



COMCEC STRATEGY

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

2015

COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE
November 2015



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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has been working for enhancing economic and commercial cooperation among the 57 Member States of the OIC since 1984. The programs and activities of the COMCEC are guided by the COMCEC Strategy, adopted by the 4th Extra-ordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al- Mukarramah on 14-15 August 2012. The Strategy has become operational in 2013.

Entering into its fourth year, the Strategy and the mechanisms it has introduced have brought a new dynamism and visibility to the work of the COMCEC. The COMCEC Progress Reports, submitted to the annual COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, aims at giving an account of the implementation status of the COMCEC Strategy during the previous year. In this regard, this report provides an overview of the major achievements in the implementation of the Strategy, since the 30th Session of the COMCEC.. While particular importance is given to the COMCEC Working Groups and the COMCEC Project Funding, the activities of the OIC Institutions serving to the mission of the Strategy are also highlighted. Accordingly, for each cooperation area, the Report gives information about the most recent meetings of the relevant Working Group followed by the relevant activities of the OIC Institutions.

The 30th Session of the COMCEC, held in İstanbul, on 25-28 November 2014, has reviewed the joint efforts in the cooperation areas of the COMCEC, namely trade, transport and communications, agriculture, tourism, financial cooperation, poverty alleviation and private sector cooperation. In-depth deliberations culminated into a set of resolutions towards further deepening cooperation among the Member States in these areas. The Session welcomed the operationalization of the COMCEC Strategy and the progress achieved towards its implementation, particularly the convening of the COMCEC Working Groups, and the launch of the first project call within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding. It also requested the COMCEC Coordination Office to report the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy regularly to the COMCEC Sessions and to the Follow-up Committee Meetings. The Session also decided to hold the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session of the 31st Session of the COMCEC as “Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Service Delivery”.

The Working Groups have held a total of 12 meetings since the 30th Session of the COMCEC. Overall, these meetings have resulted in 12 analytic reports, 6 sectoral outlooks, and 12 proceedings published by the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO). All the publications regarding the working group meetings namely the analytic studies, sectoral outlooks and the meeting proceedings are available on the COMCEC website, http://www.comcec.org/EN_YE/icerik.aspx?iid=250.

On the other hand, in line with the practice initiated at the fall 2014 meetings, the working groups have continued to include a policy debate session in their agendas. The aim of these sessions is to identify policy areas where public interventions would make a relatively quick and positive impact, with the ultimate aim of approximating member state policies. The ground for the discussions in these sessions are provided by the analytic studies prepared for the specific theme of each working group meeting as well as the policy questions sent by the COMCEC Coordination Office to the member states which aimed to have a basic understanding of the member state policy profile in the particular working group meeting theme. Accordingly, working groups have had policy discussion sessions which concluded with several policy recommendations pertaining to the specific theme of

that meeting. The recommendations of the 5th and 6th rounds of working group meetings will be submitted to the 3^{1st} Session of the COMCEC for further action.

On the other hand, the CCO has also taken steps towards monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the above-mentioned policy recommendations. During the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Focal Points of the COMCEC Working Groups, a form was introduced by the CCO for this purpose. During the meeting, the participants agreed on the critical importance of follow-up of the policy recommendations made in the working group meetings. Accordingly, it was stressed that the CCO may convey the said form to the member states to allow them to inform the CCO regarding actions taken in their respective countries for the implementation of the policy recommendations.

The COMCEC Project Funding, the second implementation instrument of the Strategy was launched in September 2013, with the aim of providing grants to technical cooperation and capacity building projects proposed by the Member States which have registered to the working groups, and by the relevant OIC Institutions. While this instrument is intended to mobilize the member states and OIC institutions to realize the principles and objectives of the COMCEC Strategy, it also aims to advance the cooperation efforts to overcome the common challenges of the member states in cooperation areas. Additionally, this instrument will also improve the member states' capacity in the execution of multilateral projects. Finally COMCEC Project Funding provides a unique opportunity for the OIC Member States, stretching from South-East Asia to Maghreb, from Latin America to Caucasus, to work together on common issues.

For the year 2015, 14 projects were found eligible for funding from a pool of 62 project proposals applied for funding. For these 14 projects, a signing ceremony was held on April 2nd, 2014, during which operational and financial agreements were signed between the Development Bank of Turkey as the intermediary institution and the project owners. This report also gives brief information regarding the implementation status of these projects under the relevant cooperation area. On the other hand, the CCO has launched the third project call in September 2015. A total of 49 projects were submitted to the CCO for funding, and 24 of these projects were short-listed by the CCO on November 2. The final list of eligible projects for funding is expected to be announced in early February.

It is also worth mentioning that during the opening ceremony of the 30th Session of the COMCEC, proposals were made in the statement of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, Chairman of the COMCEC, regarding establishing a Gold Exchange and a Real Estate Exchange among the OIC Member Countries. The 31st Meeting of the Follow-up Committee requested the Secretariat of the OIC Stock Exchanges Forum and the COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum respectively, to undertake initial studies on the feasibility and the ways and means of realizing both the proposal and submit it to the 31st Session of the COMCEC. The Session is expected to consider the studies and provide further guidance for their realization.

This report also gives information regarding various activities that were held over the course of last year that are in line with the COMCEC Strategy and organized by relevant OIC Institutions. The activities of the OIC institutions aligned with the COMCEC Strategy plays a crucial role for the effective and successful implementation of the strategy. A list of activities serving the objectives of the Strategy, and organized by the OIC institutions in 2014 is annexed to the report.

CHAPTER I: COOPERATION AREAS

1. TRADE

During the period under review, the Trade Working Group has held two meetings and considered issues relating to trade finance and trade facilitation. Additionally, OIC initiatives regarding enhancing trade among the member states were also undertaken.

1.1. 5TH MEETING OF THE TRADE WORKING GROUP

The 5th Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group was held on March 26th, 2015 in Ankara, Turkey with the theme of “Improving the Role of Eximbanks /Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) in the OIC Member States.” Deliberations in the meeting have focused on the current performance of the Eximbanks or ECAs in the member states as ways and means to establish new ones in the member states where there are no such agencies. In this regard, the analytic study specifically prepared for this meeting by the COMCEC Coordination Office provided the background for the deliberations. The study highlighted that the OIC countries are relatively new in the business of export credit support, as compared with the OECD countries. Out of the 57 member countries, only 23 have ECAs, Eximbanks or similar programs. It was also stressed in the report that the characteristics of ECAs among OIC member countries vary. The majority has mixed state and private ownership and over a third are fully government-owned entities. Moreover, the role of governments varies significantly across OIC countries, as reflected in varied levels of ECA ownership, involvement in policy, finances and governance. OIC ECAs’ scope of operation also varies with a majority providing insurance and less than half providing direct financing or guarantees, and only 4 out of 26 ECAs offering Islamic finance and insurance instruments. ECAs also vary in the scale and reach of their operation, as evidenced by the difference in staff size and business volumes.



During the meeting, the participants also discussed ways and means to improve the role and functioning of ECAs in the member states. In this regard, the study’s findings were received positively by the member states. The working group stressed that, in terms of the role of the government, a sound governance structure and legal framework, strong dialogue with the private sector, and regular monitoring and review of the ECA’s activities are essential for its success. As for the ECA itself, it was underlined that establishing a clear vision and mission, conducting extensive market research, developing a detailed business plan, and creating links to international partners and players are among the major success factors.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE TRADE WG

- Member States are encouraged to examine and assess the financing needs of their exporters
- Member States are invited to enhance transactional cooperation among their ECAs
- Member States are encouraged to review the soundness of their ECAs with the aim of improving the overall performance of the ECA
- Member states are called on to promote public-private dialogue within the ECA context

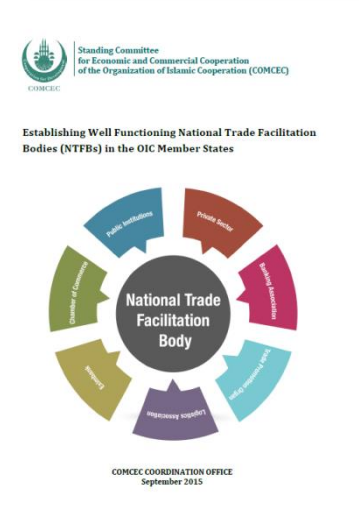
1.2. 6TH MEETING OF THE TRADE WORKING GROUP

The 6th Meeting of the Trade Working Group was held on September 17th, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Establishing Well-Functioning National Trade Facilitation Bodies (NTFBs) in the OIC Member States”. In its 6th meeting, the Trade WG has focused on the national coordination aspect of trade facilitation. The issue of national trade facilitation bodies has gained prominence as the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement adopted at the 9th Ministerial Conference in Bali in December 2013 brought an obligation to each Member to “establish and/or maintain a national committee on trade facilitation to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of the Agreement”. Thus, it can be said that NTFBs will be on the agenda of the WTO and other relevant international organizations for many years to come.

According to the analytical study prepared for this meeting, 39 OIC Member States have established NTFBs. While some of these bodies are functioning relatively better, others are facing serious problems. Some of the most common problems faced by the Member States are as follows: Lack of political commitment, poor legal and institutional framework, insufficient financial resources, and poor communication with the relevant stakeholders.

In the face of these challenges, some of the main recommendations made in the analytical report are as follows: For the establishment of NTFBs: Identify a coordination agency, identify objectives, identify resources of funds, establish the terms of reference of the body, and provide strong legal and institutional framework. For the sustainability of the NTFBs: provide political will, ensure strong leadership, arrange even representation from the public and private sectors, and encourage participation of NGOs and the academia in the work of the NTFBs.

In its seventh and eighth meetings in 2016, the Trade Working Group will focus on issues relating to trade facilitation.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONSS OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE TRADE WG

- Extending assistance to Member States for establishing/maintaining NTFBs
- Involving the private sector in the activities of the NTFBs
- Establishing effective communication systems within the framework of the work of the NTFBs

1.3. OTHER TRADE-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE AND OTHER RELEVANT OIC INSTITUTIONS

TPS-OIC:

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

In order to make the TPS-OIC system operational, 10 Member States have to fulfill two conditions at the same time: The ratification of the three TPS-OIC Agreements and the submission of the list of concessions to the TNC Secretariat. The 30th Session of the COMCEC has resolved that as the number of countries that has met both conditions simultaneously has surpassed 10, the requirements for the operationalization of the TPS-OIC System have been finalized. These 12 countries are: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. The List of Countries signed/ratified TPS-OIC Agreements can be reached at http://www.comcec.org/UserFiles/File/TPS-OIC/TPSOIC-PRETASstatus-Ekim_2014.pdf

Box: Training Seminar on TPS-OIC Rules of Origin, Ankara, 26-27 January 2015

With a view to review and expedite the preparations for the operationalization of the System, the COMCEC Coordination Office, in cooperation with the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges, organized a training seminar on 26-27 January 2015, in Ankara, Turkey. The CCO also sent an implementation checklist to the participating states to assess the time required for the finalization of the necessary preparations in these countries for the full implementation of the System. In the said Seminar, it was also revealed that the participating member states will need to update their previously submitted concession lists, which was based on tariff codes and MFN rates applied in 2003. Accordingly, the CCO has sent two separate letters to the concerned member states to invite them to fill-out and convey the checklist and the updated concession lists. This issue was also brought to the attention of the 31st Follow-up Committee Meeting. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that the concerned member states which have not yet done so, would send the updated concession lists and the implementation checklist to the CCO no later than July 31st, 2015. The CCO is still in close contact with the relevant member states to ensure that all these procedures be completed before the 31st Session of the COMCEC.

