



GS/COMCEC29/report

01/10/2013

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**REPORT FOR
29th MEETING OF THE COMCEC**

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

October 2013, Istanbul – Republic of TURKEY

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SCOPE

This report gives basic information about the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), its activities and major developments for 2013.

INTRODUCTION

SMIIC, an affiliated institution to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), as a sound mechanism for harmonization of standards among the OIC countries and for the preparation of new ones, aims at realizing harmonized standards in the Member States and eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves. It shall establish certification and accreditation schemes for the purpose of expediting exchange of materials, manufactured goods and products among Member States.

SMIIC also aims at achieving uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States and providing education and training as well as technical assistance to the OIC Members in the domain of standardization, metrology and accreditation.

Since its establishment, over the three years the number of SMIIC members has steadily been increasing and has already reached its target of 23 member states. 5 more OIC Member States have already applied to become a member of SMIIC which is to be considered and approved by the Board of Directors of SMIIC at its upcoming meeting in November 2013. Seven Technical Committees to work on standard formation in areas required by OIC countries, Accreditation and Metrology Committees have been established and are actively working in line with their international counterpart organizations.

SMIIC has initiated consultations and brainstorming with OIC Institutions and other organizations, and is collaborating with some and seeking collaboration with others in relevant activities in order to be able to better address the needs of OIC Member Countries.

HISTORY OF SMIIC

At the first meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of OIC chaired by the Turkish President in 1984, it was emphasized that the standardization bodies of the Member Countries should harmonize their national standards for the purpose of eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves.

In this context, The Expert Group and Coordination Committee have convened 7 times (totally 14 meetings) from 1985 to 1997. According to the resolutions made at these meetings, it was decided to establish the Standards and Metrology Organization for Islamic Countries (SMOIC). The Expert Group in its 7th Meeting in 1996 decided to submit the draft statute of the SMOIC to the 12th COMCEC Meeting and it was decided that the name of the organization be changed as the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) in the 12th COMCEC Meeting.

Following the 12th COMCEC Meeting, member organizations sent their comments on the draft statute to the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE) and the OIC General Secretariat.

During the 13th COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1997 in Istanbul, it was decided that the draft statute of SMIIC should be reviewed with respect to both technical and judicial content in the frame of the opinions received from member countries.

In the frame of this decision, the 8th Expert Group Meeting was held on March 24-26, 1998 in Ankara by the participation of the experts representing their standardization bodies, Deputy Secretary General of OIC and OIC Chief Judicial Adviser. During this meeting, the draft statute was re-written in the frame of the opinions of member countries, judicial rules of OIC and international experience of TSE and circulated to the member countries as a final draft. Furthermore, the submission of the draft statute for its approval at 14th COMCEC Meeting was decided.

The mentioned draft statute was included to the agenda (Article 7) of the 14th COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1998 in Istanbul and approved after comprehensive negotiations. Consequently, an important step was taken in order to begin the official work of SMIIC as a regional standardization organization.

The Statute of SMIIC was first submitted to the member countries for its signature during the 15th COMCEC Meeting held on November 04-07, 1999 in Istanbul.

The Statute entered into force after fulfilling the ratification requirement of 10 OIC member countries on May 2010. 13 OIC Member Countries (in alphabetical order) which ratified the SMIIC Statute are:

- 1- People's Democratic Republic of Algeria,
- 2- Republic of Cameroon,
- 3- Republic of Guinea,
- 4- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,
- 5- Libya,
- 6- Republic of Mali,
- 7- Kingdom of Morocco,
- 8- Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- 9- Republic of Somalia,
- 10- Republic of Sudan,
- 11- Republic of Tunisia,
- 12- Republic of Turkey, and
- 13- United Arab Emirates.

At the 3rd General Assembly (GA) Meeting held on 04-05 May 2012,

- Republic of Gabon,
- Republic of Gambia,
- Islamic Republic of Iran and
- Republic of Senegal

became the new members of SMIIC.

At the 5th Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting held on the 07 November 2012,

- Republic of Lebanon,
- Arab Republic of Egypt
- Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and

during the 6th BOD Meeting held on 15 April 2013:

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with
 - i) Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) and
 - ii) Saudi Food & Drug Authority (SFDA)
- Burkina Faso
- State of Palestine
- TÜBİTAK-UME (National Metrology Body of the Republic of Turkey)

were accepted as members.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of SMIIC are:

- 1) To **develop** harmonized standards to **eliminate** adverse effects to trade among OIC Member States.
- 2) To **prepare** OIC/SMIIC Standards enabling the OIC Member States to gain maximum benefit from the economic advantages of them.
- 3) To **achieve uniformity** in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States.
- 4) To **provide technical assistance** to the OIC Member States who do not possess such standard bodies.

STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITIES

A standard is a document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context.

The application of standards is voluntary and contributes to international trade. Additionally, standardization contributes not only to international trade but also to the infrastructure that supports society, including education, health and environment while promoting sustainability.

Standard formation is one of the most important activities of standards organizations. Standards are formed in the Technical Committees (TCs) by technical experts and are reached by consensus among its stakeholders ensuring a high level of safety and quality of goods and services while simultaneously encompassing state-of-the-art technology.

A TC is a technical decision making body with a precise title, scope and work programme, established within SMIIC. A TC essentially manages the preparation of SMIIC deliverables – standards, technical specifications, technical reports, guides, etc. – in accordance with an agreed business plan.

A TC is composed of a chairman, a secretary and SMIIC members. The national delegations are designated by the SMIIC members. At meetings SMIIC members are represented by a number of delegates. Observers in the TC may be Non-Member States of SMIIC, Observer States of OIC and Organizations working on related issues or areas of standardization, metrology or accreditation in Member States. Observers from organizations that have been

granted liaison, having indicated that they want to and have been granted the right to participate in the TC.

The primary duty of a TC is the development and systematic maintenance of the OIC/SMIIC Standards according to related activities within a particular scope of work (e.g.: TC 1 Halal Food Issues, etc.). The following TCs were established in the 4th SMIIC BOD Meeting:

- TC1 Halal Food Issues
- TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues
- TC3 Service Site Issues
- TC4 Renewable Energy
- TC5 Tourism and Related Services
- TC6 Agriculture Processes
- TC7 Transportation

Current Activities of some Technical Committees:

TC1- Draft Scope and Business Plan have been completed. The last meeting of this committee was held in March 2013 in United Arab Emirates, working groups were assigned and the revision of the existing where existing OIC/SMIIC Standards mentioned below, were worked on and published, the revision process of these series of Halal Food Standards are being carried out in light of current market needs, inputs from various stakeholders and in compliance with the latest regulations.

- **OIC/SMIIC 1: 2011**, General Guidelines on Halal Food (with the references of CODEX, ISO 22000, ISO 22005 + Islamic Fiqh Rules),
- **OIC/SMIIC 2: 2011**, Guidelines for Bodies Providing Halal Certification (with the references of ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/TS 22003 + Islamic Fiqh Rules)
- **OIC/SMIIC 3: 2011**, Guidelines for the Halal Accreditation Body Accrediting Halal Certification Bodies (with the references of ISO/IEC 17011 + Islamic Fiqh Rules)

TC2- Scope was defined and business plan made. Last meeting was held in March 2013. New Work Item Proposals were completed and merged into the document “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines” as a working draft (WD), a drafting working group was formed to further workout this draft. A Working Group (WG) has been established and is currently working on draft standard in Halal Cosmetics.

The other TCs have already conducted their first meetings and are continuing their work in line with their business plans.

METROLOGY ACTIVITIES

Metrology is the science of measurement. It includes units of measurement and their standards, measuring instruments and their field of application, and all theoretical and practical problems relating to measurement. Metrology is classified in three main fields:

- Scientific Metrology,
- Industrial Metrology and
- Legal Metrology.

Scientific Metrology is that part of metrology which deals with problems common to all metrological questions irrespective of the quantity measured. It covers general theoretical and practical problems concerning units of measurement, including their realization and dissemination through scientific methods, the problems of errors and uncertainties in measurement and the problems of metrological properties of measuring instruments.

There are different specialist areas of scientific metrology, for example:

- Mass metrology dealing with mass measurements;
- Dimensional metrology dealing with length and angle measurements;
- Temperature metrology dealing with temperature measurements;
- Electrical metrology dealing with electrical measurements;
- Chemical metrology dealing with measurements in chemistry.

Industrial metrology deals with measurements in production and quality control. It covers calibration procedures, calibration intervals, control of measurement processes and management of measuring instruments in industry to ensure that they are in a state of compliance with requirements for their intended use.

Legal metrology is that part of metrology which is subject to legal/regulatory control. It is defined in the International Vocabulary of Legal Metrology as that part of metrology relating to activities which result from statutory requirements and concern measurement, units of measurement, measuring instruments and methods of measurement and which are performed by competent bodies.

Metrology today has major importance to trade, economy, health, science etc. as for example.

1. International trade requires demonstrated conformity to written metrological standards and specifications with mutual recognition of measurements and tests.
2. Even the slight discrepancies in measurement can result in profound losses for the economy of a country.
3. Human health and safety depends on reliable measurements in diagnosis and medical treatment and in the production and trade in food and food products.
4. Navigation and telecommunications require on the other hand the most accurate time and frequency standards.

