



REPORT

FORTY FIRST SESSION

OF THE COMCEC

COMCEC Coordination Office
November 2025

COMCEC
Standing Committee for Economic and
Commercial Cooperation of the Organization
of the Islamic Cooperation

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1-4 November 2025

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PART I

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT
CONFERENCE ESTABLISHING THE STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE OIC CHAIRED BY HEADS OF STATE**

I.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE ESTABLISHING THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE OIC CHAIRED BY HEADS OF STATE

Resolution No. 13/3-P (IS)

The Third Islamic Summit Conference (Palestine and Al-Quds Session), meeting in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 19th to 22nd Rabi-Al-Awal, 1401 H. (25-28 January 1981);

Having listened to the proposals by His Majesty King HASSAN II, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, that three committees will be established and chaired by the Kings and Presidents of the Islamic States,

Proceeding from a firm belief that joint Islamic action needs to be consolidated in the scientific and technological field, and in the economic and trade sphere,

Prompted by the desire to give information and culture a fresh impetus to help world public opinion understand the basic issues of the Islamic nations, particularly those of Al-Quds and Palestine, and to confront the tendentious campaign launched against Islam and Muslims,

DECIDES:

1. To establish three Standing Committees, the first for scientific and technological cooperation, the second for economic and trade cooperation, and the third for information and cultural affairs;
2. These Committees shall undertake to follow up implementation of the resolutions passed, or about to be passed, by the Islamic Conference in those fields; to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in those fields, and to draw up programmes and submit proposals designed to increase the Islamic States' capacity in those fields;
3. Each Committee shall consist of the representatives of ten Islamic States, at ministerial level, and shall be chaired by the Head of State of an Islamic State;
4. Members of these Committees shall be elected by the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference for a renewable term of three years;
5. A Committee shall hold a meeting, if invited to do so by its Chairman or by a majority of its members; its meeting shall be valid if attended by a majority.

II.

FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE FIFTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE ENTRUSTING THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE

Final Communique No. IS/4-84/E/DEC

".... The Conference decided to entrust H.E. Mr. Kenan EVREN, President of the Republic of Türkiye, with the Chairmanship of the Permanent Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation..." (Page 18, para 40).

III.

**FINAL COMMUNIQUE
OF THE THIRTEENTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE
“UNITY AND SOLIDARITY FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE”
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE, İSTANBUL
(14-15 April 2016)**

OIC/13TH SUMMIT 2016/FC/FINAL

129. The Conference attached great importance to multi-modal connectivity to further advance economic cooperation among OIC Member States. In this regard, it noted the recent developments on execution of the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway project and encouraged OIC project owners and stakeholders to continue their efforts towards mobilizing technical and funding support for the successful implementation of this integrative project.

130. The Conference commended the role of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Türkiye in contributing to the realization of OIC objectives in the economic domain.

131. The Conference expressed its profound appreciation for the successful implementation of the COMCEC revised statute and strategy adopted at the 4th Extraordinary Summit. It called on Member States to enhance the implementation of the revised COMCEC statute and strategy, in close coordination and cooperation with the General Secretariat and in accordance with the OIC Charter, and requested Member States to continue to actively participate in the work of the COMCEC under the chairmanship of H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye.

PART II

**AGENDA, RESOLUTIONS AND REPORT OF THE
FORTY FIRST SESSION OF THE COMCEC**

I

**AGENDA
OF THE 41st SESSION OF THE COMCEC
(1-4 November 2025)**

Original: English



**AGENDA
OF THE 41st SESSION OF THE COMCEC
(1-4 November 2025)**

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. World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries
5. Intra-OIC Trade
6. Enhancing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation
7. Deepening Financial Cooperation
8. Improving Transport and Communications
9. Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector
10. Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security
11. Alleviating Poverty
12. Cooperation on Digital Transformation
13. Exchange of Views on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”
14. Date of the 42nd Session of the COMCEC
15. Any Other Business
16. Adoption of the Resolutions

II

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FORTY FIRST SESSION OF THE COMCEC (1-4 November 2025)

Original: English

**RESOLUTIONS
OF THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION
OF THE COMCEC
(İstanbul, Türkiye, 1-4 November 2025)**

The Forty-First Ministerial Session of the COMCEC (Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) was held on 1-4 November 2025, in İstanbul.

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the 15th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Banjul, The Gambia on 4-5 May 2024, which commended the role of the COMCEC under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Türkiye, in contributing to the realization of OIC objectives in the economic domain and highly commended the successful implementation of the COMCEC revised Statute and the Strategy adopted at the Fourth Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference;

Also recalling the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, the 4th Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 51st Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, and the 40th Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member Countries to the OIC-2025: Programme of Action adopted at the 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 April 2016 in İstanbul, Türkiye, and to the COMCEC Strategy adopted by the 4th Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 August 2012 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah;

Recalling the objectives and mandate of the COMCEC in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and the COMCEC Statute, including to serve as the central forum for the Member Countries to discuss common economic and commercial issues;

Taking note of the submission of the progress reports, working papers and studies on the different agenda items submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group, Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), Labour Centre of the OIC (OIC LC), the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD);

Expressing its appreciation to the Member Countries for hosting Ministerial Conferences, Meetings, workshops, fairs, and other activities in the cooperation areas;

Commending the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, and the OIC institutions working in the area of economic and commercial cooperation, namely SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ICD, ITFC, ICIEC, ISFD, IOFS, OIC LC, SMIIC, and ICCD;

1. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit on Israeli Aggression Against the Palestinian People on 11 November 2023, Riyadh and the 15th Islamic Summit held in Banjul on 4-5 May 2024, **encourages** Member Countries to fully implement the said resolutions.
2. **Welcoming** the ceasefire in Gaza, **calls for** its full implementation, and **stresses** that the momentum achieved in the ceasefire negotiations should contribute to the realization of the two-state solution.
3. **Takes note of** the emergency response plan prepared by the State of Palestine to address the repercussions of the Israeli aggression on the State of Palestine, and the crime of mass genocide that Israel is perpetrating in the Gaza Strip, and **calls upon** Member Countries, development agencies and relevant national funds to support the emergency response plan for relief and recovery in coordination with the Government of the State of Palestine.
4. **Calls upon** Member Countries to take the necessary measures that would exempt Palestinian goods and commodities from customs duties, duties and taxes of similar effect, without quantitative or qualitative restrictions, which would have a positive effect on strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people on their own territory and supporting the efforts of the State of Palestine to put an end to the Israeli occupation.
5. **Calls upon** the Member States and relevant parties, in the context of reactivating the role of the Syrian Arab Republic, to support and coordinate efforts in directing humanitarian and developmental assistance with a portion allocated to reconstruction efforts in a manner that respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian State and contributes to enhancing stability and achieving sustainable development for its people.
6. **Commending** the endeavors for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations by the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions, **invites** 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 namely COMCEC Project Funding and COMCEC Al-Quds Program, and **requests** the relevant OIC Institutions to support the Member Countries to this end.
7. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the Fifty-First Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and **taking into consideration** the vital importance of strengthening the institutional and human capacity in the Syrian Arab Republic, **welcomes** the COMCEC Syria Program developed for this purpose.
8. **Welcomes** the convening of the Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations on 4 November 2025 on the margins of the 41st Session of the COMCEC, where Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations deliberated on the recovery and reconstruction efforts in Syria and potential contributions of the Islamic Countries to the development endeavors of Syria.
9. **Calls upon** the Member Countries to utilize the COMCEC Policy Follow-up System to submit necessary information and data on the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations in their respective countries, and **requests** the CCO to regularly report the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy to the COMCEC Sessions, the Follow-up Committee Meetings, and other relevant OIC fora.

10. **Expresses its appreciation to** the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat, CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, ISFD, IOFS, OIC LC, SMIIC, and ICCD for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.
11. **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, and **welcoming** the preparation efforts towards developing a full-fledged successor Programme of Action, **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to submit comprehensive progress reports thereon to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings.
12. **Taking note of** the difficulties faced by OIC General Secretariat and SESRIC in gathering necessary information and data for preparing the progress report on the OIC-2025 Programme of Action, **requests** the Member States to provide the SESRIC with the latest data and relevant information in a timely manner through responding to the questionnaire circulated by SESRIC, and **invites** 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.
13. **Also taking note of** the findings of the SESRIC's report titled "OIC Economic Outlook 2025: Pathways to Stability amid Tariff Impacts", which provides an in-depth assessment of the global macroeconomic environment and **recognizing** the significant challenges and opportunities these trade policy shifts present, **encourages** Member States to develop comprehensive strategies to mitigate tariff-induced risks and leverage emerging opportunities by diversifying export markets and products; enhancing supply chain resilience and competitiveness; fostering investment in trade-related infrastructure and skills development; promoting regional economic integration and intra-OIC trade; and providing enabling environment to attract investments, particularly in manufacturing and critical resource sectors; and **entrusts** SESRIC to continue monitoring world economic developments and their implications on the Member Countries as well as to continue to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC.
14. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Sessions, **requests** the Member Countries, who have not done so yet, to sign and ratify the agreements in the economic domain for furthering economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member Countries.
15. **Considering** the importance of an equitable and fair multilateral trading system for sustainable growth of the countries, **express** its appreciation for efforts of the OIC Member Countries that are also the WTO Member States towards achieving balanced and fair reforms of the WTO, with the aim of strengthening multilateral trading system.
16. **Taking note of** the current technical assistance provided by WTO Member Countries of the OIC to the Non-Participating Countries for their accession efforts to the WTO, **requests** 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 within the WTO.

17. **Welcoming with appreciation** the request of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host 15th Ministerial Conference of WTO in 2028 in Saudi Arabia.
18. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the 40th Session of the COMCEC and **commending** the efforts towards the effective implementation of the TPS-OIC, which has become operational as of July 1st, 2022, **requests** the Participating States which have not done so yet, to complete their internal procedures, and **calls 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.
19. **Recalling** the decisions of the Third Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC hosted by Republic of Türkiye on 10-11 June 2024, in İstanbul and 40th COMCEC Ministerial Session requesting the continuation of technical review in 2025 to elaborate on the potential expansion of TPS-OIC with increased product coverage and new disciplines, **welcomes** the decisions of the TNC meeting on 1-2 October 2025 at the chief negotiator-level, in particular its decision, with a view to exploring the possibilities of the expansion of the TPS-OIC, to initiate preliminary discussions on challenges in implementation of PRETAS, possible expansion areas and objectives, legal considerations and institutional matters.
20. **Expressing its appreciation** to the Republic of Türkiye for volunteering to host the next TNC meeting on 3-4 February 2026, **calls upon** the OIC Member Countries, which have signed and ratified the TPS-OIC Framework Agreement, to attend this important meeting, and **invites** other interested Member Countries that are not parties to the Framework Agreement to participate as observers.
21. **Taking note with appreciation** of the organization of workshops, webinars, trainings, fairs, exhibitions, and forums organized by the ICDT and partner countries' institutions in the trade domain, **requests** the Member Countries to keep providing the ICDT with statistical data relating to trade, investments, and regulations.
22. **Appreciates** trade finance, promotion, development, and capacity-building activities of the ITFC, and the mobilization of funds from the international market and development partners for funding trade finance operations in the Member Countries, contributing towards the achievement of the 25 percent intra-OIC trade target.
23. **Requests** ICIEC, in cooperation with SESRIC, ICDT, and ICCD, to continue their efforts to complete the technical preparations for the launch of the OBIC Programme, and to regularly submit progress reports related to the OBIC to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings.
24. **Commending the efforts** of SMIIC in the areas of standardization, accreditation and metrology, and **taking note of** their beneficial impact on enhancing trade facilitation and capacity building, **invites** 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, and **calls upon** the Member Countries using OIC/SMIIC Standards to officially adopt the standards according to SMIIC adoption guidelines.
25. **Encourages** the Member Countries to make use of the ICCD's facilities with a view to knowledge exchange, share best practices, to strengthen networks that enhance private sector capacity and advance intra-OIC trade.

26. **Acknowledging** the important role of the OIC Arbitration Centre, as an affiliated institution of ICCD for the settlement of disputes, **calls upon** the Member Countries to encourage the active participation in the activities of the OIC Arbitration Centre with a view to making use of the services provided by the Centre to those who seek it.
27. **Taking into consideration** the crucial role of private sector financing in the mobilization of private investments and ensuring sustainable economic growth in the Member States, and **commending** 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, **invites** the Member States to better utilize the facilities of the ICD through solid projects aimed at creating competition, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
28. **Taking note with appreciation** of the efforts under the COMCEC SME Program, **invites** the interested Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate in the activities to be conducted under the Program in the upcoming period.
29. **Calls upon** the Member Countries to support the promotion of the OIC/COMCEC Shariah International Fund, which includes shares from the OIC COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, developed under the coordination of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to the investors and the finance community in their respective countries.
30. **Requests** the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum to complete technical preparations on the OIC Gold Exchange Project, based on a blockchain model, in cooperation with the Central Banks of the interested Member Countries.
31. **Welcoming** the involvement of 14 Member Countries in the COMCEC Real Estate Electronic Platform within the framework of the Capital Markets Regulatory Forum, **requests** Forum Secretariat to expedite the necessary legal, administrative, and technical work towards having a full-fledged Real Estate Electronic Platform, and **invites** Member Countries which have not done so yet, to identify their authorized bodies as well as notify them to the Forum's Secretariat.
32. **Reiterates** the importance of the Dakar-Port Sudan Railway project and the necessity to reactivate the meetings of the interested Member Countries, OIC General Secretariat, IsDB and other relevant OIC institutions on this important project aimed at enhancing the movement of people and goods among the African OIC Member Countries.
33. **Welcoming** the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the 2nd OIC Transport Ministerial Conference on 11-12 February 2026, and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in this important Conference.
34. **Commending** the successful convening of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers on 15-16 October 2025 in Doha, Qatar, **requests** the Member Countries and relevant OIC institutions to further their efforts for the implementation of its resolutions.
35. **Recalling** the designation of 11 December as *OIC Food Security Day*, and **requests** IOFS, in collaboration with interested Member States, along with the relevant OIC institutions, to conduct activities for the widespread celebration of this day across the OIC region.

36. **Expressing** its appreciation to SESRIC for its efforts in completing the execution of the OIC-TVET Strategic Road Map 2020-2025, **requests** SESRIC to prepare the new OIC-TVET Strategic Road Map 2026-2030 while continuing to provide regular progress updates to both COMCEC Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings to ensure the continued successful implementation of the OIC-VET Programme.
37. **Commending** the efforts of SESRIC in conducting annual reports on the progress towards achievement of the prioritized Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the OIC Member Countries and their regular submission to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions on a regular basis, **requests** SESRIC to continue implementing statistical training activities with a focus on SDGs for the benefit of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and relevant constituents of the national statistical systems of the Member States within the framework of its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme.
38. **Acknowledges** SESRIC for its efforts, in its capacity as the Secretariat, within the framework of OIC Social Security Institutions Network (OIC-SSINET), OIC Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET) and OIC Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Support Agencies Network (OIC-SMENET), as well as for its efforts within the framework of OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET), and **calls upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in and contribute to the activities under these networks.
39. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, **requests** the IsDB Group to submit report on the implementation of ISFD as well as the assessment report on SPDA to the 42nd COMCEC Ministerial Session and 42nd COMCEC Follow-up Committee Meeting.
40. **Taking note with appreciation** of the efforts under the COMCEC High-Level Digital Transformation Forum in exchanging experiences among the Member Countries in the digital transformation area, **calls upon** the interested Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate in the activities to be conducted under the Forum in the upcoming period.
41. **Welcomes** the policy recommendations of the 25th Meeting of the Trade Working Group, which served as the preparatory meeting for the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session, on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries” held on 22-23 September 2025, and **calls upon** the Member Countries to implement these recommendations and report the progress through COMCEC Policy Follow-up System.
42. **Decides on** “Developing Effective Trade Financing Tools for Increasing Export in the OIC Member Countries” as the theme for the Exchange of Views Session at the 42nd Session of the COMCEC, and **requests** the COMCEC Trade Working Group in its 27th Meeting, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 42nd COMCEC Session.
43. Elects the State of Kuwait, Azerbaijan and The Gambia as Vice Chairmen of the Bureau of the COMCEC to represent the Arab, Asian and African Regions, respectively, and Islamic Republic of Pakistan as Rapporteur, to assume their posts as of the 42nd Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC; as a result of the election, the composition of the Follow-up Committee is as follows;

Country	Status
Republic of Türkiye	Chairman (Permanent)
State of Palestine	Vice-Chairman (Permanent)
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Vice-Chairman (Permanent)
State of Kuwait	Vice-Chairman (Representing the Arab Region)
Azerbaijan	Vice-Chairman (Representing the Asian Region)
The Gambia	Vice-Chairman (Representing the African Region)
State of Qatar	Member of the Previous Bureau
Brunei Darussalam	Member of the Previous Bureau
Senegal	Member of the Previous Bureau
Islamic Republic of Pakistan	Rapporteur

44. Decides that the 42nd Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 12-13 May 2026, and the 42nd Session of the COMCEC will be held between 31 October and 3 November 2026 in Türkiye.