Finally, for the promotion of the TPS-OIC System, relevant OIC Institutions particularly the ICDT and the CCO organize various events in the member states.

The Seventh Meeting of the OIC Consultative Group:

The seventh and final meeting of the Consultative Group was held on 2-3 March 2015 in Marrakesh, Morocco. The 30th Session of the COMCEC thanked the ICDT and other members of the Consultative Group for their efforts towards enhancing intra-OIC trade, and requested the Group to successfully conclude the implementation of the Executive Programme in 2015. The Session also requested 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 31st Follow-up Committee Meeting and the 31st Session of the COMCEC.

Islamic Trade Fairs:

Islamic Trade Fairs were initiated by the COMCEC in order to create awareness on the products of the Islamic trade fairs are held every two years in one of the OIC Member Countries by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) in order to promote intra-OIC trade. The ICDT has organized fourteen Islamic Trade Fairs to date. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will host the 15th edition of the Trade Fair of the OIC Member States in Riyadh on 8-12 November 2015. In addition to the Islamic Trade Fairs, sector specific exhibitions are also organized by the ICDT in the Member States. Since the 30th Session of the COMCEC, the 3rd OIC Halal Expo and Congress was held on 8-10 December 2014 in the United Arab Emirates.

In its previous sessions, the COMCEC has requested the Member States to encourage their private sector to actively participate in the Islamic Trade Fairs and also requested ICDT to submit regular progress reports on trade and tourism fairs of the OIC Member States and other specialized exhibitions to the COMCEC Sessions.

SMIIC:

Standard and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) is one of the significant projects realized by the COMCEC. It is an affiliated institution of the OIC and aims at contributing to the development of quality and standards of products and services in the OIC Member States. SMIIC aims at realizing harmonized standards and eliminating technical barriers for enhancing trade among the Member Countries.

Since its establishment, the number of SMIIC Members has steadily been increasing and has already reached to 31 with the approval of the membership of Malaysia and Bosnia Herzegovina by the last Board of Directors of SMIIC at its meeting in November 2014. Seven Technical Committees were established on standard formation in areas required by the OIC countries, and are actively working in line with their international counterpart organizations

SMIIC also intends to organize training and workshop programs especially for the LDC member states to enhance the standardization, accreditation, and metrology capacity in those countries.

Private Sector Meetings/ Businesswomen Forum

Strong involvement of the private sector to the COMCEC and other relevant OIC meetings and activities is indispensable for achieving successful outcomes. To that end, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) organizes Private Sector Meetings and regularly reports their outcomes to the COMCEC Sessions. One of the main objectives of the private sector meetings is to provide a platform for the private sector representatives of the Member States to explore new opportunities and create new linkages among themselves. Up to now, 16 private sector meetings have been held.

The 30th Session of the COMCEC took note of the recommendations of the 16th Private Sector Meeting for OIC Member States held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates on 19-20 March 2014, as well as the Sharjah Declaration. The Session welcomed 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. The Session also 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 and 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.

31st Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC welcomed that the 17th Private Sector Meeting would be held on 8-12 November 2015 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, along with the 15th Islamic Trade Fair. The Committee also commended ICCIA for organizing a 2-day Training Program for the development of SMEs by the ICCIA in cooperation with Small and Medium Enterprise Development Organization of the Republic of Turkey (KOSGEB), in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan and welcomed the ICCIA's offer of holding of a similar training program in Uganda in the second half of 2015 in collaboration with SESRIC and KOSGEB.

2. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

In 2015, the COMCEC Transport and Communications working group has held 2 meetings, focusing on port efficiency and urban transport.

2.1. 5TH MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

The 5th Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group was held on February 12th, 2015 with the theme of "Evaluating the Ownership, Governance Structures, and Performances of Ports in the OIC Member States."

According to Report prepared for this meeting, the total world fleet reached to 1.69 billion deadweight tonnes in January 2014. The total fleet registered under the flags of the OIC Member Countries was just less than 64 million deadweight tonnes in 2014, representing 4.17% of the world's fleet in 2014. Thus, it was stated in the Meeting that there is a genuine need for the OIC Member States to increase their fleet capacity. On the other hand, it has been observed during the meeting that private sector participation in provision of the port services, inter and intra-port competition, containerization of the cargo and implementation of the Key Performance Indexes (KPIs) in order to evaluate the efficiency of ports are some of the challenges faced by the member countries.

To overcome these challenges, the meeting stressed the importance of enhancing competition and private sector participation, upgrading port assets and investing in technology, and improving in trade logistics efficiency.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONSS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WG

- Member states are invited to enhance the private sector participation in the port sector
- Member states are encouraged to establish port regulators
- Member states are called on to promote intermodal container transportation

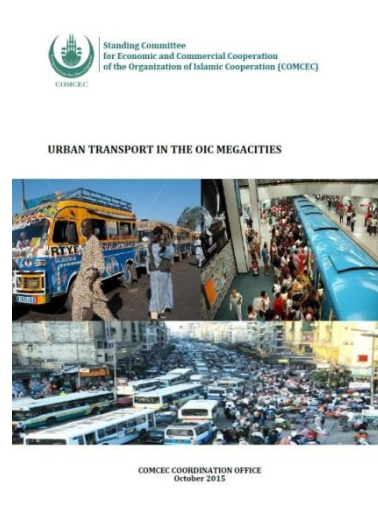
2.2. 6TH MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

The 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group was held on October 22nd, 2015 with the theme of “Urban Transport in the OIC Megacities.” According to the Analytical Study prepared for this meeting, in 1990, there were 10 “mega-cities” with 10 million inhabitants or more, which were less than 7% of the global urban population at that time. However, in 2014, there are 28 mega-cities worldwide, about 12 percent of the world’s urban dwellers. Among these 28 mega-cities, seven are located in the OIC region namely Cairo, Dhaka, Karachi, Istanbul, Lagos, Jakarta and Tehran.

Like many other mega-cities in the developing world, OIC mega-cities also suffer from rapid urbanization, increase in motorization, low quality public transport, lack of hierarchical highway, road and street systems, poor non-motorized transport infrastructure, and lack of resources. These problems are expected to aggravate in the years to come as these mega-cities will be under further population pressure.

In the face of these challenges, the meeting underlined the following critical issues, among others, for improving urban transport systems in the OIC mega-cities: planning for land use and transport integration, promoting multiple center and multiple land use development, promoting Non-Motorized Transport and public transport, promoting central management and planning of operations, defining the role of the private sector, and planning for accessible infrastructure.

In its seventh and eighth meetings in 2016, the Transport and Communications Working Group will focus on road safety and security.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WG

- Promoting public-private partnerships for urban transport financing
- Enhancing ICT applications for traffic management in OIC cities
- Improving institutional structure to ensure the delivery of a sustainable transport

3. TOURISM

The Tourism working Group has held two meetings in 2015. In these meetings, the WG has focused on travel facilitation as well as ICT Based tourism marketing in the Member Countries. Furthermore, other initiatives to boost tourism cooperation such as OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Forum and Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers are also reported in this section.

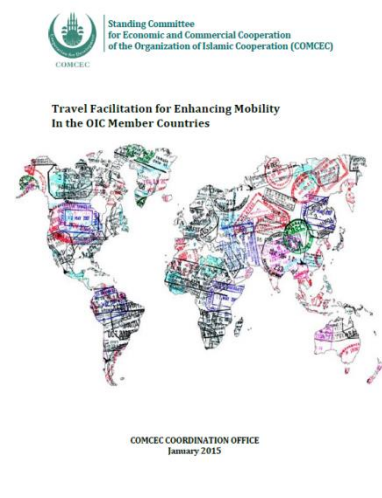
3.1. 5TH MEETING OF THE TOURISM WORKING GROUP

5th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group was organized on February 5th, 2015 with the theme of “Travel Facilitation for Enhancing Mobility in the OIC Member States.” The representatives

considered the analytical study on the same subject, commissioned by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for this meeting.

The representatives have shared their experiences, achievements and challenges regarding travel facilitation in their respective countries, and elaborated on how to enhance mobility in tourism sector in the Member Countries. In this Meeting, the representatives from the Member Countries, international organizations and private sector underlined some important challenges faced in the Member Countries in facilitating travel. Accordingly, insufficient air linkages, reciprocal actions in response to visa policies of other nations and cost of leveraging new and existing technologies in travel facilitation are the main challenges mentioned in the TWG Meeting.

After considering challenges and case studies, the participants focused on mainly two issues at the policy discussion session:



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE TOURISM WG

- Encouraging Visa Facilitation among the Member Countries
 - Improving the delivery of information
 - Facilitating the processes for obtaining visas
 - Lowering or eliminating visa application fees
 - Differentiating treatment to facilitate tourist travel
 - Promoting eVisa programs
- Developing air linkages and increasing the airline capacity
 - Partnering with airlines to expand access to visitor markets
 - Incorporating airlines into the destination's tourism profile
 - Making better use of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in airport infrastructure

3.2. 6TH MEETING OF THE TOURISM WORKING GROUP

The 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group was held on September 3rd, 2015 with theme of "Effective Tourism Marketing Strategies: ICT-Based Solutions for the OIC Member Countries."

The participants considered the ICT-based tourism marketing in the Member States through focusing on the Analytical Study titled "Effective Tourism Marketing Strategies: ICT-Based Solutions for the OIC Member Countries" commissioned by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The participants also had the chance to discuss the policy options for enhancing the cooperation in this important field. During the meeting, following challenges were highlighted as faced by the member states in ICT



usage and diffusion in tourism marketing: insufficient ICT infrastructure, large skill gaps in the ICT-skilled workforce in tourism sector, limited public- private partnerships in ICT-based tourism marketing and lack of comprehensive digital marketing strategies.

