SMIIC REPORT

to be submitted to the

42nd Ministerial Session of the COMCEC

31 October – 3 November 2026
Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye

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INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the activities that have been carried out by SMIIC for the period of 01 January – 31 December 2025 and is submitted by the SMIIC General Secretariat. It highlights the key achievements, ongoing projects, and strategic objectives that demonstrate SMIIC's commitment to harmonizing standards and metrology practices. It also reflects the collective efforts of our member countries and partners, whose collaboration remains central to our success. We look ahead with optimism and determination to further advance our mission in 2025 and beyond.

SMIIC is a member-focused intergovernmental organization that strives to achieve the goals and objectives set out in its internal documents and strategic plan.

SMIIC successfully completed the first bi-annual implementation plan (2025–2026) under the revised SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021–2030. The year 2025 was both active and productive, marked by the continuation of core operations alongside the introduction of new initiatives in the areas of training, metrology, and accreditation. As a young and evolving organization, SMIIC remains committed to dynamism and responsiveness in addressing the needs of its expanding membership.

SMIIC has organized 19 training programs on the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to aid the common use of standards within the OIC region. SMIIC is continuously conducting a series of trainings focusing on the knowledge and understanding of the OIC/SMIIC standards, requirements, and implementation. Simultaneously, the standards development trainings are also conducted to enhance technical committee work. Simultaneously, 16 capacity building trainings in the field of metrology have been given.

The 2025 edition of the COMSTECH-SMIIC Training Program on "OIC/SMIIC Halal Products Standards and Testing" was successfully held from 12–16 May 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan. The training program was attended by experts from Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Uganda, Türkiye, Pakistan, and Turkmenistan. The training course aimed to promote harmonization of halal standards across OIC countries and internationally by supporting the adoption, implementation, and use of OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards, while transferring knowledge and building human capital through practical training on key halal food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, laboratory competence/auditing, and related halal testing procedures (e.g., porcine and ethanol detection), thereby bridging knowledge gaps and strengthening compliance with regulatory requirements in OIC countries.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much-needed common standards in the OIC and to date has published 81 (eighty-one) OIC/SMIIC Standards, 21 (twenty-one) of them on halal issues.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, SMIIC's key achievements demonstrated strong alignment with its Strategic Objectives across all four perspectives (Value/Customer, Internal Processes, Learning and Growth Perspective, Financial Perspective) of the Strategic Plan.

Capacity-building activities, including 19 training programs on OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards and 16 metrology trainings, directly supported Strategic Objectives 4, 9, and 10 by strengthening National Quality Infrastructure, enhancing technical capacity, and fostering interconnectivity among Member States. These initiatives also contributed to Objective 2 by promoting the adoption and implementation of OIC/SMIIC Standards, while increasing stakeholder engagement in line with Objective 3.

The successful implementation of the COMSTECH–SMIIC Halal Training Program in Tashkent further advanced Objectives 1, 2, 4, 5, and 9, by promoting high-quality and harmonized halal standards, strengthening institutional capacities, and supporting the development of the OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure.

Progress in standardization remained a key achievement, with 81 OIC/SMIIC Standards published, including 21 halal standards. This directly contributed to Objective 1 by delivering relevant, high-quality standards, while also reflecting improvements in the standardization process under Objective 6 and reinforcing halal accreditation systems under Objective 5.

Ongoing technical committee activities and standards development efforts supported Objectives 6 and 7, improving internal processes and ensuring more effective coordination and participation of Member States in SMIIC's technical work.

Finally, the implementation of the 2025–2026 bi-annual plan under the Strategic Plan 2021–2030 contributed to strengthening institutional capacity (Objective 8) and supporting long-term sustainability through enhanced planning and Member State engagement, in line with Objectives 11 and 12.

OUR MEMBERS

SMIIC Family

The SMIIC family has expanded further in 2025 with the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic as a new Member State, bringing the total to 49 (forty-nine) Member States including three observers from four different continents. As an intergovernmental organization, SMIIC takes great pride in its ever-growing number of members. SMIIC will constantly strive to play a vital and impactful role in its field of activities.

OUR GOVERNANCE ORGANS

General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making organ of the SMIIC and is composed of the Member States.

The SMIIC General Assembly is a yearly gathering of SMIIC where all our members come together for an annual meeting to discuss and decide on resolutions, reports, and projects.

The **20th SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting** was held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on 13 November 2025 during the SMIIC Meetings 2025, with the attendance of 27 Member States and 2 Observers. SMIIC committees, including the Finance Committee (BOD/FC), Strategy Committee (BOD/SC), Committee for Governance (BOD/GOV), and the Board of Directors (BOD), ordinarily held their meetings prior to the 20th SMIIC GA meeting. The General Assembly received messages and addresses from distinguished leaders, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and partnership in standardization. Notable contributions included:

1. **H.E. Dr. Saad ALKASABI,** Chairman of the Board of Directors of SMIIC, provided leadership and guidance in advancing the mission and strategic objectives of SMIIC.
2. **H.E. Ambassador Hissein BRAHIM TAHA,** Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), conveyed a message on SMIIC's pivotal role in strengthening the OIC quality infrastructure system, delivered by Mr. Jakhongir KHASANOV, Professional Officer.
3. **H.E. Ambassador Berik ARYN,** Director-General of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), delivered an address highlighting the shared goals of IOFS and SMIIC in enhancing food safety, halal integrity, and sustainable food systems.
4. **Ms. Jaymi STEPHENS, Head of Membership at ISO, delivered the message of H.E. Mr. Sergio MUJICA,** Secretary-General of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), reaffirming ISO's continued cooperation and support to SMIIC in advancing international standardization.
5. **H.E. Eng. Nawaf Ibrahim AL-MANA,** President of the GCC Standardization Organization (GSO), delivered valuable remarks on strengthening cooperation between SMIIC and GSO in harmonizing standards and conformity assessment practices.
6. **Mr. David TOMLINSON,** Associate Technical Expert, Competitiveness, Quality and Compliance from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), highlighted the importance of industrial development and quality infrastructure in achieving sustainable economic growth.
7. **H.E. Dr. Adel AL-KEAID,** Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB), delivered an address on enhancing the partnership between IFHAB and SMIIC toward a unified and credible global halal accreditation framework.
8. **H.E. Mr. Akmal JUMANAZAROV,** Director of the Uzbek Agency for Technical Regulation, contributed to promoting harmonization of standards and technical regulations in the OIC region.

These speeches highlighted the critical alliances and partnerships that drive the success of SMIIC in advancing global standards and fostering economic growth among Member States. They expressed that standards and metrology play a central role in supporting economic development and strengthening the global quality infrastructure. Through close collaboration with international and regional organizations, we aim to establish a solid framework that enables the exchange of ideas, cooperation across various technical areas, and the development of innovative solutions, including the integration of AI and other emerging technologies.

Our focus remains on preparing a qualified workforce, enhancing technical staff training, and aligning all activities with the strategic priorities of our organization. In this regard, capacity-building programs and specialized training initiatives will continue to serve as key instruments for empowering Member States and improving institutional performance.

Recognizing that the development of standards and metrology is one of the primary indicators of economic progress, we are committed to strengthening these areas through coordinated efforts, knowledge-sharing platforms, and sustainable partnerships. They underscored the importance of cooperation in strengthening quality infrastructure and developing standards that support industry and trade, including the food, cosmetics, tourism, and pharmaceutical sectors.

The General Assembly acknowledged the advancements made under the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021–2030 and welcomed the comprehensive updates presented by the Standardization, Metrology, and Accreditation Councils. These reports highlighted key achievements in technical committee work, capacity-building programs, and ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening the quality infrastructure across the OIC region.

Financial matters also received thorough consideration. The GA approved the audited financial statements for 2024, as well as the SMIIC Budget for 2026. Member States were encouraged to fulfill their mandatory contributions in a timely manner to ensure healthy financial governance and continued institutional growth

A significant outcome of the meetings was the approval of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SMIIC and the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB), marking another step toward deepening collaboration in the global halal accreditation ecosystem. The GA also formally welcomed the Syrian Arab Republic, represented by SASMO, as the newest SMIIC Member.

The Secretary General briefed the General Assembly on the latest developments and activities of SMIIC as well as summarized the activities of SMIIC Councils, Technical Committees, Strategic Plan implementation, and other important activities conducted since the 19th SMIIC General Assembly Meeting. Technical activities of the Councils were reported by the Chairs of the SMIIC Councils. The report of the External Financial Auditor 2024 was approved.

The meetings concluded with appreciation extended to the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Uzbek Agency for Technical Regulation under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (O‘ZTTSA) for its warm hospitality and excellent arrangements, which contributed greatly to the success of the 20th General Assembly. Member States expressed their continued commitment to enhancing harmonization, strengthening technical capacity, and supporting SMIIC’s role as a key driver of quality infrastructure development across the Islamic world.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the SMIIC is the organ entrusted with the supervision of the execution of the programs, plans, and activities of the Institute. The Board of Directors comprises thirteen members, including the host country as the permanent member, elected by the General Assembly, on the basis of an equitable geographic distribution, for a term of three years.

The **Twenty-Ninth(29th) Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD)** was held on 20-21 July 2024 in Al Madinah Al Munawwarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting was attended by representatives from 13 Member States of the Board of Directors.

During the meeting, Saudi Arabia was elected as Chairman of the Board for the 2025–2027 term, with Cameroon (Strategy), Türkiye (Finance), and the UAE (Standardization) serving as Vice-Chairman. The Board also approved the new composition of its permanent committees (BOD/SC, BOD/FC, BOD/GOV, BOD/CRM) and reviewed progress reports related to strategic initiatives, capacity building, and technical developments.

The composition of the Strategy Committee (BOD/SC) and Finance Committee (BOD/FC) is as follows for the 2025 – 2027 term *(ending on 31 December 2027)*:

Strategy Committee (BOD/SC)	**Finance Committee (BOD/FC)**
Republic of Cameroon *(Chair)*	Republic of Türkiye *(Chair)*
Arab Republic of Egypt	Republic of Iraq
Islamic Republic of Iran	Malaysia
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	Republic of Tunisia
Kingdom of Morocco	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
State of Palestine	
Republic of Indonesia	
United Arab Emirates	

The composition of the Committee for Governance (BOD/GOV) is as follows for the 2025 – 2027 term *(ending on 31 December 2027)*:

Committee for Governance (BOD/GOV)
Republic of Cameroon
Republic of Indonesia
Republic of Iraq
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Kingdom of Morocco *(Chair)*
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
United Arab Emirates

The Secretary General briefed the Board by providing information on the activities and developments of the General Secretariat, SMIIC Councils, Technical Committees, and recent collaborations such as the launch of the Digital Certificates system and partnership with WIPO. and other important activities since the 28th SMIIC Board of Directors Meeting.

