



OIC/8-MCFSAD/2021/RES-EN-F

**RESOLUTION
OF
THE EIGHTH OIC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
ON
FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

25th-27th OCTOBER, 2021

(19th-21st RABI UL AWAL, 1443H)

**RESOLUTION
ON
FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN OIC MEMBER STATES**

The Eighth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 19th - 21st Rabi ul Awal, 1443H, corresponding to 25th-27th October, 2021,

Pursuant to the provisions of the OIC Charter, which seeks, among other issues, to enhance and consolidate the bonds of fraternity and solidarity, and to exert efforts to achieve sustainable and comprehensive human development and economic well-being among their member states,

Recalling the OIC-2025: Programme of Action, adopted by the 13th Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 14th-15th April, 2016, which emphasized the need to promote active intra-OIC cooperation in food and agriculture sectors among OIC Member States as part of OIC's overall goal of strengthening economic cooperation among its Member States,

Also recalling the adoption of "OIC STI Agenda 2026" by the First OIC Summit on Science & Technology held in Nur Sultan, Kazakhstan, on 10th-11th September, 2017, and the Abu Dhabi Declaration adopted by the Second OIC Summit on Science & Technology held virtually on 16th June, 2021, under the chairmanship of United Arab Emirates, which encouraged the Member States to promote sustainable agriculture, rural development and food security by using science, technology and innovation, sharing and adoption of modern and indigenous technology as well as setting up of National Gene Banks for conservation and exchange of plant genetic resources,

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

Pursuant to Resolution No.1/46-E adopted by the 46th Session of the CFM held in Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 1st-2nd March, 2019, on the OIC Programmes of Action on the Development of Strategic Agricultural Commodities,

Reaffirming the Resolutions on Promoting Food Security and Agricultural Development in OIC Member States, especially those adopted by the Seventh OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Astana (now Nur-Sultan), Republic of Kazakhstan, from 26th to 28th April, 2016,

Further reaffirming the relevant resolutions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), especially those adopted by the 36th Session of the COMCEC held virtually in Ankara, Republic of Turkey, on 25th- 26th November, 2020,

Convinced that the expansion and deepening of intra-OIC cooperation in the domain of agriculture and food security would contribute to enhancing food security and increasing agricultural productivity in the OIC Member States,

Encouraged by the enormous opportunities, huge potentials and comparative advantages available within the OIC space in the area of agrifood commodity development, as evident in the fact that 26 OIC Member States are among the largest producers of major agricultural commodities on the global level,

Cognizant of the urgent need to address the precarious food security situation in most of its member states, as evident in the acute hunger and malnutrition affecting more than 60 million people in OIC Member States,

Aware of the vulnerability of most OIC Member States to the devastating effects of extreme weather conditions, desertification and climate change on availability of food for their ever-increasing number of peoples,

Expressing deep concern over the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which has affected the lives of people and economies, including food and agriculture sectors in OIC Member States and globally,

Alarmed by the staggering amount of food and agriculture trade deficits in OIC Member States valued at US\$62.9 billion in 2018 and the considerable impact on provision of resources for other human development programmes and social infrastructures,

Underscoring the need for support and cooperation on sustainable food systems and integrated supply chains to prevent food loss and waste,

Concerned over the limited value addition in agricultural products coupled with the high level of post-harvest losses, especially in smallholders,

Giving effect to the various multilateral agreements and instruments providing for joint intra-OIC socio-economic action in the various fields, including trade, finance, investment, agro-industry, and research and development,

Desirous of addressing the various challenges of food crises, hunger and malnutrition facing OIC member states through development of value chains, trade and marketing,

Considering the critical role of agriculture in stimulating socio-economic growth and sustainable development in many OIC Member States, especially in its least developed countries in terms of income, employment and poverty reduction,

Recognizing the importance of strengthening cooperation among OIC Member States by exchanging experiences, sharing knowledge and transferring technology for sustainable agricultural development,

Taking note with appreciation of the Report on “Agriculture and Food Security in OIC Member Countries 2020” prepared by SESRIC, and **commending** the SESRIC capacity building programmes in the areas of agriculture, water and environment,

Acknowledging the IsDB initiatives in developing and financing strategic value chain commodities such as rice, cassava and livestock for the OIC Member States,

Underscoring the role of the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS), as an OIC specialized institution, in increasing intra-OIC cooperation towards achieving enhanced food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development in OIC Member States, and the need for supporting its various initiatives and activities,

Expressing deepest appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Eighth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in Istanbul, Turkey, and organizing a side-event with the theme “Sharing Experiences and Knowledge for Improvement of Food Systems in OIC Member States, towards the Achievement of SDGs by 2030” and providing a platform to discuss opportunities and threats for the OIC Member States,

