



**REPORT OF
THE STANDARDS AND METROLOGY INSTITUTE FOR ISLAMIC
COUNTRIES (SMIIC)
ON
ENHANCING INTRA-OIC TRADE
SUBMITTED TO THE 37th MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF
THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
COOPERATION OF THE
OIC (COMCEC)**

**Agenda Item No: 4
Intra OIC Trade**

**Virtual, Republic of Turkey
08-09 June 2021**

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the activities that have been carried out by SMIIC for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy which is submitted to the 37th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committee for the Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC, which will be held in virtually on the 08-09 June 2021.

The reporting period was characterized by the continuous efforts of the Institute on the implementation of the cooperation areas of COMCEC, especially on the areas of enhancing intra-OIC Trade. The activities of SMIIC are multi-faceted addressing the main pillars of quality infrastructure: standards, metrology and accreditation.

Harmonisation of standards, metrology and accreditation is vital for accelerating the development of Muslim country economies. Its use will promote common understanding throughout all member states. A common standards, metrology and accreditation framework eliminates trade barriers and facilitates trade between the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states and the entire world.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much needed common standards in the OIC and has to date published 39 (thirty nine) OIC/SMIIC Standards, 16 of them on halal issues. 17 (seventeen) Technical Committees and Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (CCA) of SMIIC are vigorously working on the development of 42 new Standards which are in the project stage. These standards include the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Standard which was published in December 2019, OIC/SMIIC 17-1:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System - Part 1: Transportation - General Requirements, OIC/SMIIC 18: 2021 Halal Quality Management System – Requirements and OIC/SMIIC 22, Halal Edible Gelatine- Requirements and Test Methods published in 2020.

SMIIC has conducted 4 training programs on the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to aid the common use of standards within the OIC. SMIIC is conducting a series of trainings focusing on the knowledge and understanding of the OIC/SMIIC standards, requirements and implementation. Simultaneously, the trainings are also focusing on the development of standards. Additionally, SMIIC has recently completed the COMCEC PCM 2018-SMIIC-599 project on “Increasing Public Halal Awareness in OIC countries” to raise awareness of Halal in the OIC Countries, aimed at various audiences: including children, youth and adults. The project encompasses the publication of childrens books, comics book and production of short films.

Annually organized, the 6th World Halal Summit was held this year under the theme “Halal for All, Halal in All Aspects, from Production to Consumption”. This large event was conducted for three full days on 21-23 December 2020 in Pullman Convention Center as well as followed online from all around the world. It was organized by Discover Events on behalf of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC).

SMIIC is simultaneously working on capacity building in the metrology area where several training programs are under planning by the SMIIC Metrology Council. Enhancement of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

I. SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting

SMIIC held its 20th Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) in virtual-only format on the 02 November 2020 and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

General Assembly (GA) Meeting

15th SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting was held in virtual-only format on 03 November 2020 and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

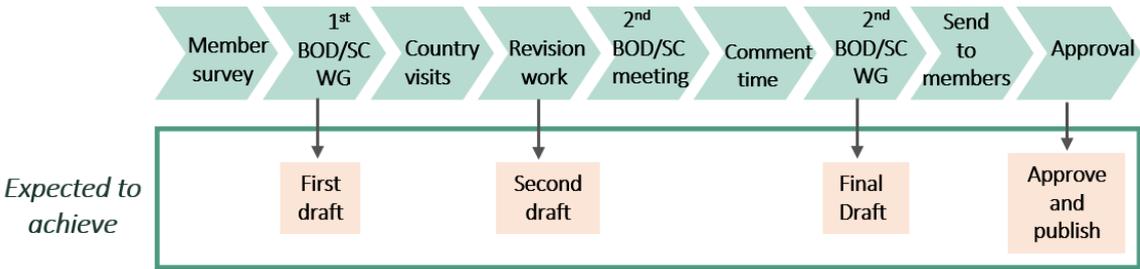
II. STRATEGY ACTIVITIES

General and Implementation of Strategic Plan 2016-2020

SMIIC has been actively working on the achievement of all the goals in the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

The SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020 has ended. Board of Directors has established a permanent committee, namely Strategy Committee (BOD/SC) in April 2019. This Committee SMIIC BOD/SC held its 1st Meeting on 4 November 2019 in Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and BOD/SC members established a working group to work on the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030.

