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RESOLUTIONS
ON
ECONOMIC ISSUES

ADOPTED BY

THE 39TH SESSION OF
THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (CFM)
(Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development)

Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti
15-17 November 2012
(01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

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RESOLUTION NO. 1/39-E
ON
ACTIVITIES OF THE COMCEC

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the relevant Resolutions of the COMCEC, in particular thereof, the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the 27th Session of the COMCEC,

Recalling the OIC Astana Declaration 2011 and recognizing the importance of the ideas expressed by the President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev at the opening session of 38th CFM,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Welcomes** the resolutions of the 27th and 28th Sessions of the COMCEC No. OIC/COMCEC/27-11/RES and OIC/COMCEC/28-12/RES (as annexed), and

requests all the Member States to further their efforts for the implementation of the COMCEC's resolutions as well as its programmes and projects;

2. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/39-E
ON
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR ISSUES

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the outcome of the Meeting of Labour Ministers of OIC Member States held on the sidelines of the 19th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, in Istanbul, Turkey, on 11-15 September 2011,

Also recalling the outcome of the OIC Forum on Public Private Partnership and Development of SME in OIC Member States held on the sidelines of the Second Global Summit on Entrepreneurship in Istanbul, Turkey, on 3-6 December 2011,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group and ICCIA,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Azerbaijan to host a Conference of Labour Ministers of OIC Member States and **calls on** the Member States to actively participate at the said Conference;

2. **Invites** the OIC Member States and Institutions to increase intra-OIC collaboration on the development of entrepreneurship;
3. **Urges** the Islamic Development Bank to prepare a feasibility report concerning the possibility of establishment of a special fund of SMEs under the IDB to be submitted to the COMCEC, and **calls upon** the other OIC economic institutions and bodies to make suggestions and provide their vision on implementing this initiative;
4. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/39-E
ON
ESTABLISHMENT OF OIC FOOD SECURITY INSTITUTION IN
KAZAKHSTAN

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Recalling the Resolution No.OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. adopted by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 28-30 June 2011, with regard to the implementation of the provisions of the Resolution adopted by Fifth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development,

Bearing in mind the Resolution No.1/4-MFSAD adopted by the Fourth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 14-16 January 1995, on OIC Food Security Reserve,

Considering the OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia approved by the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 28-30 June 2011,

Reaffirming the Resolution on Promoting Food Security and Agricultural Development in OIC Member States adopted by the Sixth OIC Ministerial Conferences on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 3-6 October 2011, and the Resolution of the 27th Session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 17-20 October 2011, with particular reference to the establishment of OIC Food Security institution in Kazakhstan,

Noting the high vulnerability of the OIC Member States to wide fluctuations in the production of basic food and hence to instability of their food supply,

Recognizing the importance of regional collective self-reliance with respect to food security as a means of addressing the adverse effect of global food crisis on the OIC Member States,

Recognizing further that the establishment of an OIC Food Security institution is based on the principle of collective self-reliance as well as solidarity and mutual cooperation to ensure food security of the OIC Member States,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Decides** to establish an OIC Food Security institution in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan;
2. **Requests** the Secretary General to convene in consultation with Member States an Intergovernmental Expert Group Meetings(s) to finalize the constituent instrument of the OIC Food Security Institution;
3. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Djibouti to host a Center for OIC Food Security Reserve for East, Central and Southern Africa and Horn of Africa in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti;
4. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/39-E
ON
OIC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the Resolution No.42/ 37-POL of the 37th Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, on 18-20 May 2010, with reference to creation of OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia,

Taking into consideration the endorsement of the OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia by 38th Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 28-30 June 2011,

Taking note of the Secretary General's Report on the successful outcome of the first Meeting of Executive Committee of the Plan which was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 18th October 2011,

Recalling the activities of the various OIC intervention funds for poverty alleviation and human resource development in OIC Member States,

Expressing satisfaction with the fact that the total interventions for poverty alleviation projects, under the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD), have attained US\$ 855 million,

Noting that a total amount of US\$ 3.98 billion has been extended by the IDB Group under the Special Programme for Development of Africa (SPDA), in support of 364 projects in African OIC Member States,

Recalling its earlier request to OIC Member States to increase, and redeem, their commitments to ISFD,

Aware of the on-going efforts of the IDB Group, in consultation with OIC Member States, to elaborate a more robust, inclusive, and diversified successor programme to SPDA,

Noting the on-going consultations by the Secretary General towards expanding multi-stakeholders' partnerships for contributing to the implementation of OIC programmes with a view to addressing the plight of the poor and vulnerable segments in OIC Member States,

Commending the SESRIC for its elaboration of dedicated capacity building programmes in critical economic sectors, including agriculture, vocational education, statistics and finance,

Affirming the earlier resolutions on development assistance to OIC Member States,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Calls on** Member States to give priority to both ISFD and SPDA projects in their national development programmes;
2. **Urges** Member States and other stakeholders to implement the various activities and projects under the OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia;
3. **Commends** the Government of the Republic of Turkey for organizing the Workshop on Country Partnership Models with Central Asia in Ankara on 22-23 February 2012; and **hails** all participating OIC Member States for their declared interests in associating with the development of OIC Member States in Central Asia;

4. **Requests** the Secretary General to liaise with all competent authorities and stakeholders in order to facilitate the convening of an Investment Forum for Central Asia;
5. **Urges** Member States to provide their respective responses to the SESRIC' questionnaires in the various sectors to enhance human and industrial capacity building in OIC Member States;
6. **Expresses** appreciation to OIC Member States, which have offered assistance to other OIC Member States, and **renews** its call for further bilateral and multilateral assistances in the spirit of Islamic solidarity;
7. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/39-E
ON
COOPERATION IN TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Considering the recommendations of the Ministerial Exchange of Views Session on the theme of “Impact of Transport Networks on Trade and Tourism” which was held during the 27th Session of the COMCEC,

Expressing support for the alliance established between OIC and African Union on joint implementation of the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project, including the on-going feasibility studies,

Acknowledging the parallel actions underway on the national segments of the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project, with particular reference to Abidjan-Ouagadougou-Niamey-Cotonou segment,

Underlining the importance of strengthening the transit potentials of the OIC land-locked Member States,

Taking into account the activities of OISA, especially in the area of promoting intra-OIC cooperation in the maritime transportation,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Welcomes** the “Transport Cooperation Framework within the OIC – Izmir Document 2011”, which is aimed at enhancing cooperation among OIC Member States in the transportation sector;
2. **Urges** the Secretary General continue to liaise with IDB, AU/NEPAD and other stakeholders to enhance progress on the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project;
3. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/39-E
ON
TOURISM SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the provisions of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in Tourism Sector among the OIC Member States,

Also recalling the Resolution of the 7th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 28-30 November 2010,

Taking into consideration the outcome of the Donors' Conference on "Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa" held in Dakar, Senegal on 27-28 May 2011, as well as the recommendations of the Steering Committee meeting of the Project held in Casablanca, Morocco on 7-8 February 2012,

