

Original: English

REPORT
OF THE TPS-OIC TRADE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
(Ankara, 1-2 October 2025)

1. The Trade Preferential System among the Member Countries of the OIC (TPS-OIC) Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC), hosted by the Republic of Türkiye, was held in Ankara on 1-2 October 2025.

2. The OIC Member Countries, the OIC General Secretariat, the TNC Secretariat, namely COMCEC Coordination Office and ICDT, SESRIC, SMIIC and Gulf Cooperation Council General Secretariat attended the Meeting:

(Copy of the List of Participants is attached as Annex I.)

3. The Meeting was inaugurated by H.E. Mahmut GÜRCAN, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye.

(Copy of the text of the statement of H.E. Mahmut GÜRCAN is attached as Annex II.)

4. The Working Sessions of the TNC Meeting was chaired by Mr. Hüsni DİLEMRE, Director General from Ministry of Trade and the Chief Negotiator of Türkiye.

Adoption of the Agenda

5. The agenda of the meeting was adopted.

(Copy of the agenda is attached as Annex III.)

Statements by Heads of Delegations

6. The meeting was then addressed by Heads of the Delegations of the Member Countries namely Bangladesh, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait, Jordan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Uzbekistan, Iran, Iraq, Türkiye, Oman, Qatar, and Egypt.

7. The message of H.E. Hissein Brahim TAHA, Secretary General of OIC, was read out by H.E. Naghi JABBAROV, Director General of the Department of Economic Affairs of the OIC General Secretariat.

(Copy of the text of the message of H.E. Hissein Brahim TAHA is attached as Annex IV.)

8. Highlighting the importance of using OIC/SMIIC standards to increase intra-OIC trade, requested SMIIC in consultation with the TNC Secretariat to study on the potential incorporation of OIC/SMIIC standards into the TPS-OIC process and report therein upcoming TNC Meetings.

Overview of TPS-OIC and Its Potential

9. COMCEC Coordination Office, as TNC Co-Secretariat, has made a presentation titled “Current Status and Recent Developments”, provided comprehensive information about the TPS-OIC with a focus on the effective implementation of the System and recent developments.

10. Concerning the economic aspect of the potential expansion of TPS-OIC, ICDDT as the Co-Secretariat of TNC, made a comprehensive presentation titled “Opportunities and Challenges of the Potential Expansion of TPS-OIC” focusing on the state of play of trade and investments in the OIC zone, a review of the TPS-OIC tariff preferences, opportunities and key challenges regarding the potential expansion of the TPS-OIC.

(Copy of presentations are attached as Annex V.)

11. Following the presentations, the participants shared their comments and observations concerning the effective implementation of the current System as well as the issues related to advancing the TPS-OIC System.

12. Commending the efforts for raising awareness in the Member Countries about the TPS-OIC and its benefits, the Committee **requested** TNC Secretariat to continue their endeavors in organizing awareness raising activities based on inputs and suggestions of the Member Countries and report therein to the upcoming TNC Meetings.

Discussion on Way Forward for Potential Expansion of TPS-OIC

13. Regarding the decision which was taken by TPS-OIC Third Ministerial TNC Meeting on 11 June 2024 and endorsed by 40th COMCEC Ministerial Meeting to engage in technical discussions on potential expansion of TPS-OIC, based on the proposal from Türkiye, all Participants exchanged views and some of the Participants stressed their interest for the possible expansion of TPS-OIC.

(The proposal of the Republic of Türkiye is attached as Annex VI.)

14. Several Member Countries expressed their readiness to move forward with the discussions on expansion of TPS-OIC to determine the scope and the modalities for the tariff concessions. In this respect, trade in goods was identified as one of the most prominent elements in future negotiations. In addition, trade in services, investment, trade facilitation, dispute settlement, *inter alia*, were referred to as possible expansion areas. At the same time, many Members voiced concerns regarding the current implementation of TPS-OIC, the status quo of the Agreement, and some Members suggested comprehensive domestic evaluations to be undertaken prior to negotiations for the expansion of the TPS-OIC, taking into account the national processes as required. Also, some Members addressed the challenges related to engagement of new Members, which they considered important to address alongside discussions of expansion. It was also pointed out that Members should decide whether the expansion areas would be covered with a comprehensive approach or dealt with incrementally through stand-alone agreements.

15. As a result, the TNC decided to initiate preliminary discussions, after taking note of the observations of the States on the study on Opportunities and Challenges, on the following issues with a view to explore the possibilities of the expansion of the TPS-OIC.

- challenges in implementation of PRETAS,
- possible expansion areas and objectives,
- legal considerations,
- institutional matters.

(ICDT Study titled “Opportunities and Challenges of Revising the Legal Texts of the OIC Trade Preferential System (TPS-OIC)” is attached as Annex VII)

Consideration of Status of Implementation of TPS-OIC and the Experiences/Challenges of the Participating States That Have Submitted Their Concession Lists and Possible Solutions for the Effective Implementation of the TPS-OIC (Closed Session)

16. COMCEC Coordination Office and the ICDT as TNC Co-Secretariats, briefed the participants on the Status of Implementation of TPS-OIC.

17. The Participating States have shared their experiences regarding the implementation of TPS-OIC and discussed the challenges for the effective execution of the System.

18. Taking into consideration the proposals of the Participating States for the smooth implementation of TPS-OIC in particular updating information regarding contact points, concession lists reflecting current HS Codes, specimen of the stamps and the certificates of origin, along with the actual implementation figures, the Committee **requested** Participating States to provide updates on those issues when necessary, at least on quarterly basis, to the TNC Secretariat for their circulation among relevant parties.

19. To improve communication between the Participating States, the Committee **requested** the TNC Secretariat to provide a special online access where all necessary information regarding the implementation of TPS-OIC is available for utilization of the Member Countries.

20. Highlighting the importance of facilitation of communication among the Participating States, the Committee **invited** the Participating States to utilize COMCEC TPS-OIC electronic platform effectively for better communication among themselves.

Any Other Business

21. No issues were raised under this agenda item.

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

22. The Committee welcomed the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the next TNC Meeting. The exact dates and venue of the Meeting will be communicated in due course.

Adoption of the Report of the Meeting

23. Heads of the Delegations of the OIC Member Countries adopted the Report of the Meeting.

Closing

24. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks.