



**COMCEC**

**ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA  
41<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP  
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC  
(13-14 May 2025)**

**COMCEC Coordination Office  
May 2025  
[www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)**

Original: English



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**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**41<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC**  
(13-14 May 2025, Ankara)

1. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda
2. Report on the COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation
3. The Implementation of the OIC-2025: Programme of Action
4. Intra-OIC Trade
5. Enhancing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation
6. Deepening Financial Cooperation
7. Improving Transport and Communications
8. Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector
9. Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security
10. Alleviating Poverty
11. Cooperation on Digital Transformation
12. Preparations for the Exchange of Views on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”
13. Draft Agenda of 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC
14. Any Other Business
15. Adoption of the Report

## INTRODUCTION

This document provides background information about the current status of the COMCEC's cooperation areas, programs, and projects for its 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee, to be held on 13-14 May 2025 in Ankara.

The document provides background information and the required actions on the Draft Agenda Items from 2 to 13. As the remaining Agenda Items are self-explanatory, they are not included in the Document.

The reports and studies to be submitted under each agenda item will be available on the COMCEC's website ([www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)).

## ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA ITEMS

### AGENDA ITEM 2

#### **Report on the COMCEC Strategy and Its Implementation**

COMCEC continues its efforts in light of the COMCEC Strategy. The Working Groups (WG), as part of the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy, provide a regular platform for the Member Country experts for discussing the policies and practices in each cooperation area to create a common understanding and approximate policies among the Member Countries. The COMCEC Project Funding, another important implementation instrument of the COMCEC Strategy, enables Member Countries registered with the Working Groups, as well as the relevant OIC Institutions, to submit concrete cooperation projects for the realization of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations.

The Working Groups, namely trade, transportation and communications, agriculture, tourism, financial cooperation, and poverty alleviation, convene twice a year to elaborate on the themes identified by the Member Country Focal points and formulate policy recommendations for the consideration of the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. Within this framework, the Working Groups will conduct their 24<sup>th</sup> round of meetings (23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting for the Financial Cooperation) in April 2025 and focus on important themes in each cooperation area. The details about the developments in each Working Group are given under the relevant agenda item.

Under the COMCEC Project Funding (CPF), which was introduced to support realization of policy recommendations adopted by COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, 23 projects were implemented in 2024. Furthermore, under the COMCEC Al-Quds Program, which focuses on important thematic areas namely, entrepreneurship, creating job opportunities and empowerment of youth, e-commerce, SME development and tourism, eight projects were implemented last year. This year eight new projects will be supported within the scope of the Programme.

Moreover, cooperation efforts carried out by the relevant OIC Institutions bear great importance for realizing the objectives of the COMCEC Strategy and the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations. In line with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the OIC Institutions organize activities aligned with the objectives and expected outputs of the COMCEC Strategy, as well as the policy recommendations adopted by the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. Within this framework, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC welcomed the Progress Report on the Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy submitted by the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), which highlighted the progress achieved in implementing the Strategy and commended the Member Countries and OIC Institutions for their valuable contributions.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC took note with appreciation of the convening of the COMCEC Working Groups in the cooperation areas and the research studies conducted by the CCO for enriching the discussions in the COMCEC Working Group Meetings. Commending the endeavors towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations by the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions, the Session invited the Member Countries to exert every effort, to the extent possible, to implement the Policy Recommendations and to harness the benefits of the current facilities and mechanisms, in particular the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Support Programs, and requested the relevant OIC Institutions to support the Member Countries to this end.

*Required Action(s):* The COMCEC Coordination Office will present a report to the Follow-up Committee on the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy. The Committee will consider the report for necessary action.

## AGENDA ITEM 3

### **The Implementation of the OIC-2025: Programme of Action**

The OIC Programme of Action for the period of 2016-2025 (OIC-2025: Programme of Action) was adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit held in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on 14-15 April 2016.

Underlining the importance of the realization of the objectives set by OIC 2025: Programme of Action and active follow-up of the economic and commercial section of the Programme by the COMCEC, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC requested the OIC General Secretariat to regularly submit comprehensive progress reports on the implementation of the Programme to the COMCEC Sessions and the Follow-up Committee Meetings.

