

**REPORT**  
**FORTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE**  
**FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR**  
**ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE**  
**ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (COMCEC)**  
**(12-13 May 2026)**

1. The Forty-second Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) was held on 12-13 May 2026 in Ankara, the Republic of Türkiye.

2. The representatives of the following Member States of the Committee attended the Meeting:

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

3. The Representatives of the OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office, Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD), The Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC), the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), OIC Labour Centre (OIC LC), the Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC), Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Development (ICCD), and OIC Arbitration Centre (OIC-AC) attended the Meeting.

*(The list of participants is attached as Annex I)*

**Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda**

4. Following recitation from the Holy Qur'an, H.E. Abdullah Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU, Vice-President of Strategy Budget of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye, inaugurated the Meeting.

**5.** At the outset, H.E. AĞAOĞLU welcomed the distinguished delegates to Ankara on the occasion of the 42nd Meeting of the COMCEC Follow-up Committee and emphasized that strong ownership and commitment among member countries are essential for advancing cooperation efforts of the Islamic Ummah.

**6.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU drew attention to the grave humanitarian situation in Palestine resulting from genocide committed by Israel, emphasizing that the Islamic Ummah must adopt a stronger, more determined, and result-oriented stance in support of the Palestinian people. H.E. AĞAOĞLU also called upon the international community to take concrete steps towards achieving justice and lasting peace and expressed condolences for those who lost their lives while wishing a speedy recovery to the injured.

**7.** Referring to the broader regional developments, H.E. AĞAOĞLU underlined that Israel's atrocity and the ongoing conflicts in the region have caused severe humanitarian consequences, including civilian casualties and mass displacement. Reiterating Türkiye's condemnation of attacks violating international law and humanitarian principles, H.E. AĞAOĞLU welcomed the continuation of ceasefire and mediation efforts, while stressing the importance of safeguarding the negotiation process. H.E. AĞAOĞLU also expressed concern over the attacks against Lebanon and highlighted the serious risk of plunging the region into a much greater catastrophe, as demonstrated by the displacement of more than one million people. He also reaffirmed Türkiye's continued support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and stability of all Member States in the region affected by the crisis, as well as its commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful resolution to the crisis.

**8.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU noted that ongoing conflicts and geopolitical tensions continue to increase downside risks and uncertainty in the global economy, driven by rising inflation, energy supply challenges, trade disruptions, and high public debt. In this regard, H.E. AĞAOĞLU emphasized the importance of price stability, fiscal discipline, and stronger international cooperation, expressing confidence that enhanced collaboration within COMCEC would support greater economic resilience and inclusive global growth.

**9.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU recalled that the previous COMCEC Ministerial Exchange of Views focused on strategies to increase exports, while this year's session will address the development of effective trade finance instruments. H.E. AĞAOĞLU underlined the importance of enhancing and diversifying trade finance mechanisms, including Islamic finance instruments, and expressed confidence that the Ministers' deliberations at the 42nd COMCEC Ministerial Session would help unlock the trade potential of member countries.

**10.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU underlined that COMCEC offers valuable opportunities to address common development challenges and strengthen cooperation among member countries through its ongoing programs and projects. In this regard, while highlighting the importance of efforts towards the expansion of the TPS-OIC, H.E. AĞAOĞLU expressed his appreciation to the member countries for their support to the process on expansion negotiations and encouraged non-participating countries to join the System.

**11.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU further noted the importance of successful implementation of the COMCEC SME Program in supporting expansion of trade and employment and encouraged the Member Countries to make use of the said Program.

**12.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU underlined that the COMCEC Working Groups address key development challenges of member countries and stressed the importance of evidence-based policy recommendations and roadmaps produced through their studies. While stressing the role of the COMCEC Project Funding mechanism in turning Ministerial decisions into concrete actions, H.E. AĞAOĞLU expressed his appreciation for the efforts exerted by all the project owners and partners in 31 projects being implemented this year under the Program.

**13.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU further noted with appreciation the successful continuation of the COMCEC Al-Quds Program, despite prevailing difficult conditions, with 10 new projects being implemented this year. H.E. AĞAOĞLU also welcomed the operationalization of of the COMCEC-Syria Program, expressing his confidence that projects under the Program would contribute to Syria's reconstruction efforts.

**14.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU concluded his remarks by thanking the member states and OIC organizations for their valuable contributions and wishing them continued success in their future endeavors.

*(The text of the Statement of H.E. A. Ridvan AĞAOĞLU is attached as Annex II.)*

**15.** Some Member States shared their concerns regarding the ongoing conflict/situation in the Middle East, which has negative repercussions on regional and global economy and trade. Accordingly, the OIC General Secretariat and relevant OIC Institutions should take the issue into consideration while submitting their reports in their mandated fields.

**16.** The message of H.E. Hissein Brahim TAHA, the Secretary General of the OIC, was read out by the representative of the OIC General Secretariat. In his message, H.E. TAHA expressed his appreciation to H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Chairman of COMCEC, to the Government and people of Türkiye for the arrangements made for this meeting and continuous efforts in supporting the OIC programs, including the COMCEC activities and projects.

**17.** H.E. TAHA noted that, despite notable progress since the last meeting, member countries continue to face complex geopolitical tensions affecting global trade, security, and economic stability, making COMCEC's role more vital than ever. In this context, he emphasized COMCEC's importance as a platform for strengthening economic ties, promoting sustainable development, and advancing inclusive growth and shared prosperity among member countries.

