**REPORT**

**2nd TECHNICAL MEETING ON COMCEC HIGH LEVEL DIGITAL INITIATIVE/ PROGRAMME**

**(November 1st, 2022; Virtual Meeting)**

1. The 2nd Technical Meeting on COMCEC High-Level Digital Initiative/Programme was held virtually on November 1sh, 2022.

   *(The Agenda and Programme of the Meeting are attached as Annex-I and Annex II)*

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the interested Member Countries of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the relevant OIC Organs/Institutions, namely COMCEC Coordination Office, COMSTECH, IDB Group and SESRIC.

   *(The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as Annex-III)*

3. The Meeting started with a recitation from the Holy Quran.

4. At the outset, Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, Acting Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) delivered his opening remarks. Welcoming all participants to the meeting, Mr. KOÇ expressed his thanks and gratitude for the remarkable interest shown by the Member Countries during the technical preparations towards developing High-Level Digital Cooperation Initiative/Programme under the COMCEC. Recalling the relevant resolution of the 37th Meeting of the COMCEC Session, Mr KOÇ stressed that the 1st technical meeting was held on September 28, 2022, where the Member Countries had the opportunity to elaborate on the draft version of the concept report as well as discuss the possible thematic areas for cooperation. Mr KOÇ pointed out that during the second technical meeting, with the valuable contributions of the distinguished participants, the Revised Concept Report would be considered and the Thematic Areas for Cooperation to be submitted to the High Level Meeting to be organized on November 27, 2022 in Istanbul on the sidelines of 38th COMCEC Ministerial Session would be identified. Finally, he concluded his remarks by wishing every success to the participants in their deliberations to be made during the 2nd Technical Meeting.

5. Afterwards, Mr. Safa USLU, Head of International Relations Department at Digital Transformation Office of the Presidency of The Republic of Türkiye, delivered his opening speech as the Head of Delegation of the Host Country. In his opening remarks, Mr. USLU expressed his appreciation to the COMCEC Coordination Office for realizing this initiative and their hard work and dedication. Mr. USLU highlighted the importance of the digital transformation and the international cooperation in this area. He also underlined that COMCEC recognized the importance of keeping up with the world wide digital transformation and therefore seeks to strengthen Islamic cooperation and

partnership in this area. He also stated that during the 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Meeting, many issues regarding digitalization had been discussed including digital governance leadership and policy levers, digital resilience and cyber security, digital skills and competency, digital connectivity, broadband infrastructure and access. Mr. USLU also stressed that emerging technologies are essential for sustainable development but they could also increase inequalities. Finally, he emphasized the importance of developing common policies and projects with regards to digitalization among the Member Countries.

**Current State of Digital Transformation in the OIC Member Countries**

6. Ms. Şeyma ÖZCAN, Advisor, presented the revised version of the Draft Concept Report on Current State of OIC Member Countries in Digitalization. Ms. ÖZCAN informed the participants about the six possible themes for cooperation, which were updated based on the discussions during the first technical meeting, namely digital governance and leadership, digital resilience, digital connectivity, broadband infrastructure and access and digital skills and competencies and emerging technologies and data governance. Furthermore, Ms. ÖZCAN presented the cooperation framework envisaged in the concept report. She also expressed that the draft concept report reflecting all agreed points raised by the Member Countries during the technical meetings would be shared with the participants very soon.

7. The participants expressed their thanks and appreciation for the presentation and the comprehensive draft report on the current state of the Member Countries in digitalization. Afterwards, the participants highlighted the following issues regarding the report:

   - The issue of digital economy and financial technology (Fintech) can be elaborated in the report.

   - Some best practices and applications such as mobile ID, digital ID, e-government services from the member countries in the field of digital transformation can be referred in the report to the extent possible.

   - The member countries, which have not done so yet, to share their final observations on the draft Concept Report to the CCO by November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Moderation Session: Potential Areas of Cooperation**

8. Ms. Şeyma ÖZCAN moderated the Session on the potential thematic areas of cooperation in digital transformation.

9. After intense deliberations the participants have identified the following thematic areas for cooperation within the framework of COMCEC High Level Digital Initiative/ Programme.
   - Developing Digital Government
   - Strengthening Digital Resilience and Safeguards
   - Enhancing Digital Connectivity, Broadband Infrastructure and Access
   - Advancing Digital Skills and Competencies
   - Emerging Technologies and Data Governance

- Cross-cutting digital cooperation issues such as start-up ecosystem and clusters for SMEs and entrepreneurs

10. For conducting the related activities and other efforts under each thematic area, a task force, to be led by a voluntary member country, can be formed.

