

*OIC/GA-IOFS/2016/REP-SOM*

***REPORT OF THE  
SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING  
PREPARATORY TO THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
THE ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION FOR FOOD SECURITY  
(IOFS)***

***ASTANA, REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN  
26 APRIL 2016  
19 JUMADA AL-AKHIR 1437H***

**Report of the Senior Officials' Meeting**  
**Preparatory to the First General Assembly of**  
**The Islamic Organization for Food Security**  
**Astana, Kazakhstan, 26 April 2016**

The Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), preparatory to the First General Assembly of the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) was held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 26 April 2016. The Meeting was attended by the delegates from 23 OIC Member States, which signed the Statute of IOFS. The representatives of other OIC Member States, and relevant Institutions, as well as regional and international organizations attended the SOM as observers. List of participants is attached as **Annex 1**.

**Opening ceremony**

2. Following a recitation from the Holy Quran, H.E. Mr. Ermek Kosherbayev, Vice-Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, in his capacity as the representative of the host country of IOFS welcomed the delegates and emphasized the great importance, which the Government of Kazakhstan attaches to the consolidation of the structures of the new specialized institution of the OIC for food security.

3. On his part, H.E. Amb. Hameed Opeloyeru, OIC Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs enumerated the various measures taken towards the conceptualization and the eventual creation of IOFS, while commending the efforts of OIC member states and institutions in the entire process.

**Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the General Assembly**

4. The Meeting, in accordance with the Article 10 (2.a) of the IOFS Statute, unanimously elected the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the General Assembly as follows:

Republic of Kazakhstan	–	Chairman;
State of Palestine	–	Vice-Chairman;
Republic of Cote D'Ivoire	–	Vice-Chairman.

5. Subsequently, H.E. Mr. Ermek Kosherbayev, Vice- Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, assumed the chairmanship of the SOM.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

6. The Meeting adopted its Agenda as contained in **Annex 2**.

**Consideration of country candidatures for membership of the Executive Board of the IOFS**

7. Under this agenda item, the SOM considered the candidatures submitted by member states and agreed to recommend the constitution of the First Executive Board of IOFS, in accordance with the Article 10 (2.b) of the IOFS Statute, as follows:

1. People's Republic of Bangladesh;
2. Burkina Faso;
3. Republic of Turkey;
4. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
5. Republic of the Sudan;
6. Republic of Kazakhstan;
7. Republic of Niger;
8. Director General (IOFS).

**Consideration of candidates for the position of the Director General of the IOFS Secretariat**

8. Based on the provisions of Article 10 (2.e) and Article 15 (2) of the IOFS Statute, the meeting unanimously agreed to recommend the appointment of Mr. Yerzhan Jalmukhanov, the nominee of Kazakhstan, as the Director-General of IOFS.

**Consideration of the Report of Executive Board Meeting**

9. The meeting received the Report of the First Executive Board meeting, which recommended the election of H.E. Dr. Saad A.Khalil Esa, Director-General of Department of International Cooperation and Overseas Agricultural Investment, Ministry of Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as Chairman of the Executive Board. The Meeting accepted the report of the Executive Board Meeting, which recommended the adoption of the following IOFS documents:

- (a) Draft Rules of Procedure;
- (b) Draft Financial Regulations;
- (c) Draft Personnel Regulations; and
- (d) Proposed Budget of IOFS Secretariat.

10. The above documents are attached as **Annex 3**.

**Consideration of IOFS Plan of Action**

11. The meeting endorsed the Plan of Action as presented by the Executive Board and agreed to submit same for the adoption of the General Assembly. The meeting agreed on the need for

the Plan to address the challenges posed by water scarcity in the member states. It also emphasised the importance of closer collaboration with other regional organisations with regard to the proposed common agricultural policy of IOFS, in order to avoid duplication and promote synergy.

#### **Venue and Date of the Next Session**

12. The Meeting recommended that the next session of General Assembly be held in 2017 and suggested that the date and venue be decided by the IOFS Secretariat, in consultation with the Executive Board and in line with Article 10 of the Statute of IOFS.

#### **Agenda and Draft Resolutions of the Ministerial Session**

13. The Meeting recommended the draft agenda of the Ministerial Session of the General Assembly and its draft resolutions as contained in **Annex 4** and **Annex 5** respectively.

#### **Vote of Thanks**

14. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the success of the SOM. The Meeting congratulated the Chairman for the excellent steering of the deliberations of the SOM.

#### **Adopted in Astana, 26 April 2016**