

# SMIIC REPORT to be submitted to the 40<sup>th</sup> Follow-up Meeting of the COMCEC

22-23 May 2024 Ankara, 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 2023 and is submitted by the SMIIC General Secretariat.

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

With the effects of COVID-19 Pandemic not shadowing activities, SMIIC was able to go back to conducting meetings and other activities physically. On the other hand, having meetings online have remained to be an extremely valuable resource which allows meetings and trainings to be conducted at a faster and costless manner with increased participation of delegates.

SMIIC commenced the second bi-annual implementation plan of its SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030. The year 2023 was an active and fruitful year. While SMIIC continued its usual operations, the institute also introduced new activities in the fields of training, metrology, and accreditation. Being a young organization, SMIIC strives to remain dynamic and to meet the needs of its growing number of members. Having new members joining the family mean that each new member has to receive an introductory training to allow our new members to become active in all SMIIC activities.

Simultaneously, 21 capacity building trainings in the field of metrology have been held. SMIIC has organized 14 training programs on the OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards in order to aid the common use of standards within the OIC region. SMIIC is 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. SMIIC also completed a 4-day training titled "Halal Food and Meat Detection Methods Training and Interlaboratory Comparison for OIC Countries." This training was funded under the COMCEC Project Funding and was designated with the identifier number 2022-SMIIC-006.

SMIIC has continued to work on the development of the much-needed common standards in the OIC and to date has published 56 (fifty-six) OIC/SMIIC Standards, 20 (twenty) of them on halal issues.

## **OUR MEMBERS**

# **SMIIC Family**

SMIIC family has remained to be 47 (forty-seven) Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) including 3 observers from 4 different continents. SMIIC will constantly strive to play a vital role in its field of activities.

#### **OUR GOVERNANCE ORGANS**

## **General Assembly**

The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making organ of the SMIIC and 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 18<sup>th</sup> SMIIC General Assembly (GA) Meeting was held in the Holy City Makkah Al Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on November 01, 2023 with the attendance of 35 Member States and 2 Observers. The meeting witnessed the convergence of various important SMIIC committees and councils, including the Finance Committee (FC), Strategy Committee (SC), Standardization Management Council (SMC), and the Board of Directors (BOD), held their meetings prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> SMIIC GA meeting.

During the working session, the Secretary General briefed the General Assembly on the latest developments and activities of SMIIC as well as summarizing the activities of SMIIC Councils, Technical Committees, Strategic Plan implementation and other important activities conducted since the 17<sup>th</sup> SMIIC General Assembly Meeting. He also highlighted important issues that were discussed during the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> SMIIC Board of Directors Meetings.

Furthermore, technical activities of the Institute were reported by the Chairs of the SMIIC Councils. The General Assembly approved the report of external financial auditor and the SMIIC Budget 2024 as well as the Annual Mandatory Contribution of SMIIC Member States to 2024 SMIIC Budget.

#### **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 of 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 Fifth Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) was held on 25 May 2023 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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. General Secretariat presented its report on the developments and activities conducted since the last Board of Directors meeting and 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 Board commended the initiative of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the establishment of designated structure as an affiliated OIC Institution, namely, *Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB)*" as defined in OIC Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ) document which will conduct peer assessment activities in order to develop and maintain MRA according to OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards.

Furthermore, Progress Reports of Permanent Committees as well as the Ad Hoc Committee of SMIIC Board of Directors were submitted and Final Progress Report on Two-Year Implementation Plan (2021-2022) of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 and Progress Report on Two-Year Implementation Plan (2023-2024) were presented in detail. The Board also reviewed and discussed the Draft Budget for 2024 and Report of the External Auditor the year 2022.

The Board also approved the SMIIC Annual Report 2022 which will be submitted to the OIC and shared with SMIIC Member and Observer States, sister OIC institutions, partner organizations and will also be used as a general promotion document with public.

As a tradition, the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) was held one day prior to the General Assembly on 31 October 2023 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, following the regular meetings of Board of Directors Finance and Strategy Committees which were organized a day prior on 30 October 2023. The Board of Directors meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Saad bin Othman AL-KASABI, Chairman of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) and attended by representatives from 12 Members States of the Board of Directors.

#### **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.

In conjunction with the 18<sup>th</sup> SMIIC General Assembly Meeting, the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC Standardization Management Council (SMC) was held on 30 October 2023, in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The following topics were discussed:

- Follow-up on the activities of the technical committees
- The approval of TC Chairs:
  - Mr. Selçuk Bulat TC 4 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and TC 13 Jewelry (extention)
  - Dr. Maryam Mohammadi TC 6 Agricultural Products
  - Mr. Nasseer JJ.Alldossary TC 14 Petroleum and Related Products (extention)
  - Mr. El Siddig Ahmed Ishag TC 15 Terminology
- Workshop on SMC Roadmap
- Integration of AI Tool to SMIIC Information System (IS)
- World Halal Standards Day

#### **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*.

With life going back to normal after the COVID-19 Pandemic, SMIIC experienced a bustling year in 2023, with its technical committees diligently engaged in various standards development projects. 12<sup>th</sup> SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week Meetings were held on the 02-06 October 2023 in Istanbul. All committees including CCA held their plenary meetings. The online participation to 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 Pharmaceuticals Issues
- TC17 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 Committee Week 12 Meetings**

The 12<sup>th</sup> SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week Meetings took place between 02 - 06 October, 2023, in Istanbul, Türkiye. The event saw a convergence of 275 distinguished delegates from 26 esteemed organizations representing countries such as Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Egypt, IIFA, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.

This noteworthy occasion featured a seamless blend of physical and online participation, reflecting the global reach of the SMIIC community. Throughout the week, plenary meetings were marked by their effectiveness and productivity as Technical Committees diligently advanced their projects and laid out strategic business plans.

The participant reports from these meetings are as follows:

	Total Number of Participants	Female	Male	Female participants Ratio of Total	Physical Attendance	Virtual Attendance	Number of Countries
CCA	53	21	32	40%	21	32	25
TC1	91	53	37	59%	33	57	20
TC2	67	46	21	69%	29	38	18
TC3	7	4	3	57%	7	0	5
TC4	15	7	8	47%	8	7	8
TC5	37	16	21	43%	24	13	10
TC6	19	11	8	58%	13	6	11
TC7	14	1	13	7%	10	4	8
TC8	27	18	9	67%	11	16	9
TC9	18	11	7	61%	9	9	12
TC10	51	32	19	63%	21 30		24
TC11	50	29	21	58%	24 26		22
TC13	11	4	7	36%	9 2		7
TC14	17	8	8	50%	7	9	7
TC15	28	10	18	36%	20	8	12
TC16	56	35	21	63%	28	28	15
TC17	11	5	6	45%	4	7	8
Total	275 Participants			51%			26 Organization

The plenary meetings were effective and fruitful in which Technical Committees worked on their projects, strategic business plans.