Since metrology forms the backbone of standards, it is one of the main area of concern of SMIIC. In order to achieve uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among Member States, the following actions are currently on the agenda of SMIIC:

1. Having an inventory of existing calibration standards and establish a chain of traceability reaching reference standards for each basic unit.
2. Acting as intermediary, for any unit, for meeting calibration requirements which may arise at any link of the chain to be established. It shall, through its staff of experts, certify the extent of accuracy and precision with which any calibration laboratory offers services.
3. Supplying metrology services by making the most efficient use of the existing potentials in the Member States and aid in solving their problems in the field of metrology through coordinated research.

SMIIC Metrology Committee (MC)

Metrology Committee (MC) was established during the 5th SMIIC BOD Meeting and has commenced its activities to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States.

Turkish National Metrology Institute (TÜBİTAK-UME) has been assigned to coordinate the task of the membership process and has conducted its first meeting on the 23-24 September 2013.

ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

Accreditation is a quality infrastructure tool which supports the credibility and value of the work carried out by conformity assessment bodies and thus of the corresponding attestations issued by them (test and inspection reports, calibration certificates, certifications of management systems, products and personnel and other attestations).

Accreditation of conformity assessment bodies is carried out against globally accepted requirements set out in international standards defining competence criteria for the category of conformity assessment body, against supplementary sector specific requirements and against guidance documents from international and regional cooperation organizations of accreditation bodies.

A product or service accompanied by a conformity attestation delivered by an accredited conformity assessment body inspires trust as to the compliance with applicable specified requirements. Thereby accreditation favors the elimination of technical barriers to trade.

A global acceptance of the services provided with accreditation is also subject to some questions, as to establish a confidence for the quality of the accreditation service itself. The trusting mechanism between accreditation bodies is constructed on the multilateral agreements at the international and regional accreditation body organizations, like IAF (International Accreditation Forum), ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation), EA (European Cooperation for Accreditation), etc.

Accreditation Committee (AC)

Accreditation ensures to the consumer that standards have been adhered to and certificates issued appropriately. SMIIC has an independent Accreditation Committee (AC). AC is the unit carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme amongst the OIC Member States. AC shall provide the world wide recognition of accreditation certificates and protect against unfair uses.

AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of the accreditation concept within the OIC Member States. This Committee is responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards, performing peer assessment activities and issuing related certificates.

During the 1st SMIIC GA Meeting the Terms of Reference (TOR) for establishment of an Accreditation Committee (AC) of which all national accreditation organizations of OIC

Member States are eligible to be its members was approved. The AC, whose composition was already approved at the 4th SMIIC BOD Meeting held its first meeting after the 3rd SMIIC GA Meeting, on 04 May 2012, in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey.

AC experts from OIC Member States Accreditation bodies convened to discuss issues relating to the establishment of an Accreditation Scheme amongst OIC Member States during the Committee Meetings which were held on 06-07 November 2012, in Antalya, Republic of Turkey, before SMIIC Forum 2012, 08-09 November 2012 at the same venue. Some action items and tasks were given to some members of the AC in order to finalize the TOR and facilitate the establishment of the Accreditation Scheme.

There is an increased request from both OIC and non-OIC countries for accreditation of certification bodies (CBs). In this regard, a coordination meeting was organized between General Secretariat and AC of SMIIC on 21 July 2013 at the Headquarters of SMIIC where a road map was outlined with its action items to be completed in preparation of the accreditation mechanism.

THE SIXTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETING OF SMIIC

The Sixth (6th) Meeting of the SMIIC BOD was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 15 April 2013 where membership applications of:

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ((SASO) and (SFDA)),
- Burkina Faso,
- State of Palestine and
- TÜBİTAK-UME (National Metrology Body of the Republic of Turkey)

to SMIIC were unanimously approved by BOD members.

The SMIIC 2013 draft Budget was approved. The Financial Committee and General Secretariat submitted a proposal for the formulation of the mandatory contributions, an Adhoc Committee was formed to finalize and combine the proposals submitted by Financial Committee and SMIIC General Secretariat. The Adhoc committee submitted a formulation to the BOD, which was discussed and the formulation is based on GNI, GNI per capita and host country support for a period of 5 years, and agreed on a formulation that was to be submitted to GA for their consideration and approval.

The BOD discussed and agreed on the need for a SMIIC CB Programme. The proposal was submitted to the GA for their consideration and approval.

THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) MEETING OF SMIIC

The Fourth (4th) Meeting of the SMIIC GA was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 16-17 April 2013. The GA was attended by the representatives of the following Member States who have membership in the SMIIC GA.

1. Islamic Republic of AFGHANISTAN
2. People's Democratic Republic of ALGERIA
3. Burkina FASO
4. Republic of CAMEROON
5. Arab Republic of EGYPT

6. Republic of GABON
7. Republic of GUINEA
8. Islamic Republic of IRAN
9. Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN
10. LIBYA
11. Republic of MALI
12. State of PALESTINE
13. Islamic Republic of PAKISTAN
14. Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA (Represented by SASO and SFDA)
15. Republic of SENEGAL
16. Republic of SUDAN
17. Republic of TUNISIA
18. Republic of TURKEY (Represented by TSE and TÜBİTAK-UME)
19. United Arab EMIRATES

Malaysia, Indonesia and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were represented as observers in the General Assembly as the Member/Observer States of OIC. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), COMCEC Coordination Office, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic Turkey were represented in the Meeting also in observer status.

The General Secretariat, Accreditation Committee, Metrology Committee and Technical Committee(TC) 1 and 2 presented reports to the GA. New BOD Members for the term of 2014 – 2016 were decided as:

1. Islamic Republic of AFGHANISTAN
2. Islamic Republic of IRAN
3. Islamic Republic of PAKISTAN
4. Republic of TURKEY
5. Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN
6. Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA
7. United Arab EMIRATES
8. People's Democratic Republic of ALGERIA
9. Arab Republic of EGYPT
10. LIBYA
11. Republic of TUNISIA
12. Republic of CAMEROON
13. Republic of GUINEA

The GA discussed the proposals on the formulation of mandatory contributions of SMIIC Members, after making the necessary changes according to proposals from members and unanimously approved the final formulation for a term of 5 (five) years.

The GA approved on the necessity for a SMIIC CB Programme, a SMIIC CB Programme Working Group was established to further work out the draft CB Programme and submit it for the consideration of Member States. The GA emphasized the significance of the development of a conformity mark (Halal) and asked the Working Group to develop the necessary schemes

CERTIFICATION BODY PROGRAMME

Halal is a very sensitive, important and a critical issue for Muslims. The issue of Halal is a broad field. Until recently, before the rising of global trade, due to the fact that all food Muslims consume should be “tayyib” and “Halal” as to comply with the related verses of the Quran, most of the countries were enjoying what they produced in their territories according to their beliefs. Therefore, Halal Food seemed not to be a problem in Muslim countries, however globalisation has meant that what is being consumed in Muslim countries are no longer only a product of that country. Not only the food itself, the source and the means that it is achieved needs to be Halal. The feed that the animals are feed on, the fertilizers which are being used in agriculture, the ingredients and production aids being used during production are originating from all over the world. In many Muslim countries where there is a shortage of livestock, the meat is being slaughtered elsewhere.

This has resulted in Halal becoming a major issue in many Muslim countries. Currently there are a lot of Halal logos and different standards on Halal. This is very confusing for the Muslim consumer.

SMIIC is being constantly approached by organisations who want a unified system for Halal, who see SMIIC as being the related organ of OIC in this technical area. OIC/SMIIC Standards are being requested from all over the globe.

Conformity assessment covers the areas of testing, inspection and certification. Accreditation is a tool that provides trust and confidence in reports and certificates issued by accredited CBs who perform conformity assessment.

On the other hand, standards represent the core of the World Trade Organization’s Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT), facilitate world trade by removing technical barriers to trade, leading to new markets and economic growth. Put simply, a product manufactured in compliance with its related standards in one country can be sold and used in other countries by implementing common standards and common recognized certification mechanisms.

It is highly important to conduct the activities to harmonize the standards and conformity assessment procedures under the auspices of SMIIC, an affiliated institution to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Therefore, it has been utmost necessary to take steps in order to establish of a powerful Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Accreditation infrastructure between OIC Member Countries.

The SMIIC CB Programme is a system which allows for mutual acceptance of certificates and test reports regarding the products and services covered in OIC/SMIIC Standards among OIC Member Countries. SMIIC will work with accepted CBs who are accredited by the independent accreditation committee under the Secreteriat of SMIIC. A producer having a certificate issued by one of the accepted CBs in one participating country can get acceptance from the other countries’ accepted CBs.

The primary objective of the SMIIC CB Programme is to provide confidence for users that applicable requirements to products and services have been fulfilled. Such confidence eventually contributes to the market acceptance of those products and services.

Lack of confidence is the primary source of barrier creation to trade yielding to the repetition of tests and certificate processes in customs. Confidence in the work of CBs and accreditation bodies is therefore essential to private and public purchasers, regulators and other users.