**SUPPLEMENTARY RESOLUTIONS OF
THE 41st COMCEC MINISTERIAL SESSION**

1. **Welcomes** the Report on the Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy submitted by the CCO, highlighting the progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy, and **commends** the Member Countries and OIC Institutions for their valuable contributions to the implementation of the Strategy.
2. **Also welcomes** the 13th Call for Project Proposals made by the CCO in October 2025 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.
3. **Commends** the successful convening of the 12th Annual Coordination Meeting of the COMCEC Focal Points on 25-26 June 2025, which identified the themes of the Working Groups for the upcoming years.
4. **Taking note with appreciation** the report presented by the OIC General Secretariat on the implementation of the economic and commercial component of the OIC-2025: Program of Action, **calls upon** the relevant OIC Institutions to attend the 9th Annual Coordination Meeting of OIC Institutions (ACMOI) on 10-11 December 2025, in Jeddah, OIC Headquarters.
5. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 24th and 25th Meetings of the COMCEC Trade Working Group held on 21 April 2025 and 22-23 September 2025, respectively, with the theme “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”, **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
6. **Acknowledging** the challenges faced by Palestine and the need for supportive measures, **invites** Member Countries to support Palestinian businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, to enhance their export capacity.
7. **Calls upon** the Member States and the relevant OIC Institutions to support Palestine through the capacity building programs in tourism, finance, transportation, and logistics sectors.
8. **Welcomes** the activities conducted by the CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, IOFS, SMIIC, OIC LC, and ICCD in their field of competency, aligned with the COMCEC Strategy since the 40th Session of the COMCEC.
9. **Commends** SESRIC for its continued commitment to preparing technical background reports and research studies on various socio-economic issues relevant to OIC Conferences and Meetings, particularly Sectoral Ministerial Conferences and Standing Committee Sessions, and **expresses its appreciation** for the specific reports and research studies conducted by SESRIC since the 40th Session of COMCEC, which address pertinent areas such as international trade and tariff impacts, labour markets and employment, water and food security, financial cooperation, and poverty alleviation.
10. **Commending** SESRIC for implementing a comprehensive range of capacity-building programs and training activities in various socio-economic fields, crucial to the needs of OIC Member Countries, **takes note with appreciation** of the implementation of 119 capacity-building activities since the 40th Session of COMCEC, which have been specifically designed to serve the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations as well as the COMCEC Strategy.

11. **Commends** the efforts of SESRIC and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in co-organizing the 14th Session of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), which served as a platform for the Heads of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of OIC Member States to deliberate on emerging statistical issues at the national, regional, and global levels under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Türkiye, and **welcomes** the outcomes of the Session held in Ankara, which addressed, among others, data-driven energy transitions, modernization of NSOs through digitalization, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) indicators.
12. **Commends** the efforts of Indonesia and SMIIC for the successful implementation of the following projects in trade in 2025 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
 - The project entitled “Enhancing Slaughterhouse Standards for Halal and Food Safety Compliance” being implemented by Indonesia in partnership with Türkiye and SMIIC,
 - The project entitled “Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories for Improved Quality Infrastructure” implemented by SMIIC in partnership with Sudan, Uganda, and Türkiye.
13. **Appreciates** the successful organization of the 5th OIC Health Expo, held on 15-19 April 2025, in Dakar, by the Republic of Senegal and ICDT under the theme: "Health, a Lever for Economic Development in OIC Member Countries", **invites** the Member Countries to actively participate in the following activities:
 - The OIC Africa Investment Forum and 2nd Cotton, Textile, and Leather Exhibition of the OIC Member States, to be held on 2-4 December 2025, in Bamako, Mali.
 - The 2nd Commercial Handicrafts Exhibition of the OIC Member States, to be held on 18-28 December 2025, in Casablanca, Morocco.
 - Seminar on preparations for the 14th WTO Ministerial Meeting (CM14) scheduled for March 2026 in Cameroon, in January 2026.
 - The "Utalii Africa Tourism Expo" to be held on 25-27 June 2026, in Kampala, Uganda.
14. **Commending** the efforts of CCO and ICDT as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) in supervising trade negotiations and building capacity related to the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member Countries, **requests** the TNC Secretariat to continue raising awareness activities regarding the TPS-OIC and its impact on the private sector for the benefit of OIC Member Countries in the upcoming period.
15. **Calls upon** the WTO members of the OIC to assist non-WTO Members of the OIC in their accession process to the WTO, and **also calls 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.
16. **Takes note with appreciation** ITFC’s mobilized funds from partner banks and financial institutions reaching US\$ 4.2 billion in 2024, which is 22.75% increase compared to US\$ 3.4 billion for 2023, ITFC’s trade financing approvals for 2024 had reached US\$7.3 billion, reflecting a 6% increase compared to the US\$6.9 billion in 2023; and that the trade financing disbursements had amounted to US\$6.6 billion in 2024, representing a 9% increase compared to the US\$6.0 billion recorded in 2023.

17. **Takes note of** the trade promotion and capacity development initiatives being implemented by ITFC under its various flagship programs, including Arab Africa Trade Bridge Program (AATB) and Aid for Trade Initiatives for Arab States (AFTIAS).
18. **Commends** the efforts of ITFC for the launching of trade related projects under the Trade Connect Central Asia+ (TCCA+) Program, in consultation with the following OIC member countries: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, with the objective of facilitating cross-border trade, access to markets and promoting trade and investments, among them and with the rest of the world.
19. **Also commends** ITFC's Integrated Trade Solutions consisting of offering trade related technical assistance along with financial products to Member Countries, with the aim of maximizing the development impact of ITFC trade solutions and the efforts of ITFC for its Global SMEs program aiming at improving access to credit and international markets for the SMEs in partnership with local banks and the SME support institutions in the beneficiary countries.
20. **Takes note of** the Progress Report submitted by the ICIEC on the OIC Business Intelligence Program (OBIC), and the efforts exerted by ICIEC and its Partners for organizing two Capacity Building Programmes for the Users of the OBIC in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Istanbul, Türkiye, in addition to a third Programme in Jakarta, Indonesia in February 2025, and also takes note of the necessary arrangements for organizing the 4th Capacity Building Programme in Morocco during the 4th quarter 2025, to be hosted by the ICDT.
21. **Takes note with appreciation** the performance of ICIEC operations during 2024, with business insured amounting to USD 12.9 billion, compared to USD 13.3 billion in 2023, and also takes note of the volume of business insured during the 1st half of 2025, which amounted to USD 7.71 billion.
22. **Acknowledges** ICIEC's role in supporting USD 5.968 billion of intra-OIC business insured (trade and investments) during 2024, and USD 3.764 billion during the 1st half of 2025.
23. **Also welcomes** the efforts of SMIIC for conducting the following activities in its field of competence;
 - Virtual training on "OIC/SMIIC 50-1:2022 Halal Pharmaceuticals General Requirements" 27-28 January 2025,
 - Virtual training on "Advanced Halal Food Processing Techniques" on 19-20 February 2025,
 - Webinar on "Improving Consumer Protection Regulation on Standards and Safety" on 27 February 2025,
 - Training on "OIC/SMIIC Halal Products Standards and Testing" on 12-16 May 2025 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan,
 - Webinar on 2nd World Halal Standards Day on 16 May 2025,
 - Virtual training on "OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 Conformity Assessment" on 07-08 July 2025,
 - Virtual training on "OIC/SMIIC 22:2021 Halal Edible Gelatine" on 21-22 July 2025,
 - Virtual training on "OIC/SMIIC 17-1&2:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System" on 11-13 August 2025,
 - 2nd Private Virtual Training on "OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics" on 08-09 September 2025,
 - Project on "Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories" on 09-11 September 2025 in Kampala, Uganda, and on 1-2 October 2025 in Gebze, Türkiye,
 - 14th Technical Committee Week Meetings and SMIIC/CCA Meeting on 22-26 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

24. **Takes note with appreciation** of the publication of 22 new standards, bringing the total number of OIC/SMIIC standards to 79, thereby contributing to the advancement and harmonization of industry practices.
25. **Underlining** the importance of a well-functioning Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) among the national halal accreditation bodies of the OIC Member Countries, by the IFHAB in alignment with the OIC/SMIIC standards outlined in the OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ), **requests** an acceleration of the efforts towards this goal.
26. **Expressing its appreciation** to the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the Halal Expo Istanbul 2025 and the 11th World Halal Summit to be held in İstanbul, Türkiye, on 26-29 November 2025, in collaboration with SMIIC and ICDT, **calls upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in these events.
27. **Invites** the Member States and relevant private sector entities to actively support ICCD in organizing sector-specific forums and promoting the Digital Economy, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Tourism, Islamic Economy, Halal Economy, Investment, and Entrepreneurship Development as strategic drivers to strengthen intra-OIC trade, enhance private sector competitiveness, foster innovation, and promote sustainable economic growth across the OIC, through the following ICCD initiatives:
 - Best of Entrepreneurship Series, Asia, to be held on 23 September 2026,
 - Best of Entrepreneurship Series, Africa, to be held on 1-2 April 2026,
 - Sustainable Tourism Forum, Pakistan, to be held on 21-22 January 2026,
 - Sustainable Agriculture Investment Forum, Azerbaijan, to be held on 5-8 May 2026,
 - Invest in Digital Economy Forum, Amman, Jordan, to be held on 21-22 September 2026.
28. **Encourages** OIC private sector entities to participate in ICCD's Training Academy (ICTA) programs to benefit from capacity-building opportunities in finance, entrepreneurship, family business management, and digital transformation, thereby raising awareness and strengthening the knowledge and skills of the OIC private sector to better adapt to economic and technological challenges.
29. **Takes note** of the ICCD's efforts with a view to enhancing sector-specific capacity and advancing the growth of the private sector in the OIC Member Countries.
30. **Welcomes** the convening of the OIC Business Leaders' Summit 2025 with the theme "The Private Sector as a Strategic Partner for Sustainable Development" by the ICCD on 2 November 2025 in İstanbul on the margin of the 41st Session of the COMCEC.
31. **Commends** the dedicated cooperation efforts of ICD to develop more than 10 joint transactions worth more than USD 550 Million, where ICD partnered with ITFC and ICIEC during 2025.
32. **Takes note with appreciation** the efforts of ICD to address the private sector development, including Lines of Finance, Direct Finance, and Equity projects in OIC Member Countries through its more than USD 550 million and USD 500 million approval and disbursement allocation, respectively, in 2025.

33. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 23rd and 24th Meetings of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group held on 22 April 2025 and 17-18 September 2025, respectively, with the theme “Promoting Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Islamic Financial Instruments to Combat the Adverse Effects of Climate Change and Natural Disasters in the OIC Member Countries”, **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
34. **Commends** the efforts of Benin and Sierra Leone for the successful implementation of the following projects in the financial cooperation area in 2025, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
- The project entitled “Experience Sharing in Designing a Legal Framework for Building an Islamic Finance Lead Unit” implemented by Benin in partnership with Malaysia,
 - The project entitled “Capacity Building for Strengthening Digital Payment Systems in the Financial Sector” implemented by Sierra Leone in partnership with The Gambia and Nigeria.
35. **Welcomes** the convening of the 19th Meeting of the OIC Exchanges Forum on 23 September 2025 and the offer of Borsa İstanbul, as the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to host the 20th Meeting of the Forum in 2026, and **invites** the Member Countries to participate actively in the activities organized under this Forum.
36. **Commending** the efforts of SESRIC in organizing training and capacity-building activities on various technical and regulatory aspects related to the work of the Stock Exchanges, **requests** SESRIC, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to organize such activities for the benefit of the Stock Exchanges and relevant national authorities in the Member States within the framework of SESRIC’s Stock Exchanges Capacity Building Programme (SE-CaB).
37. **Also commending** the efforts carried out by the Task Forces of COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum namely capacity building, market development, Islamic finance, financial literacy and sustainability, **welcomes** the convening of the 14th Meeting of the Forum on 15 October 2025 and the offer of the Capital Markets Board (CMB) of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Forum Secretariat, to host the 15th Meeting of the COMCEC CMR Forum, in 2026, and **invites** all the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.
38. **Welcomes** the convening of the 7th Meeting of the OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum on 28-29 September 2025, in İstanbul, and the offer of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye as the Secretariat of the Forum, to host its 8th Meeting in 2026, and **invites** the Member Countries to participate actively in this Meeting.
39. **Commending** the training and capacity building programs, particularly on Islamic banking and finance, Central Banks Digital Currency (CBDC), monetary policy, and Halal Value Chain organized by SESRIC for the benefit of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States, **requests** SESRIC to continue organizing such activities, particularly on advancing Islamic Social Finance, for the benefit of the relevant national institutions of the Member States within the framework of the Central Banks Capacity Building Programme (CB-CaB).
40. **Acknowledging** the efforts of SESRIC towards organizing various capacity-building activities for the benefit of Senegal in the field of tourism, in commemoration of Dakar as the OIC City of Tourism 2025, **requests** SESRIC to continue conducting training activities in this domain for the benefit of the member countries.