Preparations for SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2031 comprising a ten-year vision and mission has been initiated by the 1st Working Group Meeting of the Strategy Committee (BOD/SC) held on 13-15 January 2020 in Istanbul and Members agreed on the following steps for drafting and finalization of the next SMIIC Strategic Plan:



The 1st BOD/SC Strategy Working Group worked hard for three days on preparing the first Draft of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030, Strategic Plan Balanced Scorecard and Strategic Plan Map, taking into consideration the comments and feedbacks received from our esteemed Members on the survey which has been prepared with the Vision, Mission, Goals and Sub-Goals of the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and sent to esteemed Members by SMIIC General Secretariat on 13 December 2019.

The SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2031 has been approved and has been effective from 01 January 2021.

III. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES OF SMIIC COUNCILS

A. Standardization Management Council (SMC)

Standardization Management Council (SMC), as a professional structure for building the future activities of the technical committees and following-up their performance on ongoing standards projects.

Due to the Covid -19 Pandemic, SMIIC Standardization Management Council (SMC) was unable to hold its 4th Meeting which was planned for 2020.

B. Technical Committees (TC)

OIC/SMIIC standards and other technical projects are under the responsibility of the Technical Committees (TCs) for the development and systematic management of these technical works.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much needed common standards in the OIC and has to date published 39 (thirty nine) OIC/SMIIC Standards, 16 of them on halal issues. The 17 (seventeen) Technical Committees and Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (CCA) of SMIIC are vigorously working on the development of 42 new Standards which are in the project stage.

In this line, the 9th SMIIC Technical Committee Week Meetings were held virtually between 15 March and 01 April 2021 and 780 registered delegates attended the meetings and showed great efforts and contributed to the committees' technical work.

Technical Committees and SMIIC/CCA with the help TC Weeks had a productive period in terms of preparing new standards, as a result, since the last Board of Directors meeting, TCs have worked on 42 different projects and 5 (five) of them are in Draft Standard (DS) and 6 (six) of them are in Final Draft Standards (FDS) stage and 5 (five) standards have been published and 2 (two) of them are under publication. Following are the 5 OIC/SMIIC standards published after the completion of standards development process conducted in relevant SMIIC Technical Committees:

- OIC/SMIIC 17-1:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System - Part 1: Transportation - General Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 17-2: 2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System - Part 2: Warehousing - General Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 17-3: 2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System - Part 3: Retailing - General Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 18: 2021 Halal Quality Management System – Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 22, Halal Edible Gelatine- Requirements and Test Methods

SMIIC is the only competent body of the OIC to develop standards according to the needs of the region and OIC/SMIIC halal standards are the only standards developed in the world ensuring

the participation and contribution of various OIC member states and IIFA which consequently results in having the most reliable and professional halal standards to use globally.

Under the COMCEC Strategy Cooperation area of Tourism, The Technical Committee 5 – Tourism and Related Services, has worked on the development of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Tourism Services Standard and has been published on 21 December 2019. This use of the common Halal Tourism Services Standard will help in the development of sustainable Tourism. Technical Committee 5 – Tourism and Related Services, is also working on the development of the OIC/SMIIC 8 Halal Tourism – Spa Services Standard.

C. Metrology Council (MC)

Metrology Council (MC) acts as SMIIC's operational organ for cooperation between national metrology authorities from Islamic Countries. This cooperation involves activities in the field of scientific, legal and industrial metrology. MC is also involved in conducting necessary activities for supporting development of quality infrastructure; realization, maintenance and dissemination of measurement standards in physical quantities and metrology in chemistry; implementation of quality management systems, knowledge transfer, research and development in this area in Member Countries.