#### 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, 6 OIC/SMIIC standards have already been developed on this scope of which OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 standards are the main standards.

12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SMIIC/CCA was held on 05 October 2023 in hybrid format in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye in which the Committee congratulated Mrs. Dohana Viskhurin Femina (Indonesia) for her appointment as the SMIIC/CCA Chair for the 2023-2025 term.

During the meeting SMIIC/CCA Chair and Secretary provided information regarding the recent developments of the Committee, Mr. Yasin Kocabiyik as the Rapporteur of the Advisory Study Group (ASG) made a presentation providing information on the ongoing activities as well as a general framework for the upcoming activities of the ASG. A Presentation was given by Dr. Ehsan SADEH, Deputy President of Quality Assessment of INSO on the "Setting up a Quality Award for Islamic Countries" proposal by INSO. The Committee approved the "Setting up a Quality Award for Islamic Countries" proposal by INSO as a new work item proposal and requested INSO to submit the initial draft.

SMIIC/CCA requested from all CCA members to submit new item proposals to SMIIC/CCA Secretary about new projects on conformity assessment and accreditation to be published as OIC/SMIIC standards. The Committee decided to make a review study to decide whether maintenance is needed for OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 standards.

The maintenance group is expected to develop common positions on the clarification requests received by SMIIC Member States or liaison organizations on any clause of the OIC/SMIIC standards which are developed and published within the scope of SMIIC/CCA, to circulate the results to the members and establish working groups revision is deemed necessary.

# SMIIC Technical Work Overall Key Figures:

The overall Key Figures of the ongoing projects and published standards is given in the table below.

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	1			(03)	(FDS)		1	7
TC1 Halal Food Issues		5	1				6	4
TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues	1	1	1				3	1
TC3 Service Site Issues		4		1			5	1
TC4 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy			1	25			26	3
TC5 Tourism and Related Services	1	1					2	2
TC6 Agricultural Products		1	3				4	3
TC7 Transportation		1		3			4	1
TC8 Leather and Tanning Material		2		6			8	8
TC9 Textiles and Related Products	4	1	1	1		1	8	3
TC10 Halal Supply Chain	1						1	3
TC11 Halal Management Systems	1						1	2
TC13 Jewellery	2	1					3	1
TC14 Petroleum and Related Products		7					7	15
TC15 Terminology Committee				1			1	
TC 16 Halal Pharmaceuticals Issues		4					4	1
TC 17 Handicraft		3	1				4	
Other								1
TOTAL	11	31	8	37	0	1	88	56

The overall key figures of the ongoing projects and published standards

## **New OIC/SMIIC Standards Published in 2023**

The standards published in 2023 are as follows:

- OIC/SMIIC IEC 61730-2: 2023, Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification Part 2: Requirements for testing
- OIC/SMIIC IEC 61730-1:2023, Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification Part 1: Requirements for construction
- OIC/SMIIC ISO 21101:2023, Adventure Tourism Safety Management Systems Requirements

In addition to the published standards, by the end of 2023, there are 37 projects that are in DS stage. The standards development process incorporated hours of hard work of experts from each Technical Committee, Member States and from 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 in the development of the standard.

#### **SMIIC Information System**

#### Using Artificial Intelligence in Standardization

In pursuit of innovation and advancement in standardization, SMIIC has embarked on an R&D project. Leveraging cutting-edge AI technology, we are exploring the potential of pre-trained language models, specifically from OpenAI, to enhance our standardization processes. We have already taken significant steps, beginning with fine-tuning a base model to create a successful proof of concept. This accomplishment has led to the integration of our AI module, "AI Conversation" into the SMIIC Information System.

We're now looking for the best AI model, collecting more data, and using more advanced technology. By bringing AI into our research for setting standards, we're making our work faster and more precise. This project shows SMIIC's strong interest in using new technology to lead the way in making standards better for the future.

#### SMIIC Website: Online Paid Training Programs

Upon receiving immense demand from our stakeholders all over the world requesting training, SMIIC has commenced providing paid trainings online and physically for the first time in 2023. 7 trainings were held throughout the year with participants attending from all over the world.

The objective of this new feature which is in line with our new project "SMIIC Academy" was to provide our trainings related to OIC/SMIIC standards and work procedures to a wider audience. In addition to our member states, SMIIC offers trainings to private companies and institutions all around the world.

We have received immense demand from our stakeholders all over the world requesting training. By offering our trainings online, we aim to increase accessibility and reach a larger audience. This paid online training provides an additional source of revenue for SMIIC which is used to further develop and improve our trainings.

We believe that this new feature on our website will benefit our members, private companies, and institutions, and contribute to the success of SMIIC's initiatives. We are confident that it will help us promote communication and cooperation among our members, and support our mission of promoting standardization and metrology in the Islamic world.

#### **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 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 2023 by holding activities, meetings and trainings for capacity building as per the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2021 - 2023.

#### 12th SMIIC Metrology Council Meeting

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC Metrology Council was held in hybrid format during 26-27 April 2023 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye. It was hosted and organized by the SMIIC General Secretariat and TÜBİTAK UME (National Metrology Institute of Türkiye), the NMI holding the Chairmanship of the SMIIC MC. The Meeting was attended by 73 representatives (53 physically and 20 online) from a total of 25 Member and Observer States. Representative from the Gulf Association for Metrology (GULFMET) attended the meeting as a liaison organization.

#### **Brief summary:**

- "Progress on implementation of SMIIC MC Work Plan" was presented regarding the actions taken by the Meeting and the ones planned to be done by the end of 2021 regarding the Work Plan. The participants were informed on the trainings, survey on the ILCs requirements and further process related to the planning the ILCs requested.
- "Categorization of Member States and roadmap for transition from low to high category" was presented with general overview of the current situation as well as emphasizing the actions need to be taken to improve the capability of relatively less developed countries within SMIIC MC. The importance of transition to upper category and the desire to see all SMIIC Member States in the Category 1 was emphasized by the SMIIC MC Chairman.

