



الجمهورية الإسلامية الجزائرية  
الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية  
Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture  
La Chambre Islamique de Commerce, d'Industrie et d'Agriculture

## **Report on the Activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture (ICCIA)**

**39<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Meeting  
2-5th December 2023**

**Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture (ICCIA)**

## ICCIA Events & Forums (Hosted & Participated): 24

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1. ICCIA's Regional Forum "Microfinance in Africa: Promising Opportunities and an Innovative Model", Nouakchott, December, 19-20th 2022  
Best of Entrepreneurship Series, Pakistan:
2. Green Entrepreneurship in Pakistan: Opportunities & Challenges held on 8th December 2022 at Karachi School of Business & Leadership (KSBL)
3. Urban Innovation- Opportunities & Challenges: held on 25th May 2023 at Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science & Technology (SZABIST), Karachi
4. ICCIA's Participation at the Pakistan International Maritime Expo & Conference, 10-12th February 2023, Expo Center Karachi, Pakistan
5. Culture & Creative Economy: "Unlocking the Creative Economy", Launching Ceremony, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023, Federation House, Karachi
6. Textile & Commerce: Crafting Success in Business August 18, 2023, at Indus Valley School of Arts (IVS)
7. Edutainment & Entrepreneurship, September 1, 2023, at Expo Center Karachi on the sidelines of ITCN Asia
8. Digital Production & Entrepreneurship, September 1, 2023, at Expo Center Karachi, on the sidelines of ITCN Asia
9. Immersive Realities & Entrepreneurship, September 1, 2023, at Expo Center Karachi, on the sidelines of ITCN Asia
10. Gaming & Entrepreneurship, September 1, 2023, at Expo Center Karachi, on the sidelines of ITCN Asia
11. Ceramic Art: From Passion to Profit, October 5, 2023, at Indus Valley School of Arts (IVS)
12. Angel Investors Summit, ICCIA Headquarters Karachi-Pakistan, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023
13. Textile Asia Expo, March 10 - 12th, 2023
14. Manafea Forum- The Way to a Promising Future, Makkah Chamber Headquarters, 10th April 2023
15. ICCIA's Participation at the 14th International Economic Forum "Russia – Islamic World: Kazan Forum 2023", May 14, 2023, Kazan, Russian Federation
16. ICCIA's Participation at GITEX Africa 2023, May 31- June 2, 2023, Marrakech - The Kingdom of Morocco
17. Manafea participation at the 13th World Chambers Congress, June 21 - 23, 2023, in Geneva, Switzerland
18. ICCIA participation at FoodAg 2023, August 10- 12, 2023, at Karachi Expo Centre, Pakistan
19. ICCIA participation at the 23rd ITCN Asia - Int'l IT & Telecom Show, on Aug. 31 - Sep. 2, 2023, at Karachi Expo Centre, Pakistan
20. ICCIA participation at Afghanistan Agri-Business Investment Forum, September 2023, the university of Faisalabad, Pakistan
21. The 2nd Capacity-Building Programme for Users of the OIC Business Intelligence Centre (OBIC), September 26-28, 2023, Istanbul, Türkiye
22. ICCIA Participation at Istanbul Arbitration week, Oct. 2-6, 2023, in Türkiye
23. ICCIA Participation at the 9th ministerial conference on food security and agriculture, October 2023, Qatar
24. ICCIA participation at GTR Egypt 2023, Oct. 4, 2023, Dusit Thani Lakeview, Cairo, Egypt

25. ICCIA participation at Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum, 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

## **ICCIA Board of Directors Meeting**

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### **[The 35th Meeting of the Board of Directors of ICCIA in Baku, Azerbaijan, July 17-18<sup>th</sup>](#)**

During this meeting, ICCIA discussed several key topics, including its Accreditation Program and the launch of specialized committees. The focus was on collaboration and progress. Chambers' presidents and member states' representatives attended, sharing their insights and ideas for shaping the economic future of the Islamic nations.

Additionally, the event featured sideline activities aimed at promoting investment and creating opportunities across OIC member states. One such event was the Exhibition for Traditional Crafts and Heritage in Azerbaijan, held over two days. This exhibition showcased Azerbaijan's cultural heritage, inspiring innovation and creativity on a global scale.

## **ICCIA Trainings: 6**

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1. Training on "International Organizations for Funding", Pilot Training, Karachi, 18th May 2023, ICCIA Headquarter
2. Digital transformation course held in June 2023 in collaboration with the Jordan Chamber.
3. Public policies course conducted in October at the Cairo Regional Office.
4. Training session on digital transformation in Mauritania in October 2023.
5. Family business training in September, organized in collaboration with KSBL, Pakistan
6. Lecture titled "Family Business: Sustainability Over Generations" in October, upon invitation by Al-Baraka Bank, Pakistan.

## **ICCIA Partnerships: 5**

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1. MANAFEA Partnership between the Makkah Chamber of Commerce, Medina Chamber of Commerce and ICCIA under the patronage of KSA.