**18.** H.E. TAHA noted that 2025 marked the target year for achieving 25% intra-OIC trade, which was not reached, as the current level remains below the desired threshold and declined from 20.15% in 2024 to 19.57% in 2025. In this regard, H.E. TAHA stressed the need to intensify efforts to diversify economies, enhance trade competitiveness, and strengthen cooperation among member countries, particularly through the effective implementation of OIC trade and investment initiatives, including the TPS-OIC. He further underlined the importance of supporting structural transformation and accelerating reforms, while emphasizing that the private sector should be empowered and encouraged to expand trade linkages and increase intra-OIC trade exchanges.

**19.** H.E. TAHA underlined that OIC Ministerial Conferences play an instrumental role in strengthening cooperation among Member States in the economic domain. In this

context, he noted the successful holding of the Second OIC Ministerial Conference on Transportation in Istanbul on 11-12 February 2026, which adopted key decisions including the development of a Transport Connectivity Strategy, a two-year Technical Cooperation Programme, and the strengthening of regional transport networks to enhance connectivity and address existing bottlenecks. H.E. TAHA further stated that the OIC General Secretariat is preparing several sectoral ministerial meetings in 2026, including the 2nd OIC Ministerial Conference on Energy in Riyadh, the 13th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers in Doha, and the 10th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development.

**20.** H.E. TAHA noted that the global economy continues to face profound uncertainty arising from complex and interrelated challenges with significant implications for economic stability and growth, particularly for low-income OIC Member States, stressing in this context the need for stronger intra-OIC cooperation and coordinated policy responses. H.E. TAHA also highlighted the efforts of relevant OIC institutions, including COMCEC Coordination Office, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB Group, IOFS, OIC LC, SMIIC, ICCD and IFHAB, in implementing development projects and capacity-building programs for member countries, and expressed appreciation for these initiatives while calling for further support.

**21.** In conclusion, H.E. TAHA reaffirmed the OIC General Secretariat's commitment to work closely with Member States to further a collaborative response to facilitate economic development and wished a successful meeting for the benefit of the Islamic Ummah.

*(A copy of the text of the message of H.E. Mr. Hissein Brahim TAHA is attached as Annex III.)*

**22.** On behalf of all members of the Committee, Representative of Azerbaijan Mr. Ilgar GASIMLI, from the Ministry of Economy of the Azerbaijan made a statement during the 42nd Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC.

**23.** Mr. GASIMLI emphasized the significant role of the COMCEC in promoting practical and result-oriented economic cooperation among the OIC Member Countries, particularly through policy coordination, project-based cooperation, and experience-sharing. He also underlined the importance of the COMCEC Working Groups and the COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism in strengthening technical cooperation, institutional capacity-building, and cooperation in key areas such as digital transformation, transport connectivity, trade financing, food security, tourism resilience, and digital trade facilitation across the OIC region.

**24.** Mr. GASIMLI expressed his sincere appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye as the host country and the COMCEC Coordination Office for the warm hospitality extended and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

### **Sideline Event**

**25.** The 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

*(Report of the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sessional Committee is attached as Annex IV.)*

## **Working Session**

**26.** The working sessions of the Meeting were chaired by H.E. A. Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU, Vice President of Strategy Budget of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye.

- a. The agenda of the Meeting was adopted by the Committee.

*(A copy of the Agenda is attached as Annex V.)*

- b. The Committee reviewed the progress in the implementation of the programs and projects of the COMCEC and made recommendations thereon as well as prepared the Draft Agenda of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

*(The Recommendations and the Supplementary Recommendations of the Committee are attached as Annex VI and Annex VII)*

*(The Draft Agenda of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the COMCEC is attached as Annex VIII)*

**27.** The Committee held discussion on the Supplementary Recommendations especially with reference to detailed activities/programs/projects of the OIC Institutions, and the CCO was requested to come up with concise Draft Recommendations/Resolutions Set for the next COMCEC Meetings, and to annex a calendar of activities of OIC Institutions to the Report.

**28.** The Representative of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) informed the Committee of recent updates regarding Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) and Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA II), and also pointed out the ongoing transition of the ISFD and the operationalization of Islamic Concessional Fund within framework of institutional developments within the IsDB. The Representative also briefed that SPDA is expected to reach its conclusion before the end of 2026.

## **Closing Session**

**29.** At the Closing Session Chaired by H.E. Abdullah Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU, Vice-President of Strategy and Budget of the Presidency of Republic of Türkiye, the Committee adopted its Report together with its Annexes.

**30.** Afterwards, Mr. Jamil MUHANNA, Head of Delegation of Palestine, delivered a closing statement. At the outset, he expressed his sincere appreciation to the COMCEC and the Republic of Türkiye for their continuous efforts in promoting economic cooperation among the OIC Member Countries and for the successful organization of the Meeting.

**31.** Mr. MUHANNA drew attention due to the ongoing Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, the daily attacks and restrictions in the West Bank, and the continued violations in East Jerusalem. He underlined the severe humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza, including large-scale casualties, destruction, displacement, starvation, and the collapse of economic and social life, while also emphasizing the increasing settlement activities, movement restrictions and attacks targeting Palestinians in the West Bank.