The Secretary General also reported the progress of the implementation and achievement of all the goals in the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. The General Secretariat briefed the Board on the Annual Progress Report 2025 on the Two-Year Implementation Plan (2025-2026). The General Secretariat also presented the Quarterly Progress Report (January-March 2025) on the Two-Year Implementation Plan (2025-2026) of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. Reports of the SMIIC Councils were presented by their Chairs. The external financial auditor presented its SMIIC 2025 Financial report to the Board which was then recommended for approval to the General Assembly.

The Board also approved the SMIIC Annual Report 2024 which was to be submitted to the OIC and shared with SMIIC Member and Observer States, sister OIC institutions, and partner organizations and has been used as a general promotion document with the public.

As a tradition, the **Thirtieth(30th) Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD)** was held on 12 November 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan one day prior to the 20th General Assembly which was held on 13 November 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan following the regular meetings of Board of Directors Finance and Strategy Committees which were organized a day prior on 11 November 2025 as part of the SMIIC Meetings 2024.

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Saad bin Othman AL-KASABI, Chairman of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD). The meeting was attended by representatives from 11 Member States of the Board of Directors. The Secretary General briefed the Board by providing information on the activities and developments of the General Secretariat, SMIIC Councils, Technical Committees, and other important activities since the 29th SMIIC BOD Meeting. The Secretary General briefed the Board on the Progress Report on the Two-Year Implementation Plan (2025-2026) of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. The report was welcomed by the Board of Directors members. During the meeting, Chairs of the SMIIC Councils presented their reports on the latest developments and activities.

The Secretary General briefed the Board about the membership application of the Syrian Arab Organization for Standardization and Metrology (SASMO) as the national body of the Syrian Arab Republic. The membership application was unanimously approved. After briefing by the General Secretariat and discussions, the Board approved the Two-Year Implementation Plan (2025-2026) of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. The Board also reviewed and discussed the Draft Budget for 2025 and the Report of the External Auditor for the year 2025.

OUR HIGHLIGHTS

Standardization Management Council (SMC)

Standardization Management Council is the organ assigned the task of coordinating the development of OIC/SMIIC standards in cooperation with Member States. Standardization Management Council coordinates and oversees the performance of the Technical Committees.

SMC has been diligently advancing the future initiatives of the technical committees while closely monitoring their progress on ongoing standardization projects.

Members of the SMIIC Standardization Management Council for the term 2025-2027 were determined with the Resolution 25/2024 of the 28th SMIIC Board of Directors Meeting which was held on 12 November 2024 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye.

1- Republic of CAMEROON (ANOR)

2- Arab Republic of EGYPT (EOS)

3- Republic of IRAQ (COSQC)

4- Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN (JSMO)

5- MALAYSIA (DSM)

6- Kingdom of MOROCCO (IMANOR)

7- Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA (SASO)

8- Republic of TUNISIA (INNORPI)

9- UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (MoIAT) (Chair)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (MoIAT) has been elected as the Vice-Chair of SMIIC BOD and the Chair of SMC as per the BOD Resolution 02/2025.

Standardization Activities

The core business of SMIIC is to develop and publish OIC/SMIIC Standards and technical specifications that meet the evolving needs of OIC-wide businesses and other organizations. This important work brings concrete benefits, such as: *improving safety, quality, and reliability of products and services.*

SMIIC experienced a bustling year in 2025, with its technical committees diligently engaged in various standards development projects. 14th SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week Meetings were held on the 22-26 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. All committees including CCA held their plenary meetings. Online participation in the meetings was also possible for members who could not attend physically.

Technical Committees (TCs)

Standards are prepared by bringing together all interested parties such as manufacturers, consumers, and regulators of a particular material, product, process, or service.

The following TCs have been established under the SMIIC:

- TC1 Halal Food Issues
- TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues
- TC3 Service Site Issues
- TC4 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- TC5 Tourism and Related Services
- TC6 Agricultural Products
- TC7 Transportation
- TC8 Leather and Tanning Material
- TC9 Textiles and Related Products
- TC10 Halal Supply Chain
- TC11 Halal Management Systems
- TC13 Jewelry
- TC14 Petroleum and Related Products
- TC15 Terminology
- TC16 Halal Medical Products And ServicesTC17 Handicraft
- SMIIC Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (SMIIC/CCA)

OIC/SMIIC standards are developed by experts, within TCs. TCs are made up of representatives of industry, NGOs, governments, and other stakeholders, who are put forward by SMIIC's members. Each TC deals with a different subject.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES (including CCA) activities in 2025:

- **TC 1-Halal Food Issues** has been working on:
  - Test Method for detection of porcine in Food Products and cosmetics
  - Test Method for detection of ethanol in Food Products and cosmetics
  - Maximum Limit for Residues of Ethyl Alcohol (Ethanol) in Food
  - Preparation and Handling of Halal On-Board Meals
  - Halal Packaging
  - Halal Food Prepared by Bioprocessing Techniques prepared by Bioprocessing Techniques
  - Halal nutrition guidelines
  - Halal dairy products

The committee decided to start the revision process of OIC/SMIIC 1:2019.

- **TC 2- Halal Cosmetic Issues** has published the OIC/SMIIC Standard on Halal Cosmetics Requirements, and the following projects are being studied:
  - Definitions and Criteria for Halal Cosmetics - Doubtful Ingredients
  - Halal Cosmetics Claims
  - Cleaning and Cleaning for Halal Production and Supply Chain Facilities

- **TC 3- Service Site Issues**, the following are in the work program:
  - Fuel Stations
  - Hygiene, Infection Prevention and Control - Part 1: Guide for Safe Services
  - Hygiene, Infection Prevention and Control - Part 2: Guide for Educational Services

- **TC 4- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy** 22 standards and working on the following projects on:
  - Floating pontoons – Manufactured with glass fiber reinforced thermoset plastics – Requirements and test methods – For solar PV applications
  - Metal Constructions-For the usage of land-based use of photovoltaic energy systems
  - General Requirements for Solar Water Heaters

- **TC 5- Tourism and Related Services** currently has 3 standards published. The Project **"OIC/SMIIC 8:2025 – Halal Tourism Services – Classification for Wellness Spa"** has been published. The committee also started the project on "Halal Medical Tourism".

- **TC 6- Agricultural Products** published 3 standards on **Dates and Saffron.** The following topics are included in the committee work program:
  - Cotton Seed Meal/cake
  - Processed Harissa (DS)
  - Islamic Farming
  - Date Paste (DS)
  - Henna powder- specifications and test methods (DS)
  - Rosewater- Specifications and Test Methods
  - Geographical Indications

- **TC 7- Transportation** is responsible for 2 standards. And it is currently working on 3 projects regarding Refrigerated transport equipment, Trailers and LPG Transportation.

- **TC 8- Leather and Tanning Material** has published 8 standards including:
  - **OIC/SMIIC 37:2022 Halal Products – Usage of Animal Bone, Skin and Hair- General Guidelines**

  The committee is currently working on the development of the standard for the "Requirements of Tanning Materials" and "Testing Technics for the Identification of Pig Skin".

- **TC9 – Textiles and Related Products,** published the standard **OIC/SMIIC 27 on Woven Carpets used for Masjids and OIC/SMIIC 14:2023 - Ihram Dress – Specification**

On the other hand, Identification of Pig Hair in textile, Towels, Spring Mattress, Abaya Black Chador Fabric are some of the topics being developed by this committee currently.

- **TC10 Halal Supply Chain** The committee is currently developing the 4th part of the standard: OIC/SMIIC DS 17 – 4 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 4: Port – General Requirements. The project reached DS Stage.

- **TC11 Halal Management Systems** has currently published 2 standards:
  - Halal Quality Management System - Requirements
  - Hygiene and Sanitation Management System Requirements
  - The Project on "Islamic Ethics including anti-bribery issues" has reached the DS Stage.

- **TC 13 on Jewelry** published the standard on the **General Requirements for Refined Gold.** The following are the current projects:
  - Islamic Ethics about using Jewelry
  - Refined Silver
  - Consumer Product Safety for Children's Jewelry
  - Vocabulary for Jewelry

- **TC14 – Petroleum and Related Products** has published 16 standards including **"OIC/SMIIC 75:2025 - Flat Plastic Pallets for Petrochemical Industries"**.
  The committee has 19 ongoing projects of which the following proceeded to the Publication Stage:
  - Plastic Scaffold Planks – Performance and General Design Requirements
  - Specification for Thermoplastic Water Meter Cabinet -
  - Sacks for Packaging Cement -
  - Paints and Varnishes – Solvent-Free Epoxy Floor -
  - Rigid poly Vinyl chloride (PVC) Extruded Hollow for windows and Doors

- **TC 15- Terminology** has published the standard **"OIC/SMIIC 49:2025 - Terms and Definitions related to Halal Standards"**. The committee also initiated the work for the translations of the published OIC/SMIIC Standards to the official languages of SMIIC.

- **TC 16 – Halal Medical Products and Services** has published the standard OIC/SMIIC 50-1: 2022 **Halal Pharmaceuticals – Part 1 - General Requirements.** The following are the topics in the work program:
  - Halal pharmaceuticals – Part 2 – Requirements for biopharmaceuticals (including vaccine)
  - Halal pharmaceuticals – Part 3 – Requirements for health supplement and nutraceuticals
  - Usage of medicines from an Islamic perspective
  - List of Halal, non-halal and doubtful API's, excipients, and medicines
  - Halal medical Devices

- **TC 17 – Handicraft has published the standard OIC/SMIIC 64:2025 - Handicraft terms and definitions**
  The committee is working on the following projects:
  - Handicraft terms and definitions
  - Handicraft traditional accessories products
  - Handicraft labeling and packaging
  - Handicraft traditional clay products

Technical Committee Week 14 Meetings

The 14th SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week was successfully held from 22–26 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, co-organized with the Department of Standards Malaysia. The event gathered distinguished delegates from numerous **Member States, International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and GCC Standardization Organization (GSO)**, reflecting the continued growth of the SMIIC family and its commitment to international standardization.

This year's TC Week was conducted in a hybrid format, combining in-person participation in Kuala Lumpur with remote attendance via online platforms. The meetings provided an efficient and collaborative environment where Technical Committees advanced their ongoing projects, discussed strategic initiatives, and strengthened cooperation among Member States.

In addition to TC Meetings, **the technical visits** to 4 different companies working in the field of halal pharmaceuticals and halal supply chain were organized by DSM with the participation of TC Week 14 participants and experts. The visits have been a fruitful activity to learn about how stakeholders implementing Halal Standards in practice in the business world.

Throughout the week, 15 Technical Committees and Committee on Conformity Assessment (CCA) meetings were organized, covering a wide range of standardization topics. Constructive deliberations enabled delegates to make significant progress on draft standards, plan new projects, and enhance alignment with OIC and international priorities.

Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (CCA)

Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (CCA) has been established for preparation of guides/standards on criteria for bodies involved in testing, calibration, certification, inspection, accreditation, their operation and assessment, and other related standards and especially halal conformity assessment and accreditation guidelines or standards.

SMIIC/CCA is the committee which is responsible for the development of OIC/SMIIC standards on conformity assessment and accreditation. Within the committee, 7 OIC/SMIIC standards have already been developed in this scope of which OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 standards are the main standards. The most recently published standard is: OIC/SMIIC 57: 2022 Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for the Operation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Halal Inspection.

The 14th Meeting of the SMIIC Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (SMIIC/CCA) was held on 22 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in a hybrid format.

Revision of OIC/SMIIC 2 and OIC/SMIIC 3

Following a decision taken at the 13th SMIIC/CCA Meeting (23 September 2024, Türkiye), a Maintenance Team (MT) was established to lead the revision of two key standards: OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 and OIC/SMIIC 3:2019.

The MT, convened by Dr. Mete Çevik (Türkiye), comprises 54 experts from 22 countries and liaisons such as SMIIC AC, GCC, and IIFA. In line with letter *No: SMIIC 2025-102-619* regarding Systematic Review of OIC/SMIIC Standards, the Maintenance Team has been renamed as Working Group 1 with the same composition.

These meetings were held in 2025 by the group:

- 5 Aug 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 2) - discussed whether to split the standard into two parts or maintain a single structure.
- 6 Aug 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - addressed member comments, ~20% resolved.
- 4 Sep 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - further 45% of comments resolved; discussions to continue.
- 6 Oct 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - further 60% of comments resolved; discussions to continue.
- 27 Oct 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - further 75% of comments resolved; discussions to continue.
- 02 Dec 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - further 100 % of comments resolved; discussions to continue on Annex.
- 23 Dec 2025 (OIC/SMIIC 3) - further discussions on Annex.

Key unresolved issue: whether OIC/SMIIC 2 should be divided into 2-1 (Management Systems) and 2-2 (Product/Process/Service Certification), or remain a unified standard

<u>Resolutions from the 14th SMIIC/CCA Meeting:</u>

1. Chair Nomination- Appointment process for the 2026-2028 Chair initiated. The nomination for the position of Chair of SMIIC/CCA for the 2026-2028 term was initiated with the 13/10/2025 and No: SMIIC-2025-107-458 Letter of General Secretariat with a deadline of 30 November 2025.

2. Revision of Standards - MT to continue work on OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3. A ballot will decide on the revision approach for OIC/SMIIC 2. The ballot was “Open” at SMIIC IS between 9 October 2025 and 10 November 2025.

According to the result of the ballot, the revision of **OIC/SMIIC 2** will proceed on the basis of a **two-part structure:**

- **OIC/SMIIC 2-1 – "Management Systems"**
- **OIC/SMIIC 2-2 – "Product/Service/Process Certification"**

3. Systematic Review - Four 2020 standards (OIC/SMIIC 33, 34, 35 and 36) to undergo review to determine if maintenance is required. Possible Working Groups to be created depending on results.

4. New Work Items - Members invited to propose new conformity assessment standards, guides, or specifications. New WGs or MT may be tasked with development.

5. Terminology Alignment - Decision that definitions in SMIIC/CCA standards should, wherever possible, adopt ISO terminology by reference to ensure harmonization.

Conclusion:

The 14th Meeting reinforced CCA's role in shaping harmonized conformity assessment standards. The Working Group 1 has made significant progress, though consensus on the structure of OIC/SMIIC 2 remains pending. Future priorities include the systematic review of 4 standards that were published in 2020, development of new work items, and stronger alignment with ISO definitions.

SMIIC Technical Work Overall Key Figures:

The following table shows the projects and their status that are studied on the relevant Technical Committees:

Committees /Project Status	New Work Registered	Working Draft (WD)	Committee Draft (CD)	Draft Standard (DS)	Final Draft Standard (FDS)	Under Publication	Total Ongoing Projects	Published Standards
SMIIC/CCA SMIIC Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment		2	1				3	7
TC1 Halal Food Issues		7	2	2			11	4
TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues		2	2				4	1
TC3 Service Site Issues			2	3			5	1
TC4 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy			2	1			3	22
TC5 Tourism and Related Services		1					1	3
TC6 Agricultural Products		2	1	2	2		7	3
TC7 Transportation		1	1	1			3	2
TC8 Leather and Tanning Material		2		6			8	8
TC9 Textiles and Related Products		1	3	3			7	4
TC10 Halal Supply Chain				1			1	3
TC11 Halal Management Systems				1			1	2
TC13 Jewellery		2	1	1			4	1
TC14 Petroleum and Related Products	13			1		5	19	16
TC15 Terminology Committee							0	1
TC 16 Halal Medical Products and Services	1	3	1				5	1
TC 17 Handicraft			3				3	1
Other								1
TOTAL	14	23	19	22	2	5	85	81

New OIC/SMIIC Standards Published in 2025

The standards published in 2025 are as follows:

1. **OIC/SMIIC 64:2025 - Handicraft terms and definitions**
2. **OIC/SMIIC 49:2025 - Terms and Definitions Related to Halal Standards**
3. **OIC/SMIIC 75:2025 - Flat Plastic Pallets for Petrochemical Industries**
4. **OIC/SMIIC 8:2025 - Halal Tourism Services – Classification for Wellness Spa**

In addition to the published standards, by the end of 2025, we have:

- 85 ongoing standard development projects,
- 22 projects are in the Draft Standard stage,
- 5 standards under publication,
- 19 Committee Drafts stage,
- 23 in Working Draft stage.

The standards development process incorporated hours of hard work of experts from each Technical Committee, Member States, and the International Fiqh Academy (liaison in the Technical Committees) and has worked through step by step every aspect of the draft documents, producing the final standards. SMIIC would like to thank all experts who have put in time and effort into the development of the standards.

SMIIC Information System

Advancing AI in Standardization

In 2025, SMIIC continued to strengthen its use of artificial intelligence as part of its ongoing digital transformation. These efforts focused on making standardization work faster, more consistent, and more accessible for all stakeholders.

Throughout the year, the AI Conversation tool was enhanced to provide practical, real-time support to Technical Committee Secretaries and Working Group Conveners. The tool assists with everyday tasks such as research, drafting, translation, and summarization, helping committees work more efficiently and effectively.

As part of the **SMIIC AI Project**, SMIIC also introduced an AI-powered translation tool within the SMIIC Information System to support the translation of standards from English into French. This tool improves multilingual access to SMIIC standards while reducing the time and cost associated with translation and ensuring greater consistency across documents.

At the same time, SMIIC began developing thematic AI assistants tailored to the specific needs of individual Technical Committees and working groups. These assistants are designed to support core standardization activities and provide subject-specific assistance in areas such as Halal Food, Cosmetics, Pharmaceuticals, Tourism, and other committee-focused topics.

By using a combination of multiple AI models, vector stores, and structured dialogue, SMIIC was able to balance innovation with efficiency while maintaining full control over its data. Together, these initiatives in 2025 reflect SMIIC's commitment to modernizing standardization practices and supporting the development of harmonized standards across Member States.

Metrology Council (MC)

Metrology Council is SMIIC's operational organ for cooperation between national metrology authorities from Islamic Countries. SMIIC MC aims to achieve uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing among Member States. MC consists of a chair and members from national metrology institutes of the Member States and Observers of SMIIC.

Metrology Council Activities

Metrology, as the science of measurement, showed us its importance once again during the pandemic period. Metrology and laboratory services have provided an essential contribution to the diagnostic process with high-quality and accurate infrastructure. In view of this fact, we continued our metrology activities during 2025 by holding activities, meetings, and training for capacity building as per the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2024 – 2026.

16th SMIIC Metrology Council Meeting

The 16th Meeting of the SMIIC Metrology Council (MC) was held on 27–28 October 2025 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye, hosted by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

Following the recitation from the Holy Quran, H.E. Saeed Almehiri, Chairman of the SMIIC MC, welcomed the members to the meeting and emphasized the importance of the MC's work in developing metrology infrastructure within the Member States and across the OIC region. He reaffirmed his commitment to enhancing the activities of the Council and to further strengthening cooperation among the national metrology institutes of SMIIC Member States.

H.E. İhsan Övüt, Secretary General of SMIIC, welcomed the participants and highlighted the steps taken by the SMIIC General Secretariat to achieve its strategic goals and the latest activities undertaken under the SMIIC framework. He expressed his satisfaction with the progress achieved by the Metrology Council and underlined the importance of enhancing collaboration with international and regional metrology organizations. He also stressed the need to further develop the concept of Halal Metrology to support conformity assessment and quality infrastructure in OIC Member States.

The meeting was attended by 56 representatives (31 physically and 25 online) from a total of 23 Member and Observer States. The representative of the Gulf Association for Metrology (GULFMET) attended as a guest.

Furthermore, the meeting discussed the new SMIIC MC Strategy Proposal, along with other technical and administrative matters under the Council's work program, as well as presentations on specific metrology topics delivered by Member States. During the meeting, presentations were delivered on the latest metrology developments in Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Türkiye, Qatar, Uganda, Uzbekistan, and the United Arab Emirates.

Participants expressed appreciation for the continuous efforts of SMIIC and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening metrology cooperation among OIC Member States under the framework of the SMIIC Metrology Council.

During the meeting, presentations were given on the following:

- Progress on implementation of the SMIIC MC Work Plan
- Latest Developments and Halal activities in Member States
- SMIIC MC Inter Laboratory Comparisons
- Latest developments in Member States

- How to Apply for the BIPM Membership?
- Halal in the Gulf Region: Strengths, Challenges and Opportunities
- GULFMET Services to Member States
- Digital Transformation in Metrology
- Working Group on Medical Metrology (WGMM) Activities
- SMIIC MC R&D Project Program
- SMIIC Academy

Presentations and speeches regarding the latest developments and halal activities in Türkiye, Uzbekistan, and Saudi Arabia were given by their representatives.

SMIIC MC Work Plan for 2024 – 2026

The SMIIC MC, briefly, intends to harmonize and facilitate the activities in the metrology area in the Member States based on international arrangements and regional metrology organization membership requirements by organizing necessary metrological activities. The SMIIC MC aims to contribute to the enhancement of the technical and metrological capabilities of Member States and the facilitation of the removal of technical trade barriers. In line with these objectives, the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2024-2026 was prepared by the Task Force Group which was constituted during the 13th SMIIC MC meeting as per the resolution 16/2023. The SMIIC MC Work Plan 2024-2026 covers the main activities planned for implementation by the SMIIC MC Member States for three years and is coordinated by the Metrology Council Chairmanship. The planned activities such as training, workshops, seminars, consultancies, research and development activities, etc. will be organized online and/or in person at the host NMI/DI premises with the involvement of the Members' National Metrology Institutes and Designated Institutes. This plan is revised once a year in case new requirements are received from the Members and this will be made at the end of every year as a preparation for the upcoming new year.

