## Original: English

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE FORTIETH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(İstanbul, Türkiye, 2-5 November 2024)

The Fortieth Ministerial Session of the COMCEC (Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) was held on 2-5 November 2024, in İstanbul;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Banjul, The Gambia on 4-5 May 2024, which commended the role of the COMCEC under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Türkiye, in contributing to the realization of OIC objectives in the economic domain and highly commended the successful implementation of the COMCEC revised Statute and the Strategy adopted at the Fourth Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference:

Also recalling the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, and the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member Countries to the OIC-2025: Programme of Action adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 April 2016 in İstanbul, Türkiye and to the COMCEC Strategy adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 August 2012 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah;

Recalling the objectives and mandate of the COMCEC in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and the COMCEC Statute including to serve as the central forum for the Member Countries to discuss common economic and commercial issues.

Taking note of the submission of the progress reports, working papers and studies on the different agenda items submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group, Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD).

Expressing its appreciation to the Member Countries for hosting Ministerial Conferences, Meetings, workshops, fairs and other activities in the cooperation areas;

Commending the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office and the OIC institutions working in the area of economic and commercial cooperation, namely SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ICD, ITFC, ICIEC, ISFD, IOFS, OIC Labour Centre, SMIIC, and ICCD.

- 1. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit on Israeli Aggression Against the Palestinian People on 11 November 2023 Riyadh and the 15<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit held in Banjul on 4-5 May 2024, **encourages** Member Countries to fully implement the said resolutions.
- 2. **Urges** to increase joint efforts to coerce Israel to an immediate ceasefire and to stop all forms of aggression and barbaric violations against the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and to let the flow of humanitarian aid into the region.
- 3. **Takes note of** the emergency response plan prepared by the State of Palestine to address the repercussions of the Israeli aggression on the State of Palestine, and the crime of mass genocide that it is perpetrating in the Gaza Strip, and **calls upon** Member Countries, development agencies and relevant national funds to support the emergency response plan for relief and recovery in coordination with the Government of the State of Palestine.
- 4. Commending the endeavors for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations by the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions, invites the Member Countries to exert every effort, to the extent possible, to implement the Policy Recommendations and to harness the benefits of the current facilities and mechanisms, in particular the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Support Programs namely COMCEC Project Funding and COMCEC Al-Quds Program, and requests the relevant OIC Institutions to support the Member Countries to this end.
- 5. **Calls upon** the Member Countries to utilize the COMCEC Policy Follow-up System to submit necessary information and data on the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations in their respective countries, and **requests** the CCO to regularly report the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy to the COMCEC Sessions, the Follow-up Committee Meetings and other relevant OIC fora.
- 6. **Expresses its appreciation to** the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat, CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, ISFD, IOFS, SMIIC, and ICCD for the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.
- 7. **Underlining** the importance of the realization of the objectives set by OIC 2025: Programme of Action and active follow-up of the economic and commercial section of the Programme by the COMCEC, **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to regularly submit comprehensive progress reports on the implementation of the Programme to the COMCEC Sessions and the Follow-up Committee Meetings.
- 8. **Taking note of** the difficulties faced by OIC General Secretariat and SESRIC in gathering necessary information and data for preparing the progress report on the OIC-2025 Programme of Action, **requests** the Member States to provide the SESRIC with the latest data and relevant information in a timely manner through responding to the questionnaire circulated by SESRIC, and **invites** the Member States to actively participate in the on-going process to develop a new OIC Programme of Action for 2026-2035 and contribute to this endeavour by providing their respective inputs including priorities and strategic goals.