Noting the recommendations of the 2nd Workshop on Private Sector Cooperation for enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism held in Izmir, Turkey on 9-10 December 2011,

Welcoming the offer by the Republic of Sudan to host the 8th Islamic Conference of Ministers of Tourism in 2012,

Also welcoming the offer by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the 2nd Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States in Cairo on 20-23 December,

Further welcoming the outcomes of the 3rd Coordination Committee on Tourism, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 12-13 June 2012,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Calls** participating Member States in the project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa” to commit more resources to their respective national segments of the Project and re-submit the details of national segments of projects for transmission to the potential donors;
2. **Urges** the beneficiary states to submit urgent requests to bilateral and multilateral donors to mobilize financial resources complementing the national efforts;
3. **Invites** the OIC, through its special development programmes, namely the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD), the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) and the Programme for Capacity Building and the Assistance to OIC Member States, to provide financial support to the Regional Project on Development of Tourism in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa, as well as to projects initiated by the beneficiary states in order to establish tourism satellite accounts to better monitor this sector;
4. **Urges** OIC Member States to continue facilitating movement of tourists among them by easing visa procedures for the citizens of Member States;
5. **Calls on** OIC Member States and their respective Private Sector entities to promote intra-OIC tourism by actively participating in the Second Tourism Fair, scheduled to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 20-23 December 2012;

6. **Invites** Member States to provide their support for the promoting of investment in the area of tourism in Palestine, particularly infrastructure projects in order to support tourism industry and to encourage tourists from Member States in Palestine;
7. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/39-E
ON
COOPERATION IN FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SECTORS

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the outcome of the Meeting of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member States, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 15 May 2012, with particular reference to the promoting capital flows among OIC Member States,

Also recalling the Report of the 5th Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 17-18 September 2011, in particular the creation of a S&P OIC/COMCEC index,

Noting the outcome of the Conference of the Capital Markets Regulatory Authorities of OIC Member States, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 16 September 2011, particularly, the establishment of COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum among OIC Member States,

Acknowledging the contributions of Member States in advancing the progress of Islamic Finance, particularly in the area of institutional building among OIC Member States, and

underscoring the collaboration by Bank Negara Malaysia and IDB in this field of cooperation,

Also noting the report of the Second Session of the OIC Statistical Commission held in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on 13-15 May 2012,

Reiterating the importance of Islamic banking for socio-economic advancement and promotion of investments in OIC Member States and for mitigating the effects of the global financial crisis,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

1. **Appeals** to all OIC Member States to sensitize their stock exchange agencies to sign the agreement relating to the establishment of a S&P OIC/COMCEC index;
2. **Also welcomes** the establishment of COMCEC Capital Market Regulators Forum among OIC Member States; and **urges** Member States to encourage their Capital Regulatory bodies to join the Forum and contribute actively to its activities;
3. **Calls upon** the IDB and the OIC Member States to continue consultative and other forms of assistance for the development of Islamic banking in Central Asia, including Kazakhstan, which has recently introduced a new legislation in this regard;
4. **Renews** its call for the relevant institutions in the OIC Member States to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the many Forums established in the framework of the OIC in the domain of financial and statistical cooperation, as well as stock exchange and capital markets;
5. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this Resolution and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/39-E

ON

**ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES AND MUSLIM
MINORITIES AND COMMUNITIES IN NON- OIC COUNTRIES**

The Thirty-Ninth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, on 15-17 November 2012 (01-03 Muharram, 1434H)

Recalling the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 25-28 January 1981, and its subsequent amendment adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, on 13-15 December 1994,

Recalling also the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, particularly its strong commitment to accelerate economic cooperation among OIC Member States as well as effective collaboration with regional and international organizations,

Taking cognizance of Resolution OIC/SUM-11/2008/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs adopted at the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century), held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008,

Reaffirming Resolution OIC/38-CFM/ECO/Res. on Economic Affairs by 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011,

Recalling the provisions of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action with regard to support programmes aimed at alleviating poverty in the Least Developed Member States and Muslim Communities in non-OIC Member Countries,

Expressing appreciation for the humanitarian and development assistances provided by OIC Member States in the form of humanitarian and development programmes,

Noting the growing importance of external assistance in alleviating poverty, enhancing food security, promoting sustainable development and strengthening institutional capacity in OIC Member States, in particular among its least developed countries,

Commending the activities of the various OIC Institutions in the economic domain, namely: SESRIC, ICDT, IDB Group, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General,

A. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan:

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this very critical time of the country's history,

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict,

Deploring the Armenia-backed aggressive separatism instigated in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, followed by aggression and occupation by Armenia of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territories and resulted in violent displacement of almost one million Azerbaijani people from their homes, which, as such, resembles the terrible concept of ethnic cleansing,

Conscious of the fact that economic damage inflicted upon Azerbaijan in its territories currently occupied by Armenia already exceeds US\$60 billion,

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations,

Emphasizing the fact that despite the efforts and achievements of the Republic of Azerbaijan in solving the problems of Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) and refugees, there is still a need for technical and financial assistance by donor countries and international organizations,

1. **Appeals** to the Member States, International Community and Islamic Institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the financial and technical assistance with a view of implementing development projects aimed at improvement of social and living conditions of IDPs;
2. **Calls upon** the international organizations to continue to support economic and social development activities of Azerbaijan.

B. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire:

Recalling Resolution No.11/36-P on the situation in Cote d'Ivoire, adopted by the 36th Session of the CFM held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 23 to 25 May 2009, and all previous OIC resolutions on the matter,

Reaffirming the need for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire, and more particularly the need for the rehabilitation of its economy,

1. **Invites** the OIC Member States, Islamic financial institutions and donors to extend their financial and material assistance for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire and the rehabilitation of its economy;
2. **Reiterates** the decision to establish a Special Fund for the reconstruction of the crisis-affected regions in Cote d'Ivoire;
3. **Requests** the Secretary General to undertake appropriate steps for the organization of a donors' conference for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire;
4. **Also requests** the Secretary General to undertake, as early as possible, a visit to Cote d'Ivoire to underscore its solidarity with Cote d'Ivoire.

C. Economic Assistance to Kyrgyz Republic:

Taking note of the current situation related to political crisis in 2010,

Recognizing the importance of rendering assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic to provide prompt and sustainable restoration,

Welcoming the efforts of Secretariat of OIC on settlement of a situation, revival of high Muslim values among the population,

Expressing gratitude to the OIC Member States who have allocated urgent humanitarian aid to the Kyrgyz Republic,

1. **Encourages** the OIC Member States and Institutions to render full support the Kyrgyz Republic to provide restoration, economic growth for the prosperity of the people of this country;
2. **Invites** the international community to activate its assistance and carry out of financial obligations announced on International Donor's Conference held in Bishkek on 27 July 2010 and Donor's meeting of civil society from the OIC Member States held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 29 June 2010;
3. **Calls upon** the Member States to establish a voluntary Special Aid Fund for the Kyrgyz Republic with the objective of rapid recovery and maintaining sustainable development of this country.