During the meeting presentations were given on the following:

- Progress on implementation of SMIIC MC Work Plan
- Progress on Transition of Member States to higher category
- Lates Developments and Halal activities in Member States
- SMIIC MC Inter Laboratory Comparisons
- Latest developments in member states
- Impact of Metrology on National Economies
- GULFMET Services to Member States
- BIPM TÜBİTAK UME Project Placements
- SMIIC MC R&D Project Program
- EMCIC Project

Presentations and speeches regarding the latest developments and Halal activities in Thailand, Pakistan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Türkiye, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Saudi Arabia and GULFMET were given by their representatives.

#### 13th SMIIC Metrology Council Meeting

The 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SMIIC Metrology Council (MC) was held in hybrid format during 08-09 October 2023 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye. It was hosted by the SMIIC General Secretariat and National Metrology Institute of Türkiye (TUBİTAK UME). The meeting was attended by 59 representatives (32 physically and 27 online) from a total of 23 Members and Observer States. The representative of GULF Association for Metrology (GULFMET) attended as guest.

During the meeting presentations were given on the following:

- Progress on implementation of SMIIC MC Work Plan
- Lates Developments and Halal activities in Member States
- SMIIC MC Inter Laboratory Comparisons
- Latest developments in member states
- Ionizing Radiation Metrology Activities in Türkiye
- Legal Metrology Developments in GCC Countries
- Cost-effectiveness of the Implementation of Medical Metrology in Uzbekistan
- Medical Metrology and SMIIC MC R&D Project Program working groups reports
- EMCIC Project

Presentations and speeches regarding the latest developments and Halal activities in Indonesia, Nigeria, Kyrgyz Republic, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan were given by their representatives.

#### SMIIC MC Work Plan for 2021 - 2023

The SMIIC MC, in order to achieve its objectives to harmonize and facilitate the activities in metrology services in Member States based on international arrangements and regional metrology organization membership requirements has been organizing trainings and relevant metrological activities. The SMIIC MC aims to contribute in enhancing the technical and metrological capabilities of Member States to facilitate removal of technical trade barriers. In line with these objectives, the first SMIIC MC Work Plan 2021-2023 was prepared by the Task Force Group which was constituted during the 8<sup>th</sup> SMIIC MC meeting and approved by the SMIIC MC by correspondence.

The SMIIC MC Work Plan 2021-2023 covered the main activities planned to be realized by the SMIIC MC Member States for three years and was coordinated by the MC Chairmanship. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some activities i.e. training, capacity building, consultancy, etc. have been organized online and the form of the other activities will be decided mutually with the involvement of the member NMIs. This plan was subject to intermediate revision and was revised according to the requests received from members annually.

#### **SMIIC MC Projects:**

#### Proficiency Testing and Interlaboratory Comparisons

The SMIIC Metrology Council is set to initiate the SMIIC MC Inter-laboratory Comparisons (ILC) in accordance with Resolution 19/2022 from the 11<sup>th</sup> SMIIC MC meeting convened on October 28-29, 2022, in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The Technical Protocol for Interlaboratory Comparisons (ILCs) has been circulated, and funding for these ILC activities will be provided by the SMIIC General Secretariat. SMIIC MC Inter-laboratory Comparisons (ILCs) are prepared to commence in 2024 in mass, temperature and pressure fields.

SMIIC MC Working Plan is annually circulated to the members for filling out any requests for Training, Proficiency Testing and Interlaboratory Comparisons. The requests received are evaluated and added to the annual version of the working plan for that year.

#### SMIIC MC R&D Project Program

During the 10<sup>th</sup> 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. During the 12<sup>th</sup> SMIIC MC Meeting, it was decided to establish a Task Force Group (TFG) to evaluate submitted projects and coordinate the R&D Project Program, TFG were selected from Category 1 countries and will consist of those members: Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Uzbekistan and SMIIC General Secretariat as per Metrology Council Resolution 11/2023. The Task Force group held 4 meetings. Criteria of Referee Board have been determined by the TFG and members for Referee Board have been requested from the member states. Declaration of five referees were received from the member states. The 13 Projects submitted in 2023 to be supported by the SMIIC GS were sent to the referees for evaluation.

#### SMIIC MC Guide in Medical Metrology

During the 12<sup>th</sup> 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 will study the medical devices used and form a guide for verification of the medical devices used in the OIC. The working group experts will be 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 held two (2) meetings and a draft of guide in Legal/Medical Metrology is under development.

#### SMIIC Metrology Council Technical Capacity Building Trainings:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all planned trainings in the SMIIC MC Work Plan 2021-2023 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 2021 - 2023).

All trainings were coordinated by TUBITAK UME as the NMI holding the SMIIC MC Chairmanship and SMIIC General Secretariat. Information about the 21 (twenty-one) trainings successfully realized via Zoom platform are given in the table below.

#### **SMIIC Metrology Council (MC) Trainings in 2023**

Training	NMI	Date/ Format	Lecturer/s
SMIIC MC Training on Calibration     of Digital Multimeter	SASO National Metrology and Calibration Center (SASO-NMCC)	24 May 2023 virtually	Rakan O. AlNefaie
2. SMIIC MC Training in Introduction to Photometry and Radiometry Measurements in SASO NMCC	SASO-NMCC	29 May 2023 virtually	Mohammed Almelfi
3. SMIIC MC Training on Training on The use of CRM pH for Calibration of pH-meters in the pH-mode	SASO-NMCC	30 May 2023 virtually	Rashed A. AlDosari
4. SMIIC MC Training on Dissemination of Kilogram Unit According to the New Definition	TUBITAK UME-National Metrology Institute of Türkiye	18 September 2023 virtually	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Beste KORUTLU
5. SMIIC MC Training on Calibration of SPRT by Fixed Point Method	National Standardization Agency of Indonesia (BSN)	20 Septemter 2023 virtually	Dr. Aditya Achmadi
6. SMIIC MC Training on Training in Dimensional Metrology	SASO-NMCC	21 September 2023 virtually	Shahad A. Bin Shuqayr
7. SMIIC MC Training in Calibration of Humidity Chambers	BSN	22 September 2023 virtually	Arfan Sindhu Tistomo
8. Calibration of Temperature Dry Block Calibrators	SASO-NMCC	25 September 2023	Oqab N. AlOtaibi
9. SMIIC MC Training in Introduction to Metrology in Chemistry	TÜBİTAK- UME	11 October 2023	Dr. Fatma AKCADAG