SMIIC MC Projects:

SMIIC Interlaboratory Comparisons (ILCs)

The SMIIC Metrology Council started Inter-laboratory Comparisons (ILC) in accordance with Resolution 19/2022 from the 11th SMIIC MC meeting convened on October 28-29, 2022, in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The comparison areas were decided in accordance with the Member States highest priority. The Technical Protocol for Interlaboratory Comparisons (ILCs) has been circulated, and funding for these ILC activities has been provided by the SMIIC General Secretariat. SMIIC MC Inter-laboratory Comparisons (ILCs) have commenced for Mass. The distribution of transfer standards, data submission to the pilot laboratory, collection of reference materials, and submission of measurement data to the pilot laboratory for evaluation have commenced.

The participating institutions are as follows:

1. Azerbaijan / AzMI
2. Burkina Faso / ABNORM
3. Jordan / JNMI
4. Malaysia / NMIM
5. Qatar / QGOS
6. Uganda / UNBS
7. Uzbekistan / UzNIM

SMIIC MC R&D Project Program

During the 10th SMIIC MC Meeting, the Metrology Council decided to conduct Research and Development Projects for capacity building of the MC Members and asked for possible financial resources from the SMIIC budget as per Metrology Council Resolution 07/2022. A Task Force Group (TFG) to evaluate submitted projects and coordinate the R&D Project Program was created during the 12th SMIIC MC Meeting. The TFG members were selected from Category 1 countries and consist of members: Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, and the SMIIC General Secretariat as per Metrology Council Resolution 11/2023. The Task Force group held 4 meetings. The criteria of the Referee Board have been determined by the TFG and members for the Referee Board have been requested from the Member States. The 13 Projects submitted in 2023 to be supported by the SMIIC GS were sent to the referees for evaluation. The evaluation process of the 2023 Call has been completed and the related budget (100.000 USD) has been requested from SMIIC GS to fund the selected project(s). The SMIIC MC R&D projects program has not started yet due to a lack of funding. During the 20th BOD meeting, the BOD approved the allocation of 25,000 USD from the SMIIC budget only for once for the project of the Uzbek National Metrology Institute within the framework of the R&D program launched by the SMIIC Metrology Council in 2023.

SMIIC MC Guide in Medical Metrology

During the 12th SMIIC MC Meeting, it was decided to establish a Working Group (WG) to work on a Medical Metrology Standard/Guide for Legal Metrology Purposes. The working group is studying the medical devices used and will form a guide for verification of the medical devices used in the OIC. The working group experts have been assigned from: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan, as per SMIIC Metrology Council Resolution 06/2023 and Sudan has been added to the WG as per SMIIC Metrology Council Resolution 23/2023 during the 13th SMIIC Metrology Council Meeting. The WG has already held four (4) meetings. Ultimately, a draft guide in Legal/Medical Metrology will be developed.

World Metrology Day 2025

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully organized a webinar on 20 May 2025, to commemorate World Metrology Day 2025 under the theme "The Central Role of SMIIC in Metrological Cooperation within the OIC." The event brought together 70 participants from across the globe, including experts, policymakers, and representatives from National Metrology Institutes and OIC Member States. The webinar opened with remarks from key leaders who emphasized the importance of metrological cooperation for sustainable development and mutual recognition among OIC Member States. H.E. Saeed Mohammed ALMHERIRI, Chairman of the SMIIC Metrology Council, highlighted the need for unified metrology systems to facilitate trade and ensure measurement reliability. H.E. İhsan ÖVÜT, SMIIC Secretary General, reaffirmed the organization's commitment to strengthening metrological infrastructure and capacity building across the OIC. Speaking on behalf of H.E. Hissein Brahim TAHA, OIC Secretary General, Mr. Naghi Jabbarov, Director of Economic Affairs, commended SMIIC's efforts in advancing technical cooperation and emphasized metrology's vital role in supporting industrial development, food safety, and innovation.

Following the opening session, Mr. Majed Sultan Ali Saeed Al SENAIDI, SMIIC Metrology Council Secretary, delivered a presentation on SMIIC Metrology Council Activities, providing an overview of the Council's initiatives, achievements, and strategic plans aimed at further strengthening regional metrological collaboration.

The event concluded with a presentation on "Halal Metrology" by Dr. Burhanettin YALÇINKAYA, who discussed the importance of reliable measurement systems in halal conformity assessment and their contribution to consumer trust and market credibility.

The 2025 World Metrology Day celebration reaffirmed SMIIC's pivotal role in promoting metrological cooperation among OIC Member States and advancing a culture of accuracy, transparency, and mutual recognition in measurement systems in line with international best practices.

SMIIC Metrology Council Technical Capacity Building Trainings:

The trainings in the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2024-2026 were conducted online by the host National Metrology Institutes. The training requirements were planned to be covered by volunteer members (Training fields and details are presented in the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2024 - 2026).

Trainings were coordinated by Emirates Metrology Institute (EMI) as the NMI holding the SMIIC MC Chairmanship and SMIIC General Secretariat. Information about the 15 (fifteen) trainings successfully realized via the Zoom platform is given in the table below.

SMIIC Metrology Council (MC) Training Programs in 2025:

Training	Host NMI	Date/ Format	Lecturer/s
1. Calibration of gauge blocks by comparison method	UZNIM	September, 15, 2025 Virtually	Dildora Turdibayeva
2. Impedance standards calibration and uncertainty calculation	UZNIM	September, 23, 2025 Virtually	Ilhomjon Khalilov
3. Dimensional Metrology Calliper calibration and uncertainty calculations	SASO NMCC	October, 06, 2025 Virtually	Farah A. Aljamaan
4. Metrology as One of the Most Essential Pillars of Quality Infrastructure	EMI	October, 13, 2025 Virtually	Prof. Dr. Hala Abdel Megeed
5. How Do Calibration and Testing Laboratories Achieve Accreditation According To ISO/IEC 17025?	EMI	October, 15-16, 2025 Virtually	Prof. Dr. Hala Abdel Megeed
6. Dimensional Metrology External micrometres introduction and calibration methods	SASO NMCC	October, 20, 2025 Virtually	Farah A. Aljamaan
7. Proficiency Testing According to ISO 17043	EMI	October, 21-22, 2025 Virtually	Prof. Dr. Hala Abdel Megeed

Training	Host NMI	Date/ Format	Lecturer/s
8. Calibration of pH meters using certified reference materials	SASO NMCC	October, 23, 2025 Virtually	Rashed A. AlDosari & Mrs. Aryaf O. AlSaeed
9. Verification of Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments (NAWI) according to OIML R76	EMI	November, 13, 2025 Virtually	Eng. Salam Al Heyari
10. Secondary pH (preparation, measurement and evaluation of uncertainty)	UZNIM	November, 18, 2025 Virtually	Doston Khujakulov
11. National Time Scale Generation and International Traceability	SASO NMCC	November, 26, 2025 Virtually	Khalid S Aldawood
12. ISO/IEC 17043:2023: Implementation, Risks and Recommendations (UzNIM Case Study)	UZNIM	December, 15, 2025 Virtually	Elena OGAY
13. Training on Fundamental Terms and Concepts in Metrology	EMI	December, 17, 2025 Virtually	Prof. Dr. Hala Abdel Megeed
14. Traceable Frequency Generation and Measurement	SASO NMCC	December, 18, 2025 Virtually	Khalid S Aldawood, Waleed M Alharbi
15. Introduction to Measurement Uncertainty in Calibration and Testing	EMI	December, 23, 2025 Virtually	Eng.Moza Almemari

Accreditation Council (AC)

According to the Article 6.5.6 of the SMIIC Statute, AC is the organ carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States. AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of accreditation concept within the Member States.

The Accreditation Council (AC) consists of members from national accreditation bodies authorized by Member States and Observers of SMIIC. The chair and 12 members from national accreditation bodies authorized by Member States shall be appointed or elected by the Board of Directors for the management of AC, on the basis of an equitable geographic distribution, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

The composition of the Members of the Management of SMIIC AC for the 2025-2027 term, which was determined at the 28th SMIIC Board of Directors on 12 November 2024 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye is:

1) Republic of CAMEROON	7) Kingdom of MOROCCO
2) Arab Republic of EGYPT	8) Islamic Republic of PAKISTAN
3) Islamic Republic of IRAN	9) Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA
4) Republic of IRAQ	10) Republic of TUNISIA
5) Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN	11) Republic of TÜRKİYE
6) MALAYSIA	12) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

General Concept:

The cooperation between the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) and the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB) represents a critical step toward global harmonization of halal conformity assessment and accreditation. IFHAB's recognition as an affiliated organization of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) through Resolution No. 8/49-LO at the 49th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in March 2023 marks a milestone in halal accreditation efforts within the OIC Member States.

IFHAB's primary goal is to develop and maintain a Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) among national halal accreditation bodies of OIC Member States. This cooperation will promote mutual recognition of halal certificates issued in compliance with OIC/SMIIC standards, facilitating seamless intra-OIC trade and allowing halal-certified products to move freely across Member States without the need for re-certification. By reducing costs and simplifying procedures, this arrangement will stimulate the expansion of halal trade across the OIC region.

This collaboration will ensure uniformity, credibility, and trustworthiness in halal certification, with consistent application of OIC/SMIIC standards across accreditation bodies. It will enhance global confidence in halal products certified within the OIC region, leading to greater harmonization of halal standards and accreditation systems worldwide and further facilitating international halal trade.

Moreover, this partnership will support economic growth within OIC Member States by eliminating technical barriers and streamlining certification processes, thereby strengthening trade relations and contributing to the overall development of the halal economy. Ultimately, cooperation between SMIIC and IFHAB will establish a robust halal-quality infrastructure, promoting the free movement of halal goods and sustainable economic development across the Islamic world.

Key Developments for the Accreditation Council

- Progress on SMIIC–IFHAB Cooperation

Following the exchange of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) text and official comments in 2025, the MoU between SMIIC and IFHAB was signed during the 3rd IFHAB General Assembly Meeting, held on 11 December 2025 in Makkah Al Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The signed MoU establishes a structured framework for cooperation in halal conformity assessment and accreditation, including coordination on technical collaboration, mutual recognition-related matters, and other agreed areas of common interest in support of the halal quality infrastructure within Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States.

Following the signature, implementation follow-up has been initiated to support the effective operationalization of the cooperation mechanism set out under the MoU.