D. Economic Reconstruction of Afghanistan:

Recalling the United Nations Security Council resolution 1401,

Also recalling the joint position of the OIC Member States in favor of a long- term commitment to Afghanistan that will bring peace and stability and socio-economic rehabilitation to this country,

Desiring to ensure comprehensive nation-building process in Afghanistan in view of long-term commitment geared to stability and sustainability,

Reiterating commitments to support the international efforts for reconstruction of Afghanistan,

Recalling the pledges made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia London Conferences to support development projects in Afghanistan to the tune of \$ 150 million,

Acknowledging that Afghanistan is located at the crossroad of large historical regions, especially Central and South Asia and it needs promoting regional security and cooperation which requires measures to build confidence and trust among countries,

Recalling the landmark Istanbul Process: A New Agenda for Regional Security and Cooperation in the “Heart of Asia” held in November 2011,

Recalling also the Declaration of “Heart of Asia” Ministerial Conference held in Kabul on 14 June 2012,

Taking note of the Declaration of Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA V) Meeting which was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in March 2012, as well as OIC and its institutions for the collaboration in the execution of the following projects identified by RECCA:

- i. Development through Building Infrastructure (Railway, Highway, Energy);
 - ii. Human Resource Development, Vocational Training, Labour Market Facilitation;
 - iii. Investment, Trade, Transit and Border Management;
 - iv. Regional Disaster Risk Management and Rehabilitation;
 - v. Regional Fiber Optic Connectivity.
1. **Calls upon** the OIC Secretariat and its institutional bodies to organize an international conference on enhancement of OIC contribution to reconstruction of Afghanistan;
 2. **Encourages** the Member States, the Secretariat and specialized organs to continue their efforts to attracts funds for reconstruction of Afghanistan and strive for better coordination in this field;
 3. **Calls upon** the Member States to support the National Development Strategy of Afghanistan;

4. **Requests** the Member States to assist the Afghan government in its counter-drugs efforts and foster the creation of sustainable alternative sources of income for farmers;
5. **Commends** the reconstruction efforts undertaken by the neighboring States in Afghanistan and **urges** the OIC Member States to continue providing assistance for Afghanistan;
6. **Encourages** the Member States to actively participate in the development of infrastructure in Afghanistan, including construction of international highways, railways, dams, hydroelectric power stations, electric transmission lines, etc;
7. **Invites** the Member States to contribute to the implementation of the projects and plans on electric power export from Central Asian countries;
8. **Urges** the Secretariat and the OIC institutional bodies in close coordination with relevant Member States to consider the proposal done by Tajikistan on construction of railroad Dushanbe-Mazari Sharif-Herat (with branch lines of Hayratan-Mazari Sharif and Kushka-Herat);
9. **Invites** the Secretariat and the OIC institutional bodies in view of infrastructural development of Afghanistan to render technical assistance to relevant Member States on working out and construction of transit roads connecting the countries of Central Asia with Iran and Pakistan via Afghanistan;
10. **Further invites** the Secretariat and the OIC institutional bodies in view of further industrial development of Afghanistan to encourage the Member States to participate in implementation of projects related to the construction of power transmission lines Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan;
11. **Appreciates** the contribution of Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey to the ECO Special Reconstruction Fund for Afghanistan, and **calls for** further contributions to speed up the reconstruction process in the country;
12. **Supports** the landmark Istanbul Process: A New Agenda for Regional Security and Cooperation in the “Heart of Asia” held in November 2011;
13. **Also supports** the Ministerial Conference held in Kabul on 14 June 2012 and its Declaration.

E. Economic Assistance to the State of Palestine

Reaffirming its support to the continued efforts of the Palestinian National Authority to address the serious financial and economic problems facing the Palestinian people; and condemning again the Israeli Government's scaling up of its illegitimate and illegal expansionist settlement policies in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

Warning of the serious repercussions of this escalation on the difficult economic and human conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories,

Expressing its deep concern about the serious economic repercussions of Israel's continued expansionist settlement policies and the continuation of the construction of the racist separation wall on the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

- 1- Reaffirms** OIC's previous resolutions which aim at providing all forms of economic, technical, material and moral support and assistance to the Palestinian people, while giving preference to Palestinian product exports and exempting them from taxes and customs;
- 2- Condemns** the blockade imposed by Israel on the Gaza Strip in violation of the international law, and warns of such arbitrary measures which affect the various aspects of the daily life of the Palestinian people;
- 3- Invites** the Member States, financing funds and OIC organs to seek guidance from the Al-Quds sectoral plan adopted by the Council of Foreign Ministers in Astana in 2011, as a framework for defining the priorities of Islamic support to the city of Al-Quds, and to support the needs of Al-Quds, its institutions and its inhabitants, in accordance with this plan;
- 4- Invites** Islamic financial and economic institutions in the Member States to extend all forms of support to the Palestinian people promptly and to intensify their efforts and programmes to provide their financial and technical assistance with a view to strengthening economic and institutional capacities of the Palestinian people in order to help them lay the foundations of their economy, strengthen their national institutions and to enable them to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

F. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Guinea:

Recalling Resolution No.11/36-P on the situation in Guinea adopted by the 37th Session of the CFM held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, from 18 to 20 May 2010, and all previous OIC resolutions on the matter,

Reaffirming the need for socio-economic reconstruction and rehabilitation in Guinea, particularly in the aftermath of a long-drawn political crisis in the country,

Underscoring the OIC interest in the global efforts to consolidate peace-building activities in Guinea, with particular reference to its collaboration with the UN Peace Building Commission,

Consistent with on-going demarches by the Government of Guinea to embark on urgent rehabilitation of its social and economic infrastructures, including rejuvenation of its food security, agricultural and cotton industries,

1. **Invites** the OIC Member States, Islamic financial institutions and other development partners to extend financial, technical and material assistance for the reconstruction of Guinea and the rehabilitation of its economy;
2. **Also invites** the Secretary General to dispatch a team to assess the general economic and humanitarian needs of Guinea in this connection.