- 9. Also taking note of the findings of the SESRIC's report titled "OIC Economic Outlook 2024: Supporting Private Sector and SME Development in OIC Countries", and considering the private sector and SME development as a critical driver of economic growth and development in OIC countries, encourages Member States to promote the development of private sector and SMEs through expanding financial services and developing capital markets, including leveraging Islamic finance; investing in physical infrastructure and promoting digital transformation; reducing trade barriers and supporting export promotion; simplifying business regulations and enhancing legal systems to create a more conducive regulatory environment; and building human capital and encouraging entrepreneurship, and entrusts SESRIC to continue monitoring world economic developments and their implications on the Member Countries as well as to continue to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC.
- 10. **Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Sessions, **requests** the Member Countries, who have not done so yet, to sign and ratify the agreements in the economic domain for furthering economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member Countries.
- 11. **Considering** the importance of an equitable and fair multilateral trading system for sustainable growth of the countries, and **taking note of** the current technical assistance provided by WTO Member Countries of the OIC to the Non-Participating Countries for their accession efforts to the WTO, **calls upon** IsDB and ICDT to keep on extending their technical assistance to the Member Countries in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations and coordinate the position of the Member Countries within the WTO.
- 12. **Welcomes** the convening of the Honorable Ministers and Vice-Ministers on 4 November 2024 on the margin of 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, where the Honorable Ministers and Vice-Ministers deliberated on the issues regarding the OIC trade agenda, particularly TPS-OIC.
- 13. **Welcoming** that the TPS-OIC has been effectuated as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 in line with relevant resolutions of the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions and the decisions of the TPS-OIC Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC), **requests** the Participating States, which have not done so yet, to complete their internal procedures, and **calls upon** the Member Countries, which have not yet signed or ratified the TPS-OIC Agreements to do so at their earliest convenience and complete other procedures for joining the System.
- 14. **Also welcoming** the decisions of the Third Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC hosted by Republic of Türkiye on 10-11 June 2024, in İstanbul, **requests** the continuation of technical review in 2025 to elaborate on the potential expansion of TPS-OIC with increased product coverage and new disciplines with the participation of the OIC Member Countries, which have signed and ratified the TPS-OIC Framework Agreement and other interested Member Countries, which are not party to the Framework Agreement, as observers, for ensuring a wider membership composition.
- 15. **Appreciates** the organization of workshops, webinars, trainings, and Forums by ICDT and partner countries' institutions in the domain of trade, and **requests** the Member Countries to keep on providing the ICDT with data relating to trade and investment statistics and regulations.
- 16. **Also appreciates** the trade finance and trade development activities of ITFC and the mobilization of funds from the development partners for funding trade operations in the Member Countries, contributing towards the achievement of intra-OIC trade target of 25 percent by the year 2025.

- 17. **Requests** ICIEC, in collaboration with the SESRIC, ICDT, and ICCD to continue their efforts to complete the technical preparations for launching the OIC Business Intelligence Programme and submit a Progress Report to the 41<sup>st</sup> Follow-up Committee Meeting and the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session.
- 18. **Commending** the efforts of SMIIC in the areas of standardization, accreditation, and metrology and their impact on trade facilitation and capacity building, **invites** the Member Countries to adopt and use the OIC/SMIIC Standards as their national standards with a view to contributing to the harmonization of standards and alleviating technical barriers to trade among the Member Countries, and **calls upon** the Member Countries using OIC/SMIIC Standards to officially adopt the standards according to SMIIC adoption guidelines.
- 19. **Calls upon** Member Countries to take the necessary measures that would exempt Palestinian goods and commodities from customs duties, duties and taxes of similar effect, without quantitative or qualitative restrictions, which would have a positive effect on strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people on their own territory and supporting the efforts of the State of Palestine to put an end to the Israeli occupation.
- 20. **Acknowledging** ICCD's initiative on Empowering Palestine's Economy aimed at revitalizing the Palestinian economy, through digital empowerment, establishment of a freelance platforms, distance education systems, and support of businesses through financial initiatives and infrastructure development for remote work, **encourages** the Member Countries, their private sector and the relevant OIC Institutions to join the initiative for Palestinian businesses, start-ups, and entrepreneurs, including grants, technical support, knowledge transfer, venture capital, to stimulate innovation, job creation, and economic growth in key sectors.
- 21. **Commending** the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the Third Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGGE) Meeting organized in cooperation with General Secretariat of OIC and ICDT on 8-9 October 2024 in İstanbul, **takes note of** the report adopted thereat.
- 22. **Acknowledging** the important role of the OIC Arbitration Centre, as an affiliated institution of ICCD for the settlement of disputes, **calls upon** the Member Countries to encourage the active participation in the activities of the OIC Arbitration Centre with a view to making use of services provided by the Centre to those who seek it.
- 23. **Commends** ICD for its efforts in promoting private sector development and aiding the economic progress of OIC Member Countries by offering financial support and advisory services to the private sector.
- 24. **Taking note with appreciation** the convening of the first technical meeting under the COMCEC SME Program on 31 July 2024, **invites** the interested Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate in the activities to be carried out under the Program.
- 25. **Calls upon** the Member Countries to support the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC Shariah International Fund, which includes shares from the OIC COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, developed under the coordination of OIC Exchanges Forum, to the investors and the finance community in their respective countries.
- 26. **Requests** the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum to complete technical preparations on the OIC Gold Exchange Project, based on block-chain model, in cooperation with Central Banks of the interested Member Countries.