41. **Takes note with appreciation** of the convening of the 24th and 25th Meetings of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group held on 24 April 2025 and 17-18 September 2025, respectively, with the theme of “Enhancing and Sustaining Rural Accessibility in the OIC Member Countries”, and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
42. **Commends** the efforts of The Gambia for the successful implementation of the project entitled “Strengthening Human and Institutional Capacity for Data Identification, Analysis, and Monitoring to Track Transport Sector Emissions in The Gambia and OIC Countries” implemented by The Gambia in partnership with Senegal, Türkiye, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria in 2025, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.
43. **Welcomes** the convening of the 13th Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum on 8 October 2025, and the offer of the Secretariat of the Forum to organize the 14th Meeting in 2026.
44. **Takes note with appreciation** the convening of the 24th and 25th Meetings of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group on 21 April 2025 and 15-16 September 2025, respectively, with the theme of “Improving the Quality and Sustainability of Heritage Tourism in OIC Countries”, and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
45. **Commends** the efforts of Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Maldives, Malaysia, Uganda, and SESRIC for the successful implementation of the following tourism projects in 2025 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
- The project entitled “Capacity Building of Stakeholders through Experience Sharing in Agrotourism Practices” implemented by Burkina Faso in partnership with Morocco,
 - The project entitled “Strategic Planning and Marketing Strategies for the Promotion of Gastronomy Tourism” implemented by Bangladesh in partnership with Türkiye,
 - The project entitled “Empowering Sustainable Tourism: Integrating Blue, Green, Circular Economy into Tourism Operations” implemented by Indonesia in partnership with Malaysia and Türkiye,
 - The project entitled “Enhancing Maldivian Gastronomy Tourism by Increasing the Recognition of Traditional Cuisine” implemented by Maldives,
 - The project entitled “Reimagining Islamic Heritage Tourism: Best Practices and Critical Success Factors” implemented by Malaysia in partnership with Jordan, Mali, Uzbekistan, and Türkiye,
 - The project entitled “Effective Management of Tourism Heritage Sites for Enhancing the Quality and Sustainability in Tourism” implemented by Uganda in partnership with The Gambia,
 - The entitled “Promoting Gastronomy Tourism for the Destination Senegal” implemented by SESRIC for the benefit of Senegal in the partnership with Senegal, Türkiye, Malaysia, Morocco and Tunisia.
46. **Takes note with appreciation of** the convening of the 24th and 25th Meetings of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on 22 April 2025 and 22-23 September 2025, respectively, with the theme of “Strengthening the Resilience of Family Farmers and Small-Scale Producers in the Agriculture and Food Sector in OIC Member Countries”, and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
47. **Commends** the efforts of Benin, Egypt, Niger, The Gambia, and SESRIC for the successful implementation of the following projects in the agriculture sector in 2025 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
- The project entitled “Capacity Building in Efficient Water Management and Agricultural Practices Resilient to the Effects of Climate Change for Market Gardening” implemented by Benin with Morocco and IOFS,

- The project entitled “Enhancing the Capabilities of Farmers in Some OIC Countries by Expanding and Sustainability Using Organic and Organo-Mineral Fertilizers” implemented by Egypt with Sudan, Benin and IOFS.
 - The project entitled “Development of Dairy Production to Ensure Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security in Niger” implemented by Niger with the partnership of Türkiye
 - The project entitled “Building Capacities of Livestock Technicians and Smallholder Livestock Farmers on Sustainable Climate Resilient and Innovative Techniques” implemented by The Gambia with partnership of Niger.
 - The project entitled “Promoting Unconventional Water Resources to Enhance Agriculture Productivity in Water-Scarce OIC Member Countries” implemented by SESRIC in partnership with Chad, Niger, Senegal, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, and Türkiye.
48. **Commending** SESRIC for organizing capacity building and training activities under its Agriculture and Food Security Capacity Building Programme (Agri-CaB) and the Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme, **requests** SESRIC to continue organizing activities under these Programmes, and **invites** Member Countries to actively participate and benefit from these activities to share their experiences and best practices in agricultural development.
49. **Also commending** SESRIC’s endeavours under its capacity building programmes, namely Digital Transformation Capacity Building Programme (Digi-CaB), Halal Capacity Building Programme (Halal-CaB), and Palestine National Institutions Capacity Building Programme (Palestine-CaB), and **encourages** Member Countries and other OIC Institutions to participate actively in the activities under these programmes.
50. **Commends** SESRIC for preparing the report entitled “OIC Health Report 2025”, as a technical background document for the 8th Session of the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (ICHM), held on 7-9 October 2025 in Amman, the report entitled “OIC Labour Market Report 2025” as a technical background document for the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM), held on 15-16 October 2025 in Doha, and the report entitled “OIC Water Report 2025”, as a technical background document for the 5th Session of Islamic Conference of Ministers Responsible for Water, held on 20-22 October 2025 in Jeddah.
51. **Taking note** of the increasing membership composition of IOFS, **invites** the Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to participate in the programs and activities towards ensuring food security and agricultural development in the Member Countries.
52. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 24th and 25th Meetings of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group on 24 April 2025 and 15-16 September 2025, respectively, with the theme “Decent Housing for the Poor in the OIC Member Countries”, and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.
53. **Taking into account** the need for supporting the livelihood of Palestinian youth and enhancing the human resources capacity of Palestine, **calls on** Member Countries to increase scholarship opportunities for Palestinian students to the extent possible and initiate special programs for university graduates.
54. **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the COMCEC Sessions, **requests** the CCO to carry on compiling the relevant OIC Institutions’ activities aligned with the prioritized SDG areas for submission to the 41st Session of the COMCEC.
55. **Commends** the efforts of SESRIC for the implementation of the project titled “Developing an Effective Roadmap for Facilitating Digital Transition in National VET Systems in OIC Member Countries” with 11 beneficiary countries in 2025, within the framework of the 12th Call of the COMCEC Project Funding.

56. **Commending** the successful launch of the 2024 Edition of the Statistical Yearbook on OIC Member Countries and for maintaining the enhanced version of the OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database, which provide comprehensive and up-to-date data essential for evidence-based policymaking and monitoring key economic, social and environmental indicators across the OIC Member Countries, **encourages** the Member Countries and OIC Institutions to utilize these valuable tools in their relevant policy formulation processes, and **requests** SESRIC to continue improving and updating the OICStat Database to better serve development planning and policymaking needs.
57. **Commending** the OIC Member Countries that have already signed and ratified the Statute of the OIC Labour Centre, **encourages** the remaining OIC Member Countries to complete all the necessary arrangements to accede to the said Statute.
58. **Takes note with appreciation** the conduct of the COP 29 Presidency High-Level Tripartite Roundtable on Green Jobs and Skills, co-organized by the OIC Labour Centre in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on 18 November 2024.
59. **Commends** the efforts of the OIC Labour Centre for advancing occupational safety and health (OSH) standards in the Member Countries.
60. **Recognizing** the role of social dialogue in fostering decent work, **encourages** the Member Countries to utilize tripartite cooperation mechanisms and to benefit from the facilities of the OIC Labour Centre for the sharing of best practices and experiences.
61. **Considering** the growing need for youth and women's employment opportunities, **encourages** the Member Countries to make use of the facilities of the OIC Labour Centre for the development of targeted skills training programmes that are aligned with labour market demands and emerging industries.
62. **Taking note** that the 26th and 27th meetings of the COMCEC Working Groups (25th and 26th for the Financial Cooperation) will be held in April and September 2026, respectively, and **calls upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in these important events.
63. **Commends** the efforts for the successful implementation of the following projects in the digital transformation area in 2025, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
- “Capacity Building Programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Public Sector Employees” implemented by Türkiye in partnership with Palestine, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, and Sudan.
 - “Enhancing e-Government Capacity for Effective Public Service Delivery” implemented by Tajikistan in partnership with Türkiye.
64. **Commends** the efforts for the successful implementation of the following projects under the COMCEC SME Program in 2025 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
- “Experience Sharing in Digitalization and Sustainable Business Development with Suriname and Guyana”, implemented by Suriname.
 - “Experience Sharing for Designing a Roadmap on Building an SME Network Platform” implemented by Türkiye in partnership with Malaysia, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan.

III

REPORT

OF THE FORTY FIRST SESSION

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC

AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC

(1-4 November 2025)

Original: English

**REPORT
OF THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR
ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC
(1-4 November 2025, İstanbul)**

1. The Forty-first Ministerial Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) was held on 1-4 November 2025 in İstanbul.
2. The Session was attended by representatives of the following Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC):
 1. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
 2. Republic of Azerbaijan
 3. Kingdom of Bahrain
 4. People's Republic of Bangladesh
 5. Brunei Darussalam
 6. Burkina Faso
 7. Republic of Cameroon
 8. Republic of Chad
 9. Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
 10. Republic of Djibouti
 11. Arab Republic of Egypt
 12. Republic of The Gambia
 13. Republic of Guinea
 14. Republic of Indonesia
 15. Islamic Republic of Iran
 16. Republic of Iraq
 17. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
 18. Republic of Kazakhstan
 19. The State of Kuwait
 20. Kyrgyz Republic
 21. Republic of Lebanon
 22. Libya
 23. Malaysia
 24. Republic of Maldives
 25. Republic of Mali
 26. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
 27. Kingdom of Morocco
 28. Republic of Mozambique
 29. Federal Republic of Nigeria
 30. Sultanate of Oman
 31. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
 32. The State of Palestine
 33. State of Qatar
 34. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
 35. Republic of Senegal
 36. Republic of Sierra Leone

37. Republic of the Sudan
38. Syrian Arab Republic
39. Republic of Tajikistan
40. United Arab Emirates
41. Republic of Tunisia
42. Republic of Türkiye
43. Turkmenistan
44. Republic of Uganda
45. Republic of Uzbekistan
46. Republic of Yemen

3. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kingdom of Thailand, the Russian Federation, and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the Session as observers.

4. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and the COMCEC Coordination Office, the following OIC Organs/Institutions attended the Session:

- 1- Association of National Development Finance Institutions in Member Countries of the Islamic Development Bank Countries of the Islamic Development (ADFIMI)
- 2- Bayt Mal Al-Qods Acharif Agency (BMAQ)
- 3- Standing Committee for Information And Cultural Affairs (COMIAC)
- 4- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- 5- Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
- 6- Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA)
- 7- Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group
- 8- International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC)
- 9- Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC)
- 10- Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD)
- 11- Islamic Organization of Food Security (IOFS)
- 12- Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- 13- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD)
- 14- Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC)
- 15- OIC Arbitration Centre (OIC-AC)
- 16- OIC Labour Centre (OIC LC)

5. Representatives of the following International Organizations attended the Session:

- 1- Developing Eight (D-8)
- 2- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
- 3- ECO Trade and Development Bank (ECOBANK)
- 4- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- 5- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 6- Organization of the Black Sea Economic (BSEC)
- 7- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- 8- Organization of Turkic States (OTS)

(A copy of the List of Participants of the Forty-first Session of the COMCEC is attached as Annex I.)

6. The Meeting of Senior Officials of the 41st COMCEC Session that preceded the Ministerial Session was held on 1-2 November 2025 in İstanbul under the Chairmanship of H.E. Abdullah Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU, Vice President of the Strategy and Budget of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye. The Senior Officials deliberated on the agenda items and prepared the Draft Resolutions for consideration by the Ministerial Session.
7. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed its reservation with regard to the reference made in Paragraph 2 of Main Resolutions, to the concept of the “two-state solution”.
8. The 47th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held virtually on 21 October 2025 with the participation of the relevant OIC Institutions.

(A copy of the report of the 47th Meeting of the Sessional Committee is attached as Annex II)

Opening Session

9. The Opening Ceremony of the 41st Session of the COMCEC, held on 3 November 2025, began with the inaugural speech of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC.
10. At the outset, H.E. ERDOĞAN extend his heartfelt greetings and warmest regards and welcomed all participants. H.E. ERDOĞAN highlighted his sincere wishes for the 41st Session of the COMCEC Ministerial Meeting to bring fruitful outcomes for all Member Countries, Islamic Ummah and all of humanity.
11. H.E. ERDOĞAN continued his speech by noting that the past year marked significant developments in the Middle East. H.E. ERDOĞAN expressed his appreciation for Syrian Arab Republic’s progress toward stability under the leadership of President H.E. Ahmad AL-SHARAA and stated that Türkiye remains committed to supporting the Syrian people.
12. H.E. ERDOĞAN announced the launch of a dedicated COMCEC Syria Program aimed at strengthening human and institutional capacity through targeted cooperation projects.
13. H.E. ERDOĞAN also expressed his pleasure at the participation of representatives from the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). H.E. ERDOĞAN underlined that the Turkish Cypriots are an integral part of the Islamic Ummah and have long faced unlawful isolation. H.E. ERDOĞAN called on the OIC Member Countries to demonstrate stronger solidarity with the Turkish Cypriots and to support their just cause for equality and justice based on the two-state solution principle.

14. H.E. ERDOĞAN stated that the Islamic Ummah is currently experiencing one of its most challenging periods, underscoring the need for unity, wisdom, and steadfast determination. Referring to the situation in Gaza, H.E. ERDOĞAN emphasized that the large-scale attacks carried out by Israel represent one of the gravest humanitarian tragedies of the century. H.E. ERDOĞAN informed that Türkiye has been at the forefront of international efforts to address the crisis, providing over 102,000 tons of humanitarian assistance and conducting extensive diplomatic engagements to ensure the establishment of a durable ceasefire.
15. H.E. ERDOĞAN welcomed the ceasefire agreement achieved through the mediation efforts of Egypt and Qatar, expressing his appreciation to all parties that constructively contributed to the process. H.E. ERDOĞAN underlined that, although a ceasefire has been established, continued acts of aggression by Israel in Gaza and the West Bank seriously undermine the prospects for peace and stability in the region. H.E. ERDOĞAN reiterated that the ultimate goal is the establishment of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital, in line with the 1967 borders.
16. H.E. ERDOĞAN expressed his deep concern over the ongoing conflict in Sudan and the recent attacks targeting civilians in El Fasher. H.E. ERDOĞAN emphasized that ending the violence and restoring stability in Sudan is a shared responsibility of the Islamic Ummah. In this regard, H.E. ERDOĞAN called on all the OIC Member Countries to support Sudan's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence.
17. H.E. ERDOĞAN stated that Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS-OIC) operationalized in July 2022 was a historic achievement and emphasized the need for more efforts to expand the scope of the System. Moreover, H.E. ERDOĞAN stated that determination of "Developing/Improving Export Capacities in the OIC Member Countries" as the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session offers significant opportunities to discuss new avenues of cooperation in the field of trade and to establish concrete roadmaps for future collaboration.
18. Underlining the importance of SMEs, H.E. ERDOĞAN stressed that COMCEC SME Program has critical role to establish cooperation network between the SMEs of OIC Member Countries and invited Member Countries to join the COMCEC SME Program, who have not yet joined.
19. H.E. ERDOĞAN emphasized that halal certification presents significant opportunities for expanding trade among the OIC Member Countries. H.E. ERDOĞAN noted the progress made by the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB) and expressed his expectation that IFHAB's activities would commence in 2026.
20. H.E. ERDOĞAN further underlined the importance of the OIC Arbitration Centre, in providing an effective platform for resolving arbitration cases and strengthening economic cooperation across the Islamic world.

21. Finally, H.E. ERDOĞAN emphasized the importance of the spirit of solidarity among the Islamic Ummah and expressed his hope for the continuity of brotherhood and wished for the 41st Ministerial Session of COMCEC yield positive outcomes.

(A copy of the text of the Inaugural Statement of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN is attached as Annex III)

22. Following the opening statement of H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ibrahim TAHA, the Secretary General of the OIC, made his statement. At the outset, H.E. TAHA conveyed his special thanks to H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, President of the Republic of Türkiye and Chairman of the COMCEC, for his continued support of the OIC programs, as well as for the arrangements made to ensure the success of the Meeting.

23. H.E. TAHA referred to the recent ceasefire agreement in Gaza, emphasizing that it is expected to end the grave violations committed by Israel and alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people. H.E. TAHA underlined that shared prosperity cannot be achieved as long as the foundations of the Palestinian economy continue to be systematically undermined.

24. H.E. TAHA informed that the OIC General Secretariat and its institutions continue to implement the resolutions designed to enhance socio-economic cooperation among the Member Countries. H.E. TAHA noted with satisfaction the notable increase in intra-OIC trade and emphasized the need for strengthened collective efforts to strengthen trade relations among the Member Countries.

25. H.E. TAHA announced that the upcoming 2nd Conference of Ministers of Transport to be held in Türkiye and the 2nd Ministerial Meeting on Energy to be hosted by Saudi Arabia in 2026, as well as the 1st OIC Forum on Investment in Africa to be held in Mali in December 2025. H.E. TAHA invited all the Member Countries to participate actively in these important initiatives.

26. H.E. TAHA drew attention to the persistent challenges of poverty and underdevelopment affecting many OIC Member Countries. H.E. TAHA emphasized that the future of the Islamic Ummah largely depends on the effective empowerment of its youth and called for the adoption of a comprehensive strategy to strengthen their economic participation and ensure sustainable development.

27. Finally, H.E. TAHA expressed his appreciation to the COMCEC Coordination Office and all relevant OIC institutions for their support in implementing socio-economic projects and extended best wishes for a productive meeting.

(A Copy of the text of the Statement of the Secretary General of the OIC is attached as Annex IV)

28. The Heads of Delegations of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the State of Qatar, and the Republic of Senegal made statements on behalf of Asia, Arab and African geographical groups of the OIC, respectively, during the Opening Ceremony.

