015	Nigeria
95.	SESRI	Training on Social Accounting Matrixes	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Morocco	July-2015	Qatar
96.	SESRI	Training on Income and Consumption Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Palestine	August-2015	Jordan



No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
97.	SESRIC	Ecological Footprint and Capacity	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Ministry of Environment of MCs	July 2015	Iran
98.	SESRIC	Training on Science, Technology and Innovation Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Turkey	August-2015	Indonesia
99.	SESRIC	Training on Effective Written Communication Techniques	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	September-2015	Saudi Arabia
100.	SESRIC	Training on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	September-2015	Tunisia
101.	SESRIC	Training on Supply-Use and Input-Output Tables	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	September-2015	Kuwait
102.	SESRIC	Training on Energy Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Egypt	October-2015	Oman
103.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Cost Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Cote d'Ivoire	October-2015	Senegal
104.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Cost Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Kazakhstan	October-2015	Tajikistan
105.	SESRIC	Training on Metadata	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Morocco	October-2015	Cameroon
106.	SESRIC	Training on Yearbooks and Similar Compendia	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Algeria	October-2015	United Arab Emirates
107.	SESRIC	Training on Construction Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Turkey	November-2015	Kazakhstan
108.	SESRIC	Training on Effective Written Communication Techniques	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Uganda	November-2015	Nigeria

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
109.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Bangladesh	November-2015	Maldives
110.	SESRIC	Training on Labour Cost Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Cote d'Ivoire	November-2015	Mali
111.	SESRIC	Training on Population and Housing Censuses; Registers of Population; Dwellings and Buildings	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Yemen	November-2015	Somalia
112.	SESRIC	Training on Coordination of International Statistical Work	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Turkey	December-2015	Indonesia
113.	SESRIC	Training on Gender and Special Population Groups Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Bangladesh	December-2015	Iran
114.	SESRIC	Training on Price Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Tajikistan	December-2015	Kyrgyzstan
115.	SESRIC	Training on Science, Technology and Innovation Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Palestine	December-2015	Bahrain
116.	SESRIC	Training on Science, Technology and Innovation Statistics	Training	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Turkey	December-2015	Azerbaijan
117.	SESRIC	Training Programme for Master Trainers	Training	All Cooperation Areas	ISMEK	2015	Palestine
118.	SESRIC	Training Programme for Master Trainers	Training	All Cooperation Areas	ISMEK	2015	Uganda
119.	SESRIC	Training Programme for Master Trainers	Training	All Cooperation Areas	ISMEK	2015	Indonesia

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
120.	SESRIC	Training Programme for Master Trainers	Training	All Cooperation Areas	ISMEK	2015	Sudan
121.	SESRIC	Training Programme for Master Trainers	Training	All Cooperation Areas	ISMEK	2015	Somalia
122.	SESRIC	Needs Assessment Visit	Study Visit	All Cooperation Areas	IDB	November 2015	Cameroon
123.	SESRIC	Global Islamic Leadership	Workshop	All Cooperation Areas	IRTI	November 2015	Turkey
124.	SESRIC	Fourth Meeting of the MAC	Workshop	All Cooperation Areas	-	November 2015	Turkey
125.	ICCIA	8 <sup>th</sup> Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries	Forum	Poverty Alleviation	MC's, IDB	* 2015	* To be determined
126.	ICCIA	17 <sup>th</sup> Private Sector Meeting	Private Sector Meeting	Private Sector Cooperation	MC's, IDB	28th Oct – 1st Nov 2015	Conakry, Guinea
127.	ICCIA	Development of a Mechanism for Joint Ventures and partnerships among Women-led Enterprises through South-South Cooperation	Training Program	Trade	MC's, UNDP	2015	To be determined
128.	ICCIA	Training programs on Entrepreneurship Development for Youth and aspiring young entrepreneurs	Training Program	Poverty Alleviation	ICCIA/ Local Academia.	2015	Pakistan

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
129.	ICCIA	Workshop on the Development of SMEs in Uganda	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	MCs/KOSGEB	2015	Kampala-Uganda
130.	ICCIA	2nd Seminar on Introduction to Islamic Banking and Finance in selected OIC Countries	Workshop/Seminar	Finance	MC's	2015	To be determined
131.	ICCIA	Training of Trainers for the Enterprise Development & Investment Promotion Program (EDIP)	Training Program	Poverty Alleviation	MC's	2015	To be determined
132.	ICCIA	Workshop on Human Resource Development in OIC Countries.	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	MC's	2015	To be determined
133.	ICDT	Regional on line Marketing Workshop of the WIEF Foundation	Workshop	Trade	WIEF	February 2015	Dakar/Senegal
134.	ICDT	7th Meeting of the Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade	Meeting	Trade	ITFC	February 2015	Casablanca/Morocco
135.	ICDT	Forum on "Trade and investment Expansion between African countries and the OIC Member Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)"	Forum	Trade	OICBusiness Center /Federation of GCC Chambers/SIBM	March 2015	Dakar/Senegal