- 27. **Welcoming** the involvement of 14 Member Countries in the COMCEC Real Estate Electronic Platform within the framework of the Capital Markets Regulatory Forum, **requests** Forum Secretariat to expedite the necessary legal, administrative, and technical work towards having a full-fledged Real Estate Electronic Platform, and **invites** Member Countries which have not done so yet, to identify their authorized bodies as well as notify them to the Forum's Secretariat.
- 28. **Reiterating** the importance of the Dakar-Port Sudan Railway project as one of the most significant development projects aimed at enhancing the movement of people and goods among the African OIC Member Countries, **requests** the OIC General Secretariat, in cooperation with the IsDB Group, to expedite their communications with Member Countries wishing to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> OIC Transport Ministerial Meeting as soon as possible with a specific agenda on the project mentioned above.
- 29. **Welcoming** the organization of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers on 31 May 2 June 2024, in Khiva, in the Republic of Uzbekistan, **calls upon** the Member Countries to further their efforts towards the realization of the resolutions adopted by this Conference.
- 30. **Taking note of** IOFS initiatives in the field of tech-driven agriculture, **requests** IOFS to liaise with the Member Countries towards formulating comprehensive tech-driven agricultural policies to address regional challenges and maximize opportunities and establish strong public-private partnerships for fostering research and development in sustainable agri-tech solutions.
- 31. **Also taking note of** the Global Food Security Summit to be hosted by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment of United Arab Emirates (MOCCAE), in partnership of IOFS representing OIC side, as part of the Abu Dhabi Global Food Week on 26-27 November 2024 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, **invites** all Member States and the relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate and contribute for the successful holding of both events.
- 32. **Commends** the efforts of SESRIC in the execution of the OIC-TVET Strategic Road Map 2020-2025, and **requests** SESRIC to continue providing regular progress updates to both COMCEC Sessions and Follow-up Committee Meetings and to identify potential challenges and propose strategic responses to ensure the continued successful implementation of the OIC-VET Programme and **encourages** SESRIC to take necessary steps to prepare the TVET Strategic Road Map 2026-2030.
- 33. **Also commending the efforts** of SESRIC in conducting annual reports on the progress towards achievement of the prioritized SDGs in the OIC Member Countries and submission to the COMCEC Ministerial Sessions on a regular basis, **requests** SESRIC to continue to carry out statistical training activities with a focus on SDGs for the benefit of National Statistical Offices and relevant constituents of the national statistical systems of the Member Countries within the framework of its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme.
- 34. **Acknowledges** SESRIC for its efforts within the framework of OIC Social Security Institutions Network (OIC-SSINET), OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) and the OIC Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET), and **calls upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in the activities under these networks.

- 35. **Taking note with appreciation** the efforts under the COMCEC High-Level Digital Transformation Forum in exchanging experience among the Member Countries in digital transformation area, **calls upon** the interested Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to actively participate in the activities to be conducted under the Forum in the upcoming period.
- 36. **Welcomes** the policy recommendations of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Financial Cooperation Working Group, which served as the preparatory meeting for the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session, on "Digital Transformation of Payment Systems in the OIC Member Countries" held on 16-17 September 2024, and **calls upon** the Member Countries to implement these recommendations and report the progress through COMCEC Policy Follow-up System.
- 37. **Decides on** "Developing/Improving Export Strategies in the OIC Member Countries" as the theme for the Exchange of Views Session at the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC, and **requests** the COMCEC Trade Working Group in its 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Session.

38. **Decides** that the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 13-14 May 2025, and the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC will be held on 1-4 November 2025 in Türkiye.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY RESOLUTIONS OF THE $40^{TH}$ COMCEC MINISTERIAL SESSION

- 1. **Welcomes** the Report on the Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy submitted by the CCO highlighting the progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy, and **commends** the Member Countries and OIC Institutions for their valuable contributions to the implementation of the Strategy.
- 2. **Welcomes** the 12<sup>th</sup> Call for Project Proposals made by the CCO in October 2024 within the framework of COMCEC Project Funding.
- 3. **Taking note with appreciation** the report presented by the OIC General Secretariat on the implementation of the economic and commercial component of the OIC-2025: Program of Action, **calls upon** the relevant OIC Institutions to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Coordination Meeting of OIC Institutions (ACMOI) on 4-5 December 2024, in Jeddah, OIC Headquarters.
- 4. **Commending** the OIC Member Countries which have already signed and ratified the Statute of the OIC Labour Centre, **encourages** other OIC Member Countries to complete all the necessary arrangements to accede to the said Statute at their earliest convenience.
- 5. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Trade Working Group held on 6 May 2024 and 19-20 September 2024, respectively, with the theme "Improving Quality Infrastructure in the OIC Member Countries", **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

