

REPORT

**OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE
FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC**

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

COMCEC Coordination Office

Ankara, May 1990

ADDRESS :

COMCEC Coordination Office

Necatibey Cad. 108
Ankara-TURKEY

Tel : 90-4-230 94 21
Tlx : 421 10 DPT TR
Tlfax : 90-4-229 04 50

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference_____	3
List of Documents of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC_____	23

A N N E X E S

I.List of Participants of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC_____	27
II.Message of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey, Chairman of the COMCEC_____	37
III.Message of H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC_____	39
IV.Opening Statement by H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey, Chairman of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC_____	41
V.Statement of H.E.Osman N.R. OTHMAN, Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference_____	45
VI. Agenda of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC_____	51
Vn.Background Report of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference_____	53

VIII. Progress Report on the Detailed Study on the Establishment of an Export Credit Insurance Scheme Among OIC Member Countries	83
IX. Draft Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System Among the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its Annex on "Rules of Origin"	91
X. Joint Comprehensive Progress Report on TINIC and OICIS-NET with Emphasis on Possible Complementarities Between Them.	117
XI. "Methodology for the Harmonization of the Existing Standards of the Islamic Countries and the Preparation of Common Standards"	137
XII. Draft of the "Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees of the Organization of the Islamic Conference"	169
XIII. Draft Agenda of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation	191
XIV. Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC	193
XV. Closing Speech by H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey, Chairman of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.	195

Original: English

REPORT

OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC

1. The Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC) was held in Istanbul on 20-22 March 1990.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Member States of the Follow-up Committee:

- Republic of Turkey (Chairman)
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Vice-Chairman)
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Vice-Chairman)
- Republic of Guinea (Vice-Chairman)
- State of Palestine (Vice-Chairman)
- State of Kuwait (Vice-Chairman, Chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference)
- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (Rapporteur)

3. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the General Secretariat and the following subsidiary and affiliated organs of OIC:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC)
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)

4. The representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) were present at the Meeting as observers.

(A copy of the list of participants is attached as Annex I.)

Opening Session

5. The Meeting was inaugurated by H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

6. H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, in a message addressed to the Meeting, expressed his confidence that the recommendations to be made by the Follow-up Committee would further contribute to the early implementation of the various projects on the Agenda, as well as to the effective functioning of the COMCEC. The President referring to the radical political, economic and social developments in the world during the course of the last decade, stated that the Sixth Islamic Summit to take place in Senegal would be a good opportunity

to assess the work of the COMCEC. H.E. Turgut ÖZAL conveyed his best wishes for the success of the Meeting.

(A copy of the text of the message of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL is attached as Annex II.)

7. H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, in his message to the Meeting, welcomed the delegates to Turkey and underlined the importance attached by the Turkish Government to multilateral economic cooperation in supporting development efforts at national level, especially in the face of rapidly changing world economic and political conditions, and expressed its readiness to extend every possible assistance in this regard. H.E. AKBULUT wished all success to the Meeting and a pleasant stay in Turkey to the delegates.

(A copy of the text of the message of H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT is attached as Annex III.)

8. The Meeting was then addressed by H.E. İsm ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Follow-up Committee. H. E. İsm ÇELEBİ, while stating his pleasure in addressing the Committee, expressed his awareness of the fact that the COMCEC owed much of its success to the efficient work done so far by the Follow-up Committee. Concerning the items appearing on the agenda of the Committee, the Minister commended

the efforts being made by the Member States and the related OIC organs towards completion of the necessary studies. The Chairman went on to indicate that the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to take place in Senegal would evaluate the progress achieved by the COMCEC in the implementation of the priority areas of the Plan of Action and assess the developments in this regard. H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, wished every success to the Committee and a pleasant stay in Turkey to the delegates.

(A copy of the text of the Opening Statement by H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ is attached as Annex IV.)

9. H.E. Osman N.R. OTHMAN, Assistant Secretary General of OIC, also addressed the Meeting. H.E. OTHMAN conveyed the profound gratitude and best wishes of H.E. Dr. Hamid Al GABID, Secretary General of OIC, to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC and to H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, for their unfailing interest and abiding commitment to the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action as well as for their wise guidance in promoting economic and commercial cooperation among Member States. The Assistant Secretary General expressed his satisfaction at the commendable progress achieved under the auspices of the COMCEC.

H.E. OTHMAN also conveyed the congratulations of the Secretary General of OIC to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL for his assumption of the

Chairmanship of the COMCEC and expressed the confidence of the General Secretariat of OIC that under his able Chairmanship the COMCEC will fulfill its mandate to foster cooperation among the Member States. The Assistant Secretary General, while highlighting the current inequitable international economic situation which is also affecting the economies of the Islamic countries, stressed the need for further cooperation and collaboration among the Member States in the spirit of Islamic solidarity and fraternity.

(A copy of the text of the statement of H.E. Osman N.R. OTHMAN is attached as Annex V.)

10. The Committee was then addressed by the Heads of the Delegations of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the State of Palestine. In their statements, Heads of Delegations expressed their gratitude to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL the President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, and to H. E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, for their able leadership and keen interest in fostering economic cooperation among the OIC Member States and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. Expressing their concern for the continued deterioration in the terms-of-trade of the Member Countries, adversely affecting the economies of both oil exporting and non - oil exporting members, the Heads of Delegations stated their appreciation for the efforts of the COMCEC in translating the Plan of Action into concrete results. Referring

to the importance of the items on the Agenda, they commended the efficient work done by the COMCEC towards finalizing them. In his address, the Head of the Delegation of the State of Palestine, conveyed the greetings and thanks of the President Yasser ARAFAT to the President, to Government and people of Turkey for the full support they provide to the Islamic Ummah in general and to the Palestinian question in particular. He also conveyed the hope of President ARAFAT that the present firm stand of Turkey continue until the rights of the Palestinian people are fully secured.

11. After the adoption of the Agenda, the Committee set up an open-ended Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of the Rapporteur. Thereafter, the working sessions of the Meeting were chaired by H.E. Dr. Ali TIGREL, Undersecretary of State for the State Planning Organization of the Republic of Turkey.

(A copy of the Agenda as adopted by the Committee is attached as Annex VI.)

Report of the OIC General Secretariat

12. Under Agenda item 3, Mr. A.K.M. FAROOQ, Director of Economic Affairs of the OIC General Secretariat, presented a summary of the comprehensive Background Report of the General Secretariat. In his presentation, the Director highlighted the progress achieved towards the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member States as well the Resolutions of the COMCEC particularly pertaining to the

items on the Agenda. The Director also summarized the progress achieved towards the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the various Ministerial Meetings held under the auspices of the COMCEC, namely, trade, industry, agriculture, transport, communications and energy.

13. The Committee thanked the General Secretariat for the preparation of the comprehensive and detailed Background Report. While welcoming the offer of the Republic of Indonesia to host the second ministerial meeting on communications, and the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the 8th Meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States and the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, the Committee recommended to the COMCEC to appeal to the Member States;

- a) to sign and / or ratify various Agreements in the area of economic cooperation,
- b) to actively participate in the 4th Islamic Trade Fair to take place from 5 to 14 October 1990 in Tunis,
- c) to implement the Resolutions of the Ministerial Meetings held under the auspices of the COMCEC.

14. Upon the explanations given by the Head of the Delegation of the State of Palestine, the Committee expressed its concern for the dire situation caused by the Jewish immigration into the occupied

territories of Palestine and appealed to the international community to use all means at its disposal to stop this immigration. The Committee renewed, in this connection, its support for the intifada of the valiant Palestinian people and for the PLO in its endeavors for a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem. The Committee decided to recommend to the COMCEC to make an appeal to the Member States for the implementation of economic measures in support of Palestine adopted at various OIC fora.

(A copy of the text of the Background Report of the General Secretariat is attached as Annex VII.)

Export Credit Insurance Scheme

15. Under Agenda item 4, the representative of IDB presented a progress Report on the activities undertaken by the Bank for the establishment of the "Export Credit Insurance Scheme" as decided at the Fifth Session of the COMCEC.

16. The Committee noted with appreciation that IDB hosted the High Level Experts Meeting in November 1989 to examine the operational features of the proposed Scheme. It was noted that the experts recommended to the Bank, among others, that:

a) The Scheme should begin with export credit insurance. However, it should also cover investment insurance;

- b) The Scheme should function through an institution to be established as a subsidiary of IDB, with the president of the Bank being the Ex-Officio Chairman of the General Council of the Scheme;
- c) The Scheme should be confined to goods traded among the **OIC** member countries conforming to specified rules of origin, and cover both commercial and non-commercial risks;
- d) The preparation of the necessary documents, such as the convention (Articles of Agreement), financial regulations and other relevant documents, should start immediately through consultation among the Member States willing to participate in the Scheme for preliminary in puts to be followed by the processing of the Scheme through the Administration of the Bank.

The Committee, however, decided that the above recommendations of the experts should be considered in the light of the decisions of the Fifth Session of the COMCEC.

17. The Committee also noted with appreciation that IDB had already prepared a Draft Convention for the Scheme which was ready to be submitted to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC and that the basics of the Scheme would be submitted to the 15th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of IDB to be held in Cairo in 1991.

18. The Committee requested the Bank to finalize the necessary preparation for the early establishment of the Scheme and report it to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC.

(Copies of the Progress Report and the Report of the High Level Experts Meeting are attached as Annex VIII.)

Draft Framework Agreement on the Establishment of a Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States (TPSOIC)

19. Under the Agenda item 5, the representative of ICDT presented a progress report on the preparation of the Draft Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System Among OIC Member Countries (TPSOIC). In this connection, the Committee took note of the information provided by the representative of UNCTAD regarding trade preferential systems among developing countries.

20. The Committee noted with appreciation that the expert group meetings were convened, upon invitation by ICDT, in Istanbul on 18-21 December 1989 and in Casablanca on 12-14 March 1990, to review the Draft Framework Agreement on TPSOIC and its annex on Rules of Origin, respectively.

21. The Committee took note of the observations made by some of the delegations and agreed that they should be taken into account by ICDT before the text of the Draft Framework Agreement and its Annex on the Rules of Origin are submitted to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC.

22. The Committee asked ICDT to finalize, in cooperation with COMCEC Coordination Office, the Draft Framework Agreement and its Annex on the Rules of Origin at the earliest and in the light of the guidelines given by the Follow-up Committee, and submit it to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC for final decision.

(A copy of the "Draft Framework Agreement on TPSOIC" and its Annex on "Rules of Origin", are attached as Annex IX.)

Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC)

23. Under the Agenda item 6, the representative of ICDT presented the progress report on TINIC and OICIS-NET, jointly prepared by IDB and ICDT, followed by complementary explanations by the representative of IDB.

24. The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of ICDT and **IDB** in preparing the progress report, requested ICDT and IDB to examine it with the view to identifying functional interrelations and complementarities between the OICIS-NET and TINIC to avoid duplication of work and additional cost to member countries in the light of the decision adopted at the Fifth Session of the COMCEC, and submit it to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC for final decision.

(A copy of the joint Report by IDB and ICDT on TINIC is attached as Annex X.)

composition of the Follow-up Committee until the conclusion of the work on Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC.

(A copy of the draft Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees of OIC as presented by the General Secretariat of OIC is attached as Annex XII.)

Draft Agenda of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation

30. Under the Agenda item 9, the Turkish delegation explained to the Committee the items of the Draft Agenda of the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation of OIC to be held concurrently with the Sixth Session of the COMCEC on 7-10 October 1990 in Istanbul. The Committee noted that the Republic of Turkey had prepared the first version of the Draft Agenda and circulated it, through the OIC General Secretariat, among the Member States for their comments and suggestions.

31. After having considered the suggestions made by the delegations, the Committee made amendments in the Draft Agenda and requested its circulation, through the General Secretariat of OIC, among the Member States.

(A copy of the Draft Agenda of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation as agreed on by the Committee, is attached as Annex XIII.)

Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC

32. Under the Agenda item 10, the Committee considered the Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC to be held on 7-10 October, 1990 in Istanbul.

33. The Committee revised the Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC, taking into consideration various suggestions made by the delegations, and decided to circulate it, through the General Secretariat of OIC, among Member States.

(A copy of the Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC, as agreed on by the Committee, is attached as AnnexXIV.)

Any Other Business

34. Under item "Any Other Business" of the Agenda, the Committee first considered the issue of the subject matter of the Ministerial Meeting to be held concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC in 1991.

35. The Committee, after having considered the suggestions made by some of the delegations, agreed that a Ministerial Meeting on cooperation in the area of infrastructure and public works could be considered to be convened concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC.

Taking note of the suggestion made by some delegations regarding the importance of cooperation in the area of promotion of investments and flow of capital among the Member Countries as a sound means of overcoming their economic and balance-of-payments problems, the Committee also agreed that this issue could be considered for inclusion in the agenda of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC.

36. Under the same item, the Committee was informed that its Seventh Meeting was scheduled to take place on 7-9 May 1991 in Istanbul.

Closing Session

37. At its closing session, which was presided by H.E. İsm ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey, the Committee adopted its Report together with its Annexes. The Committee decided to circulate the Report to the Member States through the OIC General Secretariat, and decided to submit it to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC through the Rapporteur.

38. The Heads of Delegations of the State of Kuwait, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Republic of Guinea in their statements expressed their profound thanks and appreciation to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC and to H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC for their wise guidance and keen interest in strengthening economic cooperation among the

Member Countries. The Heads of the Delegations thanked H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Follow-up Committee , H.E. Dr. Ali TİGREL, Undersecretary of State for the State Planning Organization and Chairman of the working sessions of the Meeting and H.E. Safwan S. TOQAN, Secretary General of the Ministry of Planning of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Rapporteur of the Meeting, for the able and effective manner in which they chaired the Meeting. The Heads of Delegations also expressed their profound thanks to the Government and people of Turkey for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to the delegates during their stay in Turkey. They finally thanked the COMCEC Coordination Office and all the supporting staff for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. H.E. Osman N.R. OTHMAN, Assistant Secretary General of OIC also made a statement thanking H.E. Turgut ÖZAL , President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC and H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ, Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Follow-up Committee, for their wise and able guidance in promoting economic cooperation among the Member Countries, and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

39. In his closing statement, H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ expressed his pleasure in observing that the recommendations in the final report of the present meeting would contribute to the early

realization of the projects on the agenda of the COMCEC and to the effective implementation of these projects. The Minister also stated his thanks to the OIC General Secretariat and the other involved Specialized Institutions for their careful work on these projects. H.E. ÇELEBİ, referring to the recommendation made by the Follow-up Committee regarding the subject matter of the Ministerial Meeting to be held concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC in 1991, underlined the importance of infrastructure and public works for the economic development and prosperity of the Member Countries. Finally, H.E. ÇELEBİ wished the delegates a safe journey home.

(A copy of the text of the closing speech by H.E. Işın ÇELEBİ is attached as Annex XV.)

40. At the end of the Meeting, the Committee requested the Chairman to send messages on its behalf to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, and to H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC. In these messages, the Committee expressed its feelings of profound gratitude and appreciation to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL and to H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT for the sincere welcome and most generous hospitality extended to the delegates during their stay in Turkey.

Original: English

LIST OF DOCUMENTS OF
THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

Original: English

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS OF
THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC**

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

- 1- Background Report by the General Secretariat of OIC
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D1)
- 2- Progress Report on the Detailed Study on the Establishment of
an Export Credit Insurance Scheme among OIC Member
Countries
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D2)
- 3- Draft Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System
Among the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic
Conference
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D3)
- 4- Joint Comprehensive Report on TINIC and OICIS-NET with
Emphasis on Possible Complementarities Between Them
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D4)
- 5- Methodology for the Harmonization of the Existing Standards
of the Islamic Countries and for the Preparation of Common
Standards
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D5)
- 6- Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees of
the Organization of the Islamic Conference
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D6)
- 7- Draft Agenda of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on
Technical Cooperation as Agreed on by the Committee
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/D A2)
- 8- Draft Agenda of the Sixth COMCEC Meeting
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/DA3)

A N N E X E S

Original: English

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC
Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990**

REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

- Mr. Ibrahima DIALLO
Charge D'Affairs, Embassy of Guinea in Egypt
- Mr. Algassimou FOFANA
Chief of Organization of Islamic Affairs to Ministry
of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. AbdoulayeBARRY
Chief of Section, National Directorate of Trade,
Ministry of Industry Trade and Handicrafts

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

- Mr.** Safwan Samih TOQAN
Secretary General, Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Jamal Mohamed H. SALAH
Central Bank of Jordan, Head Research Department

STATE OF KUWAIT

- H.E. Faisal Seyyid EL-RIFAE
Ambassador of Kuwait to Turkey
- Mr. Khaled Jassem AL-RUBIAN
Director of Economic Organizations Department,
Ministry of Finance
- Mr. Ishaq ABDULKARIM
Controller of International Affairs, Ministry of
Finance

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

- H.E. Syed Iftikhar Hussain GI LAN I
Minister For Law and Justice
- Mr. Muhammed Jamil ERICKZADA
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce
- Mr. Nisar Hussain KHAN
Deputy Secretary, Economic Affairs Division
- Mr. M. Saeed KHALID
Counsellor, Embassy of Pakistan-Ankara
- Mr. Ajmal Mahmood QURESII
Consul General, Consulate General of Pakistan,
Istanbul
- Mr. M.F. Rahman AK BAR
Director OIC, Ministry Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Tanveer Akhtar KI IASKIIEI
Vice Consul, Consulate General of Pakistan. Istanbul

STATE OF PALESTINE

- Mr. Mohammed Al NAHHAL
Director of Economic Affairs

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

- Mr. Jobarah Eid AL SURAISRY
Assistant, Deputy Minister of Finance
- Mr. Hassan J.Kh. AL JEHANI
Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance
- Mr. Jamal Abdullah AL AJAJI
Economic Analyst, Ministry of Finance

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

- H.E. İsm ÇELEBİ
Minister of State
- H.E. Ali TİGREL
Undersecretary, State Planning Organization
- H.E. Yaşar YAKIŞ
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey in Riyadh

- Mr. Yavuz EGE
Deputy Undersecretary, State Planning Organization
- Mr. Ismail Hakkı BATUK
Economic and Financial Advisor to the President of Turkey
- Mr. Osman ASLAN
Deputy General Director, Eximbank
- Mr. Fikret ÜÇCAN
Head of Social Planning Department, State Planning Organization
- Mr. Yavuz AKTAŞ
Head of OIC Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Mehmet KARAKAYA
Head of Department at the General Directorate of Customs, Ministry of Finance and Customs
- Mr. Celal KARATEKELİOĞLU
Head of Department in the Undersecretariat of Treasury and Foreign Trade
- Mr. Ahmet GÜNKUT
Head of Department in the Undersecretariat of Treasury and Foreign Trade
- Mr. Okan KARAGÖZOĞLU
Deputy Secretary General of Export Promotion Center of Turkey
- Mr. Altan ÖZEN
Turkish Standards Institution

ORGANIZATIONS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (OIC)

- H.E. Ousman N.R. OTHMAN
Assistant Secretary General
- Mr. A.K.M. FAROOQ
Director of Economic Affairs
- Mr. Mustafizur RAHMAN KHAN
Professional Officer

STATISTICAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRTCIC)

- **Dr.** İlhan UĞUREL
Executive Coordinator
- Mr. Mahmoud RAIS
Head of Publications Department

ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE (ICDT)

- Mr. Mohammed GUEDIRA
Director General
- Mr. Zine El Abidine HOUKI
Deputy Director General
- Mr. Badre-Eddine ALLAL
Senior Economist

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)

- Mr. A. NurHERSI
Advisor to the Bank
- Mr. Assibi O. ABUDU
Coordinator, Economic and Policy Planning Department
- Mr. Mohamed BENYOUCEF
Head, Computer Section

**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND
DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)**

- Mr. Saadat AHMED
Economic Affairs Officer, FCDC Division

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

- Mr. Edmund J. CAIN
Resident Representative UNDP-Turkey
- Mr. Shahid HUSSAIN
Deputy Director TCDC

COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE

- Mr. Aydan KARAHAN
Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mr. Celal ARMANGİL
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mrs. Nurhan MACUN
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mr. Mustafa ŞİRİN
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office

Drafting:

- Mrs. Nebile TAYŞI
Expert
- Mrs. Nurdan DOKUZOĞUZ
Expert

- Mr. Ismail AKPINAR
Expert
- Mr. Fatih ÜNLÜ
Expert
- Mr. Murat YÜLEK
Expert

Documentation:

- Mr. Ebubekir MEMİŞ
Coordinator
- Mrs. Bige HAMURDAN
Assistant Coordinator
- Mr. Ahmet BİLGİN
Expert
- Mr. Kemal ARSLAN
Computer Services Expert

Protocol:

- Mr. Ahmet KOCAER
Expert

Press Relations:

-Mr. Orhan ÖZTAŞKIN
Expert

Secretarial Services :

-Ms. Sema BAKKALOGLU

Original : Turkish

MESSAGE OF İLE. TURGUT ÖZAL
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY,
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC

Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up
Committee of the COMCEC

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

Mr. Chairman,

Honourable Members of the Follow-up Committee,

Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to express my pleasure in welcoming you to Turkey as Chairman of the COMCEC on the occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

The task carried out by your Committee since September 1985 significantly contributed to monitoring the implementation of the COMCEC resolutions as well as to defining and organizing its activities. I am confident that the Sixth Meeting will be no exception.

I am happy to state that the COMCEC is carrying out the task it was entrusted with by the Plan of Action adopted at the Third

Islamic Summit Conference, by setting in motion the activities that would lead to closer cooperation in the fields of priority, especially in the commercial area.

However the significant political, social and economic developments taking place recently, the changes in world economic conditions during the last decade and the various occurrences in the member countries, may necessitate a new and more adequate strategy for economic cooperation within the Organization of the Islamic Conference. I believe that the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference scheduled to convene in Senegal will provide an opportunity to evaluate the developments achieved by the COMCEC and to define new objectives.

I wish the Committee full success in its work, and hope that the delegates will have a pleasant stay in Turkey.