In terms of policy recommendations, the Meeting stressed the importance of building the skilled workforce; enhancing cooperation between the government and private sector on ICT usage and diffusion in tourism marketing and developing effective digital marketing strategies in the Member Countries.

In its seventh and eighth meetings in 2016, the Tourism Working Group will focus on the concept of Muslim-friendly tourism.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE TOURISM WG

- Building and Strengthening a Skilled Workforce on ICT-Based Tourism Marketing in the Member Countries
- Enhancing cooperation between the government and private sector on ICT usage and diffusion in tourism marketing
- Developing comprehensive and effective digital marketing strategies in the Member Countries

3.3. OIC/COMCEC PRIVATE SECTOR TOURISM FORUM

The OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum was established in 2011 with the relevant resolutions of the 27th Session of the COMCEC. Accordingly, the Forum has held its first meeting on 7-8 December 2012 in İzmir, Turkey.

3rd Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum was held on 29-30 January 2015 with the theme of “International Branding of Tourism Destinations in the OIC Member Countries.” The Forum underlined the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement as a critical success factor for tourism branding particularly through utilizing Public Private Partnerships and highlighted the importance of experience sharing, technical cooperation and capacity building programs among the Member Countries on tourism destination branding. On the sideline of the Forum, the private sector representatives of the Member Countries had the opportunity to conduct B2B Meetings with their counterparts.

3.4. THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS OF TOURISM

The 8th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) was hosted by the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of The Gambia and held on 4-6 December 2013 in Banjul, the Gambia.

The Meeting discussed various issues of cooperation in the field of tourism in the OIC member countries. It considered the draft Mechanism and Criteria for the Selection of OIC City of Tourism and the draft Mechanism and Criteria for the Award of OIC Seal of Excellence for Handicrafts, and after making several amendments, approved the both mechanisms. The Meeting also reviewed the proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Establishment of the Heritage Centre for Islamic Countries and the proposal has been decided to be considered by existing OIC institutions IRCICA and ISESCO within their respective mandates. The Meeting welcomed the offer by the Government of the Republic of Niger to host the 9th Session of ICTM in 2015.

9th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers will be held on 14-16 December 2015 in Niamey, the Republic of Niger.

4. AGRICULTURE

The Agriculture Working Group has held two meetings during the period under review. These meetings elaborated on strengthening farmer organizations and promoting agricultural value chains in the OIC Member Countries.

4.1. 5TH MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP

The Fifth Meeting of the Agriculture WG was held on March 5th, 2015 with the theme of “Improving Institutional Capacity: Strengthening Farmer Organizations in the OIC Member Countries.” The participants discussed the importance of farmer organizations in the Member Countries through focusing on the analytical study with the same title, commissioned by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The analytical study underlined the importance of farmer organizations for the development of agriculture sector especially in terms of providing technical and financial consultancy to their members. They provide assistance for improving market access, enable their members to reduce market risks and transaction costs and to capture higher share of the value added in the food supply chain.



During the Meeting, the participants discussed that while farmer organizations in the OIC Member Countries generally have strong governance structures, business fundamentals and accountability to their members, the main challenge appears to be in finding the resources necessary to provide the services that members need. In particular, farmer organizations face increasing demands to provide services that enable members to access international markets, and also provide services that were previously provided by government.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WG

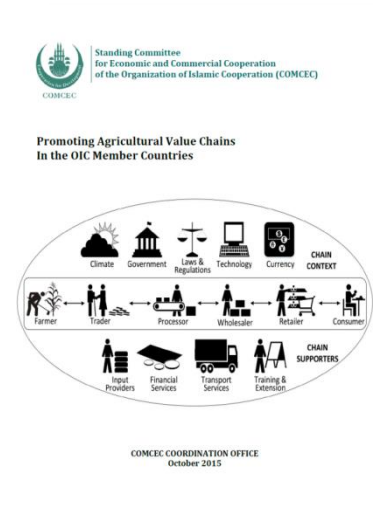
- Research and extension services of the farmer organizations need to be improved for increasing agricultural productivity.
- The capacity of farmer organizations to access to agricultural market information and dissemination of the market information to their members needs to be improved.

4.2. 6TH MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP

The 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group was held on October 8th, 2015 with the theme of “Promoting Agricultural Value Chains in the Member Countries.” The representatives considered the analytical study on the same theme commissioned by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for this meeting as well as “COMCEC Agriculture Outlook 2015” prepared by the CCO.

During the Meeting, the participants underlined the importance of adding more value to agricultural products for income generation and poverty alleviation considering that agriculture sector occupies a central place in the economies of the Member Countries. For this reason, agricultural value chain development is vital for farmers and agribusiness entrepreneurs to add value to agricultural products from production and processing to marketing.

The participants also elaborated on the significant challenges faced by the member countries. Accordingly, the public policies in the member countries mainly focus on ensuring food self-sufficiency. The main agricultural products produced in the member countries are staple foods, such as wheat, maize and rice. Agricultural production in the MCs primarily targets domestic consumption and value chains remain local and do not extend to international markets. Moreover, lack of standards for food safety and quality or low levels of compliance with international standards also hinders farmers, especially smallholders, to reach international markets. Furthermore, weak infrastructural environment for adding value such as weak research and development, deficient quality control systems, lack of agro-processing, transport and storage capacities and inefficient processing operations in the member countries is highlighted as another challenge.



In its seventh and eighth meetings in 2016, the Agriculture Working Group will focus on on-farm and post-harvest losses.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE WG

- Adopting/developing quality standards and implementing quality control, and identifying market opportunities for standard compliance of agricultural products.
- Improving transport and storage facilities for promoting value chain development in the Member Countries through well-developed public-private partnerships.
- Supporting agro-processing and packaging industries to increase value added of agricultural products.

5. POVERTY ALLEVIATION

During the period under review, the Poverty Alleviation Working Group has held two meetings. These meetings dealt with the issues of; activation policies for the poor and, improving basic services delivery for the poor in the OIC Member Countries. Moreover, the other poverty alleviation initiatives within the framework of the COMCEC are also reported.

5.1. 5TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP

The 5th Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group was held on February 26th, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Activation Policies for the Poor in the OIC Member States.”

The Meeting considered the activation policies for the poor people in the Member States on the basis of the analytical study on the same subject, prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The participants have shared their

experiences, achievements and challenges that they faced in developing and implementing activation policies for the poor. The Meeting also provided an opportunity to the representatives to learn the experiences of local authorities and international institutions in improving activation policies.

Some important findings of the meeting regarding the activation policies in the OIC Member Countries are as follows: Jobless growth and poor quality jobs that do not pay enough wages (or are concentrated in the informal sector) are unlikely to support for moving people out of poverty. Public Employment Services (PES) aim to provide job search support and refer training programmes to the beneficiaries to be able to find decent jobs. However, the capacity of the institutions responsible for the PES in the member states is not sufficient to provide these services. Furthermore, youth unemployment is an important challenge among the poor people in the Member Countries and skills mismatch is seen as one of the main causes of the youth unemployment. Skills mismatch is also a significant problem in labour market in the Member Countries.



Some recommendations discussed during the meeting include: a clear, integrated activation strategy with clear and measurable objectives is valuable in the context of poverty alleviation. Ministries and agencies across government should be encouraged to contribute to an activation strategy under clear leadership and governance arrangements. Moreover, the capacity of the PES could be increased, supporting both activation and the dissemination of labour market information.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WG

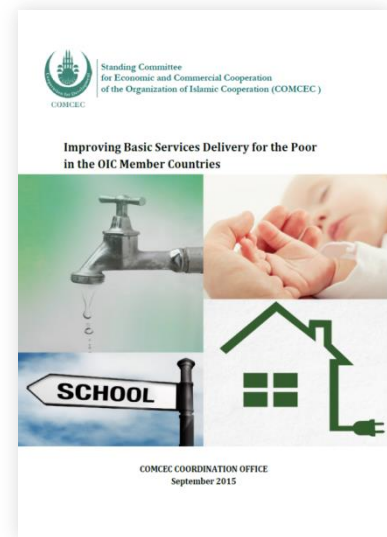
- Increasing the capacity of the institutions providing Public Employment Services (PES) in the Member Countries through enhancing the quality and quantity of the human resources and developing information technology (IT) infrastructure of the PES institutions as well as ensuring an effective partnership with the relevant stakeholders in delivering activation measures.
- Promoting employer engagement in the preparation/implementation of the activation programmes through establishing a sound mechanism for ensuring the active involvement of the relevant stakeholders, and conducting employer surveys to identify the skill-needs in the labour market.

5.2. 6TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP

The 30th Session of COMCEC decided 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 31st Session of the COMCEC and requested 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 31st COMCEC Session. Thus, the 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group served also as the preparatory event for the ministerial

exchange of views session of the 31st Session of the COMCEC. In this regard, the 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group was held on 10-11 September 2015 in Ankara, Turkey with the theme of "Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: Improving Basic Services Delivery in the OIC Member Countries".

On the first day of the Meeting, the representatives of the Member States shared their experiences, achievements and challenges on delivery systems of basic services in their respective countries. The Meeting considered delivery chains of the basic services in the OIC Member Countries on the basis of the analytical study titled "Improving Basic Services Delivery for the Poor in the OIC Member Countries" which was prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The representatives discussed that basic services can be delivered via a number of models. These are central service provision, decentralized service provision, contracting out service delivery to private companies, community participation, and private sector service provision. Each of these models has their own advantages and disadvantages and different impacts on the accountability relationships. Delivery of basic services fails to reach the poor because of failures in the accountability relationships between actors. Voice and compact, which are key to accountability relationships in service delivery, are generally weak in OIC member countries.



In this regard, delivery of services can be improved by strengthening the accountability relationships between actors in the delivery chain. In the long route of accountability, voice and compact should be strengthened through civil society engagement, monitoring and evaluation of the performance of service providers, in order to deliver better quality and more equitable services to citizens. The short route of accountability or client power can be strengthened by increasing the citizens' choice, participation and/or level of information.

In its seventh and eighth meetings in 2016, the Poverty Alleviation Working Group will focus the problems of vulnerable groups and forced migrants.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WG

- Enhancing governance in basic services delivery chain through information campaigns, improving monitoring and evaluation of the ongoing/future programs, and providing direct citizen involvement in service provision by utilizing community-participation models, cooperatives and complaint mechanisms.
- Diversifying basic services providers through contracting private companies and NGOs, ensuring competition among providers under the supervision of the central

5.3. OIC COTTON PLAN OF ACTION

Within the framework of the OIC cotton initiative, the OIC Five-Year Cotton Action Plan (2007-2011) was prepared and endorsed by the 22nd Session of the COMCEC. The period of the Plan was extended

for a further five years by the 26th Session of the COMCEC (2011-2016). Under the Cotton Action Plan, the Project Committee and Steering Committee were formed. Until now, six Steering Committee and five Project Committee meetings have been held.