- 6. **Acknowledging** the challenges faced by Palestine and the need for supportive measures, **invites** Member Countries to support Palestinian businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, to enhance their export capacity.
- 7. **Welcomes** the activities conducted by the CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, ISFD, IOFS, SMIIC and ICCD in their field of competency, aligned with the COMCEC Strategy since the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC.
- 8. **Takes note with appreciation** that Kingdom of Morocco will organize in cooperation with ITFC, the 4<sup>th</sup> Arab-African Trade and Investment Forum in 2025 in Casablanca.
- 9. **Commends** SESRIC for its continued commitment to preparing technical background reports and research studies on various socio-economic issues relevant to OIC Conferences and Meetings, particularly Sectoral Ministerial Conferences and Standing Committee Sessions, and **expresses its appreciation** for the specific reports and research studies conducted by SESRIC since the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC, which address pertinent areas such as intra-OIC trade cooperation, the role of the private sector in economic collaboration, transport and communication, tourism and financial cooperation.
- 10. **Commending** SESRIC for implementing a comprehensive range of capacity-building programs and training activities in various socio-economic fields, crucial to the needs of OIC Member Countries, **takes note with appreciation** of the implementation of 102 capacity-building activities since the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC under seven cooperation areas of COMCEC, which have been specifically designed to serve the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations as well as the COMCEC Strategy.

- 11. **Commends** the efforts of Bangladesh, Indonesia, Suriname, Türkiye, and Uganda for the successful implementation of the following trade projects in 2024 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
  - The project entitled "Strengthening Cross-Border E-Commerce Sector in Bangladesh through Enhancing Capacity of SMEs and Professionals" being implemented by Bangladesh in partnership with Malaysia,
  - The project entitled "Developing Product Information and Determining Halal Critical Points" being implemented by Indonesia with four beneficiary countries and SMIIC,
  - The project entitled "Increasing Internationalization of SMEs in Suriname and Guyana" implemented by Suriname with Guyana and Türkiye,
  - The project entitled "Free Zone Training Program for Internationalization of SMEs" implemented by Türkiye with five beneficiary countries,
  - The project entitled "Enhancing Good Governance and Technical Capacity of SMEs to Eliminate Informalities in the Sector" implemented by Uganda.
- 12. **Appreciates** ICDT's following activities conducted in 2024, and **invites** the Member Countries to actively participate in the following fairs, exhibitions, workshops and forums to be organized by the ICDT in 2024 and 2025:
  - The 18<sup>th</sup> OIC Trade Fair, scheduled to be held from 29 November to 1 December 2024 in Lahore, Pakistan.
  - The Utali African Tourism Expo, scheduled to be held on 27-29 March 2025 in Kampala, Republic of Uganda,
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> OIC Health Expo, scheduled to be held in on 15-19 April 2025, Dakar, Senegal.
  - The next editions of the "ICDT Invest Days", scheduled to be organized in 2025 in Chad, Benin and the Comoros,
  - OIC Halal Agribusiness Industry Exhibitions, scheduled to be organized in 2025 in Saudi Arabia,
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of Cotton, Textiles and Clothing Exhibition of the OIC Member Countries, scheduled to be held in 2025 in Cameroon.
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> Consultative Forum of Regional Cooperation Organizations (RCOs) operating in the OIC region, to be held on 19-20 November 2024, in Marrakesh, Morocco, in collaboration with the IsDB.
  - The 11th Exhibition of Halal Products of the OIC Member States scheduled to be organized in 2025 in the Republic of Tunisia.
- 13. **Also appreciates** the CCO and ICDT as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) in supervising trade negotiations and building capacity related to the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member Countries.
- 14. **Welcomes** the readiness of the ICDT and CCO to organize awareness-raising workshops on the TPS-OIC and its impact on the private sector for the benefit of OIC Member Countries in the upcoming period.
- 15. **Calls upon** the WTO members of the OIC to assist non-WTO Members of the OIC in their accession process to the WTO, and **also calls upon** the Member Countries and the relevant OIC institutions to extend support to the Member Countries who need technical assistance on trade facilitation practices towards the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