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
136.	ICDT	Training seminar on the organization and participation in fairs and exhibitions for the benefit of the economic operators of the OIC Member States	Training Seminar	Trade		March 2015	Casablanca/Morocco
137.	ICDT	8th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries in the OIC Member States	Fair	Trade	El HarithyCompany	17-20 May 2015	Jeddah/Saudi Arabia
138.	ICDT	2nd Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States	Fair	Trade	Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry	19 - 21 October 2015	Sharjah/United Arab Emirates
139.	ICDT	15th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States "OIC-EXPO 2015"	Fair	Trade	Ministry of Commerce of Guinea/CIEPEX	28th Oct - 1st Nov 2015	Conakry/Guinea
140.	ICDT	Meeting of the Global Network of the TPOs of the OIC Member States	Meeting	Trade	Ministry of Commerce of Guinea	28th Oct - 1st Nov 2015	Conakry/Guinea
141.	ICDT	1st Exhibition of Organic and Local Products of the OIC Member States	Fair	Trade	Ministry of Commerce and Handicraft of Tunisia	29 October-1 November 2015	Tunis/Tunisia
142.	ICDT	6th OIC World Biz and 3rd Africa-Asia Forum	Forum	Trade	OICBC	October/Nov 2015	Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
143.	ICDT	4th OIC Halal Exhibition	Fair	Trade	Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry	9th-11th December 2015	Sharjah/United Arab Emirates
144.	ICDT	Coaching seminars “Trade is fair” in favour of exporting SMEs in the OIC Member States	Training Workshop	Trade		2015	
145.	ICDT	Training Seminar on Exports and Investment Promotion Strategies in the Context of Globalization for the benefit of first-time exporters of the OIC Countries	Training Workshop	Trade		2015	
146.	ICDT	Workshop on the results of the 9th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the work program of the post-Bali for OIC Countries & Asia	Workshop	Trade		2015	
147.	ICDT	Training Seminar on TPS/OIC, PRETAS and ROO	Training Seminar	Trade		2015	
148.	ICDT	3rd Forum and Specialized Exhibition on “Higher Education Services in the OIC Member States”	Fair	Trade	Ministry of High Education and Research of Senegal	2015	Dakar/Senegal

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
149.	ICDT	Seminars on Doing business in specific markets	Training Workshop	Trade		2015	
150.	ICDT	Seminar on the multilateral agreements and treaties for trade facilitation and logistics	Seminar	Trade	Technical Unit of Agadir Agreement and IRU	2015	Amman/Jordan
151.	ICDT	Seminar on "the Proliferation of Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements and their Impact on the Regional Integration Process in the OIC Countries"	Seminar	Trade	Cooperation Dept of IDB	2015	Casablanca/Morocco
152.	ICDT	Seminar on the "Accession to the WTO and the impact of the Doha Development Round on the Economies of the OIC Countries"	Seminar	Trade	Cooperation Dept of IDB	2015	Casablanca/Morocco
153.	ICDT	Forum on the "Offshoring Sector in the OIC Member States"	Forum	Trade	Ministry of Industry, Trade and Digital Economy of Morocco	2015	Casablanca/Morocco
154.	ICDT	Experts Group Meeting on the Follow up of the Single Window Project among the OIC Member States	Forum	Trade	ITFC	2015	Casablanca/Morocco

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
155.	ICDT	Steering Committee Meeting of the Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa	Meeting	Trade	UNTWO/Regional Coordinator(Guinea)	2015	Casablanca/Morocco
156.	ICDT	Forum and Expo of Al- AQSA Shariff	Forum and Expo	Trade	OIC GS/IDBG/OIC organs/Bait Almaal ALQUDS	2015	Al-QUDS SHARIFF/ Palestine
157.	IDB GROUP	7th Meeting of the IDB Alliance To Fight Avoidable Blindness, Baku, Azerbaijan	Meeting	Health	Ministry of Health Azerbaijan	13-15 Jan 2015	Baku, Azerbaijan
158.	IDB GROUP	Selection Committee Meeting 13th Edition of IDB Prizes for S&T IDB HQs	Consultative Meeting	Science and Technology	IDB Group, OIC GS	28-29 Jan 2015	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
159.	IDB GROUP	Selection Committee meeting - 10th Edition of IDB Prize for Women's contribution to Development	Consultative Meeting	Women Empowerment	IDB Group and relevant OIC institutions and intergovernmental organizations	25-26 Feb 2015	IDB HQs, Jeddah
160.	IDB GROUP	Regional Seminar on Trade Facilitation for Asian and Central Asian Countries	Seminar	Trade Facilitation	IDB Group, WTO ITC	Jan 2015	Turkey, Kazakhstan (Tentative)



No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
161.	IDB GROUP	Regional Seminar on Cross border Management for selected Arab countries in collaboration with UNDP	Seminar	Trade Facilitation	IDB Group, WTO ITC, ICDT	Jan 2015	Dubai, Casablanca (Tentative)
162.	IDB GROUP	Seminar on Proliferation of Regional and mega-regional Trade and Partnership Agreements and its implications to the OIC countries (African Countries)	Seminar	Economic Integration	IDB Group, WTO ITC	Feb 2015	To Be Decided
163.	IDB GROUP	Seminar on Proliferation of Regional and mega-regional Trade and Partnership Agreements and its implications to the OIC countries (Arab Countries)	Seminar	Regional Agreements	IDB Group, WTO ITC	Feb 2015	To Be Decided
164.	IDB GROUP	Seminar on WTO Accession	Seminar	Regional Agreements	IDB Group, WTO ITC	March 2015	To Be Decided
165.	IDB GROUP	Joint Activity with OIC institutions to promote intra-OIC cooperation	Seminar	Intra-OIC cooperation	IDB Group, WTO ITC	March 2015	To Be Decided
166.	IDB GROUP	Regional Workshops on TPS/OIC and Non-Tariff Barriers	Seminar	TPS-OIC and Non Tariff Barriers	IDB Group, WTO ITC	April 2015	To Be Decided