- Force Group (TFG) Meetings and Work Plan Development

The Task Force Group (TFG), mandated to prepare the draft SMIIC AC Work Plan for the 2025–2027 term, held two online meetings on 30 September 2025 and 05 November 2025.

The meetings, chaired by Hassaan S. Alwohaibi (SAC), advanced the preparation of the draft Work Plan in line with the relevant decisions of the Management of SMIIC AC. The TFG continued technical discussions based on a set of guiding questions covering: applicable OIC/SMIIC standards and technical guidelines relevant to accreditation and conformity assessment; availability of conformity assessment studies and guides; the status of halal certification scheme work; priority needs for technical assistance; and coordination points to avoid duplication of work with IFHAB.

The TFG is currently working on the draft Work Plan documents, and further refinement is ongoing based on the written inputs to be received from TFG members.

SMIIC Training Activities

One of the Strategic Priorities (Goals) of SMIIC is *"Support the enhancement of quality infrastructure and interconnectivity of members",* in order to achieve our goal, we work to support our members in improving their infrastructure by giving training in different fields: metrology, standards and accreditation, with a special focus on OIC/SMIIC Standards and Directives/SMIIC Information Systems training. We continued to conduct various training activities in 2025 both virtually and physically, some of these are mentioned below:

1. **Procedures for the Technical Work and SMIIC Information System (IS) Training**

   SMIIC General Secretariat organized and gave the training on SMIIC Procedures for the Technical Work and SMIIC Information System (IS) for Member State Staff, virtually on 22 January 2025, within the project framework of "SMIIC Awareness Program"

   The General Secretariat of SMIIC held the SMIIC Awareness project aiming to inform staff of Member States about SMIIC and its activities, and help aid the participation of SMIIC Members in SMIIC activities. A seminar and training have been organized within the project:

   This training aimed to give brief information on the procedures followed in the preparation of OIC/SMIIC Standards, and guide the SMIIC IS users with their defined roles in technical committee work by the relevant documents of SMIIC. Fifty(50) delegates attended the training.

2. **Training SMIIC IS, Technical Committees and SMIC CCA** was given to experts from the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) on 29 January 2025, on the use of IS for Technical Committee work and SMIIC Technical Committees, SMIIC CCA.

3. **Training Course on 'Advanced Halal Food Processing Techniques: Ensuring Safety and Quality'**

   Within the framework of SESRIC Halal Capacity Building Programme and in collaboration with the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), SESRIC, co-organised a Training Course on "Advanced Halal Food Processing Techniques: Ensuring Safety and Quality" on 19-20 February 2025 via online video conferencing platform.

   The training course was organized in coordination with the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) and Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) in line with the 8th Annual Coordination Meeting of the OIC Institutions (ACMOI). An expert from SMIIC delivered a presentation on "Advanced Halal Food Processing Techniques: Halal Critical Points and Standardization." 183 professionals from relevant ministries and institutions across 28 OIC Member Countries benefited from the training.

   The primary objective of the course was to strengthen the technical capabilities of professionals in OIC countries involved in the halal food sector. It introduced advanced methodologies and techniques that ensure both safety and quality, while strictly maintaining halal standards. The 2-day course covered the following essential topics:

   - Food processing and handling efficiency to ensure the integrity of halal food products
   - Halal challenges in fermentation and traditional food products
   - Emerging technologies in the halal food industry

- Methodologies for improving halal compliance, including detecting porcine DNA in food
- DNA analysis to authenticate food products
- Advanced halal food processing techniques: Identifying critical halal points and standardization

The course underscored the critical role of halal food certification in building consumer trust and highlighted the work of SMIIC in setting global halal food standards. Strategies to enhance food handling and distribution in alignment with these international standards were also discussed. Key challenges in obtaining halal certification, maintaining product quality, and advancing the halal sector's market development were explored in-depth.

4. **COMSTECH-SMIIC Training Program on "OIC/SMIIC Halal Products Standards and Testing"**

The 2025 edition of the COMSTECH-SMIIC Training Program on "OIC/SMIIC Halal Products Standards and Testing" was successfully held from 12–16 May 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan. The event was jointly organized by Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC) together with the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the Uzbek Agency for Technical Regulation under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (O'ZTTSA), with the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) as a key partner.

The Training Course consisted of the following:
Opening Session
The training began with an inaugural session addressed by the following distinguished officials:

- Mr. Timur Mashanpin, Deputy Director, O'ZTTSA
- H.E. Mr. İhsan Övüt, Secretary General, SMIIC
- Mr. Khusrav Noziri, Assistant Director General, IOFS
- H.E. Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General, COMSTECH
- Chief Guest: Mr. Khikmatillo Toshtemirov, Muslim Board of Uzbekistan

During the inaugural session the speakers emphasized the strategic importance of harmonizing halal standards and the role of testing laboratories in ensuring halal integrity across the OIC Member States.

Day 1: Thematic Presentations
In the afternoon session of the first day, the following topics were presented:

- Introduction to SMIIC and the Global Halal Industry – H.E. Mr. İhsan Övüt (SMIIC)
- Overview of Halal Food – Dr. Ali Sheikh (SMIIC)
- Healthy, Halal, and Safe Food Ecosystem in OIC Countries – Dr. Shahlo Atabaeva (IOFS)
- COMSTECH's Engagement in Food, Agriculture & Environment – Mr. M. Haris Akram (COMSTECH)
- SMIIC Accreditation Council & Conformity Assessment Framework – Mr. Çağrı Cankurtaran (SMIIC)
- Introduction to Halal Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals – Dr. Ali Sheikh (SMIIC)
- Future of the Halal Industry – Mr. Mahroze Ahmed Khan (PCSIR, Pakistan)

Days 2 & 3: Standards-Based Training
Participants received technical training on the following OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards:

- OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 – General Requirements for Halal Food
- OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 – Halal Cosmetics Requirements
- OIC/SMIIC 50-1:2022 – Halal Pharmaceuticals

Day 4: Laboratory Competency
Presentation and training on "OIC/SMIIC 35:2020 – Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing" was given

Days 4 & 5: Practical Laboratory Training
The final two days were conducted at the Central Laboratory for Quality Control and Scientific Research (UzTest) of the Uzbek Agency for Technical Regulation under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (O'ZTTSA) featuring hands-on practical training. A key focus was:

- Porcine detection testing using real-time PCR technology, applying protocols developed under the SMIIC TC1 Technical Committee for Halal Food.
- This practical module provided participants with live demonstrations and experiential learning in halal testing methodologies.
- Participation
- Days 1–3: 27 in-person and 37 online participants
- Days 4–5 (Laboratory Training): 25 in-person participants

International Representation: 9 international participants from:
Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Uganda, Türkiye, Pakistan, and Turkmenistan

5. **OIC/SMIIC 35:2020 – Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing,**

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully organized a virtual foundation training for experts from the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) on Thursday, 29 May 2025.

The training aimed to build the capacity of SON personnel in the field of halal conformity assessment and laboratory practices, in line with OIC/SMIIC standards. A total of 15 participants from SON took part in this targeted session.

6. **OIC/SMIIC 36 – Conformity Assessment – General Requirements of Proficiency Testing for Halal Purposes**

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully organized a virtual foundation training for experts from the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) on Thursday, 29 May 2025.

The training focused on the main pillars, principles, and specific requirements of each standard, with ample opportunity for questions and interaction. The training aimed to build the capacity of SON personnel in the field of halal conformity assessment and laboratory practices, in line with OIC/SMIIC standards. A total of 15 participants from SON took part in this targeted session.

7. **Foundation training program on the OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities**

A two-day Foundation Training Program on the OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 standard titled *"Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities"* was successfully held virtually by SMIIC on **07–08 July 2025**. As part of the SMIIC Training Program for the Member States. 50 participants from 15 Member States: Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Palestine, Türkiye, Senegal, Morocco, Iran, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Jordan, Guinea, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Sudan Member States attended the training.

Organized by SMIIC, the training aimed to build competency among participants in implementing the internationally recognized OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 standard. This standard, developed by the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), outlines the general requirements for bodies certifying individuals working in Halal sectors — this includes from food and cosmetics to pharmaceuticals and logistics.

Over the course of the training, attendees were introduced to the principles of Islamic work ethics, risk-based approach, impartiality, competence, and consistent operation in the certification process. The sessions included explanations on criteria for assessing personal certification bodies, ethical guidelines, and the importance of maintaining conformity with halal-specific requirements. Practical case studies and interactive activities helped reinforce theoretical concepts with real-world applications.

The event concluded with a questions and answer session to address participant questions and an exam.

The training program marks a continued commitment to strengthening the halal ecosystem through structured, internationally benchmarked conformity assessment procedures.

8. **Foundation Training on Halal Edible Gelatine Standard for Member Countries**

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully organized its first virtual foundation training for SMIIC Member Countries on the "OIC/SMIIC 22:2021 Halal Edible Gelatine – Requirements and Test Methods", held from 21–22 July 2025.

The training was delivered in English by Dr. Mohammed Ali Alsheikh Wace, Specialist and Technical Assistant, from the SMIIC General Secretariat.

The OIC/SMIIC 22:2021 standard, is the first international halal gelatin standard in the world. It sets forth comprehensive requirements and test methods for halal edible gelatin, addressing both religious and technical aspects.

The training aimed to provide participants with a solid understanding of the fundamental requirements of halal gelatin production and certification. The course content covered:

- The historical background and development process of OIC/SMIIC 22
- Raw material sources and halal prerequisites
- Gelatine manufacturing process in compliance with Islamic rules
- Hygienic practices and contamination prevention
- Test methods and product evaluation

- Practical implementation and certification considerations

The program also included interactive sessions, case examples, and a final evaluation to consolidate learning and encourage active engagement among participants. A total of 53 participants from 12 member countries attended the training

This initiative represents a key milestone in enhancing technical capacity among Member States and promoting the harmonized implementation of halal standards, particularly in the field of food ingredients like gelatin a substance widely used in food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic products.

SMIIC continues to prioritize capacity-building and knowledge-sharing among its members to advance the halal quality infrastructure across the OIC region and globally.

9. **OIC/SMIIC 6: 2019 General Requirements for Halal Food- Foundation Training- given in French to Francophone Member States**

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully conducted a foundation training on OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 – Particular requirements for the application of OIC/SMIIC 1 to places where halal food and beverages are prepared, stored and served on 18–19 August 2025.

The two-day program was delivered in French and specifically tailored for participants from French-speaking SMIIC Member States.

OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 outlines essential conditions for halal compliance in establishments such as restaurants, school and hospital cafeterias, catering facilities, and institutional kitchens—where halal food is handled, stored, and served to consumers.

This foundational training focused on the practical implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 standard, which outlines key requirements for halal compliance in restaurants, hotels, catering services, and other food service establishments.