**32.** Mr. MUHANNA further highlighted the deteriorating economic situation in

Palestine, noting the sharp contraction of the Palestinian economy, the decline in major economic sectors, the increase in unemployment rates, and the extensive destruction suffered by the private sector, particularly in Gaza. He also stressed that the ongoing financial and economic blockade, including the withholding of clearance revenues, continues to undermine the capacity of the Palestinian Government to provide basic public services.

**33.** Mr. MUHANNA reiterated the importance of sustained support from the OIC Member Countries for the Palestinian economy through development assistance, reconstruction and employment projects, support for the Palestinian private sector, and facilitating the access of Palestinian products to international markets. He also emphasized the importance of ensuring a sustainable ceasefire, supporting reconstruction efforts in Gaza, empowering the Palestinian Authority, and strengthening Palestinian institutions within a unified legal and political framework. In this regard, he expressed his appreciation to COMCEC for supporting 10 projects in Al-Quds during 2026 under the COMCEC Al-Quds Programme.

**34.** Afterwards, the message of H.E. Hissein Brahim TAHA, the Secretary General of the OIC, was read out by the representative of the OIC General Secretariat. In his message, H.E. TAHA congratulated the chairman for the excellent conducting of the proceedings of the meeting. He also congratulated all Members of delegations for their active participation and the successful conclusion of the Meeting.

**35.** H.E. TAHA expressed concern over the socio-economic repercussions of the recent tensions and attacks targeting civilian and economic facilities in the Gulf region, while commending the efforts of the Member States aimed at de-escalation, dialogue, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts in support of regional stability and sustainable development.

**36.** H.E. TAHA reaffirmed the commitment of the OIC General Secretariat to continue supporting the Member States and following up on the outcomes of the Meeting in coordination with relevant OIC institutions and partners. In this regard, he also informed the Meeting about the draft OIC Programme of Action (POA) 2026-2035, which focuses on strengthening joint Islamic action in areas such as sustainable development, economic diversification, connectivity, resilience, and intra-OIC cooperation.

**37.** Finally, H.E. TAHA expressed his sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Türkiye for its warm hospitality and excellent organization of the Meeting, while also thanking the Member States, OIC institutions, the COMCEC Coordination Office, and H.E. Mr. Ridvan AĞAOĞLU for their valuable contributions and effective leadership throughout the Meeting.

**38.** In his closing statement H.E. AĞAOĞLU expressed satisfaction with the successful completion of the 42nd COMCEC Follow-up Committee Meeting and conveyed his sincere gratitude to all participants for their active and constructive contributions. He noted that the Committee reviewed developments in key cooperation areas and prepared the agenda for the upcoming Ministerial Session.

**39.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU noted that deepening geopolitical tensions, regional conflicts,

humanitarian crises, and economic uncertainties are directly affecting countries' prosperity, stressing the need for human-centered, inclusive, and solidarity-based policies. H.E. AĞAOĞLU emphasized that these challenges can only be addressed through cooperation, dialogue, mutual trust, and a shared vision based on consultation and the consciousness of the Ummah, contributing to a more just and resilient international order.

**40.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU underlined the importance of making more effective use of the COMCEC platform and highlighted initiatives such as TPS-OIC, SME and High Level Digital Transformation Forum, and the activities carried out for Syria while also stressing the role of COMCEC Working Groups and Project Support Programs in formulating translating policy recommendations into concrete actions.

**41.** Before closing, H.E. AĞAOĞLU drew attention to the ongoing genocide in Palestine, stressing that the Palestinian people continue to be deprived of basic humanitarian needs, with thousands of innocents' lives, including women, children, and the elderly, being lost. H.E. AĞAOĞLU emphasized that establishing peace in Palestine is not only a regional issue but a shared responsibility concerning human dignity, and underlined the need for stronger solidarity among Islamic countries and a firm and consistent stance in support of the Palestinian people across all platforms.

**42.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU expressed his hope for the swift establishment of a just and lasting peace to bring an end to the war fueled by Israel's interests and provocations in the region. He reiterated that Türkiye has, since the very beginning of the war, condemned all attacks violating international law, particularly humanitarian law violations targeting innocent civilians and civilian infrastructure. H.E. AĞAOĞLU further reaffirmed Türkiye's continued support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and stability of all Member Countries affected by the crises in the region, as well as its commitment to supporting peaceful solutions to the ongoing conflicts.

**43.** H.E. AĞAOĞLU concluded his speech by reiterating his thanks and appreciation to all the Members of the Follow-Up Committee for their active participation and precious contributions. He also expressed his thanks to the OIC General Secretariat, Rapporteur, COMCEC Coordination Office, the relevant OIC Institutions, interpreters, translators, and other staff taking part in the organization of the Meeting for their valuable contributions and efforts which helped rendering this meeting a success.

**44.** Lastly, H.E. AĞAOĞLU invited all delegates to the 42nd COMCEC Ministerial Session to be held on 31 October- 3 November 2026.