29. At the outset, H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Thani ALTHANI, Minister of Commerce and Industry of State of Qatar, expressed his deep gratitude to H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC as well as the Turkish government for their hospitality during the 41st Session of COMCEC. H.E. ALTHANI also extended his gratitude to the COMCEC Coordination Office for its dedicated role in enhancing economic and commercial cooperation through effective financial instruments and Working Groups. H.E. ALTHANI further conveyed his thanks on behalf of the Arab Group for the confidence placed in the State of Qatar to represent it at the Session, underlining the Arab Group's commitment to fostering solidarity and collective action to confront regional and global economic challenges.
30. H.E. ALTHANI underlined that the 41st COMCEC Session was convened at a time when the Islamic Ummah is facing multiple challenges, particularly the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. H.E. ALTHANI emphasized that development cannot be achieved without stability and stressed that unity and joint action are essential to restore security and promote sustainable development. H.E. ALTHANI further noted that global economic transformations require the OIC Member Countries to enhance cooperation under COMCEC's framework to promote intra-OIC trade and investment by overcoming the difficulties.
31. H.E. ALTHANI informed that, despite the recent global and regional crises, the economies of the OIC Member Countries demonstrate promising growth prospects, with their combined GDP projected to increase by nearly 2 trillion USD between 2025 and 2026. H.E. ALTHANI informed that the efforts of the OIC Member Countries to diversify their economies, enhance regional cooperation, and implement the Trade Preferential System among the Member States of the OIC (TPS-OIC) contributed to a 13.56% increase in intra-OIC trade, reaching 1 trillion USD in 2024. H.E. ALTHANI commended the Republic of Türkiye for its leading role in implementing the COMCEC Strategy and Ten-Year Programme of Action (2016-2025) of the OIC and concluded by reiterating his gratitude to H.E. President ERDOĞAN, the participating delegations, and the COMCEC Coordination Office for their valuable contributions to the success of the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session.
32. H.E. Serigne GUEYE, Minister of Industry and Trade of Republic of Senegal, expressed his deep gratitude to the H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC as well as the Turkish government for hosting the 41st Session of COMCEC and for their continued support to the OIC. H.E. GUEYE commended COMCEC's ongoing efforts to address the development priorities of the Member Countries and acknowledged the valuable contributions of the relevant OIC institutions in implementing socio-economic programs.

33. H.E. GUEYE emphasized the need to strengthen cooperation in food security and agriculture in the context of rising global food prices. H.E. GUEYE called for increased capacity-building activities and investment support to enhance agricultural productivity and ensure food security among the OIC Member Countries. H.E. GUEYE welcomed the growth in intra-OIC trade and encouraged further efforts to advance industrial development, enhance SME financing, and promote tourism, while expressing appreciation to the OIC for its support to the “Dakar, OIC Capital 2025” initiative.
34. H.E. GUEYE highlighted Senegal’s new national vision, “Senegal 2050: National Transformation Agenda”, which identifies industrialization as the key pillar of sustainable economic growth. H.E. invited the OIC Member Countries to invest in Senegal’s strategic sectors and reaffirmed readiness of Senegal to foster mutually beneficial partnerships. In conclusion, H.E. GUEYE expressed his appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye for its continued support to the OIC and to all Member Countries contributing to the OIC’s activities, and wished the participants fruitful deliberations.
35. H.E. Jam Kamal KHAN, Minister for Commerce of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, expressed his deep gratitude to H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC as well as the Turkish government for steadfast leadership in advancing economic cooperation among the OIC Member Countries. H.E. KHAN also acknowledged the valuable role of COMCEC since its establishment in 1984 in promoting shared prosperity, solidarity, and inclusive growth across the Islamic Ummah. H.E. KHAN affirmed that the Asian Group remains firmly committed to the principles of unity, equity, and sustainable development within the framework of the OIC.
36. H.E. KHAN highlighted that digital transformation represents both an opportunity and a challenge for the OIC Member Countries. H.E. KHAN underlined that bridging disparities in broadband coverage, data governance, and cross-border payment systems is essential for all the Member Countries to fully benefit from digital transformation and economic integration. In this regard, H.E. KHAN commended the COMCEC Coordination Office and other relevant OIC institutions for their analytical and policy work in these areas.
37. H.E. KHAN emphasized that intra-OIC trade is a critical driver of economic self-reliance and urged for a fast-track plan to achieve the 25 percent intra-OIC trade target set in the OIC-2025 Programme of Action. H.E. KHAN emphasized that digital transformation offers great opportunities for the OIC Member Countries, while calling for joint efforts under COMCEC to bridge digital divides, enhance cybersecurity, and build inclusive, resilient digital economies. In closing, H.E. KHAN reaffirmed the Asian Group’s full support for COMCEC’s vision and leadership expressing his confidence that collective efforts will deepen economic cooperation and digital solidarity across the Islamic Ummah.
38. After the statements on behalf of Arab, African and Asian geographical groups of the OIC, the 41st Ministerial Session of COMCEC continued with the welcoming speeches of IsDB Group, ICCD and TOBB.

39. President of the IsDB Group, H.E. Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman AL JASSER expressed his deep gratitude to the H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC for his leadership and generous hospitality during the 41st Ministerial Session of the COMCEC. H.E. AL JASSER highlighted the complex global environment affected by prolonged conflicts, geopolitical tensions, and climate change, stressing that these challenges threaten development achievements and deepen poverty, particularly in Gaza. H.E. AL JASSER reaffirmed the IsDB Group's unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and its commitment to supporting Gaza's reconstruction efforts.
40. H.E. AL JASSER emphasized the significance of this year's theme, "Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries," and noted its particular relevance in the current challenging global environment. H.E. AL JASSER underlined that the IsDB Group continues its efforts to enhance trade, investment, and regional integration within the OIC framework. H.E. AL JASSER further noted that the IsDB's new 2026–2035 Strategy focuses on cross-border infrastructure, digital trade, and regulatory harmonization as key priorities to promote sustainable and inclusive growth.
41. H.E. AL JASSER informed that the IsDB's annual commitments nearly tripled to 5.11 billion USD in 2024, with total commitments exceeding 204 billion USD by mid-2025. H.E. AL JASSER added that ITFC provided 7.3 billion USD in trade financing and ICIEC insured 12.9 billion USD in trade and investment transactions, contributing significantly to intra-OIC trade and investment flows.
42. H.E. AL JASSER commended Türkiye's leadership and experience in export development, highlighting Türkiye's exemplary role for the OIC Member Countries. H.E. AL JASSER reaffirmed the IsDB Group's commitment to enhancing cooperation with COMCEC and other OIC institutions to strengthen institutional and regulatory capacities. H.E. AL JASSER concluded his statement by expressing confidence that the Session's deliberations would produce concrete results to advance trade strategies, foster cooperation, and promote the prosperity of OIC Member Countries.

(A Copy of the text of the Statement of the IsDB Group President is attached as Annex V)

43. H.E. Abdullah bin Saleh KAMEL, the President of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD) emphasized the strategic importance of the halal industry as a key pillar of economic growth and integration among the OIC Member Countries. H.E. KAMEL noted that the sector has evolved into a global industry with significant potential and stressed the need to strengthen its institutional, legislative, and regulatory frameworks to ensure sustainable expansion.
44. H.E. KAMEL further highlighted the complementary role of Islamic finance in advancing sustainable economic growth and promoting financial inclusion across the Islamic Ummah. H.E. KAMEL emphasized that the alignment of the halal industry with Islamic financial instruments provides an integrated framework for fostering trade, investment, and entrepreneurship among the OIC Member Countries.

45. H.E. KAMEL concluded by reaffirming the ICCD's commitment to supporting initiatives that enhance cooperation, build institutional capacity, and strengthen private sector engagement in the halal economy and Islamic finance sectors, thereby contributing to inclusive and sustainable development among the OIC Member Countries.

(A Copy of the text of the Statement of the President of the ICCD is attached as Annex VI)

46. H.E. Rifat HİSARCIKLIOĞLU, President of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye (TOBB) and the Vice-President of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD) made a speech at the Opening Ceremony.
47. H.E. HİSARCIKLIOĞLU highlighted that the world is experiencing profound uncertainty and instability, with a fragile global economy and rising protectionist tendencies, and emphasized that these challenges can only be addressed through unity, solidarity, and collective action within the Islamic Ummah.
48. H.E. HİSARCIKLIOĞLU noted that trade cooperation is a key means to foster peace, stability, and mutual understanding among the Member Countries, and called on OIC Member Countries to remove trade barriers, including visa and quota restrictions, to strengthen economic integration and achieve shared prosperity.
49. H.E. HİSARCIKLIOĞLU further stated that the OIC Arbitration Centre in İstanbul, established under the auspices of President ERDOĞAN, has completed its institutional set-up and is ready to facilitate trade and investment dispute resolution, inviting all the Member Countries to actively utilize the Centre.

(A Copy of the text of the Statement of the President of TOBB is attached as Annex VII)

Ministerial Working Session

50. The Ministerial Working Session of the 41st Session of the COMCEC was held on 3 November 2025, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ, Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye with the theme “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries.”
51. The Session adopted the Agenda of the 41st Session of the COMCEC.
52. Following the adoption of the agenda, H.E. Abdullah Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU, Vice President of the Strategy and Budget of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), informed the Session on the outcomes of the Senior Officials Meeting as well as the policy recommendations on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries” deliberated by the SOM and submitted to the consideration of the Ministerial Session.
53. Following the presentation of H.E. AĞAOĞLU, Dr. Sherine TAHA, Deputy Manager at the Egyptian Exporters Association (EXPOLINK), delivered a keynote speech on recent trends in developing/improving export strategies.

54. At the outset, Dr. TAHA highlighted that global trade environment has become increasingly fragile under rising protectionism, geopolitical tensions, and shifting trade policies. Dr. TAHA stressed that these dynamics pose additional risks for the OIC Member Countries, underscoring the need for greater resilience and stronger collective action to sustain long-term trade growth.
55. Dr. TAHA highlighted that, despite notable progress over the past decade, the overall trade performance of OIC Member Countries remains below its full potential. She emphasized that the export structure continues to rely on a limited range of products and markets—primarily hydrocarbons—and noted that growth in non-oil exports has yet to result in meaningful diversification or a shift toward higher value-added production across the Member Countries.
56. Dr. TAHA stressed that the lack of technological progress and limited industrial capacity continue to undermine export competitiveness in many OIC Member Countries. Dr. TAHA noted that high-technology exports still account for only a small share of total exports, and that weak supply-chain linkages, overlapping trade agreements, and differences in production structures prevent the Member Countries from developing strong regional value chains and fully benefiting from intra-OIC trade.
57. At the end of her speech, Dr. TAHA emphasized that closer integration into global and regional value chains is essential for boosting competitiveness, diversifying exports, and advancing industrial development. Dr. TAHA noted that clear national export strategies (NES), better logistics and trade facilitation, and improved access to trade finance—particularly for SMEs—stand as key priorities for advancing export performance.
58. Afterwards, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the Member Countries made statements and interventions on their country experiences with respect to the theme of the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session. They highlighted actions taken to overcome key challenges in developing export strategies and strengthening institutional capacity, and emphasized that enhanced cooperation among OIC Member Countries is vital for advancing export performance.

Closing Session

59. The Closing Session of the 41st Session of the COMCEC was held on 4 November 2025 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ, Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye.
60. Mr. Yousaf JUNAID, Ambassador of Pakistan to Türkiye, as the Rapporteur, summarized the salient points in the Resolutions.
61. The Session adopted the Resolutions OIC/COMCEC/41-25/RES.

62. Afterwards, Dr. Ahmad Kawesa SENGENDO, Assistant Secretary-General of OIC for Economic Affairs, in his closing statement, congratulated the 41st Session of the COMCEC for its successful organization, emphasizing the shared commitment of the OIC Member Countries to advance economic development, strengthen intra-OIC cooperation, and promote inclusive and sustainable growth.
63. H.E. SENGENDO expressed his deep gratitude to the Republic of Türkiye, the COMCEC Coordination Office, and relevant OIC institutions for organizing side events, particularly in support of Syria's reconstruction and development. H.E. SENGENDO also commended the efforts aimed at strengthening the private sector's role in advancing the socio-economic development of the OIC Member Countries.
64. H.E. SENGENDO called for continued support for Palestine, stressing the need for sustained humanitarian aid and an effective reconstruction strategy for Gaza. Afterwards, H.E. SENGENDO extended his deep gratitude to the H.E. Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of the COMCEC and Government of Türkiye for their hospitality. H.E. SENGENDO also conveyed his appreciation to H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ, Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye, for his charimanship during the session, commending the COMCEC Coordination Office for its efforts. H.E. SENGENDO concluded his closing statement by wishing for the success of the Member Countries' commitment in the service of Islamic Ummah and humanity.
65. H.E. Bassel ABDULLHANNAN, Deputy Minister of Economy and Industry of Syrian Arab Republic, expressed his deep gratitude to the Republic of Türkiye and the COMCEC Secretariat for their warm hospitality and the timely organization of the Session.
66. H.E. ABDULLHANNAN underlined that Syria is returning to the international economic arena with strong determination and will. H.E. ABDULLHANNAN also stressed that their participation in the 41st COMCEC Session affirms Syria's commitment to strengthening economic relations with the OIC Member Countries.
67. Finally, H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ, Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye, delivered the closing statement, expressing his gratitude to all delegates, international organization representatives, and participants for their contributions to the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session, and highlighting COMCEC's role in promoting development-focused programs and projects for the Islamic world.
68. On the margins of the 41st COMCEC Session, H.E. YILMAZ highlighted the focus on Syria's reconstruction following its rejoining of the OIC and noted a series of special events addressing cooperation opportunities within this process. H.E. YILMAZ expressed appreciation for the initiation of the Capacity-Building Program for Syria, covering training, expert exchanges, needs assessments, field studies, feasibility analyses, and institutional twinning, and wished for its successful implementation.

69. H.E. YILMAZ noted that the Gaza ceasefire, supported by regional countries, has provided relief to Gazans after two years of conflict, and stressed the need to support Gaza's reconstruction and monitor progress on OIC and other international platforms.
70. H.E. YILMAZ noted that the theme "Developing/Improving Export Capacities in the OIC Member Countries" was elaborated during the Exchange of Views Session in 41st COMCEC Session, expressing his beliefs on the discussions conducted to contribute the strengthening the export capacities of the Member Countries and enhancing their effectiveness.
71. H.E. YILMAZ emphasized the importance of TPS-OIC as a flagship trade initiative under COMCEC, welcomed its expansion and the initiation of new negotiations in 2026, and encouraged all Member Countries to join the System. Moreover, H.E. YILMAZ expressed his commitment to making the OIC Arbitration Centre one of the world's leading arbitration centers through active member participation and highlighted the importance of recognizing Multilateral Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) and operationalizing IFHAB based on SMIIC standards.
72. H.E. YILMAZ concluded by thanking all Member Country delegations, the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, OIC institutions, and other international organizations for their active and valuable contributions.

(The text of the Closing Statement of H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ is attached as Annex VIII)

Side Events/Special Sessions

73. The OIC Business Leaders' Summit was organized with the theme of "The Private Sector as a Strategic Partner for Sustainable Development," on 2 November 2025, by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD), in collaboration with COMCEC and the The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye. The Summit will be regularly organized on the margins of COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, with the title of "B57+"
74. Ministerial Working Breakfast, focusing on recovery and reconstruction efforts in Syria, was hosted by H.E. Cevdet YILMAZ, Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye, on 4 November 2025 with the participation Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the OIC Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions. This high level gathering provided an opportunity to the elaboration of possible contributions of the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions to the endeavours of Syrian Arab Republic.