2. MOU signed between ICCIA - ICIEC
3. Partnership with Development Aid
4. MOU with KSBL, Karachi School of Business Leadership, Pakistan
5. MOU signed between ICCIA & Union of Chambers of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries from the Union of the Comoros (UCAEP)

## **ICCIA Project Updates: 4**

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### **Green Waqf Initiative**

- a. ICCIA signed an MoU with Ziauddin Law University to develop the Green Waqf Legal Framework.
- b. MoU signed with Agricultural University Faisalabad to utilize their lands and Centre for Excellence to develop the Green Waqf Project.
- c. ICCIA presented Green Waqf research paper at AL-Baraka forum in Medina in March 2023.

### **Digital Transformation of the Chambers and SMEs**

- a. Developed the Digital Transformation strategy and roadmap.
- b. Developed the Needs assessment checklist to assess the current capabilities of the member chambers.
- c. Developed ICCIA Digital Transformation UAX.
- d. Project planning in progress for ICCIA DX initiation.
- e. Participated in OBIC Capacity Building Program in Jeddah and Istanbul to share ICCIA's Digital Transformation for SMEs
- f. Led and developed the Digital Transformation of the SMEs training in Mauritania.

### **ICCIA Arts and Crafts Platform**

1. Developed the Arts and Crafts platform scope of work, selection criteria, request for proposal.
2. Conducted technology and business model audits for existing solutions from the MENA region.
3. Conducted vendor assessment in response to proposal submission.
4. Supported the ICCIA holding company in vendor selection.

### **ICCIA Management Committees**

1. Developed the framework, charter, nomination criteria, management structure and terms of reference for three management committees; Digitalization, E-commerce, Ethics and Impact Investment.

## **ICCIA Webinars: 9**

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**ICCIA Leadership Talks:** Themes Artificial Intelligence, Green Finance, Food and Beverage

**ICCIA Country Focus Webinars:** Country Focus on Chad, 22nd March 2023

**International Voices Webinars 2023:** Themes: Enabling Economic Growth & Green Financing: A Catalyst for Sustainable Development. Participating International organizations: ITU, SESRIC, IFC, UNESCAP, and IsDB.

## **ICCIA Publications: 6**

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1. International Organizations for Funding 2022
2. Directory of Chambers of Commerce in the Muslim World
3. Directory of Economic Unions in the member countries
4. ICCIA Touristic Guide
5. ICCIA Facts and Figures Report 2023
6. Top ICCIA Countries in International Rankings 2023

## **ICCIA initiatives for the Capacity Building of the Member Chambers: 5**

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1. **Business Connect Program Launch:** The Business Connect program will serve as a platform for ICCIA's partners, including chambers of commerce, federations, and international and national organizations, to stimulate and facilitate trade delegations and foster trade and investment cooperation among all member countries. The program will provide technical and logistical support in the four countries where ICCIA has its headquarters and regional offices, namely Pakistan, Egypt, Türkiye, and KSA, to help businesspeople develop and finalize agreements and partnerships.
2. **ICCIA's Accreditation Program:** ICCIA has officially launched its accreditation program as of January 2023, which is aimed at developing and improving the services provided by the chambers of commerce in member countries, as well as guiding them towards sustainability. This program is designed to define excellence in chamber management, promote chamber sustainability, and reinforce the chamber's role as the main force in commerce and trade within its community.  
In preparation for the launch of this program, ICCIA is in the process of obtaining the ISO9001 certificate, as well as ISO 19011 for auditing management systems and necessary auditing training. This certification is part of ICCIA's commitment to enhance its quality management services. ICCIA has also finalized the accreditation program's slogan, which is: "Sustainable Chamber, Growing Economy." Currently, ICCIA is working with Mecca Chamber to become the first accredited Chamber of the ICCIA.
3. **ICCIA's Scholarship Program:** ICCIA has launched its "Scholarship Program", with the aim to support the exchange of knowledge, and best practices in diverse environments. ICCIA is working towards gathering all scholarship opportunities available that are applicable for the youth of OIC member countries. The target audience of this program will be ICCIA's member chambers in the 57 OIC countries as well as candidates from non-OIC countries who meet the criterion of being Muslim to be eligible for the scholarship.
4. **Summer Training Program:** In alignment with ICCIA's dedication to empower the youth in OIC countries and fulfilling its social responsibility, the organization has launched a comprehensive Summer Training Program across its regional offices. This initiative is tailored for university students, offering them essential skills in diplomacy, formal writing, and communication. Moreover, it provides a unique opportunity for active involvement in the coordination of events, workshops, and annual meetings, enabling students to gain practical experience in these fields.  
Upon completion, participants are awarded a training certificate from the Islamic Chamber. By gaining insight into the inner workings of an NGO and establishing valuable connections, participants can overcome the hurdle of inexperience, paving the way for their successful professional journeys. This initiative stands as a testament to ICCIA's commitment to nurturing the talent of its member countries and giving back to the communities where its offices are located.
5. **Sustainable Chamber Model:** the Islamic Chamber has completed the development of a sustainability model for its members, while also identifying the most prominent issues that may impede an institution's path towards sustainability and growth. This guide is based on ICCIA's experience in

dealing with its 57 member countries and understanding the challenges they may face in the era of digitalization and technology. The sustainability model is available in English, Arabic, and French, and will be updated in the future with any new developments or technologies. The model was first presented in Mauritania during ICCIA's Regional Forum on "Microfinance in Africa: Promising Opportunities and an Innovative Model".

