



OIC/9-MCFSAD/2023/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTION

OF

THE NINTH OIC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

ON

FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

*(Towards Achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
in OIC Member States)*

**DOHA, STATE OF QATAR
1ST-2ND OCTOBER, 2023
(16TH-17TH RABI' AL-AWWAL, 1445H)**

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

The Ninth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, held in Doha, State of Qatar, on 1st – 2nd October, 2023, corresponding to 16th-17th Rabi' al-Awwal 1445H,

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 Türkiye, 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 and Technology held in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 10th-11th September, 2017, and the Abu Dhabi Declaration adopted by the Second OIC Summit on Science and Technology held virtually on 16th June, 2021, under the chairmanship of the United Arab Emirates, which encouraged the OIC Member States to promote sustainable agriculture, rural development and food security by using science, technology and innovation, sharing and adoption of modern and indigenous technologies,

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.1/49-E adopted by the 49th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on 16th – 17th March 2023, on the need to enhance intra-OIC cooperation in the food and agriculture sector to build more resilient food systems in OIC Member States,

Reaffirming the Resolutions on Promoting Food Security and Agricultural Development in OIC Member States, especially those adopted by the Eighth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on 25th-27th October, 2021,

Further reaffirming the relevant resolutions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), especially those adopted by the 38th Session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on the 26th-29th November, 2022,

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 countries in the area of agro-food 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, and the fact that the OIC possesses 22.9% of the global arable land,

Cognizant of the urgent need to address the precarious food security situation in a number of OIC Member States, as evident in the acute hunger and malnutrition affecting more than 98 million people in OIC Member States as reported by a joint FAO-WFP Hunger Hotspots: June to November 2023 Outlook,

Acknowledging that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted global food supply chains, livelihoods, income and food prices, caused labor shortages and created disruptions to food distribution systems and slowed trade and business activities, and emphasizing the need to enhance the resilience of OIC Member States to cope with similar challenges in the future,

Profoundly concerned with negative impacts and detrimental results of imposed economic barriers on the capacities and ability of the affected Member States to implement their national plans for food security and sustainable agricultural development and thus prevent them from exercising the right to development,

Expressing deep concern over the unprecedented recent rise in food commodities, energy and fuel prices, which severely affected people in vulnerable situations,

Noting with concern that droughts, desertification, land degradation, sand and dust storms, and other adverse effects of climate change, including more frequent and extreme weather occurrences, such as floods, are among the key factors contributing to food insecurity in OIC Member States,

Deeply concerned, in this regard, that 23 OIC Member States are still among the world's 44 Low Income Food-Deficit Countries, requiring external assistance in food supply, and such situation could aggravate social unrest and instability,

Alarmed by the increasing loss of the bio-diversity and food genetic resources in many OIC Member States,

Desirous of reversing the current situation where the OIC Member States, as a group, are net food importers to a level where they are net food exporters,

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,

Welcoming the launching by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group of a US\$10.54 billion Comprehensive Food Security Response Program towards promoting sustainable agricultural development and enhanced food security in OIC Member States, and **appreciating** the technical and financial support of IsDB Group to develop the agricultural sector in OIC Member States,

Emphasizing the need to concert efforts on the implementation of the decisions of the OIC Ministerial Conferences on Food Security and Agricultural Development with regard to establishment of an OIC Food Security Reserve System; and 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,

Welcoming the signing of the Statute of Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) by the Republic of Chad, the ratification of the same by the Republic of Tajikistan, and the admission of Turkmenistan as an Observer Country of the IOFS in 2022,

Also welcoming the signing of the Statute of Islamic Organization for Food Security by Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Republic of Yemen, Republic of Gabon and Republic of Iraq during the 9th MCFSAD in Doha, Qatar on 2nd October, 2023,

Acknowledging the role of the 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 **stressing** the importance of enhancing the activities of the IOFS through development of new projects as well as practical implementation of the already approved programmes and projects,

Commending the General Secretariat for the Brainstorming Session on the theme: “*Strategies for Addressing the Current and Future Food Security Needs of OIC Member States*”, which was held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 16th October 2022, as part of the World Food Day commemoration, and taking note of its recommendations,

Also commending the SESRIC’s research and capacity building programmes in the areas of agriculture, water and environment,

Further commending the efforts of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC) towards enhancing economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States, especially through the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group, COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism and COMCEC COVID-19 Response Program,

Expressing deepest appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the State of Qatar for hosting the Ninth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in Doha, State of Qatar, on 1st – 2nd October, 2023,

Taking into account the reports on activities of the SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB Group, IOFS, ICCIA and SMIIC in the domain of agricultural development and food security,

And further taking into account the ever increasing demand for food as a result of the increasing population of the OIC Member States that stood at 1.97 billion people in 2021, and projected to be 2.9 billion by 2050,