G. Economic Assistance to the People of Jammu and Kashmir:

Recalling all previous resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Conference on assistance to the Kashmiri people, particularly Resolution 23/30-E of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers,

Expressing deep sympathy to the victims, their families and people of Jammu and Kashmir who suffered huge loss of life and socio-economic and environmental damage from the massive earthquake that struck South Asia on 8 October 2005,

Also expressing gratitude for the assistance, contributions and pledges of the international community, particularly the Member States for the relief and rehabilitation efforts for the earthquake victims, which reflect the spirit of Islamic solidarity and cooperation to meet the challenges of unprecedented natural disasters,

Further expressing deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Kashmiris by some Member States and relevant OIC bodies,

1. **Calls** for expeditiously implementing the recommendations contained in the report of OIC Secretary General's Special Representative for Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the establishment of a Special Trust Fund for the assistance of Kashmiris and focus upon the higher educational needs of the Kashmiri youth through the provision of scholarships to the Kashmiri youth in professional colleges, vocational training and employment generation opportunities;
2. **Appeals** to Member States and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, Islamic Development Bank and Charitable Institutions, to grant generous humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people whose plight has been aggravated by the devastating earthquake of October 2005;

3. **Encourages** the international community, particularly donor countries, international financial institutions and relevant international organizations from the Islamic World to continue to provide necessary fund and assistance to support the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction work, in the affected areas of Jammu and Kashmir;
4. **Appeals** to Member States to contribute, wherever possible, to the rehabilitation of people affected by the earthquake disaster in order to facilitate the economic and social wellbeing since many means of livelihood have been damaged or destroyed;
5. **Also appeals** to Member States and the Islamic Institutions to grant scholarships to the Kashmiri students in different universities and institutions in the OIC countries.

H. Economic Assistance to Somalia:

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation in Somalia, as well as Emergency Ministerial-Level Meeting of the OIC Executive Committee on Somalia held in Istanbul, Turkey on 17 August 2011,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia,

Reiterating its commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia,

Recognizing that a more stable Somalia is of vital importance in ensuring regional stability, security and development,

Welcoming the significant progress that has been made over the past year with the establishment of the new Federal Parliament of Somalia and election of a new President, which represent the completion of the Transition in Somalia and an important milestone in Somalia's path to post-conflict reconstruction and socio-economic development,

Expressing concern at high unemployment and poverty rates, food insecurity, health challenges, deteriorated human and institutional capacities,

Also expressing concern at the continued fragility of the humanitarian situation in Somalia and its impact on the people of Somalia,

Underlining the importance of finding durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Somalia,

Further underlining the importance of international support to assist Somalia and its new leadership in addressing the developmental challenges of the country,

Commending the overall activities of the OIC Humanitarian Coordination Office in Mogadishu, especially during the famine situation,

1. **Encourages** OIC Member States and Institutions to continue to cooperate with Somali authorities for post-conflict reconstruction and promoting Somali-driven socio-economic development;
2. **Requests** the relevant OIC institutions to develop capacity building programmes in the public and private sectors;
3. **Welcomes** the initiative of the OIC General Secretariat in collaboration with the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation to organize a Stakeholders' Conference on Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Somalia, and to this effect, **urges** all Stakeholders to actively participate at this Conference;
4. **Calls** for the establishment of a multi-donor mechanism for post-Transition and economic recovery financing, under the custody of the IDB. The IDB is called upon to work with the Somali Government and potential donors to build a recovery program and to mobilize resources for the key areas of infrastructure and state building, uninterrupted delivery of social and services, and community resilience building projects.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the 40th CFM Session.

OIC/COMCEC/27-11/RES

**RESOLUTION
OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE COMCEC**

(İstanbul, 17-20 October 2011)

The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC), was held in İstanbul, the Republic of Turkey, on 17-20 October 2011;

Recalling the relevant Resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conference, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, in particular thereof, the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the 26th Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member States to the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) adopted at the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

Having regard to the objectives of the Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States;

Considering the progress reports, working papers and studies submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Organization of Islamic Ship-owners' Association (OISA) and Standards and Metrology Institute of the Islamic Countries (SMIIC) on the agenda items;

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

Commending the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office and the OIC institutions working in the area of economic and commercial cooperation, namely SESRIC, ICDT, IDB, ICCI, OISA and SMIIC.

Review of the Implementation of the OIC Ten -Year Program of Action and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States (Agenda Item: 2)

i) Background Report:

Requests the Member States to actively participate in the activities, projects and programs, initiated by the COMCEC under the Plan of Action and OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action;

Calls upon the Member States to respond, within the requested time frame, to the documents and questionnaires circulated by the OIC General Secretariat and OIC Institutions, with a view to collecting data and/or getting views of the Member States;

Urges Member States, which have not done so, to sign and ratify the agreements in the field of economic and commercial cooperation.

Requests the OIC General Secretariat, to concentrate, in its review report, on the challenges and progress achieved towards the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action and OIC Ten -Year Programme of Action.

Emphasizing the importance of intra-OIC investment flows, **requests** the IDB Group/ICIEC in collaboration with ICCI to conduct a study that comprises information on investment environments and investment governing laws and regulations in the Member States, and submit this study to the 28th Session of the COMCEC.

ii) Evaluation of the Plan of Action

Requests the COMCEC Coordination Office, in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat, to further study the Plan of Action so as to make it a more comprehensive and up-to-date framework of cooperation with an effective implementation mechanism.

iii) Report of the 19th Meeting of the Sessional Committee:

Takes note of the Report of the 19th Meeting of the Sessional Committee.

Requests the interested Member States to actively participate in the implementation process of the projects on the agenda of the Sessional Committee;

World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries (Agenda Item: 3)

Takes note of the recommendations of the Annual Economic Report 2011, submitted by SESRIC and **entrusts** the SESRIC with continuing to monitor world economic developments and their implications for the Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC with a set of policy recommendations.

Intra-OIC Trade (Agenda Item: 4)

i) TPS-OIC

Welcomes the entry into force of TPS-OIC Rules of Origin as of August 9th, 2011, with the ratification of People's Republic of Bangladesh as the 10th country;

Also welcomes the submission of the concession lists by Malaysia, Republic of Turkey and Gulf Cooperation Council on behalf of its Member States (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE);

Renews its appeal to the Member States, which ratified PRETAS, to submit, if they have not done so, their annual reduction rates, along with the

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list of products and the MFN-applied rate, applicable as of October 1st, 2003, to the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) Secretariat;

Requests the Member States, which have ratified the Rules of Origin, to complete the necessary internal legislative and administrative measures, including printing the TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and conveying the specimen impressions of stamps to the TNC Secretariat.

Welcomes the submission of TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and specimen impressions of stamps by Saudi Arabia and Turkey to the TNC Secretariat

Requests the Trade Negotiating Committee to consider convening its session after at least 10 of the Member States, which have ratified the PRETAS, convey their lists of concessions to the TNC Secretariat.

ii) Islamic Trade Fairs

Requests ICDT to continue holding sectoral fairs and exhibitions in collaboration with the trade promoting organs and private sector in the OIC Member States on strategic products, with a view to attracting more firms and visitors to these events;

Calls upon the OIC Member States to actively participate in the 2nd Tourism Fair of OIC Member States to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, in 2012 and the First OIC HEALTH EXPO to be held on 1-4 March 2012 in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia;

Requests ICDT to carry on extending technical assistance to Member States in the organization of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions.