10. SMIIC MC Training in Proper Selection and Use of Reference Materials for Calibration and Quality Control	TÜBİTAK- UME	12 October 2023	Dr. Alper İŞLEYEN
11. SMIIC MC Training in Protein-Based Measurement Methods for Determination of Pork Products in Food, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics	TÜBİTAK- UME	16 October 2023	Dr. Evren Saban
12. SMIIC MC Training in Dimensional Metrology	SASO NMCC	17 October 2023	Farah A. Aljamaan
13. SMIIC MC Training in Calculation of Uncertainty in Fixed Points	SNSU-BSN	18 October 2023	Dr. Aditya Achmadi
14. SMIIC MC Training in Acoustic and Vibration Metrology	SASO NMCC	24 October 2023	Abdulrahman A. Alanazi
15. SMIIC MC Training in Creation of Secondary Standard Dosimetry Laboratory based on IAEA requirements	UZNIM-Uzbek National Metrology Institute	26 October 2023	Mr: Azamat Taubaldiev
16. SMIIC MC Training in Production and Preparation of Certified Reference Material CRM of Organic Materials	SASO NMCC	07 November 2023	Sowailem A. AlSowailem
17. SMIIC MC Training in Development of Buffer Solution Certified Reference Materials for pH Using Baucke Cell	SASO NMCC	15 November 2023	Rashed A. AlDosari
18. SMIIC MC Training in Water Meters for Cold and Hot Water	TÜBİTAK- UME	29 November 2023	Erkut Kırmızıoğlu
19. SMIIC MC Training in Verifications of Non-automatic Weighing Instruments	TÜBİTAK- UME	30 November 2023	Mehmet Dirier  Bedreddin Çıracı
20. SMIIC MC Training in Calibration of Force Transducers According to ISO 376 International Standard	TÜBİTAK- UME	26 December 2023	Dr. Haldun Dizdar
21. SMIIC MC Training in Evaluation of Short Gauge Block Uncertainty (Measurement by mechanical comparison).	INSO-NMCI National Metrology Center of Iran	27 December 2023	Mrs. Khadijeh Norouzzadeh

#### **Accreditation Council (AC)**

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.

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 2022-2024 term was determined at the 22<sup>nd</sup> SMIIC Board of Directors on 01 November 2021 in Al-Madinah Al-Munawarah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the information of new members is available via <a href="https://www.smiic.org/en/accreditation-council-ac">https://www.smiic.org/en/accreditation-council-ac</a>

#### **Latest Developments**

In its meeting on 25 May 2023, the SMIIC Board of Directors has decided through the Board of Directors Resolution 08/2023 to authorize the Management of SMIIC Accreditation Council to finalize the draft IFHAB documents (IFHAB Statute, Procedures for IFHAB Membership, Code of Ethics for IFHAB Members and Criteria for Signing of Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA), peer assessment process, competence criteria and selection requirements for peer assessors and procedures for complaints and appeals) to be submitted to IFHAB Secretariat and OIC General Secretariat for endorsement,

Consequently, the Task Force Group (TFG) of SMIIC Accreditation Council (AC) conducted its 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 19-20 July 2023 (online) in order to prepare the remaining documents of the Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB), and submit the draft documents to the consideration of the 6<sup>th</sup> MAC Meeting.

#### The Sixth Meeting of the Management of the SMIIC Accreditation Council (AC)

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Management of SMIIC AC was held on 06-07 September 2023 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye. The meeting was attended by the representatives 11 Member States and the following topics were discussed and listed as the outputs of the meeting:

#### • IFHAB DOCUMENTS

The members reviewed the outcomes of the four meetings of Task Force Group (TFG) which has been working on the preparations of the documents of IFHAB.

Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB) has been granted affiliated status with Resolution No. 8/49-LO at the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on 16 – 17 March 2023. The IFHAB is the designated structure as defined in the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the SMIIC Accreditation Council (SMIIC AC) and OIC Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ) document.

The purpose of IFHAB, as a cooperation of national halal accreditation bodies of the OIC, is to develop and maintain Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA). This mechanism will facilitate the intra-OIC trade and will ensure that the products which are granted halal certification according to OIC/SMIIC standards from any national halal accreditation bodies of OIC Member States signatory to MRA will be subject to free movement of goods without any re-certification.

Additionally, Management of SMIIC AC (MAC) has been authorized with the Board of Directors Resolution 08/2023 of the 25<sup>th</sup> SMIIC Board of Directors Meeting to finalize the draft documents of IFHAB especially IFHAB Statute and main legal documents and to submit the said documents to IFHAB Secretariat and OIC General Secretariat for their consideration. The purpose of this study is to support and facilitate the work of IFHAB. During the 6<sup>th</sup> MAC Meeting held on 06-07 September 2023 in İstanbul, Republic of Türkiye, the draft documents (IFHAB Statute, Rules for IFHAB Membership, Code of Ethics for IFHAB Members, Criteria for Signing of Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA), Peer Evaluation Process, Competence Criteria and Selection Requirements of Peer Evaluators, Complaints and Appeals Procedure, MRA Template, SMIIC-IFHAB MOU, Forms (*Membership Application, Appeal, Complaint, Complaint or Appeal Investigation*) have been adopted and the said documents prepared by SMIIC AC for the use of IFHAB was officially communicated with OIC General Secretariat and Saudi Accreditation Center (SAC) as the IFHAB Secretariat on 12 October 2023.

#### • Future Role of SMIIC AC

The Management of SMIIC Accreditation Council, following *Board of Directors Resolution 08/2023* of the 25<sup>th</sup> SMIIC Board of Directors Meeting regarding the agreed role of SMIIC AC to establish accreditation and certification schemes in halal domain based on OIC/SMIIC standards to be implemented by IFHAB, requested the TFG to initiate the necessary studies regarding the preparation of accreditation and certification schemes as highlighted in the mentioned resolution. The results of studies will be discussed at the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Management of SMIIC AC.

# **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 trainings 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 2023 both virtually and physically, some of these are mentioned below:

#### 1. OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 Foundation Training in French on 17-20 January 2023

SMIIC conducted the OIC/SMIIC 1 Halal Foundation Training in French on 17-20 January 2023 Virtually. 41 participants from French-speaking member states (Burkina Faso, Chad, Cameroon, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Niger) attended the training. The training was the first of a series of training courses that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023.