Turgut ÖZAL

President of the
Republic of Turkey,
Chairman of the COMCEC

Original: Turkish

**MESSAGE BY H.E. YILDIRIM AKBULUT
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY,
ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC**

Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up
Committee of the COMCEC

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

Mr. Chairman,

Honourable Members of the Follow-up Committee,

Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Government and the people of Turkey, I would like to welcome you all on the occasion of the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

It is a source of great pleasure for my Government to observe that the necessary groundwork for the implementation of the projects on the agenda of the COMCEC are approaching their final stages, thanks to the joint efforts of the member countries, the General Secretariat and affiliated specialized institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

I am confident that the implementation of these projects will greatly enhance the existing means of economic cooperation among the member countries of the OIC for the welfare and prosperity of their people.

My Government appreciates the increasing share of multilateral economic cooperation in supporting the development efforts at the national level and is more than ever ready to extend every possible assistance to promote cooperation among the brotherly Islamic Countries, so crucially important in view of the rapidly changing world economic and political conditions.

I wish you success in your important work and a pleasant stay in Turkey.

Yıldırım AKBULUT

Prime Minister of the
Republic of Turkey,
Alternate Chairman
of the COMCEC

Original: Turkish

**OPENING STATEMENT BY
H.E. İŞİN ÇELEBİ, MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND CHAIRMAN OF
THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC**

Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up
Committee of the COMCEC

Istanbul, 20 March 1990

Honourable Members of the Follow-up Committee,

Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great pleasure for me to address this esteemed Committee once again as its Chairman. I am confident that, with your continued contributions and support, we shall take up the points on the Agenda of our Sixth Meeting in an exemplary spirit of cooperation, to achieve significant progress in the expansion of economic cooperation among the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The COMCEC owes much of its success to the efficient work done so far by our Committee. In fact, the Follow-up Committee, during its previous five meetings since 1985, monitored the early realization of the projects on the Agenda of the COMCEC and made significant contributions to the

organization of the activities and the formulation of a strategy to be followed by the COMCEC. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation to the member countries, the General Secretariat of OIC and its subsidiary and affiliated organs for their invaluable contributions to the work of the COMCEC.

Distinguished Delegates,

The draft Agenda of our Sixth Meeting includes points pertaining to the organization of the activities of the COMCEC besides the ones regarding the projects concerning commercial cooperation, which constitute the main field of activity of the COMCEC.

The implementation of the Longer Term Trade Financing System, created in the framework of the Islamic Development Bank at the end of 1987 is a source of great satisfaction. We have likewise noted with appreciation that the project of an Export Credit Insurance Scheme, included in the COMCEC Agenda, has been turned over to the Islamic Development Bank for technical studies. I am confident that the Islamic Development Bank will carry out this project as soon as possible, thus ensuring additional opportunities to our exporters for the development of trade among our countries.

I have also noted with satisfaction that, in accordance with the decisions made at the Fifth Session of the COMCEC, studies have been effected regarding other projects included in the Agenda,

namely the Trade Preferential System, a Trade Information Network and the Harmonization of Standards. The results of these studies will be examined during the next three days, so as to enable us to submit our recommendations for the implementation of these projects to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC scheduled for next October.

During this Meeting, the Follow-up Committee will also examine the project concerning the rules of procedure of the COMCEC, submitted by the General Secretariat and the Agenda of the Ministers' Meeting on Technical Cooperation, to be held concurrently with the Sixth Session of the COMCEC next October.

Since its establishment in 1984, the COMCEC pursues its task in accordance with the decisions of the Summit Conferences. The Sixth Summit, scheduled for the beginning of next year in Dakar, will constitute a major opportunity for assessing the past activities of the COMCEC and for planning its work in the future.

The studies required for the projects relating to the fields of priority of the Action Plan have been initiated during the Ministerial Meetings held under the auspices of the COMCEC in accordance with the calendar agreed upon by the Fourth Islamic Summit. Although the objectives of the Action Plan regarding the fields of priority have not yet been fulfilled, work on these is underway.

I am convinced that the Dakar Summit will be an important forum, where the objectives of economic cooperation among member States will be considered in the light of the radical changes having occurred in the world in the decade since the adoption of the Action Plan, and where renewed impetus can be given to the activities carried out under the auspices of the COMCEC.

In conclusion, I would like to welcome you again in the name of my Government and wish you full success in your work.

Thank you.

Original: English

**SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY MR. OUSMAN N.R. OTHMAN,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE
SIXTH MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
COOPERATION (COMCEC)**

Istanbul, Republic of Turkey

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barp'^tun.

It is a great honour and privilege for me to address the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which is being inaugurated today in this beautiful and hi«to**c city of Istanbul.

I would like, first of all, to convey the profound gratitude and best wishes of His Excellency Dr. Hamid Al GABID, Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to His

Excellency President Turgut ÖZAL, Chairman of the Standing Committee and to His Excellency Yıldırım AKBULUT Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC for their keen personnel interest in promoting economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States and their abiding commitment to the socio-economic progress and collective well being of the Islamic Ummah. On behalf of H.E. the Secretary General, the General Secretariat of the OIC and on my own behalf, I would like to convey our congratulations to His Excellency President Turgut ÖZAL for his assumption of the Chairmanship of the COMCEC and I am confident that under his able Chairmanship and wise guidance the COMCEC will fulfill its mandate to foster economic and commercial cooperation among Member States. His Excellency the Secretary-General also sends his greetings to you, Mr. Chairman and to all the distinguished delegates and wishes for the success of your deliberations. I would also like to express, on behalf of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and on my own behalf our thanks and appreciation to the Government and the brotherly people of Turkey for convening this important meeting and also for the traditional warm hospitality extended to us all since our arrival here. The holding of this meeting is yet another manifestation of Turkey's total commitment to Islamic causes and also to the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

The Five Sessions of the COMCEC, held so far, had achieved encouraging results in translating the broad outlines of the Plan of Action into concrete programmes and projects of mutual cooperation thus promoting Member States to adopt measures to boost their economic and commercial exchanges. The present meeting of the Follow-up Committee will not only review the progress so far achieved in the implementation of the decisions of the previous sessions of the COMCEC, but will also formulate appropriate recommendations and strategies for the Sixth Session of COMCEC which will be held concurrently with the First Meeting of the Ministers of Technical Cooperation in October this year. Your gathering today is a testimony to the ardent desire of all of us to share our experiences by joining hands in an environment of mutual confidence.

Mr. Chairman,

The system of international economic relations has continued to perpetuate inequities and injustices. It has worked to the detriment of the economies of the Islamic countries, a large number of which are designated by the United Nations, as least developed countries. Most of the Islamic States are seriously affected by protectionist policies. High interest rates are also aggravating the debt burden and retarding the flow of capital and perpetuating the unfavourable terms of trade. All these

unfavourable factors have resulted in cumulative contraction in the world economy and have exacerbated the difficulties of the Islamic countries.

It is against this backdrop of a predominantly unfavourable international economic climate that our own efforts to facilitate greater contacts and cooperation among OIC Member States assume special urgency. We must strive to evolve solid and complementary pattern of cooperation so that we can acquire the strength and self-reliance to survive the adverse impact of global economic developments. The present situation regarding cooperation among Member States particularly in the field of Trade, Industry, Food and Agriculture, Transport and Communication, Energy, etc. calls for substantial improvement. As you all know, the volume of intra-Islamic trade is still far below 15% of the total volume of trade transactions of the OIC countries. Similarly, the level of cooperation in the industrial, agricultural and other allied fields are significantly low. It is therefore essential that the OIC countries, notwithstanding differences in their economic structures and potentials, continue to work with firm resolve to promote economic and commercial exchanges and help each other economically, so as to be able to withstand the vicissitudes of the international economic climate.

Mr. Chairman,

The comprehensive progress report submitted by the General Secretariat at this meeting contains a summary of achievement of

the Standing Committee in the attainment of the tasks entrusted to it by the Third Islamic Summit and reiterated by the Fourth and Fifth Summits. The activities of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference were also devoted to following up the implementation of decisions of various Ministerial Conferences on Trade, Food and Agriculture, Industry, Transport, Communication and Energy. I am pleased to note that the Government of Indonesia has decided to host the Second Ministerial Meeting on Communication in Jakarta in July 1991. The Government of Egypt will hold the Fourth Food and Agriculture Ministerial Meeting and the Eighth Meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of Member States in Cairo in 1991. The Standing Committee will also be convening the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation in October this year in Istanbul concurrently with the Sixth Session of COMCEC.

The Agenda of this meeting of the Follow-up Committee includes a number of important subjects, such as Export Credit Insurance Scheme, Trade Preferential System, Trade Information Network and Harmonization of Standards among the Member States.

These are all very important schemes designed to facilitate commercial exchanges among Member States. We hope we shall be able to adopt the final drafts of most of them during this session for submission and approval of the next COMCEC so that they can be put into operation as soon as possible. Besides, the General Secretariat has prepared a unified draft Statute and

Rules of Procedure for all the three Standing Committees which will be submitted to this meeting as was decided by the Fifth Session of the COMCEC. The draft had already been sent to all the Member States for their views and comments. I am confident that the distinguished delegates will give due consideration to this draft and forward it to the forthcoming Session of the COMCEC.

This meeting will also consider the agenda of both the Sixth Session of the COMCEC as well as that of the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation. I am confident that the Honourable Ministers will stress the importance of cooperation among Member States in this vitally important sector of Technical Cooperation as an essential corollary of cooperation in other fields.

With these observations, Mr. Chairman, I would like to wish every success to your deliberations. I am confident, that under your wise and experienced guidance, this meeting will bear fruitful results in the usual spirit of Islamic solidarity and Muslim fraternity which permeate all over meetings. I pray to Almighty Allah to guide our steps and bless our efforts to serve the Islamic Ummah.

Wassalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh.

Thank you.

Original: English

**AGENDA OF THE SIXTH MEETING
OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE
OF THE COMCEC**

Istanbul, 20-22 March 1990

1. Opening Session:

- Inaugural Statement by the Chairman of the Follow-up Committee.
- Statement by the Secretary General of OIC.
- Statements by the Heads of Delegations.

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

3. Background Report by the OIC General Secretariat.

4. Progress Report by IDB on the Establishment of a Export Credit Insurance Scheme.

5. Progress Report by ICDT on the Draft Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System Among OIC Member States.

6. Joint Progress Report by ICDT and IDB on the Establishment of a Trade Information Network Among Member States of **OIC**.

7. Report by the Secretariat of the Coordinating Committee on the Harmonization of Standards Among the Member States of OIC.

8. Report by the OIC General Secretariat on the Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC.

9. Draft Agenda of the First Ministerial Meeting of Technical Cooperation.
10. Draft Agenda of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC.
11. Any Other Business.
12. Adoption of the Report.
13. End of the Meeting.

BACKGROUND REPORT BY THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE FOR THE SIXTH
MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC)

Istanbul, Republic of Turkey

March 20-22, 1990

The Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC) was held, concurrently with the First Ministerial Meeting on Energy in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 5-6 September 1989 (5-6 Safar 1410 H), preceded by a preparatory meeting of Senior Officials on 3-4 September 1989 (3-4 Safar 1410H).

2. The Reports of the two meetings were circulated to the Member States and to all concerned agencies by the Government of Turkey.

3. The General Secretariat of the OIC had requested the Member States and all concerned agencies to implement the decisions of the above two meetings»

4. The Fifth Session of COMCEC had, among others, decided that the OIC First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation would be held in Istanbul in October 1990 concurrently with the Sixth Session of COMCEC.

5. In pursuance of the above decision the Draft Agenda of the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation has been prepared by the Government of Turkey in consultation with the General Secretariat of the OIC. The General Secretariat has circulated the draft agenda to the Member States for their comments and observations.

...•/

6. The Follow-up Committee shall also finalize the draft agenda of the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation.

7. The progress so far achieved on the implementation of the decisions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) specially after its Fifth Session is summarised below:

A. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Activities of OIC Organs and Institutions
working in the field of Economy and Trade

8. The 5th Session of COMCEC appreciated the activities of the O.I.C. subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions working in the areas of economic and commercial fields and requested them to ensure greater efficiency, avoidance of duplication in their work and rationalization of their expenditures.

9. It also noted with concern the continuation of the financial difficulties of the OIC subsidiary organs due to non-payment of the mandatory contributions and arrears on the part of many Member States which impede the full realization of the work programmes of these bodies.

10. The General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference has requested the Member States to actively participate to the work of the OIC institutions and also to honour their regular mandatory contributions to the budgets of the subsidiary organs and to settle their arrears at the earliest in view of the current financial difficulties being faced by them.

••••/

Signature and Ratification of Statutes and Agreements

11. The Fifth COMCEC has urged those Member States which have not yet done so to sign and/or ratify at an early date various Statutes and Agreements in the field of economic cooperation drawn up or concluded within the framework of OIC.

12. The Fifteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs held in Jeddah from 29-28 February 1990 has also made similar recommendations on this item.

13. In this context, the General Secretariat wishes to furnish below the present status of the Agreements/Statutes for appropriate recommendations to the Sixth Session of the COMCEC.

14. So far the following 18 Member States have
«
signed the "Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of Investments among Member States": Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Kuwait, Morocco, Malaysia, Mali, Palestine, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Senegal, Tunisia, Turkey, Yemen Arab Republic and Uganda while 12 of them have ratified it: Indonesia, Kuwait, Mali, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda, Turkey and UAE. The Agreement has come into force with effect from 26th February 1988.

15. Seven Member States namely; Pakistan, Palestine, Egypt, Bangladesh, Senegal, Libya and the UAE have so far signed and ratified the Statute of the "Islamic States Telecommunications Union" while Morocco and Jordan have only signed it.

16. So far 5 Member States namely; Tunisia, Palestine, Senegal, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates have signed and ratified the Statute of the "Islamic Civil Aviation Council 1" while Bangladesh and Niger have only signed it

17. With regard to the "General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States" it may be mentioned that this Agreement has come into force in 1901 following the ratifications of 26 Member States. Besides the 26 Member States ratification, 11 Member States have also signed the Agreement.

B. COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

Trade Preferential System Among Member States of the QIC (TPSOIC)

18. The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, Casablanca, was entrusted by COMCEC to prepare a Draft Agreement for the establishment of a Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States. The system envisages improvement of the terms of trade among OIC countries by removing non-tariff measures and consequently to alleviate the balance of payments problems facing them.

A Declaration of Intent to establish a Trade Preferential System among Member States of the OIC was approved at the 4th Session of COMCEC. The Member States were also requested to communicate their views and comments on the Draft Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System (TPSOIC) prepared by the ICDDT. The ICDDT was requested by the 5th Session of COMCEC to convene an expert group meeting to examine this Draft taking into account the comments received from the Member States and to submit the revised draft to the 6th Session of COMCEC. The Expert Group Meeting on TPSOIC was held in Istanbul from 18-21 December 1989. Representatives from 14 Member States and those from OIC General Secretariat, COMCFC, Ankara Centre, Casablanca Centre, Islamic Chamber of Commerce and the Islamic Development Bank participated in this meeting,, The meeting while adopting the Draft

Framework Agreement, decided that the draft Rules of Origin, prepared by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade would be discussed in another expert level meeting. The ICDT accordingly convened an expert level meeting in Casablanca from March 12-14, 1990.

The Director of the Casablanca Centre shall furnish a detailed report in this regard.

Trade Information Network in Islamic Countries (TINIC)

19. The 5th Session of COMCEC has asked both ICDT and IDB to take into consideration (i) the complementarities between TINIC and ICINET (Islamic Countries Information Network) being prepared by IDB and (ii) to avoid duplication of work and/or additional cost to the Member States. The ICDT accordingly held a meeting with the IDB in Jeddah with a view to preparing jointly an exhaustive report on the progress achieved for submission to the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC.

The representative of Islamic Centre for Development of Trade shall submit a detailed report on the progress so far achieved in this regard.

The Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme

20. This scheme under the Islamic Development Bank became operational in 1977 with the participation of 10 Member States. It is one of the significant achievements of COMCEC which aims at the active promotion of non-traditional exports among Member States and has since been serving as an effective mechanism to increase intra-OIC trade. As of now 20 Member States have joined the scheme which has at present a paid-up capital of over 300 million Islamic Dinar (1 ID equal to US\$1.150 approximately).

••••/

Export Credit Guarantee Insurance Scheme

21. The basic rationale for the scheme is to enable exporters within OIC countries to compete on equal footing with international exporters who enjoy benefits and considerable institutional and financial support from the respective national institutions and governments. The proposed Credit Scheme is to provide such facilities.

The capital of the Scheme, which shall maintain two financially independent funds, is expected to be around Islamic Dinar 100 million, half of which would be contributed by the Islamic Development Bank. The underwriting capacity of the Scheme in the initial stage would, however, be 10 times of the capital.

The 5th Session of COMCEC agreed that the Scheme should cover both exports and investments in a step by step approach and the location of the Scheme would be at IDB. It also called upon IDB to finalize the mechanism for the implementation and the establishment of the envisaged Scheme» It is expected that the Export Credit Guarantee Scheme would be launched in the near future.

Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union

22. The Islamic Development Bank was also entrusted by COMCEC to prepare the feasibility study on the establishment of a "Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union" which is expected to promote intra-OIC trade as well as monetary and economic cooperation in general. The IDB has finalized the draft feasibility study through various technical and expert group meetings» It is expected that the Eighth Meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States to be held in Cairo in 1991 would be able to approve the IDB study before

»

it is submitted to the COMCEC Session for its final adoption»

...../

The representative of IDB shall furnish more details to the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee.

Harmonization of Standards in the Member States

2->. As decided by the 5th Session of the COMCEC an Expert Group Meeting on Standardization was held in Izmir, Turkey from 2-3 October 1989. It may be mentioned that the Turkish Standard Institution had earlier prepared a draft methodology for the harmonization of common standards. The experts while finalizing the draft methodology has, among others, decided that there should be one harmonized standards for all Islamic countries which may be adopted by them as a voluntary standard. Further, Islamic countries may use such standards as guidelines when formulating their own national standards. This revised draft shall be submitted to the next meeting of COMCEC for approval.

Fourth Islamic Trade Fair

24. The 4th Islamic Trade Fair will be* held in Tunis from 4 to 15 October 1990. The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade in Casablanca and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange in Karachi have been coordinating the matter with the host authorities in Tunis for the success of the Fair.

25. The 15th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs held in Jeddah from 24-20 February 1990 urged the Member States to actively participate in the 4th and 5th Islamic Trade Fairs to be held in Tunisia and Sudan in 1990 and 1992 respectively. It requested the Casablanca Centre to assist the host authorities for the successful holding of these Fairs.

...../

Marketing in the Member States of the products
of the Occupied Palestinian Territories

26. It may be mentioned that at the 15th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs the delegation of Palestine proposed for the inclusion of the above mentioned new item in the agenda. The Commission included this item in the agenda and called upon all Islamic countries and the Organisation of Islamic Conference and its affiliates to extend every form of support and assistance to the Palestinian Arab people and their uprising in the occupied Palestinian territories.

27. The Commission inter alia requested the grant of preferential treatment to Palestinian products meant for export to markets of OIC Member States subject to rules and regulations prevalent in each country, since such treatment would enable Palestinian producers to meet the local market requirements and facilitate exporting the surplus to Arab and Islamic markets, alleviate the burden on Palestinian producers and overcome the negative impact of the subversive and unjust Israeli practices particularly as far as the inequitable competition is concerned.

In view of the importance of the subject the Follow-up Committee may like to make appropriate recommendations to the 6th Session of the COMCEC.

Cooperation in the area of Food Security
and Agricultural Development

20. The Third Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Islamabad, Pakistan from 10-20 October 1990, adopted 10 resolutions which, if implemented could greatly contribute towards the objective of food security in the Islamic countries.

••••/

The Resolutions are as follows:

- Review of Food Security situation in the Islamic countries.
- food Security.SiLuation in the African OIC countries.
- A case study for a Strategy of Science and Technology for Food Security in the Islamic world.
- Preparation of a Medium Term Training Programme for Strengthening Food Security in the Islamic countries.
- Identification of Measures and Policies necessary.for increasing production of Livestock.
- Increasing Trade in food commodities among the OIC Member Countries.
- Fstablishing the OIC Food Security Reserve.
- Declaration of Decade.of Food Security for the OIC Member States.
- Desert Locust.
- Plight of Palestinian Farmers under Israeli occupation.

29. A detailed report on the Conference has been circulated to the Member States and concerned agencies with the request to implement the resolution as contained in the report» The General Secretariat has been following up their implementation witli the Member States and the concerned agencies.

30. The General Secretariat has also circulated separately the Resolution on the establishment of the OIC Food Security Reserve to the Member States and requested them to send their comments to the General Seeretariat₀

• * • • /

31. The Government of Indonesia hosted an expert group meeting in Jakarta from 8-10 August 1989 which modified the draft mechanism for the establishment of the OIC Food Security Reserve. The draft mechanism has been forwarded to the Member States. The OIC Food Security Reserve when established shall be administered by a Board, The Board shall be assisted by one of the designated officials of the OIC General Secretariat as Executive Secretary. The General Secretariat has already designated the Director (Economic Affairs Dept.) to act as an ex-officio Executive Secretary of the Board when it is established.

32. It may be mentioned that the 18th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers has urged the Member States to implement the Resolutions adopted at the previous three Ministerial Conferences on Food and Agriculture which will greatly contribute to the attainment of the objectives of Food Security and Agricultural Development in the Member States. In this context, it is pertinent to mention that the First Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development had designated some Member States to prepare some studies relating to food and agriculture. Most of the designated Member States have completed the tasks assigned to them with the help and assistance of FAO. These studies are to be examined and finalized by the experts from the Member States. Member States may therefore be requested to consider holding of an expert group meeting to finalize these studies.

Cooperation in the area of Industry

33. The Third Ministerial Consultation on Industrial Cooperation which was held in Istanbul in June 1987, agreed on the need to formulate the modalities and mechanism for promotion of joint ventures. It was felt that the existence of appropriate mechanism for the

promotion of joint ventures on a regional basis was essential. Such mechanism should be operational and flexible enough to incorporate the linkages and the requirements of the Member States.