- 16. **Takes note with appreciation** that by 2024, ITFC's cumulative trade finance approvals and disbursement reached US\$ 80.5 billion and US\$ 66.1 billion, respectively, and **also notes** that ITFC's cumulative funds mobilized from partner banks and financial institutions reached US\$ 49.6 billion.
- 17. **Taking note with appreciation** the efforts of ITFC to expand the scope of its trade finance products aiming at facilitating trade flows between the OIC Member Countries and beyond, enhancing partnerships with local and regional Banks and Financial Institutions for private sector and SME support, **commends** ITFC for its Global SMEs program aiming at improving access to credit for the SMEs in partnership with the SME support institutions in the beneficiary countries.
- 18. **Also commends** the efforts of ITFC for the launching of the Trade Connect Central Asia+ (TCCA+), in consultation with the targeted countries, aiming at inclusive economic growth, regional economic cooperation and promoting trade, among CIS Member Countries and with the rest of the world.
- 19. **Welcomes** the trade promotion and capacity development initiatives being implemented by ITFC under its various flagship programs such as Arab AfricaTrade Bridge Program (AATB) and Aid for Trade Initiatives for Arab States (AFTIAS).
- 20. **Takes note of** the Progress Report submitted by the ICIEC on the OIC Business Intelligence Program and the efforts exerted by ICIEC and its Partners for organizing two Capacity Building Programmes for the Users of the OBIC in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Istanbul, Türkiye in 2023, and **also takes note of** the necessary arrangements for organizing a third Capacity Building Programme during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2024.
- 21. **Takes note with appreciation** the performance of ICIEC operations, which resulted in USD 13.3 billion as business insured during 2023, compared to USD 11.6 billion in 2022, bringing the cumulative amount of business insured since inception till the end of 2023 to USD 108.3 billion.
- 22. **Acknowledges** ICIEC's role in supporting USD 51 billion of intra-OIC business insured since its inception till the end of 2023 (USD 42.8 billion of intra-OIC trade and USD 8.2 billion of intra-investment) and involving 37 countries.
- 23. **Welcomes** the membership of the Republic of Togo to SMIIC, which has increased the number of SMIIC Member Countries to 45 along with 3 Observers.
- 24. **Also welcomes** the efforts of SMIIC for conducting the following activities in its field of competence;
  - OIC/SMIIC 1:2019 General Requirements for Halal Food Central Asian Region SMIIC Member States (Russian) virtually on 27-29 May 2024.
  - The "Workshop on SMC Roadmap for SMIIC Technical Work" on 25 September 2024 in İstanbul, Türkiye.
  - Seminar on SMIIC and Halal Quality Infrastructure and OIC SMIIC 1 Halal Auditor Training in cooperation with Agence des Normes et de la Qualité du Cameroun (ANOR) on 2-5 October 2024, in Yaoundé, Cameroon.
  - Workshop on "Understanding Halal Principles and Implementing Halal Standards in the Halal Food Industry" within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding on 15-17 October 2024, in Jakarta, Indonesia.
  - SMIIC LDC Capacity Building Program for l'Agence Djiboutienne des Normes et de la Qualité (ADN), including online training series on 14-15 October 2024 and physically on 21-24 October 2024, in Djibouti.

