

Making Cooperation Work

CÔMCEC STRATEGY

For Building an Interdependent Islamic World

COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation: The Status of Progress

4th Meeting of the COMCEC FOCAL POINTS

June 1st, 2016

OUTLINE

1- About COMCEC

2- COMCEC Ministerial Meetings

3- COMCEC Strategy

- ▶ Working Groups
- ▶ COMCEC Project Funding

4- The Road Ahead

About COMCEC

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

One of the four Standing Committees of the OIC

Establishment: The 3rd Islamic Summit (1981); Election of the President of the Republic of Turkey to its Chairmanship (1984); The First Meeting: Istanbul (1984)

Objective: To enhance economic and commercial cooperation among the Islamic countries

About COMCEC

COMCEC within the OIC

- ✓ **Standing Committees:** COMCEC, COMSTECH, COMIAC, Al-Quds Committee
- ✓ **Subsidiary Organs:**(Eg: SESRIC, ICDT, IRCICA)
- ✓ **Specialized Institutions:** (Eg: IDB)
- ✓ **Affiliated Institutions:** (Eg: ICCIA, OISA, SMIIC)

About COMCEC

Ministerial Level decision-making platform

Serve as the main coordinating body of the activities of the OIC pertaining to economic and commercial cooperation

Facilitate common understanding and policy approximation through producing and disseminating knowledge, sharing experience and best-practices

Develop cooperation programs to enhance the economic and commercial cooperation

Review the progress achieved in the implementation of the decisions pertaining to the areas under its competence

About COMCEC

COMCEC's Organs

- ✓ Chairman
- ✓ Ministerial Meeting (General Assembly)
- ✓ Follow-up Committee Meeting
- ✓ Sessional Committee
- ✓ COMCEC Coordination Office

COMCEC Ministerial Meetings / Exchange of Views

- ✓ Since its 11th Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy could exchange views on current world economic issues, in recent years, other Ministers are also involved
- ✓ A keynote address followed by country reports, demonstrating the state of affairs of the country in the concerned theme
- ✓ The presentations and publications at the ministerial level lead to higher awareness in that specific theme
- ✓ The ministers, as the decision-making body of the COMCEC, adopt resolutions and formulate concrete policy recommendations in the field concerned
- ✓ Relevant COMCEC Working Group undertakes the preparatory work and provides input for the Exchange of Views

COMCEC Ministerial Meetings / Exchange of Views

Exchange of Views Themes (2013-2016)

29th Session of the COMCEC (18-21 November 2013): “Increasing FDI Flows to the OIC Member Countries”.

30th Session of the COMCEC (25-28 November 2014): “The Role of Public Private Partnerships for the Development of the Tourism Sector in the OIC Member Countries”.

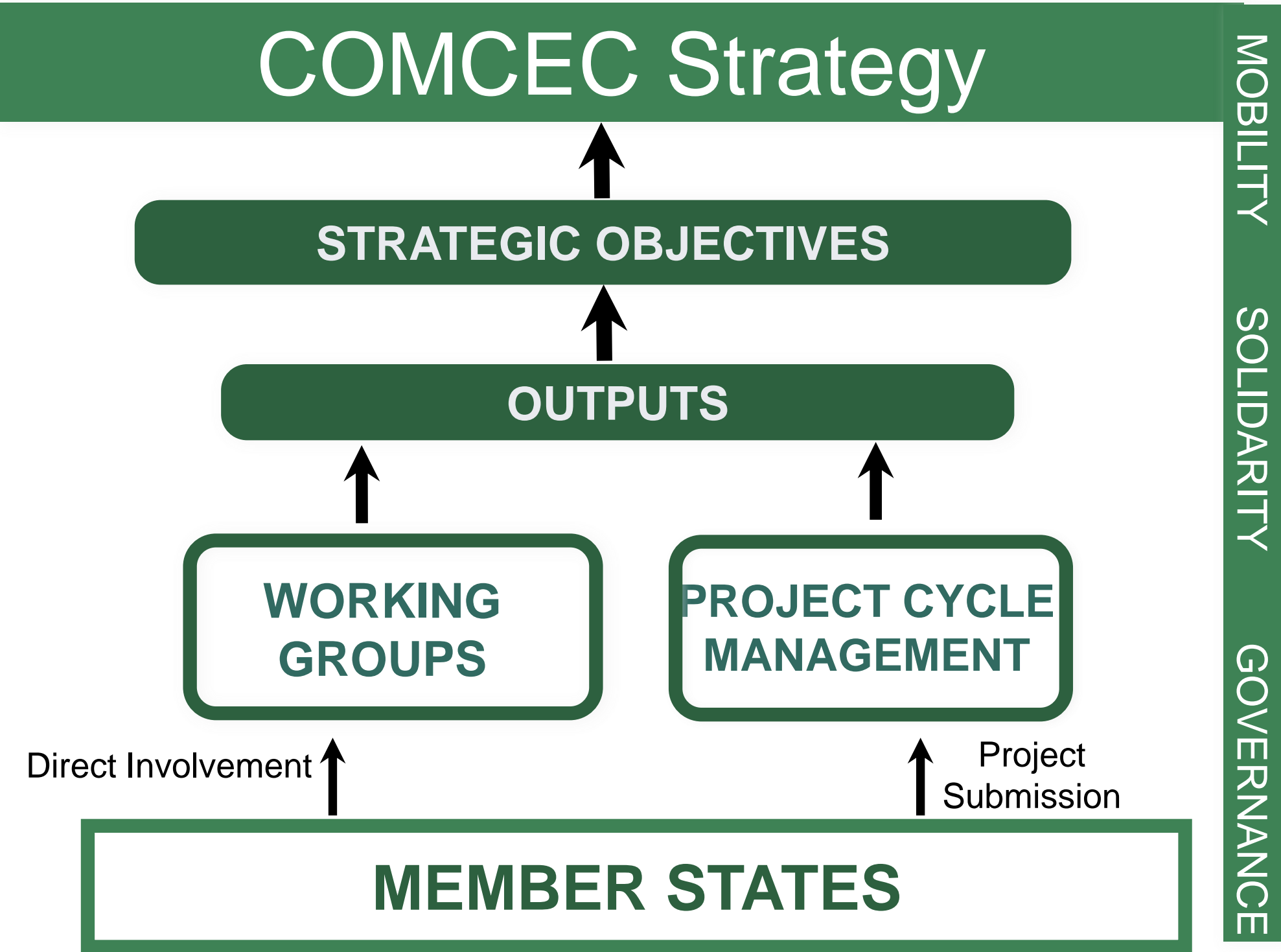
31st Session of the COMCEC (23-26 November 2015): “Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Service Delivery”.