34. A Task Force for Promotion of Joint Ventures was established which met at the Islamic Development Bank Headquarters in Jeddah on 1-2 November 1987 and prepared a report on the mechanism for the promotion of joint ventures among Member States of the OIC. The study has been sent to Member States for comments and again it will be submitted to the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Industrial Cooperation for consideration. So far only the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has sent her views and comments on this report. Other Member States may be requested to send their views and comments at an early date.

35. Several Joint Venture projects have been identified, studied and approved for Member States in collaboration with the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity exchange (ICCICE), IDB and UNIDO.

The representatives of IDB and Islamic Chamber of Commerce may wish to apprise the Follow-up Committee of further development, if any, on this subject.

Cooperation in the area of Trsnaport

36. The General Secretariat wishes to inform that the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers has noted with satisfaction the efforts to implement the decisions of the First Meeting of Ministers of Transport held in Istanbul in September 1987 concurrently with the Third Session of COMCEC and urged the Member States to implement them.

••••/

37. The General Secretariat while circulating the above Resolution to the Member States and concerned agencies has requested them to implement it. It should be pointed out that the Ministers of Transport of OIC Member States in approving the Report has, among other things, decided to cooperate in the development of (a) Road Transport, (b) Maritime Transport, (c) Railway Transport, and (d) Training in the field of Transport.

The General Secretariat has been in touch with the Government of Turkey, (as Chairman of the Follow-up Committee), Member States and concerned agencies for the implementation of the decisions of the Ministers of Transport.

Cooperation in the area of Communication

38. The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers while noting with satisfaction the First Ministerial Meeting on Communication was held concurrently with the Fourth Session of COMCEC in Istanbul, Turkey in September 1988, urged the Member States to implement the decisions of the Ministers of Communications.

39. It may be recalled that the Ministers of Communications of the OIC Member States in recognizing that telecommunications and postal services are important elements of cooperation in various fields among OIC Member States and that the development of telecommunication networks among Member countries will lead to progress and contribute to the general welfare of the Members of their mutual interest, took appropriate decisions in this regards. The General Secretariat has circulated the decisions of the Ministers of Communications to the Member States and concerned agencies and requested them to implement the resolutions.

The General Secretariat is in close contact with the host authorities in Jakarta for holding the Second Ministerial Meeting on Communications.

The Follow-up Committee may wish to urge Member States to implement the decisions of the First Communications Ministers Meeting and to effectively participate at the Second Meeting to be held in Indonesia.

Cooperation in the area of Energy

43. The First Ministerial Meeting on Energy of the OIC Member States was held concurrently with the Fifth Session of COMCEC in Istanbul, Turkey from 3-6 September 1979. Energy is one of the priority areas of the Plan of Action.

44. The Energy Ministers of the OIC Member States recognizing that energy issues are important elements of cooperation in various fields among the Member States and that the development of energy resources and power networks among the Member States will lead to progress and contribute to the general welfare of the Islamic countries and to their mutual interest, adopted a comprehensive resolution on this subject.

45. The main features of the Resolution of the Ministers of Energy are as follows:

(i) Member States were requested to improve energy services, establish new and modern energy systems through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and to make optimum use of the existing potential energy resources available to them.

(ii) Member countries were requested to cooperate in the field of energy through technical cooperation programme.

∴
* * • * /

40. In reply to the General Secretariat's request the Government of Turkey has informed it that for the past two years, Turkey has received delegations from several Member States with a view to transferring technical and technological know-how and experience. Within the same context, Turkey has also offered to submit its up-to-date experience in the area of communications to the use of the Member States. Some of them have responded to the said offer positively.

It has further informed the General Secretariat that Turkey has initiated its efforts for increasing transiting services and for ensuring optimum use of transit traffic routing to cover 32 Member States at the first step. It is hoped that the above mentioned services would be extended to all the Member States in the near future for increasing the present means of communications among them based on the latest technology and cooperation for the improvement of the service quality.

41. As regards the postal services, the Turkish Government has also informed the General Secretariat that studies for extending Express Mail Services between Turkey and the Member States have been initiated. At present 22 Member States have been provided with the Express Mail Services.

42. The General Secretariat wishes to inform the meeting that the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has offered to host the Second Ministerial Meeting on Communications in Bandung, Indonesia from 9-12 July 1991. The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers welcomed the offer of the Indonesian Government and urged the Member States to implement the decisions of the First Communications Ministers Meeting.

•••./

(iii) Member countries were requested to exchange information about their energy resources and facilities available in their countries for the benefit of other Member States.

(iv) Member States were invited to cooperate on the research, development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy taking into account the depletable character of fossil fuels.

(v) Member countries were requested to establish regional interconnected networks to ensure electrical energy supply under continuous, safe and economic operational conditions.

(vi) Islamic Development Bank was requested to expand and accelerate its financial activities in the energy sector.

(vii) Member countries were invited to collaborate with each other and also with FAO and other related international agencies for the development of rural energy sector.

(viii) The meeting urged the Member States to make special support efforts to the LDCs of the OIC in their endeavours to exploit, explore and develop their energy sources.

46. The Report and the resolution of the First Meeting of the Ministers of Energy has been circulated to the Member States and concerned agencies for implementation of the decisions contained therein.

17. The Follow-up Committee may stress the importance of coordinating and unifying the efforts of the Member States and directing of such efforts to achieve close cooperation among them in order to establish, improve and develop their energy systems and resources. The Committee may also urge the Member States to implement the Resolution of the First Ministerial Meeting on Energy.

Cooperation in the area of Labour and Social Security

48. The Second Experts Group Meeting on Labour and Social Security held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in October 1984 set two Working Groups - one for finalizing the "Draft Model Agreement on Social Security" and the other for the "Draft Mor'el Bilateral Agreement on Labour and Manpower Exchange." The Working Group for the Social Security met in Amman, Jordan in 1985 and had finalized the draft Agreement. The Meeting of the Second Working Group on Labour and Manpower Exchange was held in Istanbul, Turkey from 27-29 May 1989 which also finalized the Draft Agreement.

49. The General Secretariat while forwarding the Report of the Working Group on Labour and Manpower Exchange along with the final draft Agreement to the Member States has informed them that the two Draft Agreements would be submitted to the Third Expert Group Meeting on Labour and Social Security for their consideration. In this connection; the General Secretariat would like to inform the Committee that the 18th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Riyadh, among others, has invited the Member States to host the Third Expert Group Meeting on Labour and Social Security to finalize the two Draft Agreements on Social Security and on Labour and Manpower Exchange.

50. In view of the above, the Follow-up Committee may also wish to urge the Member States to consider hosting the Third Expert Group Meeting on Labour and Social Security in order to finalize the above mentioned two Draft Agreements.

Meeting of the Governors of Central Banks
and Monetary Authorities of Member States

51. It may be recalled that the Seventh Meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of OIC Member States held in March 1987, in Turkey discussed, among others, the report presented by the Islamic Development Bank on the establishment of the Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union» The meeting of the Governors recommended that the Islamic Development Bank shall continue its work on this project in active coordination with the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of Member States.

52. The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) has also requested the Islamic Development Bank to finalize the study on the establishment of the proposed Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union and to submit it to the next meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities.

53. The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers invited the Member States to host the Eighth Meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities, to consider, among others, the establishment of the Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union in the light of the study to be submitted by Islamic Development Bank.

54. In this context, the General Secretariat wishes to inform the Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC that the Arab Republic of Egypt has offered to host the Eighth Meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States in Cairo in 1991, in conjunction with the 15th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank.

. • .. /

55. The Eighth Meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of OIC Member States shall discuss, among others, the feasibility study of the Islamic Development Bank relating to the establishment of the Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union, Reports of the Expert Level Meeting*on Islamic Banking Studies held in Islamabad, Pakistan and in Abu Dhabi in April 1988 and in March 1989 respectively.

Technical Cooperation among OIC Member States

56. The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Riyadh in March 1989 has welcomed the enthusiastic response of the Member States, the national and regional agencies to cooperate with the OIC General Secretariat and its subsidiary and affiliated agencies in the realization of technical cooperation activities in the Islamic world.

I. Progress Report on the Technical Cooperation activities of the OIC Institutions

57. The technical cooperation and training activities of the O.I.C. institutions have further increased recently and have become a regular feature of their activities.

11. Cooperation with UN System and Other Organizations

58. In the technical cooperation field, the General Secretariat of the OIC and its relevant institutions have accelerated their cooperation with other international and regional organizations, particularly with the Arab League and its specialized organs with whom contacts and regular exchange of information are maintained,,

.... /

59. The General Secretariat has also continued to pursue technical cooperation activities with the UN specialized agencies as a follow up to the First, Second, Third and Fourth OIC-UN Coordination Meetings held in Geneva in July 1983, 1986, 1988 and 1989 respectively. As agreed at the Geneva meetings, the two sides have designated focal points for cooperation and contacts in the seven priority areas namely; food security and agricultural development, science and technology, mechanisms for investments and joint ventures, eradication of illiteracy; assistance to refugees, trade and technical cooperation.

60. Exchange of information and documentation with various U.N. bodies, and more notably with FAO, UNDP, UNIDO, ITO, UNCTAD and WHO was accelerated. Technical assistance arrangements with FAO, UNIDO and UNDP have also been worked out.

61. The Fourth OIC-UN Coordination Meeting was held in Geneva from 13-15 September 1989 which reviewed the progress in the seven priority areas of cooperation and identified additional areas for the benefit of the Islamic countries.

62. It is pertinent to mention that the 44th Session of the UN General Assembly while approving the recommendations of the 4th Coordination Meeting has, among others, (i) requested the UN and the OIC to continue cooperation in their common search for solution to global problems, (ii) urged the UN system, especially its lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the OIC and its specialized institutions for enhancement of cooperation, and (iii) recommended that a meeting of the focal points of the lead agencies of the UN and the OIC and its special!::

. . . . /

agencies should be organised in 1990 and that meeting should be followed by a general meeting in 1991 between the representatives of the General Secretariats of the OIC and the UN systems, the General Secretariat and its concerned agencies are following up the implementation of the decisions of the 4th Coordination meeting which held in Geneva in September last year.

63. Under this agenda item, the General Secretariat wishes to inform the Follow-Up Meeting that the First Ministerial Meeting on "Technical Cooperation" will be held concurrently with the 6th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) in Istanbul, Turkey from 7-10 October 1990.

64. Draft Agenda of this meeting has been circulated to the Member States for their views and comments. These proposals, together with the comments/suggestions on them from the Member States will be submitted to the 6th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC for consideration which will be held in Istanbul from 20-22 March 1990. Following the Meeting of the Follow-up Committee, a meeting of the Focal Points of the Technical Cooperation Agencies of Member States will be held in Istanbul from 24-26 March 1990. Since the area of Technical Cooperation is very vast and many subsidiary organs and institutions are involved in technical cooperation within the OIC, this meeting will be very useful to finalize the various activities, assignments and time frame for all the studies and papers to be submitted by them to the Ministerial Meeting.

65. In this context, it may be mentioned that technical cooperation is a concept of cooperation which involves certain supportive activities and programmes aiming to strengthen and enhance cooperation in all the sectors of the "Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member States," Therefore, a large number of

specific technical cooperation project proposals related to various different sectors and multi-sectors can be produced and implemented among the Member States.

The effect of world economy on Islamic countries:
Economic Problems facing the Islamic World in General

66. The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution No.43/182 on the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade; expressing deep concern at the lack of progress to redress the imbalances in the present international economic order (NIEO), due to the reluctance of developed countries; thus aggravating the growth process in the world economy in general and in the economies of the OIC Member States in particular; noting with deep concern the unsatisfactory progress towards Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for least developed countries; expressing deep appreciation for the efforts made by the developing countries towards adjustments in the face of acute external difficulties; and noting the step taken by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to consolidate economic and commercial cooperation in the spirit of Islamic solidarity which constitutes an important element of cooperation among developing countries, in conformity with principles of collective self-reliance; and emphasizing the need for keeping under constant and close review the world economic situation and all international economic negotiations:

" i) Called on Member States to participate actively in the preparation for the IJ.N. General Assembly Special Session of International Economic Cooperation for Development.

.... /

ii) Called on Member States to participate actively in the preparation for the International Development Strategy for the Fourth U.N. Development Decade.

iii) Recommended that, in a rapidly changing and increasingly interdependent world, the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference should reactivate and reinvigorate international economic negotiations within the universal framework of the U.N. and other international institutions and calls upon the Member States to adopt a constructive approach towards this end.

iv) Also recommended that there should be immediate consideration of the issues of transfer of resources, debts, trade, money and finance by all international fora.

v) Called upon the developed countries to take immediate measures, pending the start of global negotiations, aimed at world economic recovery, and the accelerated development of developing countries.

vi) Stressed the importance of increasing the Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of developing countries in general, and the least developed countries in particular.

vii) Noted with satisfaction that, despite the sharp drop in oil revenues in recent years, the Islamic donor countries still provide significant external aid and that the amount of aid distributed to the least developed countries exceeds by far the SNDA recommendations of 0.15 per cent.

viii) Entrusted the General Secretariat in cooperation with the Ankara and Casablanca Centres, to follow up relevant developments and submit these reports also to the COMCCC.

ix) Urged the Member States to continue to pursue their efforts for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States in a manner which would ensure at least modicum of complementarity of their economies.

x) Further urged Member States to implement the provisions of Islamic Boycott against the Israeli enemy and open the markets of Islamic States to their respective national products and goods, in addition to promoting and marketing of Palestinian products, and granting preferential treatment to these products in accordance with the prevailing practice in each country and consequently develop the products of Islamic States."

Comments of the General Secretariat

67. The General Secretariat has communicated the above noted Resolution to all Member States and concerned agencies. The progress of implementation of the recommendations of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation has been furnished in the preceding items of this document.

68. As regards the other decisions on this item of the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the General Secretariat, the Ankara and Casablanca Centres have been closely following the developments and trend in the world economy during the past year. The developing countries continued to be affected by high inflation, chronic depression in the prices of primary commodities, and protectionist policies against their exports to the developed world. At the same time, the levels of bilateral and multilateral international development assistance also continued to slide, on the other hand the industrialised countries are preoccupied with serious problems of recession, unemployment, inflation and currency instability. As a result, they are systematically reducing their assistance to poor nations in the rest of the world and multilateral assistance is particularly under attack.

69. The present chaotic international economic situation highlights the urgency for early launching of the Global Round of Negotiations so that the international community could work together to find solutions to problems of critical importance to developing countries, such as food, energy, trade and financial flows.

70. Fortunately, within the OIC Framework, process of economic cooperation is continuing. With its vast human and natural resources, its commitment for rapid economic development, its emphasis on both public and private sectors and its investment guarantees, the Islamic world today has a significant impact on world economic events.

As indicators of active economic cooperation among Islamic countries, more than half a dozen specialised inter-governmental agencies in economic fields have been established. These handle a wide range of activities from the gathering of statistics, to the promotion of commerce, and to inter-governmental collaboration in specific fields like civil aviation, shipping, telecommunication, postal and vocational training and research. There is a constant search to identify areas of potential cooperation, and to implement programmes of common concern.

71. With regard to the implementation of this Resolution, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has informed the General Secretariat that:

"The Kingdom has for several years been extending easy developmental assistance to developing countries through various channels. This role has increased and extended gradually to such a point where the Kingdom come to be the first State in the entire world in terms of the developmental assistance provided compared to the Gross National Product. During the period extending from 1973-07 the easy developmental assistance

provided by the Kingdom through bilateral, regional and international channels reached, about (56) fifty-six thousand million US dollars representing an average of 4.65% of the Gross National Product. Seventy developing countries from the various continents of the world, have benefited from this assistance including thirty eight African States, twenty two Asian ones and ten other developing countries.

The non-refundable developmental assistance and easy term loans to developing States in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference over the last fifteen years reached (77) seventy seven thousand million US dollars. These loans and assistance were devoted to the contribution in the implementation of the economic and social development programs and projects in 35 Islamic States. Over the period extending from Safar 1395 to the end of Rabi ul Akhir 1408H, the Kingdom contributed in extending 248 loans to finance 216 developmental projects in Member States, including 21 Asian and 12 African States. Similarly the total contributions of the Kingdom made through the Saudi Development Fund in favour of promoting those projects, reached about 17216.18 million Riyals out of which 7003.47 million Riyals have been allocated after the issue of the Makkah Declaration and were earmarked to finance 103 projects."

Recommendations of the 15th Session of the Islamic Commission

72. The Fifteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs held in Jeddah from 24-28 February 1990 has made the following recommendation to the 19th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers :-

" (i) The Commission examined the two reports submitted under this agenda item by the General Secretariat and Ankara Centre and underlined that the

••••/

current state of the World economy amply demonstrated the urgent need for dialogue between developed and developing countries and also for keeping under constant and close review the current world economic situation and all international economic negotiations. In this connection, the Commission recommended the General Secretariat and the Ankara Centre to closely monitor and report at the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers the important development in East-West relations and on the decision to have a unified Common Market in Europe by the end of 1992 and their impact on the Islamic countries.

ii) The Commission, while reviewing the World economy with special reference to the problems of the Islamic countries, expressed its deep concern at the lack of progress to redress the imbalances in the present international economic relations and the establishment of a New International Economic Order (NIEO) due to the reluctance of the developed countries.

iii) The Commission also noted with profound concern the unsatisfactory progress towards implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for Least Developed Countries despite the Resolution adopted on the subject by the 44th UNGA Session in 1989.

iv) The Commission also stressed the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and the Least Developed Countries in particular,,

v) The Commission expressed its deep appreciation for the efforts made by the developing countries towards adjustments in the face of acute external difficulties; and further noted the steps token by the OIC countries to consolidate economic and commercial cooperation in the spirit of Islamic Solidarity which constitute an

important element of cooperation among developing countries, in conformity with principles of collective self-reliance .

vi) The Commission called upon the Member States to actively participate and further coordinate with preparation for the International Development Strategy for the Fourth UN Development Decade with a view to revitalising the North-South Dialogue. The Commission also urged the Member States to extend their Full support to the Forthcoming meeting of Developing countries to be held in Kuala Lumpur and also the Extraordinary Session of the UN General Assembly on Economic Cooperation to be held in New York in April 1990.

vii) The Commission welcomed the proposal For the establishment of an Islamic Common Market to facilitate all-round economic and commercial integration among the OIC Member countries,

viii) The Commission entrusted the General Secretariat as well as the Ankara and Casablanca Centres to follow-up relevant developments and submit these reports to the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC."

Measures in support of Palestine

73. The General Secretariat would like to inform the Follow-up Committee that during the 15th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, the delegation of the State of Palestine submitted a new item namely, "The Economic Problems of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territories". The Commission approved this item and included for discussion under the agenda item "The Effect of World Economy on Islamic Countries", and made the following recommendations: -

"i) The Commission appealed to Member States and the international community to extend material and moral

assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization so that it can launch its economic projects in the occupied Palestinian territories, to support the PLO programmes for backing up the Palestinian people in the face of the Zionist occupation of the Palestinian territories.

ii) The Commission called upon OIC Member States, Islamic Financial Institutions, the international community, governmental organization and multilateral establishments which will participate in the Second Conference on Least Developed Countries that the United Nations will convene in Paris in September 1990, to seek the adoption of such recommendations that would help solve the economic problems in the occupied Palestinian territories and that would initiate policies and measures for the furtherance of development through the nineties.

iii) The Commission requested the General Secretariat and the Ankara Centre to prepare a report on the economic problems in the occupied Palestinian territories, on the basis of the necessary data to be provided by the State of Palestine, and submit it to the next meeting of the Islamic Commission.

iv) The Commission expressed appreciation of the economic assistance extended to the Palestinian people by Member States and United Nations agencies and to request the continuation of all forms of support and assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories with a view to solving the economic problems in the occupied territories and ensuring economic development there; and to seek the termination of the Zionist occupation of those territories since the economic problems are the product of that occupation»"

.... /

74. In this context, it may be mentioned that the Fifth Session of COMCEC has adopted a separate Resolution on "Measures in Support of Palestine" and among others, reaffirmed its total support to the Palestinian people led by the PLO inside and outside the Occupied Palestinian Territories by all material and moral means and to back their struggle with a view to enhancing their resistance on their own soil and enabling them to pursue it under the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, for self-determination and to establish their independent state on their own land with Al-Quda A.l-Sharif as its Capital.

Assist-ance to Lebanon

75. The Fifth Session of COMCEC also reaffirmed its previous resolution on providing financial and economic as well as humanitarian assistance to Lebanon. It took note of Labanon's needs for various economic, educational and technical assistance programmes.

The General Secretariat has requested Member States to implement the above decision and to inform it accordingly.

Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC)

76. The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation has entrusted the General Secretariat with the task of preparing the Rules of Procedure and Substance of the COMCEC.

77. The General Secretariat informed the Fifth Session of COMCEC that it was in the process of preparing a unified Draft Statute and Rules of Procedure for all the three Standing Committees of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

78. The fifth Session of COMCEC has requested the OIC General Secretariat to circulate among the Member States the above mentioned Draft prior to the Sixth Meeting of the follow-up Committee of COMCEC.

79. The General Secretariat has accordingly prepared and circulated among the Member States the "Draft Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees of the Organization of the Islamic Conference" in February 1990 for their views and comments. The same Draft shall also be submitted to the Sixth Meeting of the follow-up Committee of COMCEC.

80. The foregoing gives an outline of the economic activities undertaken by the General Secretariat, its subsidiary organs and the affiliated and specialised institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. All these bodies have been continuing to exert every effort to implement the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation in the light of the decisions taken by the COMCEC and other OIC fora.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DETAILED STUDY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF AN EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE SCHEME
AMONG OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

The First Session of the OIC Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), held in Istanbul, in Safar 1405H (November 1984), requested the IDB to prepare three studies, including one on the feasibility of establishing an export credit guarantee scheme for the OIC member countries. Subsequently, the Third Session of COMCEC, held in Istanbul in Muharram 1408H (September 1987), discussed a report prepared and presented by the IDB, entitled: "Detailed **Study on the Establishment of an Export Credit and Guarantee Insurance Scheme for OIC Member Countries**"¹ requested the IDB to hold a meeting of experts to review the study and to work out the mechanics of an operationally feasible scheme that would simultaneously be consistent with Islamic Sharia.