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
167.	IDB GROUP	Regional Seminar on Trade Facilitation for Asian and Central Asian Countries	Seminar	Trade Facilitation	IDB Group, WTO ITC	April 2015	To Be Decided
168.	IDB GROUP	Regional Seminar on Cross border Management for selected Arab countries in collaboration with UNDP	Seminar	Trade Facilitation	IDB Group, WTO ITC	April 2015	To Be Decided
169.	IDB GROUP	Seminar on Proliferation of Regional and mega-regional Trade and Partnership Agreements and its implications to the OIC countries (African Countries)	Seminar	Regional Trade Agreements	IDB Group, WTO ITC	May 2015	To Be Decided
170.	IDB GROUP	IDB Group's Annual Meetings	Annual Meeting	Financial Cooperation	ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, IRTI	10-11 June 2015	Maputo Mozambique
171.	IDB GROUP	Award Distribution Ceremony of the IDB Prizes for Science and Technology and Women's Contribution to Development	Award Distribution Ceremony	General	IDB Group and relevant OIC institutions and intergovernmental organizations	10-11 June 2015	Maputo Mozambique
172.	SMIIC	Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the SMIIC LDC Member States	Workshop/Training	Trade	COMCEC PCM	To be decided	To be decided

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
173.	SMIIC	Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC Member States	Workshop/Training	Trade	Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	To be decided	North African Arabic Speaking Countries; African French Speaking Countries; African English Speaking Countries; Central Asian Countries (CACs)
174.	SMIIC	The Arab-Islamic Conference."The Role of Conformity Assessment in Enhancing the Trade Capacity Between Arab and Islamic Countries"	Conference	Trade	Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO)	First Half of 2015	Rabat, Morocco
175.	SMIIC	SMIIC/TC1 Halal Food Issues Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	SMIIC Technical Committee	To be decided	To be decided
176.	SMIIC	SMIIC/TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	SMIIC Technical Committee	To be decided	To be decided
177.	SMIIC	Accreditation Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	SMIIC and SMIIC Accreditation Committee	To be decided	To be decided
178.	SMIIC	Metrology Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	SMIIC and SMIIC Metrology Committee	To be decided	To be decided
179.	CCO	TPS-OIC Rules of Origin Seminar	Training Seminar	Trade	TOBB	Late January 2015	Ankara
180.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 26th , 2015	Ankara

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
181.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	September 17th, 2015	Ankara
182.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February-5th, 2015	Ankara
183.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	September 3rd, 2015	Ankara
184.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February-12th, 2015	Ankara
185.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 22nd, 2015	Ankara
186.	CCO	4th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 19th, 2015	Ankara
187.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Ankara

No	Host Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Partners	Date	Venue
188.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 5th, 2015	Ankara
189.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Ankara
190.	CCO	5th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February-26th, 2015	Ankara
191.	CCO	6th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Ankara
192.	CCO	3rd Annual Meeting of the COMCEC Focal Points	Meeting	All Cooperation Areas	MCs	June 2015	Ankara



# **ANNEX**

**8**





Original: English

**THE CLOSING ADDRESS OF  
H.E. DR. CEVDET YILMAZ,  
THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 28 November 2014)**

Honourable Ministers,  
Distinguished Delegates,

We have successfully reached to the end of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC after fruitful deliberations. We have also enjoyed a number of lively events organized on the occasion of the COMCEC's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have observed with appreciation that in the course of these 30 years, COMCEC has contributed a lot to the enhancement of intra OIC economic and commercial cooperation. It is our earnest belief that whatever have been achieved, achieved together. COMCEC is an outcome of your work and outcome of our common efforts. Therefore, I would like to thank all the delegations, relevant OIC institutions, international organizations and the COMCEC Coordination Office for their sincere and untiring efforts and contributions throughout all those years.

Esteemed Ministers,  
Distinguished delegates,

Developing countries have become the driven force of the global growth. This tendency will continue in the foreseeable future. OIC Member Countries generally followed similar trends with other developing countries. OIC countries' share in the world total GDP remained stable at around 11 percent in 2013. As a group representing 23 percent of the world population, we are still significantly behind our potential.

Therefore, we should stay focused on our structural problems resulting in low productivity and competitiveness in the international area. We have to improve our production base, transform our economies for high value added, export oriented production from an economic structure based mainly on the export of raw materials and semi processed goods. The share of OIC Member Countries in world total high tech exports accounted only for 3.9 percent and this exportation is concentrated rather

in a few member countries. This is a very low figure as we take into consideration our share in the world production and our huge population.

As being members of the Grand Religion of Islam which always accentuates knowledge, science and sound reasoning and being the followers of Prophet Mohammad (AS) who said “Seek knowledge even as far as China.” Without seeking knowledge, without innovation, without high value addition, without proper education, without quality institutions and quality production, our development ambitions will remain a dream unfulfilled.

Distinguished participants,

As the OIC Member Countries, we also have other economic challenges such as high external debts. 22 OIC countries still continue to be classified as Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) by the World Bank. This burden prevents our brotherly countries’ ability to make constructive reforms in their economies. Apart from the government debts, indebtedness of the private sector also makes us vulnerable to external crisis. Hence, along with structural reforms and international cooperation such as encouraging and facilitating trade, removing impediments to foreign direct investment and making innovative strides will infuse the needed dynamism to potential growth areas and reduce our vulnerabilities.

Honourable Ministers,

I am very pleased that the COMCEC Strategy, which was adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit in 2012, for providing a new and realistic impetus for our cooperation, is being implemented successfully through its two implementation mechanisms namely Working Groups and Project Cycle Management (PCM). We are happy to see that member countries have been involved more and more actively in the Working Groups which are organized twice a year in each cooperation area in order to produce knowledge, exchange the know-how and experiences among the member countries at the technical level. The Working Groups have also served to develop a common language and understanding for our problems and opportunities and to approximate policies through ensuring a member driven COMCEC. In this respect, I welcome the practical policy recommendations made by the Working Groups in their last meetings and call on all relevant Member Countries and OIC institutions to initiate cooperation in these critical areas.