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

1. **Takes into consideration**, when setting priorities, the countries hit by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, as well as their neighboring countries which are impacted by the migration of people affected by those disasters as well as by conflicts;
2. **Calls upon** the OIC Member States to urgently support OIC countries requiring urgent and scaled-up assistance to address food insecurity, through multilateral collaboration and coordinated actions, including the provision of emergency food supplies, financial and technical support, and increased capacity for agricultural production;
3. **Requests** that the relevant OIC institutions (SESRIC, ICESCO, IsDB, IOFS, ICDT and ICCIA), in coordination with the General Secretariat, to conduct targeted activities aimed at popularizing agriculture in educational institutions in OIC Member States, They may also explore possibilities of developing guidelines for appropriate agricultural curricular for interested OIC Member States;
4. **Recommends** that the Member States work to incorporate and promote subjects on agriculture in educational curricula at all secondary and higher education levels, and share expertise in this regard;
5. **Requests** the OIC institutions whose activities are related - directly or indirectly - to agriculture to increase their support to agricultural projects, especially in the OIC Least Developed Countries;
6. **Calls on** the universities affiliated with the OIC (Islamic University for Technology in Dhakka, Islamic University in Niger, Islamic University in Uganda, Islamic University in Malaysia, and King Faisal University in Chad) to establish colleges of agriculture and food processing in order to provide specialized agricultural service. To this end, **requests** the relevant OIC organs, in particular the IsDB, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and SESRIC, to support these universities in this field;
7. **Invites** capital and technology endowed OIC Member States to provide other OIC Member States with technical and in-kind assistance to grow more food and diversify

sources of food for the OIC Member States, in consolidation of the bonds of fraternity and solidarity among OIC Member States;

8. **Urges** Member States to create an enabling environment designed to promote public and private investment, including foreign investment, in sustainable agriculture and rural development in order to increase agricultural productivity as well as develop food value chains in Member States;
9. **Calls on** Member States to enhance intra-OIC cooperation in the food and agriculture sector to build more resilient food systems, share knowledge and best practices in order to help develop domestic production capacities, which are better suited to local needs, and to contribute to increased food security, productivity and resilience;
10. **Encourages** Member States to support capacity development, training and extension services for local producers and smallholder farmers, youth, women especially those in rural areas, to address key aspects of food systems sustainability as well as to promote the resilience and productivity of the food and agricultural sector,
11. **Also encourages** Member States to promote research and innovation to increase the resilience and sustainability of agricultural and food systems, and to mitigate and adapt to climate change and halt and reverse loss of genetic and biodiversity resources;
12. **Reiterates** the need to boost agricultural productivity and production in the Member States through collaborative agricultural research and development activities, and, to this end, **calls** for better cooperation through transfer of climate smart agricultural technologies, innovations and their adoption and expansion among the Member States on mutually agreed terms and conditions;
13. **Encourages** Member States, which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Statute of IOFS, the OIC specialized institution based in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, at their earliest convenience;
14. **Also calls on** Member States to support, and contribute to, the implementation of the various programmes of IOFS aimed at enhancing intra-OIC action towards increasing agricultural productivity and production along the value chains, food security and resilience in OIC Member States;
15. **Emphasizes** the need to fast-track the implementation of the relevant OIC resolutions on the establishment of an OIC Food Security Reserve System, and, in this regard, **decides** to establish a sessional Steering Committee on the establishment of an OIC Food Security Reserve System, under the Chair of 9th MCFSAD and comprising coordinators of each of the six identified zones and competent OIC institutions, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, to provide oversight and strategic guidance for the consideration of 10th MCFSAD;

16. **Also emphasizes** the need to ensure effective implementation of the OIC Programmes of Action on the Development of Strategic Agricultural Commodities (Rice, Wheat and Cassava), and, to this end, **decides** to establish a sessional Steering Committee, under the Chair of 9th MCFSAD and comprising representatives of OIC Member States producing these commodities as well as competent OIC institutions, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, to harmonize and coordinate the various actions underway on these programmes, including identification of the opportunities and modalities for their expeditious implementation and consideration of the 10th MCFSAD;
17. **Requests** the General Secretariat, in coordination with the relevant OIC institutions, to undertake a study and develop a business model and cooperation framework for contract farming, assessing the needs and potentialities of the Member States, possible role and contribution by prospective Member States and OIC organs/institutions, and submit that study and the business model to the next OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development for consideration and further decision;
18. **Encourages** Member States to put in place the necessary financial infrastructure and legal frameworks aimed at promoting financial inclusion for rural farmers through providing access to financial products, fertilizers, inputs and services, including Islamic financing models that foster economic resilience by increasing their production and income;
19. **Invites** the Member States to actively involve in the cooperation efforts of the COMCEC Agriculture Working Group and intensify their efforts to harness the benefits of COMCEC Project Funding with a view to realize the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendation in agriculture domain;
20. **Takes note with appreciation** of the on-going efforts of the relevant OIC institutions to develop a Strategic Plan for ensuring food security in OIC Member States, and, **invites** the Chair of the 9th MCFSAD to remain actively seized of the matter and provide vision and direction to all activities in this direction for further consideration by 10th MCFSAD;
21. **Encourages** the relevant OIC institutions to continue extending technical assistance to concerned Member States for the formulation of national plans and strategies and to help them access concessionary financing for national programs and projects designed to face the food crises;
22. **Takes note** of the above-mentioned strategic plan aimed at ensuring food security of OIC Member States as mandated by the 49th CFM and, in order to address the concerns of Member States and **requests** IOFS to hold regional consultations among the three OIC geographical groups in collaboration with SESRIC and IsDB for future review of its priorities for its adoption at the next session of the OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development;

23. **Welcomes** the offer made by the Republic of Chad to host the Tenth OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in 2025 and **encourages** Member States and the OIC Institutions to actively participate therein;
24. **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of the present Resolution, including the findings of the sessional committees and report to the next session of the Conference.