75. The Panel on “The Role of Institutional and Human Capacity in Rebuilding Process: The Case of Syrian Arab Republic” was held on 2 November 2025. The session was moderated by Prof. Dr. Mesut ÖZCAN, the Chair of Diplomacy Academy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye. H.E. Ambassador Mehmet GÜLLÜOĞLU, Prof. Dr. Habib AHMED (Durham University), Dr. Younes ABOUYOUB (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)) and Mr. El-Mansour VETEN (Qatar Charity) participated as panelists. The discussion focused on the importance of institutional and human capacity in Syria’s recovery and examined the roles of key stakeholders, including public institutions, academia, civil society, and international organizations.
76. The Panel on “Revitalization of Economic Activities in Rural Areas of Syrian Arab Republic” was also held on 2 November 2025. The session was moderated by Dr. Sinan HATAHET from Omran Center for Strategic Studies. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Thameur CHAIBI (National Research Institute for Agricultural Engineering of Tunisia), Prof. Aykut GÜL (Çukurova University) and Mr. Mehmet Okan ATEŞ (Agricultural Credit Cooperatives of Türkiye) participated as panelists. The discussion focused on revitalizing rural agriculture, strengthening infrastructure, expanding employment opportunities, and promoting inclusive development mechanisms.
77. The Panel on “Mobilizing Economic and Social Development Dynamics: The Case of Syrian Arab Republic” was held on 4 November 2025. The session was moderated by Dr. Mehmet KÖSE from Africa Foundation. Mr. Salah JELASSI (Islamic Development Bank), Prof. Dr. Mehmet ASUTAY (Durham University) and Mr. Halit ACAR (Foreign Economic Relation Board) participated as the panelists. The panel focused on key economic and social development challenges in the reconstruction process, with particular emphasis on infrastructure, production and employment, social cohesion, and the delivery of social services.
78. All documents submitted to the 41st Session of COMCEC will be available on the COMCEC Web Site (www.comcec.org).

ANNEXES

ANNEX

1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

41st Session of the COMCEC (November 1st-4th, 2025)

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ANNEX

2

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**REPORT OF THE
47th MEETING OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
(21 October 2025, Virtual Meeting)**

- The 47th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held virtually on October 21st, 2025.
- The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office. In addition to OIC General Secretariat and COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting:
 - Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
 - Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT)
 - International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC)
 - The Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC)
 - Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD)
 - Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)
 - OIC Labour Centre (OIC LC)
 - Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
 - Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD)
- The Meeting agreed on the following agenda items for discussion:
 - Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy: Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the COMCEC Strategy
 - The List of Activities of the OIC Institutions Aligned with the COMCEC Strategy and COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations
 - Utilizing COMCEC Project Funding for the Implementation of COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations
 - Possible Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the Implementation of the SDGs in OIC Member Countries
 - Preparations for Annual Report on the Progress Towards Achieving the Prioritized SDGs at the OIC level
 - Activities of the OIC Institutions Serving to the Implementation of the SDGs
 - COMCEC Flagship Projects
 - The Proposal on the “Business Intelligence Programme”
 - Possible Contributions of the OIC Institutions for the Benefit of Palestinian People/ Al-Quds Sharif as well as Geographically Distant OIC Member Countries and Observer Countries

- Any Other Business

Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy: Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the COMCEC Strategy

- CCO has presented an overview of the activities of the OIC institutions aligned with the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations and the COMCEC Strategy. In this respect, it was reported that OIC Institutions have conducted 34 activities in Group A and 128 activities in Group B categories, since the previous COMCEC Ministerial Session. It was also reported that 49 Group A activities and 101 Group B activities have been planned to be held until the end of this year. To ensure more accurate reporting and avoid duplications, the CCO shared some observations on the data entry of OIC Institutions related to their activities. In order to avoid from duplications and to ensure up-to-date reporting of the activities, the Committee requested relevant OIC institutions to insert data and information regarding their activities in timely manner to the online system.
- In this context, the Committee reviewed the completed and planned activities of the relevant OIC institutions that directly link with the implementation of the Ministerial Policy Recommendations and the objectives of the COMCEC Strategy across the cooperation areas since the 40th COMCEC Ministerial Session.
- The Committee commended the valuable efforts and contributions of the OIC institutions towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.
- The Committee took note with appreciation of the efforts of SESRIC in contributing to the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations through specifically designed activities such as capacity building, training programmes.
- Furthermore, the Committee was informed about the projects implemented under the COMCEC Project Funding (CPF). It was highlighted that 23 projects are being implemented by OIC Member Countries and OIC Institutions under the CPF in 2025.
- Moreover, the Committee requested the OIC Institutions, to the extent possible, to be involved in the projects of the OIC Member Countries as project partners by providing technical assistance in designing and implementing their projects under the COMCEC Project Funding.

Possible Contributions of the OIC Institutions to the Implementation of the SDGs in the OIC Member States

- The Committee took note with appreciation the presentation made by SESRIC on the report titled “Towards the Achievement of Prioritized Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries,” prepared for the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session.

- Regarding statistical capacity-building programs, the Committee commended SESRIC for organizing 7 activities on SDG indicators for the benefit of 400 participants across the OIC Member Countries since the last COMCEC session.
- Concerning the SDG related activities of OIC institutions, the CCO informed the Committee that 32 activities have been completed, and 47 activities have been planned on the prioritized SDGs in 2025.

COMCEC Flagship Projects

- The Committee was informed by the CCO about the progress and recent developments in the implementation of the COMCEC Flagship Projects/Programs such as TPS-OIC, OIC Arbitration Centre, and OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah Index and Fund, and COMCEC SME Program.
- The Committee was also informed by ICDT concerning the activities of TNC Secretariat towards raising awareness on TPS-OIC
- Emphasizing the significant role of the OIC institutions in raising awareness among Member Countries regarding the COMCEC Flagship Projects, the Committee encouraged the relevant OIC institutions to further enhance their efforts in this regard.

OIC Business Intelligence Programme

- The Committee was informed by ICIEC (IsDB Group) about the ongoing efforts to launch the OIC Business Intelligence Programme and took note of the training and capacity-building activities, held in Indonesia in February 2025, and to be held in November 2025 in Morocco in collaboration with I CDT.
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- The Committee requested 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 as soon as possible.
- **Possible Contributions of the OIC Institutions for the Benefit of Palestinian People/ Al-Quds Sharif as well as Geographically Distant OIC Member Countries and Observer Countries**
- The Committee was briefed by the OIC Institutions regarding their endeavors aiming at supporting the Benefit of Palestinian People/ Al-Quds Sharif as well as Geographically Distant OIC Member Countries and Observer Countries.
- The OIC General Secretariat briefed the Committee on its comprehensive humanitarian, economic, and cultural initiatives undertaken to alleviate challenges faced by the Palestinian people and safeguard their historical rights and identity. The Committee welcomed these efforts as a critical contribution to OIC's collective support for Palestine.

- The Committee commended SESRIC for successfully organizing 41 specialized activities for this purpose since the 40th COMCEC Ministerial Session, benefiting 154 professionals from the relevant Palestinian institutions, thereby contributing to enhanced technical capabilities. The Committee also took note with appreciation the activities of SESRIC 20 different activities for the benefit of Guyana and 16 different activities for the benefit of Suriname.
- Welcoming successful implementation of the concrete projects under the COMCEC Al-Quds Program, aiming at improving socio-economic conditions in Al-Quds, The Committee took note with appreciation that eight projects are being implemented this year to enhance SME competitiveness and empower women and youth through targeted vocational education and skills development. The Committee also welcomed the new project call which was made as of 15th November, 2025 under COMCEC Al-Quds Programme.
- The Committee commended the implementation of the project in the area of SME under the COMCEC Project Funding in Suriname in partnership with Guyana.
- The Committee took note with appreciation the ongoing efforts of IOFS on the humanitarian food relief appeal for Gaza.
- The Committee also commended ICCD for the successful implementation of three projects namely, Talent Gate 2025, Digital Palestine Platform, and Palestinian Breakfast, which aimed to contribute to Palestinian economy by promoting local products, preserving national and cultural heritage, and enhancing the economic empowerment of Palestinian youth, artisans, and small-scale producers.
- The Committee encouraged all relevant OIC Institutions to continue their collaborative efforts in implementing and expanding programs and initiatives that benefit of Palestinian People/ Al-Quds Sharif as well as Geographically Distant OIC Member Countries and Observer Countries.
- The Committee was briefed by the OIC LC on its future activities supporting the recovery of employment and labour systems in Gaza, including the development of an employment support programme for Palestinian employees and contribution to the post-war rehabilitation process.

Any Other Business

- The Committee Meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

ANNEX

3

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY H.E. RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE AND CHAIRMAN OF
THE COMCEC AT THE OPENING SESSION**

(NOVEMBER 3, 2025 – ISTANBUL)

In the name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

Dear Ministers,

Esteemed Secretary-General,

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I greet you all with my most heartfelt feelings, respect, and affection.

Assalamu alaykum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh.

It is a great pleasure to host you in our beautiful Istanbul — the heart of three continents — on the occasion of the 41st Session of the COMCEC Ministerial Meeting.

I sincerely thank each and every one of our distinguished guests for honoring our program.

Welcome to Türkiye, welcome to Istanbul!

Through you, I extend my warmest greetings and affection to all our brothers and sisters living across different corners of the world.

I hope that our deliberations and the decisions we make during this meeting will bring blessings to our countries, the Islamic world, and all humanity.

Since Saturday, numerous panels, sessions, and side events have been organized within the framework of this gathering — from economic and financial cooperation to transport and communication, from sustainable tourism to digital transformation.

On behalf of myself and my nation, I sincerely thank all participants and pray that Allah may turn your efforts into goodness.

I hope all these activities will further strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, affection, and solidarity, and contribute positively to our relations.

Dear Brothers and sisters,

Since our last meeting, we have witnessed historic developments, particularly in the Middle East.

As the Chairman of COMCEC, you know that for years I have spoken from this podium about the suffering of the Syrian people.

For nearly 14 years, our Syrian brothers and sisters have paid a heavy price.

Nearly one million Syrians lost their lives as a result of attacks by the Ba'ath regime and terrorist organizations.

Over 3.6 million took refuge in Türkiye, and millions more sought safety in other countries.

Throughout this process, we hosted Syrian migrants with the spirit of the Ansar (helpers).

We strove to fulfill our duty of brotherhood and neighborliness in the best possible manner.

Praise be to Allah — in the end, it was the oppressed Syrian people who prevailed.

The oppression that turned Syria into a bloodbath for 14 years finally came to an end with the 8th of December Revolution, and under the resolute leadership of President Ahmet Shara, Syria has entered a phase of recovery.

Once again, I commemorate our Syrian brothers who fell for their freedom, and I pray that Allah grants them the highest ranks in Paradise.

I am deeply pleased that Syria is represented once again at the COMCEC Ministerial Meeting after such a long hiatus.

Türkiye continues to support the Syrian people — from transport to education, from security to trade, from health to social services.

Preserving Syria's political unity and territorial integrity, and ensuring the lasting well-being of all its people, is of utmost importance — and our Organization and the Islamic world play a critical role in this regard.

Syria's integration with regional economies will yield tangible benefits both for Syria and for our region.

We must focus on implementing transport projects — the most crucial component of such integration.

I am also pleased to note that, thanks to our collective efforts, sanctions that posed serious obstacles to Syria's economic recovery are being gradually lifted.

At this stage, we encourage the private sector to invest in Syria.

Helping our neighbor Syria rise again and regain stability remains our top priority.

Accordingly, under the COMCEC framework, we are launching a special support program for Syria — to strengthen human and institutional capacity through education, expert exchanges, needs assessments, and feasibility studies.

I am confident that our member countries will make valuable contributions during the implementation phase.

We are also pleased to have our brothers from the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus among us today.

I warmly welcome them as well.

The Turkish Cypriots are an integral part of the Islamic world.

For decades, they have been subjected to unjust, unlawful, and cruel isolation solely because of this identity.

Yet they have not bowed to pressure, have not given up their will to live honorably in their homeland, and have never compromised their sovereign equality.

We are receiving strong indications that new imperialist designs in our region also aim to include Cyprus on their agenda.

For this reason, it is vital that our Organization further strengthens its solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot people.

I call upon you to lend greater support to their struggle for rights, freedom, and justice based on a two-state solution.

As the motherland and guarantor country, Türkiye will never abandon the Turkish Cypriots and will always stand by them in their just cause.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As the Islamic world, we are experiencing a very difficult period — one that tests our conscience, wisdom, and perseverance.

During such times, we must unite more closely and address our common challenges with determination and prudence.

Our beloved Prophet, sent as a mercy to all worlds, said in a Hadith al Sharif:

“The relationship of Muslims with one another is like that of a solid building — each part supporting the other.”

Indeed, let us elevate our relations so that this structure remains firm, unaffected by shocks, attacks, or sabotage.

I say this especially my dear brothers and sisters because — as you know —

Gaza has witnessed one of the most brutal genocides of the past century over the last two years.

More than 70,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, have been massacred by Israeli occupation forces.

Some 170,000 have been injured, and countless martyrs remain under the rubble of Gaza, now reduced to ruins.

Tens of billions of dollars’ worth of destruction has occurred.

Even if the rubble is cleared, the trauma endured by children who saw their parents killed before their eyes may never heal.

The indifference of international organizations has left deep wounds that may never fully heal.

This cruelty and genocide will never be forgotten.

I also have to utter these sentences...

From the first day of the Israeli onslaught, Türkiye has been among the strongest voices opposing this genocide.

Through over 102,000 tons of humanitarian aid, diplomatic initiatives, and steps taken within the framework of international law, we stood firmly against the oppressors.

We have worked tirelessly to secure a permanent ceasefire and achieve a just peace.

Together with the OIC–Arab League Gaza Contact Group and members of the international community with conscience, we kept the plight of our Gazan brothers and sisters on the world’s agenda.

Praise be to Allah — our efforts have begun to yield positive results.

The Hamas–Israel talks hosted by Egypt, with our contribution, resulted in a ceasefire.

I once again extend my gratitude to Qatar, Egypt, and all regional countries that supported this process.

I believe we will continue this exemplary solidarity with even greater strength and determination in the coming period.

I also thank U.S. President Mr. Trump for his role in facilitating the ceasefire.

While Hamas appears committed to the agreement, we all know Israel’s record is dismal.

We are facing an administration that, hiding behind various excuses, has killed over 200 innocent people since the ceasefire agreement and continues its occupation and attacks in the West Bank.

Let me be clear: these assaults targeting both civilians and the path to peace will never derail the quest for a just and lasting solution to the Israeli–Palestinian issue.

At this stage, we must deliver more humanitarian aid to Gaza and launch reconstruction efforts.

Yet the Israeli government continues to obstruct these steps.

We believe the Reconstruction Plan prepared by the Arab League and the OIC should be implemented without any delay whatsoever.

It is essential that both the OIC and COMCEC play a leading role in Gaza’s rebuilding.

We cannot allow the annexation of the West Bank, any alteration to the status of Al-Quds, or any attempt to harm the sanctity of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Until a sovereign, independent, and contiguous State of Palestine is established with East Quds as its capital, we will continue our struggle together.

Brothers, I would also like to draw your attention to the conflict in Sudan, ongoing for 29 months.

The massacres against civilians in El-Fashir are unacceptable to any human being with a heart.

The responsibility to stop the bloodshed in Sudan falls primarily on the Islamic world.

As Muslims, we must solve our problems ourselves instead of relying on others.

We must safeguard Sudan's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence.

Standing with the Sudanese people in these difficult times through humanitarian aid and development support is of great importance.

I firmly believe that all member states of our Organization will take action, guided by our brotherly bonds, to help Sudan restore peace, stability, and security.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The increasing number of protectionist measures is being felt more strongly in global trade.

While global growth averaged 3.7% annually in the two decades before the pandemic, it is expected to decline to 3% between 2025 and 2030.

This indicates not only an economic slowdown but also a search for a new balance in global economic policies.

In this uncertain environment, the importance of cooperation among our countries has once again become evident.

Looking back at the past 50 years of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), it is clear that our countries have not received their fair share of global trade.

During this period, the average per capita income in OIC countries rose from \$1,169 to \$4,453, while the global average increased from \$2,611 to over \$13,000.

Our share in world trade has stagnated at around 11%.

We have fallen far short of our target of 25% intra-OIC trade.

Despite possessing 60% of global natural gas reserves, 65% of oil resources, and 25% of the world's population, the Islamic world has yet to reach its desired position in international trade.

We can, of course, change this reality.

The joint programs and projects implemented within COMCEC are of great significance in this regard.

Our Preferential Trade System, launched in 2022, aims to strengthen trade among member states.

Efforts to expand its membership and scope, and to complement it with new-generation trade agreements, are extremely valuable.

I call on countries that have not yet joined the system to do so, and on participating states to deepen our cooperation in trade.