Furthermore, regarding the preparations towards the successor ten year programme of action, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session invited the Member States to actively participate in the on-going process to develop a new OIC Programme of Action for 2026-2035 and contribute to this endeavour by providing their respective inputs including priorities and strategic goals.

Required Action(s): The OIC General Secretariat is expected to submit a comprehensive progress report to the Follow-up Committee on the implementation of the OIC 2025: Programme of Action and the preparations for the OIC Programme of Action for 2026-2035. The Committee will consider the General Secretariat's report on the subject for necessary action.

## AGENDA ITEM 4

### **Intra-OIC Trade**

Expansion of intra-OIC trade is one of the most important strategic objectives of the COMCEC in the trade domain. In this regard, trade occupies an important place in the COMCEC agenda.

In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 24<sup>th</sup> Trade Working Group (TWG) will be held virtually with the theme of "Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries" on 21 April 2025.

Regarding the projects supported under the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Suriname, Türkiye, and Uganda implemented five projects in total in the trade cooperation area in 2024, and 7 Member Countries benefited from the projects. Moreover, two projects will be implemented by Indonesia and SMIIC in the trade cooperation area this year.

Required Action(s): The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Trade Working Group and the projects being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding.

There are also some important programs and projects on the agenda of the COMCEC in the field of trade. Some of the ongoing programs and activities are; TPS-OIC, Islamic Trade Fairs, WTO-Related Technical Assistance, Trade Financing Activities, and Trade Related Activities of SMIIC.

## - TPS-OIC

TPS-OIC (Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member Countries) is the most important project of the COMCEC in the trade area. The System is based on three agreements, namely the Framework Agreement, the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS), and the Rules of Origin. The legal basis of the TPS-OIC was completed in 2011. The System has become fully operational as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Within this framework, welcoming the effectuation of the System, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session requested the Participating States, which have not done so yet, to complete their internal procedures and called upon the Member Countries, which have not yet signed or ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements to do so at their earliest convenience and complete other procedures for joining the System.

The Session welcomed the convening of the Honorable Ministers and Vice-Ministers on 4 November 2024 on the margin of 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, where the Honorable Ministers and Vice Ministers deliberated on the issues regarding the OIC trade agenda, particularly TPS-OIC.

The Session also welcomed the decisions of the Third Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC hosted by Republic of Türkiye on 10-11 June 2024, in İstanbul and requested the continuation of technical review in 2025 to elaborate on the potential expansion of TPS-OIC with increased product coverage and new disciplines with the participation of the OIC Member Countries, which have signed and ratified the TPS-OIC Framework Agreement and other interested Member Countries, which are not party to the Framework Agreement, as observers, for ensuring a wider membership composition.

*Required Action(s):* As the co-secretariat of the TNC, the CCO will brief the Committee on the recent developments regarding the TPS-OIC. The Committee will consider the recent developments and take appropriate action if necessary.

## - Islamic Trade Fairs

Islamic trade fairs are held every two years in one of the OIC Member Countries by ICDT in order to promote intra-OIC trade. In addition to the Islamic Trade Fairs, sector-specific exhibitions are also organized by the ICDT in the Member Countries. The 18<sup>th</sup> OIC Trade Fair of the OIC Member Countries will be organized in Lahore, Pakistan, in cooperation with ICDT.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC appreciated ICDT's various activities conducted in 2024, and invited the Member Countries to actively participate in the fairs, exhibitions, workshops and forums to be organized by the ICDT.

*Required Action(s):* ICDT is expected to report the recent developments on the Islamic Trade Fairs and sector-specific exhibitions.

## - WTO Related Technical Assistance

COMCEC encourages its members to join the WTO in order to benefit from the international trade system on an equitable and fair basis. For this purpose, the IsDB Group and ICDT organize training courses, seminars, and workshops on WTO-related issues for the benefit of the Member Countries.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC called upon the IsDB and ICDT to keep on extending their technical assistance to the Member Countries in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations and coordinate the position of the Member Countries.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC called upon the Member Countries and the relevant OIC institutions to extend support to the Member Countries who need technical assistance on trade facilitation practices towards the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

*Required Action(s):* The IsDB and ICDT are expected to report their activities in this field to the Committee.