<u>Objectives of the Training</u>

This training aimed to:

- Build awareness and foundational knowledge of OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 among government stakeholders;
- Support regulatory and inspection bodies in understanding and applying the standard;
- Facilitate the harmonized implementation of Halal food service requirements across OIC Member States;
- Encourage inter-institutional collaboration between food safety, health, and standardization authorities.

Key Topics Covered

- Overview of OIC/SMIIC 6:2019 and its relation to OIC/SMIIC 1:2019
- Structural and operational requirements for halal-compliant food service facilities
- Prevention of cross-contamination and assurance of hygiene
- Role of government institutions in standard enforcement and monitoring
- Documentation, compliance, and capacity-building strategies

The training provided a platform for knowledge exchange and technical capacity building, supporting participants in their efforts to enhance halal quality systems and food safety in their respective sectors.

10. **OIC/SMIIC 2: 2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification- Foundation Training- Member States in Russian**

SMIIC successfully conducted its first private-sector training OIC/SMIIC 2: 2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification - Foundation Training in Russian on 25-27 August 2025. The three-day online course hosted 30 participants from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Russia(Tatarstan).

The program aimed to build a common understanding of the standard's structure, implementation practices, and critical compliance requirements.

The training was conducted in Russian, facilitating accessibility and effective participation from attendees across Russian-speaking Member States. Participants included representatives from halal certification bodies, private enterprises, and relevant institutions involved in halal product and service certification.

The training covered key topics such as:

- The structure and purpose of OIC/SMIIC 2:2019
- General and structural requirements for halal certification bodies
- Operational and impartiality requirements
- Documentation, management systems, and continual improvement mechanisms

The program concluded with an evaluation test to assess the participants' grasp of the topics presented.

11. **"OIC/SMIIC 9 Halal Tourism Services – General Requirements"- Foundation Training- SMIIC French Speaking Member States, (the language of the training: French) was held on 20-21 October 2025, given virtually.**

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully conducted a two-day virtual training on the "OIC/SMIIC 9 Halal Tourism Services – General Requirements" standard. The training was held on 20–21 October 2025 and specifically catered to French-speaking OIC Member States.

The two-day program was delivered in French and specifically tailored for participants from French-speaking SMIIC Member States. 22 representatives from 7 Member States (Algeria, Cameroon, Guinea, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia attended the training.

The foundational training aimed to enhance the understanding and implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 9 standard, which outlines general requirements for halal tourism services. These standards ensure that tourism services provided in OIC countries align with Islamic values, catering to the needs of Muslim travelers while promoting quality and consistency across the industry.

SMIIC Information System (IS) Training Programs:

1. **SMIIC IS Training for SON -** SMIIC organized a virtual foundation training for experts from the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) on Thursday, 29 May 2025. Delivered by SMIIC IT Expert, this training introduced participants to the functionalities and structure of the SMIIC Information System.

2. **SMIIC IS Training for Agence Togolaise De Normalisation (ATN) 04 March 2025**-Burkina Faso held on 13 June 2024.

Private Training Courses:

SMIIC General Secretariat has launched a plan for the industrial community and beneficiaries training courses to encourage the use and promotion of the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in the world. The plan for this training course is available on the SMIIC website.

SMIIC General Secretariat welcomes private training course requests from the Industrial community and beneficiaries.

Training sessions conducted for the Private Industry in 2025 are as follows:

1. OIC/SMIIC 50-1:2022 Halal Pharmaceuticals Foundation Training

SMIIC successfully conducted its first private-sector training on OIC/SMIIC 50-1:2022 Halal Pharmaceuticals General Requirements Foundation Training on 27–28 January 2025. Led by Dr. Mohammed Ali Alsheikh (Specialist, TC16 Halal Pharmaceuticals Issues Technical Assistant), the two-day online course hosted 25 participants from Argentina, Belgium, France, Pakistan, Palestine, the Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, and the UAE.

Participants gained in-depth insights into halal concepts and Islamic rules, explored essential requirements for halal pharmaceuticals, and learned about ongoing TC16 projects and activities. This training marks a significant step in advancing SMIIC's efforts in halal pharmaceuticals.

2. Foundation training program on the OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities

A two-day Foundation Training Program on the OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 standard titled "Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities" was successfully held virtually by SMIIC on April 08–09, 2025. As part of the SMIIC Training Program for the private Sector, the event brought together key professionals, stakeholders, and certification bodies engaged in halal-related activities to enhance their understanding of the requirements of OIC/SMIIC 34.

Organized by SMIIC, the training aimed to build competency among participants in implementing the internationally recognized OIC/SMIIC 34:2020 standard. This standard outlines the general requirements for bodies certifying individuals working in halal sectors — this includes food and cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and logistics.

Over the course of the training, attendees were introduced to the principles of Islamic work ethics, risk-based approach, impartiality, competence, and consistent operation in the certification process. The sessions included detailed discussions on criteria for assessing personal certification bodies, ethical guidelines, and the importance of maintaining conformity with halal-specific requirements. Practical case studies and interactive activities helped reinforce theoretical concepts with real-world applications.

Participants included representatives from halal certification bodies, regulatory agencies, training organizations, and industry professionals. The event concluded with a question-and-answer session to address participant questions and an exam.

3. Foundation training program on the OIC SMIIC 1:2019 – General Requirements for Halal Food

A three-day virtual foundation training program on the OIC SMIIC 1:2019 – General Requirements for Halal Food was successfully held from 28 to 30 April 2025. Specifically designed for the private sector, the training aimed to strengthen the understanding and implementation of halal standards in food production and services.

The course gathered 15 participants from both OIC and non-OIC countries, including Australia, Bosnia, Italy, Morocco, the Netherlands, Palestine, the Philippines, Taiwan, Turkey, the UAE, and Uzbekistan.

The training covered:

- An introduction to the activities and role of SMIIC,
- OIC SMIIC Standards related to halal issues,
- Detailed requirements and implementation of the OIC SMIIC 1:2019 standard.

The program concluded with an evaluation test to assess the participants' grasp of the topics presented.

4. OIC/SMIIC 2: 2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification- Foundation Training- Private Sector

SMIIC successfully conducted its first private-sector training, OIC/SMIIC 2: 2019 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification - Foundation Training in English on 20-22 May 2025 for the Private Sector.

5. OIC/SMIIC 17-1 and 2:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 1: Transportation – General Requirements and Part 2: Warehousing – General Requirements Foundation Training

SMIIC successfully conducted its first private-sector training OIC/SMIIC 17-1 and 2:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 1: Transportation – General Requirements and Part 2: Warehousing – General Requirements Foundation Training on 11-13 August 2025 for the private Sector.

The two-day online course hosted 30 participants from Brazil, USA, Taiwan, Egypt, Somalia, the Republic of Tatarstan (Russia), Pakistan, and Canada

6. OIC/SMIIC 1: 2019 General Requirements for Halal Food- Foundation Training- Private Sector (Russian)

SMIIC successfully conducted its first private sector training on OIC/SMIIC 1: 2019 General Requirements for Halal Food- Foundation Training for Private Sector in the Russian language on 02–04 September 2025. The three-day online course hosted 16 participants from Kazakhstan and Tatarstan.

The training covered.

- An introduction to the activities and role of SMIIC,

- OIC SMIIC Standards related to halal issues,
- Detailed requirements and implementation of the OIC SMIIC 1:2019 standard.

The program concluded with an evaluation test to assess the participants' grasp of the topics presented.

7. OIC/SMIIC 4: 2018 Halal Cosmetics-General Requirements

SMIIC successfully organized its 2nd private training on the "OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics – General Requirements" on 08-09 September 2025. The training was delivered virtually in English.

A total of 9 participants from the USA, Taiwan, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Malaysia attended the program, which focused on the key requirements of halal cosmetics production and certification.

8. Training on OIC/SMIIC 24:2020 Halal Food Additives Standards

SMIIC conducted the OIC/SMIIC 24:2020 – General Requirements for Food Additives and Other Added Chemicals to Halal Food training on 15–16 December 2025, delivered virtually and targeted at private-sector stakeholders.

A total of 41 participants attended the training, representing companies and institutions from Türkiye, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the United States of America, Ukraine, Palestine, Denmark, and Romania. The training aimed to provide participants with a solid understanding of the technical and regulatory requirements of OIC/SMIIC 24:2020, with a particular focus on practical application within the private sector.

The training covered the following key topics:

Requirements for food additives and other added chemicals

Specific requirements for flavorings

Labeling requirements

Evaluation test

This training forms part of SMIIC's ongoing capacity-building activities to enhance compliance with halal standards and to support the private sector in the correct implementation of OIC/SMIIC halal requirements.

Other Activities

11th World Halal Summit and Halal Expo 2025- Istanbul

11th World Halal Summit

The 11th World Halal Summit and Halal Expo 2025 – Istanbul (10th OIC Halal Expo), the world's largest halal organization, took place under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye. Organized in cooperation with the SMIIC, Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT) and Lokman Hekim University, the events were held at the Istanbul Expo Center on November 26-29, 2025. The organization received contributions and support from various ministries, including the Ministry of Trade of Türkiye, as well as relevant institutions and organizations.

This year's events, marking the 11th anniversary of the World Halal Summit, achieved record participation. The Official Opening Ceremony featured an impressive program dedicated to the 11th anniversary, including:

- A recitation of the Holy Quran and an inspirational video presentation.
- Opening speeches by representatives of leading global halal organizations such as the World Halal Summit Council, SMIIC, and the OIC.
- A video presentation specifically prepared for the 11th anniversary of the World Halal Summit.
- Participation and speeches by 10 Ministers from OIC member countries and distinguished officials from within and outside the OIC, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and the development of the halal industry.
- A video message from the President of the Republic of Türkiye, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, addressing the guests. In 2025, the World Halal Summit brought together experts and decision-makers to discuss critical issues and opportunities in the halal economy under the motto **"Strengthening Halal Industry via Innovation and Excellence."**

Over the course of 10 sessions, 48 distinguished speakers shared insights on halal standardization, trade, and food safety. The summit contributed to raising awareness across various areas of the halal economy and supported the continued development of the sector.

Halal Expo 2025 (10th OIC Halal Expo)

The exhibition provided an ideal environment for participants from sectors such as food, tourism, cosmetics, medicine, chemicals, finance, packaging, machinery, Islamic lifestyle, and modest fashion to achieve their commercial goals, under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye. Celebrating its 11th anniversary this year, the World Halal Summit continued to shape the global halal agenda and concluded with record participation.