Dear Brothers and sisters,

I believe that this year's Exchange of Views Session, held under the theme "Developing Export Strategies", will help us explore new cooperation opportunities in trade and create concrete roadmaps.

As we diversify our exports, we must also build high income and competitive economies.

We should promote Islamic finance products to improve SMEs' access to finance, and align export credit and insurance systems with Islamic principles.

Through the COMCEC SME Program, we are building strong cooperation networks among SMEs.

I invite countries that have not yet joined to participate and benefit from ongoing initiatives.

"Halal Certification" also provides great opportunities for increasing trade among our member countries.

Therefore, I attach special importance to the completion of technical work by the Islamic Forum of Halal Accreditation Bodies, established two years ago, so that its activities can begin in 2026.

Another key component of boosting trade relations is the arbitration mechanism.

I believe the OIC Arbitration Center, which I personally proposed, will make a valuable contribution to our joint endeavors.

I count on your support to enhance its recognition and make it one of the first references in arbitration cases.

Distinguished Guests,

This year, the COMCEC Working Groups addressed many issues crucial to the development of Islamic countries.

So far, 180 projects have received support under the COMCEC Project Funding Programs.

I am pleased that all 56 member states have participated — either as project owners or beneficiaries.

This year, we are launching 23 new projects under COMCEC Project Financing.

We are also adding 8 new projects to the 20 projects already implemented under the COMCEC Al-Quds Program.

I wish them all success and sincerely thank every brother and sister who contributed to these efforts.

May Allah help us all and be our protector.

With these thoughts, I once again wish the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Meeting to be beneficial.

I thank all my brothers and sisters for their participation.

I greet you all with love and respect, and entrust you to Allah's care.

I salute you with respect...

ANNEX

4

Original: French

**SPEECH OF H.E. DR. HISSEIN BRAHIM TAHA,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF
THE ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)
AT THE 41st SESSION OF THE OIC STANDING COMMITTEE FOR
ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC)**

- Your Excellency Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and Chairman of COMCEC,
- Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Heads of Delegation,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

First, I would like to express my gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and Chairman of COMCEC, for his support for OIC programs. I also thank the Government and people of the Republic of Türkiye for the arrangements made to ensure the success of our meeting.

- Mr. Chairman,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

This meeting comes after the conclusion of a ceasefire agreement, which should put an end to the crimes of genocide perpetrated by Israel in the Gaza Strip and to the suffering of the people.

While COMCEC is a testament to our collective will for economic integration, we cannot mention shared prosperity when the foundations of the Palestinian economy are being systematically destroyed. We must support the resilience of the Palestinian economy and its people.

- Mr. President,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

The General Secretariat and the institutions of the OIC continue to implement the various decisions and resolutions of the Organization aimed at strengthening socio-economic cooperation among our Member States. Most of the achievements are cited in my report presented at the meeting held this August.

In this context, I am pleased to announce that the share of intra-OIC trade in the overall foreign trade of Member States has increased slightly, and I would like to emphasize the need to strengthen trade relations between our countries. The 2nd Session of the Conference of Ministers of Transport and the 2nd Ministerial Meeting on Energy, to be held in 2026 in the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, respectively, will examine intra-OIC cooperation in these important sectors and develop joint action strategies.

We must also strengthen our cooperation in the field of agriculture and food security.

The first OIC Forum on Investment in Africa, to be held in the Republic of Mali from December 2 to 4, will provide an opportunity to review investment opportunities in OIC African member states. In this regard, I urge all OIC member states to support these initiatives and actively participate in this meeting.

- Mr. President,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to remind you that poverty and underdevelopment continue to affect a large number of citizens in many of our Member States. The future of our countries will depend on how we prepare our young people for the future. We urgently need a clear strategy for the economic empowerment of young people in order to save both our youth and our future.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the COMCEC Coordination Office and all the relevant OIC institutions, which have continued to collaborate with the General Secretariat and Member States in the implementation of our organization's various socio-economic projects.

I wish you every success in your work.

ANNEX

5

Original: English

**ADDRESS BY DR. MUHAMMAD SULAIMAN AL JASSER,
PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IsDB
GROUP) AT THE OPENING SESSION
(3 November 2025)**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful and the Most Gracious

Praise is due to only Allah, the Rabb of All Realms. Peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad, the best of the prophets and messengers, his family, his companions and those who follow his path until the Day of Doomsday.

Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and Chairman of the COMCEC

Mr. Hussein Ibrahim Taha, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,
Esteemed Ministers,
Dear Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and gentlemen,

May Allah's Peace, Mercy and Blessings be upon you.

On behalf of the Islamic Development Bank Group, I am delighted and honoured to participate in the proceedings of the 41st Session of the COMCEC. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Bank Group, I would like to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Mr. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan for his wise leadership of this Committee and the generous hospitality extended to this important meeting.

We gather today in an increasingly complex global environment, with protracted conflicts, rising geopolitical tensions and the growing consequences of climate change. These great challenges not only threaten the gains we have made in development but also threaten to push millions of our Ummah's children back into the embrace of poverty and deprivation. The most painful of these crises is the tragedy in Gaza, which breaks the hearts of humanity.

While we deeply grieve for every innocent life lost, I would like to reiterate our unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and stand with them. The Islamic Development Bank Group reaffirms our commitment to the reconstruction of Gaza and to supporting the resistance.

Similarly, we reaffirm our support for all our member countries affected by conflict and disasters, and we emphasize our commitment to supporting their relief and recovery efforts.

Honourable President,
Dear Participants and Guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

This year's session, which has the theme of "Examining Export Strategies in OIC Member Countries", is of exceptional importance in the current global context. We make a clarion call to combine our efforts to enhance intra-OIC trade, increase competitiveness and diversify markets, through innovation, digital transformation and closer cooperation.

As the Islamic Development Bank Group, we are proud to be an important partner in realizing this vision. Our new period strategy "IDB Strategy 2026-2035" places the strengthening of trade, investment and integration at the regional level at the centre of its priorities. To turn these expectations into a tangible reality, the Islamic Development Bank Group continues to invest in cross-border infrastructure, advance digital trade initiatives and promote harmonization of regulatory frameworks.

Our progress is clearly reflected in the figures. The Bank's annual approvals nearly tripled, from US\$1.67 billion in 2020 to US\$5.11 billion in 2024. Thus, the total volume of approvals granted since its establishment exceeds the threshold of USD 204 billion by mid-2025.

Our expert organizations are also achieving remarkable results on the field:

- The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) has approved USD 89 billion in trade finance since its establishment. In 2024 alone, it provided USD 7.3 billion in trade finance benefiting 45 member countries.

In 2025, the organization continues to expand its development impact through innovative and inclusive initiatives in the Arab Region, Africa and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). By the middle of the year, \$6.2 billion in financing had been approved, part of which was allocated to support the least developed countries.

Pleasingly, 37% of those who have benefited from the organisation's capacity-building programmes are women, including farmers and owners of small and medium-sized enterprises.

- In 2024, the Islamic Investment and Export Credit Insurance Corporation (ICIEC) insured business transactions and investments worth USD 12.9 billion, bringing the total volume of business insured since its establishment to USD 121.2 billion. Out of this amount, US\$57 billion has been allocated to support trade and investment among member countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

The integration of trade between our countries and the interconnection of supply chains is a necessity imposed by development needs and negative developments in global trade flows.

Honourable President,
Dear Participants and Guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

As one of the leading exporting countries in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Türkiye offers an inspiring model and valuable experience. Through the Knowledge and Experience Sharing Programme of the Islamic Development Bank, our member countries can benefit from

Türkiye's expertise in opening new export markets and strengthening trade with each other, thereby promoting our shared prosperity.

The Islamic Development Bank Group is committed to deepening its partnership with the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) and all OIC institutions to help our member countries build their capacities, improve their institutions and modernize their regulatory frameworks.

Finally, I wish you a fruitful deliberation. I am confident that our in-depth discussions will result in concrete actions that will strengthen our export strategies, consolidate cooperation between our member countries, and benefit our economies and peoples.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The end of our prayers is to praise Allah, the Rabb of all realms.

ANNEX

6

SPEECH OF H.E. ABDULLAH BIN SALEH KAMEL, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT (ICCD)

In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

Praise be to Allah, who said: **“And hold fast by the covenant of Allah all together and be not disunited.”** And peace and blessings be upon His Messenger, who said: **“No Arab has superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have superiority over an Arab; no white has superiority over black, nor does black have superiority over white, except by piety.”**

**His Excellency, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan,
Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished Guests,**

Assalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuh

Today is a joyous occasion as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), hosted graciously by the Republic of Türkiye since its inception. The committee receives special attention from His Excellency the Turkish President, along with diligent follow-up from His Excellency his Deputy, Mr. Cevdet Yılmaz. Its annual meeting has become a landmark event, one that we must diligently capitalize on to serve as a global platform for our Islamic nations, spread across the earth from north to south, east to west.

The blessings Allah has bestowed upon us are abundant, and the bonds between us are unparalleled. The horizons of cooperation and integration are limitless. Above all, the command to develop and sustain the earth with righteous deeds propels us toward ongoing work and development.

Distinguished Guests,

In this brief time, I would like to direct your esteemed attention to major issues worthy of focus in this honorable forum, on this exceptional occasion, as they should form part of a better future and wiser endeavors.

The first of these issues is **entrepreneurship**. It is the foundation of finance and business, trade, and investment. The world has come to recognize the importance of entrepreneurship, and leading nations have created a prominent global presence in all arenas through their entrepreneurs. These nations did not stop there but began competing to attract successful entrepreneurs, men and women, from around the world, offering all types of support to enable them to contribute with their creativity and innovation to an already thriving state.

Complementing this path is the activation of the role of women and their economic empowerment, in a manner that aligns with our noble values drawn from the spirit of our great religion and its overarching objectives.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to share with you the good news that the General Assembly of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development recently made two historic decisions during its meeting in Istanbul on October 17 — about two weeks ago. These decisions were to establish two new entities under the Islamic Chamber: one dedicated to entrepreneurship and the other to economic empowerment of women. I sincerely hope that, by the time of the 41st COMCEC session, these young institutions will have been launched, joining their sisters among the institutions of joint Islamic action.

The second issue is **microfinance**. The importance of this type of financing is widely acknowledged, particularly for the least developed countries, many of which are OIC member states, especially in Africa. Since the 7th Ministerial Conference held in Burkina Faso in 2018 under the theme “**The Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States**,” the Islamic Chamber has adopted a new project, with the support and interest of the OIC General Secretariat. Work on this project is progressing rapidly, with the Islamic Chamber being entrusted with it. A notable aspect of this project is the ongoing cooperation with the OIC General Secretariat and the Islamic Development Bank, despite the considerable challenges it faces.

The third issue is **empowering the various components of the Islamic economy**. These tools adhere to development principles and promote justice, representing the sole hope within a highly turbulent global economy managed by a financial system that generates crises, creates unproductive, sometimes fictitious assets, and, above all, lacks a viable solution other than drowning in debt. The current system has no path to development other than borrowing, which enriches lenders and traps borrowers in an endless cycle, with global debt mountains growing annually, burdening future generations with no real hope of repayment, let alone interest, especially in the poorest countries.

His Excellency President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, patron of the Al Baraka Istanbul Summit for the Islamic Economy, accurately diagnosed the global situation in his opening speech at the first Al Baraka Summit in Istanbul on Friday, May 24, of this year. He emphasized the need for serious work to empower the different tools of the Islamic economy and highlighted the importance of innovating diverse tools aligned with the objectives of Sharia. In this context, I am pleased to commend the special book issued by COMCEC in celebration of today’s anniversary, which includes numerous important studies and reports on halal and the Islamic economy and finance.

Distinguished Guests,

The innocent blood being shed on our pure lands in Palestine and Lebanon without justification, and the innocent lives lost daily without cause, alongside the systematic

destruction that ravages everything like a hurricane, add new responsibilities and duties to our enduring commitments. We can only fulfill these responsibilities by achieving unity, which will command respect from the entire world. Perhaps economic integration is the easiest area for us to unite, cooperate, and partner, especially in a world that values economic power, respects it and fears its might.

Marking the 40th anniversary of COMCEC's establishment offers an opportunity to review what has been accomplished at all levels in this regard. As President of the Islamic Chamber, which is the sole official representative of the private sector in the Islamic world, I affirm our constant readiness and commitment to activating partnerships at all levels. Our responsibilities are vast, and our aspirations are even greater. "Surely Allah does not waste the reward of the doers of good."

Assalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuh

ANNEX

7

**SPEECH OF MR. RİFAT HİSARCIKLIOĞLU,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF CHAMBERS AND COMMODITY
EXCHANGES OF TÜRKİYE (TOBB)
AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND DEVELOPMENT (ICCD)**

Mr. President/Vice President,

Esteemed Guests,

I greet you with respect and affection.

Peace be upon you, Allah willing.

Dear President/Vice President,

Dear friends,

I would like to say, from the perspective of a businessman and the President of the WCF:
Serious chaos and uncertainty are unfolding throughout the world and our region.

The global economy is being dragged into a more fragile, volatile, and uncertain state.

Protectionism is increasing in international trade.

We can only emerge from such a complex environment by standing together.

Our Lord commands in the Ali Imran Surah, “Hold fast to the rope of Allah together, and do not become divided or fragmented.”

Therefore, in such a challenging environment, we, as the Islamic world, must put aside our differences of opinion, take a united stance, and act as one.

This is a fact: there is no mercy without unity.

Unless hearts beat together, we cannot succeed against invaders, especially Israel.

Only in this way can we help our Palestinian, Syrian, and Lebanese brothers and sisters, and the innocent and oppressed in many other countries.

As Muslims, we are accountable for what we do and what we fail to do.

And let us not forget that there is mercy and blessing in unity, while there is punishment in separation.

The most important way to achieve this, and the path to peace is trade.

Because trade is the greatest source of peace.

Those who engage in trade do not discuss disputes or look down on each other.

Therefore, we must remove trade barriers such as visas and quotas between us and increase trade with each other.

We have taken important steps in this direction.

The preferential trade agreement between Islamic countries has finally been implemented.

Furthermore, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Arbitration Center, for which we initiated the establishment process upon the instructions of our President, has become operational in Istanbul.

We ask you to direct companies from your countries to this center, support the efforts to establish it as a priority location, and encourage you to use this Arbitration Center.

Furthermore, to facilitate more trade, we must facilitate border crossings.

We have successfully carried out this work in Türkiye.

With the approval of our government, we modernized all of Türkiye's major land border crossings using the Build-Operate-Transfer model.

Not a single penny was spent from the public budget.

This has resulted in an exponential increase in crossing volume.

The waiting period at the border has been reduced. The timeframe has been halved.

This project was also selected as the best project by the UN and cited as an example for other countries.

Following this, we launched another joint initiative with the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development.

We aimed to modernize land customs gates in 57 Islamic countries.

We expect your support in this regard as well.

With your permission, I would like to add one more point.

By decision of the authorized bodies of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, we established the Islamic Arbitration Center in Istanbul.

The Center has completed its establishment process. It is now ready to contribute to the development of trade and investments between our countries. We request your support in the promotion and work of the Islamic Arbitration Center, a joint organization of all of us. We are ready to visit your countries and promote the Center.

As I conclude my speech with these thoughts, I pray to Allah that our meeting will be auspicious and I greet you all with respect.

ANNEX

8

Original: English

CLOSING STATEMENT
BY H.E. CEVDET YILMAZ, VICE PRESIDENT OF TÜRKİYE
(4 November 2025)

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

Esteemed Ministers,

Esteemed Secretary General, Esteemed Delegates,

Esteemed Representatives of International Organizations,

Peace be upon you, may Allah have mercy on you and grant you blessings...

We have successfully concluded the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation following productive consultations.

I extend my gratitude to all member country delegations, representatives of international organizations, and other participants who contributed to the negotiations.

Gathering under the umbrella of COMCEC, we sincerely discussed how we can take more effective steps for the prosperity and peace of the Islamic world and how we can transform the challenges we face into opportunities.

Since Saturday, numerous sessions and side events such as business forums have been held as part of the organization.