*(A copy of the text of the Closing Statement by H.E. Rıdvan AĞAOĞLU is attached as Annex IX.)*

## ANNEX VI

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> COMCEC FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE MEETING

1. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summits on Israeli Aggression Against the Palestinian People on 11 November 2023 and on 11 November 2024, respectively, in Riyadh, the 15<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit held in Banjul on 4-5 May 2024 and the 51<sup>st</sup> CFM held on 21-22 June 2025 in İstanbul, 22<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Session of the CFM held on 10 January 2026 in Jeddah, Extraordinary Open-Ended Meeting of the Executive Committee at the Level of Foreign Ministers on “Israel’s Declaration, the Occupying Power, Imposing an Illegal Factual Reality through the Expansion of Colonial Settlements and the Status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory in the West Bank, Including Al-Quds Al-Sharif on 26 February 2026 in Jeddah, the Committee **encouraged** Member Countries to fully implement the said resolutions.
2. **Strongly condemning** Israel’s aggression and expansionism in the Middle East that has turned into a major threat to regional and global security and a flagrant violation of international law and international humanitarian law, the Committee **stressed** the unwavering support for the realization of an independent, sovereign and contiguous Palestinian state, based on 1967 border, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital and with all Palestinian refugees granted the exercise of their right to return.
3. The Committee **took 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 it is perpetrating in the Gaza Strip, and **called 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. The Committee **called 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. **Commending** the endeavors towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and The Ministerial Policy Recommendations by the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions, the Committee **invited** the Member Countries to exert every effort, to the extent possible, to implement the Policy Recommendations and to harness the benefits of the current facilities/mechanisms, in particular the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Support Programs namely COMCEC Project Funding, COMCEC Al-Quds, and COMCEC Syria Program and **requested** the OIC Institutions to support the Member Countries to this end.
6. **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Session, the Committee **called 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 **requested** the COMCEC Coordination Office 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.

7. The Committee **expressed** its appreciation to the OIC General Secretariat, CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, IOFS, OIC LC, SMIC and ICCD, for their efforts towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.

8. **Taking note of** the conclusion of the implementation period of the OIC-2025: Programme of Action by the end of December 2025, and **welcoming** the preparation efforts towards developing a full-fledged successor Programme of Action, **underlined** the importance of the realization of the objectives set by the OIC Programme of Action and active follow-up of the economic and commercial section of the Programme by the COMCEC, and **requested** the OIC General Secretariat to submit comprehensive progress reports thereon to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings.

9. The Committee **invited** the Member States to provide SESRIC with the necessary and appropriate data and information, in a timely manner through responding to the questionnaire circulated by SESRIC, to undertake all necessary measures for greater involvement and ownership of the preparation and implementation of the new OIC Programme of Action: 2026-2035, to actively participate in the ongoing process to develop an appropriate Implementation Plan 2026-2035 and to contribute to this endeavor by providing programs and activities within the framework of the agreed priorities and strategic goals.

10. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Sessions, the Committee **requested** the Member Countries, which 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.

11. **Considering** the importance of an equitable and fair multilateral trading system for sustainable growth of the countries and **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, the Committee **expressed** its appreciation to the efforts of the OIC Member Countries that are also the WTO Member States towards achieving balanced and fair reforms of the WTO and **requested** 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.

12. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC and **commending** the efforts for the effective implementation of the TPS-OIC which has become operational as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the Committee **requested** the Participating States, which have not done so yet, to complete their internal procedures, and **called upon** the Member Countries, which have not yet signed or ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements to do so at their earliest convenience and complete other procedures for joining the System.

13. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC and **welcoming** TPS-OIC TNC Meeting hosted by Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, on 3-4 February 2026, where the TNC agreed to structure its future meetings in

a thematic manner focusing sequentially on (i) challenges in the implementation of PRETAS and the current TPS-OIC framework, (ii) possible expansion areas and objectives, and (iii) legal considerations and institutional matters, the Committee **welcomed** the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the next TNC Meeting on 01 July 2026 and **invited** Member States to actively participate in this meeting to discuss challenges in the implementation of PRETAS and the current TPS-OIC framework as a first step towards expansion of the TPS-OIC.

14. The Committee **took note of** the circulation two sets of questionnaires by TNC Secretariat to the Member Countries with a view to collecting a broad range of views on the main pillars, scope and modalities of a possible expansion of the TPS-OIC and on implementation issues and **requested** the TNC Secretariat to report the collected answers to the questionnaires to the next TNC Meeting for structuring future discussions on possible expansion areas.

15. The Committee **took note with appreciation** the organization of workshops, webinars, trainings, fairs, exhibitions, and forums organized by the ICDT and partner countries' institutions in trade domain and **requested** the Member Countries to keep providing the ICDT with statistical data relating to trade, investments, and regulations.

16. The Committee **appreciated** ITFC for the trade finance and trade development interventions to address the economic challenges of Member Countries, especially through supporting their foreign trade, contributing towards the achievement of intra-OIC trade target of 25 percent.

17. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Session and **taking note of** the report of ICIEC on OIC Business Intelligence Centre (OBIC) Programme, the Committee **requested** ICIEC to prepare an evaluation report on the Programme and report therein to the upcoming COMCEC Ministerial Session.

18. **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, the Committee **invited** the Member Countries to officially adopt and implement OIC/SMIIC Standards in accordance with the SMIIC adoption guidelines.

19. The Committee **encouraged** 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.

20. **Acknowledging** the important role of the OIC Arbitration Centre, as an affiliated institution of ICCD for the settlement of disputes, the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries to encourage the active participation in the activities of the OIC Arbitration Centre with a view to making use of services provided by the Centre to those who seek it.

21. **Taking into consideration** the crucial role of private sector financing in mobilizing private investments and ensuring sustainable economic growth of the Member States, the Committee **invited** the Member States to better utilize the facilities of the ICD through financing and mobilizing resources for the projects aimed at creating competition, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunities.

