

Rules of Procedure of the OIC Statistical Commission

Accurate, timely, reliable and consistent statistical data and information are indispensable tools for evidence-based policy making in any country. National Statistical Systems (NSSs) play a vital role in helping decision makers develop and design prudent socio-economic development strategies towards higher prosperity.

The Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) agreed to establish the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) as reflected in Istanbul Declaration of the 2010 Meeting of the National Statistical Organisations (NSOs) of the OIC Member States.

AIM AND FUNCTIONS

Aim

The OIC-StatCom is a platform for the NSOs of the OIC Member States for sharing knowledge and exchanging experiences and best practices with a view to enhancing their technical capacities which are needed for producing high quality national statistics while being guided by the objectives and principles to strengthen the solidarity and cooperation among the Member States as set forth in the 11th Islamic Summit held in Dakar on 13-14 March 2008.

Functions

1. To promote high quality statistical data production and dissemination according to the internationally accepted methodologies and standards.
2. To ensure coordination and cooperation among the NSOs of the OIC Member States and international organisations.
3. To develop a strategic vision towards more effective NSSs and elaborate, implement and monitor short, medium- and long-term plans to achieve this vision.
4. To raise the profile of national statistics through advocacy towards the political authorities of the OIC Member States.
5. To encourage the governments of the OIC Member States together with the international and regional organizations to increase and provide sustainable human and financial resources allocated for the national statistical capacity development.
6. To identify the statistical areas specific to the OIC Member States and to promote and develop common standards and methodologies for the main statistical indicators.
7. To facilitate active cooperation and coordination with various relevant OIC fora towards enhancing the role of NSSs in evidence-based policy-making in the OIC Member States.

MEMBERSHIP AND BUREAU

Membership

OIC Member States are the permanent members of the OIC-StatCom with voting rights. The Member States shall be represented by the heads of the NSOs (or equivalent relevant national institutions) or by duly designated high-level officials. OIC institutions and subsidiary organs are non-voting members. International and regional organisations may be invited as observers by the Secretariat of the Commission.

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Bureau

Similar to other OIC official fora, the OIC-StatCom shall elect the Members of its Bureau annually. The Members of the Bureau of the OIC-StatCom shall reflect the geographical distribution and shall comprise a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen, and a Rapporteur. The Bureau shall also include two permanent ex-officio members: IsDB Group and SESRIC in its capacity as the Secretariat of the Commission. In each Session, the Commission shall elect from the representatives of its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur and, in line with the OIC Rules of Procedures, shall keep the State of Palestine as permanent Vice Chairman. The Chairmanship position shall rotate among the three OIC official groups of countries (Africa Group, Arab Group, and Asia Group). The Commission shall elect the two Vice Chairmen from among the other two groups of countries where the Chairman country is not included in them.

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE OIC-STATCOM

SESRIC shall assume the role of the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom with the following responsibilities:

1. Prepare the provisional agenda for each Session in consultation with the Members of the Commission.
2. Undertake all the organizational arrangements for convening the annual Sessions of the Commission.
3. Prepare, disseminate and archive all the documents of the Commission.
4. Prepare and communicate the reports and the resolutions of the annual Sessions of the Commission,
5. Host and manage the official website of the Commission.

THE ANNUAL SESSIONS AND THE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS

The OIC-StatCom shall be convened annually at the Headquarters of SESRIC (the Secretariat of the Commission) in Ankara, Republic of Turkey, preferably in the first week of October of each year. A Follow-up Meeting shall be convened annually on the margins of the annual meetings of the United Nations Statistical Commission in New York with the participation of the representatives of the NSOs of the member countries. The aim of this Follow-up Meeting is to brief the Members of the Commission on the progress of the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the annual main Session as well as to discuss and exchange views on the provisional agenda of the upcoming Session.

VOTING AND QUORUM

A majority of the representatives of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission makes its decisions based on consensus. In cases where consensus is not reached, the decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority voting. The quorum is required in such cases.

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Commission may establish committees and working groups to carry out the task of implementing some resolutions adopted by the Commission. These committees and working groups shall compose of Members of the Commission. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission shall apply to the proceedings of its committees and working groups.

DOCUMENTATION

All the documents of the annual Sessions, follow-up meetings, committees and working groups of the Commission shall be prepared, disseminated, and archived by the Secretariat of the Commission.