The IDB hosted this experts group meeting in (Jumad Thani, 1408H (January 1988). Their recommendations of the meeting were utilized by the IDB in revising the relevant segments of the "Detailed Study".

The Fourth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC which met in Istanbul in Sha'baan, 1408H (April 1988), discussed the following two documents presented to it by the IDB: (a) The revised version of the "Detailed Study" and (b) The "Report of the Experts Group Meeting" that met at the IDB in January 1988. Given the importance of the subject, the meeting kindly requested OIC member countries to communicate their views and comments to the Iuu on the various issues raised by the experts. Subsequently, reactions were received from 10 member countries.

The comments received from the OIC member countries were included in the Progress Report which the IDB submitted to the Fifth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC, held in Istanbul in Shawwal 1409H (May 1989). This meeting requested the COMCEC Coordination Office to solicit additional responses from OIC member countries and send them to the IDB. As a result of this appeal, three additional responses were received. In sum, 13 member countries presented their views on the issues related to the proposed scheme.

The recommendations of the Fifth Session of COMCEC, held in Istanbul in Safar 1410H (September 1989), contained in its resolutions, could be summarized as follows:

- (1) The technical and operational characteristics of the Scheme are, in general appropriate;
- (2) The Scheme should be established on the basis of the voluntary participation of member countries of the OIC, without waiting for additional comments on the Scheme from member countries. Private sector institutions in OIC member countries could also take part in the Scheme;
- (3) The Scheme should cover exports and investments in a step-by-step manner;
- (4) The Scheme should be established within the IDB, rather than through the creation of a new institution. Therefore, preparations for the Scheme should, continue and the IDB should finalize the necessary studies for its establishment;

As part of the continuing efforts at establishing the proposed Export Credit Insurance Scheme, the IDB hosted a high level experts meeting in Jumad Thani, 1410H (November 1989), in order to profit from the experience and views of participants at the meeting. The report of this high level experts group meeting dealt with three critical issues:

- (1) Substantive matters: These deal with the nature of the proposed institution, the type of insurance policies that may be covered, its operational scope, the risks to be covered, the establishment of a premium schedule, the Scheme's capital and underwriting capacity and the manner of handling country grading, ceilings and exposures;
- (2) Reinsurance: This deals with the policy to be adopted on this question;
- (3) Implementation schedule: This concerns the drafting of relevant documents, the nature of administrative and staff requirements, operational costs and related matters.

The full report of the high level experts meeting is attached to this report as Annex 1.

_____END _____

06.08.141011
03.03.1990

ANNEX 1

REPORT ON THE HIGH LEVEL EXPERTS MEETING
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
AN EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE SCHEME BY THE IDB
HELD AT THE IDB ON 28 RABI THANI 1410 (26 NOVEMBER, 1989).

REPORT ON THE HIGH LEVEL **EXPERTS MEETING**
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
AN EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE **SCHEME BY THE IDB**
HELD AT THE IDB ON **28 RABI THANI 1410 (26 NOVEMBER, 1989.**

INTRODUCTION

The 5th Session of COMCEC held in September 1989 recommended that the IDB should start the necessary process for implementing an Export Credit Insurance Scheme. The IDB hosted a top level meeting on this subject on November 26, 1989 to help the bank examine the features of the proposed Scheme, from the operational point of view. The meeting was attended by six representatives from five institutions, namely, the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation of Kuwait, Pt. Asuransi Ekspor of Indonesia, the Arab Insurance Group of Bahrain, the Islamic Insurance & Reinsurance Company of Jeddah and the COMCEC Coordinating Office of Ankara.

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXPERTS

The decisions and recommendations of the experts are listed below, under three basic issues:

1- SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS:

- (a) NATURE OF THE PROPOSED INSTITUTION: This should be a subsidiary of the IDB, with the President of IDB being the Ex-officio Chairman of the General Council (i.e., Board of Governors).
- (b) TYPE OF INSURANCE POLICIES: The Scheme should begin with export credit insurance, but there should be no difficulty simultaneously taking on investment insurance.
- (c) OPERATIONAL SCOPE: The Scheme should be confined to intra-traded goods among the OIC member countries, conforming to specified rules of origin.
- (d) SCOPE OF RISKS TO BE COVERED: Both commercial and noncommercial risks.
- (e) ESTABLISHMENT OF A PREMIUM SCHEDULE: This is an operational matter that should not be explicitly mentioned in the Conventions of the Scheme.

- (f) CAPITAL AND UNDERWRITING CAPACITY: It should be an open-ended capital with a minimum of \$100 million. The respective governments may encourage Islamic Banks and other financial institutions to participate in the capital. All subscribers from any given country would be required to vote in a bloc. The underwriting capacity should be up to 10 times its capital and free reserves.
- (g) COUNTRY GRADING, CEILINGS/EXPOSURES: These are operational matters and should not be explicitly mentioned within the Convention. However, all that may be needed is to have a general statement that would guarantee a reasonable spread of risks and benefits for the participating countries.
- 2- REINSURANCE; The Scheme should take advantage of various options available on the market, having due regard for the basic principles of safety, security, risk spreading and Islamic principles.
3. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
- (a) TIME TABLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSED SCHEME: It is necessary for IDB to set up a timetable and to start certain activities immediately,
- i. Drafting documents, such as the Conventions of the proposed Scheme, financial regulations, general guidelines regarding the preparation of premium schedule, underwriting manual and procedure for the assessment of clients' creditworthiness and risks, insurance proposal forms, insurance contracts and other relevant documents.
 - ii. Consultations would be needed with member countries, followed by the processing of the Scheme through the IDB Board of Executive Directors, as well as the IDB Board of Governors.
 - iii. Experts (with practical experience in legal and export credit matters) would be required for the preparation of the documents mentioned above, as well as the recruitment and training of advance staff for the Scheme, staff.

- (b) **ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE:** There should be a General Council, made up of single representatives from each participating country that could meet once a year. However, the administrative Head of the Scheme should be given free hand in its management, in order to facilitate speedy decision-making required in the day to day operations of this type of business. There should also be an Advisory Committee comprising experts on technical matters related to insurance and also experts on Islamic Shariah that the management of the Scheme can consult on various issues, as these may arise.
- (c) **STAFFING REQUIREMENTS:** The search for relevant professional staff should begin at once for basic departments such as Operations including risk analysis, Legal, Research, Finance, etc. Facilities should be made available for the training of suitable staff, Simultaneously, studies should be undertaken into functions, profile of staff, the degree of automation, etc., of the proposed Scheme.
- (d) **OPERATIONAL COST:** The IDB can undertake certain expenditures for training, marketing and publicity for the proposed Scheme, including that of any working group needed for any aspect of the implementation programme of the Scheme. The Bank can also undertake other expenditures, e.g., capital (infrastructural) costs, on behalf of the proposed Scheme.
- (e) **STAGE AT WHICH THE CONVENTIONS (i.e., ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT) SHOULD BE DRAFTED:** Immediately. Eventually, this has to be discussed, first through consultations at the level of the member countries for preliminary inputs and then later at an open-ended meeting of representatives of member countries.
- (f) **STAGE FOR PRODUCTION OF INSURANCE PROPOSAL AND OTHER FORMS/DOCUMENTS:** As soon as the convention is ready and before its ratification.

LIST OP PARTICIPANTS

Dr. Muchtar
President Director
Pt. Asuransi Ekspor Indonesia
Indonesia

Dr. El Fadel Nayil Hassan
Legal Department
The Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation
Kuwait

Mr. Lâkhdar Moussi
Assistant General Manager
Arab Insurance Group
Bahrain

Mr. Mohamed Moussaif
Deputy Manager
Treaty Divison East Zone I
Arab Insurance Group
Bahrain

Mr. Celal Armangil
Deputy Head
COMCEC Coordination Office
Ankara

Mr. Chaudhry Mohammed Sadiq
Islamic Insurance & Re-Insurance Co.
Dallah Tower
vfeddah
Saudi Arabia

_____END_____

0_rig|na^:_:___Eng]i_sJx

DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON
TRADE PREFERENTIAL SYSTEM
AMONG THE MEMBER STATES
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

P R E A M B L E

The Governments of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) signatories to this Agreement,

In compliance with the objectives of the OICs Charter,

In pursuance of the aims and provisions of the General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among OIC Member States;

Taking into account the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference;

Taking into consideration the Resolutions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) which recommend the setting up of a Trade Preferential System as a framework for the progressive exchange of trade preferences among the Member States;

Recalling the Declaration of Intent on the Establishment of A Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States adopted at the Fourth Session of the COMCEC;

Recognizing the pivotal role of trade expansion among Member States as a driving force towards development, *an* effective tool for optimal use of resources and a major instrument to improve the standard of living of their peoples;

Bearing in mind the special needs of the Least Developed Member States of OIC;

Noting that due to the geographical dispersion of Member States, and the differences in their development levels which hamper the establishment of a comprehensive regional system for trade liberalization, a Trade Preferential System would be the most appropriate instrument to increase trade exchanges among them;

Convinced of the essential role which may be played by intra-community trade expansion in the strengthening of cooperation and economic complementarity between Member States and in the improvement of self-sufficiency and the achievement of a higher level of solidarity among them;

Determined to unify in an effective and sustained manner the efforts exerted within the framework of OIC in different areas of economic cooperation, directly or indirectly related to trade;

Bearing in mind the need of Islamic Countries to expand their markets, in conjunction with their pace of development and to increase their absorption capacity, especially in view of the growing protectionist attitude of developed countries;

Giving due regard to trade regimes and bilateral and multilateral obligations of individual Member States;

Have approved this Agreement as a minimum basis for according preferential treatment to trade among themselves, expressing their will and readiness to achieve its objectives and give effect to its provisions through procedures, arrangements and •time-tables for negotiations.

C H A P T E R I

DEFINITIONS

Article 1[^] / For the purpose of this Agreement and unless otherwise suggested by the context, the following words and terms shall mean:

1. OIC : Organization of the Islamic Conference;
2. Agreement : Agreement on Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States;
3. Member States : The OIC Member States;
4. Contracting States : The OIC Member States parties to this Agreement;
5. Participating States : Contracting States which presented lists of products to be negotiated within the framework of this Agreement, and which ratified the results of these negotiations;
6. Least Developed Member States : The OIC Member States designated as Least Developed Countries by the United Nations, unless otherwise decided by the COMCEC;

j

7. Tariffs : custom duties stipulated in the national tariff schedules;

8. Para-tariff- . Border charges and fees, other than tariffs, on foreign trade transactions of a tariff-like effect which are levied solely on imports, but not those indirect taxes and charges, which are levied in the same manner on like domestic products. Import charges corresponding to specific services rendered are not considered as para-tariff measures;

9. Non-tariffs : Any • measure, regulation, or practice, other than "tariffs" and "para-tariffs", the effect of which is to restrict imports, or to significantly distort trade;

10. Sectoral agreements : Agreements regarding the removal or reduction of tariff, non-tariff and para-tariff barriers as well as other trade promotion or co-operative measures for specified products or groups of products closely related in end use or in production;

11. Direct trade measures : Measures conducive to promoting mutual trade such as long- and medium-term contracts;

12. COMCEC : The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of OIC;

13. Trade Negotiating Committee :• The Committee within the framework of which rounds of negotiations on trade preferences are held among Participating States.

C H A P T E R I I

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

Article 2_ / This Agreement aims at the promotion of trade among OIC Member States through the exchange of trade preferences on the basis of the following principles :

1. Ensuring equal and non-discriminatory treatment among all Participating States;
2. Securing mutuality of advantages to all Participating States in such a way that all Participating States benefit equally from the trade preferential system;
3. Exchanging preferential treatment, taking into account the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) principle, in compliance with time tables and by adopting a step by step approach;
4. Enabling participation of groupings composed of Member States only, which may participate in trade negotiations by a unified representation;
5. Limiting Preferences exchanged by virtue of this Agreement to Participating States only;
6. The exchanged preferences are not to be limited to tariffs but are to be progressively extended to para-tariff and tariff concessions;

7. Extending trade preferences to all commodities including agricultural and animal products, manufactured or semi-manufactured products;

8. Taking into account the differences in the levels of economic development among contracting states in granting special treatment;

9. Submitting to periodical reviews and sustained evaluation the Trade Preferential System, established by virtue of this Agreement, with a view to extending its implementation and improving its provisions in the light of the experience acquired and the results obtained;

10. Making use of the trade financing and export credit insurance facilities provided by OIC institutions, in conformity with their rules and regulations, for products exchanged under this Agreement;

11. This Agreement shall not prejudice any legal obligations of Participating States vis-à-vis third parties;

12. This Agreement shall not be conceived as a substitute to any of the existing and future trade preferential arrangements involving the Participating States, but as a supplement to them;

13. Tariff, para-tariff and non-tariff preferences applicable within existing and future sub-regional, regional and inter-regional groupings to which OIC Member States belong shall retain

their essential character, and there shall be no obligation on the members of such groupings to extend, nor the right of other Participating States to enjoy the benefits of such preferences.

C H A P T E R I I I

NEGOTIATIONS

Article 2 / Negotiations are to cover, inter alia, the following areas:

1. Tariff, para-tariff and non-tariff concessions;
2. Arrangements compatible with the international obligations of the Participating States concerning direct trade measures including medium and long-term contracts for imports and exports of specific products or covering sectoral agreements may be considered in subsequent stages depending on developments and according to need.

Article 4[^] /

1. Rounds of Negotiations shall be held by the Trade Negotiating Committee in compliance with its work programme endorsed by the COMCEC;
2. Negotiations are to be carried out in accordance with any or a combination of the following approaches and procedures:
 - (a) Product-by-product negotiations;
 - (b) Across-the-board tariff reductions;

- (c) Sectoral negotiations;
- (d) Direct trade measures, including medium and long term contracts.

Article 5 / Contracting States participating in negotiations on the exchange of trade preferences shall be exclusively entitled to formulate proposals for negotiations. Preferences stemming from these negotiations shall exclusively accrue to Participating States having ratified documents relating to the results of these negotiations.

Article 6 /

1. Successive bilateral talks and rounds of multilateral negotiations may be held from time to time and according to need;
2. Preferences resulting from these negotiations shall be embodied in schedules of concessions which shall be annexed to and form an integral part of this Agreement.

C H A P T E R T V

GROUND RULES

Article 2 /

1. The exchange of negotiated concessions shall be implemented on a most favoured nation (MFN) basis, and its benefits shall accrue to the Participating States;

2. Making exception to the rule prescribed in paragraph 1 of this Article, a Participating State may decide not to extend special concessions negotiated with one or several States and affecting their specific interests, to other Participating States;

3. The extension of special concessions provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article shall not have any detrimental impact on the trade interests of other Participating States. In case of prejudice, the concerned Participating States may after having specified the nature and importance of this prejudice and produced adequate evidence, submit this issue to the COMCEC which is entitled in this case to take appropriate measures for its removal including the possibility of compensation or extension of all or part of these special concessions to Participating States affected by this prejudice.

Article 8 /

1. Participating States shall prevent impairing or nullifying concessions granted under this Agreement through the application of any tariff, para-tariff or non-tariff barriers or any other restrictive measures, except where such measures correspond to internal taxes on similar domestic products, anti-dumping or countervailing duties to subsidies, provided that these two cases are proved;

I

2. Any Participating State may, after a period of 3 years from the day concessions resulting from a negotiating round were extended, notify the COMCEC of its intention to limit or withdraw any concession included in its schedule. In this case, the Participating State shall enter into negotiations with a view to reaching an appropriate settlement with Participating States with which such concessions were initially negotiated or with any other Participating States which may be prejudiced by this measure.

Article 9 / Products contained in the schedules of concessions shall be eligible for preferential treatment if they satisfy the rules of origin which are annexed to this Agreement.

Article 10 /

1. A Participating State shall be able to take safeguard measures to ward off serious prejudice or threats of a serious prejudice, which may arise as a direct consequence of unforeseen substantial rise of imports enjoying preferences;

2. Prejudices mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article may be caused by one or several of the following factors:

- a) Threats of prejudice to domestic products;
- b) Serious deterioration in the balance of payments,-
- c) Dumping applied by the exporting country;
- d) Export subsidies applied by the exporting country.

3. The provisions of this Agreement do not prevent each Participating State from implementing measures that it deems necessary as a safeguard for its basic interests relating to security and health;

4. Products prohibited by virtue of the Islamic Sharla shall not be covered by trade negotiations.

Article 11 / Taking into account the special needs of the less-Developed Member States, the Participating States shall extend special concessions in their favour in the course of bilateral or multilateral negotiations.

Article 12 / The Islamic Development Bank and the other specialised institutions of the OIC shall be requested to consider, in conformity with their rules and procedures, giving priority within the framework of export financing and export credit guarantee schemes to trading transactions relating to lists of products eligible for preferential treatment in compliance with this Agreement, as well as to national products enjoying concessions in accordance with bilateral trade agreements or regional preferential arrangements among Member States.

Article- 13 / Contracting States shall derive maximum benefit from the existing tools, programmes and mechanisms including the programmes and activities of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and other relevant OIC Institutions with a view

to promoting trade relations among them and benefit from the financial facilities and guarantees provided for this effect.

C H A P T E R V
THE COMCEC AND THE
TRADE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Article 14 / The COMCEC shall supervise the implementation of this Agreement. The COMCEC, in conformity with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, shall:

1. Establish a Trade Negotiating Committee upon entry into force of this Agreement, consisting of the representatives of the governments of the Participating States. The Committee shall perform its functions in such a way as to facilitate the achievement of the objectives of this Agreement;
2. Adopt internal rules relating to the functioning of the Trade Negotiating Committee;
3. Decide the launching of new rounds of trade negotiations, receive proposals and requests from Contracting States for participation and circulate them to all Contracting States;
4. Adopt the outcome of trade negotiations together with their schedules of concessions to be annexed to and form an integral part of this Agreement;

5. Recommend the termination of this Agreement and the introduction of amendments to it;
6. Make appropriate arrangements for consultation and co-operation with OIC and its organs, in particular ICDT and the relevant institutions of the OIC as well as groupings for economic co-operation among Member States.
7. Provide interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement whenever necessary.
8. Delegate part or all of its functions under this Agreement to the Trade Negotiating Committee.

C H A P T E R VI

CONSULTATION AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Article 15 /

1. If any Participating State should consider that any benefit accruing to it directly or indirectly under this Agreement is being nullified or impaired as the result of the failure of another Participating State to carry out any of its obligations under this Agreement or as the result of any other circumstance relevant to the operation of this Agreement, the former may with a view to reaching an appropriate settlement of the matter, make written representations to the other Participating State concerned. Such an approach shall incite the other Participating

State to give sympathetic consideration to the representations or proposals made to it: ;

2. The Trade Negotiating Committee may, at the request of a Participating State, consult with any of the Participating States with whom it was not possible to reach a satisfactory solution through the coj.sultati.ons mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 above. The Trade Negotiating Committee shall submit in accordance with its internal rules the results of consultations to the COMCEC.

3. , If no satisfactory settlement is reached, the COMCEC shall, upon receipt of report from the Trade Negotiating Committee or of a submission by a prejudiced party, hold consultations among concerned Participating States to remove this prejudice. The COMCEC may decide the forming of a Panel composed of Participating States not parties to the dispute, which shall be entrusted with identifying the nature and importance of this prejudice and making recommendations with respect to measures to be taken.

C H A P T E R VII

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 16 / The COMCEC shall undertake' the evaluation of negotiations, carried out in the Trade Negotiating Committee and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of this Agreement .

Article 17 / Schedules of concessions reflecting the outcome of different rounds of negotiations and amendments relating to them, shall be published by the COMCEC upon decision of two thirds of contracting States participating in these negotiations and shall become operative two months following their issue, without any additional measure.

Article 18. /

1. This Agreement shall be deposited at the General Secretariat of OIC and opened for signatures by Member States. The General Secretariat is hereby designated as the depositary of the instruments of ratification of this Agreement;
2. This Agreement shall enter into force three months after ten Contracting States have deposited their instruments of ratification;
3. Entry into force for any Member State which accedes to the Agreement subsequently, shall be effective one month after the date on which it has deposited its instruments of ratification;
4. (i) Once the Agreement comes into force, Contracting States, with a view to exchanging concessions, will hold the first round of negotiations amongst themselves to be completed within 12 months from the date the negotiations are initiated.

(ii) The results of the negotiations will have to be ratified by the Contracting States which have participated in these negotiations. The negotiated concessions will come into force 3 months after a minimum of 10 Participating States have ratified them.

(iii) Other Contracting States who wish to become Participating States shall submit offer lists to Participating¹ States who may present a request list to the applicant. Once this procedure has been completed, the applicant shall enter into negotiations with the interested Participating States with a view to reaching "an agreement. The applicant, thereafter, will have to ratify the negotiated concessions in order to become a Participating State.

5. Any Participating State may withdraw from this Agreement. Such withdrawal shall become effective six months from the day on which written notice is received by the Secretary General of OIC;

6. The Secretary General of OIC shall keep Member States informed on the deposition of instruments of ratification of this Agreement, the date of its entry into force, requests of accession to and withdrawals from it, and the adoption of amendments.

Article 19 / This Agreement is concluded for an undetermined period and its articles cannot be amended before five years after

Annex IX to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

the date of its entry into force. Amendments to the Agreement shall be made with the acceptance of two thirds of the Participating States. It shall become effective 3 months following the date on which five Participating States have deposited their instruments of ratification.

Article 20 / The annexes shall form an integral part of this Agreement. The annexes to this Agreement shall consist of the following:

- a) Annex I : Contracting States
- b) Annex II : Participating States
- c) Annex III : Rules of Origin
- d) Annex IV : Schedules of Concessions

Article 21 / This Agreement is done in the Arabic, English and French languages, each text being equally authentic.