The training aimed to give the foundation knowledge regarding Halal food, the Halal industry, requirements, and implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food and included:

- Introduction to SMIICs Structure and SMIIC Organs
- OIC/SMIIC Standards on Halal Issues
- Requirements and Implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food
- Evaluation Test

#### 2. OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Foundation Training in French on 13-16 February 2023

SMIIC conducted the OIC/SMIIC 2 Halal Foundation Training in French virtually from 13-16 February 2023. 35 participants from French-speaking member states (Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire Cameroon, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, and Niger) attended the training. The training was the second of a series of training courses that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023.

The training aimed to give the foundation knowledge, requirements, and implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Requirements for bodies providing halal certification. The training program included:

- Introduction to OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 & Principles
- General & Structural Requirements
- Resource & Information Requirement
- Process Requirements
- Management system Requirements
- Evaluation Test

# 3. Training on SMIIC Technical committee work Procedures and SMIIC Information System (IS) for TAJIKSTANDARD, AZSTAND, SON, BSTI, YSMO, SOBS, UNBS, and UZSTANDARD Staff on 27 February 2023

SMIIC General Secretariat organized and gave the training on "SMIIC Procedures for the Technical Work and SMIIC Information System (IS) for TAJIKSTANDARD, AZSTAND, SON, BSTI, YSMO, SOBS, UNBS, and UZSTANDARD Staff, virtually on 27 February 2023, within the project framework of "Orientation of Members to SMIIC activities."

The 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.

#### 4. Training on OIC SMIIC 6:2019 Foundation Training

SMIIC organized and gave the OIC/SMIIC 6 Foundation Training in English on 13-24 March 2023 virtually. OIC SMIIC 6- Particular Requirements for the application of OIC/SMIIC 1 to places where Halal food and beverages are prepared, stored, and served.

71 participants from SMIIC Member States (*Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bangladesh, Guinea, Gambia, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Niger, Palestinian, Russia, Senegal, Suriname, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, Tajikistan, and the United Arab Emirates)* attended the training. The training was the third of a series of training courses that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023.

The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- Introduction to OIC/SMIIC 6
- Requirements and Implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 6:2019
- Evaluation Test

#### 5. Training on OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services

SMIIC conducted the OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services foundation training in English virtually from 15-16 March 2023. 55 participants from SMIIC Member States attended the training which was the first in the Halal tourism sector and the fourth of a series of training courses held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023.

The training aimed to give the foundation knowledge regarding Halal tourism, and requirements for tourism industry players in setting up an assurance system to preserve the integrity of products and services provided for Muslim travelers.

The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- Introduction to OIC/SMIIC 9: 2019 Halal Tourism Services
- Requirements and Implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services
- Evaluation Test

#### 6. OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics – General Requirements Training for Women Experts

SMIIC organized a training course on OIC/SMIIC 4 - General Requirements on Halal Cosmetics for Women Experts on 06-07 June 2023 virtually in accordance with SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021- 2030 and Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards initiative by UNECE. Two days of training were attended by approximately 170 women from both OIC and non-OIC countries.

This training aimed to strengthen the use of standards and technical regulations as powerful tools to attain SDG 5 (Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls) and to integrate a gender lens in the development of both standards and technical regulations and elaborate gender indicators and criteria that could be used in standards development starting with capacity building for women experts.

The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- SASO's Gender Action Plan
- Requirements of OIC SMIIC 4
- Evaluation Test

#### 7. OIC/SMIIC 1 Halal Food Auditor Training for LNCSM Staff in Istanbul

Upon the request from the Libyan National Center for Standardization and Metrology (LNCSM), the SMIIC General Secretariat co-organized and successfully conducted a comprehensive five-day training program on OIC SMIIC 1 Halal Food auditor for the LNCSM staff from June 12th to June 16th, 2023, in Istanbul. The training, conducted entirely in Arabic, aimed to enhance the expertise and knowledge of the participants.

The training program covered a wide range of essential topics, including:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC Standards addressing Halal issues
- Auditing Requirements and Methodology
- Technical and Sharia aspects of OIC SMIIC 1 and 2
- Planning and Halal Critical Control Points related to Product Groups
- Engaging Case Studies
- Evaluation Test to assess comprehension and proficiency

We are delighted to report that the training was highly productive, providing valuable insights and equipping the LNCSM staff with the necessary tools and expertise. Our commitment to supporting our members remains unwavering, and we will continue to provide assistance wherever needed.

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

SMIIC organized the OIC/SMIIC 50-1:2022 Halal Pharmaceuticals - Part 1 - General Requirements, foundation training virtually in English from 14-15 August 2023.

The training was attended by 50 participants from SMIIC member states and was the first training in the Halal Pharmaceuticals sector. It was also the fifth training course in a series that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023.

This standard is aimed at helping both producers and halal competent authority (Islamic authority) to ensure halal status is preserved throughout the product chain and to gain the confidence of the Muslims. This standard was formulated based on the concept of halal built-in rather than the end products tested for their halalness and used by competent authorities towards halal certification.

The program included an introduction to SMIIC and its activities, an introduction to OIC/SMIIC 50-1, requirements and implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 50, and an evaluation test.

#### 9. SMIIC Information System (IS) Training

A training was given on the use of SMIIC IS on the 04 October 2023, in İstanbul to all Secretary and Chairman of the SMIIC Technical Committees.

# 10. Halal Food and Meat Detection Methods Training and Interlaboratory Comparison for OIC Countries

SMIIC conducted a 4-day training titled "Halal Food and Meat Detection Methods Training and Interlaboratory Comparison for OIC Countries." This training was funded under the COMCEC Project Funding and was designated with the identifier number 2022-SMIIC-006.

The training took place from October 23 to 26, 2023, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, both at the SFDA Food Control Laboratory in Jeddah and online simultaneously.

On the first day, an introductory session was held for approximately 100 participants representing 15 laboratories from 10 OIC countries, which included Jordan, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Türkiye. This session provided insights into OIC/SMIIC 35:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing and OIC/SMIIC 36:2020 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements of Proficiency Testing for Halal Purposes.

Over the course of the 4-day training, 60 experienced trainees specializing in PCR testing received instruction on four distinct methods for detecting porcine materials in various food products, meat, processed meat, and gelatin. These methods are set to become integral components of the new standard OIC/SMIIC 25: Test Method for the Detection of Porcine in Food Products and Cosmetics. This training forms part of an ongoing Interlaboratory comparison project which is jointly funded by COMCEC and SMIIC.