I would also like to invite our brotherly countries, which have not registered to the Working Groups, to register soon to benefit from this unique opportunity for cooperation. I also invite all member countries to make maximum use of the PCM so

that our member countries from all corners of the world conduct joint projects and improve their capacity in a spirit of cooperation. In this respect, through mobilization of institutional and human resources, the Member Countries would be directly involved in the cooperation endeavours. I hereby invite our Member countries who have a training capacity to offer within the scope of the Strategy and PCM to be robust and pro-active in proposing projects for capacity building. In fact, by helping the others to enhance their capacities we also enhance our own capacity. As stated in a quote “To teach is to learn twice”. To teach is to reinforce your own knowledge.

H.E. the Ministers,  
Distinguished participants,

By completion of the ratification of PRETAS and Rules of Origin by State of Kuwait, all requirements for the operationalization of TPSOIC have been finalized. This is a most welcome development for the COMCEC, especially on the occasion of the COMCEC’s 30th Anniversary.

Implementation of TPS-OIC will surely be another significant step towards economic integration among our brotherly member countries. I am convinced that this step would further enhance our cooperation in all its forms. In the 30th Anniversary of the COMCEC, I sincerely hope that we are on the verge of a milestone progress which will boost our cooperation efforts from several aspects.  
Distinguished delegates,

As we discussed in the exchange of views session, Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is increasingly used to promote development in tourism sector. In this context, when successfully implemented, PPPs can play an important role in improving attractiveness of a destination, upgrading the infrastructure, reducing risks, ensuring productivity and market efficiency as well as better management of the tourism industry. The OIC countries have an untapped potential to further develop a sustainable tourism sector thanks to their rich natural, geographic and historical beauties and cultural heritages. However, OIC countries have still a modest share in the world tourism receipts with 12.3 percent in 2012 and the existing international tourism activities concentrate in only a few OIC countries. Therefore, I am of the opinion that we should make use of the unutilized touristic areas in our countries to turn them into a basin of progress, employment, income and finance.

We have also determined next year’s theme of Exchange of Views Session of the COMCEC as “Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Services Delivery”. This is very pertinent and

timely theme as Islamic world has an important role to play in the formulation and implementation of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

Esteemed Ministers,  
Distinguished participants,

As I conclude my remarks, I would like to extend my gratitude to all member country delegations, OIC General Secretariat, OIC Institutions and international organizations for their valuable contributions. I would also like to reiterate my sincere thanks to COMCEC Coordination Office, translators and interpreters and all other colleagues who contributed to the organization for their dedicated efforts towards making this Session a success. I wish that our discussions, exchange of views and resolutions will bear fruitful results for the Islamic World and deepen our cooperation as the Islamic Ummah.

Hoping that you will depart from Istanbul with happy memories, I wish you all a safe trip back home.

Thank you. Esselamu alaikum ve Rahmetullah ve Barakatuhu.

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# **ANNEX**

## **9**



Original:English

## **POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMCEC WORKING GROUP MEETINGS**

### **A. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE TRADE WORKING GROUP**

The Trade Working Group of the COMCEC has successfully held its 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, in Ankara on the theme of “Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) and Trade Liberalisation Efforts in the OIC Member States with a Special Emphasis on the TPS-OIC”. During the Meeting, the participants have discussed some crucial policy issues that were also featured in the Analytic study submitted to the working group meeting, the policy questions, and the capacity inventory questionnaire sent to the Member States by the COMCEC Coordination Office. After considering these issues, and underlining the indispensable role of political and economic stability for increasing trade flows among the Member States, the working group came up with the policy recommendations below.

#### **Recommendations:**

- **Increasing the Member State Capacity for Successful Implementation of the PTAs**

PTAs have the potential to be an engine for growth that could lift millions of people out of poverty by generating many new trade and economic opportunities. However, in order to take advantage of such opportunities, member countries need to ensure that the agreements are fully implemented and administered in an effective and timely fashion. That constitutes a significant challenge as many member countries lack the institutional capacity to do so and need to introduce adequate infrastructure involving several public and private agencies.

Hence, in order to address the challenges associated to the implementation of the preferential trade agreements and to be able to take advantage of the economic and commercial opportunities that are resulting from the trade liberalization process, it is necessary for the OIC countries to (i) have an accurate understanding of the magnitude and scope of such challenges; and (ii) develop strategies/policies aimed at improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the institutions that are in charge of the regulation and administration of those agreements.

- **Preparing the Ground for the Implementation of TPS-OIC**

Participating states of the TPS-OIC are encouraged to organize events with a view to ensuring that practical preparations for the implementation of the System, such as designating the competent body which will print the TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin

and its printing are made in timely and effective manner. Furthermore, organizing training seminars for the local customs administrations and other relevant actors, and publishing the required internal regulations for the smooth implementation of the Agreement are needed. Once the necessary conditions for the implementation of the system are met, relevant member states may also consider to utilize the Trade Negotiating Committee for reviewing these preparations.

#### **- Raising Awareness on TPS-OIC**

The success of the TPS-OIC System will be enhanced with the involvement of member states which are not yet party to the System. Thus, relevant public institutions, private sector companies, and other economic operators of these countries need to have a full understanding of the benefits of the TPS-OIC System. In this regard, responsibility rests with both relevant OIC Institutions and the member states. ICDT and CCO are the co-secretariats of the Trade Negotiating Committee of the COMCEC and they have been undertaking various efforts to raise awareness on the TPS-OIC. For the member states which are yet to complete the signing and ratification of the TPS-OIC Agreements, and/or fulfill all the requirements of the System, further awareness-raising events may also be organized to ensure that their constituencies are fully aware of the System.