The Fifth Meeting of the Project Committee of the OIC Cotton Action Plan was held on 16 November 2014 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The 30th Session of the COMCEC took note of the report of meeting and requested SESRIC to combine 14 projects into one capacity building project and submit it to the IDB for funding. In line with this request SESRIC prepared the project proposal for the “Capacity Building Project on Development of Cotton Sector in OIC Member Countries” and submitted it to IDB for consideration.

5.4. OIC-VET PROGRAM

Vocational Education and Training Program for the OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) was initiated by the SESRIC in 2009 with a view to improving the quality of vocational education and training in the Member Countries.

A major component of the VET program is OIC Capacity Building Programmes (CBPs), which are continuous short term training programs that aim to enhance the capacity of the relevant national institutions in various areas and fields in the member countries through matching the needs and capacities of these institutions. Some of the fields in which CBPs are implemented include statistics, agriculture, environment, water resources management, multilateral trade systems, central banks, skill development for youth, health, information and communications technology, e-government, poverty alleviation, and tourism. Over the last year, SESRIC has organized more than 50 capacity building programs within the framework of the VET.

The fifth meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee of the VET Program was held in Ankara on 12-13 November 2014. More information on OIC-VET can be reached at www.oicvet.org.

5.5. ISFD AND SPDA

Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) is a Special Fund within the IDB, which was officially launched in 2007 with the aim of contributing to the reduction of poverty in the Member States. It focuses on human development, agriculture and rural development, basic infrastructure and micro enterprises. The principle target capital of the Fund is USD10 billion. As of 15 October 2015, the level of pledged capital contributions to the ISFD stands at US\$2.68 billion, committed by 44 member countries (US\$1.68 billion) and the IDB (US\$1.0 billion). The total amount of received contributions so far is US\$2.42 billion, of which US\$850 million was paid by the IDB and US\$1.57 billion by the member countries.

ISFD has thus far supported 65 operations (US\$562.2 million) since its inception, with funding from its income; and co-financing from the IDB, beneficiary governments and other partners including Technical Assistance (TA) Grants. The cumulative total cost of the approved operations is estimated at US\$2.7 billion. The main sectors of focus have been (i) Agriculture (incl. Rural Development), which accounted for around 43 percent of the ISFD financing, and (ii) Education (incl. VOLIP), which accounted for around 24 percent of the ISFD financing.

The Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) is another initiative within the IDB, which was initiated in 2008 with a view to spurring economic growth, reinvigorating agricultural production and creating employment opportunities in the African Member Countries. The average level of funding for the SPDA is set as USD 12 billion for a five-year period. The implementation of

this initiative, which had a five-year time frame (2008-2012), deepened in 2013, as the program transitioned from the approval stage to the implementation stage.

6. FINANCIAL COOPERATION

The COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group has held two meetings during the period under review. In these two meetings, the working group has focused on improving banking supervisory mechanism and Retail Payment Systems in the OIC Member Countries. Furthermore, progress regarding OIC Stock Exchanges Forum, COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum, and OIC Central Banks Meetings is given in this section.

6.1. 4TH MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP

The Fourth Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group was held on 19th March, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Improving Banking Supervisory Mechanism in the OIC Member Countries.”

The Meeting considered improving banking supervisory mechanism in the Member States on the basis of the analytical study on the same subject, commissioned by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The representatives have shared their experiences, achievements and challenges on the subject in their respective countries.

During the Meeting, Banking regulations after Basel III reform, banking capital and liquidity levels, deposit insurance systems and liquidity provisions in the OIC Member Countries have been deliberated. The analytical study submitted to this meeting informed the participants regarding some general needs of the OIC Member Countries for improving regulatory and supervisory mechanisms. Accordingly, OIC member countries need:

- To improve deposit insurance mechanisms may be improved
- Forward looking Credit Risk measurements and macroeconomic linkages
- Macroprudential coordination for the OIC members
- Better training and expertise on hedge accounting and derivatives
- A stress testing framework across the OIC countries.

Regarding improving the supervisory mechanisms for a better banking system in the Member Countries, the participants discussed some crucial policy issues in light of the main findings of the research report of the Meeting and the responses of the Member Countries to the policy questions that had already been sent to the Member States. Accordingly, the working group has come up with policy recommendations as follows:



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4TH MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION WG

- A credit risk data collection strategy for the OIC Member Countries needs to be developed for reducing risks during episodes of economic turbulence and risk assessment capacity of the OIC Member Countries should also be developed in line with the international best practices.
- An Effective Deposit Insurance Scheme for the Banking Sector needs to be developed for achieving a higher degree of financial stability and financial inclusion.
- A Regulatory and supervisory Framework needs to be developed specifically for Islamic Banking in order to benefit from the significant growth potential of Islamic Banking System.

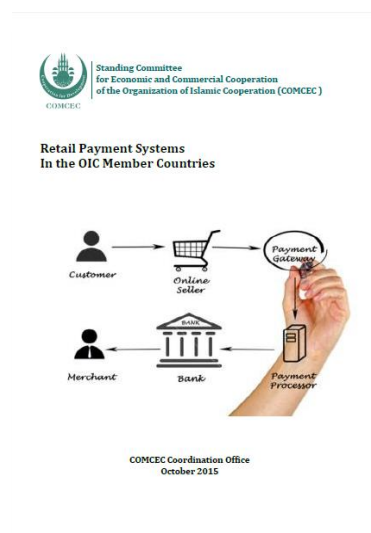
6.2. 5TH MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP

The 5th Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group was held on October 15th, 2015 in Ankara with the theme of “Retail Payment Systems in the OIC Member Countries.”

The Meeting considered the retail payment systems in the Member States on the basis of the analytical study on the same subject, prepared by the COMCEC Coordination Office specifically for the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions. The participants have shared their experiences, achievements and challenges that they faced in improving retail payment systems in the OIC Member Countries. The Meeting also provided an opportunity to the representatives to learn the experiences of local authorities and international institutions in improving retail payment systems.

During the Meeting, some important challenges faced by the Member Countries are highlighted as follows:

- There is a wide range of systems currently employed and there is no consensus as to standardization of the system.
- As a consequence of governance problems and inefficiencies in deployment, there is a rapid but imbalanced growth in the use of advanced retail payment systems.
- Although financial literacy is the main element that creates knowledge and demand for payment instruments, low financial literacy and lack of awareness are the major challenges faced by the Member Countries.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COOPERATION WG

- Increasing awareness of the benefits of modern retail payment systems through providing education on basic financial controls and prudence.
- Promoting inexpensive interoperability among member countries' payment systems
- Establishing/ maintaining OIC payment systems data collection and reporting framework

In its sixth and seventh meetings in 2016, the Financial Cooperation Working Group will focus on issues relating to Islamic Finance.

6.3. OIC STOCK EXCHANGES FORUM

The cooperation among Stock Exchanges has been initiated by the COMCEC in 2005. Accordingly, the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum was established. The Forum focuses on the harmonization of the rules and regulations governing market operations, as well as opening communication channels for the stock exchanges of the OIC Member Countries and relevant institutions.

The Forum has achieved remarkable progress in deepening cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the Member States. It has successfully finalized the S&P OIC/COMCEC Index, which has been launched during the 28th Session of the COMCEC. The Index measures the performance of 50 leading companies from the 19 Member States. During the period under review, efforts for promoting and increasing the visibility of the Index as well as issuing derivative financial products based on the Index continued. The 8th Meeting of the Forum was held on November 11th, 2014 in İstanbul. During the Meeting, The Forum mandated the Task Force on Indices to collaborate with index providers and work on the creation of sub-indices for the S&P OIC COMCEC Shariah 50 Index and also mandated the Task Force on Commodities Market to meet regularly via conference calls to discuss developments in their respective commodity markets and potential cooperation areas such as product development and Islamic derivatives.

The 9th Meeting of the Forum will be held on November 19th, 2015 in İstanbul. The details regarding the Forum activities are available on the Forum web-site. (www.oicexchanges.org)

6.4. COMCEC CAPITAL MARKET REGULATORS FORUM

In line with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum was established in 2011 to increase coordination and cooperation in regulatory and legal infrastructure with a view to achieving more harmonized policies and regulations among the Member Countries. The Forum undertakes its work under four task forces namely, "Capacity Building", "Market Development", "Islamic Finance" and "Financial Literacy". The 3rd Meeting of the Forum was held on November 11th, 2014 in İstanbul. The 4th Meeting of the COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum will be held on November 19th, 2015 in İstanbul. The details regarding the Forum activities are available on the Forum web-site (www.comceccmr.org).

6.5. MEETINGS OF OIC CENTRAL BANKS AND MONETARY AUTHORITIES

In line with the relevant resolution of the COMCEC, the cooperation among the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member Countries has been revitalized. Since 2009, the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the member states have regularly convened with a view to sharing experiences and enhancing institutional and human capacity in this field. Accordingly, three working groups were established in the following areas: Payment Systems, Macro-Prudential Regulations, and Liquidity Management in Islamic Finance. The 14th Meeting of OIC Central Banks and Monetary Authorities was held on 5-6 November 2014 in Indonesia with the theme "Financial Stability through Macro-prudential Policy and Financial Market Deepening among OIC Countries".

Moreover, the 15th meeting will be held in the Republic of Suriname in the last quarter of 2015. The detailed information regarding Cooperation among the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities can be found at <http://www.sesric.org/activities-cb-meetings.php>.

CHAPTER II: MEMBER STATES' INVOLVEMENT IN COOPERATION EFFORTS

COMCEC project funding (PCM) is one of the two instruments of the COMCEC Strategy to advance the cooperation among the Member States. In this respect, this policy instrument aims to mobilize the member states and OIC institutions to realize the principles and objectives of the COMCEC Strategy. Furthermore, through this instrument, existing efforts to overcome the common challenges of the member states in cooperation areas may be advanced substantially. Additionally, this instrument will also improve the member states' capacity in the execution of multilateral projects. Finally COMCEC Project Funding provides a unique opportunity for the OIC Member States, stretching from South-East Asia to Maghreb, from Latin America to Caucasus, to work together on common issues. As such, each projects benefits at least three member countries, making the total beneficiaries of the projects much higher than the number of project owner countries.

On the other hand, a new criteria for the selection of the projects for funding is their compatibility with the themes policy recommendations of the COMCEC Working Groups. Thus, a stronger link is being established between the working groups, their outputs and the project funding mechanism. Furthermore, COMCEC projects may thus be used as an instruments for the realization of the policy recommendations, which are welcomed by the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions.