11. Moreover, the participants underlined the need for establishing a regular platform for experience-sharing in these areas among the relevant authorities/institutions of the Member Countries.

12. In this regard, the participants also highlighted the following issues:

- The spread of the culture of digitalization can be included under the heading of developing digital government.

- Ensuring the interoperability of e-commerce platforms as well as the harmonization of the legal frameworks for e-commerce platforms at the regional level can be referred under the relevant thematic heading in the draft report.

- Capacity building for cyber security workforce in order to ensure digital resilience and safeguards can have more focus under the relevant thematic heading.

- The issue of supporting the entrepreneurship and start-up ecosystem can be referred under the thematic heading called "Cross-cutting Digital Cooperation" section.

- Organizing digital competition activities such as Hackhathons and Digitons among the OIC Member Countries can be added under the relevant thematic areas.

**Closing Remarks**

13. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Mehmet C. AKTAŞ, Director from COMCEC Coordination Office thanked all participants for the fruitful deliberations made during the meeting. Mr. AKTAŞ reminded all participants that the responses of the Member Country observations on the Concept Report can be communicated to the CCO by November 11th, 2022. He also reminded the participants that the High-level Meeting on the Digital Initiative will be held on the sidelines of the 38th Meeting of the COMCEC Ministerial Session to be held on 27th November 2022.

**ANNEX I**

## 2ND TECHNICAL MEETING ON COMCEC HIGH LEVEL DIGITAL INITIATIVE/ PROGRAMME
(November 1st, 2022; Virtual Meeting)

*Opening Remarks*

1. Consideration of the Revised Draft Concept Report on the "Current State of Digital Transformation in the OIC Member Countries"

2. Identification of Possible Thematic Areas for Cooperation

3. Any Other Business

*Closing Remarks*

**ANNEX II**



**COMCEC**

**2ND TECHNICAL MEETING ON COMCEC HIGH LEVEL DIGITAL INITIATIVE/ PROGRAMME**

(November 1st, 2022; Virtual Meeting)*

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**
(Ankara Time - GMT+3)

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|---|---|
| **13.15 – 13.30** | **Joining the Online Meeting**<br>(The invitation link will be provided by the CCO) |
| **13.30 – 13.45** | **Opening Remarks** |
| | **Consideration of the Revised Draft Concept Report on the "Current State of Digital Transformation in the OIC Member Countries"**<br><br>*During the 1st Technical Meeting held on September 28th, 2022, the participants elaborated on the main findings of the draft concept report on current state of OIC Member Countries in digitalization. In this part of the Meeting, the 2nd Draft of the report, which has been prepared in line with the observations of the Member Countries during the 1st Meeting, will be presented.* |
| **13.45 – 14.15** | • *Presentation: Ms. Şeyma ÖZCAN*<br>    *Advisor* |
| **14.15  - 14.30** | • *Questions and Answers (Q &A) and Discussions* |
| **14.30 – 15.30** | **Moderation Session: Identification of Possible Thematic Areas for Cooperation**<br><br>*During the 1st Technical Meeting, the representatives of the Member Countries discussed about their views and observations regarding the possible thematic areas for cooperation. In this section, the participants are expected to elaborate on the revisions made on the thematic areas in accordance with the report of the 1st Technical Meeting.*<br><br><br>• *Discussion* |
| **15.30 – 15.45** | **Closing** |

**ANNEX III**

**2<sup>ND</sup> TECHNICAL MEETING ON COMCEC HIGH LEVEL DIGITAL INITIATIVE/ PROGRAMME**
(November 1st, 2022; Virtual Meeting)

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Technical Experts Meeting on COMCEC High Level Digital Initiative/ Programme**

**A.MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OIC**

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**

-Mr. ELTAF AHMAD ALAMYAR
General Director of IT Research and Development, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

**PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA**

-Ms. NACERA GUEMAZ
Director of Digitization Coordination and Monitoring, Ministry of Digitization and Statistics

**REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

-Mr. SADI EMINOV
Head of Business Development and Investment Promotion Unit, Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, Innovation Agency

-Ms. ELNARA ALIZADA
Head of the "Smart City" Project Management Department, Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, Innovation Agency

**REPUBLIC OF BENIN**

-Mr. SONGBIAN ZIME
Technical Advisor In charge of Project Monitoring and Reforms, Minister of Digital Affairs and Digitalization