The Halal Expo 2025 (10th OIC Halal Expo), hosted approximately 497 exhibitors from nearly 38 countries and welcomed more than 30,000 professional visitors from 113 countries. The expo also facilitated high-level commercial collaborations through the participation of 500 international buyers and more than 2,500 delegations. This year's expo featured thematic zones such as Private Label, Natural, Organic and Vegan (NOV) products, and special areas showcasing innovative technologies. Another key highlight was the E-Commerce Summit, which brought together major stakeholders of the e-commerce ecosystem. In addition, Country Business Forums were organized for Oman, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, Palestine, and Afghanistan, contributing to the strengthening of economic relations between countries. As part of the event program, the Modest Fashion Show and

Award Ceremony, held with the participation of international designers, received great appreciation from attendees.

The Helal Expo 2025 Statistics:

- 15,000 m2 Exhibition Area
- 113+ visitor countries
- 31,842+ visitors
- 497+ exhibitors
- 2500+ B2B Meetings
- 5 different countries Business Meetings
- 50+ Exhibitor Countries
- 1000+ Hosted Buyers

Awareness Seminars:

Following awareness seminars were conducted for Member States:

1. **An Awareness Seminar on Introduction to SMIIC and its Activities,** including a training course on the SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Work and SMIIC Information System (IS) was held virtually for SMIIC Member States in English on **21-22 January 2025.**

2. **Awareness Seminar on Halal, the Halal Industry, and SMIIC** was held from 12–16 May 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, for Member States from Central Asia: Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Pakistan.

3. **Awareness Seminar on SMIIC and Halal Quality Infrastructure-**Cameroun, upon the request of our esteemed Member Cameroun (ANOR) was held on 02 October 2025 in Yaoundé, Cameroun.

Webinars:

1. Webinar on 'Improving Consumer Protection Regulation on Standards and Safety'

In collaboration with the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), SESRIC successfully hosted a webinar on "Improving Consumer Protection Regulation on Standards and Safety" on 27 February 2025 as part of the Competition Authorities Capacity Building Programme (CA-CaB) of SESRIC.

The webinar brought together 66 experts from consumer and competition authorities and the ministries of trade of 24 OIC countries. The event aimed to enhance market transparency and competitiveness in member countries by helping the national competition authorities (NCAs) meet urgent challenges. Discussions also focused on improving consumer protection by raising awareness of consumer rights and improving product safety standards.

The webinar featured presentations by experts from the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries, the Competition and Consumer Policies Branch of UN Trade & Development, the Competition Commission of Pakistan, the Directorate General for Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance of Türkiye, and the Competition Council of Tunisia.

The presentations covered the following key topics:

- Consumer Protection's Halal Standards and Regulations,

- Consumer Product Safety and Standards in the UNGCP,
- Pakistan's Experience in Consumer and Competition Protection,
- Türkiye's Experience on Effective Consumer Protection Legislation: Misleading Ads and The Turkish Board Of Advertisements, and
- Tunisia's Experience in Consumer and Competition Protection.

2. World Halal Standards Day 2025 Webinar

Innovating Halal: Embracing Food Tech and Sustainability with OIC/SMIIC Standards" was held on 16 May 2025.

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) successfully hosted the 2nd World Halal Standards Day Webinar on May 16, 2025, bringing together over 180 participants from across the globe. The event commemorated the adoption of the first OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards and highlighted the pivotal role of harmonized halal standards in an evolving food industry landscape.

This year's theme — "Innovating Halal: Embracing Food Tech and Sustainability with OIC/SMIIC Standards" — focused on the increasing relevance of halal standards amid rapid technological advancements and growing demand for safe, ethical, and sustainable food systems.

Webinar Program Highlights

Opening Session:

H.E. Mr. İhsan Övüt, Secretary General of SMIIC, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the importance of unified halal standards as a foundation for trust, trade facilitation, and global halal integrity.

H.E. Ambassador Khusrav Noziri, Deputy Director General of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), highlighted IOFS's efforts in supporting halal food security and cooperation among OIC Member States.

Presentations:

Mr. Yasin Zülfikaroğlu, Specialist at SMIIC, presented on "OIC/SMIIC Standards on Halal Issues and Studies on New Food Sources," outlining the current standards framework and SMIIC's proactive work on novel food technologies, including lab-grown meat, and other new protein alternatives.

Dr. Shakhlo Atabaeva, Program Manager at IOFS, introduced the "Healthy, Halal, and Safe Food Ecosystem" program, focusing on IOFS's initiatives to build inclusive, sustainable, and resilient halal food ecosystems across OIC countries.

The World Halal Standards Day 2025 webinar reaffirmed the need for strong cooperation among standardization bodies, food industry stakeholders, and international organizations. With increasing complexity in global food production and consumer expectations, OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards offer a robust framework for ensuring consistency, safety, and trust in the halal value chain.

SMIIC extends its sincere appreciation to all speakers, partners, and participants for their valuable contributions and engagement.

Capacity Building Projects:

1. SMIIC Conducts Virtual Capacity Building Workshop to Strengthen Member State Engagement Project

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) held a virtual workshop from 1–3 September 2025 under Project No. 11, Enhancing Member State participation—especially from least developed countries. Within its 2025–2026 Implementation Plan, aligned with the SMIIC Strategic Plan (2021–2030).

140 participants from Member States attended. SMIIC Secretary General, Mr. Ihsan Övüt, opened the event, emphasizing the importance of coordination between SMIIC and its members.

The workshop covered SMIIC's main councils—Standardization, Accreditation, and Metrology—along with training on its directives and information system. The final day focused on Technical Committees and ongoing standardization projects.

Participants actively engaged and provided recommendations for future activities.

2. COMCEC Project Funding initiative (2024-SMIIC-344), titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories for Improved Quality Infrastructure."

The project had 3 phases:

Phase 1: Online Training Launches COMCEC-Funded Project to Strengthen Metrology Infrastructure

The first phase of the COMCEC Project Funding initiative (2024-SMIIC-344), titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories for Improved Quality Infrastructure", officially commenced with a virtual training session held online on 02 September 2025.

Phase 2: The second phase of the COMCEC Project Funding initiative (2024-SMIIC-344), titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories for Improved Quality Infrastructure," was successfully held from 9–11 September 2025 in Kampala, Uganda. The program aimed to strengthen the capacities of the National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) of Uganda and Sudan by addressing priority gaps in their laboratory infrastructure and technical expertise.

The opening ceremony featured Mr. James N. Kasigwa, Executive Director of the UNBS, who extended a warm welcome to all participants and emphasized Uganda's commitment to strengthening its quality infrastructure as a foundation for economic growth and regional integration. He underscored the significance of metrology in ensuring accurate and reliable measurements that directly impact sectors such as manufacturing, healthcare, and trade.

Following the welcome address, Mr. İhsan Övüt, Secretary General of the SMIIC, delivered the opening remarks. In his speech, he highlighted the broader vision of SMIIC in fostering collaboration among Member States to build stronger and more harmonized quality systems. Mr. Övüt stressed that capacity building was central to the long-term development of metrology laboratories, as it not only improves technical expertise but also ensures the transfer of knowledge to future generations of scientists and professionals.

Following the opening ceremony, a total of 12 experts —6 from the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) and 6 from the Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization (SSMO)— participated in the training across six specialized sub-laboratories, namely:

- Physics Group: Time-Frequency & Wavelength, Medical Metrology
- Mechanics Group: Force Laboratory, Mass Laboratory
- Chemistry Group: Organic Chemistry, Bioanalysis.

The sessions, which were delivered by six experts from TÜBİTAK UME of Türkiye, enabled participants to deepen their technical skills, strengthen laboratory practices, and align their work with international metrology standards. The training marked a significant step forward in advancing regional cooperation, building sustainable capacity in metrology, and ensuring that both Uganda and Sudan are better positioned to meet international requirements for scientific measurement, trade facilitation, and consumer protection.

The sessions concluded with a certificate presentation ceremony, where Mr. İhsan Övüt and Mr. James N. Kasigwa awarded certificates of participation to all the experts from Uganda and Sudan.

Phase 3: Practical Metrology Workshop Held in Gebze under the COMCEC Project to Strengthen Quality Infrastructure Capacity

A practical workshop was held on 01–02 October 2025 in Gebze, Kocaeli, under the COMCEC Project Funding (2024-SMIIC-344) titled "Enhancing the Capacity of Metrology Laboratories for Improved Quality Infrastructure."

The program, delivered by TÜBİTAK UME trainers, followed earlier theoretical training sessions and focused on strengthening applied skills in metrology. Experts from the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) and the Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization (SSMO) participated in the training.

This initiative aims to build technical expertise, promote cooperation among Member States, and contribute to the development of robust quality infrastructure systems within the framework of the Standing Committee for and Economic Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC).

3. 1+1 Project to Enhance Bilateral Cooperation

The Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) is pleased to announce the launch of the SMIIC 1+1 Project for the period 2025–2026.

This initiative aims to foster bilateral cooperation among SMIIC Member States and to support the development of national quality infrastructure through mentorship-based collaboration in the areas of standardization, accreditation, and metrology.

Member States are invited to submit their specific needs as part of the needs assessment process by 15 June 2025. Full details of the call are available in the official document circulated to all Member States.

For further information or clarification, Member States are encouraged to contact the SMIIC General Secretariat.

Research Activities:

1. SMIIC Halal Laboratory Fellowship Program

The SMIIC Halal Laboratory Fellowship Program is a 100-hour, intensive, one-on-one training initiative aimed at enhancing halal laboratory testing capabilities across SMIIC Member States. The program focuses on developing skilled trainers through personalized fellowships, building on insights from previous collaborations with COMSTECH and feedback from international training programs.

Unlike group-based training, this tailored approach is designed to deliver deeper technical knowledge and sustainable impact within national halal infrastructures.

Key Features:

Duration: *10–14 working days* (~100 hours of training)

Format: One-on-one, hands-on laboratory experience

Objective: Build a network of national trainers to strengthen halal testing standards.

Host Institutions:

Halal Science Center (Thailand)

INHART (Malaysia)

TSE Halal Laboratories (Türkiye)

Royal Scientific Society (Jordan).

Partnership and Funding:

Implementation : SMIIC and COMSTECH, in collaboration with host institutions. Planning has been completed for the program and implementation will commence in 2026.

2. Inter Laboratory Comparison Program for OIC/SMIIC WD 43-Testing Technique for İdentification of Pig Skin

The Technical Committee (TC) 8-Leather and Tanning Material, Working Group 2 has commenced making plans for an Inter Laboratory Comparison Program to determine testing techniques for the identification of Pig Skin for the development of the OIC/SMIIC Standard within the OIC/SMIIC WD 43-Testing Technique for İdentification of Pig Skin.

OUR PARTNERS

Cooperation with International and Regional Organizations

Partnership and collaboration are at the heart of SMIIC's visibility, and in 2025, we continued to work with our partners leading to mutual benefit for all.