- 25. Calls upon Islamic Forum for Halal Accreditation Bodies (IFHAB) to develop and maintain Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) among the national halal accreditation bodies of the OIC Member Countries based on OIC/SMIIC standards as defined in OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure (OHAQ).
- 26. **Expressing its appreciation** to the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the Halal Expo 2024 and 10<sup>th</sup> World Halal Summit in collaboration with SMIIC and ICDT on 27-30 November 2024, in İstanbul, with the theme of "A Decade of Halal Success: Uniting Vision, Shaping the Future", **calls upon** the Member Countries to actively participate in the Halal Expo 2024 and the 10<sup>th</sup> World Halal Summit.
- 27. **Recognizes** the initiatives undertaken by ICCD for capacity building of the private sector through the Chambers Accreditation Program and trainings in the areas of Agri Business management and the digital transformation of Chambers of Commerce and SMEs, **encourages** Member Countries, relevant organizations, and stakeholders to actively collaborate to enhance the private sectors digital capabilities, foster innovation, and promote sustainable economic development.
- 28. **Encourages** Member Countries and relevant institutions to actively utilize the ICCD's Business Connect platform as a collaborative space for businesses within ICCD regional offices to conduct B2B meetings, forge business deals, and access consultations, and **calls upon** Member Countries and organizations to engage with this platform, leveraging its resources to enhance business collaboration and partnerships.
- 29. **Takes note of** efforts and following activities of the ICCD in organizing various sector specific forums in the areas of sustainable agriculture, sustainable tourism, Islamic economy, investment, digital economy, and entrepreneurship to support the sustainable development of the OIC private sector for the resilient economic growth of the Member Countries:
  - Invest in Digital Economy Forum on 26-27 May 2024 in Amman, Jordan,
  - Best of Entrepreneurship Series Asia on AgriTech: Feeding the Future on 28 August 2024 in Karachi, Pakistan,
  - Best of Entrepreneurship Series Egypt on Entrepreneurship & Digital Transformation on 17 September 2024 in Cairo, Egypt.
- 30. **Invites** the Member Countries and relevant private sector entities to actively participate in the following sector specific forums organized by ICCD in the areas of Digital Economy, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Tourism, Islamic economy, Investment, and Entrepreneurship development to support the sustainable development of the OIC Private Sector and economic growth of the Member States, mainly the following:
  - Sustainable Tourism Forum on 1-2 February 2025 in Karachi, Pakistan,
  - Sustainable Agriculture Investment Forum in April 2025 in Baku Azerbaijan,
  - Invest in Digital Economy Forum in May 2025 in Amman, Jordan
  - Best of Entrepreneurship Series, Asia, in April 2025 in Lahore Pakistan.
- 31. **Taking note of** the continuous efforts of the ICCD to establish Microfinance institutions and the initiation of the feasibility study in collaboration with IsDB in the G5 Sahel region in Africa, namely Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, **requests** ICCD in mobilizing available funds from international organizations working particularly for poverty alleviation, small farmers and green economy, to fund the creation of operational manuals for ICCD Islamic Microfinance Institutions.

- 32. **Takes note with appreciation** that ICD's gross cumulative approvals amount to USD 8.8 billion and cumulative disbursements USD 4.9 billion as the end of September 2024.
- 33. **Commends** the dedicated cooperation efforts of ICD to develop more than 7 joint transactions worth more than USD 200 Million where ICD partnered with ITFC and ICIEC during 2024.
- 34. **Takes note with appreciation** the efforts of ICD to address the private sector development including Lines of Finance, Direct Finance, and Equity projects in OIC Member Countries through its USD 750 million and USD 598 million approval and disbursement allocation, respectively.
- 35. **Taking note with appreciation** of the convening of the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group held on 2 May 2024 and 16-17 September 2024, respectively, with the theme "Digital Transformation of Payment Systems in OIC Member Countries", **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

- 36. **Commends** the efforts of Federal Republic of Nigeria for the successful implementation of the project namely "Digital Finance and Payment Systems Training for SME Value Chain Strengthening" in 2024 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.
- 37. **Welcomes** the convening of the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC Exchanges Forum on 1 October 2024 and the offer of Borsa İstanbul, as the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to host the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum in 2025, and **invites** the Member Countries to actively participate in the activities organized under this Forum.
- 38. **Commending** the efforts of SESRIC in organizing training and capacity-building activities on various technical and regulatory aspects related to the work of the Stock Exchanges, **requests** SESRIC, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to organize such activities for the benefit of the Stock Exchanges and relevant national authorities in the Member States within the framework of SESRIC's Stock Exchanges Capacity Building Programme (SE-CaB).
- 39. **Also commending** the efforts carried out by the Task Forces of COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum namely capacity building, market development, Islamic finance, financial literacy and sustainability, **welcomes** the convening of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum on 16 October 2024 and the offer of the Capital Markets Board (CMB) of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Forum Secretariat, to host the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COMCEC CMR Forum, in 2025, and **invites** all the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.
- 40. **Welcomes** the convening of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum on 29-30 September 2024, in İstanbul, and the offer of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye as the Secretariat of the Forum, to host its 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2025, and **invites** the Member Countries to actively participate in this Meeting.
- 41. **Commending** the training and capacity building programs, particularly on Islamic banking and finance, financial stability, monetary policy, and Halal Value Chain organized by SESRIC for the benefit of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States, **requests** SESRIC to continue organizing such activities for the benefit of the relevant national institutions of the Member States within the framework of the Central Banks Capacity Building Programme (CB-CaB).