#### **- Trade Financing Activities**

Accessing to affordable trade financing is one of the crucial factors for business people to engage in international trade. Trade financing activities are mainly carried out within the IsDB Group's trade financing organ, the Islamic Trade Financing Corporation (ITFC). Moreover, the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC) has been providing export credit insurance to mitigate the risks of trade.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC appreciated the trade finance and trade development activities of ITFC and the mobilization of funds from the development partners for funding trade operations in the Member Countries, contributing towards the achievement of intra-OIC trade target of 25 percent by the year 2025.

Moreover, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC requested the ICIEC, in collaboration with the SESRIC, ICDT, and ICCD to continue their efforts to complete the technical preparations for launching the OIC Business Intelligence Programme and submit a Progress Report to the 41<sup>st</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting and the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session.

*Required Action(s):* The IsDB Group is expected to report its activities on trade financing and export credit risk insurance. The IsDB Group (ICIEC) is also expected to inform the Committee on the latest developments with regard to the OIC Business Intelligence Program.

#### **- Trade-Related Activities of SMIIC**

SMIIC aims to enhance trade among the Member Countries by realizing harmonized standards and eliminating technical barriers among them.

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session commended the efforts of SMIIC in the areas of standardization, metrology and accreditation as well as quality infrastructure and their impact on trade facilitation and capacity building and invited the Member Countries to adopt and use the OIC/SMIIC Standards as their national standards with a view to contributing to the harmonization of standards and alleviating technical barriers to trade among the Member Countries.

The Session also called upon the Member Countries using OIC/SMIIC Standards to officially adopt the standards according to SMIIC adoption guidelines.

*Required Action(s):* The SMIIC will inform the Committee on the recent developments regarding its trade-related activities.

## AGENDA ITEM 5

### Enhancing the Role of the Private Sector in Economic Cooperation

#### - Private Sector Meetings

The Private Sector Meetings, organized by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD) serve as a platform for the private sector of the OIC Member Countries to communicate with each other, and explore the opportunities for trade and investments. Apart from private sector meetings, the ICCD also organizes various sector-specific Forums in the areas of Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Tourism, Islamic Economy, Investment, Digital Economy, and Entrepreneurship to support the sustainable development of the OIC private sector for the resilient economic growth of the member countries.

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session recognized the initiatives undertaken by ICCD for capacity building of the private sector through the Chambers Accreditation Program and invited the Member Countries and relevant private sector entities to actively participate in the sector specific forums organized by ICCD to support the sustainable development of the OIC Private Sector and economic growth of the Member Countries. .

*Required Action(s):* The ICCD is expected to inform the Committee on the recent developments regarding private sector meetings.

#### - OIC Arbitration Centre

The OIC Arbitration Centre has been operating in İstanbul/Türkiye. The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC acknowledged the important role of the OIC Arbitration Centre, as an affiliated institution of ICCD for the settlement of disputes and called upon the Member Countries to encourage the active participation in the activities of the OIC Arbitration Centre with a view to making use of services provided by the Centre to those who seek it.

*Required Action(s):* The ICCD and OIC Arbitration Centre are expected to brief the Committee on recent developments. The Committee will consider the issue and take the necessary action accordingly.

#### - Financing Private Sector Development

Islamic Corporation for the Development of Private Sector (ICD), a member of the IsDB Group, works towards the development of the private sector in the Member Countries and provides financing to private sector projects for this purpose.

Taking into consideration the crucial role of private sector financing in mobilizing private investments and ensuring sustainable economic growth of the Member Countries, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session commended ICD for its efforts in promoting private sector development and aiding the economic progress of OIC Member Countries by offering financial support and advisory services to the private sector.

*Required Action(s):* The ICD is expected to brief the Committee on its efforts in financing the private sector in the OIC Member Countries.