**BURKINA FASO**

-Mr. NADEMBEGA ADAMA
Strategy and Policy Director, Ministry of the Digital Transition of Posts and Electronic Communications

-Mr. WENDBE FERDINAND YOUGBARE
General Manager of Digital Transformation, Ministry of the Digital Transition of Posts and Electronic Communications

-Ms. WENDINGOUDI MAIMOUNA SAWADOGO
Director of Digital Industry, Ministry of the Digital Transition of Posts and Electronic Communications

**REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

-Mr. NNEMETE BEYEME FJ
Deputy Director, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications

**COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA**

-Mr. CHRISTOPHER DEEN
General Manager, National Data Management Authority, Office of the Prime Minister

-Ms. MOVITA NARAINE
Planner, Ministry of Agriculture

**REPUBLIC OF IRAQ**

-Ms. ISRAA HANOON
Chief Engineer, Ministry of Transportation

**HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN**

-Mr. MOHAMMAD ALSALAMIN
Acting Head of Digital Transformation Policies and Strategies Department, Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship

**REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

-MR. ASKAR KUSSAINOV
Deputy Director of the Digital Transformation Department, Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry

**THE STATE OF KUWAIT**

-Dr. AMMAR ALHUSAINI
Deputy Director General, Central Agency for Information Technology

**REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**

-Ms. ROULA NASRALLAH
Head of Quality Department, Ministry of Economy and Trade

**REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES**

-Ms. AMINATH NASHIA
Resource Mobilization Executive, Ministry of Finance

-Ms. AISHATH RIFGA
Chief General Service Officer, Ministry of Transportation

**REPUBLIC OF MALI**

-Mr. ABDOUL KADER KY
National Director of Digital Economy, Ministry of Communication, Digital Economy and Modernization of Administration (MCENMA)

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA**

-Mr. MOHAMED LEMINE SALIHI
Project Manager, Ministry of Digital Transformation, Innovation and Modernization of Administration (MTNIMA)

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN**

-Ms. MARIA KAZI
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

**THE STATE OF PALESTINE**

-Mr. LAITH DARAGMEH
General Director, Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology

-Mr. RASHAD YOUSEF
Director of Policies, Ministry of National Economy

**STATE OF QATAR**

-Ms. SARA ABUALAININ
HR Researcher, Qatar Tourism

-Mr. AMER ALQATAWNA
HR, Qatar Tourism

**KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

-Mr. ABDULRAHMAN QANAQ
International Partnerships Director, CITC

-Mr. WALEED ALDAKHIL
International Organizations specialist, The Saudi General Authority of Foreign Trade

**REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

-Mr. ANTON HAROLD JAMES CAESAR
Chief Technology Officer, Ministry of Information and Communications

**REPUBLIC OF SUDAN**

-H.E. Dr. GAMAL AMIN ELSAYED
Director of General Department of Planning, Ministry

**REPUBLIC OF THE SURINAME**

-Mr. RAMADHIN PREWIEN
Deputy Director e-Government, Cabinet of the President of the Republic Suriname

**REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

-Mr. FARUKH SOLIEV
Head of the Digital Economy Development Department, Ministry of Economic
Development and Trade

**REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA**

-Ms. MOUNA BALTI
Head of Section, Bureau of International Cooperation, Ministry of Communication
Technologies

**REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

-Mr. RAED SAEED
ICT Engineer, Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology

**B.THE OIC SUBSIDIARY INSTITUTIONS/ ORGANS**

**STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER FOR**

**ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRIC)**

-Dr. ATILLA KARAMAN
Director, Statistics and Information Department, SESRIC

**THE ISLAMIC CORPORATION FOR THE INSURANCE OF INVESTMENT AND**

**EXPORT CREDIT (ICIEC)**

-Mr. MOHAMAD ELSAYED ELSAYED
Manager, Information Technology Management Division

**STANDING COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL**

**COOPERATION (COMSTECH)**

-Mr. MUHAMMAD HARIS AKRAM
Programme Manager, COMSTECH

**C. COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**

- Mr. SELÇUK KOÇ
Deputy Director General
- Mr. M. CELALETTIN AKTAŞ
Head of Department
- Mr. MEHMET ASLAN
Head of Department
- Ms. EDA AKÇA
Expert
- Mr. MUSTAFA ADIL SAYAR
Expert
- MUHAMMED ZIYA SARI
Assistant Expert