Such user confidence can be achieved through cooperation among CBs and accreditation bodies, resulting in mutual recognition and promotion across borders.

ACTIVITIES FOR 2013 (In General)

The activities that took place in 2013 (until October) were briefly as follows:

Islamic Development Bank

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) on 19 January 2013, in Jeddah, KSA. The President of IDB, H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali Al Madani received the SMIIC Delegation at his office. During the meeting, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, both sides had a useful exchange of views and an extensive discussion on various issues of common concern. In particular, they discussed and examined the funding applications of SMIIC projects submitted and the ways and means to support further SMIIC projects in the future.

SMIIC Delegation also met with H.E. Dr. Ahmet Tıktık, Vice President (Corporate Services) of IDB, and shared their opinions on the activities of SMIIC.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of OIC on 20 January 2013, in Jeddah, KSA. The Secretary General of OIC, H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu received the SMIIC Delegation at his office. During the meeting, the annual report of SMIIC for 2012 submitted and discussions on various issues regarding the strengthening of institutional structure and awareness of SMIIC in the future were made.

The Secretary General and his accompanying delegation met with senior officials of the OIC at different levels about SMIIC activities and possible implementation of ISO 9001 system certification for OIC Headquarters.

Muslim World League

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the Muslim World League on 21 January 2013, in Mecca, KSA. The Secretary General of Muslim World League, H.E. Abdullah Al-Turki received the SMIIC Delegation at his office where SMIIC activities were briefed, possible areas of cooperation between two institutions were discussed and Muslim World League was invited to take an active role in the SMIIC Accreditation Committee and become a member of it.

Islamic Solidarity Fund

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on 21 January 2013, in Jeddah, KSA. The Executive Director of Islamic Solidarity Fund, H.E.

Ibrahim Abdullah Al-Khuzayem received the SMIIC Delegation at his office where SMIIC was introduced and possible areas of cooperation between sister institutions were discussed.

Conference on Halal Food and Food Safety

General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the Conference on *Halal Food and Food Safety* organized by SMIIC and one NGO as a stakeholder and supported by other stakeholders that was held on 26 January 2013, Manisa, Republic of Turkey, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC.

12th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference

General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the *12th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference* that was held on 06-07 February 2013, Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (MUSİAD)

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association Headquarters (MUSİAD), on 21 February 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. During the meeting, SMIIC was introduced and common possible areas of cooperation between two parties were discussed. SMIIC was invited to participate in the International Business Forum (IBF) organized by MUSİAD.

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey, on 25 February 2013, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. During the meeting, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, common possible areas of cooperation between two parties were discussed and the experts of Ministry were invited to take active roles in the relevant TCs of their concern.

Ministry for European Union (EU) Affairs, Republic of Turkey

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Ministry for European Union (EU) Affairs, Republic of Turkey on 15 March 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, H.E. Egemen Bağış received the SMIIC Delegation at the Ortaköy Office of the Ministry. The Acting Secretary General of Turkish Accreditation Agency (TURKAK), Dr. Halil İbrahim Çetin, accompanied the SMIIC delegation at the meeting. During the meeting, the establishment of SMIIC and its latest activities were briefly introduced. The Minister also expressed his appreciation to TURKAK, an affiliated institution of the Ministry of EU Affairs and the Chairman of Accreditation Committee of SMIIC for their valuable work in SMIIC.

The Sixth BOD Meeting of SMIIC

The Sixth (6th) Meeting of the SMIIC BOD was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 15 April 2013 where membership applications of;

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ((SASO) and (SFDA)),
- Burkina Faso,
- State of Palestine and
- TÜBİTAK-UME (National Metrology Body of the Republic of Turkey)

to SMIIIC were unanimously approved by BOD members.

The Fourth GA Meeting of SMIIIC

The Fourth (4th) Meeting of the SMIIIC GA was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 16-17 April 2013 where the new BOD Members for the term of 2014 – 2016 were decided.

2nd Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers of OIC

The Secretary General of SMIIIC, Mr. Haluk DAĞ, participated in the the Second Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers that was held on 25 - 26 April 2013, Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.

SMIIIC Workshop on LDCs Capacity Building

SMIIIC Workshop on “*Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC Least Developed Countries (LDCs)*” with cooperation and/or support of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), Turkish Standards Institution (TSE), Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKA) and National Metrology Institute (TÜBİTAK-UME) was organized on 7-10 May 2013, in TSE Quality Campus and UME premises in Gebze-Kocaeli, and TSE Headquarters in Ankara, Republic of Turkey and attended by 21 representatives from 19 OIC LDCs.