Considering the vital role of SMEs for the OIC economies in terms of production, investment, employment and growth, COMCEC SME Program was launched during the the 39<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Session of the COMCEC. The thematic areas in the SME Program were added to the sectoral areas supported under the COMCEC Project Funding. In this context, the projects titled “Experience Sharing for Designing a Roadmap on Building an SME Network Platform” and “Business Development with Suriname and Guyana” will be implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO is expected to brief the Committee on the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC SME Program.

## AGENDA ITEM 6

### Deepening Financial Cooperation

Deepening and widening of financial cooperation provide numerous advantages to individuals, businesses, and nations, such as the distribution of risk, enhanced access to capital and markets, cost-effectiveness, knowledge exchange, promotion of economic growth, stability, efficient resource allocation, utilization of strengths, and fostering innovation.

In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Financial Cooperation Working Group (FCWG) will be held on 22 April 2025 with the theme of “Promoting Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Islamic Financial Instruments to Combat the Adverse Effects of Climate Change and Natural Disasters in the OIC Member Countries”.

Within the scope of the COMCEC Project Funding, Nigeria implemented the project titled “Digital Finance and Payment Systems Training for SME value chain strengthening” in 2024. Moreover, Benin and Sierra Leone will implement two projects in the financial cooperation area this year.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group and the projects being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding.

Furthermore, other ongoing activities in the area of Financial Cooperation have been carried out under the OIC Exchanges Forum, COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum, and OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum.

#### - **OIC Exchanges Forum**

As a special platform and communication channel for the member countries, the OIC Exchanges Forum aims to deepen and widen cooperation among the relevant authorities of the member countries. The Forum has conducted eighteen meetings so far and developed some important projects, including the OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah International Investment Fund and the OIC Gold Exchange Project.

Detailed information about the efforts of the Forum is available on its website (<http://www.oicexchanges.org/>).

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session welcomed the convening of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC Exchanges Forum on 1 October 2024 and the offered of Borsa İstanbul, as the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to host the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum in 2025, and invited the Member Countries to actively participate in the activities organized under this Forum.

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session called upon the Member Countries to support the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC Shariah International Fund, which includes shares from the OIC COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, developed under the coordination of OIC Exchanges Forum, to the investors and the finance community in their respective countries. Moreover, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session requested the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum to complete technical preparations on the OIC Gold Exchange Project, based on block-chain model, in cooperation with Central Banks of the interested Member Countries.

*Required Action(s):* As the Secretariat of the Forum, Borsa İstanbul is expected to inform the Committee of the recent developments regarding the activities of the Forum as well as the OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah International Investment Fund, and to report the progress towards the realization of the above-mentioned Gold Exchange Project. The Committee will discuss the issue and take necessary action.

#### - **COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum**

As a regular platform exerting efforts towards increasing coordination and cooperation in the fields of regulatory and legal infrastructure among the Member Countries, the COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum conducted thirteen meetings till now. Detailed information about the efforts of the Forum is available on the Forum's website (<http://www.comceccmr.org/>).

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session welcomed the convening of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum on 16 October 2024 and the offer of the Capital Markets Board (CMB) of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Forum Secretariat, to host the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC CMR Forum, in 2025, and invited all the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.

Furthermore, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session welcomed the involvement of 14 Member Countries in the COMCEC Real Estate Electronic Platform within the framework of the Capital Markets Regulatory Forum. The Session also requested the Forum Secretariat to expedite the necessary legal, administrative, and technical work towards having a full-fledged Real Estate Electronic Platform, and invited the Member Countries which have not done so yet, to identify their authorized bodies as well as notify them to the Forum's Secretariat.

*Required Action(s):* As the Secretariat of the Forum, the Capital Markets Board of Türkiye is expected to brief the Committee on recent developments regarding the endeavours of the Forum. The Committee will discuss the issue and take necessary action.

#### - **OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum**

The OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum has been providing a regular platform to discuss monetary, banking, and financial issues, along with the efforts aimed at deepening the cooperation and coordination among Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member Countries. Detailed information about the efforts of the Forum is available on the Forum's website (<http://comceccentralbanks.org/>).

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session welcomed the convening of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum on 29-30 September 2024, in İstanbul, and the offer of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye as the Secretariat of the Forum, to host its 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2025, and invited the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.