In addition to the main topic of "Developing Export Strategies in OIC Member Countries," valuable assessments and recommendations were shared on many topics, i.e., promoting employment, improving the investment environment, and strengthening coordination mechanisms.

In total, more than 30 bilateral meetings were held with the participation of 16 countries and 6 OIC organizations.

This spirit of unity and brotherhood, demonstrated through your contributions at the 41st COMCEC, has further strengthened both the affection between us and the opportunities for cooperation between our countries.

We hope that the ideas expressed here will contribute to long-lasting projects and concrete achievements, helping to develop a more equitable global order.

I hope that the consultations held, and the decisions reached during the meeting will be beneficial for the Islamic World and all of humanity.

Esteemed Ministers, Distinguished Delegates,

In this year's Ministerial Session, we focused on "Developing and Improving Export Strategies in OIC Member Countries."

Despite their human resources, natural resources, and strategic location, OIC countries have still not achieved their due share in the global trade system.

The fact that our total share in world trade remains at 11% demonstrates the need to further strengthen economic integration among Islamic countries.

While it is encouraging that intra-OIC trade has risen above 20% in recent years, it is also clear that we must take more decisive steps to achieve our goals.

Indeed, we have a vision of increasing intra-OIC trade to 25%.

As Türkiye, we have always prioritized trade with our brotherly countries.

Our total trade volume with OIC countries has shown a steady increase over the last five years, rising from US\$74.7 billion in 2020 to US\$112.6 billion in 2024, a 50% increase.

With this performance, Türkiye has become the third-largest trader in intra-OIC trade.

The rapid transformation in the digital economy, e-commerce, and financial technologies presents new opportunities for all our countries.

The digital finance solutions, logistics technologies, and e-export platforms we have developed in these areas have positioned our country as the digital hub of regional trade.

In the coming period, by highlighting areas where we have a competitive advantage within the OIC geography, we aim to increase the share of OIC countries in our exports to 30% in the short term and to 35% by 2030.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation's Preferential Trade System (TPS-OIC), COMCEC's most important initiative in the field of trade, provides the strongest foundation for the development of trade among its member countries.

I find it significant that, following the decision taken last year, negotiations will begin in 2026 to align the scope of the System with next-generation trade agreements.

Transforming the System into a more inclusive, dynamic, and sustainable structure through the joint will of our member countries will significantly contribute to the increase in our trade volume.

I thank all stakeholders who have contributed to this process and invite all member countries to become parties to the System and support its development.

The rapid and fair resolution of disputes in trade and investment is crucial for establishing an environment of trust in the business world.

To this end, it is crucial for the OIC Arbitration Center to strengthen its institutional capacity and complete the mechanisms that will ensure multilateral recognition of halal certificates.

I believe with the support of our member countries, both the arbitration system and halal accreditation structure will inject new momentum into regional trade.

Esteemed Ministers, Esteemed Delegates,

Throughout the year, COMCEC Working Group meetings addressed numerous strategic issues which are a priority of development agendas of our member countries.

Proposals developed on topics ranging from combating climate change to agricultural production, from social housing policies to cultural heritage tourism can make concrete contributions to the development goals of our countries.

To implement these policy recommendations, we particularly encourage our member countries to utilize COMCEC Project Support Programs more effectively.

To date, 180 projects have been supported under COMCEC Project Support Financing, with 56 Member States participating in this mechanism as project owners or beneficiaries.

To date, 28 projects have been provided financial and technical support under the COMCEC Al-Quds Program, which aims to improve the living conditions and strengthen the institutional capacity of our Palestinian brothers and sisters.

These projects stand out as initiatives that contribute to Palestine's socio-economic development, enhance local capacity, and align with sustainable development goals.

As stated by our President in his opening remarks yesterday, we are launching the Syria Capacity Building Program under the COMCEC umbrella, aimed at developing institutional and human capacity in Syria.

As part of the program, we will provide project support in the areas of socio-economic development, considering the needs and priorities of our Syrian brothers and sisters through mechanisms such as training, expert exchange, needs assessment, field research, feasibility studies, and inter-institutional matching.

This situation reminds us that our development agenda is not limited to economic indicators; it must be shaped by justice, solidarity, and a sense of human responsibility.

Esteemed Ministers, Esteemed Delegates,

Significant developments are unfolding across a vast region stretching from the Middle East to Africa, South Asia to Europe, and deeply impacting regional balances and the global agenda.

The ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, the conflict in Sudan, and the fragile situation in Yemen remind us of the necessity of an international order based on justice and conscience, while the steps taken in Syria for reconstruction, development, and capacity building strengthen hopes for regional stability and solidarity.

I would like to express my satisfaction with Syria's re-representation at the COMCEC Ministerial Meeting.

After a long and challenging process, the fact that our brotherly Syria has demonstrated a will to recover is a promising development for our region.

As Türkiye, in accordance with the principles of neighborly rights, fraternal awareness, and humanitarian responsibility, we have stood by the Syrian people in every area, from transportation to education, healthcare to trade, security to social services, and we continue to do so.

The gradual easing of sanctions, which have been a serious obstacle to development for years, opens new windows of opportunity.

The Islamic world's outreach to the Syrian people during this period is of paramount importance for their restoration of security, stability, and prosperity.

At the Working Breakfast, where we met with our esteemed ministers on the reconstruction of Syria, we had the opportunity to assess our potential for Syria in a spirit of cooperation and solidarity. Thank you for your valuable opinions and assessments.

In the coming period, the private sector must courageously focus on Syria's reconstruction and contribute to the revitalization of production and employment.

Increasing integration with regional economies, in particular, will accelerate Syria's development and positively impact regional trade, employment, and production chains.

Just as Syria has risen with hope after long years of conflict, I believe we will also witness days of peace, tranquility, and freedom in the Palestinian territories.

In Gaza, the bleeding wound of the Islamic world, after two years of brutal attacks, the ceasefire achieved through the efforts of our regional countries has brought hope and relief, albeit with a heavy heart, to our brothers and sisters returning to their homes, and to the arrival of humanitarian aid.

Türkiye is mobilizing all its resources to ensure the uninterrupted and safe delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

From temporary shelters to permanent housing, energy and water supply, education and healthcare, we stand with our brotherly Palestinians in every regard.

The reconstruction of Gaza will not only be a humanitarian responsibility; it will also be the most concrete indicator of regional peace and common conscience.

We will continue to stand with our Palestinian brothers and sisters until an independent, sovereign, and territorially intact State of Palestine is established based on the 1967 borders, with Al-Quds as its capital.

In the coming period, it is important that we carefully monitor this issue on all international platforms, especially the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to provide our brothers and sisters in Gaza with the support they need through concrete steps.

Esteemed Participants

We were delighted to welcome you to Istanbul, a place where continents, histories, and cultures intertwine, on the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Meeting.

The theme of the 2026 COMCEC Ministerial Exchange of Views Session has been determined as "Developing Trade Finance Instruments to Increase Exports in OIC Member Countries."

I hope that the work to be undertaken will be beneficial.

Before concluding, I would like to express my gratitude to all member state delegations, the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, OIC Institutions, and other international organizations for their valuable contributions.

I wish our meetings and the efforts made within the scope of COMCEC the best possible outcome.

I respectfully greet you all once again, hoping that you return to your countries safe and sound, with fond memories and friendships.

May Allah protect you.

ASSALAMU ALAYKUM AND MERCY AND BLESSINGS TO ALLAH.

ANNEX

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Original: English

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

Policy Recommendations for the Exchange of Views Session of the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries”

The 40th COMCEC Session agreed on “Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries” as the theme for the Exchange of Views Session of the 41st Session of the COMCEC and requested COMCEC Trade Working Group (TWG) to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report them to the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session. In line with this request, the 25th Meeting of the TWG has come up with the following challenges and policy recommendations on developing or improving export strategies in the OIC Member Countries:

A- CHALLENGES

1. Heavy reliance on imports of strategic goods which increases risks of price and supply fluctuations alongside instability from volatile export revenues
2. Volatility of export revenues directly transmitting to growth variability through large fluctuations disrupting economic stability
3. Increasing protectionist measures in traditional markets that compounds external shocks and fluctuations
4. Geopolitical tensions, environmental challenges, and technological disruptions exposing structural weaknesses in export-led growth models
5. Need for enhanced stakeholder coordination and stronger public–private partnership to ensure long-term sustainability and competitiveness
6. Unharmonized quality infrastructure policies and lack of technical regulations amongst the OIC member Countries, limiting SMEs and MSMEs in meeting international requirements
7. Variations in halal standards at the international level creating barriers to trade and consumer confidence
8. Limited trade literacy constraining many countries, especially developing and emerging ones, from fully integrating into global markets and reducing export capacity

9. Budgetary constraints limiting SMEs and MSMEs from investing in trade-related training, restricting their ability to participate in global value chains
10. Limited R&D investment, poor academia-industry collaboration, and insufficient financial support constraining companies' innovation and high-tech development, limiting countries' engagement in advanced sectors
11. Rapid digital technology evolution creating a skills mismatch, with shortages of professionals in AI, data science, cybersecurity, and blockchain
12. Structural constraints, including ISO or halal certification requirements, limiting SMEs and MSMEs' credibility and integration into international markets
13. Limited financial resources restricting SMEs and MSMEs from establishing and maintaining international connections
14. Low digital literacy and insufficient digital infrastructure constraining adoption of e-commerce platforms and digital trade facilitation tools
15. Inadequate digital infrastructure and high licensing fees limiting SMEs and MSMEs' participation in global value chains and export expansion
16. Limited compliance with new green trade regulations which revealed inherent vulnerabilities in many economies
17. Emerging climate-related regulations requiring companies to integrate sustainability across supply chains, increasing costs, compliance burdens, and competitive pressures
18. High digitalization infrastructure costs placing a disproportionate burden on SMEs and MSMEs reducing competitiveness and limiting efficient participation in international trade
19. The high infrastructure costs of digitalization place a disproportionate burden on SMEs and MSMEs decreasing their competitiveness and creating inefficiencies in their participation in international trade
20. Paper-based and fragmented systems causing delays, higher overheads, and increased risk of errors and fraud, while low transparency and data security concerns discouraging SMEs and MSMEs from adopting digital solutions
21. High shipping costs and limited access to competitive shipping lines

B- POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the challenges and problems discussed above, the following set of policy recommendations shall be organized by national trade ministries and export promotion agencies, in cooperation with chambers of commerce and relevant OIC institutions, are as follows:

1. Encouraging to develop/implement a comprehensive trade facilitation framework within OIC Member Countries to streamline cross-border processes, reduce transaction costs, and enhance the efficiency of export and import operations.
2. Organizing collaborative regional strategic planning activities in collaboration with specialists from OIC Member Countries, while encouraging the transfer of practical technical knowledge, through information sharing, trainings, workshops, personnel exchange programs, where applicable
3. Utilization of services provided by SMIIC to facilitate trade between OIC Member Countries
4. Making use of IFHAB services for mutual recognition of halal certificates by exploring to develop and implement Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and Mutual Legal Agreements (MLAs) among the national halal accreditation bodies of the Member Countries to facilitate and remove technical barriers.
5. Publishing and sharing policy briefs, newsletters, and guidance notes to OIC Member Countries' Ministries accreditation bodies and Halal Certification Authorities of Member Countries, for acceleration of the use of IFHAB services.
6. Raising awareness and strengthening knowledge of exporters and marketing professionals about international market trends, compliance requirements, and risk management especially in less developed OIC Member Countries
7. Promoting the use of digital marketing, e-commerce platforms, and successful international marketing practices to enhance the competitiveness of companies and strengthen the trade and marketing skills of their staff.
8. Supporting public awareness campaigns to foster greater visibility of trade opportunities and success stories.
9. Encouraging the development of targeted innovation policies, R&D incentive programs and establishment of technology transfer centers, science parks, incubators, and innovation hubs through public-private partnerships, to support innovative entrepreneurs, start-ups, SMEs and MSMEs.

10. Developing/Improving dedicated supporting mechanisms for internationalization of SMEs and MSMEs and providing technical support to improve their credibility in overseas markets
11. Promoting targeted programs to support firms, particularly in developing countries, in achieving compliance with sustainability related trade standards
12. Encouraging trade policies that foster a business-friendly environment by simplifying standards, alignment of environmental requirements across regions of OIC Member Countries, and reducing non-tariff barriers related to sustainability compliance.
13. Promoting the adoption of National Single Window (NSW) system through encouraging adaptation of legislation and regulations that provide legal recognition of electronic documents, e-signatures, and digital certificates in trade related transactions.
14. Developing/Improving robust data security, cybersecurity, and privacy laws related with the use of National Single Window (NSW) system, in accordance with national laws by outlining the roles and responsibilities of public administrations and private users
15. Encouraging to provide a legal basis for regional interoperability which allows mutual recognition of electronic certificates of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) documents, and other trade-related licenses in cross border transactions.

THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 25TH MEETING OF THE COMCEC TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

The COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group (TCWG) successfully held its 25th Meeting with the theme “Enhancing and Sustaining Rural Accessibility in the OIC Member Countries”. In the Policy Debate Session titled as “Formulation of Policy Recommendations for the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session on Enhancing and sustaining Rural Accessibility in the OIC Member Countries”, on 18 September 2025, TCWG made deliberations on the policy recommendations related to enhancing and sustaining rural accessibility. The policy recommendations were formulated by taking into consideration the policy guide with the same theme of the above-mentioned meeting. The policy recommendations are as followings:

Policy Recommendation I: Developing a long-term national strategy institutionalizing cross-sector coordination and multi-level governance for transport investments to increase rural accessibility with a view of socio-economic development.

Policy Recommendation II: Integrating rural connectivity targets (i.e all-weather road access, market access, public transport coverage) into national transport policies and sector plans by ensuring balanced infrastructure development, high-level commitment and fostering cross-sectoral support.

Policy Recommendation III: Utilizing data-driven mapping and decision-support tools to identify needs and gaps for evidence-based rural accessibility planning to prioritize investments based on socio-economic impact analysis.

Policy Recommendation IV: Introducing dedicated funding streams and cost-sharing models through leveraging alternative mechanisms such as public-private partnerships or community contributions to enhance rural accessibility.

Policy Recommendation V: Promoting sustainable operational monitoring and maintenance by introducing effective feedback channels based on social inclusion and service delivery metrics, alongside infrastructure monitoring to support continuous rural development.

**POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE COMCEC TOURISM WORKING GROUP,
IN ITS 25TH MEETING
(15TH -16TH SEPTEMBER 2025)
“IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN HERITAGE
TOURISM IN OIC COUNTRIES”**

There will be a moderation session during the Working Group Meeting under the title of “Formulation of Policy Recommendations for the 41st COMCEC Ministerial Session” on “Improving the Quality and Sustainability in Heritage Tourism in OIC Countries” on 1-4 November, 2025. This document has been prepared to enrich the discussions on improving the quality and sustainability in heritage tourism in OIC to come up with concrete policy recommendations for policy approximation among the Member Countries. It has been drafted in accordance with the main findings of the research report conducted for this meeting.

The policy recommendations are as follows:

Policy Advice 1. Strengthening legal protection, governance, and risk preparedness by establishing and updating tangible/intangible heritage inventories, legislation, monitoring systems, and risk and crisis management protocols.

Rationale: Sustainable heritage tourism requires a solid legal and institutional foundation. It is important to have comprehensive heritage conservation and safeguarding legislation that covers both tangible and intangible assets, aligning international standards, and combat smuggling and illicit trade. Smuggled heritage items should be followed through various formal and informal channels and brought back to where they belong. This approach also involves identification and regular updating of national inventories, with systems to monitor and assess their condition periodically. Local heritage councils can play an important role in coordinating across ministries and local authorities, while ensuring community consultation so that residents have a meaningful voice in decision-making. Standardized inspection and maintenance schedules, backed by dedicated budgets, can help guard against neglect and degradation of heritage. Integrating risk and crisis management protocols into heritage frameworks can strengthen resilience against

climate change, earthquakes, floods, and other potential hazards. An OIC wide digital platform to facilitate knowledge transfer, register, manage and showcase both tangible and intangible heritage is also suggested.