Welcomes the offer of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host one of the forthcoming editions of the Trade Fair of OIC Member States in consultation with ICDT.

iii) Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade

Takes note of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Executive Program of the Road Map for Achieving Intra-OIC Trade Targets and **requests** relevant OIC institutions in particular, the IDB Group and ICDT to continue mobilizing necessary funds in order to expedite its implementation;

Urges the Member States to give necessary support to the OIC Institutions for implementation of the Executive Program and actively participate in those activities.

iv) WTO- Related Technical Assistance

Requests the IDB Group and the ICDT to pool and coordinate their efforts to reinforce human and institutional capacities of the OIC Member States, so as to facilitate their full integration into the multilateral trading system on equitable and fair basis.

Calls on the IDB Group and the ICDT to keep on extending their technical assistance to the Member States in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations including the Member States which are in the process of accession to the WTO.

v) Trade Financing Activities

Requests the ITFC to consider revising the maturity length of its programmes in order to make them more competitive with other international or national finance resources;

Welcomes the decision of the 18th Meeting of the Board of Governors of ICIEC on increasing the authorized capital stock of the Corporation from US\$ 240 million to US\$ 600 million.

Calls upon the Member States to contribute to this increase of the Corporation capital, with a view to enabling the Corporation to meet the needs of the Member States and enhance its participation in the development of intra-OIC trade and investment.

vi) Institutionalization of SMIIIC

Welcomes the ratification of the Headquarters Agreement of SMIIIC by the Republic of Turkey;

Takes note of the reports of the 2nd SMIIIC Board of Directors and the 2nd SMIIIC General Assembly held on 12-13 July 2011 in İstanbul;

Welcomes the commencement of SMIIIC's activities, with a view to helping the Member States to improve quality and standards of their products and services.

vii) Arbitration Mechanism

Takes note of the study, conducted by ICIEC, on the relevance of establishing an Arbitration Mechanism and **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to circulate this study to the Member States in three languages, to get their views and submit the results to the 28th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

Priority Sectors (Agenda Item: 5)

i) Cooperation in the Area of Agriculture

Welcomes the relevant decisions and recommendations of the 6th OIC Ministerial Conference, hosted by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and livestock of the Republic of Turkey on 3-5 October 2011, in İstanbul, such as establishment of capacity-building programs within the framework of OIC South-South Cooperation; engagement in technical cooperation-whenver needed, with the member states in various sub-sectors of agriculture; enhancement of joint investment opportunities among member states through inventory studies, exploring potentials, exchanging of know-how and enhancing the transparency of information; and facilitating market access for the products of small farmholders.

Urges relevant OIC institutions to support and promote cooperation activities among the Member States through technical assistance programmes in the area of agriculture.

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Welcomes the proposal by the Republic of Kazakhstan to establish the OIC Food Security Office in Kazakhstan and **recommends** submitting this issue to the 35th Session of ICECS for consideration;

Also welcomes the offer of Senegal to host the 7th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in 2012, and **requests** all Member States to actively participate in this Conference.

Takes note of the Reports of the Forum on Development of Agro-Food Industries in OIC Member States as well as the Workshop on Food Security and Agribusiness in OIC countries, concurrently held in Kampala, Uganda, on 10-12 October 2011, and **urges** Member States to give due consideration to the recommendations of the above meetings.

ii) Cooperation in the Area of Tourism

Welcomes the recommendation of the Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Enhancing Intra-OIC Tourism”, held on 10 December 2010 in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on the establishment of COMCEC Tourism Platform, which would regularly bring private sector representatives of the member states together;

Supports the initiative regarding the formation of COMCEC Tourism Platform, and **calls upon** member countries to encourage their private sector representatives to actively contribute to this initiative;

Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 2nd Workshop on “Private Sector Cooperation for Development of Tourism within OIC”, on 9-10 December 2011 in İzmir, with a view to finalizing the modality of the COMCEC Tourism Platform, and **urges** the Member States to encourage their private sector representatives in tourism sector to actively participate in this event.

Calls upon the Member States to improve investment climate including promotion of public private partnerships, in order to contribute to their economic development.

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Urges Member States to give due consideration to skill enhancement of the staff and capacity building of institutions in the tourism industry and invites Member States to initiate exchange programmes in this field to make use of their experiences and best practices.

iii) Cooperation in the Area of Transportation

Welcomes the recommendations of the Workshop on “Impact of Transport Networks on Trade and Tourism”, which was held on 7-8 June 2011 in İzmir, Republic of Turkey;

Welcomes the Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Transport among the OIC Member States (İzmir Document) recommended by the EGM held on June 9, 2011 in İzmir, Republic of Turkey;

Requests the COMCEC Coordination Office to study issues pertaining to working modalities of the Transport Working Group proposed in the Framework Document and to report to the 28th Session of the COMCEC;

Also requests the Member States, which have not done so, to send their Sectoral Country Reports on Transport to the COMCEC Coordination Office by December 31st, 2011, to be published on the COMCEC website (www.comcec.org).

Requests the IUT to organize a seminar on ship building in Bangladesh in 2012 with participation of public and private sector representatives of the OIC Member States and report on the outcome of the seminar to the 28th Session of the COMCEC.

Urges the Member States to accede to the international agreements on transportation, with a view to considering the positive impacts on facilitating trade and business among the Member States.

Financial Cooperation (Agenda Item: 6)

i) Cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Countries

Takes note of the recommendations of the 5th Meeting of OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum, organized by the Istanbul Stock Exchange on 17-18 September 2011 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey;

Supports the launch of the Islamic Index in the beginning of the year 2012 with the signatory Member States, and **requests** Forum Members to sign the relevant index agreement by December 1st, 2011, to be included in the indices;

Requests the IDB to contribute to the work on possible structured products, to be created on the OIC indices;

Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 6th Meeting of the OIC Stock Exchanges' Forum in 2012 in İstanbul, and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

ii) Cooperation among the Central Banks

Welcomes the cooperation activities and exchange of information among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities on operation, regulation and oversight of payment systems;

Takes note of the training and capacity-building programs, organized by the Central Bank of Turkey and SESRIC, within the framework of the cooperation among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities;

Requests the Central Banks of the Member States to respond to the questionnaires sent by the SESRIC and Central Bank of Turkey, regarding their needs and capacities in order to plan future capacity-building and training programmes;

Welcomes the organization of the 11th OIC Central Banks and Monetary Authorities Meeting by Malaysia, in collaboration with SESRIC, to be held on

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13-16 November 2011, in Kuala Lumpur, and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in the Meeting.

iii) Cooperation among Capital Markets' Regulatory Bodies

Welcomes the establishment of the “COMCEC Capital Markets’ Regulators Forum”;

Takes note of the recommendations of the 1st Meeting of Capital Markets’ Regulatory Authorities of the Member States, held on September 16th, 2011 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey;

Welcomes the offer of the Capital Markets Board of Turkey to host the 2nd Meeting of the Forum in October 2012 in İstanbul; and **invites** all Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

Poverty Alleviation (Agenda Item: 7)

i) ISFD and SPDA

Urges the countries, who have pledged to the ISFD, to fulfill their commitments so as to enable it to finance more projects towards Member States;

Calls on the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to seek mobilization of additional resources from different financing institutions to increase the funds for the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA);

Requests the IDB to submit regular reports on the implementation status of the ISFD and SPDA to the COMCEC Sessions.