22. **Taking note with appreciation of** the efforts under the COMCEC SME Program, the Committee **invited** the interested Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate in the activities to be conducted under the Program in the upcoming period.

23. The Committee **called upon** the Member Countries to support the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC Shariah International Fund, which includes shares from the OIC COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, developed under the coordination of OIC Exchanges Forum to the investors and the finance community in their respective countries.

24. The Committee **requested** the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum to complete the technical preparations on the OIC Gold Exchange Project, based on block-chain model, in cooperation with the Central Banks of the interested Member Countries.

25. **Taking note with appreciation** functioning of COMCEC Real Estate Electronic Platform within the framework of Capital Markets Regulatory Forum the Committee **requested** the Forum Secretariat to expedite the necessary legal, administrative, and technical work towards having a full-fledged Real Estate Electronic Platform, and **invited** Member Countries which have not done so yet, to identify their authorized bodies as well as notify them to the Forum's Secretariat.

26. The Committee **reiterated** 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.

27. **Welcoming** the successful convening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> OIC Transport Ministerial Conference hosted by the Republic of Türkiye on 11-12 February 2026 in İstanbul the Committee **requested** the Member Countries to further their efforts towards realization of the resolutions adopted in this Conference.

28. **Recalling** the designation of 11 December as OIC Food Security Day, the Committee **requested** 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.

29. **Expressing** its appreciation to SESRIC for its efforts completing the execution of the OIC-TVET Strategic Road Map 2020-2025 and its ongoing endeavors in preparing the new OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2035, the Committee **invited** the Member Countries to actively support the design and execution the new Roadmap, and **requested** SESRIC to report the progress regularly to COMCEC Ministerial and Follow-up Committee Meetings.

30. **Commending** the efforts of the CCO in compiling the relevant OIC Institutions' activities aligned with the prioritized SDG areas, the Committee **requested** the CCO to continue submitting the list of SDGs-related activities of the relevant OIC Institutions to the COMCEC Sessions.

31. **Commending** the efforts of SESRIC in regularly compiling annual reports on the progress towards the achievement of the prioritized Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs) in the OIC Member Countries for submission to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, and **taking note with appreciation** of its statistical capacity-building activities on SDG-related indicators, the Committee **requested** SESRIC to continue providing statistical training and capacity building activities within the framework of its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme, with particular focus on SDG monitoring, for the benefit of the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and relevant national institutions of the Member Countries.

32. **Acknowledging** 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 its efforts within the framework of OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET), and its endeavors under the recent Entrepreneurship Capacity Building Programme (Entrepreneurship-CaB), the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in and contribute to the activities under these Networks and the said Programme.

33. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, the Committee **requested** the IsDB Group to submit report on the implementation of ISFD as well as the assessment report on SPDA to the 42<sup>nd</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session.

34. **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, the Committee **called 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.

35. **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session, the Committee **commended** the endeavors of the COMCEC Trade Working Group, which will undertake the necessary preparations, including, among others, formulation of a set of policy recommendations for the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session of the 42<sup>nd</sup> COMCEC Meeting to be conducted with the theme of “*Developing Effective Trade Financing Tools for Increasing Export in OIC Member Countries*” and **called upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Trade Working Group to be held on 14-15 September 2026.

36. The Committee **requested** the CCO to circulate a questionnaire including following themes among the Member Countries to explore their views on the possible themes of the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session of the COMCEC.

Theme 1: Strengthening the Family Institution for Social Development: Safeguarding Values and Building Resilience in Islamic Countries

Theme 2: Utilization of Islamic Finance Instruments for Sustaining Food Security

Theme 3: Effective Irrigation Management in Agriculture Sector in OIC Member Countries

Theme 4: Developing Policy Frameworks in Promoting Electric/Autonomous Vehicles in the OIC Member Countries

Theme 5: Strategies for Utilization of Big Tourist Data within OIC Member Countries

Theme 6: Effective Trade Promotion Mechanisms for Trade Expansion in the Member Countries

37. The Committee **prepared** and **decided** to submit the Draft Agenda to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the COMCEC.

## ANNEX VII

### SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> COMCEC FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE MEETING

1. The Committee **welcomed** the Report on the Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy submitted by the CCO highlighting the progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy and **commended** the Member Countries and OIC Institutions for their valuable contributions to the implementation of the Strategy.
2. The Committee **welcomed** the 31 projects that are being implemented in 2026 under the COMCEC Project Funding and **invited** the Member Countries to intensify their efforts to harness the benefits of COMCEC Project Funding, particularly with a view to materializing the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.
3. The Committee **also welcomed** that 10 projects are being implemented by the Ministry of National Economy of Palestine under the COMCEC Al-Quds Programme in 2026, with the aim of improving well-being of people living in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.
4. The Committee **commended** that 5 projects are being implemented under the COMCEC Syria Program in 2026 with a view to contribute to enhancement of institutional and human capacity in Syrian Arab Republic.
5. **Taking note with appreciation** the report presented by the OIC General Secretariat on the implementation of the economic and commercial component of the OIC Program of Action, the Committee **called upon** the relevant OIC Institutions to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Coordination Meeting of OIC Institutions (ACMOI) on 9-10 December 2026, in Jeddah, OIC Headquarters.
6. **Acknowledging** the challenges faced by Palestine and the need for supportive measures, the Committee **invited** Member Countries to support Palestinian businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, to enhance their export capacity.
7. The Committee **called 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. The Committee **welcomed** 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 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC.
9. **Commending** SESRIC for implementing a comprehensive range of capacity-building programmes and training activities in various socio-economic fields, crucial to the needs of OIC Member Countries, the Committee **took note with appreciation** the implementation of 95 capacity-building activities since the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of COMCEC, which have been specifically designed to serve the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations as well as the COMCEC Strategy.