Done on

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement on the dates indicated.

DRAFT

RULES OF ORIGIN

For determining the origin of products eligible for preferential concessions under the TPS/OIC, the following rules shall be applied :

RULE 1 / Originating products : products covered by preferential trading arrangements within the framework of the TPS/OIC imported into the territory of a participant from another participant which are consigned directly within the meaning of Rule 5 hereof, shall be eligible for preferential concessions if they conform to the origin requirement under any one of the following conditions :

(a) Products wholly produced or obtained in the exporting participating State as defined in Rule 2 ; or

(b) Products not wholly produced or obtained in the exporting participating State, provided that the said products are eligible under Rule 3 or Rule 4.

RULE 2 / Wholly produced or obtained : within the meaning of Rule 1 (a), the following shall be considered as wholly produced or obtained in the exporting participating State :

- (a) raw or mineral products extracted from its soil, its water or its seabeds ; C¹)
- (b) agricultural products harvested there ; (2)
- (c) animals born and raised there ; A
- (d) products obtained from animals referred to in paragraph (c) above
- (e) products obtained by hunting or fishing conducted there ;

*/ Include mineial fuels, lubricants and related materials as well as mineral or metal ores.

2/ Include forestry products.

Annex IX to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

- (f) products of sea fishing and other marine products taken from the high seas by its vessels ; ⁽³⁾ ⁽⁴⁾
- (g) products processed and/or made on board its factory ships ⁽⁴⁾ ⁽⁵⁾ exclusively from products referred to in paragraph (f) above ;
- (h) used articles collected there, fit only for the recovery of raw materials ;
- (i) waste and scrap resulting from manufacturing operations conducted there ;
- (j) goods produced there exclusively from the products referred to in paragraph (a) to ((i) above.

RULE 3 / Not wholly produced or obtained :

- (a) Within the meaning of Rule 1 (b), products worked on or processed as a result of which the total value of the materials, parts of produce originating from non-participating States or undetermined origin used does not exceed 60 percent of the FOB value of the products produced or obtained and the final process of manufacture is performed within the territory of the exporting participating State shall be eligible for preferential concessions subject to the provisions of Rule 3 (c) and Rule 4.
- (b) Sectoral agreements ⁽⁶⁾ as defined in para. 10, article I, chapter I of the Framework Agreement on TPS/OIC.
- c) The value of the non-originating materials, parts or produce shall be:
 - (i) The CIF value at the time of importation of the materials, parts or produce where this can be proven ; or
 - (ii) The earliest ascertainable price paid for the materials, parts or produce of undetermined origin in the territory of the participating State where the working or processing takes place.

^{3/} "Vessels" - shall refer to fishing vessels engaged in commercial fishing, requested in a participating country and operated by a citizen or citizens or governments or participants or partnership, corporation or association, duly registered in such participating country, at least 60 per cent of equity of which is owned by a citizen or citizens and/or government of such participating country or 75 per cent by citizens and/or governments of the participating States. However, the products taken from vessels engaged in commercial fishing under bilateral agreements which provide for chartering/leasing of such vessels and/or sharing of catch between participating States will also be eligible for preferential concessions.

^{4/} In respect of vessels or factory ships operated by government agencies, the requirement of flying the flag of a participating State does not apply.

^{5/} For the purpose of this Agreement, the term "factory ship" means any vessel, as defined, used for processing and/or making on board products exclusively from those products referred to in paragraph (f) above.

^{6/} In respect of products traded within the framework of sectoral agreements negotiated under TPS/OIC provision may need to be made for special criteria to apply. Consideration may be given to these criteria as and when the sectoral agreement are negotiated.

RULE 4 / Cumulating rules of origin : Products which comply with origin requirements provided in Rule 1 and which are used by a participating State as input for a finished product eligible for preferential treatment by another participating State shall be considered as a product originating in the territory of the participating State where working or processing of the finished, product has taken place provided that the aggregate content originating in the territory of the participating State is not less than F...._____Tj per cent of its FOB value (7)

RULE 5 / Direct consignment : The following shall be considered as directly consigned from the exporting participating State to the importing participating State :

- (a) if the products are transported without passing through the territory of any non-participating State ;
- (b) the products whose transport involves transit through one or more intermediate non-participating State with or without transshipment or temporary storage in such countries, provided that :
 - (i) the transit is justified for geographical reason or by considerations related exclusively to transport requirements ;
 - (ii) the products have not entered into trade or consumption there ; and
 - (iii) the products have not undergone any operation there other than unloading and reloading or any operation required to keep them in good condition.
 - (iv) appropriate certificate issued by customs authorities of the transit country is obtained as evidence of the conformity with the above clauses (ii) and (iii).

RULE 6 / Treatment of packing : When determining the origin of products, packing should be considered as forming a whole with the product it contains. However, packing may be treated separately if the national legislation so requires.

RULE 7 / Certificate of origin : Products eligible for preferential concessions; shall be supported by a certificate of origin (8) issued by an authority designated by the Government of the exporting participating State and; notified to the other participating States in accordance with the certification procedures to be developed and approved by the participating States.

7/ "Partial" cumulation as implied by Rule 4 above, means that only products which have acquired originating status in the territory of one participating State may be taken into account when used as inputs for a finished product eligible for preferential treatment in the territory of another participating State.

8/ A standard certificate of origin to be used by all participating States is annexed.

Participating States will do their best to co-operate in order to specify origin of inputs in the certificate of origin.

RULE 8 / Prohibition : Any participating State may prohibit importation of products containing any inputs originating from States with which it does not want to have economic and commercial relations.

RULE 9 / Review : These rules may be reviewed as and when necessary upon request of one third of the participating States and may be open to such modifications as may be agreed upon.

RULE 10. / Special criteria percentage : Products originating in participating least developed countries can be allowed a favourable 10 percentage points applied to the percentages established in Rules 3 and 4. Thus, for Rule 3, the percentage would not exceed 10 per cent, and for Rule 4, the percentage would not be less than 7 per cent.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

1. Goods consigned from (Exporter's business name, address, country) 2. Goods consigned to (Consignee's name, address, country)		Reference No. TPS / OIC (Combined declaration and certificate)			
		(country) see notes overleaf			
3. Means of transport and route (as far as known)		4. For Official use			
5. Tariff -sitenti » number	6. Marks and num- bers of packages	7. Number and kind of packages: description of goods	A. Origin country (see Notes overleaf)	9. Cross weight or other quantity	10. Month and date of invoices
11. Declaration by the exporter The undersigned hereby declares that the above details and statements are correct: that all the goods were produced in (country) and that they comply with the origin requirements for those goods in the TPS/OIC for goods exported to : (importing country)			12. Certificate It is hereby certified, on the basis of control carried out. That the declaration by the exporter is correct		
Place and date, signature of authorized signatory			Place and date, signature and stamp of certifying authority		

I - General conditions :

To qualify for preference, products must :

- (a) fall within a description of products eligible for preference in the schedule of concessions of the TPS/OIC country of destination ;
- (b) comply with the TPS/OIC rules of origin. Each article in a consignment must qualify separately in its own rights and
- (c) comply with the consignment conditions specified by the TPS/OIC rules of origin. In general, products must be consigned directly within the meaning of Rule 5 hereof from the country of exportation of the country of destination.

II - Entries to be made in box 8

Preference products must be wholly produced or obtained in the exporting participating State in accordance with Rule 2 of the TPS/OIC Rules of origin, or where not wholly produced or obtained in the exporting participating States must be eligible under Rule 3 or Rule 4.

(a) products wholly produced or obtained : enter the letter "A" in box 8.

(b) products not wholly produced or obtained : the entry in box 8 should be as follows :

1. Enter letter "B" in box 8, for products which meet the origin criteria according to Rule 3. Entry of letter "B" would be followed by the sum of the value of materials, parts or produce originating from non-participating States, undetermined origin used, expressed as a percentage of the FOB value of the exported products ;

2. Enter letter "C" in box 8 for products which meet the origin criteria according to Rule 4. Entry of letter "C" would be followed by the sum of the aggregate content originating in the territory of the exporting participating State expressed as a percentage of the FOB value of the exported products ;

3. Enter letter "D"*in box 8 for products which meet the special origin criteria according to Rule 10.

Annex X to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

Original : English

**JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PROGRESS REPORT
ON TINIC AND OICIS-NET WITH EMPHASIS ON
POSSIBLE COMPLEMENTARITIES BETWEEN THEM**

I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. The Makkah Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the 3rd Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Mukarramah and Taif in January 1981 has provided impetus and inspiration for an integrated development of the OIC member countries in all sectors including information systems and networks.

2. With a view to implementing the Plan of Action to strengthen economic cooperation, the 14th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopted the resolution 10/14-E entrusting ICDT with convening an Expert Group Meeting on trade.

The Expert Group Meeting was held in Casablanca from Rajab 1st to 4th, 1404H (April 2nd - 5th, 1984) and identified, among priority measures for the implementation of the Plan of Action "the development of a trade information network involving relevant regional and international institutions and the concerned OIC organs for an automatic and continuous flow of such information to which all interested economic operators could have access."

3. On the basis of this recommendation, the ICDT prepared a background note on TINIC project and submitted it to the COMCEC, which tackled this issue at its 1st session and entrusted ICDT with preparing a feasibility study in close collaboration with relevant Islamic and international organizations.

4. In pursuance of this decision, the ICDT proceeded to work out the feasibility study, in collaboration with relevant OIC organizations as well as the International

Annex X to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

Trade Center (UNCTAD/GATT). For this purpose and in pursuance of the COMCEC's recommendations, the ICDT convened:

in July 1905, a meeting of a limited Expert Group in Casablanca which gave an outline of the feasibility study;

in October 1906 in Izmir, an Expert Group Meeting which determined the principles which would govern the network;

- in-February 1908, a meeting of an Ad Hoc Contact* Group which adopted the draft feasibility study.

5. The Fifth Islamic Summit Meeting held in Kuwait, January 21-29, 1907, endorsed the recommendations of the OIC Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECII) requesting IDB "to consider the establishment of an Islamic Information Center in Jeddah to be appropriately linked with the OIC member countries".

◇

6. In compliance with the above resolutions IRTI took preliminary steps towards establishing the Islamic Countries Information Network (ICINET) and carried out some preliminary studies. In November 1907, the meeting comprising of representatives from IFSTAD, ICDT and S.I.K.C.I.C was organized by IUB/IRTI to consider ways and means of implementing the above recommendations. During the meeting, the basic features of the Network were discussed and elaborated which, in brief, contained the following objectives:

To develop a network as a means for communication and information flow between OIC member countries;

its specialized institutions.

to foster the development of data bases pertaining to the fields of activities of the OIC member countries and to provide on-line access to them in addition to disseminating information services.

Therefore, the ICDT would be one of the potential users of facilities provided by this network in so far as the task which was entrusted to it is the building up of trade databases.

7. In September 1980, the COMCEC, at its fourth session took note of the feasibility study presented by ICUT and decided to entrust an Expert Group with drawing up the implementation program of TINIC. The latter was drawn up in February 1981 and presented to the fifth session of the COMCEC.

8. IDB/IRTI carried out further studies for establishing an OIC information system network and took a series of steps as summarized below:

(a) The terms of reference for feasibility study of the network was completed. The study is expected to assess the development objectives, information needs and flows, data and information resources, computer and telecommunication facilities needed for the network, manpower requirements and the role of national and regional centers in the development of the network. The results of the study are expected to provide a perspective master-plan for all the Member Countries and a detailed detijv for a pilot scale network for seven countries.

(b) Several international consulting firms were invited to submit their offer;. Offers received from international consultants have been evaluated by a technical committee and a decision to forward the contract and launch the study is expected shortly.

(c) Each Member Country has been invited to nominate a

national focal center. 20 countries have nominated their focal points and the remaining 18 countries are expected to nominate their focal points soon.

(d) In addition to the national focal-centers, the following OIC and other regional institutions and organizations were contacted and informed of the progress related to the network:

- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (TFSTAD), Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara, Turkey.
- Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICD'r), Casablanca, Morocco.
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), Rabat, Morocco.
- Arab League Documentation Center (ALDOC), Tunis, Tunisia.
- Arab Satellite Communications Organization (ARADSAT), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Arab Industrial Development Organization, (AIDO), Baghdad, Iraq.
- King Abdel Aziz City for Science and Technology (KACST), Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi-Arabia.
- Egyptian National Scientific and Technical Information Network (ENSTIUET), Cairo, Egypt.
- Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone (PTT), Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(e) A progress report on the establishment of the network was prepared and presented to the 5th Meeting of the

OIC Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation held in Islamabad - Pakistan from 00 to 10 Shawwal 140911 (13 to 15 May 1909) .

9. In September 1909, at its fifth session, the COMCEC requested ICDT and IDH to prepare jointly an exhaustive activity report taking into account existing complementarities between TIMIC and ICIHET in order to avoid duplication of work and/or additional expenses to Member States and to submit a report to the sixth meeting of the Follow-up Committee.

10. This report is in response to this request.

11. OVERVIEW OF OIC INFORMATION SYSTEM NETWORK (OICI3-HET)

1. Development Objective

The development objective of OICIS-Net (previously named ICINET) is to provide information support to the efforts of OIC member countries in achieving a coordinated, cooperative and integrated socioeconomic and technical development of their countries and the Muslim communities.

For this purpose, the network is aimed at strengthening and improving the organization, management, exchange, flow, utilization, and sharing of information systems and services related to socioeconomic and technological development among the member countries, their institutions, and users of the information.

2. Definition

The following is a comprehensive definition to clarify the concepts concerning the OICIS-Network:

OICIS-NET is an integrated information system to promote information resource-sharing among OIC member countries and Muslim communities as a dynamic support for their developmental efforts. The network will be interlinking the national information systems, regional sectorial information systems and regional unity organizational information systems in addition to international information systems. It will have a system of decentralized management control, distributed information systems and services and open-ended mechanism allowing inclusion of any other information system or user group when ready for the purpose. The telecommunication network supporting the OICIG-Net will be designed, ultimately, to provide easy access to or to put within the easy reach of every user the information he needs, just when he needs it. Such access will be possible irrespective of where the information is located or from where the user is searching for the information through a system of appropriate telecommunication network.

In other words, OICIS-Net can be visualized as a double-faced coin having two facets: "Information Network" and "Communication Network".

InformationNetwork:

OICIG-Net, viewed as an information network 1 emphasizes on information systems. In this sense OICIS-Net

can be "defined as a system for the flow of information among independent information systems/networks dealing with information contents. Such systems/networks will share resources, whenever feasible, in order to avoid redundancy and/or duplication of efforts and cost".

- Communication Network:

As a communication network, OICIS-tlet can be "visualized as a communication system interlinking physically the national, regional and sectorial information centers".

3. Focal Points and their role :

OICIS-Net, in essence, can be looked at as a system of institutions cooperating with each other and coordinating their efforts for their mutual benefit for a common purpose.

In this sense, OICIS-Net will have a central coordinating point (IDB/IRTI) working in liaison with Focal Points (FP's) which take responsibility for coordinating activities in a certain geographical area or subject-field as explained in Sec. tf .

An FP can be called a Focal Center (FC) when it develops itself into an information and documentation center to be linked to network with necessary staff, information resources, computer and telecommunication facilities and administrative authority and budget to play such a role.

From the point of view of OICIS-Net, FP*s can be classified as:

(a) Regional Focal Points/Centers (RFP's/RFC's)

The OIC institutions and other regional institutions covering socioeconomic information in general or in a specific sector for several countries can be called Regional Focal Point RFP, or Center RFC if it has adequate infrastructure and facilities to play such a role.

(b) National Focal Points/Centers (NFP's/NFC's):

Each country will have a focal point which can be called National Focal Point NFP, or Center NFC if it has adequate infrastructure and facilities to play such a role.

(c) International Focal Points/Centers (IFP's/IFC's):

Any institution which has the scope of its information services beyond a specific region or continent, can be called an International Focal Point (IFP), or Center (IFC) if it has an adequate infrastructure and facilities to play such a role.

- Sources/Users ' of OICIS-Net Information Services

There will be no restriction, on any user contacting any source of information through OICIS-Net. The only restrictions could be extent and ease of access or cost of access.

FP's, FC's and any other national institutions can be direct sources/users of information in OICTS-Net.

National Focal Points: Role and Criteria

NFP's will play a pivotal role in IRTIC efforts either as NFP's or as NFP's to establish OICIS-Het. An example of the assistance expected from NFP's in this context is: facilitating contacts within the country during feasibility studies required for the establishment of OICIS-Het. In this sense, NFP's can be considered as points of contact, or liaison offices between IDF3/IKTI Information Center and any national body in each member country, when coordination or information from them is required.

It is expected that NFC's will develop their own resources and facilities and play a pivotal role in collecting, storing, processing and disseminating information particularly related to their countries. In this context they will be updating their own databases. They may also contribute to updating OICIS-Het databases. An NFC can also be considered as a source of country information in exchanging socioeconomic information relating to the country within the framework of OICIS-Net.

NFP's are nominated by each member country for the purpose of cooperation and coordination with IDF3/IKTI in different stages of development of OICIS-Het.

For purpose of implementing the OICTS-Net, each country will try to nominate one NFC. This NFC can be the NFP itself or may, in some cases, be another center to become a NFC. In the framework of OICTS-Net, the

Annex X to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/RnP.

center selected should meet the following minimum criteria:

- (1) Availability of a library/information center with up-to-date documentation on national information.
- (2) Availability of or access to computer and data communication facilities.
- (3) Availability of at least some usable databases.
- (4) Access to original sources of national information and "acuity to collect, process and update them.
- (5) Availability of adequate staff with training in information science and technology.
- (6) Official status and authority with financial resources and facilities to play its expected role.

4. Role of IRTIC as Coordinating Center of OICIS-NET

IRTIC will play the following major roles, among others:

- (a) Act as a coordination office and take necessary steps for the implementation and operation of OICIS-Met.
- (b) Promote the development of means of communication necessary for linking the OIC member countries and OIC organizations.
- (c) Collaborate with other interested OIC and other regional institutions in cooperation and coordination efforts made in different areas of information systems development.
- (d) Serve as a regional information system specialized in the field of socio-economic development.

- (e) Host, databases of some other organizations, which do not have required computer facility.

5. Major Consideration in Developing OICIS-Net :

IRTI will take the following major considerations into account during the different stages of development of OICIS-Net:

- (a) Avoiding redundancy and/or duplication of efforts and cost in developing information systems by adopting common standards and methodologies.
- (b) Ensuring that databases of common interest and need are not created by different institutions, in isolation.
- (c) Ensuring the compatibility and integration of the information systems to be connected to OICIS-Net.
- (d) Working for optimum utilization and integration of existing and future resources of OICIS-Net in the development of other networks among OIC member countries.
- (e) Training and development of the manpower needed to manage and operate the network as a pre-requisite for successful development of the network.

III. PRESENTATION OF TINIC PROJECT

1. Definition and Objectives of the Project

System of data bases: collection and dissemination of

trade information within the OIC Member States with a view to developing direct trade flows among them.

TINIC Project will ensure the achievement, inter alia, of the following:

To meet the trade information needs in all the Member States;

To make possible the systematic collection of appropriate and up-to-date information pertaining to trade;

To facilitate the most rapid data collection, processing, analysis and dissemination to the users;

To help Member States Governments take decisions relating to external trade policy and to provide basic information at the enterprise level on commercial opportunities in the Member States;

To help facilitate research and development activities in the trade field.

2. Basic Principles

The project will be opened to all O.I.C. Member Countries. It shall be developed among Member States through stages of a step-by-step approach.

The project shall be established on the basis of: a decentralized structure at the levels of both data collection and dissemination, in order to derive maximum advantage of the existing capacities within the O.I.C.

The project shall be based and applied on the principle of mutuality of advantages in such a way as to ensure

benefits to all participants on an equitable basis,

3. Users

- Government Organs
- Public and/or semi-public institutions
- Public and private enterprises
- Private associations
- Public and private research and training institutions

4. Nature of Information

Foreign Trade Statistics (MEMOSTAT): Country and commodity breakdown of foreign trade statistics of the Member States.

National and International Regulations (HEMOREGL): National and international rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to trade; tariff schedules and quota restrictions, and national and international product standards.

Business Opportunities (URIC): Classified advertisements from trade operators.

- Index of Foreign Trade Operators (FOCE): Database on trade operators, their names, addresses, specializations, annual transactions volume, the past performance of the operators in terms of their activities.

Bibliographic Data Dank (DIBLIO): Documents concerning foreign trade not specified under any other database defined

in this section.

International Tenders (TENDERS): Database on international tenders of O.I.C. Member Countries.

International Commodity Prices (COMPRIS): Database containing international market prices of commodities.

5. Gstructuro of the Network

a) Focal Points:

The Member Countries will have to officially appoint Focal Points which will collect information and documents.

* Choice Criteria:

Public or private institutions, specialized in in trade and already operational.

Minimum equipment: telephone, telex, telefax.

- Seeked equipment: telecommunication terminal to be directly linked to the Network.

* Mission:

- Information and documents collection.

- To meet if possible the users' needs.

- To ensure the connection as the case may be between the user and the Regional Center or the Coordinating Center.

b) Regional Centers:

Four Regional Centers shall be designated in compliance with the distribution of the OIC Member States in four geographical zones:

- North Africa
- Africa South of Sahara
- South-East Asia
- Middle East

* Choice Criteria:

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Contact Group, it is not a question of creating new cells. The functions of the Regional Center shall be assigned either to the Focal Points already designated or to the already existing Islamic organizations. In both cases, the setting up of the Regional Centers shall be made in countries provided with the necessary equipment to ensure satellite transmissions.

* Minimum Equipment:

Teledocumentation terminal and telecommunication infrastructure required for a good functioning, reprographics equipment, and to the extent possible computer hardware and software.

* Mission:

Storage of documents provided by the focal points or the Coordinating Center.

Information retrieval on ad-hoc data banks and sending back of answers to the inquiring focal point.

c) Specialized Centers:

It is a question of designating four Centers which will be responsible for each data bank of the Network.