SMIIC has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Trade Center (ITC), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO), Arab Industrial Development, Standardization and Mining Organization (AIDSMO), GCC Standardization Organization (GSO), the GCC Accreditation Center (GAC) and Arab Accreditation Cooperation (ARAC). During 2024, we strengthened our cooperation and coordination with sister organizations in the OIC family: International Islamic Fiqh Academy(IIFA), Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD), Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) and Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the OIC (COMSTECH). SMIIC has signed an MOU with Universiti Teknologi Mara (UITM), the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU), and the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

In 2025, SMIIC signed an MOU with the International Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB).

PROGRESSING TOWARDS OUR 2030 VISION

"SMIIC STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2030"

Our new SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 became effective on the 1st of January 2021, after its approval during the 15th SMIIC General Assembly in November 2020. The approved Strategic Plan gives the general framework for achieving our vision and accomplishing our high-level strategic goals.

SMIIC's overarching vision has become: **creating a quality infrastructure that improves the economy, and welfare, and protects its Member States.**

SMIIC's Strategic Plan identifies three high-level goals to guide the Institute toward its vision:

1. Develop high-quality standards that are used worldwide.
2. Support members' needs and ensure effective engagement of their stakeholders.
3. Support the enhancement of quality infrastructure and interconnectivity of members.

Revision of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030

The SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 provides a comprehensive framework for achieving our organizational vision over an extended period. To facilitate the effective execution of this plan, it was agreed that it would be supported by two-year implementation plans.

As we approach the conclusion of the second Two-Year Implementation Plan for 2023-2024, which ends on December 31, 2024, it has become imperative to review and refine our strategic direction. During the 4th meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors/Strategic Committee (BOD/SC) held on October 30, 2023, in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, a Task Force Group (TFG) was established. This group, comprising representatives from Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Iran, and chaired by Jordan, has been tasked with reviewing the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 alongside the General Survey for Measuring Member States' Satisfaction Degree.

The first meeting of the BOD/SC/TFG took place on November 30, 2023, where several key topics were identified for review and revision within the Strategic Plan for 2021-2030:

- Strategic Objectives
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Strategic Initiatives.

Over the course of eight virtual meetings, which concluded on 8 March 2024, the BOD/SC/TFG conducted a thorough review of the SMIIC Strategic Plan and finalized the revision of the SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. Subsequently, the SMIIC General Secretariat circulated the document to all SMIIC Member States for comments on 1 August 2024, with a deadline set for 31 August 2024. On 18 September 2024, the TFG held a virtual meeting to discuss the comments received from Member States. Following this discussion, the SMIIC General Secretariat reviewed all submitted comments and circulated them back to each Member State separately, providing the final status of their respective feedback.

The final mid-term review resulted in the identification of **12** strategic objectives,**18** initiatives, and **26** key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure progress, as well as **18** strategic projects aimed at achieving the three overarching goals of SMIIC.

SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 Map

Vision: To create a quality infrastructure that improves economy, welfare and protects our Member States

Mission: To develop quality infrastructure, by establishing uniformity in standardization, metrology and accreditation activities including conformity assessment and quality improvement to facilitate trade and support sustainable economic growth, consumer welfare, environment and innovation promotion for our Member States

SMIIC Strategic Plan

Strategic Goals

1. Develop high-quality standards that are used worldwide
2. Support members' needs and ensure effective engagement of their stakeholders
3. Support the enhancement of quality infrastructure and interconnectivity of members

Value / Customer

- Develop high quality standards that are relevant to the needs of members and stakeholders
- Encourage adoption and/or implementation of OIC/SMIIC Standards by members
- Promote SMIIC activities to increase satisfaction.
- Support members especially Least Developed Countries-(LDCs) to strengthen national quality infrastructure
- Support the internationally recognized platform of halal accreditation as described in the OIC Global Hala Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ).

Internal Processes

- Improve the standardization process
- Support and coordinate member states especially the Least Developed Countries, for effective participation in SMIIC activities, including SMIIC Councils (MC, SMC, AC) in addition to TCs

Learning and Growth

- Improve technical infrastructure of SMIIC to meet priority needs
- Develop SMIIC Capacity Building Programs for Member States and SMIIC staff
- Support the members to enhance interconnectivity

Financial

- Strengthen revenue streams to ensure financial sufficiency and sustainability of SMIIC
- Enhance the use of Member State contributions in supporting SMIIC activities

Comparative Analysis of Key Performance Indicators (2024–2025)

The comparative analysis of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) over the period 2024–2025 indicates a steady progression in SMIIC's operational performance, capacity-building efforts, and standardization outputs. The year 2025, in particular, reflects a notable acceleration in activity levels and strategic impact compared to previous years.

1. Standardization Outputs

The number of published OIC/SMIIC Standards continued to increase in 2025, reaching a total of 81 standards, including 21 halal standards. This represents sharp growth compared to previous years, reflecting ongoing improvements in the standardization process and increased productivity of Technical Committees. SMIIC has also been conducting workshops to increase member activities in standardization work.

2. Training and Capacity Building

Capacity-building activities showed significant expansion in 2025:

19 halal standards training programs

16 metrology training programs

Compared to 2024, in 2025 there is a clear increase in both the number and diversity of training activities. The broader geographic participation and inclusion of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) also indicate improved outreach and inclusiveness. This growth highlights SMIIC's strengthened focus on human capital development and knowledge transfer.

3. Member Engagement and Participation

Participation of Member States in training programs, technical committees, and joint initiatives demonstrated a positive upward trend. The successful organization of international programs, such as the COMSTECH–SMIIC Training Program in 2025, reflects enhanced collaboration and increased engagement compared to previous years. This indicates progress in fostering stronger institutional linkages among Member States.

4. Internal Process Efficiency

Improvements in internal processes, particularly in standard development and coordination mechanisms, contributed to higher output levels in 2025. SMIIC continues to demonstrate improvement in efficiency in organizing technical activities, facilitating meetings, and delivering results within planned timelines.

5. Strategic Implementation Progress

The launch and implementation of the 2025–2026 bi-annual plan under the Strategic Plan 2021–2030 marks a key milestone. Compared to previous years, 2025 reflects a more structured and results-oriented approach to planning, monitoring, and reporting, contributing to improved alignment between activities and strategic objectives.

6. Overall Performance Trend

Overall, the KPI trends for 2024–2025 show:

Consistent growth in standardization outputs

Expansion in training and capacity-building activities

Stronger Member State engagement

Improved operational efficiency

These trends collectively indicate that SMIIC is progressing from a development phase toward a more mature and impact-oriented organization.

Conclusion

The comparative KPI analysis confirms that 2025 was a high-performing year for SMIIC, building on the foundations of previous years while demonstrating measurable improvements across all core areas. The positive trajectory observed over the three-year period positions SMIIC well to further enhance its effectiveness, expand its reach, and deliver greater value to its Member States in the coming years.

KPI Comparative Table (2024–2025)

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	Trend	Remarks
Total Published Standards	58	81	↑ Increasing	Steady growth in standardization output
Ongoing Standards Development Projects	91	85	↓ Slight decrease	Reduction in ongoing projects due to the completion and publication of standards in 2025
Halal Standards Published	20	21	↑ Increasing	Continued focus on the halal ecosystem
Trainings and capacity-building programs	20	26	↑ Strong growth	Expanded outreach and demand
Metrology Trainings	16	15	↑ Stable	Continued metrology capacity building trainings
Total Training Activities	36	41	↑ Significant	Expansion in 2025
No. of Standards Sold	147	164	↑ Slight Increase	After a significant decline in 2024, 2025 shows a moderate increase
Technical Committee Week Member State Expert Engagement	326	273	↓ Slight decrease	Slight decrease in 2025 compared to 2024, likely due to meetings being held in Malaysia, which was a longer travel than İstanbul.
Strategic Plan Implementation	Strengthened	New 2-year implementation plan, increased no. of projects	↑ Improving	Launch of 2025–2026 cycle

OUR SCORECARD

1. **Expert engagement in 2025:**

273 experts from SMIIC Member States and IIFA participated and contributed to the technical work during the 14th SMIIC Technical Committee Week Meetings.

The 14th SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week was organized on 22-26 September 2025, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in a hybrid format. Technical Committees including CCA held their plenary meetings with a total of 273 physical and online participants from 34 Member States, representing countries including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, UAE, and Uganda. Experts from the International Islamic Fıkh Academy(IFFA) and Gulf Standards Organisation(GSO) also attended the meetings as liaisons.

2. **Online Sales in 2025**:

The online sales system of OIC/SMIIC standards on the SMIIC website, which was launched in 2017, has become more dynamic during 2025, recording 164 (One hundred and sixty-four) standards being purchased from all around the world.

3. **Standards published in 2025 :**

In 2025, SMIIC published a total of 24 standards.
Total OIC/SMIIC Standards published to date: 81
Total OIC/SMIIC Halal standards published by SMIIC to date: 21

4. **Important highlights within the year 2025**

Ongoing Standards Development Projects under the TCs: 85
Persons Trained: 1366
Hours of Training: 321
Technical Committee Meetings held: 41
Total Meetings held: 49
Total participants in SMIIC meetings: 1084

5. **SMIIC Meetings:**

- **Board of Directors Finance and Strategy Committees Meetings** were held on 11 November 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan
- **The 30th Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD)** was held on 12 November 2025 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan
- **20th SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting,** 13 November 2025, was held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan
- **The 14th SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week Meetings were** held on 22-26 September 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- **16th Meeting of the SMIIC Metrology Council (MC)** was held on 27–28 October 2025 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye

OUR MESSAGE: CHALLENGES & EXPECTATIONS

Guided by the priorities of OIC Member States, SMIIC continues to strengthen the pillars of quality infrastructure—standardization, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment—while expanding capacity building, training, and technical support.

At its core, SMIIC works to develop globally aligned standards and technical specifications that protect consumers, facilitate cross-border trade, enhance interoperability, accelerate innovation, and support environmental sustainability, helping enterprises across Member States strengthen competitiveness and unlock growth.

SMIIC's vision is founded on the conviction that a strong quality infrastructure is essential for economic development, social well-being, and the safeguarding of Member States' interests. By promoting harmonization in standardization, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment, SMIIC contributes to reducing technical barriers to trade and reinforcing trust in products, services, and markets throughout the OIC region.

Progress depends on empowered people and capable institutions. SMIIC therefore remains focused on strengthening human and institutional capacity across standardization, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment, while prioritizing support for least developed Member States (LDCs) and ensuring balanced outreach to all Member States.

In the coming period, we will deepen cooperation with OIC institutions, OIC sister organizations, and our international MoU partners by developing joint, long-term, value-added projects with clear outcomes—supporting capacity building and quality infrastructure priorities while addressing emerging challenges aligned with Member States' expectations.

We wish all Member States a year of good health, shared prosperity, and enduring solidarity.