32nd Session of the COMCEC (21-24 November 2016): «Developing Islamic Finance Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”

COMCEC STRATEGY

- ✓ First Vision document for the COMCEC
- ✓ Member-driven COMCEC
- ✓ **Working Groups:** Active and direct involvement of experts
- ✓ Effective **project funding mechanism**
- ✓ Project financing through grants by the CCO

COMCEC STRATEGY



WORKING GROUPS

- ✓ Established in each Cooperation Area
Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture, Poverty Alleviation, Finance
- ✓ Voluntary Membership
- ✓ Qualified Experts Gatherings; from the relevant Ministries/ Institutions of the Member Countries
- ✓ Regular Gatherings (*at least twice a year in Ankara*)

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups and COMCEC's Mission

1- Producing Knowledge – Research reports

- Relevant: Deals with common problems identified in the Strategy
- Credible: Prepared by renowned int. organizations, scholars, consulting firms, takes more than 6 months
- Evidence-based: Uses primary data and field visits, where possible
- OIC Wide: Assesses and makes policy recommendations for the whole OIC region

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups and COMCEC's Mission

2- Disseminating Knowledge

All documents submitted to the working groups (reports, outlooks, presentations, etc.) are made available on the COMCEC web-site

The proceedings of the Meetings are communicated to the Member States for their future reference

COMCEC Sessions are informed by the CCO on the outcomes of the WG meetings

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups and COMCEC's Mission

3- Sharing Experience and Best- Practices

- ✓ Case studies
- ✓ Country Presentations
- ✓ Policy Questions

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups and COMCEC's Mission

4- Approximating Policies

- ✓ A longer-term goal
- ✓ Provides the member states a policy vision
- ✓ Links the work of the WGs with the policy environment in the member countries
- ✓ Links the output of the WGs with the decision-making bodies of the COMCEC (General Assembly and Follow-up Committee)

COMCEC PROJECT FUNDING

- ▶ An effective instrument to mobilize and pool the resources of the Member Countries and OIC Institutions towards achieving the objectives of the COMCEC Strategy
- ▶ A Project cycle with well-defined stages of project call, evaluation, financing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- ▶ A tool for Islamic countries to cooperate with one another and increase their capacities

The Road Ahead

What is achieved so far?

- ✓ Increased quality of reports allowing policy makers to make informed decisions
- ✓ Better dissemination of data and knowledge
- ✓ Increased and better identified financial resources
- ✓ Enhanced participation of non-state stakeholders (NGO's, private sector, int. institutions)
- ✓ More policy-oriented discussions with active involvement of MCs, culminating in policy recommendations
- ✓ Focused and structured WG themes in the next 3 years, complimenting each other

The Road Ahead

In the near future, COMCEC would like to achieve:

- ✓ Better identification of policy recommendations
- ✓ Followin-up the implementation of policy recommendations
- ✓ More focused and structured WG themes, enabling their in-depth elaboration
- ✓ Stronger links between policy recommendations and COMCEC projects
- ✓ Increased support for the realization of policy recommendations through capacity building activities



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THANK YOU

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