

Original : English

**REPORT OF THE  
11<sup>th</sup> SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF COMCEC  
(İstanbul, 13 November 2007)**

1. The 11<sup>th</sup> Sessional Committee of the COMCEC was held on 13 November 2007, prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of COMCEC

2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Ferruh TIĞLI, Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office.

3. In addition to the OIC General Secretariat and the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO), the following OIC Institutions attended the Meeting;

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC)
- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI)
- Islamic University of Technology (IUT)

Some of the Turkish Institutions, which are the owners of the proposed cooperation projects of the COMCEC, attended the Meeting.

4. Concerning the Draft Agenda of the Sessional Committee, the representative of the ICCI took the floor to propose consideration of the new proposals of the President of ICCI, H.E. Saleh Kamel, under the agenda item “any other business”. This proposal was adopted by the Committee.

The Meeting agreed the following agenda items for consideration:

1. Review of the Proposed Cooperation Projects of COMCEC.
2. Review of the Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Task Force established to study ways and means of increasing the Intar-OIC trade to 20% by 2015.  
-Presentations by the COMCEC Coordination Office and the IDB.
3. Any other business.

**Under Agenda Item 1:**

4. The COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) made a presentation on the recent developments regarding the Project Proposals. Thereafter, the owners and the coordinators of the Project Proposals discussed recent developments of relevance.

5. The Committee issued the following recommendations regarding the Projects, stated below:

- For the project entitled “Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in OIC Member States”, the representatives of the Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) and ICDT have presented the latest developments of this project since the last meeting of the Sessional Committee. They informed the Committee that the ICDT and the TPI, in collaboration with the Moroccan Office for Industrial and Commercial Property (OMPIC), organised the Second Conference on “Technical Cooperation between the Industrial Property Offices in the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC)”, in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco on 11-13 July 2007.

The main goal of this Conference is to adopt the work programmes of the two sub-committees that were set up during the 1st Conference on the basis of the responses to the questionnaire sent by the ICDT in March 2007.

This Conference was attended by 30 OIC Member States, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA) the OIC General Secretariat and the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

This Conference was concluded by the adoption of the business plans of the two sub committees on “Institutional Capacity Building”, and on “information technologies” and requested the Director General of ICDT and the President of TPI, to undertake a special mission to Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in order to meet Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin IHSANOGLU, the Secretary General of the OIC and Dr Ahmed Mohamed ALI, President of IDB in order to present the business plans adopted by the Conference and seek financial and moral support. A similar mission will be organised to GENEVA in order to present the business plans to Dr. Kamal IDRIS, the Director General of WIPO.

The Committee welcomed the progress achieved in this project.

- For the Project entitled “Incubator Management Training among OIC Member States”, the Committee was informed by the representative of the Small and Medium Industry Development Organization of Turkey (KOSGEB) and the ICCI (the Coordinator of the Project), that they have been in contact regarding the progress of the project. The Committee welcomed the announcement of the KOSGEB to organize jointly with ICCI a workshop in April 2008 and an Incubators Management Forum in 2009.
- For the Project entitled “Cooperation in the Area of Technical Development: Medium Range Regional Turbofan Airliner”, proposed by TUSAŞ Aerospace Industries of Turkey (TAI), the Committee appreciated and welcomed the announcement made by the representative of the IDB to the effect that full financing of the feasibility study of the Project is under consideration.
- For the Project entitled “Low Cost Imaging-Based Mapping System Applications for Monitoring of Natural and Anthropogenic Changes in

OIC Member Countries' Coasts", the representative of the IUT informed that the owner and the coordinator of the projects will come together to discuss the details of the project and will inform the COMCEC Coordination Office.

- In line with the relevant recommendation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Follow-up Committee of COMCEC, the Committee recommended that the project entitled "World Gold Markets and Cooperation Prospects among Islamic Countries" be deleted from the list. For the projects 6 and 7 entitled respectively "Setting Up of Regional Companies Specialized in the Organization of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions" and "Setting up of Permanent Exhibition Halls", the Committee decided to delete those projects from the list since the first one is well performed either by public sector or by private sector in many countries while the second project is already implemented by ICDT.
- For the Projects entitled "Satellite Control and Monitoring Centre" (SATCMC) and "Low Earth Orbit Satellite" proposed by the Satellite Communication and Cable TV Operation of Turkey (TURKSAT), the representative of TURKSAT informed the Committee that these projects should be suspended but another project proposal of TURKSAT, namely "Continuous Education and Training Center on ICT", can be included in the project list for further consideration.
- For the project entitled "Sustainable Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa", the Committee was informed by ICDT that Benin, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone were interested in this project. The terms of reference of the feasibility study of the project were submitted to IDB for financing. Further to these recommendations, the Minister of Tourism and Handicraft of the Republic of Guinea, in its capacity as the coordinator of this project, has paid a visit to the President of IDB in December 2006. This visit was successful and the IDB requested each country of the project to submit a separate financial application through its governor within IDB Board of Governors. Five countries have applied so far.

- For the project entitled “Technical Cooperation in the Field of Heritage Preservation” proposed by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the OIC General Secretariat will be in contact with Jordan and IRCICA (the Coordinator of the Project) and inform the Committee on the developments regarding this Project as soon as possible.

7. After the presentations made on all the projects, the Committee expressed its satisfaction on the progress achieved for projects number 1,2 and 7. For the remaining projects, the Committee **requested** the member states, through their senior officials, to adopt a more proactive approach and call upon their focal points to contact project owners and coordinators respectively, at earliest convenience, so as to get these projects implemented. The Committee also sought the approval of the senior officials to cancel, projects in which no country has shown interest.

**Under Agenda Item 2:**

8. The representatives of the COMCEC Coordination Office and the IDB briefed the Committee on the terms of reference of the Task Force established to study ways and means of increasing the Intra-OIC trade to 20% by 2015

9. The Committee **welcomed** the announcement by the IDB to host an EGM in order to tackle all the issues in Jeddah in 2008 before the 24<sup>th</sup> Follow up Committee of COMCEC with the participation of the member states with proper expertise and relevant OIC and international Institutions.

**Under Agenda Item 3:**

10. The representative of the ICCI briefed the Committee on the new project proposals on the setting up of two Funds, one for Research and Technology and the other for Investment. The Committee was also informed that the detailed study on the two Funds will be submitted as soon as they are ready. The Committee welcomed the idea of setting up the Funds and agreed to give their input, once they get more information.

11. The Committee then concluded its work with a word of thanks.

**LIST OF THE PROJECT PROPOSALS**

<b>Serial No</b>	<b>Project Proposals/Ideas</b>	<b>Proposing State/ Institution</b>	<b>Interested Country</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
1.	Technical Cooperation Among Patent Offices in the OIC Member States	Turkey	Kazakhstan, Syria, Morocco, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Yemen	ICDT
2.	Incubator Management Training Among OIC Member States	Turkey		ICCI
3.	Cooperation in the area of Technical Development: Medium Range Regional Turbofan Airliner.	Turkey	Kazakhstan	
4.	Low Cost Imaging-Based Mapping System Applications for Monitoring of Natural and Anthropogenic Changes in OIC Member Countries' Coasts	Turkey	Bangladesh/ Turkey	IUT
5.	Satellite Control and Monitoring Centre (SATCMC)	Turkey	Turkey	
6.	Low Earth Orbit Satellite	Turkey	Turkey	
7.	Creation of a Network of Cross-border Parks and Reserves in West Africa	Guinea	Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone	ICDT/SESRTCIC
8.	Technical Cooperation in the Field of Heritage Preservation	Jordan		IRCICA

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