Taking into account the reports on activities of the various OIC institutions in the domain of agricultural development and food security,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General in this regard,

1. **Emphasizes** the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security in a sustainable manner through addressing the needs of rural communities, in particular smallholders, including their access to credit and other financial services, markets, land, social services, training, knowledge and appropriate technologies;
2. **Also emphasizes** the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of their funding, from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector to promote development and to build up resilience to support recovery from COVID-19 pandemic;
3. **Requests** SESRIC to conduct an analytical comprehensive study, in consultation with IOFS, to identify complementarities among the OIC Member States in the domains of agricultural resources, food production and trade by collection, analysis and assessment of data with the purpose of identifying the potential areas of partnerships and cooperation for consideration by the Member States at the next Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development;
4. **Urges** the well-endowed OIC Member States and relevant OIC institutions, namely IsDB and IOFS, to support Member States in designing and implementing socio-economic impact assessments to measure the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on food

security and functioning of food systems, with specific interventions to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on food security, and help them make informed policy and investment decisions in their COVID-19 responses and recovery strategies in order to strengthen food security and increase agricultural productivity;

5. **Welcomes** the “Save Your Food Campaign” initiated by Turkey and **invites** OIC Member States to benefit from Turkey’s experiences and knowledge, as well as good practices on prevention, reduction and management of food loss and waste;
6. **Invites** OIC Member States to scale up investments in agriculture and rural development, including through intra-OIC cooperation, with a view to increasing agricultural production of OIC Member States so as to become net food exporters, as well as closing the gap between the potential of the agricultural sector and food production in OIC Member States;
7. **Endorses** the OIC Programmes of Action on the Development of Strategic Agricultural Commodities, namely: i) OIC Programme of Action for Development of Rice; ii) OIC Programme of Action for Development of Wheat; and iii) OIC Programme of Action for Development of Cassava;
8. **Requests** the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS), in collaboration with the concerned OIC Member States and relevant OIC institutions, to elaborate appropriate implementation plans for the effective realization of these OIC Programmes of Action on the Development of Strategic Agricultural Commodities, and periodically submit a report on their execution to the relevant OIC fora;
9. **Invites** OIC Member States and relevant OIC institutions to provide the necessary support for these Programmes through increasing national ownership, and active participation in the implementation of these cooperation frameworks;
10. **Urges** OIC Member States and the relevant institutions to intensify their focused interventions towards the goal of poverty alleviation, improving livelihoods, enhancing food and nutrition security, building rural productive assets and community resilience to climate variability with an emphasis on climate-smart agriculture;
11. **Calls upon** OIC Member States and concerned institutions to scale up efforts towards supporting development of viable and profitable value chains with an emphasis on priority and strategic agricultural commodities that have high potential of generating employment and income opportunities;
12. **Takes note of** the on-going efforts, aimed at finalizing the Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the creation of OIC Food Security Reserve System as a framework for intra-OIC development and humanitarian action in ensuring food system resilience in OIC Member States as well as an emergency response mechanism for addressing hunger and malnutrition in OIC Member States;

13. **Commends** the steps taken by IOFS towards receiving inputs of its Member States, which has deepened ownership of the said MOU;
14. **Requests** the OIC General Secretariat to obtain relevant inputs of other OIC Member States with a view to compiling an inclusive text of the MOU on the creation of OIC Food Security Reserve System and submit the consolidated text of the MOU to the 9th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development for further necessary action;
15. **Entrusts** the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS), in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, with the implementation of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on the creation of OIC Food Security Reserve System after its approval, through the elaboration of the appropriate policy monitoring and technical mechanisms for the effective realization of the aims and objectives of the OIC Food Security Reserve System;
16. **Invites** OIC Member States to provide the necessary political will in support of the Memorandum of Understanding on the creation of OIC Food Security Reserve System, by enacting appropriate national legislations and other implementation frameworks as well as working with other Member States to ensure food security in their respective countries;
17. **Calls upon** the relevant OIC institutions to collaborate with IOFS towards the realization of the objectives of the Memorandum of Understanding on the creation of OIC Food Security Reserve System;
18. **Recommends** the establishment of a coordination mechanism under the **supervision** of the OIC General Secretariat comprising all the OIC relevant institutions with the objective of ensuring horizontal coordination geared to avoiding duplication of efforts while promoting complementarities and ensuring meaningful and result-oriented interaction yielding contribution and collaboration in the relevant and respective areas of expertise;
19. **Requests** the Secretary General to consult with Member States on the venue and date of the 9th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development to be held in 2023;
20. **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of the present Resolution and report to the next session of the Conference.