The workshop aimed to be a precursor to a series of projects which are to lead to the enhancement of any relevant standardization, metrology and accreditation body or to the establishment of such a body in its absence in these countries.

The workshop functioned as a platform to draw together experts and representatives from the fields of standardization, accreditation and metrology. In the workshop the current situation of these fields in those countries, steps that need to be taken and briefly, possible projects that need to be launched were discussed. The data supplied by the participants regarding the current situation of these fields in their countries have been forwarded to TSE, TÜBİTAK-UME and TÜRKA for analysis and evaluation. Once this has been completed phase two of the project will be planned.

Oman Food Forum

The SMIIIC General Secretariat delegation participated in the Muscat 3rd Food Exhibition & 6th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries of the OIC Member States held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman on 13 - 16 May 2013 co-organized by the Islamic Centre for Development and Trade (ICDT) and Al-Sha’am for Organizing Exhibitions& Festivals.

H.E. Dr. Hamed Said al Aufi, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sultanate of Oman, H.E. Hameed A Opeloyeru, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs of OIC and H.E. Dr. El Hassane Hzaine, Director General of Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) visited SMIIIC stand.

Directorate General for Standards & Metrology (DGSM), Sultanate of Oman

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited Directorate General for Standards & Metrology (DGSM), Sultanate of Oman on 15 May 2013 and met H.E. Saoud Nasser Mansoor Al-Khusaibi, Director General of DGSM to invite for the membership of SMIIC and to discuss future cooperation on the activities of SMIIC. Senior officials of DGSM gave brief information about the activities of their departments to the SMIIC delegation.

29th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC

SMIIC General Secretariat attended the 29th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC of the OIC held on 14-15 May 2013, Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Republic of Philippines

H.E. MEHOL K. SADAIN, Secretary/CEO of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Republic of Philippines paid a visit to SMIIC Headquarters on 23 May 2013. He was accompanied by Mr. Edil Baddirri of NCMF, Mr. Ahmet Bilgi, Mufti of Başakşehir, Mr. Murat Demirel and Mr. Mustafa Özkan from Office of Mufti of İstanbul. At the meeting, a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, accreditation scheme for all OIC member countries were discussed.

1st Russian Halal Summit 2013

The Secretary General of SMIIC, Mr. Haluk DAĞ, participated in the 1st Russian Halal Summit 2013 held in St. Petersburg, Russia on 04 - 07 June 2013 and gave presentation on the topic "SMIIC and Halal Food Standards".

4th Moscow International Halal Exhibition

SMIIC Staff, Mr. Çağrı CANKURTARAN, participated in the 4th Moscow International Halal Exhibition held in Moscow, Russia on 13 - 14 June 2013 and gave presentation on the topic "SMIIC and Halal Food Standards".

International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA)

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) on 30 June 2013, in Jeddah, KSA. The Secretary General of IIFA, H.E. Prof. Ahmad Khalid Babikr received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Dr. Abdulqahir Qamar, Director of Fatwa and Sharia Rulings Department of IIFA. During the meeting, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, both sides had a useful exchange of views and IIFA was invited to become liaison organization to TC1 and continue to participate its activities.

36th Session of the ICECS

SMIIC General Secretariat attended the 36th Session of Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs (ICECS) on the 30 June 2013-2 July 2013 held at the OIC Headquarters, Jeddah, in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia where the draft resolutions for SMIIC were accepted.

Training program on Enhancing of Competitive Capacity of SMEs in OIC Member Countries

A training program with a theme on the “**Enhancing of Competitive Capacity of SMEs in the Member Countries of OIC**” was organized by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of OIC (COMCEC) in coordination with TSE on 19-23 August 2013 in TSE Quality Campus premises, Gebze-Kocaeli, Republic of Turkey. Experts from Gambia, Palestine, Mauritania, Suriname and Uganda participated in the programme and visited SMIIC Headquarters on 22 August 2013 where the activities of SMIIC comprehensively introduced.

SMIIC Certification Bodies (CBs) Programme Working Group Meeting

A Certification Bodies (CBs) Programme has been prepared for Halal products covered in OIC/SMIIC 1 Standard which also requires product certification and promotes mutual recognition of certificates among Member States.

SMIIC Certification Bodies (CBs) Programme Working Group (WG) Meeting was held on 29-31 August 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey at its first meeting to further work out the proposed draft CBs Programme of which a road map was outlined with its action items to be completed in preparation of the certification mechanism.

Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Second Vice Chairman of UAE-Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry H.E. Mr. Saeed Obaid Al Jarwan paid a visit to SMIIC Headquarters on 5th of September 2013 where latest improvements/developments for Halal issues were discussed in both the member countries in the OIC and the non-OIC region.