The Task Force Group (TFG) of SMIIC MC which was established following the decision of the 8th SMIIC MC, held its meeting virtually on 03 February 2021. The TFG of SMIIC MC completed the draft Metrology Council Annual Working Plan 2021-2023 and sent it to the MC members for commenting and approval, the plan which includes a working program for 3 years was finalized on 23 March 2021 and put into action.

The MC 2021-2023 Working Plan includes training and capacity building trainings on:

- a) Scientific Metrology Training (11 trainings)
- b) Legal Metrology Training (3 trainings)
- c) Training Related to Halal Activities (7 trainings)
- d) Calibration Trainings (8 trainings)
- e) Proficiency Testing Training (3 trainings)
- f) Joint Work, Consultancy, R&D and Workshops (11 programs)

Due to the pandemic conditions the training will be given online. Enhancement of Metrology Infrastructure affects the 5 cooperation areas of the COMCEC Strategy namely: Trade, Transport and Communications, Tourism, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation.

D. Accreditation Council (AC)

Accreditation Council (AC) is the organ carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States. AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of accreditation concept within the Member States. AC shall be responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards and performing peer assessment.

The SMIIIC Board of Directors approved Terms of Reference (ToR) of SMIIIC AC in 2019 and this has accelerated the long-expected halal accreditation process to be operational. SMIIIC AC after completing its internal documents, started studying the proposal to seek for possible consensus on OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure and it was discussed and approved in the 3rd meeting of Management of the SMIIIC Accreditation Council (MAC). Then a Task Force Group (TFG) was established to prepare a document which will include the rules and procedures for the governance and administration of the structure and incorporate the said proposal on the basis of the necessary principles. In total, 2 Task Force Group meetings were held in order to draw the framework of OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ) and members put forth great efforts in finding the right structure for all the OIC region. The OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure will be a system with a well-designed structure from which all member states could get benefit and also OHAQ is expected to assist member states in setting up proper national quality infrastructure system along with enhancing the existing ones.

IV. OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Trainings: Improving capacities

As General Secretariat, considering the increasing number of our members and published standards and by benefiting from the virtual event concept, a special focus was given to conducting trainings during the last 6 months. In this context, a training calendar has been prepared and monthly trainings are given. Some of these trainings are:

i) Training Course on Tourism Development

SMIIIC gave a training during the training course on “Tourism Development” on 09-13 November 2020 organized by SESRIC, for the benefit of experts and executives from the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Tourism Development and Silk Road International University of Tourism in Uzbekistan.

SMIIIC gave training on the following topics:

- Characteristics of Ziyarah (Muslim-Friendly) Tourism and “Halal” Standards
- Specificity and Culture of Serving Tourists from Different Regions of the World

ii) SMIIIC Technical Work and Information System (IS) Training for PAI Staff

SMIIIC General Secretariat organized a two-day training for the staff of Standards and Metrology Department of Public Authority for Industry of State of Kuwait (PAI) on 14-15 December 2020 virtually and the training was conducted in Arabic.

Upon the request of the PAI, SMIIIC General Secretariat organized a training program in Arabic for the staff of Standards and Metrology Department of the PAI to get acquainted with procedures of technical work carried out within the Institute, general information and the use of SMIIIC Information System as well as the SMIIIC’s system in general.

The two-day training covered following 2 parts:

Part 1: SMIIIC technical work which included a brief introduction of SMIIIC and the OIC, SMIIIC's Structure, Objectives, Organs and SMIIIC Directives, also procedures of the technical work.

Part 2: SMIIIC Information System, explained how SMIIIC IS operates as a communication tool in SMIIIC's and its committees' activities.

iii) Procedures for the Technical Work and SMIIIC IS training

SMIIIC General Secretariat gave the "Procedures for the Technical work and SMIIIC IS for its Members" training on 01 March 2021 virtually with the participation of SMIIIC Technical Committee Secretaries, Chairmen, Committee Members, User Administrators, Voters and Centralized Voters.