Within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding, the CCO made the second project call during 1-30 September 2014. As a result, 62 project proposals were reviewed by the CCO ad 14 of them were found eligible for funding. Information regarding these projects are given below. The owners of these projects will present their projects at a side event of the 31st Session of the COMCEC, scheduled to be held on November 24, 2015.

Projects Being Implemented in 2015

I. Islamic Capital Market Capacity Building Programmes

Project Owner Country	: Malaysia
Project Owner Institution	: Ministry of Finance
Cooperation Area	: Finance
Partner Countries	: Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Azerbaijan
Project Purpose	: The objective of the project is to enhance human and institutional capacity for Islamic capital market through specialized regional workshops and increase awareness and development of Islamic capital market in the Member Countries through an assessment report and policy recommendations.
Project Activities	: Preparation and organization of workshop 1 (foundation), preparation and organization of workshop 2 (intermediate), assessment report.

II. Strengthening Community Resilience through eco-tourism

Project Owner Country	: The Gambia
Project Owner Institution	: Ministry of Tourism and Culture
Cooperation Area	: Tourism
Partner Countries	: Senegal and Guinea Bissau

Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to build resilient communities in the Gambia and to assist networking between The Gambia and other COMCEC member countries (Senegal and Guinea Bissau) by running an Ecovillage Design Education course.

Project Activities : Preparation of TOR (Terms of References) for EDE course report, an Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) that incorporates three elements - 'Be the Change', Responsible Tourism and Permaculture, report of Ecovillage Design Education.

III. The Role of Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) in Poverty Reduction: A Comparative Study among Iran, Malaysia, and Indonesia

Project Owner Country : Islamic Republic of Iran

Project Owner Institution : Ministry of Cooperative, Labor and Social Welfare

Cooperation Area : Poverty Alleviation

Partner Countries : **Malaysia and Indonesia**

Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to identify the best practices for reducing poverty within CBR programs, creating database, raising awareness for policy makers in the COMCEC Member Countries, enhancing the understanding of CBR's managers and workers regarding CBR activities toward alleviating poverty.

Project Activities : Preparation of terms of reference of the project, review of the existing literature, data collection for a comparative analysis on different CBR programs, seminar/workshop.

IV. Improving Statistical Capacities of OIC Member Countries in Poverty Statistics

Project Owner Institution : SESRIC

Cooperation Area : Poverty Alleviation

Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to conduct a series of shortterm capacity building and training programmes in poverty statistics based on the statistical capacities and needs identified through the questionnaire circulated under the 2013-SESRIC-028 project and organizing a workshop on poverty statistics with the participation of national and international experts.

Project Activities : Selection of countries, organization of training programmes, organization of a workshop, evaluations on training programmes and the workshop, analysis on evaluations, drafting of the evaluation report and publication of the evaluation report.

V. Project for Support to the Agricultural Training Centers in Chad

Project Owner Country : Chad

Project Owner Institution : Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation

Cooperation Area : Agriculture

Partner Countries : **Turkey and Burkina Faso**

Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to build capacity of young rural farmers in terms of agriculture and social welfare by studying current agricultural training centers analytically and enhancing the capacity of trainers in these centers.

Project Activities : Study visits to two selected COMCEC countries, appraisal of the activities on ground in the agricultural training centers, field visits of the selected agricultural training centers, a three-day workshop to be organized at N'Djamena, writing a draft comparative and analytical report, finalization and distribution of the report.

VI. Improving the Income of Small and Medium Scale Farmers in OIC Member Countries through Integrated Farming System

- Project Owner Country** : Indonesia
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Agriculture
- Cooperation Area** : Agriculture
- Partner Countries** : **The Gambia and Egypt**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to improve income of small-medium scale farmers through integrated farming system and enhancing capacity of extension workers and farmers.
- Project Activities** : Preparation of TOR (Term of References) for comparative analysis report, data collection (including site visits) and desk based analysis for a comparative analysis on integrated farming system, training of the trainers program on integrated farming practices with the participation of the trainers from Sudan, Gambia, and Egypt, preparation of final report of training, preparation and publication of training and awareness raising materials, publication of the comparative analysis report.

VII. Capacity-Building and Institutional Strengthening of the Gambia Standards Bureau for the Adoption and Implementation of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards and Related Conformity Assessment

- Project Owner Country** : The Gambia
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment
- Cooperation Area** : Trade
- Partner Countries** : **Turkey and Senegal**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to develop the capacity and skills for the production of national Halal Standards and Mark that is harmonized with the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to promote and facilitate trade among OIC and the global Halal community.
- Project Activities** : Convene a high-level national workshop to enhance awareness of stakeholders on halal issues, undertake a study tour to Turkey and train four (4) metrology staff at the National Metrology Institute of Turkey, TUBITAK UME (2 from National Metrology Laboratory of the Gambia and 2 from Senegal), dissemination published halal standards.



VIII. Access to Finance for SME and Entrepreneurs in the OIC region; Opportunities and Challenges for the Entrepreneurs

- Project Owner Country** : Qatar
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Economy and Trade
- Cooperation Area** : Trade
- Partner Countries** : **Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to make comparative analysis of the access to finance to SMEs and entrepreneurs in the OIC countries, increase the awareness of benefits of access to finance in the OIC countries and encourage policy makers to review and revise the current rules and practices that govern the access to finance to SME’s and entrepreneurs.
- Project Activities** : Reviewing literature and relevant sources, designing a structured interview and a new survey to collect primary data across GCC countries, conducting structured interviews and survey and collect responses, data cleansing, verification and extensive analysis (for both primary and secondary data), conducting comparative analyses, publication of the reports and papers, organizing and running a workshop in Doha, Qatar.

IX. Enhancing Financial Literacy and Capacity Building on Islamic Financial Instruments

- Project Owner Country** : The Gambia
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
- Cooperation Area** : Finance
- Partner Countries** : **Nigeria and Sierra Leone**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to enhance Financial Literacy and understanding of Islamic Financial Instruments (IFIs) with a view towards sustainable implementation and diversification in The Gambia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone , as well as raise awareness and visibility of IFIs in the region.
- Project Activities** : Baseline study on IFIs, study tour and training, preparation and organization of regional workshop, television and/or radio sensitization program on IFIs.

X. Measuring and Benchmarking of “PMPI (Passenger Movement Performance Index)” among the OIC countries

- Project Owner Country** : Turkey
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications
- Cooperation Area** : Transport
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to increase the capacity & efficiency of airports and air transport operations of the OIC States as well as to increase the customer preferability rate of OIC States’ Airports, optimize the passenger movement processes and procedures (entrance check, passport check, check-in desk, luggage delivery etc), establish a standardization of such procedures and processes among OIC State Airports in the light of international standards and generate a Passenger Movement Performance Index.
- Project Activities** : Data collection/desk based studies, study visits to chosen airports, preparation and dissemination of the final report and publications.

XI. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Greenhouse Vegetable Crops; Principles for Tropical Climate Areas

- Project Owner Country** : Suriname
Project Owner Institution : Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
Cooperation Area : Agriculture
Partner Countries : **Turkey and Guyana**
Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to increase the quality and effectiveness of the public services to support and train farmers in growing crops in a responsible way taking the tropical climate into account.
Project Activities : Preparation of TOR (Terms of References) for project report, selecting priority areas and priority crops, revision of practical teaching conditions in the field, implementation of a training program, drafting a report including findings of the project.



XII. Project Title: The establishment of database, network connection and web pages of smallholders/family farmer's agricultural cooperatives between COMCEC member states

- Project Owner Country** : Turkey
Project Owner Institution : Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Cooperation Area : Agriculture
Partner Countries : 19 Selected OIC Countries
Project Purpose : The objective of the project is to make identification of system requirements for a trade information system to be established among member countries.
Project Activities : Preparation of TOR (Terms of References) for the project report, identification of mostly traded agricultural products, identification of agricultural cooperatives in participating countries producing or trading selected products, organization of a workshop, training program and technical visit in Turkey for selected agricultural cooperatives from COMCEC member countries, writing and publication of a report summarizing all project activities, their outcomes and recommendations for future activities for establishing a network between member countries' agricultural cooperatives.

XIII. Project Title: Building Productivity Capacities of Agriculture Small Scale Producers of the Coffee and Cocoa within Cameroon, Nigeria and Benin through the Improvement of Phytosanitary Practices

- Project Owner Country** : Cameroon
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of the Economy Planning and Regional Development
- Cooperation Area** : Poverty Alleviation
- Partner Countries** : **Nigeria and Benin**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to train coffee/cocoa producers and other chain stakeholders (staff of the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development) and to train farm input distributors on good phytosanitary practices in Cameroon, Nigeria and Benin in order to improve their productive capacities.
- Project Activities** : Data collection and analyses in Cameroon, study visits to Nigeria and Benin, preparation of the training manuals, organization of the training seminar and awareness on good plant protection for the chain stakeholders, preparation and distribution of the final report.

XIV. Project Title: Design and Implementation of the Management Information System for SSN's in COMCEC Member States

- Project Owner Country** : Suriname
- Project Owner Institution** : Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing
- Cooperation Area** : Poverty Alleviation
- Partner Countries** : **Turkey and Guyana**
- Project Purpose** : The objective of the project is to build capacity to design a Management Information System for the Social Security Net Programs of the governments of Suriname and Guyana in collaboration with Turkey.
- Project Activities** : Data collection (including site visits), desk based analysis for collected data, drafting and presenting of the monitoring and evaluation report, dissemination of the final report.

CHAPTER III: PREPARATIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS SESSION

Exchange of views sessions are held regularly at the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. The 30th Session of the COMCEC decided the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views of the next COMCEC Session as **“Post-2015 Development Agenda and Development Challenges of the Islamic Ummah: Improving Basic Service Delivery”** and requested 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 31st COMCEC Session. Accordingly, the 6th Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group was devoted to this topic.

Furthermore, in line with the resolution of the 30th COMCEC Ministerial Session, the IDB and COMCEC Coordination Office has prepared the draft Joint Study titled “The Critical Success Factors in Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: Current Situation and Prospects for the OIC” to be submitted to the 31st Session of the COMCEC. On the second day of the said Meeting, the COMCEC-IDB Joint Study was presented and the participants were informed on the findings of the mentioned Joint Study. The Meeting deliberated on the preparations regarding the Exchange of Views Session of the 31st COMCEC Ministerial Meeting and come up with some policy recommendations to be submitted to the 31st COMCEC Session. Furthermore, a keynote address will be made in this session by Mr. Nikhil SETHh, Executive Director of United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Given the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and post-2015 Development Agenda for the next 15 years, a number of events will be organized on the sideline of the 31st Session of the COMCEC. In this respect, three special sessions will take place on November 26, 2015. The topics of these special sessions are as follows:

- Implementing SDGs and Post-2015 Development Agenda: Financing Sustainable Development
- Closing Data Gap for Monitoring the SDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda
- Cooperation and Partnership for Sustainable Development: NGO and Private Sector Engagement

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

CHAPTER IV: 3RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMCEC FOCAL POINTS

The 3rd Annual Focal Points Meeting of the COMCEC Working Groups (WG) was held on 10-11 June, 2015 in Ankara, Turkey. The Meeting was attended by participants from 32 Member States which have notified their focal points for the COMCEC Working Groups.