# 11. COMCEC Project titled "Developing Export Competitiveness of Potential Halal Products of Bangladesh

Within the framework of the COMCEC Project titled "Developing Export Competitiveness of Potential Halal Products of Bangladesh" "training on "International Halal Standards and Certification Requirements" was held on 19-21 November 2023 in Dhaka/Bangladesh by the Ministry of Commerce and Foreign Trade Institute of Bangladesh.

SMIIC and the Halal Accreditation Agency (HAK) of the Republic of Türkiye co-organized and participated as trainers (project partners) to exchange their knowledge and experience in this training that aimed at enhancing the capacity of the officials from both public and private sectors related to halal certification for increasing the trade of halal products in Bangladesh. In this regard, high-level officials and technical experts from the public and private sectors in Bangladesh participated in the training.

#### 12. OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics – General Requirements Training

SMIIC organized the OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics - General Requirements, foundation training virtually in Arabic from 11-12 December 2023.

The training was attended by 45 participants from SMIIC -Arabic- speaking Member States. The objective of the standard is to address the requirements for the production of halal cosmetic products to meet the challenges of the growing demand for halal cosmetic products. The program included an introduction to SMIIC and its activities, an introduction to OIC/SMIIC 4, requirements and implementation of the OIC/SMIIC 4, and an evaluation test.

#### **Private Training courses:**

SMIIC General Secretariat has launched this year a plan for 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 and it will include trainings for OIC SMIIC 1, 2, 9, 4, and OIC SMIIC 1 Islamic affairs expert and Halal Auditor.

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

#### 1. Awareness Seminar on OIC SMIIC 1: 2019 for HCO- UK staff

Upon the request of the Halal Certification Organization Ltd (HCO-UK) from the United Kingdom, SMIIC has arranged and conducted an awareness seminar on OIC SMIIC 1 for HCO staff, virtually on 11 January 2023. SMIIC General Secretariat delivered certificates of participation to the Participants. The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC/SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Technical and Sharia points on OIC SMIIC 1

# 2. OIC SMIIC 1:2019- General Requirement for Halal Food- Foundation Training – Private Sectors

19 participants from all industries and interested parties who are producing/working in halal services and also from OIC and non-OIC Countries (Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Lithuania, South Korea, Uzbekistan, and the United Kingdom) have attended this course, virtually on 06-08 March 2023.

The three-day training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Requirements and Implementation of OIC SMIIC 1
- Case Studies
- Evaluation Test

#### 3. OIC/SMIIC 1, 2, and 24- Foundation Training for Japan Halal Association staff

Upon the request of the Japan Halal Association, SMIIC has organized an online foundation training for Japan Halal Association staff on 03-05 April 2023.

The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC/SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Technical and Sharia points on OIC SMIIC 1, 2, 24 for persons working/To Work in Halal Conformity Assessment Institutions and accreditation process
- Evaluation Test

#### 4. OIC SMIIC 2:2019 Online Foundation Training for Private Sectors

SMIIC organized the OIC/SMIIC 2:2019 Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification, foundation training, virtually from 02-04 May 2023 for people who work or want to work in halal conformity assessment bodies (certification bodies).

The training was attended by 41 participants from 11 countries Belgium, China, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

This training was the second course in a series that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023 for private sectors. The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Requirements of OIC SMIIC 2
- Case Studies
- Evaluation Test

#### 5. OIC SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services Foundation Training for Private Sectors

SMIIC organized the OIC/SMIIC 9:2019 Halal Tourism Services, General Requirements, foundation training, virtually from 07-09 August 2023.

This standard aims to ensure that products and services provided to Muslim travelers align with Islamic guidelines, fostering a welcoming and inclusive experience for all. So, our comprehensive program has provided the participants with in-depth guidance on managing halal tourism facilities, products, and services in accommodation premises, tour packages, tourist guides, and more.

The training was attended by participants from Algeria, Belgium, Greece, Malaysia, Netherlands, Russia, Lithuania, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, and Uzbekistan.

This training was the third course in a series that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023 for private sectors. The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Requirements of OIC SMIIC 9
- How to implement and make the SMIIC 9 checklist
- Case Studies
- Evaluation Test

#### 6. Islamic Affairs Expert Foundation Training Based on OIC SMIIC 1:2019

SMIIC conducted the OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 Islamic Affairs Expert, foundation training, based on OIC SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food, virtually from 17-18 October 2023. The training was attended by 38 participants from Australia, Belgium, China, India, Italia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Türkiye, and Taiwan.

This training was the fourth course in a series held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023 for private sectors. The training program included:

- Introduction about SMIIC and Its Activities
- Food Safety & Quality Control A Shariah Perspective
- Clauses of SMIIC 1 in Sharia respective
- Role of Islamic Affairs Expert in Halal Conformity Assessment System
- Evaluation Test

#### 7. OIC SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics Foundation Training for Private Sectors

SMIIC organized the OIC/SMIIC 4:2018 Halal Cosmetics, General Requirements, foundation training, virtually from 29-30 November 2023.

The training was attended by participants from Australia, Belgium, Egypt, Italy, South Korea, and Taiwan. This training was the fifth course in a series that was held by the SMIIC General Secretariat in 2023 for private sectors. The training program included:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC Standards in Halal Issues
- Requirements of OIC SMIIC 4
- how to implement and make SMIIC 4 checklist
- Evaluation Test

#### Other Activities:

#### 9th World Halal Summit and Halal Expo 2023

The 9th World Halal Summit and Halal Expo 2023, the world's largest halal organization, took place under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye. Organized in cooperation with the Standards and Metrology for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), and in coordination with the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), and other relevant Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) institutions, the events were held at the Istanbul Expo Center on November 23-26, 2023. The organization received contributions and support from various ministries, including the Ministry of Trade of Türkiye, as well as relevant institutions and organizations.

The event aimed to provide a suitable environment for participants from various sectors such as food, tourism, cosmetics, medicine, chemistry, finance, packaging, machinery, Islamic lifestyle, and conservative fashion to meet their commercial expectations. Participating countries included Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Algeria, Indonesia, Morocco, Ivory Coast, Palestine, Gambia, South Korea, India, The Netherlands, Honduras, Iraq, the United Kingdom, Iran, Spain, Cambodia, Cameroon, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Moldova, Malaysia, Egypt, Maldives, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Russia, Senegal, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Thailand, Yemen, Tunisia, Jordan, and Türkiye. In total, more than 450 local and foreign companies (including 220 from abroad) from 45 different countries showcased their products.

