8th Session of OIC-StatCom

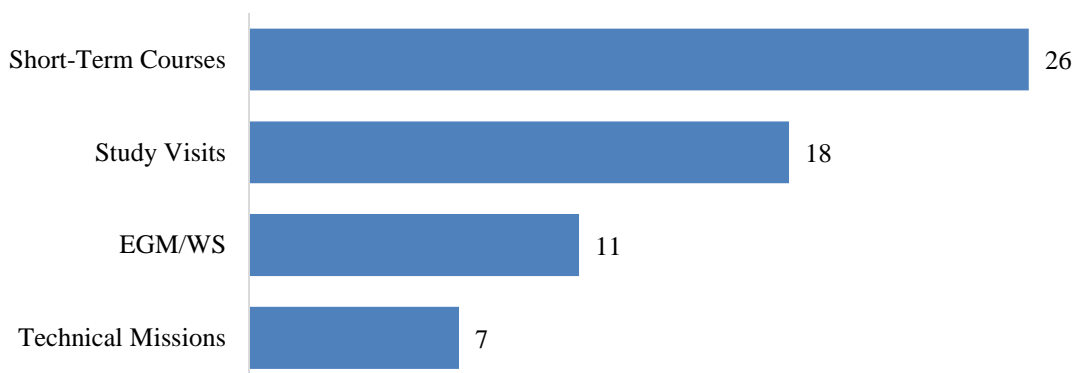## 23 – 24 October 2019, Ankara-Turkey

Report on the Conducted and Planned Activities of the Secretariat as per the Resolutions of the 7th Session of OIC-StatCom

1   OIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme

Following the 7th Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) on 2-3 May 2018 at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, Turkey, the Secretariat took the necessary actions to design the new edition of the *OIC Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB) Questionnaire for the Biennium 2020-2021*. In connection with the resolutions of the 34th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) in November 2018, the Secretariat added a section in the questionnaire to identify the needs and capacities of OIC countries regarding the production of SDG indicators with Tier I and II status. The Secretariat circulated the questionnaire in January 2019 (also accessible online at *http://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php* in 3 official OIC languages) to both the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and other constituents of the National Statistical Systems (NSSs), due to their data production role on SDGs. So far, the Secretariat has received questionnaire responses from 27 NSOs[1], 8 ministries (Benin and Turkey), 2 public agencies (Benin and Djibouti), and 2 central banks (Nigeria and Turkey) of OIC countries.

During the period between 4 May 2018 – 22 October 2019, *26 short-term statistics courses*, *18 study visits*, *7 technical missions* and *11 international workshops* totalling *62 activities* were conducted by the Secretariat. Around 1,100 participants from 45 OIC countries benefited from the statistical activities provided by 15 OIC countries and 7 international organisations.

Number of Statistical Activities, by Type
4 May 2018 - 22 October 2019

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[1] 29 NSOs of OIC countries (*Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Oman, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan,* and *Yemen*) have not yet communicated their survey responses. To increase the response rate, the Secretariat sends regular reminders to these OIC countries.

Table 1. OIC Countries Benefited from the Statistical Activities of the Secretariat in the Period from 4 May 2018 to 22 October 2019

Albania	Guinea	Mauritania	Sudan
Azerbaijan	Guyana	Morocco	Suriname
Bangladesh	Indonesia	Mozambique	Tajikistan
Benin	Iran	Niger	Togo
Brunei	Iraq	Nigeria	Tunisia
Burkina Faso	Jordan	Oman	Turkey
Cameroon	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	UAE
Chad	Kuwait	Palestine	Uganda
Cote d'Ivoire	Libya	Qatar	Uzbekistan
Egypt	Malaysia	Saudi Arabia	
Gabon	Maldives	Senegal	
Gambia	Mali	Somalia	

Table 2. OIC Countries and International Organisations Contributed to the Statistical Activities of the Secretariat in the Period from 4 May 2018 to 22 October 2019

Azerbaijan	Jordan	Tunisia	Eurostat
Bangladesh	Kazakhstan	Turkey	ILO
Cote d'Ivoire	Malaysia	Uganda	UNESCWA
Egypt	Maldives		UNHCR
Gambia	Niger	CDC	UNSD
Indonesia	Palestine	CDC Foundation	

The Secretariat plans to undertake the following tasks until the 9th Session of OIC-StatCom:

- Continue to upload the received StatCaB materials to the SESRIC e-Learning Platform (*http://www.oicstatcom.org/study-materials.php*);

- Continue to encourage the experts contributed to StatCaB activities to register themselves to the Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE). Currently, profiles of 839 experts exist in ROSE (*http://www.sesric.org/rose.php*);

- Plan the StatCaB activities for the biennium 2020-2021 by prioritising the 6 strategic areas of the COMCEC (agriculture, finance, poverty alleviation, tourism, trade, and transport and communications) and 8 prioritised SDGs (SDGs 1-5, 8, 9, and 13) as per the resolutions of the 34th Session of COMCEC;

- Encourage those OIC countries that have not yet contributed to the StatCaB Programme to provide experts for conducting statistical activities in other beneficiary OIC countries;

- Bring about more synergies in statistical capacity development with the regional agencies for the benefit of the OIC countries.