42. **Takes note with appreciation** of the convening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group held on 6 May 2024 and 24-25 September 2024, respectively with the theme of "Developing Intelligent Transportation Systems in OIC Member Countries", and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

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- 43. **Commends** the efforts of The Gambia for the successful implementation of the transport project entitled "Improving Human and Institutional Capacity for the Development of an Institutional Framework for Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) in The Gambia" implemented by The Gambia with Qatar, as the beneficiary country" in 2024, within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.
- 44. **Expresses its appreciation** for the efforts of Algeria for completing 2.548 linear kilometers of fiber optics on its own part of the Trans-Saharan Hub project, connecting Algeria, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Mali and Mauritania, within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) with a view to contributing to the emergence and development of the digital economy at the level of the concerned countries.
- 45. **Commends** SESRIC for updating the report entitled "Transportation for Development in OIC Member Countries: Implications for Trade and Tourism & Challenges for Landlocked Countries", as a technical background document for the upcoming OIC Conference of Ministers of Transport, and SESRIC and ITFC for preparing a joint study on "Implications of the AfCFTA for OIC Countries along the Trans-Sahara Road".
- 46. **Takes note with appreciation** the convening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group on 2 May 2024 and 24-25 September 2024 respectively with the theme of "Developing and Branding Gastronomy Tourism Destinations within OIC", and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

- 47. **Acknowledging** the efforts of SESRIC towards organizing the capacity-building training event for the benefit of Senegal in the field of gastronomy tourism, **appreciates** SESRIC for organizing training activities in the domain of tourism, and **requests** SESRIC to continue conducting training activities in this domain for the benefit of the member countries.
- 48. **Expresses its appreciation** to SESRIC for the preparation of the report entitled "International Tourism in the OIC Member Countries: Empowering Smart and Sustainable Tourism for Development 2024", as a technical background document for the 12th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), which was held on 31 May-2 June 2024 in Khiva, Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 49. **Commends** the efforts of Uganda, Mali, Nigeria, Togo and SESRIC for the successful implementation of the following tourism projects in 2024 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
  - The project entitled "Empowering Entrepreneurship Skills of Community-Based Tourism Enterprises to Enhance Competitiveness of Tourism Industry" implemented by Uganda with three beneficiary countries,
  - The project entitled "Capacity Building of Tourism Guides in Selected OIC Member Countries" implemented by Mali with Burkina Faso and Nigeria as the partner countries,
  - The project entitled "Enhancing Capacities of Tourism Stakeholders for Adapting to Customers Changing Needs" implemented by Nigeria with three beneficiary countries,

- The project entitled "Improving Entrepreneurial Capacities of Selected Tourism Stakeholders for Ensuring Competitiveness in Tourism" implemented by Togo with the partnership of Türkiye,
- The entitled "Strengthening the Capacities of African Tourism Boards through Sustainable Human Resource Management Practices" implemented by SESRIC with the participation of seventeen Member Countries.
- 50. **Welcomes** the convening of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum on 10 October 2024.
- 51. **Takes note with appreciation of** the convening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group on 30 April 2024 and 19-20 September 2024, respectively with the theme of "Developing Livestock Production and Fishery to Foster Food Security for a Sustainable Agricultural Development in OIC Countries", and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

- 52. **Commends** the efforts of Benin, The Gambia, Niger, Azerbaijan, Türkiye, Nigeria, and SESRIC for the successful implementation of the following projects in 2024 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding:
  - The project entitled "Capacity Building on Enriched Organic Fertilizers Production" implemented by Benin in partnership with Egypt and IOFS,
  - The project entitled "Improving Human and Institutional Capacity for the Development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the Agriculture Sector of the Gambia and OIC member Countries" implemented by The Gambia with SESRIC and Türkiye,
  - The project entitled "Sedentary the Ruminant Herds to Ensure Food and Nutritional Security in Niger" implemented by Niger with three beneficiary countries.
  - The project entitled "Experience Sharing on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)" implemented by Azerbaijan with the partnership of Türkiye
  - The project entitled "Common Steps towards Climate Change: Adaptation, Mitigation and Resistance Strategies in Stone Fruits" implemented by Türkiye with Azerbaijan and Morocco
  - The project entitled "Capacity Building on Organomineral Fertilizers" implemented by Nigeria with Sudan and Benin
  - The project entitled "Promoting Food Security in OIC Member Countries through Sustainable Agricultural Inputs" implemented by SESRIC with fifteen beneficiary countries.
- 53. **Commending** SESRIC for organizing capacity building and training activities under its Agriculture and Food Security Capacity Building Programme (Agri-CaB) and the Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme, **requests** SESRIC to continue organising activities under these Programmes, and **invites** Member Countries to actively participate and benefit from these activities to share their experiences and best practices in agricultural development.
- 54. **Also commending** SESRIC's endeavours in launching three capacity-building programmes, namely Digital Transformation Capacity Building Programme (Digi-CaB), Halal Capacity Building Programme (Halal-CaB), and Palestine National Institutions Capacity Building Programme (Palestine-CaB), **encourages** Member Countries and other OIC Institutions to participate actively in the activities under these programmes.
- 55. **Taking note** of the increasing membership composition of IOFS, **invites** the Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions to participate in the programs and activities towards ensuring food security and agricultural development in the Member Countries.