World Halal Summit 2023 had the theme of: "A Gateway to Global Halal Economy: Unveiling the Potentials". With a total of 23,351 visitors, including 7,375 international guests from 82 countries, the event also hosted various high-profile international officials.

#### **Awareness Seminars**

Following 4 (four) awareness seminars were conducted for member states:

- Awareness seminar on SMIIC and its Activities for TAJIKSTANDARD, AZSTAND, SON, BSTI, and YSMO Staff, held virtually on 16 January 2023. Twenty-seven delegates from mentioned members attended this program. This seminar is part of an orientation program that SMIIC will be giving to all concerned new SMIIC members or members who need orientation to SMIIC activities.
- 2. Awareness seminar on SMIIC and OIC/SMIIC Halal Supply Management System Standards for 15 undergraduate students of Industrial Engineering University Islam Indonesia, at SMIIC Headquarters within the framework of an educational visit to Republic of Türkiye, on 21 February 2023. The seminar was successfully completed and very productive and SMIIC General Secretariat delivered certificates of participation to the participants.
- 3. Awareness seminar on the "Preparation and qualification improvement of Specialists in the field of Halal Industry in the Kyrgyz Republic", in English with Russian interpretation, on 01 June 2023. The program included a seminar on the "Preparation and qualification improvement of Specialists in the field of Halal Industry in the Kyrgyz Republic". The Seminar was attended physically by approximately 70 representatives and 20 online from the public and private sectors in the Kyrgyz Republic and during this Seminar SMIIC delegates gave a presentation about Introduction to SMIIC and its activities.
- 4. Awareness Seminar on the introduction of SMIIC and its activities, standards development, Halal products and testing with an aim to encourage the harmonization of halal standards used in the OIC Member States and internationally by aiding in the adoption and use of the OIC/SMIIC halal standards was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on the 25 September 2023. The seminar was organized in collaboration with our respected partners as the organs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), COMSTECH Secretariat and Islamic University of Technology in Dhaka, Bangladesh (IUT). The seminar was a general halal awareness day which was attended by more than 100 people. Topics on the first day included an introduction to SMIIC, standardization, quality infrastructure, conformity assessment, SMIIC accreditation council, halal food, halal cosmetics, halal pharmaceuticals, halal testing laboratories requirements, and analytical challenges of testing haram ingredients.

#### **Capacity Building Projects**

# 1. Capacity Building and Halal Infrastructure Project for SMIIC French-Speaking Member States

The target Member States are: Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire Cameroon, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Niger, and Djibouti. This project is being run by the SMIIC General Secretariat and it includes the following training programs in French Language:

- Training program on OIC SMIIC 1:2019, which was held on 17-20 January 2023.
- Training Program on OIC SMIIC 2:2019, which was held on 13-16 February 2023.
- Training program on OIC SMIIC 1 Halal Auditor, which is planned to be held in 2024.
- Training program on OIC SMIIC 4 Halal Cosmetics, which is planned to be held in 2024.

#### 2. Capacity Building for Specialists in the field of Halal Industry in the Kyrgyz Republic

Foundation training for "Consultants on implementation of requirements on OIC SMIIC 1, 2, and 9" was organized during 02-03 June 2023, in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. The training was attended by 40 experts physically and 20 online from the public and private sectors in the Kyrgyz Republic. The training concluded with an exam, and participants who were successful received certificates.

#### 3. Capacity Building project for Chad

Upon the request from the Chadian Standardization Agency (ATNOR), capacity building project was planned by the SMIIC General Secretariat. As the first step of the project a two-day comprehensive training program was co-organized and successfully on Introduction to SMIIC, its activities, and OIC SMIIC Halal standards for 66 participants from ATNOR staff, and stakeholders on 11 to 12 September 2023, in N'djamena, Republic of Chad.

The training, conducted entirely in French, aimed to enhance the expertise and knowledge of the participants.

The training program covered a wide range of essential topics, including:

- Introduction to SMIIC and its activities
- OIC SMIIC standards addressing Halal issues and Halal quality infrastructure
- Implementation of OIC SMIIC Halal Standards by SMIIC Member States, opportunities, and tools to facilitate the trade.
- Procedures for SMIIC Technical Committee work
- SMIIC Information System

We are delighted to report that the training was highly productive, providing valuable insights and equipping the ATNOR staff and Chadian Stakeholders with the necessary tools and expertise. Our commitment to supporting our members remains unwavering, and we will continue to provide assistance wherever needed.

#### 4. "Halal Laboratory Skills - Capacity Building Training- South East Asian Region"

OIC/SMIIC 1 Foundation Training was held on the 26-27 September 2023 in Bangladesh, the first time in South East Asia in collaboration with our respected partners as the organs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), COMSTECH Secretariat and Islamic University of Technology in Dhaka, Bangladesh (IUT). OIC/SMIIC 1 training was attended in hybrid mode by around 80 (eighteen) students from different 10 (Ten) Asian countries.

"Halal Laboratory Skills - Capacity Building Training- South East Asian Region" was held on 28-29 September 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The workshop was organized in collaboration with our respected partners as the organs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), COMSTECH Secretariat and Islamic University of Technology in Dhaka, Bangladesh (IUT).

The training included skills and knowledge on the Auditing of Testing Labs in line with OIC/SMIIC 35 – Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing.

The participants received hands-on halal laboratory skills training on the 3 different test methods available on the "The Testing Procedures standards such as the Test Method for detection of porcine in Food Products (meat, processed food, and gelatin)". The training was attended by around 20 students from different 7 (seven) Asian countries especially from, Brunei, Bangladesh, Iran, Indonesia, Maldives, Malaysia, and Thailand.

#### 5. Workshop on Multilateral/Mutual Recognition of Halal Certification Activities

SMIIC participated as partner giving presentations during the "Workshop on Multilateral/Mutual Recognition of Halal Certification Activities" which was organized by the Halal Accreditation Agency (HAK) as part of the COMCEC Project Funding on "Raising Awareness for Multilateral/Mutual recognition according to OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards" (Project Number: 2022-TURTRADE-068) held on the 05-06 September in İstanbul, Türkiye.

#### Research activities

SMIIC conducted the 2022-SMIIC-006 project between 01/06/23 – 31/11/23. The project was jointly funded by COMCEC and SMIIC and titled: (*Halal Food and Meat Detection Methods Training and Interlaboratory Comparison for OIC Countries*).