10. The Committee **expressed its appreciation** to SESRIC for its sustained efforts in supporting the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and relevant constituents of the National Statistical Systems (NSSs) of the OIC Member Countries through the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme, and the OIC Statistics Database (OICStat), with a view to enhancing the availability, quality, comparability and use of official statistics for evidence-based policymaking across the COMCEC cooperation areas.

11. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Trade Working Group on 20 April 2026, with the theme of “Developing Effective Trade Financing Tools for Increasing Export in the OIC Member Countries”, the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the COMCEC Trade Working Group to actively participate in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 14-15 September 2026.

12. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Maldives, Surinam, Palestine and Bangladesh for the following projects being implemented in trade domain in 2026, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:

- The project titled “Strengthening Maldivian MSMEs through Regional Cooperation and Exchange” being implemented by Maldives with Türkiye,
- The project titled “Enhancing the Capacity of the Metrology Department in Suriname” being implemented by Suriname in partnership with Türkiye and Guyana,
- The project titled “Digital and Institutional Capacity Enhancement of the Palestinian Garment and Textile Industries” being implemented by Palestine with Jordan,
- The project titled “Strengthening Digital Market Surveillance and Commodity Distribution in Bangladesh” being implemented by Bangladesh with Türkiye.

13. **Appreciating** the CCO and ICdT as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) in supervising trade negotiations and building capacity related to the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member Countries, the Committee **requested** the TNC Secretariat to continue their awareness-raising efforts on the TPS-OIC and its impact on the private sector for the benefit of OIC Member Countries in the upcoming period and to make the TPS-OIC Portal (<https://tpsoic.icdt-cidc.org>) updated for its better utilization by the Member States.

14. The Committee **called upon** the Member Countries and the relevant OIC institutions to extend support to the Member Countries who need technical assistance on trade facilitation practices towards the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

15. **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC, the Committee **took note with appreciation** the request of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host 15<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of WTO in 2028 in Saudi Arabia.

16. The Committee **took note with appreciation** ITFC’s mobilized funds from partner banks and financial institutions reaching US\$5.5 billion in 2025, which is 31% increase compared to US\$4.2 billion for 2024, ITFC’s trade financing approvals for 2025 had reached US\$9.3 billion, reflecting a 27% increase compared to the US\$7.3 billion in

2024; and that the trade financing disbursements had amounted to US\$7.5 billion in 2025, representing a 13% increase compared to the US\$6.6 billion recorded in 2024.

17. Taking **note with appreciation** of the performance of ICIEC operations during 2025, with business insured amounting to USD 17.8 billion, compared to USD 12.9 billion in 2024, while intra-OIC business insured reached USD 9.29 billion of (USD 7.72 billion in trade and USD 1.57 billion in investments) during 2025, compared to 5.97 billion in 2024, the Committee **requested** ICIEC to continue submitting reports on their activities related to export credit insurance to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions, and the Follow-up Committee Meetings.

18. **Underlining** the importance of a well-functioning Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) among national halal accreditation bodies of OIC Member Countries by Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB) in alignment with OIC/SMIIC standards as outlined in the OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ), the Committee **requested** acceleration of the efforts towards this goal.

19. **Commending** the organization of the Halal Expo 2025 and 11<sup>th</sup> World Halal Expo held on 26-29 November 2025 in İstanbul, the Committee **called upon** the Member States to actively participate in the Halal Expo 2026 and the 12<sup>th</sup> World Halal Summit to be held with the theme “Sustainable Halal Economy: Eliminating Waste, Empowering Growth” on 25-28 November 2026, to be hosted by the Republic of Türkiye, in collaboration with SMIIC and ICDT.

20. The Committee **welcomed** the membership of the Syrian Arab Republic in 2026, which has increased the number of SMIIC member countries to 49 members along with 3 observers and **commended** SMIIC's efforts in the publication of 2 new standards, bringing the total number of OIC/SMIIC standards to 81 thereby contributing to the advancement and harmonization of industry practices.

21. **Taking note of** the Report submitted by SMIIC to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting, the Committee **appreciated** the activities/programs/projects organized/to be organized by SMIIC referred in the said Report in its field of competence;

22. **Taking note of** the Reports submitted by ICDT to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting, the Committee **appreciated** the activities/programs/projects organized/to be organized by ICDT referred in the said Reports in its field of competence.

23. The Committee **invited** 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, and **taking note of** the Report submitted by ICCD to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting, the Committee **appreciated** the activities/programs/projects organized/to be organized by ICCD referred in the said Report in its field of competence.

24. The Committee **encouraged** 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.

25. The Committee **took 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.

26. **Welcoming** the convening of B57+ Business Leaders' Summit, which will be regularly organized on the margins of COMCEC Ministerial Sessions by ICCD, the Committee **called upon** the Member States to actively participate in B57+ Business Leaders' Summit to be held on 1 November 2026 in İstanbul on the margins of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the COMCEC with a view to further advancing intra-OIC private sector cooperation.