* Choice Criteria:

These centers shall be chosen from among the OIC Institutions.

* Equipment:

Computer hardware and software and experience on developing and maintaining databases as well as similar equipment specified for the Regional Centers.

* Mission:

Building up and management of a data bank in connection with the Regional Centers.

d) Coordinating Center:

This role has been entrusted to I.C.D.T.

* Equipment:

Data processing facilities and reprographics.

*** Mission:**

Management of the Network and responsibility for at least one of the data banks.

IV. COMPLEMENTARITIES BETWEEN OICIS-NET AND TINIC

The structure and roles of OICIS-Net and TINIC elaborated above make it obvious that the two systems complement each other in rendering the information service to the member countries.

1 / OICIS-NET role :

OICIS-NET and TINIC will cooperate in developing the following services:

- Assist in adopting standard systems, procedures and guidelines to be used by network partners.
- Database hosting services on trade at the computer center of IDD/IRTI including the trade database of TINIC and provide on-line access to users.
- Network information marketing and promotion services.
- Arranging man-power training and development in OICIS-Net systems and procedures.
- Implementing physical network facilities and their maintenance

2 / TINIC role :

The TINIC will concentrate on trade information system network and will carry out the following tasks:

- Collection and dissemination of data and information on trade from member countries and international sources.
- Development of databases on micro data and transfer of data to OICIS-Net mainframe computer center at Jeddah. On-line data entry and/or data transfer

would be possible when physical network is established.

- Selection and development of National focal points and FP's at regional level and in each country for developing national trade data and information and arrange for its collection, consolidation and transmission to OICIS-Het computer center.
- On-line access to OICIS-Het computer center and other national and regional databanks, retrieval and consolidation of information.
- Providing on-line access to the databases on trade through the use of OICIS-Het.
- Developing systems and tools necessary for processing and organization of trade information within the framework of OICIS-Het and making them available to FC's.
- Provision of information services to member countries including enquiry service, current awareness service, data-service and production of directories and bulletins related to trade.
- Marketing trade information services and promoting trade based on the information services.
- Training and development of staff in trade information system and services.

arkl.54/ma

Annex XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

Orijinal: İngilizce

METHODOLOGY FOR THE HARMONIZATION OF THE
EXISTING STANDARDS OF THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES
AND FOR THE PREPARATION OF COMMON STANDARDS

Revised at the Expert Group Meeting
held on 2-3 October 1989
in Izmir

Coordinating Committee Secretariat of the
Islamic Countries Standardization Experts Group

Ankara, December 1989

- 0. INTRODUCTION
- 1. TERMINOLOGY
 - 1.1. TERMINOLOGY ON HARMONISATION AND HARMONISED STANDARDS
 - 1.1.1. Harmonisation
 - 1.1.2. Harmonised Standard
 - 1.1.3. Special National Conditions
 - 1.1.4. Date of Announcement
 - 1.1.5. Date of Withdrawal
 - 1.2. TERMINOLOGY ON ISLAMIC STANDARDS
 - 1.2.1. Draft Proposal
 - 1.2.2. Draft Harmonised Standard for Islamic Countries
 - 1.2.3. Harmonised Standard for Islamic Countries
 - 1.3. TERMINOLOGY ON HARMONISED STANDARDS
 - 1.3.1. Common Modification
 - 1.3.2. National Deviations
 - 1.3.3. A-Deviation
 - 1.3.4. B-Deviation
- 2. ORGANISATION AND ITS FUNCTIONS
 - 2.1. ISLAMIC COUNTRIES STANDARDISATION EXPERTS ASSEMBLY
 - 2.2. COORDINATING COMMITTEE
 - 2.3. CENTRAL SECRETARIAT
 - 2.4. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
- 3. EXAMINATION OF NEW SUBJECT PROPOSALS
 - 3.1. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONCERNED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
 - 3.1.1. Preparation of A New Subject Proposal
 - 3.1.2. Voting on a New Subject Proposal
 - 3.1.3. Participation in Technical Committee Work
 - 3.1.4. Majority in the Establishment of a Technical Committee
 - 3.2. EXISTENCE OF A RELEVANT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
 - 3.2.1. Preparation of a New Subject Proposal
 - 3.2.2. Comments of the Technical Committee
 - 3.2.3. Objection Period
 - 3.2.4. Dissolution of Technical Committees
 - 3.3. ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDISATION ORGANISATIONS
 - 3.4. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
 - 3.4.1. Membership
 - 3.4.2. Election of the Chairman
- 3.5. WORKING GROUPS
- 4. DIVISION OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN TECHNICAL WORK
 - 4.1. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
 - 4.1.1. General
 - 4.1.2. Name and Activity Fields of the Technical Committees
 - 4.1.3. Work Programme
 - 4.1.4. Target Completion Dates

Annex XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

- 4.1.5. Progress Control
- 4.2. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIATS
 - 4.2.1. General
 - 4.2.2. Annual Reports
 - 4.2.3. Resolutions and Reports
- 4.3. MEETING CHAIRMEN AND CONVENERS
- 5. ORGANISATION OF TECHNICAL WORK
 - 5.1. AMENITIES FOR MEETING
 - 5.2. WORKING LANGUAGE
 - 5.3. ENUMERATION OF WORKING DOCUMENTS
 - 5.4. DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS
 - 5.5. PREPARATIONS FOR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS
 - 5.5.1. Invitations to Meetings
 - 5.5.2. Time and Venue
 - 5.5.3. Cancellation of a Meeting
 - 5.5.4. Participation Confirmations
 - 5.5.5. Participation
 - 5.5.6. Non-participation
- G. LIAISON WITH OTHER TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
- 7. HARMONISATION OF EXISTING AND PREPARATION OF HARMONISED STANDARDS
 - 7.1. HARMONISED ISLAMIC STANDARDS
 - 7.1.1. Differences
 - 7.1.2. Voting Procedures
 - 7.1.3. Adaptation Procedures
 - 7.2. STAGES OF TECHNICAL WORK
- 8. PREPARATION AND ADAPTATION OF HARMONISED STANDARDS
 - 8.1. PREPARATION OF DRAFT ISLAMIC STANDARD
 - 8.1.1. Procedure
 - 8.1.2. Preparation of Drafts
 - 8.1.3. Use of National Standards as Source Material
 - 8.2. PRELIMINARY VOTING
 - 8.2.1. Principles
 - 8.2.2. Unconditional Approval
 - 8.2.3. Approval with Technical Reservations
 - 8.2.4. Approval of certain Conditions
 - 8.2.4.1 National Differences due to Legal Administrative Conditions
 - 8.2.4.2 Technical Conditions for Approval
 - 8.2.4.3 National Differences due to Technical or Economical Conditions
 - 8.2.5. National Differences
 - 8.2.6. Rejections
 - 8.2.7. Abstentions
 - 8.3. APPROVAL OF VOTING RESULTS
 - 8.4. FINAL VOTING
 - 8.5. CIRCULATION OF HARMONISED STANDARDS FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

- 9. PREPARATION OF A HARMONISED STANDARD
 - 9.1. GENERAL
 - 9.2. SURVEY
 - 9.3. EVALUATION OF REPLIES
 - 9.4. PUBLICATION OF A HARMONISED STANDARD THROUGH **DIRECT** ACCEPTANCE OF THE REFERENCE DOCUMENT
 - 9.5. PREPARATION OF A HARMONISED STANDARD BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
 - 9.6. APPROVAL OF THE HARMONISED STANDARD
- 10. PROCEDURE FOR THE EVALUATION OF DIFFERENCES IN THE HARMONISED STANDARDS
 - 10.1. GENERAL
 - 10.1.1. National Differences
 - 10.1.1.1. Procedure
 - 10.2. EVALUATION OF REQUESTED DIFFERENCES
 - 10.2.1. Evaluation
 - 10.2.2. Evaluation Criteria
 - 10.2.3. Conclusions
 - 10.3. SUBMISSION OF DIFFERENCES
 - 10.3.1. Reference Document Subject to Survey Among Islamic Countries
 - 10.3.2. Draft Harmonised Standard Expanded by the Technical Committee
 - 10.3.3. Procedure
 - 10.4. INSTRUCTION TO THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE/ISLAMIC COUNTRIES STANDARDISATION EXPERTS ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEE
 - 10.4.1. General
 - 10.4.2. Action
- 11. REPORTS
 - 11.1. STATUS REPORTS
 - 11.2. CONTENTS
- 12. AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS
 - 12.1. Revisions
 - 12.2. Amendments

INTRODUCTION

Within the scope of work aimed at developing trade among the Islamic countries, it has been decided that close collaboration should be established in the field of standardisation that existing standards should be harmonised or common standards should be developed, multilateral training programmes should be prepared in the light of the determined needs and available capabilities, a system of exchange of technical documents and information should be initiated and that certification procedures should be aligned.

This report covers the methodology to be implemented for the harmonisation of the existing standards and the preparation of common standards for the Islamic Countries and the work of a technical nature to be carried out.

1. TERMINOLOGY

1.1. TERMINOLOGY ON HARMONISATION AND HARMONISED STANDARDS

1.1.1. Harmonisation

Harmonisation as inferred herein denotes the elimination of the causes likely to lead to technical results conveying different meanings in the implementation of the existing standards, technical specifications, documents and statements on one or several technical properties of specific items, goods, products, procedures and services.

The conformity of a product manufactured in accordance with the national standards of a country and also to those of another country without any need for modification is indicative of the success of harmonisation.

1.1.2. Harmonised Standard

A harmonised standard is one ensuring the mutual acceptance of the test results and information flow on the goods, procedures and services executed in conformity with the standards approved by the separate standardisation bodies on the same subject. A harmonised standard may show differences from the national standards of the concerned countries

1.1.3. Special National. Conditions

Special national conditions are conditions which are not specified in the national standards but remain unchanged for a long period of time. They must be admitted into the standards if they affect the harmonisation.

1.1.4. Date of Announcement

The date of announcement is the final date for the announcement at national level of the existence of a harmonized standard.

1.1.5. Date of Withdrawal

The date of withdrawal is the final date allowed for the withdrawal from validity of a national standard in favor of a harmonised standard for Islamic countries.

1.2. TERMINOLOGY ON ISLAMIC STANDARDS

1.2.1. Draft Proposal

A draft proposal is a draft harmonised standard for Islamic countries forwarded to the technical committee for evaluation. They are consecutively numbered for each specific subject.

1.2.2. Draft Harmonised Standard for Islamic Countries

Draft harmonised standard for Islamic countries is the draft which, after having received adequate support from the members of the technical committee, is registered at Central Secretariat and circulated to all member countries for approval on a special form.

Then, a draft harmonised standard may be:

- a reference document circulated with a form to member countries for final approval after having been approved by the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee for preparation as a harmonised standard and registered by Central Secretariat with a form, or
- a reference document circulated with a form to member countries for approval after having been evaluated by the technical committee and having received adequate support and registered as such by the Central Secretariat, or
- a draft harmonised Standard circulated with a form to member countries for approval, after having been registered by the Central Secretariat in the case of documents which cannot be published as a harmonised standard due to national deviations.

1.2.3. Harmonised Standard **for** Islamic **Countries**

Harmonised Standard is the draft harmonised standard which receives an adequate number of votes in the final voting made through the use of forms and approved as such, and put into voluntary implementation.

1.3. TERMINOLOGY ON HARMONISED STANDARDS

1.3.1. Common Modification

Common Modification is the common changes made in the scope of the document used as reference by way of addenda and/or deleta (The finalisation of this work results in a harmonised standard).

1.3.2. National Deviations

National deviations are the differences arising from the statutory arrangements in force in a member country.

1.3.3. A-Deviation

An A deviation is a national deviation arising from the statutory arrangements in a member country.

1.3.4. B-Deviation

A B-deviation is a national deviation arising from technical **or** economical content.

2. ORGANISATION AND ITS FUNCTIONS

The Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly, Coordinating Committee, Central Secretariat and Technical Committees are involved in the execution of the technical work during the preparation of harmonised standards.

2.1. ISLAMIC COUNTRIES STANDARDISATION EXPERTS ASSEMBLY

The Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee is the body which converts the draft standard prepared by the technical committees into harmonised standard for Islamic Countries. It consists of the organisations or representatives of the countries where the harmonised standards so prepared will be implemented. It may perform its functions by formal meetings or through correspondence with Secretariat or by delegating some of its duties to the coordinating committee, i.e.

Annex X. to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

Its functions are as follows:

- a) Organisation, coordination and planning of technical work;
- b) Examination of new subject proposals and formulation of relevant decisions;
- c) Execution of all activities intended to ensure the conduct of technical work and development of technical relations.
- d) Adoption of decisions on the establishment or dissolution of technical committees;and

Approval of the work programmes of technical committees with an adequate number of subjects.

2.2.COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The coordinating committee is the body which is established with the purpose of carrying out the recommendation put forward in the first meeting of the standardisation Experts Group of the Islamic Countries and its establishment was approved in the second session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC. It consists of the four elected members of the Bureau of the first Meeting, namely Turkey as the chairman and three Vice chairman Iran, Saudi Arabia, Senegal representing the three geographical regions.

The Coordinating Committee, in addition to the ones to be given or might be delegated by the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly, is charged with the task of implementing the recommendation enumerated below within the framework of the recommendation approved by the Second Session of COMCEC. It has been resolved .

-That the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) should cooperate in the field standardisation in order to draw upon their respective experiences.

- That the standard is implemented in the member countries should be harmonised to the maximum level possible without jeopardizing the acceptable quality levels of the products in order to ensure a regular improvement of the inter-Islamic trade,

- That the member countries of the OIC should arrange training programmes on the basis of information gathered regarding the matter and taking into account their needs and capabilities together with the resources available,

- That a study should be launched to formulate the methods for the change of information

That the guidelines should be developed for the harmonisation of certification procedures .

2.3. CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

The Central Secretariat is the body acting as the secretariat for the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee and with responsibility for coordinated work in the technical field. These functions have been entrusted to the TSE by the COMCEC.

2.4. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The technical committees are the bodies responsible for technical work. Their establishment and dissolution is within the scope of the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee of which the secretariats are entrusted to a given member country.

3. EXAMINATION OF NEW SUBJECT PROPOSALS

3.1. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONCERNED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

3.1.1. Preparation of A **New** Subject Proposal

The new subject proposal formulated will be submitted to the Central Secretariat, which will then consult with the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee **concerning** whether it may be placed **on** the agenda. If a favorable opinion is obtained, it will examine the justificative statements **provided** together with the proposal, and indicate its suitability for certification.

3.1.2. Voting on A New Subject Proposal

After having consulted with the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Experts Assembly, the Central Secretariat will disseminate, if appropriate, the proposal to all member countries and to other organisations and agencies concerned. The proposals are disseminated together with survey forms. The reply period is four months but it may be shortened under urgent circumstances. Votes against and abstentions must be accompanied by justifiable reasons.

3.1.3. Participation in Technical Committee Work

Regardless of whether or not the subject proposal is approved by a member country, the accompanying form should be filled out and returned.

Active participation in the meetings will be construed as representation in most of the meetings through specialist national delegates in conformity with the provisions of the article 5.5.6.

An indication on the part of a member country to the effect that it will not participate in a subject will not preclude the said country from later taking part in the technical committee work.

3.1.4. Majority in the Establishment of a Technical Committee.

Subsequent to the completion of the survey, the Central Secretariat will, together with the country formulating it, evaluate the proposal and submit the results to the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee in summary form. The Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee will then decide on whether a new technical committee should be established or whether the subject should be entrusted to one of the existing committees. When a majority of the member countries supports a proposal and at least five countries pledge to actively participate in the meetings and confirm that they will not reject the proposal in the final voting stage, a new technical committee will be established.

3.2. EXISTENCE OF A RELEVANT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

3.2.1. Preparation of A New Subject Proposal

The new subject proposals are made on special forms which are provided. The proposals made by a technical committee or a concerned outside organisation are forwarded to the Secretariat of the relevant Technical Committee and the Central Secretariat.

The Central Secretariat submits for examination by the Technical Committee for inclusion of the matter in the work programme.

3.2.2. Comments of the Technical Committee

Comments of the Technical Committee on the new subject proposal will be made known through correspondence or in the meetings held. The approval of the new subject proposal depends upon the favorable votes of one-half of the Technical Committee members or their pledge to the effect that they will vote in favor of the draft Harmonised Standard for Islamic Countries in the final voting procedure.

3.2.3. Objection Period

The resolution of the Technical Committee to admit a new subject into its work programme will be circulated to the member countries by the Committee Secretariat and a copy thereof will be sent to Central Secretariat for information. A period of four months is allowed for member countries to send their objection, if any, to the committee Secretariat. Where an objection thereto is received, the matter is left to the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee discretion.

3.2.4. Dissolution of Technical Committees

When a technical committee fails to register satisfactory progress within a period of three years, it will be dissolved. The dissolution resolutions are taken by the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee.

3.3. ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDISATION ORGANISATIONS

Care will be exercised to ensure that duplication of the efforts is avoided in formulating the standards, and international work within the same field is supported in priority. Information flow should be initiated on the work carried out and international standardisation endeavours closely monitored.

3.4. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

3.4.1. Membership

The member countries will inform the Technical Committee and the Central Secretariat about whether they will participate in the Technical Committee work.

3.4.2. Election of **the** Chairmen

The technical committee chairmen are elected for a period of three years upon the recommendation of the Secretariat and favorable votes of the majority of delegates present. Where this is not feasible, chairmen may be elected solely for the particular meetings in which they are voted for.

3.5. WORKING GROUPS

The fields of activity of the technical committees are under some circumstances restricted in such a manner that a working group may not be necessary. Under some other circumstances, however, the technical committees may need to establish working groups to perform specific tasks. Members of the working groups will consist of persons proposed by the technical committee members or international organisations. The technical committees appoint the chairmen, calling for the group meetings and declaring them open. Members of the working groups may correspond directly among themselves. Results of the work carried out by the working groups will be transmitted to all group members and member countries. The working groups are dissolved upon completion of the tasks entrusted to them. The duration of working groups may be extended by the Technical Committees concerned, in cases where the work is not completed by the predetermined target dates.

4. DIVISION OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN TECHNICAL WORK

4.1. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

4.1.1. General

The primary functions of the technical committees are to prepare the draft harmonised standards for Islamic Countries by the predetermined target dates. The technical committees benefit from the results of the relevant work of international or regional organisations or of the technical committees of other Islamic countries.

4.1.2. Names and Activity Fields of the Technical Committees

Shortly after its establishment, a technical committee will decide, preferably by correspondence, on the proposed name and activity area and delineate the scope of the work involved. The description thereof will be as clear and succinct as possible.

4.2. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIATS

4.2.1. General

The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly entrusts the secretariat of each technical committee to a separate country. The technical committee secretariats must be impartial and are responsible to the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly for their own technical committees and for the work performed by them.

4.2.2. Annual Reports

Every year, in the month of January, each technical committee secretariat will prepare an annual report on a special form, covering the work performed in the preceding year and to be submitted to the Central Secretariat.

The annual report will indicate the current position of the work programmes, the meetings held, the stages of development on the subjects covered by the work programmes, the expected completion dates, the member countries actively participating in the meetings and the lists of international organisations with which direct contacts are maintained.

4.2.3. Resolutions and Report

The technical committee secretariats will register the committee resolutions and prepare a report at the end of each meeting.

Immediately after the meetings, the technical committee secretariats will submit to the Central Secretariat the said reports accompanied by appropriate explanations, and inform the latter of the meetings. Distribution of the documents will be made in accordance with the provisions of article 5.4. below.

4.3. MEETING CHAIRMEN AND CONVENERS

The technical committee chairmen are responsible for conducting the meetings held to develop the draft harmonised standards for Islamic Countries. They will act impartially in the performance of their functions and not be influenced by the opinions of their countries on the matter. The conveners of the working groups are likewise responsible for the performance of the groups work and for submitting periodic reports thereon to their own technical committees.

Annex XI to OIC/COMCF.C-FC/G-90/REP.

5. ORGANISATION OF TECHNICAL WORK

5.1. AMENITIES FOR MEETING

Unless alternative arrangements are made by the secretariats, the host organisations will be responsible for providing the necessary amenities for the meetings.

5.2. WORKING LANGUAGE

Resolutions, drafts, standards, documents and correspondence will be in the English, French, and Arab languages.

5.3. ENUMERATION OF WORKING DOCUMENTS

The working documents will be enumerated in accordance with the rules contained in the Technical Work Instructions of the ISO.

5.4. DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS

Copies of all correspondence and other documents will be circulated to all member countries for information to the Central Secretariat.

5.5. PREPARATIONS FOR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

5.5.1. Invitations to Meetings

The technical committee secretariats may arrange for committee meetings whenever it is considered necessary for a sound continuation of the work or whenever requests are received from their members.

Efforts will be made to ensure that as great a part as possible of the work in hand is carried out by correspondence and that meetings should be avoided, in order to obtain the largest possible participation of the delegates, unless the agenda contains adequate technical material to be discussed.

The technical committees will determine a suitable period of notice for the announcement of the impending meetings. This period of time may not be less than one month.

5.5.2. Time and Venue

The times and venues of the meetings will be determined through agreement between the members of the technical committees, host

countries and secretariats of the concerned technical committees. Conveners of the working groups who also open the first sessions thereof will consult in advance with the secretariats of the concerned technical committees for determining the meeting times and venues.

5.5.3. Cancellation of a Meeting

Care will be exercised to ensure that the meetings are not cancelled after the announcements of the times and venues of the meetings to be held.

When circumstances necessitate the cancellation of a meeting, the Secretariat of the concerned Technical Committee or the Convener of the Working Group will notify the members as soon as possible.

5.5.4. Participation Confirmations

Immediately upon receipt of the meeting announcements, the member countries will inform the secretariats of the concerned technical committees if so requested, they will inform the host member country whether they will be represented at the meeting, indicate the approximate number of their delegates and will forward, within a reasonable time ahead of the said meetings, the names of the delegation chairmen and members as well as their parent organisations.