#### **- Instruments**

The Member States may utilize the following instruments to develop cooperation projects and programs in these policy issues.

**COMCEC Project Cycle Management (PCM):** Under the COMCEC PCM, the CCO provides grants for the member states' projects in each cooperation area of the COMCEC Strategy. Accordingly, the member states may submit their project proposal in the particular policy areas of this document. As a reminder, the CCO makes a project call each year in September.

**Trade Working Group:** The working group itself is another instrument that the member states may benefit in developing cooperation programs and projects. During the working group meetings, member states may exchange their views on issues pertaining to three policy issues mentioned in this document and come up with specific recommendations and/or cooperation projects to improve their implementation.

**Capacity Building Programs:** Capacity building programs may be organized in related to the policy areas with the CCO's resources and Member Countries' own resources. Here, the CCO would play a facilitating role through circulating the capacity building programs offers and matching them with the other member states which expressed an interest to those offers.



## **B. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> COMCEC TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP MEETING**

The Transport and Communications Working Group (TCWG) of the COMCEC has successfully held its 4th Meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Ankara on the theme of “Developing Air Linkages to Sustain Tourism in the OIC Member States. During the Meeting, the participants have discussed some crucial policy issues that were also featured in the Analytic Study submitted to the TCWG Meeting, the policy questions, and the capacity inventory questionnaire sent to the Member States by the COMCEC Coordination Office. After considering these issues, the working group came up with the POLICY recommendations below.

### **Recommendations**

#### **- The Working Group called on the Member States to increase air transport liberalization in the OIC Member States**

Rationale: Air transport agreements which liberalize the rules for international aviation markets have recorded a rapid increase recently and dramatically changed the landscape of the air service market. Experience with liberalized air services has shown that they result in increased trade, lower airfares, and more tourism flows.

Key provisions of air transport agreements include:

- Free market competition: no restrictions on international route rights; number of designated airlines; capacity; frequencies; and types of aircrafts.
- Pricing determined by market forces: a fare can be disallowed only if governments concur – “double disapproval pricing”- and only for certain, specified reasons intended to ensure competition.
- Fair and equal opportunity to compete: all carriers of countries may establish sales offices in the other countries, can convert and remit earnings in hard currencies at any time. Besides, designated airlines are free to provide their own ground handling services.

#### **- The Working Group urged the Member States to make better use of PPPs in airport infrastructure**

Rationale: PPPs can help address the infrastructure gap by mobilizing private sector investment and expertise. They also introduce private sector technology and innovation in providing better public services through improved operational efficiency. Furthermore, PPPs may be useful in facilitating transfer of skills to local companies. Finally, PPPs may lead to diversification in the economy by making the country more

competitive in terms of its facilitating infrastructure base. On the other hand, successful implementation of PPPs will require extensive technical expertise as well as a sound legal and regulatory framework.

**The Working Group invited the Member States to open domestic markets to low-cost carriers (LCCs)**

Rationale: Deregulation of the commercial air market has led to the rapid development of low-cost carriers in the last two decades. This dramatic growth of the LCCs brought important benefits to the consumers, offering them low fares, more choice as far as regional or minor destinations are concerned. It has also represented a stimulus to independent travel and it has considerably changed the way people travel and the impact this had made on the tourism sector.

***Instruments***

The Member States may utilize the following instruments in acting on these policy recommendations.

COMCEC Project Cycle Management (PCM): Under the COMCEC PCM, the CCO provides grants for the member states' projects in each cooperation area of the COMCEC Strategy. Accordingly, the member states may submit their project proposal in the particular policy areas of this document. As a reminder, the CCO makes a project call each year in September.

TCWG: The working group itself is another instrument that the member states may benefit in developing cooperation programs and projects. During the working group meetings, the member states may exchange their views on issues pertaining to three policy issues mentioned in this document and come up with specific recommendations and/or cooperation projects to improve their implementation.

Capacity Building Programs: Some member states organizes capacity building programs in the areas related to the policy areas. Here, the CCO would play a facilitating role through circulating the capacity building programs offers and matching them with the other member states which expressed an interest to those offers

### C. THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE TOURISM WORKING GROUP

Distinguished Members of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group,

The Tourism Working Group (TWG) of the COMCEC has successfully held its 4th Meeting on September 4th, 2014 with the theme of “Enhancing the Capacity of Tourism Workforce in the Member Countries for Improved Tourism Service Quality” with the active participation of the Member Countries. During the Meeting, Tourism Working Group, made deliberations on the tourism workforce development in the Member Countries and discussed the policy options for enhancing the cooperation in this important field. The Analytical Study submitted to the TWG Meeting, the answers of the Member Countries to the policy questions as well as the capacity inventory questionnaire sent to the Member States by the COMCEC Coordination Office were the main inputs for the discussions. This document includes the policy options highlighted during the Meeting.

- 1- The Tourism Working Group underscored the importance of developing ***Tourism Workforce Development Strategies*** in the Member Countries and supporting the effective implementation of the existing ones.

***Rationale:*** The Analytical Study specifically prepared for the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tourism Working Group titled “*Enhancing the Capacity of Tourism Workforce in the OIC member Countries for Improved Tourism Service Quality*” highlighted the need to significantly invest in a tourism workforce development strategy as a means to strengthen and develop the tourism sector. Lack of long term Tourism Workforce Development Strategies is one of the challenges faced by the Member Countries. National Tourism Workforce Development Strategy can be an important tool to address the skills and labor shortages in the tourism and hospitality industry and to focus on priorities and resources for tourism development within the wider context of tourism sector. Moreover, availability of Tourism Workforce Development Strategy was one of the questions asked to the Member Countries in the Policy Questions circulated to the Member Countries by the COMCEC Coordination Office. In the responses of the Member Countries and their deliberations during the Working Group Meeting, the need for developing Tourism Workforce Development Strategies in the Member Countries and supporting the effective implementation of the existing ones was highlighted.

