

İstanbul Ministerial Declaration
Adopted at 3rd Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC

11 June 2024

İstanbul, Türkiye

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations of OIC Member States attending the Third Ministerial Meeting of Trade Preferential System Among Member States of OIC (TPS-OIC) Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) held on 11 June 2024 in İstanbul;

Affirming the commitment set out in Article 1.9 of Charter of OIC to strengthen intra-Islamic economic and trade cooperation in order to achieve economic integration leading to the establishment of an Islamic Common Market;

Recalling Article 8(b) of General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference aiming to develop trade exchanges among Member States, inter alia through trade liberalization, by reducing or removing the customs or other restrictions that are applied to export/ import activities among them through bilateral or multilateral trade arrangements;

Reaffirming various resolutions of the COMCEC, that recommend the establishment of a trade preferential system among its members, including Resolution on the short-term Implementation Programme for the promotion of trade among the OIC Member States adopted at the First Session of the COMCEC and the Declaration of Intent on the Establishment of a Trade Preferential System adopted at the Fourth Session of the COMCEC;

Also reaffirming the Ministerial Declaration of the COMCEC relating to the launching of the first round of trade negotiations within the framework of the Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States adopted at its Nineteenth Session and Declarations of First and Second Ministerial Meetings of TPS-OIC TNC;

Also recalling the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS-OIC (PRETAS) and TPS-OIC Rules of Origin;

Affirming commitments to enhance commercial cooperation among Member States set out in Declarations and Resolutions of Islamic Summits and Council of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC Ministerial Sessions;

Reiterating the importance of achieving 25% intra-OIC trade target set out in the OIC – 2025 Programme of Action;

Welcoming the effectuation of TPS-OIC as of 1 July 2022;

Recognizing a non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system as an engine for development;

Reiterating the importance of a rules-based trading system as a step towards the effective and beneficial integration of countries into the global economy;

Recognizing the need for inclusive trade for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;

Affirming our solidarity in confronting the humanitarian catastrophe befalling Gaza Strip and its people due to the unflinching Israeli war for more than eight months without respect for the most basic moral and humanitarian values;

Do hereby,

1. **Express** our appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye for successfully hosting and chairing the first and the second round of trade negotiations,
2. **Condemn** in the strongest terms the brutal inhuman unjustifiable Israeli war against our Palestinian brothers, sisters and children in whole Palestine, in particular Gaza and Rafah gravely violating International Law and international humanitarian law and **extend** our heartfelt condolences to those who were martyred,
3. **Demand** lifting the Israeli siege on Gaza along with an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire and withdrawal to provide humanitarian and medical aid and relief,
4. **Reiterate** our strongest aim to deepen and expand the existing cooperation among the Member States to reach better economic conditions for our citizens,
5. **Call upon** the Member States, which have not yet signed or ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements, to do so at their earliest convenience,
6. **Stress** the importance of facilitating trade and customs procedures by applying modern techniques and technologies, while improving the quality of controls in an internationally harmonized manner for economic development and growth of international trade,
7. **Acknowledge** that the services sector has become the backbone of the global economy and the most dynamic component of international trade,
8. **Emphasize** that facilitation of investments plays an important role for enhancing trade and foreign direct investments among OIC Member States,
9. **Take note** of the initial discussions on a draft “Negotiation Strategy and Work Plan for Potential Expansion of TPS-OIC” presented by the Republic of Türkiye, and **task** our relevant authorities to continue the engagement under TNC,
10. **Commend** the hard work of the COMCEC Coordination Office and Islamic Centre for Development of Trade as the co-secretariats of TNC,
11. **Call upon** TNC Secretariat to continue its commendable work in promoting effective implementation of TPS-OIC and organizing awareness-raising activities on TPS-OIC,
12. **Express** our utmost congratulation to the Government of Republic of Türkiye and Turkish Delegation led by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ömer BOLAT, Honorable Minister of Trade for the excellent preparation and the successful hosting of the 3rd Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC and our sincere gratitude for their warm welcome and hospitality extended to all delegations,