Coordination Meeting with SESRIC

Coordination Meeting on possible Mandates of SMIIC on “OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labor, Employment and Social Protection” regarding Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) with Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for the Islamic Countries (SESRIC) organized and took place at SESRIC Headquarters on 20 September 2013, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

The Director General of SESRIC, H.E. Prof. Savaş Alpay received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Mr. Fatih Serenli, Director at the Training and Technical Cooperation Department of SESRIC. During the meeting, where the latest developments of SMIIC was introduced and both sides had a useful exchange of views for the possible cooperation on the needs of OIC Member Countries in economical domains.

SMIIC Metrology Committee Meeting

SMIIC Metrology Committee convened for the first meeting on the 23-24 September 2013 in Dubai, UAE, in which the Terms of Reference (ToR) was to be discussed and finalized, the coordinator and secretary of the committee to be elected.

Research Center For Islamic History, Art And Culture (IRCICA)

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the Research Center For Islamic History, Art And Culture (**IRCICA**) on 1st of October 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. The Director General of IRCICA, H.E. Dr. Halit Eren received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Assoc. Prof. Sadık Ünay, Senior Advisor. During the meeting, where a comprehensive introduction was made by SMIIC on its functionality areas.

The activities that will take place after October 2013 are briefly as follows:

3rd Global Halal Trade & Logistics Summit

SMIIC General Secretariat has been invited to participate in the 3rd Global Halal Trade & Logistics Summit which will take place on 22-23 October 2013 in Dubai, UAE. SMIIC will be represented as a keynote speaker with a speech on *“Importance of Standardization and the harmonization of Standards”*.

International Halal Accreditation Forum

SMIIC General Secretariat has been contacted by TÜRKAK to participate in the International Halal Accreditation Forum which is planned to take place on 25-26 October 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. The aim of this Forum will be to discuss and take necessary steps towards internationally recognized accreditation system on Halal issues by the participants from relevant OIC and international bodies.

2nd International Halal & Healthy Food Congress

2nd International Halal and Healthy Food Congress, in coordination with SMIIC, Halal and Healthy Food Platform and Konya Necmettin Erbakan University will be held on 07-10 November 2013, in Konya, Republic of Turkey. This congress where SMIIC is one of the co-organizers will be treated as the continuing activity of SMIIC Forum 2012 which was held on 08-09 November 2012, in Antalya, Republic of Turkey.

International Exhibition of Muslim Business

The Headquarters of SMIIC General Secretariat was visited by the President of International Exhibition of Muslim Business (IEMB) to seek support of SMIIC to IEMB which will take place on 14-16 November 2013, in Dakar, Republic of Senegal aiming to create awareness to exchange about possible collaboration on Halal issues particularly on Islamic Finance.

SMIIC Accreditation Committee Meeting

SMIIC Accreditation Committee has planned to have a meeting on 16-17 November 2013 in Dubai, UAE, concurrently with 8th Dubai International Food Safety Conference. It is aimed for the procedures and related documents to be discussed and finalized for the launching the Halal Accreditation System.

8th Dubai International Food Safety Conference

SMIIC General Secretariat has been invited to give a speech at the 8th Dubai International Food Safety Conference which will be held on the 18-19 November 2013 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

International Symposium on “The Effects of Standardization on Global Economy”

SMIIC General Secretariat will be participating in The International Symposium on “The Effects of Standardization on Global Economy” to be held on the 25-26 November 2013 in İstanbul, The Republic of Turkey organized by the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE).

2nd OIC Halal Middle East Congress & Exhibition

SMIIC General Secretariat has been invited to participate in the 2nd Halal Congress Middle East Congress 2013 organized by the Halal Development Council (HDC) and Expo Centre Sharjah which will take place on 16-18 December 2013, in Sharjah, UAE. SMIIC will be represented as a speaker and panelist in the panel discussion on “Way forward: Harmonization of Standards (One Logo – One Standard)”.

As per last year, SMIIC will also participate in the 2nd OIC Halal Middle East Expo organized by Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and ICDT which is a concurrent event with the 2nd OIC Halal Congress Middle East.

CONTINUOUS AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 1) The activities of SMIIC Technical Committees will continue.
- 2) SMIIC AC work to establish international recognition of accreditation shall increase.
- 3) SMIIC MC has recently been established and commenced its activities to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States.
- 4) Four Workshops on “*Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC Member States*” in the following regions will be organized with possible cooperation/support of Islamic Development Bank (IDB) or COMCEC Coordination Office:
 - a) North African Arabic Speaking Countries
 - b) African French Speaking Countries
 - c) African English Speaking Countries
 - d) Central Asian Countries (CACs)

- 5) A Certification Bodies (CBs) Program has been prepared for Halal products covered in OIC/SMIIC 1 Standard which also requires product certification and promotes mutual recognition of certificates among Member States.