***Instruments:***

- ***COMCEC Tourism Working Group:*** In its subsequent meetings, the COMCEC Working Group may elaborate the Tourism Workforce Development Strategies in a more detailed manner.

- **PCM:** Under the PCM mechanism, the COMCEC Coordination Office calls for project each year. With the PCM, the Member Countries participating in the Working Groups can submit projects to be financed through grants by the COMCEC Coordination Office. For enhancing the capacity of tourism workforce, the Member Countries can utilize the PCM mechanism and the CCO may finance the successful projects in this regard.
- **Capacity Building Activities:** In line with the COMCEC Coordination Office's resources and the Member Countries own resources, some capacity building activities such as analytical studies, seminars, workshops, study visits, exchange of experts and training programs can be organized.

## 2. Enhancing the capacity of tourism workforce in the Member Countries

**Rationale:** Capacity building and technical assistance programs are important tools for enhancing tourism workforce capacity. In the analytical study, it was pointed out that effective capacity building and technical assistance programs will result in a better qualified/skilled tourism workforce. This issue was also highlighted by the Member Countries in their responses to the Policy Questions prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office and deliberations during the WG Meeting.

### **Instruments:**

- **PCM:** Under the PCM mechanism, the COMCEC Coordination Office calls for project each year. With the PCM, the Member Countries participating in the Working Groups can submit projects to be financed through grants by the COMCEC Coordination Office. For enhancing the capacity of tourism workforce, the Member Countries can utilize the PCM mechanism and the CCO may finance the successful projects in this regard.
- **Capacity Building Activities:** With the COMCEC Coordination Office's resources and Member Countries' own resources, some capacity building and technical assistance programs can be organized in the Member Countries. These programs may include organization of seminar, training programs, study visits, exchange of experts, workshops and preparation of analytical studies and training materials/documents, etc.

## **D. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> COMCEC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP MEETING**

The COMCEC Agriculture Working Group held its 4th Meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Ankara with the theme of “Facilitating Smallholder Farmers' Market Access in the OIC Member Countries” with the active participation of the Member Countries. Promoting the producer organizations, disseminating technical and market information and encouraging contract farming in the Member Countries were the main issues that have been highlighted by the participants, during the Meeting. These issues were also underlined in the answers of the Member Countries to the policy questions, in the inventory study sent to the Working Group focal points by the COMCEC Coordination Office as well as in the analytical study prepared specifically for the 4th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group. After the discussions on the mentioned issues, the Working Group came up with the policy advices as below.

### **Policy Recommendation 1. Promoting the Establishment of the Producer Organizations and Increasing the Effectiveness of the Existing Ones**

#### ***Rationale:***

Linking smallholder farmers to markets involves high transaction costs. They may have insufficient output to invest individually in transport and essential storage infrastructure. In this respect, public authorities have important roles in encouraging the growth of effective producer organizations, associations and cooperatives to reduce transaction costs. Furthermore, producer organizations may facilitate access to input loans and credits, provision of extension and technical recommendation, appropriate technology and management systems. In this connection, OIC Member Countries should promote necessary steps to facilitate collective action by groups of farmers, including fostering the growth of effective producer organizations, associations, and cooperatives.

### **Policy Recommendation 2. Disseminating Technical and Market Information to Smallholder Farmers**

#### ***Rationale:***

Government has a crucial role in disseminating technical and market information to smallholders. Enabling smallholder farmers to explore, learn, and carry out their own value chain analysis and develop their own marketing plans through participatory approaches has proven to be an effective strategy for empowering those farmers and facilitating market linkages. In this respect, the governments may facilitate the access of smallholders to technical and market information.

### **Policy Recommendation 3. Encouraging Contract Farming**

Contract farming is one of the most important instruments for increasing productivity and facilitating smallholder farmers' market access. Contract farming helps small-

scale farmers to enter markets that are normally out of their reach, due to distance, standards, processing requirements, etc.

***Instruments:***

The following instruments may be utilized by the Member Countries to realize these policy recommendations.

**Agriculture WG:** The working group itself is another instrument that the member countries may benefit in developing cooperation programs and projects. During the working group meetings, the member countries may exchange their views on issues pertaining the policy issues mentioned in this document and come up with specific recommendations and to improve their policy making, planning or implementation mechanisms.

**COMCEC Project Cycle Management (PCM):** Under the COMCEC PCM, the CCO provides grants for the member countries' projects in each cooperation area of the COMCEC Strategy. Accordingly, the member countries may submit their project proposal in the particular policy areas of this document. The CCO makes a project call each year in September.

**Capacity Building Programs:** Capacity building programs may be organized regarding the aforementioned policy areas with the CCO's resources and/or Member Countries' own resources. Here, the CCO would play a facilitating role through circulating the capacity building programs offers and matching them with the other member countries which expressed an interest to those offers.

## **E. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> COMCEC POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP MEETING**

The COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group held its 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Ankara with the theme of “Institutional System of the Social Safety Net Programmes in the OIC Member Countries” with the active participation of the Member Countries. The participants, during the Meeting, have discussed the institutional systems of the SSN Programmes with special focus on human resources and Management and Information Systems (MISs). These issues were also highlighted in the answers of the Member Countries to the policy questions, the inventory study sent to the Working Group focal points by the COMCEC Coordination Office as well as in the analytical study prepared specifically for the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group. After the discussions on the above-mentioned issues, the Working Group highlighted the policy Recommendations as below.