Noting with deep concern the increasing burden of natural disasters and various crises incurred by various OIC Member States and in view of ensuing urgency of developing a disaster response strategy; **calls upon** the IDB and the SESRIC in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat to cooperate for devising an effective engagement strategy with the most vulnerable people in crisis-laden and disaster-prone Member States, in collaboration with the OIC Development Cooperation Institutions.

ii) OIC Cotton Program

Takes note of the reports of the 5th Steering Committee and the 4th Project Committee Meetings of the OIC Cotton Programme held on September 22nd, 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso;

Calls upon the IDB Group and other relevant institutions to organize an Investment Forum for resource mobilization for the OIC Cotton Action Plan and invite the OIC Member States and international organizations and donors to participate actively in this forum;

Also takes note of the successful organization of the “First OIC Cotton and Textile Forum and Exhibition” by the Government of Burkina Faso, the ICDT and the IDB Group, which took place on 21-25 September 2011, in Ouagadougou.

Welcomes the IDB’s new approval of the funding of six projects proposed by Cameroon, Egypt, Mozambique and Turkey and requests IDB to expedite consideration of the relevant projects proposed by Azerbaijan, Syria and Turkey;

Asks the IDB Group to prepare a comprehensive report on the status of the remaining sixteen (16) projects, which have not yet received funding and submit it to the OIC General Secretariat and to the COMCEC Coordination Office;

Calls on each Centre of Excellence to submit periodical reports to OIC General Secretariat and Nazilli Cotton Research Institute one month before the Project Committee and Steering Committee Meetings;

Urges the owner countries of the cotton-related project proposals, which have not done so, to officially submit their financial requests to the IDB Group through their competent authorities;

Also urges the Member States concerned and OIC Institutions to provide the OIC General Secretariat with the necessary information to be published on the cotton web portal (www.oic-cotton.org).

iv) OIC-VET Programme

Takes note of the recommendations of the 3rd Meeting of MAC of OIC-VET held on 17-19 July 2011, in Islamic Republic of Iran, and also **welcomes** the decision of establishment of thematic working groups on virtual training, training of trainees and sharing best practices among the OIC Member States.

Takes note of the report of SESRIC on the implementation of OIC-VET Sub-Programmes, and **requests** the SESRIC and IDB to exert efforts toward the implementation of the planned projects under the OIC-VET sub-programmes, and to report their outcomes to the 28th Session of the COMCEC.

Calls upon the Member States to participate and support the ISMEK Master Trainer Program, the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network and OIC International Students Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP).

Enhancing Relations with the Private Sector (Agenda Item: 8)

Takes note of the report of the 14th Private Sector Meeting for the promotion of trade and joint venture investment among Islamic Countries, organized by the ICCI on 24-26 April 2011 in Sharjah, UAE;

Requests the Member States to facilitate visa issuance for business people to promote economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States;

Requests the ICCI, ICDT and other OIC Institutions to ensure wider participation of the private sector in economic and commercial cooperation activities.

Date of the 28th Session of the COMCEC (Agenda Item: 9)

Decides that the 28th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 9-10 May 2012 and the 28th Session of the COMCEC will be held on 8-11 October 2012 in İstanbul.

Any Other Business (Agenda Item: 10)

Decides on “Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the Member States” as the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 28th Session of the COMCEC, and **requests** the SESRIC, in collaboration with IDB and relevant OIC institutions, to organize a workshop on this theme and submit its report to the next COMCEC Session.

OIC/COMCEC/28-12/RES

**RESOLUTION
OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE COMCEC**

(İstanbul, 08-11 October 2012)

The Twenty-Eighth Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) held on 08-11 October 2012, in İstanbul, the Republic of Turkey;

Recalling the relevant Resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conference, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) and the COMCEC, in particular the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 4th Extra-ordinary Islamic Summit Conference, the COMCEC Economic Summit in 2009, the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the 27th Session of the COMCEC;

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member States to the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) adopted at the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

Having regard to the objectives of the Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States;

Considering the progress reports, working papers and studies submitted by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), the Islamic Center for Development of Trade (ICDT), Islamic University of Technology (IUT), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA), and Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) on the agenda items;

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

Commending the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC Coordination Office and the OIC institutions working in the area of economic and commercial cooperation, namely SESRIC, ICDT, IDB, ICCIA, OISA and SMIIC.

Review of the Implementation of the OIC Ten -Year Program of Action and the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States (Agenda Item: 2)

i) Background Report:

- 1. Takes note** of the report of the OIC General Secretariat and **reiterates** its request to highlight the challenges and progress achieved in the implementation of the resolutions in its review reports.
- 2. Requests** the Member States and the OIC General Secretariat to improve the communication in order to follow-up the implementation of the resolutions effectively and also requests the COMCEC Coordination Office to circulate the relevant documents, which are submitted to the COMCEC Sessions and the Follow-up Committee Meetings, to the Focal Points through e-mail as well.
- 3. Requests** the Member States to actively participate in the activities, projects and programs, initiated by the COMCEC.
- 4. Calls upon** the Member States, which have not done so, to sign the agreements in the field of economic and commercial cooperation at the earliest convenience and **also calls upon** the Member States, which have signed but not ratified these agreements yet, to do so.

ii) Recommendations of the Follow-up Committee

- 5. Adopts** the recommendations of the 28th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC.

iii) OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia

6. Takes note with appreciation of the recommendations of the Workshop on “Country Partnership Models with Central Asia” organized by the COMCEC Coordination Office, in collaboration with Turkish International Coordination and Cooperation Agency (TİKA) and **requests** the Executive Committee of the OIC plan of action for Central Asia to consider these recommendations in planning its future activities and **calls upon** further implementation of projects in the framework of the above-mentioned Plan.

iv) Report of the Sessional Committee

7. Takes note of the Report of the 21st Meeting of the Sessional Committee.

8. Requests the interested Member States to actively participate in the implementation process of the projects on the agenda of the Sessional Committee.

(The Report of the Sessional Committee is Attached as Annex.)

World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries (Agenda Item: 3)

9. Takes note of the recommendations of the Annual Economic Report 2012, submitted by SESRIC, and **entrusts** SESRIC to continue monitoring world economic developments and their implications for the Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the COMCEC with a set of policy recommendations.

Intra-OIC Trade (Agenda Item: 4)

i) TPS-OIC

10. Welcomes the ratification of the three TPS-OIC Agreements by the State of Palestine; the ratification of the Framework Agreement by the Republic of Iraq; the ratification of the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin by Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the submission of concession lists by the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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11. Urges the Member States which have ratified PRETAS to notify the Trade Negotiating Committee Secretariat, of their specific annual installments of reduction along with the list of products and the MFN applied rate applicable on October 1st, 2003.