Furthermore, commending the training and capacity building programs, particularly on Islamic banking and finance, financial stability, monetary policy, and Halal Value Chain organized by

SESRIC for the benefit of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC requested SESRIC to continue organizing such activities for the benefit of the relevant national institutions of the Member States within the framework of the Central Banks Capacity Building Programme (CB-CaB).

*Required Action(s):* As the Secretariat of the Forum, the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye is expected to inform the Committee about the activities of the Forum.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

### **Improving Transport and Communications**

Transportation plays a vital role in facilitating daily mobility of individuals and it is essential for the effective production and distribution of goods. A well-functioning transport and communications system is of particular importance for the economic and social development of Member Countries. In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Transport and Communications Working Group (TCWG) will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with the theme of “Enhancing and Sustaining Rural Accessibility in the OIC Member Countries”.

Regarding the projects supported under the COMCEC Project Funding, the project titled “Improving Human and Institutional Capacity for the Development of an Institutional Framework for Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) in The Gambia “ was implemented by The Gambia in partnership with Qatar in 2024. Moreover, the project titled “Strengthening Human and Institutional Capacity for Data Identification, Analysis, and Monitoring to Track Transport Sector Emissions in The Gambia and OIC Countries” will be implemented in 2025.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TCWG, the project being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding as well as other developments regarding the cooperation in this field.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

### **Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector**

As one of the cooperation areas of the COMCEC, tourism industry is one of the vital sectors in many countries by generating foreign exchange, creating new income, and increasing employment opportunities.

The COMCEC Tourism Working Group (TWG) focuses on various aspects of the tourism sector and its sub-categories. In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tourism Working Group will be held on 21 April 2025, with the theme of “Improving the Quality and Sustainability of Heritage Tourism in OIC Countries”.

Furthermore 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC expressed its appreciation to Türkiye for hosting the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with the theme “Sustainable Destination Development and Management in OIC Countries”.

Regarding the projects supported under the COMCEC Project Funding, four projects were implemented by Mali, Uganda, Nigeria and SESRIC in 2024 in the tourism area, and seventeen

Member Countries benefited from these projects. Moreover, seven projects will be implemented by Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Maldives, Malaysia, Uganda and SESRIC in the tourism cooperation area this year.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group and the projects being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding as well as other developments regarding the cooperation in this field.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9**

### **Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security**

Agriculture is one of the significant cooperation areas defined in the COMCEC Strategy. In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group will be held on 22 April 2025, with the theme of “Strengthening the Resilience of Family Farmers and Small-Scale Producers in the Agriculture and Food Sector in OIC Member Countries”.

Concerning the projects supported under the COMCEC Project Funding, eight projects were implemented by Azerbaijan, Benin, the Gambia, Niger, Nigeria, Türkiye, SESRIC and COMSTECH in 2024 in the agriculture domain, and 23 Member Countries benefited from the projects.

Moreover, six projects will be implemented by Azerbaijan, Benin, Egypt, the Gambia, Niger, and SESRIC within the Agriculture cooperation area this year.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group and the projects being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding, and other developments in this cooperation area.

## **AGENDA ITEM 10**

### **Alleviating Poverty**

Poverty remains at the top of the global development agenda due to regional and global political and socioeconomic challenges. Unfortunately, achievements in poverty alleviation have been adversely affected by the ongoing turbulences.

In accordance with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, the 24<sup>th</sup> Poverty Alleviation Working Group (PAWG) will be held on 24 April 2025, with the theme of “Decent Housing for the Poor in the OIC Member Countries.”

Under the COMCEC Project Funding, two projects were implemented by Türkiye and SESRIC in 2024 and 24 Member Countries in total benefited from these projects. Moreover, the project titled “Developing an Effective Roadmap for Facilitating Digital Transition in National VET Systems in OIC Member Countries” will be implemented by SESRIC for the benefit of 9 Member Countries in the poverty alleviation cooperation area this year.

*Required Action(s):* The CCO will brief the Committee on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of PAWG and the project being implemented in 2025 under the COMCEC Project Funding.