## ICCIA Holding Company Project Updates

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1. **Creation of Microfinance Institutions in the G5 Sahel Region:** Currently, the feasibility study for Islamic Microfinance Institutions has been initiated by a selected international consulting firm with a duration of six months, beginning in August, in partnership with IsDB following the resolutions adopted by the 48th Conference of Foreign Ministers in Islamabad, Pakistan. ICCIA has also initiated its outreach efforts with other international funds and development finance institutions that may be interested in collaborating on this project.
2. **ICCIA eCommerce Platform:** The ICCIA eCommerce Platform has developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) and received five proposals; currently, the platform is planning to resubmit the RFP for further consideration.
3. **Border Management & Consulting LLP:** Forging new paths to economic development, ICCIA collaborated with TOBB and GTI to establish "Border Management & Consulting LLP." The Board of Directors of the LLP was elected on July 6, 2023, and the board members are as follows:
  - 1. Chairman of the Board: H.E Mr. Yousef Khalawi, ICCIA Secretary General.
  - 2. Vice Chairman: Mr. Tamer Kiran, Vice-President of TOBB.
  - 3. Members of the Board: Mr. Arif Parmaksiz, Chairman of the Board of GTI, and Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim, CEO of ICCIA Holding Company.

## Islamic Chamber Halal Services (ICHS)

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The Islamic Chamber Halal Services, reengineered its operations and re-organized the ICHS under 4 lines of business:

1. **IC Halal Events:** IC HS organized and co-organized events Under the brand “IC Halal Event” all around the world with various formats and participation levels with the objective to create awareness and promote Halal trade
2. **IC Halal Platform:** Designed and developed an online platform that will help develop and grow the global halal market, where halal buyers can search for the right supplier/partner and connect with them while being able to verify their Halal status
3. **IC Halal Certification:** The halal certification unit successfully certified companies in Africa and Europe, covering all Halal sectors, and further assisted these companies in growing and developing their market share.
4. **IC Halal Country Consultation:** IC HS signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Nigeria and Azerbaijan, to develop and consult the local Halal ecosystem with three dimensions: legislations, capacity building, and country Halal branding.

## **OIC Arbitration Centre**

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Following are the activities conducted by the OIC AC since the last update:

- a. **The Structure of the Centre:** The structure of the Centre has been approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on April 1,2023 by adding an Executive committee to the structure.
- b. **The Executive Committee:** The EC has held two meetings, the first meeting on May 6,2023 and July 6, 2023.
- c. **Registration of the Centre according to Turkish law:** The Centre is registered according to Turkish law.
- d. **Appointment of employees.**
- e. **Concluding the contracts with decoration and website companies.**
- f. **The Rules of the Centre:** The EC established the Rules Committee with Board members H.E. Ali Al Zarooni, Fayyad Al Qoda, Mohamed Ridza, and Ibrahim Bayar.
- g. **The Supervisory committee.**

### **The activities of the OIC-AC are as following:**

- The Secretary General, and H.E. Ibrahim Bayar have held several meetings with the representatives of the Turkish government and COMEC, which are as follows:
  - a. COMEC meeting on April 20, 2023: Introduction to the COMEC about the activities of the Centre and the future.
  - b. COMEC meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade on May 1, 2023: The meeting was about the opening and operation of another center in the OIC for investment disputes.

- c. Attended the COMEC 39th Follow-Up meeting on May 23.
- d. Met with the Chief Administrative Staff of Mr. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on June 12, 2023.
- e. COMEC meeting on June 19, 2023.
- The OIC-AC attended the Uzbekistan Arbitration week in September 2023.
- The OIC-AC attended the OIC meeting in Morocco about establishing an investment center.
- The OIC-AC sponsored the ISTAW(Istanbul Arbitration Week) held on 3 October 2023 .
- The OIC-AC concluded an MoU with EDAC (Energy Disputes Arbitration Centre) on 5 October 2023.
- The OIC-AC attended the UNCITRAL workgroup on establishing an advisory group for investment on 9 October 2023.
- The OIC-AC published its Rules and ISB on 15th October 2023.
- The OIC-AC concluded an MoU with TOBB University on 17th October 2023.
- The OIC-AC sponsored Al Baraka summit for Islamic finance and dispute resolution on 28th October 2023.