The Project targeted Laboratories providing halal testing services and technical staff working in halal testing, especially PCR machines. The project's objective is to distribute four proficiency testing materials and kits related to halal testing to the participating laboratories. The final product of this ILC project will be a new standard OIC/SMIIC 25 and OIC/SMIIC 26 which will improve the trade between the OIC countries. Another important purpose of the project is to train all participants with the OIC/SMIIC standards related to halal testing which are OIC/SMIIC 35 and 36 standards.

#### Brief explanation of project activities,

- Physical and online training for OIC/SMIIC 35 standard (104 participants)
- Physical and online training for OIC/SMIIC 36 standard (104 participants)
- Physical and online training for 4 porcine detection methods (60 participants)
- ➤ ILC project (15 labs, 60 participants, 10 countries)
- International seminar (6 speakers, 220 Attendance, 6 articles, 1 proceedings)
- > 5 short films each of them 5 minutes explaining the project and the detection methods.

#### **OUR PARTNERS**

# Cooperation with International and Regional Organizations

Partnership and collaboration are at the heart of SMIIC's visibility, and in 2023, we continued to work with our partners leading to mutual benefit for all.

SMIIC has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with International Trade Center (ITC), 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 2022, 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, Industry and Agriculture(ICCIA), Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) and Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the OIC (COMSTECH). This year SMIIC has signed an MOU with Universiti Teknologi Mara (UITM), Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) and International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

#### PROGRESSING TOWARDS OUR 2030 VISION

#### "SMIIC STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2030"

Our new SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021-2030 became effective on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2021, after its approval during the 15<sup>th</sup> SMIIC General Assembly November 2020. The approved Strategic Plan gives the general framework plan towards achieving our vision and accomplishment of our high strategic goals.

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

SMIIC's Strategic Plan identifies three high-level goals to guide the Institute towards 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.

SMIIC has worked actively to execute the approved Implementation Plan of SMIIC Strategic Plan 2021- 2030 for the term (2023-2024) since the early stages of its approval. The necessary steps were taken to plan, commence and complete the strategic initiatives.

In this regard, SMIIC has set 16 (sixteen) projects to execute these initiatives in the best way to accomplish the strategic objectives. 15 (fifteen) projects were launched, while the other remaining 1 (one) will be launched by the year 2024. 9 projects have been successfully completed; 6 projects are currently underway. 1 project has yet to commence. The progress in Key Performance Indicators through these 12 (twelve) months is 83% while the progress in Projects is 84%

While executing the plan, SMIIC General Secretariat has achieved tangible success in the implementation of many activities that contributed significantly to achieving the specific targets of the key performance indicators that were identified to measure the achievement at the level of strategic objectives.

# 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 Support members' needs and Support the enhancement of **Strategic** Develop high-quality standards quality infrastructure and ensure effective engagement of that are used worldwide. **Priorities** their stakeholders interconnectivity of members Value/ **Encourage adoption and/or Promote SMIIC** Support members especially **Develop high quality** Provide a common and Implementation of activities to **Least Developed Countries**internationally recognized standards that are Customer **OIC/SMIIC Standards by** leverage (LDCs) to strengthen National platform of Halal relevant to the needs satisfaction Members **Quality infrastructure** accreditation based on of Members and Internal Support and coordinate members especially Ensure the coordination and synergies with other Improve the standardization **Least Developing Countries-(LDCs) for effective Processes** organizations and among projects implemented process engagement with regional and international organizations Learning Improve technical infrastructure of Coordinate and organize projects, meetings Support the members to enhance **And Growth** and trainings for Technical Capacity Building SMIIC to meet priority needs interconnectivity **Financial** Utilize SMIIC Members resources for supporting SMIIC activities to Increase revenue to make SMIIC financially sufficient decrease expenses

### **OUR SCORECARD**

#### 1. Expert engagement:

275 experts from SMIIC Member States and IIFA participated and contributed to the technical work during the 12th SMIIC Technical Committee Week Meetings.

The 12th SMIIC Technical Committee (TC) Week Meetings took place during the 02-06 October, 2023, in the vibrant city of Istanbul, Türkiye. The event saw a convergence of 275 distinguished delegates from 26 esteemed organizations representing countries such as Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Egypt, IIFA, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.

#### 2. Online Sales:

Online sales system of OIC/SMIIC standards on SMIIC website which was launched in 2017 has become more dynamic during 2023 recording 311 (Three hundred and eleven) standards been purchased from all around the world.

#### 3. Standards published in 2023

In 2023, SMIIC has published a total of 3 standards.

#### 4. Important highlights:

Projects initiated: 27 Persons Trained: 110 Meetings held: 202

Total participants in SMIIC meetings: 9704

Total participants at SMIIC organs' meetings: 964 Women participants at SMIIC organs' meetings: 425

#### **OUR MESSAGE: CHALLENGES & EXPECTATIONS**

SMIIC, by taking into consideration the needs of OIC Member States, concentrates to take an active position in its field of activities these are: all standardization, metrology and related activities in addition to conformity assessment as well as focusing on capacity building, training etc.

SMIIC aims to develop common standards that are applied across the world which will aid to ensure the protection of consumers, facilitate cross-border trade, ensure the interoperability of products, encourage innovation and technological development, include environmental protection and enable businesses to grow.

SMIIC vision to help create a quality infrastructure that improves economy, welfare and protects our member states. SMIIC aims to aid the development of the quality infrastructure of our members to achieve this 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.

While doing that, the Institute focuses on aiding in technical improvement and capacity building and play a directive function to guide the investment on laboratory etc. and equal distribution of mentioned plans in OIC Member States.

SMIIC could be supported in a way that:

- It could continue to take an active position in all related standardization activities in addition to conformity assessment as well as focusing on capacity building, training etc. taking into consideration the needs of OIC Member States.
- It continues to benefit the OIC economy in global trading, the welfare of the Muslim community and the environment by providing a platform for the development of OIC/SMIIC standards and other technical specifications across a wide range of sectors as well as the metrology and accreditation to verify -against OIC/SMIIC standards- organizations that carry out evaluation services such as certification, verification, inspection, testing and calibration.
- It could work to support our members on all elements of quality infrastructure as standardization, metrology and accreditation whilst prioritizing the needs of OIC Member States as the common platform.
- It could continue to work closely with the relevant international community, especially sister OIC institutions which have various mandates with regards to the industry, science and technology, economic development etc.

Our best wishes for a wonderful year filled with good health and solidarity...