27. The Committee **took note with appreciation** the efforts of ICD to address the private sector development including Lines of Finance, Term Finance, and Equity Projects in OIC Member Countries through its \$556 million approval allocation during 2025.

28. The Committee **took note with appreciation** the dedicated cooperation efforts of ICD to develop joint transactions worth over \$1.2 billion where ICD partnered with ITFC and ICIEC during 2025 to capture synergies across Islamic Development Bank Group Entities.

29. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group on 22 April 2026, with the theme of "Potential of Crowdfunding for Economic Development in the OIC Member Countries", the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group to actively participate in its 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 21-22 September 2026.

30. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Uganda, Malaysia and The Gambia for the following projects being implemented in financial cooperation domain in 2026, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:

- The project titled "Enhancing Professionals Cybersecurity Capabilities in Digital Payment Systems in Uganda" being implemented by Uganda with Egypt,
- The project titled "Capacity Building in Green Sukuk and Islamic Microfinance in The Gambia" being implemented by the Gambia with Malaysia,
- The project titled "Utilizing Islamic Social Finance Instruments as a Powerful Alternatives for Climate Resilience" being implemented by Malaysia with the partnership of Türkiye, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Indonesia.

31. **Commending** the efforts of the OIC Exchanges Forum, the Committee **welcomed** the offer of Borsa İstanbul, as the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to host the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum in 29-30 September 2026, and **invited** the Member Countries to actively participate in the activities organized under this Forum.

32. **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, the Committee **requested** 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).

33. **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, the Committee **welcomed** the offer of the Capital Markets Board (CMB) of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Forum Secretariat, to host the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC CMR Forum, in 2026, and **invited** all the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.

34. **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, the Committee **requested** 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).

35. **Taking note with appreciation of** the convening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group on 20 April 2026 with the theme of "Designing Integrated Multimodal Transport Systems in OIC Member Countries", the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the Working Group to actively participate in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 14-15 September 2026.

36. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Jordan for project titled "Fostering a Common Regulatory Framework for ITS-Based Ride-Hailing Services in OIC Member States: Building Capacity and Data Integration through a Jordanian Pilot" being implemented under the transport and communication area with the partnership of Türkiye and Saudi Arabia in 2026 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.

37. **Commending** SESRIC for its continued commitment to preparing technical background reports and research studies on various socio-economic areas, including international trade and tariff impacts, labour markets and employment, water and food security, financial cooperation, transportation, poverty alleviation, youth and women for the OIC Conferences and Meetings, particularly Sectoral Ministerial Conferences and Standing Committee Sessions, the Committee **expressed its appreciation** for the conduct of "Transportation for Development in OIC Member Countries 2026" submitted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> OIC Ministerial Conference on Transport.

38. **Taking note with appreciation** the convening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group on 21 April 2026, with the theme of "Impacts of Climate Change and Mitigation Strategies for Sustainable OIC Tourism", the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the Working Group to actively participate in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 16-17 September 2026.

39. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Uganda, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, The Gambia, Maldives, SMIIC and SESRIC for the following projects being implemented in tourism domain in 2026, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:

- The project titled “Strengthening Uganda’s Culinary Tourism through Skills Development” being implemented by Uganda with Egypt,
- The project titled “Enhancing Cultural Heritage Site Preservation by Strengthening Governance and Monitoring Systems” being implemented by Bangladesh with the partnership of Türkiye, Uzbekistan, Mali, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and SESRIC,
- The project titled “Strengthening and Branding Tourism Destinations in Indonesia with OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards” being implemented by Indonesia in partnership with Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Türkiye and SMIIC,
- The project titled “Sustainable Tourism Villages Initiative: Empowering Communities and Enhancing Rural Visitor Experiences” being implemented by Uzbekistan in partnership with Türkiye, Indonesia and SESRIC,
- The project titled “Strengthening Culinary Tourism of the Gambia through Enhancing the Capacity of Chefs/Cooks in the Tourism and Hospitality Sector” being implemented by the Gambia with Türkiye,
- The project titled “Enhancing Maldivian Gastronomy Tourism by Increasing the Recognition of Traditional Cuisine ” being implemented by Maldives,
- The project titled “Capacity Building of Tourism Stakeholders with OIC/SMIIC Halal Restaurant and Tourism Services Standards being implemented by SMIIC for the benefit of Malaysia, Morocco, Egypt, Uzbekistan, Senegal, Jordan, Lebanon,
- The project titled “Strengthening Egypt’s Cultural Tourism Destination Brand through Sharing Experiences” being implemented by SESRIC for the benefit of Egypt, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Senegal.

40. **Acknowledging** SESRIC’s efforts towards commemorating Cairo as the OIC City of Tourism for 2026, designated by the 12<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), the Committee **requested** SESRIC to continue conducting training activities for the designated cities.

41. The Committee **took note with appreciation** of the efforts of SESRIC, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom, in organizing the Expert Group Meeting on the “Development of an Islamic Tourism Indicators Framework” on 5 November 2025, with the participation of representatives from NSOs, Ministries of Tourism and relevant OIC and international institutions, and **encouraged** SESRIC to continue its efforts towards strengthening tourism statistics and developing relevant indicators to support the implementation of the Strategic Roadmap for the Development of Islamic Tourism in OIC Countries.

42. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on 22 April 2026, with the theme of “Promoting a Resilient Agriculture Sector against Climate Change in OIC”, the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the COMCEC Agriculture

Working Group to actively participate in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 21-22 September 2026.

43. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Benin, Morocco, Egypt, The Gambia, Niger, Pakistan and Uganda for the following projects in the field of agriculture being implemented in 2026 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:

- The Project titled “Capacity Building for the Establishment of a Community-Based Revolving Fund to Facilitate Farmers’ Access to Agricultural Inputs” being implemented by Benin in partnership of Pakistan, Türkiye and IOFS,
- The Project titled “Support and Incentive Mechanisms for Promoting Women and Youth Entrepreneurship in Agriculture” being implemented by Morocco with Türkiye,
- The Project titled Capacity Building on ‘Efficient Water Management in Rice Production’ being implemented by Gambia with Nigeria,
- The Project titled “Capacity Building on Adopting Water-Smart Agricultural Techniques for Paddy Production in Malaysia” being implemented by Malaysia with Egypt,
- The Project titled “Enhancing Genome Editing and Crop Biotechnology Capacity for Climate-Resilient Agriculture in OIC Member Countries” being implemented by Pakistan in partnership of Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, SESRIC, COMSTECH,
- The Project titled “Building Capacity in the Use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for Agricultural Data and Early Warning to Enhance the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers” being implemented by Uganda with Türkiye,
- The Project titled “Enhance Livestock Productivity in Niger through Artificial Insemination” being implemented by Niger with the partnership of Türkiye and Uganda.

44. **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, the Committee **requested** SESRIC to continue organizing activities under these Programmes, and **invited** Member Countries to actively participate and benefit from these activities to share their experiences and best practices in agricultural development.

45. **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), the Committee **encouraged** Member Countries and other OIC Institutions to participate actively in the activities under these programmes.

46. The Committee **welcomed** the accession of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Republic of Uzbekistan to the IOFS, which increased the number of Member Countries to 43, and **invited** non-signatory Member States to take the necessary steps towards completing their accession to the IOFS.

47. **Taking note with appreciation of** the convening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group on 21 April 2026, with the theme of “Preventing Skill Mismatch in the Labour Markets of the OIC Member Countries”, the Committee **called upon** the Member Countries, which have registered to the Working Group to actively participate in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting to be organized with the same theme on 16-17 September 2026.

48. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Malaysia, Pakistan, Nigeria and SESRIC for the following project being implemented under the poverty alleviation area in 2026 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:

- The Project titled “Foresight Skills Lab (FSL): Bridging Today’s Skills with Tomorrow’s Jobs” being implemented by Pakistan with the partnership of Malaysia and OIC Labour Centre
- The Project titled “Mobilizing Capital for Affordable Housing: A Masterclass on REITs, REIFs and Housing Sukuk” being implemented by Nigeria with the partnership of Türkiye, Malaysia
- The Project titled “Closing the Gap: Strengthen Industry Driven TVET through Strategic Partnership to Boost Employment in OIC Countries” being implemented by Malaysia with the partnership of Iraq, Jordan, Gambia, Nigeria, Pakistan and SESRIC,
- The project on “Experience Sharing on Islamic Financial Instruments for the Provision of Social Housing” to be implemented by SESRIC for the benefit of 3 Member Countries.

49. **Taking into account** the need for supporting the livelihood of Palestinian youth and enhancing the human resources capacity of Palestine, the Committee **called upon** Member Countries to increase scholarship opportunities for Palestinian students to the extent possible and initiate special programs for university graduates.

50. The Committee **took note with appreciation** of the continued maintenance and regular updating of the OIC Statistics Database (OICStat), which hosts a wide range of indicators under COMCEC-relevant categories, and **requested** SESRIC to continue improving and updating OICStat in line with the evolving data needs of the OIC Member Countries.

51. **Taking note of** the Reports submitted by SESRIC to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting, the Committee **appreciated** the activities/programs/projects organized/to be organized by SESRIC referred in the said Reports in its field of competence.

52. **Taking note of** the entry into force of the Statute of the OIC Labour Centre on 17 January 2026, the Committee **encouraged** the OIC Member Countries, which have not yet signed and/or ratified the Statute, to complete all the necessary arrangements to accede to the said Statute.

53. The Committee **took note with appreciation** the conduct of capacity-building training on “Strengthening OSH Capacities in SMEs,” by the OIC Labour Centre, which was held on 27–28 November 2025 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.

54. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Tajikistan for the project titled “Capacity Building in Digital Skills for IT Specialists” to be implemented by Tajikistan with Türkiye, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.

55. The Committee **commended** the efforts of Pakistan, Jordan and SESRIC for the following projects being implemented in SME’s domain in 2026, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.

- The project titled “Identifying and Designing the Organizational Structure and Financing Model for a Multilateral and Sustainable OIC SME Networking Platform” being implemented by Pakistan with the partnership of Türkiye, Senegal, Egypt,
- The project titled “Strengthening Institutional Capacity for BSO to Design Digital SME Support Programs in Tourism and Hospitality” being implemented by Jordan with the partnership of Oman and ICCD,
- The project on “Empowering SME Development Agencies with Innovative Financing Solutions under the OIC-SMENET Framework” to be implemented by SESRIC for the benefit of 6 Member Countries.