### **Policy Recommendation 1. Increasing the capacity of the human resources in the SSN system**

#### ***Rational:***

Increasing human capacity in the SSN systems is of particular importance for the effectiveness of SSN programmes. Many OIC countries experience challenges related to human resources of the SSN institutions. In upper-middle income countries human resources problem is usually experienced in terms of quantity. In these countries the number of the staff working in the institutions implementing SSN programmes is insufficient to fulfill their tasks. In low and lower middle income countries human resources problem is experienced in terms of both quantity and quality. Furthermore, in low and lower middle income countries there is a lack of qualified human resources at local level. Therefore, human capacity of the SSN institutions needs to be enhanced in the member countries.

### **Policy Recommendation 2. Promoting the establishment of Management Information System /expanding the coverage of the existing ones in the member countries**

#### ***Rationale***

:

Management and Information Systems (MISs) bear a great importance for ensuring the effective implementation of SSN programmes. According to the findings of the research report titled “Institutional System of the Social Safety Net Programmes in the OIC Member Countries” in the member countries either Management and Information

Systems do not exist or the existing ones do not cover all the SSN programmes being implemented. Furthermore, the lack of full-fledged MISs covering all parts of the SSN programmes hinders experience sharing among the member countries.

***Instruments:***

The following instruments may be utilized by Member Countries to realize these policy Recommendations.

**COMCEC Project Cycle Management (PCM):** Under the COMCEC PCM, the CCO provides grants for the member countries' projects in each cooperation area of the COMCEC Strategy. Accordingly, the member countries may submit their project proposal in the particular policy areas of this document. As a reminder, the CCO makes a project call each year in September.

**Poverty Alleviation WG:** The working group itself is another instrument that the member countries may benefit in developing cooperation programs and projects. During the working group meetings, the member countries may exchange their views on issues pertaining the policy issues mentioned in this document and come up with specific recommendations to improve their policy making, planning or implementation mechanisms.

**Capacity Building Programs:** Capacity building programs may be organized in related to the policy areas with the CCO's resources and Member Countries' own resources. Here, the CCO would play a facilitating role through circulating the capacity building programs offers and matching them with the other member countries which expressed an interest to those offers.



## **F. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> COMCEC FINANCIAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP MEETING**

The COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group (FCWG) successfully held its 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Ankara / Turkey with the theme of “Risk Management in Islamic Financial Instruments”. During the Meeting, the participants discussed some crucial policy issues in light of the main findings of the research report prepared specifically for the Meeting and the responses of the Member Countries to the policy questions as well as to the capacity inventory questionnaire that have already been sent to the Member States. Accordingly, the working group has come up with the policy Recommendations below.

### **Policy Recommendation 1. Developing Islamic Finance Strategies at National Level**

#### ***Rationale:***

Countries around the world are taking necessary legal steps to improve their economic outlook and engage in international trade and other cooperation endeavors. A crucial part of this process includes the usage of various financial systems for funding projects and other initiatives that lead to improved infrastructure, social well-being and, ultimately, economic growth. Hence, Islamic finance plays a key role in this process, and in doing so, the advancement of the Islamic finance industry through the implementation of national strategies/plans that prioritize the role of Islamic financial institutions might be a key initiative among others. Development of Islamic Finance Strategies at national level will provide a roadmap and will facilitate the creation of legal, regulatory and supervisory frameworks for the Islamic Financial Services Industries (IFSI) and stimulate the efficiency and innovation in the Islamic Finance Industries of Member Countries.

### **Policy Recommendation 2. Developing Necessary Legal and Institutional Infrastructure for the Islamic Financial Services Industries (IFSI)**

#### ***Rationale:***

Islamic finance can play an important role in promoting international economic growth and mitigating financial crisis. Having a well-functioning legal and institutional infrastructure is of particular importance in this respect. However, most of the member countries do not have necessary institutional infrastructure for IFSI. Member Countries need to promote development of key economic and legal institutional infrastructure in accordance with their own peculiarities to create an enabling environment for risk-sharing financial systems such as Islamic Finance. To promote risk sharing products, Member Countries need to take necessary steps such as establishing credit registries, and business rating institutions as well as national credit bureaus, supporting research & development budget for research in Islamic Finance as well as constituting a well-

formulated data collection system and key indicators to measure performance which are linked with international databases

### **Policy Recommendation 3. Diversification of Islamic Financial Instruments and Services**

#### ***Rationale:***

Lack of efficient differentiated products and services is a major challenge not only for conventional financial instruments but also for Islamic Financial ones. Diversified Islamic Financial Instruments and services is a must to ensure sustainable growth and stability of Islamic Finance as well as for taking necessary measures against financial crisis with a powerful financial structure. Member countries need to encourage financial engineering and introduction of new instruments to meet the demands of IFSI.

### **Policy Recommendation 4. Increasing Financial Literacy and Awareness on Islamic Finance, and Developing Human Capacity**

#### ***Rationale:***

Low financial literacy and lack of awareness on Islamic Finance are the major challenges in many member countries. Financial literacy is the main element that creates knowledge and demand for financial instruments. Furthermore, human capacity in Islamic Finance Industry in the Member Countries needs to be improved for increasing the competitiveness and reducing operational risks.

#### ***Policy Instruments***

The Member States may utilize the following instruments in acting on these policy recommendations.

***COMCEC Project Cycle Management (PCM):*** Under the COMCEC PCM, the CCO provides grants for the member countries' projects in each cooperation area of the COMCEC Strategy. Accordingly, the member countries may submit their project proposal in the particular policy areas of COMCEC Strategy. As a regular basis, the CCO makes a project call each year in September.

***FCWG:*** The working group itself is another instrument that the member countries may benefit through developing cooperation programs and projects. During the working group meetings, the member countries may exchange their views on issues pertaining to four policy issues mentioned in this document and come up with specific recommendations and/or cooperation projects to realize their implementation.

***Capacity Building Programs:*** Capacity building programs may be organized in related to the policy areas with the CCO's resources and Member Countries' own resources. Here, the CCO would play a facilitating role through circulating the capacity building programs offers and matching them with the other member countries which expressed an interest to those offers.

# **ANNEX**

**10**



Original: English

**LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED  
AND/OR PRESENTED AT THE THIRTIETH SESSION  
OF THE COMCEC**

**(İstanbul, 25-28 November 2014)**

1.	COMCEC Annual Progress Report 2014.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(1)-CCO</i>
2.	Making Cooperation Work: COMCEC Strategy for Building an Interdependent Islamic World .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(2)-CCO</i>
3.	Report of the OIC General Secretariat on the Implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA).....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(3)-OIC</i>
4.	OIC Economic Outlook 2014.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(4)-SESRI</i>
5.	Brief on Trade Cooperation .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(5)-CCO</i>
6.	Member States that signed/ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(6)-CCO</i>
7.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(7)-CCO</i>
8.	Proceedings of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(8)-CCO</i>
9.	Policy Recommendations of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Trade Working Group.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(9)-CCO</i>
10.	Report on Trade Fairs and Exhibitions of OIC Member Countries .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(10)-ICDT</i>
11.	Follow-Up Report of the Implementation for the Executive Programme of the Road-Map for Achieving Intra-OIC Trade Targets .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(11)-ICDT</i>
12.	Report of the 6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(12)-ICDT</i>
13.	Report on the Issues Relating to the Activities of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(13)-ICDT</i>
14.	IDB WTO-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(14)-IDB</i>

15.	Progress Report on Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(15)-ITFC</i>
16.	Report of the Activities of the SMIC .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(16)-SMIC</i>
17.	Report on the Activities of the ICCIA .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(17)- ICCIA</i>
18.	Brief on Transport and Communications .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(18)-CCO</i>
19.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group ...	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(19)-CCO</i>
20.	Proceedings of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(20)-CCO</i>
21.	Policy Recommendations of the 4 <sup>th</sup> COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group Meeting .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(21)-CCO</i>
22.	Brief on Tourism .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(22)-CCO</i>
23.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group..	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(23)-CCO</i>
24.	Proceedings of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(24)-CCO</i>
25.	The Policy Recommendations Highlighted by the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tourism Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(25)-CCO</i>
26.	Report of the 8 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(26)-OIC</i>
27.	Resolution on Tourism Development among the OIC Member States.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(27)-OIC</i>
28.	Report of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(28)-OIC/CCO</i>
29.	Report of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting for the Implementation of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism among OIC Member States .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(29)-OIC</i>

30.	Brief on Agriculture.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(30)-CCO</i>
31.	Proceedings of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(31)-CCO</i>
32.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(32)-CCO</i>
33.	Proceedings of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(33)-CCO</i>
34.	Policy Recommendations of the 4 <sup>th</sup> COMCEC Agriculture Working Group Meeting .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(34)-CCO</i>
35.	Brief on Poverty Alleviation .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(35)-CCO</i>
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37.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(37)-CCO</i>
38.	Proceedings of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(38)-CCO</i>
39.	Policy Recommendations of the 4 <sup>th</sup> COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group Meeting .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(39)-CCO</i>
40.	Progress Report on the Activities of the ISFD	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(40)-ISFD</i>
41.	Report on the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(41)-IDB</i>
42.	Progress Report on OIC-VET .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(42)</i>
43.	Managing Disasters and Conflicts in OIC Countries .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(43)-SESRI/IDB</i>
44.	Brief on Financial Cooperation.....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(44)-CCO</i>
45.	Proceedings of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(45)-CCO</i>
46.	Proceedings of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(46)-CCO</i>

47.	Proceedings of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(47)-CCO</i>
48.	Policy Recommendations of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group Meeting .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(48)-CCO</i>
49.	OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum 8 <sup>th</sup> Meeting .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(49)-BORSA İSTANBUL</i>
50.	Report COMCEC 3rd Capital Market Regulators Forum .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(50)-SPK</i>
51.	Report of the Meeting of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member Countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) "Impact of Recent International Financial Regulatory Reforms on OIC Countries" .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(51)-CCO/SESRIC</i>
52.	Report of The Meeting of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member Countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) "Dealing with Financial Stability Risks: Macro-prudential Policy and Financial Deepening in Islamic Finance" .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(52)-SESRIC</i>
53.	Report and Recommendations of the Workshop on "The Role of PPP for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member States" .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(53)-CCO/SESRIC</i>
54.	Results of the Questionnaire Circulated by the SESRIC to the Member Countries on the Proposed Themes of the Exchange of Views Session of the 31 <sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC..	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(54)-SESRIC</i>
55.	Report of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Project Committee Meeting of the OIC Cotton Action Plan .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/D(55)-SESRIC</i>
56.	Executive Summary of ICDT's Annual Report on Trade Between the Member States 2013-2014 .....	<i>OIC/COMCEC /30-14/D(56)ICDT</i>



57.	<p>Country Reports on “The Role of PPP for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member States”</p> <p><i>OIC/COMCEC/30-14/CR</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">People’s Republic of Bangladesh</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Union of Comoros</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Republic of Mali</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Sultanate of Oman</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Republic of the Turkey</a></li> </ul>
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