Policy Advice 2. Securing sustainable funding for conservation, and safeguarding through funds, tax allocations, partnerships, and transparent mechanisms.

Rationale: Considering the vast amount and variety of heritage assets in OIC and challenges in protection of these assets and resources, it is important to place safeguarding and conservation at the forefront before pursuing tourism expansion. Allocating budgets for stabilization, renovation, and preventive management, guided by updated inventories and monitoring is essential. Once the foundation of preservation is secured, sustainable financing mechanisms can be introduced. Establishing dedicated heritage conservation and safeguarding funds—drawing on tourism levies, tax allocations, private sponsorship, tax incentives, and international grants—can provide a more stable resource base. Moving beyond sole reliance on state budgets, public–private partnerships can also be encouraged to support restoration and adaptive reuse projects. Transparent revenue-sharing approach can help to ensure that funds are reinvested directly into conservation, safeguarding and community development, preventing economic leakages and building long-term sustainability.

Policy Advice 3. Diversifying heritage tourism products including new heritage elements in emerging destinations, and managing visitor demand aligned with carrying capacities of the respective tourism destination

Rationale: Various heritage assets in OIC have already been attracting millions of visitors and such over tourism at iconic sites has led to congestion, degradation, and reduced visitor satisfaction. Carrying capacities, zoning restrictions, and reservation systems, supported by digital monitoring and ticketing technologies, to balance visitor flows may help to address these challenges. At the same time, demand can be distributed more evenly through diversification of heritage offerings. This includes the development of new heritage sites such as new excavations, thematic heritage tours such as faith circuits, gastronomy trails, and craft villages, along with regional heritage corridors.

Diversification can highlight intangible heritage—festivals, oral traditions, performing arts, and local food and culinary practices—ensuring that heritage tourism not only conserves monuments but also safeguards the living traditions of OIC societies.

Policy Advice 4. Promoting, branding, and improving visitor experience through marketing communications, storytelling, infrastructure improvements, and smart technologies.

Rationale: Effective branding is essential for competitiveness in global tourism markets. Storytelling-based campaigns that highlight cultural identity and authenticity, promoting both monuments and living traditions could be very instrumental in this manner. Marketing strategies can be tailored to diverse niche segments such as cultural, faith, culinary, and educational tourism through digital channels and traditional media. Visitor experience can be enhanced through facilities, signage, rest areas, and reliable transport connections, with inclusive services. Technology could play a central role, including AI-based monitoring, immersive VR/AR interpretation, e-museums, digital ticketing platforms, apps and maps which improve both engagement and visitor management. Combining branding with visitor experience ensures that OIC destinations deliver authentic, high-quality experiences. Various international listings (e.g. UNESCO Tangible / Intangible Heritage Assets, Creative Cities, CittaSlow, Michelin Stars etc.) can also be encouraged not only to conserve and safeguard these sites and resources but also branding and positioning them in the market.

Policy Advice 5. Empowering communities through awareness, involvement, providing incentives for local employment, and developing benefit-sharing mechanisms.

Rationale: Heritage resources are often shared assets, and their conservation, safeguarding and monitoring become more effective when local communities are actively involved. Institutionalizing community consultation and participation within tourism planning, ensuring that residents are involved in decision-making process are also important. Local hiring opportunities and employment schemes can help deliver direct economic benefits to communities, while transparent benefit-sharing approaches can ensure that revenues from ticketing and concessions are reinvested into community

projects and small enterprises. Creating awareness and capacity-building programs, events, festivals can further strengthen local ownership of heritage, while youth engagement through entrepreneurship, creative industries, volunteerism, and training may ensure intergenerational continuity, particularly concerning intangible cultural heritage. Embedding communities at every stage of heritage tourism strengthens livelihoods and preserves cultural identity.

Instruments to Realize the Policy Recommendations:

COMCEC Tourism Working Group: In its subsequent meetings, the Working Group may elaborate on the above-mentioned policy areas in a more detailed manner. Working Group may work on a prioritization and sequencing of the policy areas.

COMCEC Project Funding: Under the COMCEC Project Funding, the COMCEC Coordination Office calls for projects each year. With the COMCEC Project Funding, the Member Countries participating in the Working Groups can submit projects to be financed by the COMCEC. For the above-mentioned policy areas, the Member Countries can utilize the COMCEC Project Funding and the COMCEC Coordination Office can support financing the successful projects in this regard. These projects may include training programs, study visits, workshops, organizing seminars, peer-to-peer experience sharing, needs assessments and producing promotional materials/documents.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE COMCEC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP
IN ITS 25TH MEETING
(SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2025)

***“Strengthening the Resilience of Family Farmers and Small-Scale Producers in the
Agriculture and Food Sector in OIC Member Countries”***

This document was prepared to enrich the discussions during the said session to come up with concrete policy recommendations for policy approximation among the Member Countries. It has been finalized in accordance with the main findings of the research report conducted for this meeting.

The policy recommendations are as follows:

Policy Recommendation 1: Promote efficient water management practices by enhancing water storage and distribution infrastructure, adopting water-smart agricultural techniques, and supporting climate-resilient livestock breeds to ensure sustainable water use, boost livestock productivity, and enhance resilience to climate change in OIC Member Countries.

Policy Recommendation 2: Developing and implementing sustainable feed strategies by utilizing new feed production techniques and advanced technologies for livestock production.

Policy Recommendation 3: Mobilizing resources to essential veterinary services as well as promoting regional cooperation for the development and distribution of vaccines and medicines with a view to ensuring disease control.

Policy Recommendation 4: Developing and implementing mechanisms to stabilize market prices and reduce volatility and promoting modern practices for sustainable livestock production.

Policy Recommendation 5: Increasing strategic investments in infrastructure, modernization, and regional cooperation with a view to boosting the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of the livestock and fishery sectors in OIC Member Countries.

Policy Recommendation 6: Upgrading fishing ports, processing facilities, and cold storage systems to ensure that fish products are handled efficiently and preserved at optimal quality from catch to market.

Policy Recommendation 7: Promoting targeted financial support, capacity-building programs, and modern infrastructure development for small-scale and artisanal fishers with a view to enhancing productivity as well as alleviating poverty.

Policy Recommendation 8: Implementing a comprehensive strategy encompassing the development of robust aquaculture regulations, investment in modern aquaculture facilities, supporting for product diversification and innovation, promotion of eco-friendly practices, and rigorous environmental monitoring and compliance.

**POLICY RECOMMENDATION OF THE
25TH MEETING OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP**

Policy Recommendation 1: Adopting Future-Proof and Integrated Housing Strategies, including Social Housing, through addressing urbanization challenges, demographic shifts, climate risks, and housing price fluctuations

Policy Recommendation 2: Strengthening Housing Resilience through rehabilitation of existing stock and advancing Innovative Construction technologies, including modular, prefabricated, and climate-adapted construction methods, and increasing R&D programs on social housing

Policy Recommendation 3: Adopting Flexible and Data-Driven pro-poor Housing Regulations, including rent control, land use zoning, and loan-to-value ratios, to improve credibility, fairness, and efficiency in housing systems

Policy Recommendation 4: Embedding Social Dimensions and Inclusive Governance to reflect cultural traditions, family structures, and community networks in Housing Programs

Policy Recommendation 5: Expanding Affordable Rental Options and Mobilizing Vacant Housing, including tax relief, rental guarantees, or targeted penalties for long-term vacancy

Policy Recommendation 6: Improving Housing Access for the Poorest through Targeted State-Led Programs, which are also supported by the private sector and NGOs, that combine tailored subsidies, cross-subsidized developments, or outright public provision

Policy Recommendation 7: Diversifying Housing Finance through Islamic Financing Instruments, including Murabaha, Ijarah, Sukuk, and Collective Models

Policy Recommendation 8: Building Stable and Inclusive Housing Investment Ecosystems through instruments such as Real Estate Investment Trust (REITs), Real Estate Investment Fund (REIFs), and sukuk-backed housing bonds, linked to pension and savings funds

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 24TH MEETING OF THE COMCEC FINANCIAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP

The policy recommendations in this document have been thoroughly discussed and formulated during the policy debate session of the 24th Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group, on 18 September 2025.

Policy Recommendation 1: Strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks to enable the effective integration of green, climate-and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) - linked Islamic finance instruments into national financial systems

Rationale:

A lack of harmonized and transparent regulations may constrain the effective integration of green and climate-linked Islamic finance into national financial systems. To help address this, regulatory and supervisory frameworks could be enhanced through the introduction of specific provisions for instruments such as green sukuk, aligned with international environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards, as well as enabling Islamic financing instruments to be implemented within their institutional logics, to prevent their impact on environmental degradation. In extending financing lines, in the project evaluation process, the eligible projects may be more clearly defined, reporting requirements could be standardized, and third-party verification could be encouraged. Moreover, the integration of green sukuk and similar products into national financing strategies may contribute to embedding climate considerations into financial planning and reinforcing resilience and credibility.

Policy Recommendation 2: Promoting diversification and market development of Shari'ah-compliant green financial instruments by simplifying issuance processes, fostering innovation (e.g., resilience-linked sukuk, ESG-compliant contracts), and introducing regulatory incentives to attract investments

Rationale:

The limited availability of Shari'ah-compliant green financial products may hinder Islamic finance's ability to mobilize resources for climate action and DRR. Encouraging product diversification and market-driven innovation can be achieved by simplifying sukuk issuance procedures, creating pipelines of eligible projects, and raising awareness among market participants. Consideration of innovative structures- such as resilience-linked sukuk, ESG-compliant innovative Islamic financing contracts, Shari'ah-compliant carbon emission products, and blended finance- could also attract investment. Moreover, fiscal and regulatory incentives, including temporary tax breaks or preferential treatment for green assets, can further promote the development and adoption of climate-focused Islamic financial products.

Policy Recommendation 3: Developing/improving fiscal and macroprudential incentives, fostering public-private partnerships, and leveraging Islamic financial instruments to scale climate and DRR-aligned investments

Rationale:

The absence of effective incentive mechanisms and limited cross-sector collaboration may reduce the scalability of climate-aligned investments. These issues could be mitigated through fiscal and macroprudential incentives- such as temporary tax benefits and credit guarantees- as well as microprudential incentives to encourage green product development. Building co-investment platforms and fostering public-private partnerships may help de-risk projects and facilitate knowledge sharing. In this regard, coordinated action involving public authorities, Islamic financial institutions, and private sector participants could contribute to generating robust project pipelines and scaling up investment flows. Islamic financial instruments such as green sukuk, takaful, re-takaful, and Islamic social finance tools should be incorporated into the national financial agenda to scale up climate and DRR-aligned investments to harness Islamic finance for sustainable development.

Policy Recommendation 4: Strengthening green Islamic finance by developing secondary sukuk markets, enhancing transparency, and leveraging fintech and blockchain to improve traceability and impact measurement

Rationale:

Weak market infrastructure and limited transparency may hinder the growth and credibility of green Islamic financial instruments. To address these challenges, secondary markets for green sukuk could be developed through trading platforms, market-makers, and disclosure requirements to improve liquidity and investor access. Standardized reporting and independent certification mechanisms may also be introduced to enhance accountability. In addition, leveraging technological solutions such as fintech, regtech, and blockchain could streamline product issuance, strengthen traceability, and enable more accurate measurement of environmental and social impacts. In developing such an opportunity space, Islamic financing instruments should be allowed to operate within their inherently moral conditions to deliver ESG-driven outcomes rather than treating them as any other financing instruments.

Policy Recommendation 5: Ensuring adequate standardized data availability and developing frameworks to enable effective risk assessment, policy-making, and disaster risk reduction

Rationale:

Reliable and comprehensive data is essential for evaluating climate-related risks, including natural disasters, and developing effective policies. National regulators need to focus on data governance frameworks that facilitate systematic data collection and the creation of climate data repositories. These frameworks should adhere to international standards and include key aspects such as risk factors, institutional exposures, mitigation measures, and policy-relevant

indicators, all of which are crucial for climate risk assessment, DRR, and informed decision-making.

Policy Recommendation 6: Leveraging Islamic social finance, including waqf and zakat, and digital innovation to support climate action and disaster resilience

Rationale:

Islamic social finance institutions and instruments, such as waqf and zakat, have significant untapped potential to support climate mitigation and resilience efforts. They can be tailored to address different stages of the climate cycle, such as post-disaster recovery, and promote development across various sectors, including social services, education, health, sanitation, economic activities, and sustainable infrastructure. Incorporating digitalization and innovative approaches can boost their reach and impact, as long as these mechanisms are backed by strong governance and transparent operations. By embedding Shari'ah-based values into financing, Islamic finance can be positioned as a genuine alternative that contributes to sustainable and climate-resilient development due to its inherent and intrinsic sustainable development nature. Islamic finance should, therefore, be given an opportunity to gradually realign with its moral-political economy principles, which prioritise justice, balance (mizan), and stewardship, leading to a paradigm of complementarity and unity (tawhid), thereby implementing the inherently sustainable development nature of Islamic finance. This may involve developing tailored regulations and standards for Islamic finance by framing within maqasid al-Shari'ah that prevent financialization and emphasize long-term social and environmental responsibility.

Instruments to Realize the Policy Recommendations:

COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group: In its subsequent meetings, the Working Group may elaborate on the above-mentioned policy areas in a more detailed manner.

COMCEC Forums: Adopted policy recommendations can be further elaborated on in the COMCEC Forum Meetings and their Task Forces.

COMCEC Project Funding: Under the COMCEC Project Support Programs, the COMCEC Coordination Office issues an annual call for project proposals. Through these programs, Member Countries participating in the Working Groups can submit multilateral cooperation projects to be funded by grants from the COMCEC Coordination Office. To implement the policy recommendations mentioned above, Member Countries can use the COMCEC Project Support Programs facility. These projects may include organizing seminars, trainings, study visits, exchange of experts, workshops, and preparing analytical studies, needs assessments, and training materials or documents.

ANNEX

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Original: English

**LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND/OR
PRESENTED AT THE FORTY FIRST SESSION OF THE COMCEC
(İstanbul, 1-4 November 2025)**

1.	COMCEC Annual Progress Report 2025
2.	Making Cooperation Work: COMCEC Strategy for Building an Interdependent Islamic World
3.	Report of the OIC General Secretariat
4.	OIC Economic Outlook 2025: Pathways to Stability Amid Tariff Impacts
5.	Brief on Trade Cooperation/TPS-OIC
6.	Proceedings of the 25th Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group
7.	Policy Recommendations of the 25th COMCEC Trade Working Group Meeting
8.	Executive Summary-Annual Report on intra-OIC Trade
9.	Report on OIC Fairs and Exhibitions
10.	Report on the Issues Relating to the Activities of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
11.	ITFC Progress Report on Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade
12.	The IsDB Technical Assistance Program (TAP) for Regional and Global Integration in Trade
13.	ICIEC's Brief Performance-2024
14.	ICD's Progress Report
15.	Progress Report on the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD)
16.	OIC Business Intelligence Center Program
17.	Report of the Activities of the SMIIC
18.	Report on the Activities of the ICCD
19.	Brief on Financial Cooperation
20.	Proceedings of the 24th Meeting of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group
21.	Policy Recommendations of the 24th COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group Meeting
22.	Brief on Transportation and Communications
23.	Proceedings of the 25th Meeting of the COMCEC Transportation and Communications Working Group
24.	Policy Recommendations of the 25th COMCEC Transportation and Communications Working Group Meeting
25.	Brief on Tourism
26.	Proceedings of the 25th Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group Meeting
27.	Policy Recommendations of the 25th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group
28.	Brief on Agricultural Cooperation
29.	Proceedings of the 25th Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group
30.	Report of the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS)
31.	Brief on Poverty Alleviation
32.	Proceedings of the 25th Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group
33.	Policy Recommendations of the 25th COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group Meeting
34.	Towards the Achievement of Prioritized Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries 2025-Progress Report
35.	OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap
36.	List of the OIC Institutions' Activities on the Implementation of SGDs
37.	Policy Recommendations for the Exchange of Views Session

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