

OIC/4ICLM/2018/RES/FINAL

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
4th ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
OF LABOUR MINISTERS**

**JEDDAH , KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
5-6 JUMADA AL-AKHIRAH 1439H
(21-22 FEBRUARY 2018)**

RESOLUTION
ON
THE COOPERATION ON LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION AMONG THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers, held from 5 to 6 Jumada Al-Akhirah 1439H (21-22 February 2018), in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

Pursuant to the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on intensification of intra-OIC cooperation in the socio-economic domain,

Recalling the OIC-2025: Programme of Action, adopted by the 13th Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 14-15 April 2016, particularly the relevant goals relating to labour, employment and social protection,

Also recalling the General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States of the OIC, adopted as per Resolution No.1/8-E of the Eighth Session of CFM held in Tripoli, Libya on 16-22 May 1977,

Reaffirming the importance of the OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection adopted at the Second Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM), as the basic framework for the promotion of intra-OIC cooperation on labour, employment and social protection,

Recalling the outcomes of the Third Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 to 30 October 2015, including its Resolution and Declaration,

Reiterating the adoption of the Statute of OIC Labour Centre as an OIC specialized institution to be headquartered in Baku, Azerbaijan, by the 43rd Council of Foreign Ministers held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan on 18-19 October 2016,

Taking note of the signing of the Statute of OIC Labour Centre by the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Azerbaijan during 2017,

Considering the outcome of the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia on 10 April 2017,

Also considering the recommendations of the Workshop on Research and Studies on Islamic Concepts and Practices relating to employment, which was held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia on 11-12 April 2017,

Taking note that the "General Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)" have been adopted by SMIIC as the OIC/SMIIC 5 Standard on 7 April 2017 and are available for use by all OIC member states,

Conscious of the fact that unemployment, especially among youth, remains one of the serious challenges for developmental efforts of many OIC member states,

Noting that the causes of unemployment in many OIC member states are attributed to shortage of job opportunities, skills mismatch, low productivity, macroeconomic instability, seasonality of jobs, disconnect between the demands of employers and the output of education systems, among others,

Recognizing that young people in most OIC member states continue to lack access to basic social services and decent work opportunities,

Also recognizing that creating more quality jobs is an indispensable factor for strong, sustainable and balanced growth, and a prerequisite for inclusive and sustainable development in OIC member states,

Further recognizing that unemployment and underemployment are the ultimate causes of radicalization of youth in Afghanistan and other OIC member states,

Reaffirming the importance of public and private investment, well-functioning skill systems, as well as programmes for promoting better employment opportunities in order to address unemployment,

Bearing in mind that the OIC member states feature countries that export labour force and countries that receive foreign labour force, and the need for a safe, orderly and regular labour migration within the OIC member states,

Desirous of formulating a framework agreement on promoting intra-OIC mobility among skilled workforce and improving access for them to the OIC Labour Market,

Reiterating commitment to further implement OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection and other OIC decisions on labour, employment and social issues,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Approves** the provisions of the OIC Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of Skilled Workforce aimed at facilitating intra-OIC skilled labour mobility and **urges** member states to enter into bilateral or multilateral negotiations on sectoral MRAs;
2. **Also approves** the provisions of the OIC Standard Bilateral Agreement on Exchange of Manpower aimed at facilitating admission and movement of workforce within OIC member states, and **urges** member states to proceed expeditiously with its execution on bilateral basis;
3. **Welcomes** the OIC Labour Market Strategy, which outlines the priority areas of intra-OIC-cooperation on labour, employment and social issues, and to this end, **encourages** member states to take necessary measures to implement the Strategy in a holistic and efficient manner; including sending their responses gradually;

4. **Invites** member states to intensify efforts to implement Executive Programme of the OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection, with particular reference to development of programmes on occupational health safety and health at workplace; establishment of an OIC Labour and Professional Training Observatory; legal protection for employees and labour market legislations; social security protection for workers; and exchange of knowledge and best practices on labour issues;
5. **Affirms** the resolution adopted by the Third Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers on Turkey's proposal to establish an OIC Occupational Safety and Health Center in Ankara in the framework of the proposed OIC Labour Center;
6. **Reiterates** continued support for the Palestinian people particularly its workers, especially in the fields of training and rehabilitation and support for the employment and social protection fund;
7. **Invites** member states to follow-up the annual report of the Director General of International Labour Organization (ILO) on Palestinian workers and to create executive mechanisms to help in stopping aggression by Israel, the occupation authority, against Palestinian workers;
8. **Calls upon** member states, which have not done so, to sign and ratify the Statute of OIC Labour Centre to be headquartered in Baku, Azerbaijan, at their earliest convenience in order to enable early take-off of the Centre;
9. **Also calls upon** labour receiving member states to prioritize signing bilateral labour MoUs, and open effective labour migration corridors in line with the aligned interests of labour sending and receiving countries towards OIC member states currently with: i) no access to international labour market in a regularized manner; ii) high unemployment and underemployment; and iii) high risk of youth radicalization;
10. **Expresses appreciation** to the Government of Azerbaijan for facilitating the early take-off of the Secretariat of OIC Labour Centre within the process of consolidating the approved organs of the new OIC specialized institution, upon the provisional entry into force of the Statute of OIC Labour Centre;
11. **Also expresses appreciation** to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting the Fourth Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers and for its impressive arrangements, which ensured the success of the Conference;
12. **Welcomes** the offer of the Government of United Arab Emirates to host the Fifth Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM) in 2020, and **requests** the Secretary General to consult with relevant authorities of the United Arab Emirates on the date and other arrangements thereto;

13. **Also requests** the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a progress report to the 5th Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers.

**Adopted in Jeddah,
22 February 2018
(6 Jumada Al-Akhirah 1439H)**