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**REPORT FOR
29th MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE
COMCEC**

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

April 2013, Istanbul – Republic of TURKEY

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SCOPE

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

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 past two and a half years the number of SMIIC members has already reached its target of 20 by the end of 2012. 3 more OIC Member States has already applied to become a member of SMIIC which will be considered and approved by the Board of Directors at its upcoming Meeting in mid April 2013. Seven Technical Committees, Terminology, Financial, Accreditation and Metrology Committees have been established and are actively working in line with their international counterpart organizations.

SMIIC has already initiated consultations and brainstorming with OIC Institutions, and would like to possibly cooperate with them to be able to better address the needs of OIC Member Countries.

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

The following Technical Committees (TCs), Terminology Committee and Financial Committee were established in the 4th SMIIC Board of Directors (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

Most of them have already conducted their first meetings and continue TC work in line with their business plans.

In TC1, 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. The last TC1 Meeting was held in March 2013, in United Arab Emirates.

- **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)

New proposals have been drafted and circulated to the members in TC2 and its work is continuing. The last TC2 Meeting was also held in March 2013, in United Arab Emirates.

Other TCs are in the phase of establishing their business plans, increasing memberships and defining scopes.

METROLOGY ACTIVITIES

Metrology Committee (MC) was established during the 5th SMIIC BOD Meeting and 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 planning of conducting its first meeting temporarily, after SMIIC General Secretariat's call for membership to the MC. Most of the countries have responded positively and have already sent their membership applications.

ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

During The 1st SMIIC General Assembly (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.

ACTIVITIES FOR 2012 (In General)

The activities that took place in 2012 were briefly as follows:

- a) The 3rd SMIIC BOD Meeting was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 23-24 January 2012.
- b) General Secretariat of SMIIC was invited to present a paper at the *1st International Conference on Halal Food Control and Exhibition in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)* on 12-15 February 2012, hosted by Saudi Food & Drug Authority (SFDA) and participated in this conference with its presentation on SMIIC activities.
- c) General Secretariat of SMIIC attended and gave a presentation on the importance of standardization in alleviating the barriers to trade and informed the participants of the planned activities of SMIIC at the meeting of *Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of OIC (COMCEC) Workshop on Country Partnership Models with Central Asia* held on 22-23 February 2012, Ankara, Republic of Turkey.
- d) General Secretariat of SMIIC attended the *4th Meeting of CEN/BT Working Group 212 – Halal Food Sarajevo*, 06 March 2012, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- e) National Metrology Institute (TÜBİTAK-UME) of the Republic of Turkey paid a visit to Headquarters of SMIIC on 09 March 2012 during which both parties found a chance to introduce themselves and agreed on mutual cooperation on Metrology issues.
- f) The Chairman of BOD, Secretary General and staff of SMIIC visited Standards Malaysia and National Standardization Agency of Indonesia (BSN) to invite them to the 3rd SMIIC GA Meeting and to become a member of SMIIC. World Halal Forum (WHF) and Malaysia International Halal Showcase (MIHAS) fairs on Halal Food were also visited by SMIIC representatives during the 1st week of April 2012.
- g) Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) Governor Mr. Nabil Molla paid a visit to SMIIC Headquarters on 06 April 2012. SMIIC General

Secretariat had the opportunity to discuss the membership process of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and invited KSA to become a member of SMIIC.

- h) The 4th SMIIC BOD Meeting was held on 03 May 2012 and 3rd SMIIC GA Meeting was held on 04-05 May 2012 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, consecutively where the draft Internal Regulations of SMIIC was unanimously accepted and the seven (7) Technical Committees (TCs), Terminology Committee and Financial Committee were established.
- i) General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the 28th Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the COMCEC on 09-10 May 2012, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey in which the institutionalization and activities of SMIIC were discussed (see 28th Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the COMCEC Report, page 14).
- j) The welcoming speech was given and a presentation on “SMIIC in brief” and “OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards” was made by SMIIC staff at the Business Forum “World Experience and Prospects of Halal and Islamic Finance Markets” at the Moscow Halal Expo 2012 on 07-10 June 2012, in Moscow, Russia.
- k) A Presentation on “SMIIC in brief” and “OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards” was made by SMIIC staff at the 1st International Halal Congress at Kazan City, Republic of Tatarstan, Russia on 12-13 June 2012.
- l) General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the 6th Coordination Meeting of OIC Subsidiary Organs, Specialized and Affiliated Institutions for Implementation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action in OIC Headquarters, Jeddah on 16-17 June 2012, KSA.
- m) General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the 35th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs in OIC Headquarters, Jeddah on 18-20 June 2012, KSA.
- n) General Secretariat of SMIIC visited Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) and met the President of TİKA, Mr. Serdar ÇAM, to discuss future cooperation between TİKA and SMIIC on 27 July 2012, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. As a first step a joint project on “Workshop on Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC LDC Member States” was agreed upon (see “Continuous and Planned Activities”).
- o) SMIIC staff presented the following papers “SMIIC in brief” and “OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards” in the InHAC 2012 (International Halal Conference 2012) with the main theme “Enhancing Halal Integrity in the Global Halal Industry” organized by the Centre for Islamic Thought and Understanding (CITU) UiTM on 04-05 September 2012 at PWTC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- p) General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the Sarajevo Halal Forum (SAHAF) on 26 November 2012, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as an invited guest speaker in the session titled “Halal Standards and their Application” with specifically the topic on OIC/SMIIC Standards.