The training was the third of a series of trainings and aimed to bring together Technical Officers and other users of SMIIIC IS to guide them with their defined roles in Technical Committee Work in accordance with the relevant documents of SMIIIC.

iv) OIC/SMIIIC 2:2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification- Foundation Training

OIC/SMIIIC 2:2019 Requirements for bodies providing halal certification - Foundation Training was held on 10-11 March 2021 virtually in cooperation with Halal Accreditation Agency (HAK) of Republic of Turkey and participated by 39 delegates from SMIIIC Member States. The training is the fourth of a series of training courses and aimed to give the foundation knowledge, requirements and implementation of the OIC/SMIIIC 2:2019 Requirements for bodies providing halal certification.

Expert Trainers Pool

Considering SMIIIC busy training schedule planned for the upcoming term and the need of expert trainers to deliver these trainings, General Secretariat initiated a project to form a pool of expert trainers who will be eligible to assist in the preparation of training material and/or give professional training courses for SMIIIC Member States and industrial community. It will be also used for the need of conformity assessment experts of any halal Conformity Assessment Body in coordination with SMIIIC. Arabic and French speaking experts will provide great contribution to the training process.

B. World Halal Summit (WHS) 2020

Annually organized, the 6th World Halal Summit was held this year under the theme "Halal for All, Halal in All Aspects, from Production to Consumption". This large event was conducted for three full days on 21-23 December 2020 in Pullman Convention Center as well as followed online from all around the world. It was organized by Discover Events on behalf of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIIC).

The World Halal Summit is the world's largest halal event that brings to light the latest developments and updates related to halal sector, with the participation of international

academics and fiqh experts from all over the globe. This Summit aims to raise awareness about halal by hosting conferences where halal-related topics in finance, tourism, food, medicine, pharmacy, cosmetics, textile, modest fashion and other sectors are discussed.

This year, 61 speakers attended the 6th World Halal Summit from 15 Countries. 9217 visitors from 55 different countries participated and followed the Summit both physically and virtually. 11 sessions in different halal concepts with the presentations of prominent speakers were conducted. SMIIC Secretary General, H.E. Mr. İhsan ÖVÜT and General Secretariat staff also delivered presentations in relevant sessions to explain SMIIC's activities and OIC/SMIIC standards projects in detail.

The 6th World Halal Summit discussed many important and vital topics during its sessions including: (Halal Market, Halal Infrastructure, Halal Standardization, OIC/SMIIC Standards and Conformity Assessment, Halal lifestyle, Halal Tourism, Halal Pharmaceuticals, Halal Testing, Recent developments in Halal technology, Halal products in daily life, The role of Islamic finance in production to consumption and the new developments and opportunities).

C. COMCEC PCM 2019-SMIIC-727 project

SMIIC will be conducting the *OIC/SMIIC Halal Foundation Training for Africa Region* on the 27-28 July 2021 in Senegal and is funded by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation(OIC) under the Project “OIC/SMIIC Halal Foundation Training for Africa Region” with No: 2019-SMIIC-727.

The program will consist of a 3 day training. The objective of this training program is to encourage the harmonization of Halal Standards used in the OIC and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards. The program aims to inform representatives from SMIIC/OIC Member States regarding the procedures for adoption, implementation and use of the OIC/SMIIC series of 3 Halal Food Standards whilst providing foundation training in SMIIC Information System (IS), Technical Committee (TC) work and auditing.

The expected outputs of this program are:

- Representatives from SMIIC Member States are trained in:
 - a) The adoption, implementation and use of the 3 OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards,
 - b) Introduction to the SMIIC Information System, TC work and preparation of Standards,
 - c) Halal and the current Halal market
 - d) Foundation knowledge of OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food
 - e) Introduction to OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification and the OIC/SMIIC 3:2019 Conformity Assessment - Requirements for Halal Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Halal Conformity Assessment Bodies
- The trainees will also receive a Certificate if they have completed the necessary requirements of the training.

- The number of OIC Member States who have adopted and/or are using the OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards have increased which will in turn facilitate intra-OIC trade.