The annual focal points meetings are designed to provide an opportunity for member states to provide their comments and observations regarding the both instruments of the Strategy: Working Groups. And the COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism. Through these interactive gatherings, communication and collaboration will be improved between the Secretariat and the Member States, resulting in better realization of the goals and objectives of the Strategy. Accordingly, during the meeting, the COMCEC WG Focal Points have shared their experiences and views regarding the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and expressed their suggestions with regard to improving the implementation. In this regard, several participants stressed the crucial importance of effective coordination and cooperation among the CCO, national focal points, and working group focal points, and requested the CCO to prepare a guideline to outline the division of labor among the stakeholders. It was also underlined that regular meetings of the all the six working group focal points under the national focal points in each member state would play a positive role for this purpose.

Furthermore, it was also highlighted that active follow-up of implementation of WG policy recommendations is crucial to accrue full benefits from the policy debate sessions and the practice of adopting policy recommendations in WG meetings. In that respect, in order to improve the follow-up of the policy recommendations, the CCO has prepared an evaluation form which will facilitate the reporting of the developments in the Member States regarding the implementation of the policy recommendations.

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

ANNEX:LIST OF ACTIVITIES
ORGANIZED BY THE OIC INSTITUTIONS ALIGNED WITH THE COMCEC STRATEGY
December 2014- November 2015

No	OIC Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Relevant Output Area/Expected Outcomes in the COMCEC Strategy	Partners	Date	Venue
1	ICCIA	Workshop on Capacity Building on Value Chain Analysis for Agribusiness for OIC Countries	Workshop	Agriculture	(1)Developed and implemented training and capacity building programmes (2)Encouraged entrepreneurs and farmers to enhance their investments. (3)Reduction of post-harvest lossess (4)Improved irrigation opportunities and adoption of efficient techniques.	SESRIC,UNDP,FAO	1-3 December 2014	Ankara, Turkey
2	ICCIA	8th Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries	Forum	Trade	Enhanced communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	UNCCI, IDB	26-27 Oct. 2015	Kampala, Uganda
3	ICCIA	Development of a Mechanism for Joint Ventures and partnerships among Women-led Enterprises through South-South Cooperation	Workshop	Trade	Enhanced communication among private sector representatives / institutions of the Member States.	UNCCI, UNDP	28-29 Oct. 2015	Kampala, Uganda
4	ICDT	13th Meeting of the Economic Counsellors of the OIC Embassies accredited in Rabat	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC Member States	12 January 2015	Rabat
5	ICDT	Regional on line Marketing Workshop of the WIEF Foundation	Workshop	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	WIEF	16-21 February 2015	Dakar/Senegal
6	ICDT	7th Meeting of the Consultative Group for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ITFC	2-3 March 2015	Casablanca/ Morocco
7	ICDT	UFI Seminar for African and Middle Eastern Countries	Meeting	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	UFI	23-24 March 2015	Marrakech/ Morocco
8	ICDT	Training Seminar for the benefit of the Member States of the Economic Cooperation Organisation on “the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPSOIC)”	Training Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Dept. of Integration and Cooperation of IDB and COMCEC	7-9 April 2015	Istanbul/Turkey

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9	ICDT	National Training Seminar on “the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPSOIC)”	Training Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry of Economy and Business	13-14 April 2015	Doha/Qatar
10	ICDT	8th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries in the OIC Member States	Fair	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	El Harithy Company	13-16 April 2015	Jeddah/Saudi Arabia
11	ICDT	Seminar on Food Security in OIC Member States	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	El Harithy Company	14 April 2015	Jeddah/Saudi Arabia
12	ICDT	Seminar on Agadir Agreement: current status and perspectives	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ASMEX	22 April 2015	Casablanca/Morocco
13	ICDT	Seminar of the New Generation of Free Trade agreements and the feasibility of the signing of the agreements between the regional economic groupings of the OIC Member States and their impact on intra-OIC trade (Arab and African Countries)	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Dept of Cooperation and Integration/IDB	4 – 6 May 2015	Casablanca/Morocco
14	ICDT	Seminar of the New Generation of Free Trade agreements and the feasibility of the signing of the agreements between the regional economic groupings of the OIC Member States and their impact on intra-OIC trade	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Dept of Cooperation and Integration/IDB	25 –27 May 2015	Istanbul/Turkey
15	ICDT	Training Seminar on TPS/OIC	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade		Second semester 2015	Ramallah/ Palestine
16	ICDT	Seminar on Export Auditing the internationalization of SMEs for the benefit of Suriname and Guyana	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade		1-4 June 2015	Paramaribo/Guyana

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17	ICDT	Seminar on Competition Policies in the OIC Member States	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade		2 – 3 June 2015	Tunis/Tunisia
18	ICDT	Preparatory meeting of African Halal Business Forum and High Education Expo of the OIC Member States	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC Business Center /Federation of GCC Chambers/SIBM /Ministries of Trade and High Education and Research of Senegal	14-15 September 2015	Dakar/Senegal
19	ICDT	Training workshop on market analysis and web marketing for the benefit of the Economic Counselors to the Embassies the OIC Member States accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade		15-17 September 2015	Rabat/Morocco
20	ICDT	6th OIC World Biz and 3rd Africa-Asia Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OICBC	27th - 30th October 2015	Kuala Lumpur /Malaysia
21	ICDT	1st Exhibition of Organic and Local Products of the OIC Member States	Fair	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	Ministry of Commerce and Handicraft of Tunisia	28th October – 1st November 2015	Tunis/Tunisia
22	ICDT	International Conference on offshoring	Conference	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade		3-4 November 2015	Tunis/Tunisia
23	ICDT	Workshop on the Single Window Modality and e-trade and their impact in promoting intra-OIC Trade	Seminar	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	ITFC	9-10 November 2015	Casablanca/ Morocco
24	ICDT	African Halal Business Forum	Forum	Trade	Developing intra-OIC Trade	OIC Business Center /Federation of GCC Chambers/SIBM	17-19 November 2015	Dakar/Senegal
25	IDB Group	Fifth meeting of the IDB Project Committee of the OIC Cotton Action Plan	Consultative Meeting	Agriculture and Trade		IDB Group and Project Committee members	16.Kas.14	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

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26	IDB Group	IDB/NDP/League of Arab States Regional Workshop on "the Technical Model of Cross-Border Operations for Better Connectivity among Arab Countries"	Workshop	Trade		UNDP	26-27 January 2015	Amman, Jordan
27	IDB Group	Seminar on "Trade Preferential System among OIC Member Countries (TPS-OIC) and its protocols for ECO member countries,	Seminar	Trade		ECO and CCO	07-09 April 2015	Istanbul, Turkey
28	IDB Group	Validation workshop of the study on "The New Generation of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), the feasibility of signing them and their Impact on Intra-Trade among OIC Member Countries"	Workshop	Trade		ICDT Member Countries	04 - 06 May 2015	Casablanca, Morocco
29	IDB Group	Workshop for GCC Countries on "Trade Facilitation within the Regional Integration Framework and WTO Agreement"	Workshop	Trade		ICDT, COMCEC Member Countries	12- 14 May 2015	Dubai, UAE
30	IDB Group	Validation -workshop of the study on "The New Generation of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), the feasibility of signing them and their Impact on Intra-Trade among OIC Member Countries"	Workshop	Trade		ICDT, COMCEC Member Countries	25 - 27 May 2015	Istanbul, Turkey
31	IDB Group	Thematic Workshop On Intra Trade in The Organization Of Islamic Cooperation Countries: Removing Obstacles And Promoting Trading Business	Workshop	Trade		Islamic Business School, UUM	27-28 May 2015	Langkawi, Malaysia

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32	IDB Group	Regional Workshop on the Implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement for Arab Countries	Workshop	Trade		World Customs Organization	1-4 June 2015	Bahrain
33	IDB Group	Policy Roundtable Discussion on Maqasid Shariah for Social Economic Development (PRD)	Policy Roundtable	Poverty Alleviation		International Islamic University College Selangor	1-2 June 2015	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
34	IDB Group	40th Annual Meeting of the IDB Group (Board of Governors meeting)	Annual Meeting	Financial Cooperation		ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, IRTI and other partner institutions	10-11 June 2015	Maputo, Mozambique
35	IDB Group	10th IDB Global Forum on Islamic Finance, Exploring Innovative Solutions for Affordable Microfinance in Africa	Forum	Financial Cooperation		Relevant Partner institutions	08.Haz.15	Maputo, Mozambique
36	IDB Group	IDB 26th Annual Symposium; The role of intra-regional trade in strengthening economic cooperation and regional integration among member countries	Symposium	Intra-OIC trade		Relevant OIC Institutions	10.Haz.15	Maputo, Mozambique
37	IDB Group	World Bank and IDB Inaugural Annual Symposium on Islamic Finance 2015	Symposium	Financial Cooperation		World Bank Global Finance Development Center	8-9 September 2015	Istanbul, Turkey
38	IDB Group	Regional Meeting of the IDB African member countries in preparation of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference	Meeting	Trade			14-16 September 2015,	Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire
39	IDB Group	International Conference on Islamic Social Finance	Conference	Financial Cooperation		Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia	29-30 September 2015	Thailand
40	IDB Group	Macro prudential Policy Dialogue for Islamic Finance: Theory and Application	Seminar	Financial Cooperation		University College of Bahrain	5-6 October 2015	Bahrain