Moreover, ongoing cooperation efforts in the area of poverty alleviation have been carried out under the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD), Special Program for Development of Africa (SPDA), Vocational Education and Training Program for the OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET), and the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**- Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) and Special Program for Development of Africa (SPDA)**

Following the third Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in 2005, a special fund called as Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) was established under the Islamic Development Bank. Since it was officially launched in 2007, the fund has aimed to reduce poverty in the Member Countries. Another important initiative of IsDB, launched in 2008, is the Special Program for Development of Africa (SPDA). Along with creating more employment, this fund aims to enhance economic growth and agricultural production in African Member Countries.

Taking note with appreciation of the efforts of the ISFD for mobilizing resources, the 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session reiterates its request to the Member Countries, which have pledged to the ISFD to fulfill their commitments and make fresh contributions to finance more poverty alleviation projects in Member Countries.

*Required Action(s):* The IsDB Group is expected to submit reports on the implementation of the ISFD and SPDA and to inform the Committee on the implementation of the aforementioned programs.

**- OIC-VET Program**

SESRIC has been carrying out the Vocational Education and Training Program for the OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) since 2009 to contribute to the delivery of quality vocational education and training by relevant education authorities of the OIC Member Countries.

Commending the efforts of SESRIC in the execution of the OIC-TVET Strategic Road Map 2020-2025, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC requested SESRIC to continue providing regular progress updates to both COMCEC Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings and to identify potential challenges and propose strategic responses to ensure the continued successful implementation of the OIC-VET Programme and encouraged SESRIC to take necessary steps to prepare the OIC TVET Strategic Road Map 2026-2030.

*Required Action(s):* SESRIC is expected to inform the Committee on the latest developments on the implementation of the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025 and other ongoing training activities within the scope of the OIC-VET Program.

**- Implementation of SDGs**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the UN Special Summit in September 2015, presenting a more ambitious and comprehensive global development agenda.

Commending the efforts of SESRIC in conducting annual reports on the progress towards achievement of the SDGs in the OIC Member Countries and submission to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions on a regular basis, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC requested SESRIC to continue to carry out statistical training activities with a focus on SDGs for the benefit of National Statistical Offices of the Member Countries within the framework of its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB)

Programme.

The 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Session also requested the CCO to carry on compiling the relevant OIC Institutions' activities aligned with the SDG areas for submission to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

*Required Action(s):* SESRIC is expected to brief the Committee on the preparations regarding its report on the progress towards achievement of the SDGs in the OIC Member Countries to be submitted to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC. The CCO will inform the Committee on preparations for compiling the list of activities of the relevant OIC Institutions' aligned with the prioritized SDG areas.

## **AGENDA ITEM 11**

### **Cooperation on Digital Transformation**

Underlining the emerging trends with respect to digital technologies in all government services, digital transformation was included as an additional cooperation area in the COMCEC Agenda. Furthermore, COMCEC High Level Digital Transformation Forum was established with the aim of enhancing technical cooperation and collaboration among the relevant authorities responsible for digital transformation in the Member Countries as well as exchange of experiences, design of joint programs and projects. In this context, various trainings and capacity building activities have been conducted within the context of the Forum.

Digital transformation field was also included in the sectoral areas supported under COMCEC Project Funding. In this context, projects in the fields of cyber security competition and e-government were implemented in 2024. This year, projects on capacity building project in the field of artificial intelligence and e-government will be implemented under the COMCEC Project Funding.

*Required Action(s):* The Committee will be briefed on endeavours under the COMCEC High-Level Digital Transformation Forum and recent developments in the digital transformation cooperation area.

## **AGENDA ITEM 12**

### **Preparations for the Exchange of Views on**

#### **“Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”**

Exchange of views sessions are held regularly at the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions. The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC decided the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views of the next COMCEC Session as “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries” and requested the COMCEC Trade Working Group in its 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Session.

*Required Action(s):* The COMCEC Coordination Office is expected to inform the Committee of the preparations for the Exchange of Views Session.

## **AGENDA ITEM 13**

### **Draft Agenda of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC**

The draft agenda of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC will be considered by the Follow-up Committee under this agenda item.



**COMCEC**

**ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA  
41<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP  
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC  
(13-14 May 2025)**

COMCEC Coordination Office  
May 2025  
[www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org)