12. Also urges the Member States which have ratified the Rules of Origin to complete the necessary internal legislative and administrative measures, which include printing TPS-OIC Certificate of Origin and conveying specimen impressions of stamps to the Trade Negotiating Committee Secretariat.

13. Calls on the Member States that have not yet signed or ratified TPS-OIC Agreements, namely the Framework Agreement, PRETAS and Rules of Origin, to do so at their earliest convenience.

14. Welcomes the organization of the seminars by the ICDT for the benefit of Libya, the League of Arab States (in Kuwait), Morocco and Iraq on the TPS-OIC.

15. Requests the relevant OIC Institutions (OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office and ICDT) to further their efforts with a view to raising awareness of the Member Countries, as well as the regional trading blocs comprising the member countries, on TPS-OIC.

16. Requests the Trade Negotiating Committee to convene at the earliest convenience when the required number of the Member States complete their ratification procedures of the TPS-OIC agreements and submit their lists of concessions at the same time.

ii) Islamic Trade Fairs

17. Welcomes the offers of the following Member States to organize upcoming trade fairs:

- United Arab Emirates (1st OIC Halal Food Expo, 10-12 December 2012, Sharjah)
- Kingdom of Morocco (1st OIC Trade Handicraft Exhibition, 11-14 April 2013, Casablanca)
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (1st Fair on Furniture, Decoration and Household Electrical Appliances, 12-16 May 2013, Medina)

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- The Sultanate of Oman (6th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries of OIC Member States, 13-16 May 2013, Muscat)
- The Islamic Republic of Iran (14th Islamic Trade Fair, 28 October-1 November 2013, Tehran)

18. Also welcomes the offers of Republic of Guinea, Republic of Iraq and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the 15th, 16th and 17th Islamic Trade Fairs in 2015, 2017 and 2019 respectively.

19. Further welcomes the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the 2nd OIC Health EXPO 2014 in Dakar, Senegal in collaboration with ICDT and the International Centre for Foreign Trade of Senegal (CICES).

20. Calls upon all the Member States to encourage their public and private sectors to actively participate in these fairs.

21. Requests ICDT to submit regular progress reports on the trade and tourism fairs of the OIC Member States and the other specialized exhibitions which would include the evaluation of these fairs to the COMCEC Sessions.

22. Welcomes the offer of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey to share its experiences in organizing international fairs with the interested Member States within the framework of its Chamber Academy Program.

iii) Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade

23. Takes note of the follow-up report of the Executive Programme of the Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade.

24. Requests the OIC Institutions to increase their efforts for the implementation of projects and programmes in the Executive Programme and **calls upon** the Member States to lend the necessary support to the OIC Institutions for the implementation of the Program.

25. Takes note of the IDB Group (ITFC) efforts in preparing the Aid-for-Trade Initiative for Arab States, as a comprehensive trade development program and providing financial support for its implementation, taking fully into account the views expressed by the Arab Group thereon, and **encourages** the Member States to actively participate in its implementation.

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26. Also takes note of the announcement of the ITFC and the ICDT concerning the organization of OIC High Level Forum on Trade Facilitation and Single Window, which will be organized in Casablanca, Morocco, in January 2013 and **urges** Member Countries to actively participate in the Forum and **requests** the organizers to submit a report to the next session of the COMCEC.

27. Calls upon the Member States to keep providing the ICDT with the most up-to-date data relating to trade statistics.

iv) WTO- Related Technical Assistance

28. Expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Turkey, IDB and ICDT for organizing capacity building programmes on WTO Related Issues for the Member States whose accession to the WTO is underway.

29. Calls on IDB and ICDT to synergize their efforts to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of the OIC Member States so as to contribute to their multilateral trade negotiations and accession of the Member States concerned to the WTO on an equitable and fair basis.

v) Trade Financing Activities

30. Notes with appreciation, the role being played by the IDB Group (ITFC) in enhancing and promoting intra-OIC trade.

31. Requests IDB Group (ITFC) to continue developing more innovative trade financing programmes for the benefit of Member Countries.

32. Calls upon the OIC Member States to encourage their public and private sectors to benefit from the export credit and political risk insurance services provided by the IDB Group (ICIEC) in order to further increase intra-OIC trade and investment flows.

33. Welcomes the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host a conference on “Cooperation and Collaboration among Export Credit Agencies of OIC Member States” in May 2013 in Tehran.

vi) Trade Related Activities of SMIIIC

34. Welcomes the increasing visibility of SMIIIC in its field of competence and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in its activities on standardization, metrology and accreditation.

35. Takes note with appreciation of the finalization of SMIIIC Standards and **requests** its Members to take necessary actions in their respective countries.

36. Welcomes the offer of the SMIIIC to organize SMIIIC Forum in November 2012 in Turkey and **invites** the Member States to participate in the Forum.

37. Requests the Member States, which have not done so, to join SMIIIC to benefit from the services to be provided by SMIIIC.

vii) Arbitration Mechanism

38. Requests the Member States, which have not done so, to send their views on the Study on “Relevance of Establishment of an Arbitration Mechanism” to the OIC General Secretariat at the earliest convenience.

Priority Sectors (Agenda Item: 5)

i) Cooperation in the Area of Agriculture

39. Welcomes the Framework for Cooperation in Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security as an important document for cooperation in the area of Agriculture under the auspices of COMCEC. It **requests** the Member States, which have not yet done so, to present their views and comments thereon.

40. Calls upon all Member States to actively participate in the 7th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development to be held in December 2012 in Dakar, Senegal.

41. Recalling the relevant decisions of the 6th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security, Agriculture and Rural Development held in 2011, **invites** the Member States to share their knowledge and best practices in the area of

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agriculture with the interested member states with a view to enhancing their cooperation and solidarity in this field.

42. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to share its knowledge and experience in the area of agriculture with the interested Member States in cooperation with SESRIC.

43. Also welcomes the initiative of SESRIC for organizing capacity building programmes in the area of agriculture and food security in collaboration with the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey.

44. Further welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to organize a workshop on “Enhancing Cooperation Opportunities in Wheat Production Efficiency and Capacity Among the Member States” on 15-16 January 2013 and **requests** the Member States to actively participate in the workshop.

ii) Cooperation in the Area of Tourism

45. Welcomes the establishment of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum which would regularly bring together the private sector representatives of the OIC Member Countries.

46. Also welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 1st Meeting of the OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum on 7-8 December 2012 in İzmir and **urges** the Member States to encourage their private sector representatives in tourism sector to actively participate in this important event.

47. Further welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to organize a training program on “Management of Hotels and Travel Agencies” in April 2013.

48. Requests all the Member States to actively participate in the 2nd Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States to be held on 20-23 December 2012 in Cairo.

iii) Cooperation in the Area of Transportation

49. Calls on the Member States and the OIC Institutions to give their full support to the implementation of the Transport Cooperation Framework within OIC (İzmir Document 2011) by developing cooperation projects in line with the spirit of the said document.