5.5.5. Participation

Participation in meetings is granted to the delegates of officially-appointed observers of the member countries, representatives of other technical committees and of the international and regional organisations with which contacts are maintained in connection with the work in hand.

5.5.6. Non-participation

Each member country will be represented in the meetings as much as practicable. Where this is not feasible under some circumstances, the members who are unable to attend the meetings may proxy another member to express their opinions on the agenda of the meetings. Proxies will be handed over to the committee secretariats prior to the meetings. Members may not hold proxies of more than one other member.

Members unable to participate in the meetings may vote by correspondence or proxy,

6. LIAISON WITH OTHER TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Technical committees working in interrelated areas will establish a liaison among themselves.

Technical committee secretariats will be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of such liaison. Secretariats of technical committees may delegate this authority to the conveners of the meetings.

All technical committees are authorised to appoint observers to monitor the work of other technical committees and the Working Groups thereunder. Such appointments will be notified formally to all concerned observers and to the secretariats of the concerned technical committees.

The observers are entitled to participate, without voting rights, in the meetings of the technical committees or working groups to which they are assigned. They may take part in the discussions of these committees and groups and submit written comments on the subjects falling within the scope of their own technical committees. They may likewise participate in the meetings of the working groups under the technical committees where they are appointed as observers.

7. HARMONISATION OF EXISTING STANDARDS AND PREPARATION OF HARMONISED STANDARDS

7.1. HARMONISED ISLAMIC STANDARDS

7.1.1. Differences

The harmonised Standards is the same as national standards. However, for harmonised standards, A and B deviations from national standards are allowed.

7.1.2. Voting Procedures

Voting procedures are the same for national and harmonised standards.

7.1.3. Adaptation Procedures

Adaptation procedures of national and harmonised standards are identical.

Annex XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6--90/REP.

•7.2. STAGES OF TECHNICAL WORK

The harmonised standards for Islamic Countries are prepared through the implementation of the following steps:

Step 1- Examination of inter-Islamic trade; determination of items, products, procedures and services constituting the subjects of this trade; inquiry into the existence of standards on the above matters; itemization of the subjects concerning safety and security of life and property and environmental and energy problems; establishment of the priorities and development of relevant work programmes; dissemination through survey forms of the work programmes consisting of subjects to be converted into harmonised standards; evaluation of the comments received and approval of work programmes.

Step 2- Preparation of the draft proposal or reference document by the Technical Committee concerned.

Step 3- Registry of draft proposal or reference document as harmonised standard for Islamic Countries by the Central Secretariat.

Step 4- Circulation of the draft proposal or reference documents to the member countries by the Central Secretariat and voting through use of special forms.

Step 5- Examination of the draft proposal in the light of received comments and transmittal to Central Secretariat subsequent to introduction of suggested recommendations.

Step 6- Circulation to member countries of the harmonised standard and its approval through the use of special forms provided.

Step 7-Consideration of adaptation of harmonised standard into a national standard.

8. PREPARATION AND ADAPTATION OF HARMONISED STANDARDS

8.1. PREPARATION OF DRAFT ISLAMIC STANDARD

8.1.1. Procedure

The technical committee secretariats will prepare the initial draft proposals on the basis of available *reference* materials and in accordance with the harmonised standard preparation pattern.

Care will be exercised to ensure that the draft proposals conform to the technical committee resolutions.

The draft proposals will then be circulated to the member countries to be discussed in the technical committee meetings, modified as appropriate and voted on.

The technical committees may finalise their work through voting during their meetings or by correspondence.

The technical committees concerned will forward to the Central Secretariat the final draft proposal accompanied by a summary chronology.

8.1.2. Preparation of Drafts

The technical committees will set forward the principles in unambiguous sentences and exercise care in the selection of words. The conditions will be based on specific objectives and indicated in a way which is easy to understand.

The technical terms will be clearly defined. The language used in the drafts will be easily understandable by all concerned.

The conditions given in the drafts will be scientific and based on engineering experience. Attention will be paid in the preparation of the drafts to the fact that the finalised documents will be used in ensuring safety and security of life and property environmental protection and certification activities.

The standards will contain all test methods required to verify conformity to specified conditions and the methods adopted must be based on the latest technologies. The test methods will be full, clear and objective orientated.

The technical committees are under the obligation to solve the technical problems arising during their work and to compromise the different opinions expressed in the meetings. The technical committees will not attempt to solve such problems by a majority of votes. Where technical solutions cannot be found, the problems will be clearly defined and transmitted to the Central Secretariat and to the participants of the meetings. Whenever necessary, assistance will be solicited from experts on the subject.

8.1.3. Use of National Standards as Source Material

The national standards of any Islamic country shall be given priority as a source material for a harmonised standard. Such national standards will be converted into a draft harmonised standard using the common standard pattern.

8.2. PRELIMINARY VOTING

The final draft proposal is registered by the Central Secretariat and distributed under the special forms as draft harmonised standard, together with the summary information referred to in the article 8.1.1

One copy of the form filled out by the member country is forwarded to the Central Secretariat and the other copy is sent to the Secretariat of the concerned Technical Committee within a period of four months after their receipt. Justificative notes will be provided in the case of a negative vote. The explanations on the voting forms are given in articles 8.2.1. through 8.2.8.

8.2.1. Principles

Determination of the resolutions of the technical committees are intended to be made before obtaining "aye", "nay" and "abstention" votes through the preliminary voting on the draft harmonised standard for Islamic Countries.

At this stage, the member countries will be expected to express their opinions on the draft harmonised standards at the relevant technical committees where resolutions are adopted by the majority.

The purpose of the preliminary voting is to obtain confirmation to the effect that the draft is in its broad outlines acceptable and to eliminate the risk of rejection on technical grounds in the final voting. The member, countries will thus be in a position to vote without having to confront the problem of modifying their national standards prior to the confirmation of the conditions for the harmonised standards.

8.2.2. Unconditional Approval

In unconditional approval during the final voting as per article 8.4. a member country declares that it will adapt its own standard to the adopted harmonised standard within a period of not longer than six months.

8.2.3. Approval with Hedactional Reservations

This procedure, similar to article 8.2.2. above, aims to approve the standard with textual modification recommendations. It is preferred that these recommendations should be submitted prior to the preliminary voting.

8.2.4. Approval of Certain Conditions

8.2.4.1. National Differences due to Legal Administrative Conditions

These conditions are limited to those published by the concerned authorities, modifiable only by them and entailing compulsory implementations leading to a need for A-deviation in article 7.3.5.

If these conditions are different from the harmonised standards for Islamic Countries, the member country concerned may reply by entering: "Approved subject to the need for adherence to A-deviations resulting from legal and/or administrative circumstances".

A member country which wishes to accept all the terms and conditions of the draft harmonised standard but is prevented from doing so for legal and administrative reasons, may request the implementation of A-deviations.

8.2.4.2. Technical Conditions for Approval

A member country which wishes to approve the draft with the proviso of the acceptance of the modifications which it proposes will submit the following reply:

"Approved with the proviso that the proposed modifications are accepted".

The technical differences will be indicated with sufficient clarity to show these differences. If these differences are accepted as such by the Committee, the draft will be approved. In cases where these modifications are not made, it will be deemed that the country in question does not support the draft.

) : Anne* XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

8.2.4.3. National Differences Due to Technical Economic Conditions

If economic or technical conditions contained in the national standard and applied solely in the country concerned prohibit the implementation of the draft harmonised standard/ that country may request the B-deviation by submitting the following reply :

"Approved under the proviso that modification caused by technical and/or economic reasons are accepted".

This signifies that the national standard may cover certain limited deviations as compared with the draft harmonised standard.

8.2.5. National Differences

The national differences are classified into A and B deviations the definitions of which are given in article 1.

When the "ayes" (accompanied or not by reserves) make up the required majority, the acceptance or rejection of this kind of differences will be indicated by the technical committees concerned. If the draft harmonised standard can not be approved without the A and B deviations, the draft will be published as a preharmonised standard and the text of the draft harmonised standard will constitute the preharmonised standard. All national differences approved in the preharmonised standard and the legal, administrative, technical and economic grounds will be detailed thereat, the addendum will be as per the following text: "Addendum: National differences". Such addendum will also be given together with the harmonised standards to indicate the national deviations request of some Islamic Countries.

8.2.6. Rejections

A rejection indicates that the member country in question refuses to accept the harmonised standard to be approved as a national standard. The rejection vote, will be given together with justifiable grounds for refusal.

8.2.7. Abstentions

Abstention votes may likewise be expressed together with the relevant justifiable ground.-

Annex XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

8.3. APPROVAL OF VOTING RESULTS

At the end of the voting period, the Central Secretary and the Secretary of the Technical Committee concerned will analyse the voting results and prepare a voting report which will also indicate and cover all opinions on the draft harmonised standard and the activities to be initiated thereafter. This report will be disseminated to all member countries and to the organisations who may have submitted opinions and comments on the matter. -

Proposals exerting influence on the draft Islamic standard and questions directed by the member countries will be transmitted to the technical committees concerned through the Secretariat. Where the draft Islamic standard does not obtain the required majority in the final voting, the matter is abandoned there and the outcome is communicated to the secretariat of the technical committee concerned. Under such circumstances, a new draft may be prepared in accordance with the procedure given in article 8.2 with the sole difference that the voting period is limited to one month which may nevertheless be extended to three months upon the request of one or more members. If the draft Islamic standard still fails to obtain the necessary majority, it will be printed as a status report together with appropriate explanations.

8.4. FINAL VOTING

The final text of the draft harmonised standard prepared by the secretariat of the technical committee concerned will be transmitted to the member countries for voting by the Central Secretariat together with the voting forms to be used. • ' .

The voting period is four months which may be extended for another month if requested during the aforesaid 4-month period.

The final text will likewise indicate the modifications made to it since the preliminary voting through the secretariat of the technical committee concerned.

In accepting the draft as a harmonised standard, the member countries will be deemed to have agreed with the implementation of the routine procedure in the acceptance of the draft and with the fulfilment of their obligations with respect thereto. Technical opinions will not be expressed at this stage through voting.

Rejections and abstentions will be expressed together with justifiable reasons. Where these justifications also include technical comments, they will be used for the future amendments or revisions &f "J.&

Annex XI to OIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/RF.P.

harmonised standard. Where a member country failed to take an active part in the work as per article 3.1.3 and used a rejection vote in the final voting without adequately expressing the reasons for doing so, such a vote may be deemed void or converted into an abstention.

The Central Secretariat will prepare a report on the results of the final voting and circulate it to the member countries.

8.5. CIRCULATION OF HARMONISED STANDARD FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

Subsequent to the acceptance of the draft as an Islamic standard, the Central Secretariat will exercise the final control, add to the text a reference covering the heading, approval date and cataloguing data and circulate them to the organisations playing an active role in the member countries for the preparation of the standard.

The keywords selected in line with the comments of the member countries will be embodied in the standard.

The original copies will be kept as official documents at the Central Secretariat.

The Central Secretariat will ensure the printing of the harmonised standards and offer them for the use of member countries, which will then be under the obligation of publishing same as their own national standards without making any modifications thereon within a period of six months. The national inclosures, if any, will be placed following the text of the harmonised standard. Such inclosures will be confined exclusively to the information aimed at facilitating the implementation conditions of the harmonised Standard.

9. PREPARATION OF A HARMONISED STANDARD

9.1. GENERAL

A reference document may be taken as a basis for the preparation of a harmonised standard. Any of the following may be used as a reference document:

- A national standard,
- A single document consisting of the combination of the national standards of several countries,
- An international standard,
- Regional standards.

Annex XI to O1C/COMCEC-FC/6-90/RFP.

9.2. SURVEY

The proposal of a subject which is of importance to inter-islamic trade, or which is formulated by a member country, will be forwarded to the Central Secretariat which will determine through a survey to be made by means of a special survey form whether the member countries intend to convert the same into national standards.

9.3. EVALUATION OF REPLIES

The Central Secretariat will, subsequent to the survey work, gather the replies together with the recommendations made therein, analyse the results and prepare a report to assist the Coordinating Committee in deciding on whether a report should be drafted or a harmonised standard should be prepared.

based upon the replies received and the recommendations of the Central Secretariat, the Coordinating Committee will select at least one of the following courses of action:

To prepare a report providing adequate information on the harmonisation status;

- To submit the reference document as a harmonised standard to the member countries if the replies indicate that adequate support has been obtained for harmonisation at national level (as indicated by the request in writing to that effect by at least three member countries);
- To transmit the results to a working group consisting of specialists in the subject field in charge of examining the matter, or to an existing technical committee and to obtain their opinions thereon before a final decision;
- To initiate appropriate action for the transfer of the matter to an existing technical committee or for the establishment of a new technical committee if more technical studies are indicated prior to the publication of a harmonised standard; and
- To abandon the project if adequate support and pledges are not obtained for harmonisation at national level.

9.4. ACCEPTANCE OF A HARMONISED STANDARD THROUGH DIRECT ACCEPTANCE OF THE REFERENCE DOCUMENT:

If the Coordinating Committee/islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly seems it appropriate, to accept the reference document

harmonised standard per se, the Central Secretariat will issue a draft harmonised standard number to the document and circulate it with the special form.

The cover page and voting forms are prepared for this purpose and an announcement of the coming into force of the harmonised standard and the withdrawal of the national standard is inserted.

Should differences be proposed in the survey replies, they will be evaluated in the manner described in article 10.

9.5. PREPARATION OF A HARMONISED STANDARD BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

If the Coordinating Committee resolves that a harmonised standard should be prepared by an existing technical committee without having to change its field of activity, this resolution will be communicated to the technical committee concerned and to all member countries. If, on the other hand, a suitable technical committee to take up the matter is not in existence, the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly may initiate the necessary work for the establishment of a new technical committee or for the expansion of the field of activity of an existing one. The Technical Committee with which the preparation of the harmonised standard is entrusted will then prepare a draft harmonised standard under article 8.2 for preliminary voting and, if the result of this voting is favorable, the harmonised document will be submitted for approval in the manner described in article 8.4 for handling any possible differences.

9.6. APPROVAL OF THE HARMONISED STANDARD

The voting procedure will be conducted by the Central Secretariat in compliance with the procedure applicable to final voting on the draft harmonised standard. In the case of direct approval of the reference document as in article 9.4, the voting period may be extended to four months if requested by one or more Islamic countries. At the end of the voting period, the Central Secretariat will prepare a voting report and disseminate it to all member countries for information and to the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly for evaluation. If the result of the voting is favorable, the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly will certify the acceptance of the harmonised standard, determine the dates of its coming into force, its publication and of the withdrawal of the national standard, and will indicate the number allocated to the harmonised standard which will then be distributed by the Central Secretariat to member countries for enforcement to be taken.

The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly will at its discretion adopt a course of action to be followed in case of unfavorable voting results.

10. PROCEDURE FOR THE EVALUATION OF DIFFERENCES IN THE HARMONISED STANDARDS

10.1. GENERAL

10.1.1. National differences

Requests for national differences and evidence of their necessity will be communicated by the member countries at the earliest possible date. The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly or the Technical Committee concerned will decide on whether these problems may be solved by one of the following methods:

- a) Withdrawal of the request leading to the continuation of the preparation of a harmonised standard;
- b) Withdrawal of the differences at a date not later than that of the national standard causing the conflict or prior to the date of the announcement of the harmonised standard concerned.
- c) Acceptance of the request as a joint arrangement.

10.1.2. Procedure

If it is not possible to eliminate the differences, the procedure indicated in articles 10.2 and 10.4 will be implemented. Under some circumstances, the requested differences may indicate that the harmonisation is impossible at that stage or that it is unnecessary.

10.2. EVALUATION OF REQUESTED DIFFERENCES

10.2.1. Evaluation

The member countries will indicate to the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly or to the relevant Technical Committee their evaluation aimed at reducing the required differences to a minimum. Criteria given in article 10.2.2 will be taken into consideration for the evaluation envisaged therein.

10.2.2. Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be taken into consideration in the evaluation of a request:

- a) Effects of the difference in the determined safety level, if any;
- b) Requirements, if any, for differences which do not exist in the reference document;
- c) Determination of whether the differences arise from the personal interest or wishes of an individual.

10.2.3. Conclusions

The following conclusions may be reached in connection with the requested differences through the evaluation of the criteria vindicated in article 10.2.2 above:

- a) The requested difference may be a special national condition (climatic, etc.)
- b) It may be a legal compulsion
- c) It may be a D-deviation together with a given withdrawal time.

The requests for differences will be deemed as null and void if they are rejected.

10.3. SUBMISSION OF DIFFERENCES

10.3.1. Reference Document subject to Survey Among Islamic Countries

Requests for national differences will be indicated in the replies given to the survey together with the information available thereon and the justifications therefor.

10.3.2. Draft Harmonised Standard Expanded by the Technical Committee

Requests for differences will be forwarded within the preliminary voting period allowed, together with justifiable grounds.

10.3.3. Procedure

Each difference request will be compared with the draft harmonised standard and evaluated on an article-by-article basis to determine whether it is an A or B deviation or an ad hoc national situation, including also the grounds for it.

Specific references will be given to the legal compulsions and their reasons in the case of A-deviation."

In cases where B-deviation are indicated, information will be provided thereon together with the dates deemed suitable for the withdrawal of the differences.

For special national situations, all details indicating the appropriateness of the request will be provided.

10.4. INSTRUCTION TO THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE/ISLAMIC COUNTRIES STANDARDISATION EXPERTS ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEE

10.4.1. General

Prior to the evaluation of the requested differences, the conditions in articles 10.2 and 10.3 will be duly complied with.

The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly and Committee will examine whether the requests for difference have been submitted within the predetermined periods of time and together with justifiable reasons.

The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly and Committee will then evaluate the requested differences by using the criteria given in article 10.2.

10.4.2. Action

One of the following actions will be taken as a result of the evaluation of the request for A or B deviations or for ad hoc national circumstances:

- a) The request will be rejected
- b) The request will be *referred* to the concerned member country for consideration.

c) The subject will be postponed pending a revised edition of the
• harmonised reference document.

d) The request will be transmitted to the specialists dealing with the matter (such as a technical committee or a working group) for a more detailed study.

e) The request will be accepted and submitted to the Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly for insertion into the harmonised standard and approval of the same as such.

11. REPORTS

11.1. STATUS REPORTS

If the Technical Committee involved is not able to arrive at an agreement on a draft harmonised standard by the target date, or if suitable distance is not covered for the development of a harmonised standard for specific reasons, its Secretariat will prepare without delay a status report.

The Coordinating Committee/Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly will then decide, in the light of this report, on whether the work will be pursued until a new target date.

11.2. CONTENTS

The status report may contain.

- (1) The unapproved draft harmonised standard text together with a note indicating the source of the draft and the analysis of the voting results, or
- (2) A history of evolution of the draft harmonised standard as an inclosure.
- (3) The information on the nature of the obstacles (technical, economical, legal or otherwise) encountered during the work performed.
- (4) The developments recorded until that date,
- (5) The estimated completion date, and
- (6) A list of existing national standards.

12. AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS

12.1. Revisions

The decisions for the revision of harmonised standards will be taken by the Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee or the relevant Technical Committee. The procedure to be implemented is the same as in the preparation of a new standard. Decisions may also be adopted, upon the request of a member country, on whether the harmonised standards should remain in force with revisions at intervals shorter than five years, whether they should be revised or whether they should be rescinded.

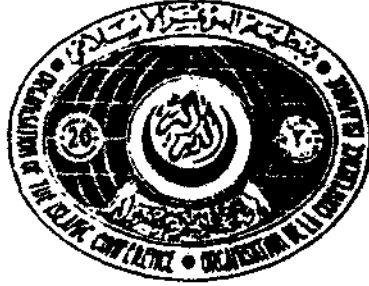
In the case of revision of a harmonised standard, each member country {•^proving the revised standard may revise its national standard according within a period of six months follwihg the revision of the subject harmonised standard.

12.2. Amendments

An amendment is an approved addendum to a harmonised standard of which it .will become an integral part.

Amendments to the harmonised standards may be requested by Islamic Countries Standardisation Experts Assembly/Coordinating Committee relevant Technical Committee or a member country.

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



The Organisation of the Islamic Conference

DRAFT

OIC/DSRP-SC/90

STATUTE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES
OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

PART ONE

STATUTE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

CHAPTER 1

SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Article 1

SCOPE

(a) This STATUTE shall be called the "Statute of the Standing Committees" and shall be applicable to the conduct of activities of the three STANDING COMMITTEES of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, namely -

- i) The Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COHSTECH).
- ii) The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC).
- iii) The Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC).

(b) The Statute shall also apply to any other Committee of the same status.

Article 2

DEFINITIONS:

- (i) ORGANISATION means: The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).
- (ii) SUMMIT means: The Islamic Summit Conference of Kings and Heads of State/ Government or their duly accredited representatives.
- (iii) CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS means: The Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICfM) or their duly accredited representatives.
- (iv) CHARTER means: Charter of the Organisation.
- (v) GENERAL SECRETARIAT means: The General Secretariat of the Organisation.

- (vi) STANDING COMMITTEES means: The Three Standing Committees of the Organization established by the Third Islamic Summit.
- (vii) CHAIRMEN mean: Chairmen of the three Standing Committees of the Organisation.
- (viii) GENERAL COMMITTEE means: General Committee of the Standing Committee of the Organisation.
- (ix) FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEES mean: Follow-up Committee of the Standing Committees of the Organisation.
- (x) SESSIONAL COMMITTEES mean: The Organs of the Standing Committees through which the activities of the subsidiary organs, the specialised organs, and other relevant affiliated institutions and bodies of the Organisation are reviewed.
- (xi) SUBSIDIARY ORGANS mean: The Subsidiary Organs of the Organisation.
- (xii) SPECIALISED ORGANS mean: The Specialised Organs of the Organisation.
- (xiii) AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS mean: The Affiliated Institutions of the Organisation.
- (xiv) PLANS OF ACTION mean: The Plans of Action of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.
- (xv) SESSIONS mean: Regular Meetings of the Standing Committees.
- (xvi) MEMBER STATES mean: Member States of the Organisation.