- q) Chairman of BOD, Secretary General and the General Secretariat Staff of SMIIC participated in the 28th Session of COMCEC in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, held on 08-11 October 2012. In the resolutions of the meeting, the following points related to SMIIC:
- COMCEC welcomed the increasing visibility of SMIIC in its field of competence and requested Member States to actively participate in SMIIC activities on Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation. COMCEC also welcomed the offer of SMIIC to organize SMIIC FORUM 2012 and invited Member States to participate in the Forum.
- r) Chairman of the BOD Mr. Hulusi Şentürk, Secretary General Mr. Haluk Dağ and General Secretariat Staff of SMIIC had a meeting with Secretary General of OIC, H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu about the current situation and future of SMIIC during 28th Session of COMCEC.
- s) H. E. Dr. Cevdet Yılmaz, Minister of Development, Republic of Turkey, paid a visit to the SMIIC Headquarters on the 11th of October 2012. The SMIIC General Secretariat briefly explained SMIIC's important role amongst the OIC Member States.
- t) H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu visited SMIIC Headquarters on the 11th of October 2012. The SMIIC General Secretariat had the opportunity to explain the latest SMIIC developments.
- u) SMIIC Committee Meetings were held on 06-07 November 2012 before SMIIC Forum 2012, 08-09 November 2012, in Antalya, Republic of Turkey. Following the Technical Committee Seminar, each Technical Committee (TC1 Halal Food Issues, TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues, TC3 Service Site Issues, TC4 Renewable Energy, TC5 Tourism and Related Services, TC6 Agricultural Processes, and TC7 Transportation), Terminology Committee, Financial Committee and Accreditation Committee had meetings in which representatives, experts from SMIIC Member States Standardization, OIC Members States Metrology and Accreditation bodies convened to discuss issues relating to harmonization of standards, the working of the Technical Committees and the establishment of an Accreditation Scheme amongst OIC Member States.
- v) The 5th SMIIC BOD Meeting was held on 07 November 2012 in Antalya, Republic of Turkey where the application of three new Member States: Republic of Egypt, Republic of Lebanon and Islamic Republic of Afghanistan was accepted. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between SMIIC and the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GSO). It was decided that a Metrology Committee will be established in line with the aims of SMIIC in the field of Metrology.
- w) SMIIC Forum 2012 was held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey during 08-09 November 2012. Aiming at functioning as a platform to bring experts and professionals from the fields of Standardization, Accreditation and Metrology together, the SMIIC Forum 2012 gave participants the opportunity to discuss the current situation of these fields in the OIC Member Countries and at the international level.
- Over 160 delegates from 35 countries including National Standardization Bodies (NSBs), relevant national organizations of member countries and

international organizations comprising of the OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC, Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Islamic Centre for Development and Trade (ICDT), International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), GSO, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) participated in the Forum.

- x) SMIIC Staff participated in the 39th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the OIC in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti on 15-17 November 2012.
- y) General Secretariat of SMIIC was an exhibitor at the 1st OIC Halal Food Middle East–International Food and Technology Exhibition held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates on the 10-12 December 2012 co-organized by ICDT and Expocentre Sharjah. The Expo was opened by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharjah and His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the Secretary General of OIC. The Expo attracted exhibitors and participants from all over the world. Halal certification agencies, halal development bodies, standardization bodies, various export-import agencies were just some of the exhibitors who participated in the Expo. During the Expo, SMIIC activities were introduced.
 - Simultaneously, SMIIC General Secretariat also participated in the *Halal Congress Middle East* held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates on the 11-12 December 2012 where the Secretary General Mr. Haluk Dağ gave a speech on “SMIIC and Halal Food Standards”.

ACTIVITIES FOR 2013 (In General)

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

- a) 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.
- b) 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 İhsanoğlu 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.
- c) 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.
 - d) 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.
 - e) 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.
 - f) 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.
 - g) 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.
 - h) 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 Technical Committees of their concern.
 - i) 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.

CONTINUOUS AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 1) The activities of SMIIC Technical Committees, Financial Committee and Terminology Committee 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) “*Workshop on Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC LDC Member States*” with cooperation/support of TIKA, Turkish Standards Institution (TSE), TURKAK and UME will be organized in May 2013, Republic of Turkey.
- 5) 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):
 - a) North African Arabic Speaking Countries
 - b) African French Speaking Countries
 - c) African English Speaking Countries
 - d) Central Asian Countries (CACs)
- 6) 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. In this regard, product certification would be expected to apply mainly to those public concerns whose significance calls for the involvement of an independent body. The use of product certification supports this fact as it is generally applied only to significant concerns (e.g. safety, health or Halal issues specifically for Muslims).

CONCLUSION

By the end of 2012, the finalization of the establishment of the infrastructure of SMIIC was almost completed.

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.

In facilitation of the above activities, the SMIIC Committee Meetings and SMIIC FORUM 2012 were held on 06-09 November 2012. The SMIIC FORUM 2012, functioned as a platform drawing together experts and representatives from the fields of standardization, accreditation and metrology. During the SMIIC FORUM 2012 discussions regarding the current situation of these fields internationally and in the OIC Member States, steps that need to be taken and the projects that need to be launched took place.

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))

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) SMIIIC would also invite all the SMIIIC 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 SMIIIC 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 SMIIIC also invites and urges the importance of the National Accreditation Bodies of OIC Member States to become a member of the SMIIIC AC.

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

General Secretariat, SMIIIC

April 2013,

Istanbul / Republic of TURKEY