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41	OISA	Workshop on Importance of unifying main engine of member's vessels	Workshop	Transport and Communication	(1) Harmonized legislations, standards and practices in the transport sector of member states (2) Improved national transport policy-making and planning capacity of member states (3) Increased interactions between peer institutions of member states (4) Enhance professional skills of human resources (5) Improved service delivery and expited procedures. (6) Development of sound infrastructure policies	Technical and marine engineers representatives from member companies	42226	Jeddah
42	OISA	Meeting to discuss the possibilities of reactivation of Bakkah Shipping Company	Meeting	Transport and Communication	(1) Harmonized legislations, standards and practices in the transport sector of member states (2) Improved national transport policy-making and planning capacity of member states (3) Increased interactions between peer institutions of member states (4) Enhance professional skills of human resources	Members from Ex. Com and General Assembly	42297	Dubai
43	OISA	Ex. Com & General Assembly Meeting of OISA	Meeting	Transport and Communication	(1) Promoted relevant internatioanl agreements and regulations in member states (2) Harmonized legislations, standards and practices in the transport sector of member states (3) Enhanced professional skills of human resources (4) Development of sound infrastructure policies (5) Identified major bottlenecks and assesed funding requirements particularly with respect to inter-regionally connectivity.	Ex.Com and General Assembly members, OIC and its Institutions, Port Authorities, Marine Academies, Shipbuilding and Repair Yards	42298	Dubai
44	OISA	Meeting to open branches of Islamic Protection and Indemnity Club in Turkey	Meeting	Transport and Communication	(1) Improved national transport policy-making and planning capacity of member states (2) Increased interactions between peer institutions of member states (3) Improved service delivery and expited procedures. (4) Development of sound infrastructure policies	IPIC, Marine Official from member countries	42299	Dubai
45	SESRIC	From Farm to Fashion	Conference	Agriculture	Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	SESRIC & RBDC	03-05 August 2015	Izmir Turkey
46	SESRIC	Agriculture and Food Security in OIC Member Countries 2014	Research	Agriculture	Diverse		December 2014	SESRIC
47	SESRIC	Job Creation for Youth and Skills Training Services	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	State Employment Service, Azerbaijan	01-02 December 2014	Baku Azerbaijan

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48	SESRIC	Capacity Building on Value Chain Analysis for Agri-Business for OIC Countries	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	ICCIA & FAO & UNDP	01-03 December 2014	Ankara Turkey
49	SESRIC	Competition Law and Policy	Training	Agriculture	Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	Council of Competition, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	16-18 December 2014	Riyadh Saudi Arabia
50	SESRIC	Derivative Markets and Instruments and Marginal Trading	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	Baku Stock Exchange of Republic of Azerbaijan	16-17 December 2014	Baku Azerbaijan
51	SESRIC	Classifications	Training	Agriculture	Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	National Office of Statistics (ONS) in Algeria	21-22 December 2014	Alger Algeria
52	SESRIC	Agriculture Statistics (Food Crop Statistics)	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)	21-22 December 2014	Dhaka Bangladesh
53	SESRIC	Derivative Markets and Instruments & Marginal Trading	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	Khartoum Stock Exchange, Sudan	22-23 December 2014	Khartoum Sudan
54	SESRIC	Agriculture Statistics (Animal Husbandry)	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)	23-24 December 2014	Dhaka Bangladesh
55	SESRIC	Knowledge and Experience Sharing Workshop on ISMEK Master	Training	Agriculture	Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity	Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (ISMEK)	29-30 December 2014	Istanbul Turkey
56	SESRIC	“Labour Market Statistics” and “Labour Inspection”	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	National Employment Agency, Burkina Faso	19-22 January 2015	Ouagadougou Burkina Faso
57	SESRIC	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Central Statistics Organization (CSO) in Afghanistan	23-25 February 2015	Kabul Afghanistan
58	SESRIC	Tobacco Control	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	Ministry of Health of Malaysia	01-02 April 2015	Malaysia
59	SESRIC	Analysis of Labour Market Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	National Agency of Statistics and Demographics (ANSD) in Senegal	07-09 April 2015	Dakar Senegal

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60	SESRIC	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBOS)	16-18 June 2015	Banjul Gambia
61	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	National Institute of Statistics, Economic and Demographic Studies (INSEED) in Chad	27-29 July 2015	N'Djamena Chad
62	SESRIC	Design of Wastewater Treatment Plants	Training	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	Ministry of Environment and Forests of Bangladesh	29-30 July 2015	Dhaka Bangladesh
63	SESRIC	Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)	10-12 August 2015	Kampala Uganda
64	SESRIC	Agricultural Surveys	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)	25-27 August 2015	Dhaka Bangladesh
65	SESRIC	Labour Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Department of Statistics and Demographic Studies (DISED) of Djibouti	05-07 October 2015	Djibouti City Djibouti
66	SESRIC	Informal Sector'	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-date Data	Department of Statistics (DoS) of Malaysia	17-19 November 2015	Putrajaya Malaysia
67	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture Statistics (Food Crop Statistics)	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	21-22 December 2014	Bangladesh
68	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture Statistics (Animal Husbandry)	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	23-24 December 2014	Bangladesh
69	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Turkey	23-25 February 2015	Afghanistan
70	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Jordan	02-04 March 2015	Sudan
71	SESRIC	Training on Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries Statistics	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Nigeria	16-18 June 2015	The Gambia
72	SESRIC	Training on Agricultural Survey	Training	Agriculture	Reliable and Up-to-Date Data	National Statistics Office of Turkey	25-27 August 2015	Bangladesh
73	SESRIC	Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Production of Statistics	Workshop	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	SESRIC & UNSD & UNESCWA	01-04 December 2014	Amman Jordan

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74	SESRIC	Tourism Statistics and Tourism Satellite Accounts	Workshop	Agriculture	Increasing productivity	SESRIC & COMCEC	02-04 December 2014	Ankara Turkey
75	SESRIC	Beneficiary-Oriented Social Assistance Models	Workshop	Agriculture	Regulatory Framework and Institutional Capacity		13-15 October 2015	Ankara Turkey
76	SESRIC	OIC Water Report 2015	Research	Agriculture, Poverty Alleviation	Diverse		October 2015	SESRIC
77	SESRIC	2nd International Islamic Economics and Finance Conference	Conference	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, International Research and Study Center of Islamic Economics and Finance, Albaraka Turk, Kuveyt Turk, Türkiye Finans, Participation Banks Association of Turkey (TKBB), Borsa İstanbul and World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center	11-13 September 2015	Istanbul Turkey
78	SESRIC	The 2015 Meeting of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member Countries	Meeting	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation	Suriname	16-17 November 2015	Suriname
79	SESRIC	FDI Potential and FDI Performance of the OIC Countries	Research	Financial Cooperation	Capital Flows		December 2014	SESRIC
80	SESRIC	2nd International Islamic Economics and Finance Summer School	Summer School	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University & International Research and Study Centre of Islamic Economics and Finance	13-15 September 2015	Istanbul Turkey

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81	SESRIC	Training on Banking, Insurance, Financial Statistics	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	26-29 January 2015	Senegal
82	SESRIC	Training on National Accounts: Financial Sector	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	08-11 March 2015	Qatar
83	SESRIC	Training on Government Finance Statistics	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	06-08 April 2015	Malaysia
84	SESRIC	Training on Institutional Sectors	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Senegal	20-22 April 2015	Togo
85	SESRIC	Training on Banking, Insurance, Financial Statistics	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	08-11 June 2015	Algeria
86	SESRIC	Banking, Insurance and Financial Statistics	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	National Agency of Statistics and Demographics (ANSD) in Senegal	26-29 January 2015	Dakar Senegal
87	SESRIC	Postal Financial Services	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Office of Djibouti Post	17-19 February 2015	Djibouti City Djibouti
88	SESRIC	National Accounts: Financial Sector	Training	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and Supervisory Cooperation	Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics (MDPS) in Qatar	08-11 March 2015	Doha Qatar
89	SESRIC	Postal Financial Services and Postal Codes-Addressing System	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Gambia Postal Services Corporation (GAMPOST)	13-14 March 2015	Banjul Gambia
90	SESRIC	Parcel, Logistics, Express and Postal Financial Services	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Mauritanian Post Company (Mauripost)	24-25 March 2015	Nouakchott Mauritania
91	SESRIC	Competition Law Enforcement in Regulated Markets and Bid-Rigging	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Antimonopoly Regulation Agency of Kyrgyz Republic	30-31 March 2015	Bishkek Kyrgyzstan
92	SESRIC	Postal Financial Services, Electronic Services and Letter Post Service	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Jordan Post Company & Office of Tunisian Post	05-07 April 2015	Amman Jordan
93	SESRIC	Government Finance Statistics	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Department of Statistics of Malaysia	06-08 April 2015	Putrajaya Malaysia

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94	SESRIC	Institutional Sectors	Training	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and Supervisory Cooperation	General Directorate of Statistics and National Accounting (DGSCN) in Togo	20-22 April 2015	Lome Togo
95	SESRIC	Investor and Financial Community Awareness	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD)	25-26 May 2015	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
96	SESRIC	Financial Stability	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of Islamic Republic of Iran	01-02 June 2015	Tehran Iran
97	SESRIC	Financial Statistics and National Accounts Compilations	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistical Office (ONS) of People's Democratic Republic of Algeria	08-11 June 2015	Algiers Algeria
98	SESRIC	Financial Stability	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of Suriname	07-08 July 2015	Paramaribo Suriname
99	SESRIC	Investor and Financial Community Awareness	Training	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and Supervisory Cooperation	Qatar Financial Markets Authority	26-27 October 2015	Doha Qatar
100	SESRIC	Training on Informal Sector	Training	Financial Cooperation	Training, R&D Activities and Statistics	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	17-19 November 2015	Malaysia
101	SESRIC	Islamic Banking and Liquidity Management	Workshop	Financial Cooperation	Training , R&D Activities and Statistics	Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (CBRT) & GIFDC	16-17 November 2015	Istanbul Turkey
102	SESRIC	Disaster Risk Reduction	Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) & IDB	17 March 2015	Sendai-Japan
103	SESRIC	Disaster Risk Management Challenges in Sub-Saharan Africa	Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	SESRIC & IDB	08 June 2015	Maputo Mozambique
104	SESRIC	OIC Health Report 2015	Research	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse		October 2015	SESRIC
105	SESRIC	Measurement of Poverty in OIC Member Countries 2015	Research	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty		June 2015	SESRIC
106	SESRIC	Poverty, Living Conditions and Cross-Cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of UAE	03-07 May 2015	Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates

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107	SESRIC	Regional Poverty Reduction Policies	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	Ministry of Urban Development of Albania	03-04 August 2015	Tirana Albania
108	SESRIC	Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD) in Burkina Faso & COMCEC	17-19 August 2015	Ouagadougou Burkina Faso
109	SESRIC	Poverty Reduction Through Small-scale Fisheries	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	Somali Development and Reconstruction Bank (SDRB)	23-27 August 2015	Mogadishu Somalia
110	SESRIC	Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	National Statistical Office (ONS) in Mauritania & COMCEC	24-26 August 2015	Nouakchott Mauritania
111	SESRIC	Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	National Institute of Statistics and Economic and Demographic Studies, (INSEED) in Lomé, Togolese Republic & COMCEC	14-16 September 2015	Lomé Togo
112	SESRIC	Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	National Institute of Statistics (INS) in Abidjan - Republic of Côte d'Ivoire & COMCEC	15-17 September 2015	Abidjan Cote d'Ivoire
113	SESRIC	Training on Education Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Senegal	27-29 January 2015	Benin
114	SESRIC	Training on Analysis of Labour Market Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Morocco	07-09 April 2015	Senegal
115	SESRIC	Training on Health Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Cote d'Ivoire	20-22 April 2015	Benin
116	SESRIC	Training on Income and Consumption Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Cameroon	28-30 April 2015	Cote d'Ivoire
117	SESRIC	Training on Poverty, Living Condition and Cross-cutting Social Issues Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Jordan	03-07 May 2015	United Arab Emirates

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118	SESRIC	Training on Income and Consumption Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Turkey	11-14 May 2015	Kuwait
119	SESRIC	Training on Labour Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Senegal	27-29 July 2015	Chad
120	SESRIC	Training on Health Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	11-13 August 2015	Bangladesh
121	SESRIC	Training on Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Senegal	17-19 August 2015	Burkina Faso
122	SESRIC	Training on Poverty Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Monitoring Poverty	National Statistics Office of Tunisia	24-26 August 2015	Mauritania
123	SESRIC	Rural Development Policies	Workshop	Poverty Alleviation	Effective Utilization of Financial Resources	Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI)	14-15 May 2015	Ankara Turkey
124	SESRIC	Integration of Waqf and Islamic Microfinance for Poverty Reduction: Case Studies of Malaysia, Indonesia and Bangladesh	Research	Poverty Alleviation, Financial Cooperation	Productive Capacity of the Poor, Visibility of Financial Markets	IIUM (Malaysia)	February 2015	SESRIC
125	SESRIC	International Tourism in OIC Countries 2015	Research	Tourism	Diverse		October 2015	SESRIC
126	SESRIC	Tourism Marketing	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Trainin Programs	Gambia Tourism Board, Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) of The Gambia	25-26 March 2015	Banjul Gambia
127	SESRIC	Tourism Statistics	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Trainin Programs	State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan (AZSTAT)	18-20 May 2015	Baku Azerbaijan
128	SESRIC	Management of Tourism in Protected Areas	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Trainin Programs	Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage (SCTH)	08-10 June 2015	Riyadh Saudi Arabia
129	SESRIC	Tourism Statistics	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Trainin Programs	Department of Statistics (DoS) of Malaysia	26-28 October 2015	Putrajaya Malaysia

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130	SESRIC	Training on Tourism (including Tourism Satellite Accounts) Statistics	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programmes	National Statistics Office of Turkey	18-20 May 2015	Azerbaijan
131	SESRIC	Training on Tourism (including Tourism Satellite Accounts) Statistics	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programmes	National Statistics Office of Indonesia	26-28 October 2015	Malaysia
132	SESRIC	Training on Culture Statistics	Training	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programmes	National Statistics Office of Palestine	24-26 November 2015	Qatar
133	SESRIC	Exploring Tourism Potential of Al-Quds Al-Sherif City	Workshop	Tourism	Capacity Building and Trainin Programs	Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of State of Palestine	24-25 November 2015	Istanbul Turkey
134	SESRIC	Regional Workshop on Tourism Statistics and Tourism Satellite Accounts	Workshop	Tourism	Capacity Building and Training Programmes	UNWTO, COMCEC, National Statistics Offices of OIC	02-04 December 2015	Turkey
135	SESRIC	Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	Trade Facilitation	State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan (AZSTAT)	20-22 April 2015	Baku Azerbaijan
136	SESRIC	Training on Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	Trade Facilitation	National Statistics Office of Turkey	20-22 April 2015	Azerbaijan
137	SESRIC	Training on Wholesale and Retail Trade Statistics	Training	Trade	Trade Facilitation	National Statistics Office of Turkey	10-12 August 2015	Uganda
138	SESRIC	Parcel, Logistics Services and Express	Training	Transport and Communication	Trade Facilitation	Posta Uganda	24-25 February 2015	Kampala Uganda
139	SESRIC	Fifth Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom)	Meeting	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	SESRIC	12-14 May 2015	Ankara Turkey
140	SESRIC	SME Development Strategy Project for Libya	Meeting	Trade	Diverse	SESRIC & OECD & TICA	29-30 July 2015	Istanbul Turkey
141	SESRIC	OIC Economic Outlook 2015	Research	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse		October 2015	SESRIC
142	SESRIC	Social Security: Human Resource Policies	Symposium	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	SESRIC & Social Security Institution of the Republic of Turkey	06-07 October 2015	İzmir Turkey

No	OIC Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Relevant Output Area/Expected Outcomes in the COMCEC Strategy	Partners	Date	Venue
143	SESRIC	Second Phase of CPI Re-Basing	Technical Mission	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	Central Statistics Organization (CSO) of Afghanistan	29 Aug - 04 Sept 2015	Kabul Afghanistan
144	SESRIC	Technical Mission on CPI Re-basing	Technical Mission	All Cooperation Areas	All Cooperation Areas	National Statistics Office of Iran	13-19 June 2015	Afghanistan
145	SESRIC	Technical Mission on Second Phase of CPI Re-Basing	Technical Mission	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	National Statistics Office of Iran	29 Aug - 04 Sept 2015	Afghanistan
146	SESRIC	Professional Skills for Official Statisticians: Time Management	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	SESRIC	17-18 February 2015	Tashkent Uzbekistan
147	SESRIC	Waste and Harmful Substances: Medical Wastes	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	SESRIC	02-04 March 2015	Banjul Gambia
148	SESRIC	Emergency and Disaster Medical Services	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	International Urla Emergency Disaster Training and Simulation Center in İzmir&TIKA	30 March - 10 April 2015	İzmir Turkey
149	SESRIC	Quality Frameworks and Measurement of Performance of Statistical Systems and Offices	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan (TAJSTAT)	01-02 April 2015	Dushanbe Tajikistan
150	SESRIC	Health Statistics	Training	Poverty Alleviation	Diverse	National Institute of Statistics and Economic Analysis (INSAE) in Benin	20-22 April 2015	Cotonou Benin
151	SESRIC	Training on Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Training	All Cooperation Areas	Diverse	National Statistics Office of Egypt	07-09 September 2015	Tunisia
152	SMIIC	Metrology Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade liberization	SMIIC GS and SMIIC Metrology Committee	15-16 December 2014	Kocaeli, Turkey
153	SMIIC	Accreditation Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade liberization	SMIIC GS and SMIIC Accreditation Committee	17-19 March 2015	Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

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154	SMIIC	SMIIC Forum 2015: Standardization and Conformity Assessment on Halal Issues	Conference	Trade	Trade liberalization	ESMA (Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology)	05.May.15	Dubai, UAE
155	SMIIC	SMIIC TC 1 & SMIIC AC Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade liberalization	SMIIC Committee Members	06-07 May 2015	Dubai, UAE
156	SMIIC	Accreditation Committee Meeting	Technical Meeting	Trade	Trade liberalization	SMIIC GS and SMIIC Accreditation Committee	29-30 August 2015	İstanbul, Turkey
157	CCO	TPS-OIC Rules of Origin Seminar	Training Seminar	Trade	Operationalization of TPS-OIC Reduced Tariffs	TOBB	Late January 2015	Ankara
158	CCO	5th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	Improved insurance mechanisms against payment risk Increased awareness of the existing financing mechanisms	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 26th, 2015	Ankara
159	CCO	6th Meeting of the Trade Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Trade	Simplified and streamlined trade procedures Enhanced capacity of customs administrations	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	September 17th, 2015	Ankara
160	CCO	5th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	Simplified and harmonized visa and custom procedures Facilitated tourism investments and tourist arrivals	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February-5th, 2015	Ankara
161	CCO	6th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Tourism	Utilized electronic media in promotional efforts to reach target groups rapidly and effectively	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	September 3rd, 2015	Ankara

No	OIC Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Relevant Output Area/Expected Outcomes in the COMCEC Strategy	Partners	Date	Venue
162	CCO	5th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	Harmonized legislations, standards and practices in the transport sector of the Member States Improved national transport policy-making and planning capacity of the member states Increased interactions between peer institutions of the Member States Enhanced professional skills of human resources Development of sound infrastructure policies Identified major bottlenecks and assessed funding requirements particularly with respect to inter-regional connectivity Enhanced private sector involvement in infrastructure projects and promoted innovative financing modalities, including Public Private Partnerships	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February-12th, 2015	Ankara
163	CCO	6th Meeting of the Transport and Communications Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Transport	Improved national transport policy-making and planning capacity of the member states Increased interactions between peer institutions of the Member States Enhanced professional skills of human resources Development of sound infrastructure policies Identified major bottlenecks and assessed funding requirements particularly with respect to inter-regional connectivity Enhanced private sector involvement in infrastructure projects and promoted innovative financing modalities, including Public Private Partnerships	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 22nd, 2015	Ankara
164	CCO	4th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation/ Developed legal, regulatory and institutional framework Visibility of Financial Markets/Enhanced awareness on Islamic financial market Training, R&D Activities and Statistics/Enhanced monitoring of financial institutions and markets	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 19th, 2015	Ankara

No	OIC Institution	Theme of the Activity	Type of the Activity	Relevant Cooperation Area	Relevant Output Area/Expected Outcomes in the COMCEC Strategy	Partners	Date	Venue
165	CCO	5th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Financial Cooperation	Regulatory and supervisory cooperation/ Developed legal, regulatory and institutional framework Training, R&D Activities and Statistics/ Developed platforms for payment and settlement systems and post trade services; Reliable and consistent database of a financial system and creation of indicators of financially sound systems	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 15 th , 2015	Ankara
166	CCO	5th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	Improved legal, institutional, structural and administrative frameworks	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	March 5 th , 2015	Ankara
167	CCO	6th Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Agriculture	Promotion of integrated value chain approach	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 8 th , 2015	Ankara
168	CCO	5th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Enhanced capacity of the micro-finance institutions and other institutions for supporting the poor Development of vocational education programs for the poor	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	February 26 th , 2015	Ankara
169	CCO	6th Meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Working Group	Working Group Meeting	Poverty Alleviation	Enhanced civil society engagement in poverty alleviation efforts Streamlined and more efficient allocation of povertyrelated funds in the COMCEC region	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	October 10 th , 2015	Ankara
170	CCO	3rd Annual Meeting of the COMCEC Focal Points	Meeting	All Cooperation Areas	Produce and disseminate knowledge/understanding, share experience and best-practices	MCs, OIC and other international institutions, private sector representatives	June 10-11, 2015	Ankara