50. Welcomes the efforts of relevant stakeholders towards the implementation of the Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project.

51. Welcomes the organization of the Seminar and Fair on Shipbuilding Industry in the OIC Member States, held on 31 August- 1 September 2012 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

52. Also welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to share its knowledge and experience in the areas of road transport, civil aviation and ship building industry with the Member States.

Financial Cooperation (Agenda Item: 6)

iii) Cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Countries

53. Welcomes the launching of the S&P OIC/COMCEC 50 Shariah Index.

54. Requests the Member States and the IDB to lend their support for the promotion of the S&P OIC/COMCEC Index in the Member Countries.

55 Takes note of the recommendations of the 6th Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum, organized by the Istanbul Stock Exchange on September 26th, 2012 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

56. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 7th Meeting of the OIC Stock Exchanges' Forum in October 2013 in İstanbul, and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

57. Requests the SESRIC to continue organizing training courses and capacity building programs for the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States.

ii) Cooperation among Capital Markets Regulatory Bodies

58. Takes note of the recommendations of the 1st Meeting of COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators Forum held on 26-27 September 2012 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

59. Welcomes the establishment of the Forum website (www.comceccmr.org) by the Capital Markets Board of Turkey and **calls upon** the Member States to contribute to the work of the Forum and its Task Forces.

60. Also welcomes the offer of the Capital Markets Board of Turkey to host the 2nd Meeting of the Forum in October 2013 in İstanbul; and **invites** all Member States to actively participate in this Meeting.

iii) Cooperation among the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities

61. Takes note of the recommendations of the 11th and 12th Meetings of the Governors of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member States held in Malaysia and Turkey respectively.

62. Welcomes the cooperation activities and exchange of information among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities on operation, regulation and oversight of payment systems.

63. Also welcomes the training and capacity-building programs, organized by the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey and SESRIC, within the framework of the cooperation among the Member States' Central Banks and Monetary Authorities.

64. Calls upon all the Member States to contribute to the cooperation efforts among the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities and participate in its annual meetings.

65. Urges the Member States to actively participate in the 13th Meeting of the Governors of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the OIC Member States to be held in Saudi Arabia in 2013.

Poverty Alleviation (Agenda Item: 7)

i) ISFD and SPDA

66. Welcomes the contributions made by the Member States to the ISFD and urges countries that have pledged to contribute, to fulfill their commitments and those that have not pledged any contributions to do so, in order to enable the Fund to realize its objectives.

67. Welcomes the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) for mobilization of resources from different financing institutions for the implementation of the Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA) and calls upon the IDB for better management of the projects implemented under the SPDA.

68. Welcomes the contributions made by Member States and **encourages** other Member States as well as the relevant OIC Institutions to provide the necessary assistance to the Republic of Mali to address its ongoing food crisis.

ii) OIC Cotton Program

69. Requests the IDB Group to finalize its consideration of the projects which have already been submitted for financial support.

70. Further requests the IDB Group to submit regular progress reports to COMCEC Meetings on the status of the projects under consideration for funding.

71. Takes note of the Cotton Training Programmes of SESRIC and **urges** the Cotton Research Centers of Excellence to enhance their cooperation with SESRIC in implementing these programmes.

72. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the 6th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the OIC Cotton Program in the first half of 2013 in Ankara and **requests** the IDB to consider hosting the 5th Project Committee Meeting on the sideline of the Steering Committee Meeting.

iii) OIC-VET Programme

73. Requests the SESRIC and IDB to continue developing new projects under the OIC-VET sub-programmes.

74. Calls upon the Member States to participate and support the İSMEK Master Trainer Program, the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network and OIC International Students Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP).

75. Takes note with appreciation of the efforts of IDB and SESRIC towards preparing a detailed study on “Natural and Man-made Disasters in OIC countries” with a particular focus on man-made disasters.

Increasing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation (Agenda Item: 8)

76. Takes note of the holding of Training Programmes and Workshops by the ICCIA for the private sector in the areas of value addition, microfinance, and entrepreneurship development in SMEs.

77. Welcomes the organization of Chamber Academy Programs, by the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), in collaboration with the IDB Group (ITFC) and ICCIA and **calls on** the private sector representatives of the member states to actively participate in the upcoming program.

78. Calls on the ICCIA to increase its capacity building programmes, professional business to business (B2B) and business to government events and its studies to enhance commercial and investment transactions among the OIC Member States.

79. Calls upon the Member States to encourage their private sector to actively participate in the 6th Businesswoman Forum on 12-14 December 2012, in Bahrain, the Second Forum for Investment for the West African States on 13-14 May 2013, in Nigeria and the 15th Private Sector Meeting to be held on 28-30 October 2013, in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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- *Exchange of Views on “Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the Member States”*

80. Takes note with appreciation of the recommendations of the preparatory Workshop on `Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the Member States` which was organized by SESRIC and IDB Group in cooperation with Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Turkey (KOSGEB) and SME Corp Malaysia on 12-14 June 2012 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

81. Calls upon the government agencies, chambers, business associations and universities of the Member States to increase their support to the SMEs for ensuring their sustainability and competitiveness.

82. Requests the IDB group to consider proposing practical mechanisms to provide support to the SMEs in the Member Countries.

83. Welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to organize a workshop on “Enhancing Cooperation Among the Trade Registry Institutions of the OIC Member States” in mid-2013.

84. Also welcomes the offer of the Republic of Turkey to share its experience and good practices in supporting the SMEs.

85. Calls upon the SMEs Support Institutions of the Member States to enhance dialogue to share their best practices and experiences with one another.

- *Theme of the Exchange of Views Session of the 29th Session of the COMCEC*

86. Decides on the theme of the Exchange of Views Session of the 29th Session of the COMCEC as “Increasing FDI Flows to OIC Member Countries”, and **requests** the SESRIC and IDB Group, in cooperation with COMCEC Coordination Office and relevant OIC Institutions, to organize a workshop on this theme and submit its report to the next COMCEC Session.

Date of the 29th Session of the COMCEC (Agenda Item: 9)

87. Decides that the 29th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be held on 14-15 May 2013 and the 29th Session of the COMCEC will be held on 18-21 November 2013 in İstanbul.

Any Other Business (Agenda Item: 10)

88. Takes note of the Report on Investment Environment in the OIC Member States, presented by the IDB Group (ICIEC) and ICCIA.

89. Welcomes the initiative of the Certification and Accreditation Programme for the Professionals of Official Statistics, developed by the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), and **requests** the IDB and SESRIC to contribute technically and financially to the effective implementation of this important programme for the benefit of the National Statistical Institutions of the Member Countries.

90. Expresses its sincere thanks to H.E. Abdullah GÜL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, for his continuous support to the COMCEC and through him, **expresses** its gratitude to the people and government of the Republic of Turkey for the warm hospitality extended during the 28th Session of the COMCEC.