- 56. **Taking note of** briefing made by IOFS on the humanitarian food relief appeal, including 1.000 tons of wheat floor for Gaza by IOFS, **commends** the efforts of IOFS, and **encourages** the Member States and the relevant OIC Institutions, to the extent possible, to support this vital initiative.
- 57. **Also taking note of** the establishment of 11 December as "OIC Food Security Day", **requests** IOFS, to the extent possible, to celebrate such an important occasion in collaboration with the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions.
- 58. **Taking note with appreciation of** the convening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group on 2 May 2024 and 16-17 September 2024 respectively, with the theme "Alleviating Adverse Effects of Natural Disasters on Poor Segments of Society in the OIC Member Countries", and **welcomes** its policy recommendations.

- 59. **Taking into account** the need for supporting the livelihood of Palestinian youth and enhancing human resources capacity of Palestine, **calls on** Member Countries to increase scholarships opportunities for Palestinian students to the extent possible and initiate special programs for university graduates.
- 60. **Recalling** the relevant resolution of the COMCEC Sessions, **requests** the CCO to carry on compiling the relevant OIC Institutions' activities aligned with the prioritized SDG areas for submission to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC.
- 61. **Commends** the efforts of Türkiye and SESRIC for the implementation of the following projects in 2024 within the framework of the 11<sup>th</sup> Call of the COMCEC Project Funding:
  - The project entitled "Developing Policy Framework Capacity in the Field of Social Security After Natural Disasters" implemented by Türkiye with the partnership of Azerbaijan, Malaysia, Tunisia, Pakistan and SESRIC,
  - The project entitled "Empowering Youth through Enhancing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)" implemented by SESRIC with 17 beneficiary countries.
- 62. Commending SESRIC for the successful launch of the 2023 edition of the Statistical Yearbook on OIC Member Countries and the new version of the OIC Statistics (OIC-Stat) Database, which provide critical data for evidence-based policymaking and comprehensive insights into key socio-economic indicators across OIC Member Countries, encourages the Member Countries and OIC Institutions to utilize these valuable tools in their policy formulation processes, and requests SESRIC to continue updating and improving the OIC-Stat Database to reflect emerging data needs in policymaking.
- 63. **Taking note with appreciation** of the efforts of the ISFD for mobilizing resources, **reiterates** its request to the Member Countries, which have pledged to the ISFD to fulfill their commitments and make fresh contributions to finance more poverty alleviation projects in Member Countries.
- 64. **Also taking note with appreciation** of the efforts of the OIC Labour Centre towards the implementation of the environment, climate change, and sustainability objectives set by the OIC 2025: Programme of Action and active involvement in the COP29, **encourages** Member Countries to implement just transition strategies while shifting to a green economy, including skilling, reskilling, and upskilling the current and future workforce as well as to actively participate in and contribute to the projects and training programs of the OIC Labour Centre.

- 65. **Taking note of** the OIC Labour Centre's activities on occupational safety and health (OSH), **encourages** the interested member countries to actively involve in the activities to be conducted by the OIC Labour Centre in these fields.
- 66. **Commends** the conduct of training and competition on "HackMasters Cyber Security Competition" by the Digital Transformation Office (DTO) of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye, as the Secretariat of the COMCEC High-Level Digital Transformation Forum, on 17-19 September 2024.
- 67. **Also commends** the efforts of Sierra Leone for the successful implementation of the project titled "Legal and Regulatory Framework for E-Government" in 2024 within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding.

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