CAPTER - II

STATUS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 3

• (i) The Standing Committees are subsidiary organs of the Summit which established them in conformity with its authority.

(ii) The Standing Committees shall supervise the implementation of Islamic Conference resolutions; each within the framework of its mandate.

(iii) The Standing Committees shall, each within its competence, carry out specific tasks which may from time to time be assigned to them by the Summit.

- (iv) The Standing Committees shall perform their tasks within the framework of the objectives and principles of the Charter.
- (v) The Standing Committees shall have a working and cooperative relationship with the Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM).
- (vi) The Standing Committees being supervisory bodies, shall use the General Secretariat of the Organisation as their executive organ.

CHAPTER HI

SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE

Article 4

The Specific Terms of Reference of the Standing Committees are as follows:-

- (i) Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH)

The Committee undertakes to follow up implementation passed, by the Conference in the fields of Science and Technology, to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in these fields, and draw up programmes and submit proposals designed to increase the Member States' capacity in these fields.

- (J') Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COHCEC)

The Committee undertakes to follow up the implementation of the resolutions passed by the Conference regarding economic and commercial matters, to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in these fields and to draw up programmes and proposals designed to increase Member States' capacity in these fields.

(iii) Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COHIAC)

The Committee undertakes to follow up implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conference on Information and Cultural Affairs, to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in these fields and draw up programmes and proposals designed to increase the Islamic States' capacity in these fields.

CHAPTER IV

OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 5

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Standing Committees are:-

- (i) To follow up the implementation of the resolutions of the Organisation in relation to Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial Cooperation, in particular, the relevant provisions and retention of the relevant Plans of Action.
- (ii) To study all possible means of strengthening Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the Member States.
- (iii) To draw up programs and submit proposals designed to increase the capacity of the Member States, both individually and collectively, in the Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial fields, in accordance with the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter and the Resolutions of Summits pertaining to these fields.

- (iv) To serve as the Central Tora for the discussion or International Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial issues and the formulation of policy recommendations for the Henebr States.
- (v) To ensure the overall coordination of the activities of the Organisation relating to Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological» Economic and Commercial cooperation among Member States.

Article 6

PRINCIPLES: .

In pursuit of the objectives outlined in Article ũ, above, the Standing Committees shall act in accordance with the following principles-

- (i) Utilization to the utmost of the Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial capacities and potentialities available in the Member States in order to mobilise and exploit them in the best possible manner, within tfo context of a strong and systematic cooperation among the Member States, for the welfare and prosperity of their people.
- (ii) Taking necessary mensures to ensure the initiation of multilateral Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological* Economic and Commercial Cooperation projects that are feasible, realizable within a'reasonable period of time with minimum additional cost and be of interest to the Member States at regional, inter-regional and/or community levels.

- (iii) Observation of the Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, economic and Commercial rights and obligations of the Member States towards third parties and those arising from relevant international and regional agreements.
- (iv) Taking into account the differences in the levels of Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological and Economic and Commercial development among the Member States and giving due regard to the Information and Cultural, Science and Technology, Economic and Commercial interests of those Member States which are least developed and/or facing natural calamities.
- (v) Contribution to the attainment of world Information and Cultural, Scientific and Technological, Economic and Commercial development and expansion of world Information and Culture, Science and Technology and Trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis in accordance with international obligations.

CHAPTER

ARTICLE 7 - OBJECTIVES - MISSIONS - FUNCTIONS

Article 7

In order to attain the objectives stated in Article 4 with the principles set forth in Article 6 of this Statute, the Standing Committees shall:

- a) Submit progress reports and make proposals through their respective Chairmen to the Summit on the implementation of the respective Plans of Action and on the strategy and institutional and organizational aspects of the fields under their respective competence.

••••/

Annex XII to ÖIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

- b) Apprise, through the General Secretariat, the Conference of foreign Ministers of decisions and activities for appropriate action.
- c) Request the General Secretariat, the Subsidiary Organs and specialised and affiliated institutions working in the fields of Standing Committees to submit progress reports, undertake necessary studies, convene expert group meetings and report the progress in the implementation of the studies and projects assigned to them, periodically, through meetings of the Sessional Committees to be convened at each Session or, as and when the need so arises. i j I
- d) Organize regular meetings and special sessions to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the decisions pertaining to the areas under their competence and Plans of Action as well as to consider specific issues pertaining to cooperation among Member States in the fields under their respective competence. J i j j
- e) Have consultations in their respective field of activities with international and regional groupings and organisations and where deemed necessary for the fulfilment of their objectives.
- f) Decide on the convening of a historical meeting either concurrently with a Session or separately, in a specific area of cooperation contained in the respective Plans of Action to consider issues pertaining to those areas. 1 j

. . . /

CHAPTER VI
MEMBERSHIP

Article 8

The Standing Committee is composed of representatives of Member States.

CHAPTER VII
STRUCTURE

Article 9

Each Standing Committee shall be composed of the following Organs:

- (i) The General Committee
- (ii) The follow-up Committee
- (iii) The Sessional Committee
- (iv) The General Secretariat.

Article 10

The General Committee

(a) The General Committee works under the direction of the Chairman of the Standing Committee and is composed of Ministers (or their representatives) of Member States responsible for the management of the fields of competence of the Standing Committee.

(b) The General Committee meets in regular SESSIONS. It may also meet in extraordinary sessions as stipulated in the Unit's Procedure of the Standing Committee.

Article 11

The follow-up Committee

The follow-up Committee assists the Chairman of the Standing Committee in the fulfilment of his responsibilities. In carrying out its tasks the follow-up Committee shall deal with issues pertaining to the fields of competence of the Standing Committee in close collaboration with the General Secretariat and relevant subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions of the Organisation. In this regard the follow up Committee shall :-

- (a) Adopt measures necessary to implement the programmes and projects approved by the General Committee.

- (b) Hnke reports to the General Committee on strategy and organisation of its work and on the progress of implementation of the decisions of the General Committee.
- (c) Prepare the draft agenda of regular sessions and of Ministerial Meetings held for the first time under the auspices of the Standing Committee.
- (d) Cooperate and seek assistance from Member States and National, Sub-Regional, Regional, Inter-regional and International Institutions able and willing to promote the objectives and principles of the Standing Committee. Any agreements in this regard will be approved by the General Committee.

Article 12

The Follow-up Committee shall be composed, of the following:-

- CHAIRMAN - Representative of the Chairman of the Standing Committee.
- MEMBERS
 - One representative of the Chairman of the Summit.
 - 6 Representatives from Member States (two from each of the three Regional Group of the Organisation to be elected every three years by the General Committee).
 - 1 Representative of the General Secretariat (Ex-Officio).
 - 1 Representative of the National Coordinating Office (Ex-Officio).

Article 13

The Sessional Committee

(a) The Sessional Committee shall consist of the Member States, the General Secretariat, the Specialised, Subsidiary and affiliated institutions and other bodies of the Organisation working in the fields of competence of the Standing Committee.

(b) The Sessional Committee Will meet periodically as stipulated in The Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees to review the activities and programmes of the organisations' institutions mentioned above (simultaneously with the Senior Officials meeting), to report to the General Committee for coordination and guidance.

Article 14

r. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

(i) The General Secretariat being the executive Organ of the Organisation shall also perform the executive functions of the Standing Committee. In this regard the General Secretariat shall work very closely with the National Coordinating Office of the Standing Committee, a national institution set up by the Government of the Chairman to act as focal point for matters pertaining to the Standing Committee and to assist in the preparation and organisation of its meetings»

(ii) The General Secretariat shall hold consultations with the Chairman of the Standing Committee through the National Coordinating Office with regard to organisation of a meeting, and determining the list of states and organisations to which invitations and documents are to be sent.

(iii) The General Secretariat shall in collaboration with the National Coordinating Office, be responsible for the despatch of invitations and documents of meetings of the Standing Committee.

(iv) The General Secretariat shall apprise the Conference of foreign Ministers of the activities of the Standing Committees.

CHAPTER VIII

FINANCIAL

Article 13

The financial resources of a Standing Committee shall consist of:

- (i) contribution of the Government of the Chairman of the Standing Committee.
- (ii) Voluntary donations from Member States and other sources, approved by the Chairman.

The funds shall be used for the running of the National Coordinating Office and the organisation of meetings.

CHAPTER IX

LANGUAGES

Article 16

Languages of the Standing Committees shall be Arabic, English and French.

CHAPTER X

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 17

- (i) This Statute shall be approved by the Summit.
- (ii) Amendments to this Statute shall be made if approved by a two-third majority in the Summit.
- (iii) The provisions of this Statute are in conformity with the Charter of the Organisation and the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees.
- (iv) This Statute shall enter into force on the date of its approval by the Summit.

PART IV/0

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

CHAPTER 1

SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Rule 1:

SCOPE

(a) These Rules shall be called "Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committees" and shall be followed by the three STANDING COMMITTEES of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, namely :-

- (i) The Standing Committee for Science and Technology (COMSTECH).
- (ii) The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC).
- (iii) The Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC).

(b) The Rules shall also apply to any other Committee of the SMS status.

Rule 2

DEFINITIONS

- (i) ORGANISATION means: : The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).
- (ii) CHARTER means : The Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.
- (iii) SECRETARY-GENERAL means : The Secretary-General of the Organisation,
- (iv) GENERAL SECRETARIAT means: : The General Secretariat of the Organisation.
- (v) SESSION means : Regular meeting of the Standing Committee
- (vi) CHAIRMAN means : Chairman of the Standing Committee,
- (vii) GENERAL COMMITTEE means: : Committee of Ministers or their representatives responsible for the management of the Standing Committee.

....

Annex XII to ÖIC/COMCEC-FC/6-90/REP.

- | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|--|
| (viii) | FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE
means: | follow-up Committee of the
Standing Committee. |
| (ix) | SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
means: | The Organ of the Standing
Committee through which the
activities of the subsidiary
organs and other relevant
specialised and affiliated
institutions, are reviewed. |
| (x) | SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
mean: | The Subsidiary Organs of the
Organisation. |
| (xi) | SPECIALISED ORGANS
mean: | The Specialised Organs of the
Organisation» |
| (xii) | AFFILIATED
INSTITUTIONS mean: | The Affiliated Institutions
of the Organisation. |
| (xiii) | MEMBER STATES mean: | The Member States of the
Organisation in accordance
with Article VIII of its
Charter. |

RULE J

CONVENING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE; SESSIONS

1) The regular session shall be convened annually as decided at the previous session by the Secretary General in collaboration with the National Coordinating Office, in the country of the Chairman at least ninety days before the specified date.

2) The regular sessions of the General Committee shall be held at the level of Ministers of the Member States, responsible for the fields of competence of the Standing Committee.

3) The Regular Sessions of the General Committee shall be preceded by at least two days of preparatory meetings of the Senior Officials of the Member States.

4) The Preparatory Meetings of the Senior Officials shall consider the items of the draft agenda together with amendments as they may deem appropriate and prepare Draft Resolution(s) to be submitted to the Ministers of the General Committee.

••••/

5) The Sessional Committee shall also meet concurrently with the preparatory meeting, to review the activities and programmes of the OIC subsidiary, and affiliated organs working in the field of the Standing Committee.

6) Ministerial Meetings in any area within the fields of competence of the Standing Committee may also be held during the Session of the General Committee to initiate new projects in the area concerned or take appropriate decision on certain aspects of the pn-going projects, or related issues.

RULE 4

ELECTION OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE BUREAU

1. The General Committee Bureau shall consist of the Chairman, the Secretary-General (or their representatives), the Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur.

2. The General Committee shall elect, at the beginning of each Session, Four (4) Vice-Chairmen and one (1) Rapporteur.

3. The Chairmanship of the General Committee Bureau shall always be assumed by the Chairman of the Standing Committee or his officially designated representative,

4. One of the seats of Vice-Châirmen shall be reserved permanently for Palestine. The other three seats shall be allocated to Member States, one from each geographic regions of the Organisation.

5. The General Committee Bureau shall function during the period of the Session only.

6. The General Committee Bureau shall inter alia assist the Chairman in coordinating all the works of the Session of the Standing Committee.

••••/

RULÛ 5

ELECTION OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMUTE

1. The General Committee shall every three years elect the Follow-up Committee composed of the following:-

CHAIRMAN - Representative of the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

MEMBERS

- 1 Representative of Chairman of Summit.
- 6 Representatives from Member States (two from each of the three geographical regions of the Organisation).
- 1 Representative of the General Secretariat (Ex-Officio).
- 1 Representative from the National Coordinating Office Ctx-nffieioK

2. The Chairmanship of the Follow-up Committee shall always be assumed by the Country of the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

3. The Chairman of SUMMIT shall always have a representative in the Follow-up Committee.

4. The General Secretariat shall always have a representative in the Follow-up Committee as an Ex-Officio member .

5. The National Coordinating Office of the Standing Committee shall always have a representative in the Follow-up Committee as an ex-officio member.

6. The remaining six members of the Follow-up Committee, two from each of the three geographic regions of the Organisation shall be elected at the beginning of a session for a period of three years.

...••/

RULE 6

DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE SESSIONS OF THE
GENERAL COMMITTEE

1. The draft agenda for a regular session shall be drawn up by the Follow-up Committee and communicated by the General Secretariat to the Member States, Organs of the Organisation concerned and international institutions at the latest ninety (90) days before the opening of the session. Letters of invitation shall accompany the draft agenda.

2. For any subject or issue concerning a Standing Committee to be considered by that Committee, it shall first be examined by the Follow-up Committee concerned. In exceptional cases where the circumstances may dictate otherwise, the function of the Follow-up Committee in this regard shall be assumed by the senior officials preparing for the session.

3. Any subject, project or issue concerning the Standing Committee shall be included in its agenda only if the necessary documentation explaining the background, nature and purpose or feasibility of that subject, project or issue are received by the Member States six weeks before the meeting of the General Committee.

RULE 7

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1. At each session, the draft agenda approved by the Senior Officials preparing the session shall be submitted for adoption, as soon as possible, after the opening of the session.

2. The General Committee shall adopt its agenda for all regular sessions and may add other items by agreement of the majority of Member States present and voting.

RULE 8

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT AGENDA

Some items on the draft agenda may, during a session, be amended or deleted and other items of an urgent nature may be included upon approval of the majority of Member States present and voting.

RULE 9

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SESSIONS

1. The General Committee shall be convened in special sessions at the request of a Member States to the agreement of the majority of Members within 30 days of the date of notification.
2. The Member States shall be given at least 30 days notice of the opening of a special session.

RULE 10

AGENDA OF SPECIAL SESSIONS

1. The Agenda of the special session shall only comprise the item(s) for which the session was convened.
2. The draft agenda of a special session shall be communicated to the Member States together with the relevant letters of invitation 30 days before the opening of the session.

RULE 11

FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
IN THE SESSION

1. The Secretary-General shall participate in all the work of the Session and Committee emanating from it and shall in collaboration with the National Coordinating Office present dates, studies and clarifications on the
«
items under consideration at all time. He may authorise one of his assistants or his representatives to act on his behalf in this regard.

2. The Secretary-General shall liaise with the National Coordinating Office to ensure the organisation of the Secretariat and Committees of the Session and the preparation of the minutes on the debates, resolutions and recommendations adopted.

3. The country of the Chairman of the Standing Committee shall entrust its National Coordinating Office with the Coordination of conference work between the General Secretariat and the host country.

RULE 12

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

1. The work programme of any session, and the scenario thereof, shall be drawn up by the Chairman and communicated, through the General Secretariat, to the Member States at least 90 days before opening of the session.

2. All resolutions and recommendations shall be adopted by a two thirds majority, those relating to procedural matters shall be adopted by a simple majority.

RULE 13

VOTING

1. Each Member State shall have one vote.
2. If a Member State abstains from voting or has reservations on decisions or recommendations, such abstention or reservation shall not invalidate the decision or recommendation.

RULE 14

RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS

1. The drafts of resolutions and reports of any session shall be prepared by an open-ended drafting Committee under the Chairmansip:of the Rapporteur.
2. The resolutions and reports of sessions and those of Ministerial Meeting held concurrently with the Ceneral Committee meeting shall be presented at joint olosing session by the Chairman of the Ministerial meetings.
3. The resolutions or reports of Ministerial Meetings held separately shall be reported to the Ceneral Committee through the General Secretariat or the respective Chairman or Rapporteur.
4. Resolutions and reports of sessions shall be published in the three languages of the Organisation and shall be communicated to the Member States not later than thirty days after the closing date of each session.

RULE 15

L A N G U A G E

1. The languages of the General Committee shall be Arabic, English and French.
2. All documents presented to the General Committee for consideration shall be in these three languages.
3. Any representative may make a speech in a language other than that of the Organisation on condition that he provides for interpretation into one of the languages of the Organisation.

RULE 16

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. In cases where these rules are not specific, the Rules of Procedure of the, Organisation of the Islamic Conference shall apply,
2. These Rules shall take effect from the date of its approval by the General Committee.
3. Amendment to these Rules shall be made by a two-third majority in the General Committee.

Original: English

**DRAFT AGENDA
OF THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION**

Istanbul, 7-10 October 1990

1. Inaugural Session
(To be held jointly with that of COMCEC V I)
2. Election of the Members of the Bureau of the Meeting
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Background Report by the General Secretariat of OIC
5. Status Reports on Technical Cooperation Activities
 - a) By Member Countries
 - b) By OIC Institutions
 - c) By Other International Organizations
6. **Report** by IDB on Its Activities in the Area of Technical Cooperation Among the Member Countries.
7. Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the National Focal Points in the Area of Technical Cooperation Among the Member Countries.
8. Coordination Among the National Focal Points For Technical Cooperation
9. Strengthening the National Focal Point Institutions For Technical Cooperation
10. Development of an Information System For Technical Cooperation Among the OIC Member States
11. Follow-up and Implementation

12. Any Other Business
13. Adoption of the Report and the Resolution to be Submitted to the COMCEC
14. Closing Session (To be held jointly with that of GQMCEC VI)

Original: English

DRAFT AGENDA
OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

Istanbul, 7-10 October 1990

1. Opening Session :

- Inaugural Statement by H.E. Turgut ÖZAL President of the Republic of Turkey, Chairman of the COMCEC.
- Statement by H.E. Yıldırım AKBULUT Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC.
- Statement by H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-GABID, Secretary General of OIC.
- Statements by Heads of Delegations on Behalf of the Three Regional Groups of the Member States of OIC.
- Statement by H.E. Ahmed Mohammed ALI, President of IDB.

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

3. Report by the General Secretariat of OIC.

4. Report of the Follow-up Committee.

5. Report by ICDT on the Draft Framework Agreement on a Trade Preferential System Among the Member States of OIC.

6. Report by IDB and ICDT on the Establishment of a Trade Information Network Among the Member States of OIC.

7. Report by IDB on the Establishment of an Export Credit Insurance Scheme.

8. Report by the Secretariat of the Coordinating Committee on the Harmonization of Standards Among the Member States of OIC.

9. Economic Measures in Support of the State of Palestine.
10. Report by the OIC General Secretariat on the Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC.
11. Report of the Sessional Committee.
12. Any Other Business.
13. Adoption of the Resolutions of the Sixth Session of the COMCEC and the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation*.
14. Date of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC.
15. End of the Session.

Original: Turkish

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY H.E. İŞİN ÇELEBİ
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE OF
THE COMCEC**

**Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee
of the COMCEC
Istanbul, 22 March 1990**

Distinguished Members of the Follow-up Committee,

Honourable Delegates,

We have successfully come to the end of another Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all of you for your cooperation, understanding and valuable contributions.

I am confident that the recommendations included in the report adopted at this Sixth Meeting will be instrumental in activating the early implementation of the projects on the Agenda of the COMCEC, and will add to the efficiency of the work undertaken by the COMCEC.

I would also like to express my satisfaction for the invaluable efforts of the related specialized organs towards the realization of the projects on our Agenda. I would like to take this opportunity to convey my thanks to the General Secretariat of the

Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Islamic Development Bank, the Casablanca Centre and the other subsidiary and affiliated organs of the OIC for their precious contributions.

I would likewise note with satisfaction that the task entrusted to the Islamic Development Bank relating to the establishment of an Export Credit-Insurance Scheme has reached its final stage, and that a Draft Statute for setting up this mechanism has been prepared, this being one of the most concrete developments we have achieved during this meeting.

We assume that the recommendations we have adopted in relation to the other projects on the Agenda and the activities required for their implementation will be finalized until the Sixth Session of the COMCEC. Scheduled for next October. The opportunity to develop and realize new cooperation projects will be created now that the projects on our Agenda Since 1984 are becoming operational.

Although it is imperative to adequately carry out the work required for the implementation of the projects, the fundamental factor for the achievement of concrete results is the political will of the member states to implement and take advantage of the opportunities which will be created.

The draft agenda of the First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation, which was reviewed during our meeting, will be taken up by the Experts' Meeting on Technical Cooperation, to start in this hotel on Saturday, March 24, and recommendations for the implementation of the projects included in the draft will be elaborated. The draft agenda will thus be studied by the experts before it is submitted to the Ministers. I believe that this method would be useful for other ministerial meetings to be held in the framework of the COMCEC.

The recommendation to convene a ministerial meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works concurrently with the Seventh Session of the Comcec is one more concrete outcome of our meeting. I am confident that the cooperation to be launched among member Countries on the subject of Infrastructure and Public Works services will activate the potential existing in our community and contribute significantly to the economic development of our respective countries. In fact, I believe there is no need to emphasize the importance of improving the infrastructure in developing countries.

Before I conclude, may I express my gratitude to all of you for your contribution to the success of this Meeting. I am proud to state that our committee, striving diligently to obtain concrete results, has undoubtedly taken decisive steps towards the achievement of our goals. I firmly believe that the work of this meeting will set an example for the future activities of the COMCEC.

I seize this opportunity to also thank the interpreters and all the auxiliary personnel who have supported us in our work.

Hoping to see you again in October at the Sixth Session of the GOMGEC, I wish all of you a safe trip home.

The Sixth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC is closed.