CONCLUSION

The first 3 quarters of this year has been an active year for SMIIC in which many developments and activities have taken place. The 6th BOD and 4th GA meeting took place 15-17 April 2013 with the addition of 5 new member bodies bringing the total to 25 and member states to 23. The SMIIC Workshop on the “*Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC LDCs*” held on 07-10 May 2013 – Gebze-Kocaeli & Ankara, Republic of Turkey participated by 21 participants from 19 countries. This was a workshop in which first hand data from participants was collected. The participants presented the current situation of Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation in their countries. The steps necessary for the establishment, development and/or enhancement of these areas are being studied and according to the suggestions a road map will be pipelined and the actions taken accordingly.

General Secretariat of SMIIC has been focusing on the functioning of the Accreditation Committee to establish the recognition of the Halal Certificates based on OIC/SMIIC Standards all over the world. The Metrology Committee has been established and has commenced its activities to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States which is one of the main goals of SMIIC.

TCs have the significant role to form new OIC/SMIIC Standards which will be useful to improve trade and the infrastructure of Member States within OIC. For the functioning of the TCs it is vital that all Member States and Correspondents actively participate in their selected Committees. General Secretariat would like to stress that the actual SMIIC work will take place in these committees and SMIIC members and as well as OIC members are strongly encouraged to participate and contribute to SMIIC technical work with their voting rights and/or comments in fields in which they feel themselves technically strong and more experienced. Non-member countries are also very much welcome to contribute to the technical committee work with an observer status.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) SMIIC General Secretariat expects from all members of SMIIC (ideally from all OIC Member States after completing the membership procedure) to adopt the existing OIC/SMIIC Standards as their national standards and launch certification activities for the sake of supporting a common standard and common certification mechanism among OIC Member States.
- 2) The OIC Member States which have already signed the SMIIC Statute are as follows:
 - 1) Republic of Azerbaijan
 - 2) Burkina Faso
 - 3) Republic of the Gambia
 - 4) Republic of Guinea-Bissau
 - 5) Federal Republic of Nigeria

- 6) State of Palestine
- 7) Republic of Senegal
- 8) Republic of Sierra Leone
- 9) Syrian Arab Republic
- 10) Republic of Yemen

(Source: 25/10/2011 dated and No. OIC/ECO-04/38/2008 List of Member States Sheet (<http://www.oic-oci.org/uploads/file/conventions/en/Accords-Eng-25-10-2011.pdf> link))

Note:

- 1) Republic of the Gambia, Republic of Senegal, State of Palestine, Burkina Faso became the new members of SMIIC.
- 2) Azerbaijan has sent a letter stating that Azerbaijan has not found it appropriate to become a member of SMIIC at the current stage.

Furthermore, at the 2nd SMIIC GA Meeting, which was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 12-13 July 2011, the SMIIC Statute was amended in a way that would better address the current needs and facilitate membership procedure. According to the revised provision of the Statute (Article 4), the membership of SMIIC no longer requires the ratification of the SMIIC Statute by the Member State. Instead, the National Bodies of the OIC Member States can now be admitted into the Institute as a member upon their application to the SMIIC General Secretariat via an official stamped letter.

Consequently, SMIIC General Secretariat expects from above signatories of SMIIC Statute to complete their membership procedure at their earliest convenience by the support letter of OIC dated 25 February 2012 and No. OIC/ECO-04/138/2012/001035 addressed to all OIC Member States.

3) SMIIC would also invite all the SMIIC Member States first with participating status (P-Member with voting right), then non-member states with observing status (O-Member without voting right) to participate in their interested SMIIC TCs, namely TC1: Halal Food Issues, TC2: Halal Cosmetic Issues, TC3: Service Site Issues, TC4: Renewable Energy, TC5: Tourism and Related Services, TC6: Agriculture Processes, TC7: Transportation.

4) General Secretariat of SMIIC also invites and urges the importance of the National Accreditation Bodies of OIC Member States to become a member of the SMIIC AC.

5) General Secretariat of SMIIC also invites and urges the importance of the National Metrology Bodies of OIC Member States to become a member of the SMIIC MC.

6) SMIIC Member Countries are encouraged to join the CBs Programme once it commences after completing the adoption process of OIC/SMIIC Standards as their national standards to establish the recognition of the Halal Certificates based on OIC/SMIIC Standards all over the world.

General Secretariat, SMIIC
October 2013,
Istanbul / Republic of TURKEY