2 Integration of the 'Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS)' into the National Surveys in OIC Countries

Between the 7th Session of OIC-StatCom till 22 October 2019, 2 OIC countries (*Cote d'Ivoire* and *Tajikistan*) fully completed the project which increased the number of countries with project completion status to 12 (see Table 3). In order to increase the level of participation of OIC countries in the TQS integration project, *Palestine* has also been approached.

In connection with the success of the two Workshops in 2016 (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1398*) and 2017 (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1737*), a third workshop on 'Transforming TQS Data into Action' (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2013*) was organised by SESRIC in collaboration with the CDC and CDC Foundation on 12-15 November 2018 in Ankara, Turkey. The objective of the Workshop was to provide additional information and technical support to the OIC countries in integrating TQS into their ongoing surveys and to provide the countries an opportunity in writing a Tobacco Brief and plan for dissemination and mobilization for tobacco control. For the year 2019-2020, SESRIC signed a new Subcontractor Agreement Amendment with the CDC Foundation.

Table 3. TQS Integration Status (as of October 2019)

No.	Country	Latest Status	Survey
1	Azerbaijan	Completed	National Household and Budget Survey
2	Cote d'Ivoire	Completed	National Survey on the Situation of Employment and the Informal Sector (ENSESI)
3	Egypt	Completed	National Labour Force Survey
4	Gambia	Completed	Integrated Household Survey
5	Indonesia	Completed	National Socio-Economic Survey (SUSENAS)
6	Mauritania	Completed	Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys (MICS)
7	Mali	Completed	Modular and Continuous Household
8	Niger	Completed	Human Trafficking Survey
9	Senegal	Completed	Continuous Demographic & Health Survey (C-DHS)
10	Sierra Leone	Completed	Tobacco Use Behavioural Survey (TUBS)
11	Tajikistan	Completed	Household Survey on Standard of Living
12	Togo	Completed	FinScope Consumer Survey
13	Cameroon	Signed MoA	National Demographic and Health Survey (EDSC-5)
14	Chad	Signed MoA	4th Survey on the Household Living Conditions & Poverty
15	Gabon	Signed MoA	Demographic and Health Survey (EDSIII-Gabon)
16	Palestine	In Progress	Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys (MICS) VI

The following is the 2019-2020 planned scope of work:

- Follow up the project with Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, and Palestine;
- Integrate TQS in ongoing surveys in 5 additional OIC countries;
- Integrate TQS-Youth in ongoing youth surveys in 5 OIC countries;
- Organise a side event on TQS and TQS-Youth on the margins of the 51st Session of UN Statistical Commission in New York;
- Develop a TQS report utilising data from TQS-integrated surveys from OIC countries;

- Develop a web-based data repository with data from TQS-integrated surveys from OIC countries; and
- Coordinate with CDC, CDC Foundation to organise 2 additional Workshops.

3   Peer Reviews for NSOs in OIC Countries (OIC-Peer)

Under this project, the Secretariat has so far organised the meetings in 2016 (*http://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=1569*) and conducted the OIC-Peer Review Inclination Survey (OPRIS) together with a Workshop on OIC-Peer in 2017 (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1850*). Additionally, Saudi Arabia indicated at the beginning of 2018 its desire for a peer review on its new 3-year statistical strategic plan. Due to its experience on peer reviews in different development levels, PARIS21 has been approached for this request. PARIS21 provided a timeline and cost estimates proposal for the peer review exercise in February 2019. After revisions, the proposal was shared with Saudi Arabia in March 2019 for their perusal. After finalisation of the evaluation of this proposal by Saudi Arabia, the Secretariat will follow up the further steps concerning this exercise.

In 2018 also, the Secretariat added an additional field concerning experience on peer reviews in its Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE) registration form (*http://www.sesric.org/rose-form.php*) so as to gather a pool of highly competent experts that may be considered as candidates to take part in activities under the OIC-Peer Programme. Up to now, 13 experts from 9 OIC countries registered under ROSE indicated that they have such experience.

As a way forward, the Secretariat will:

- Facilitate the organisation of peer review exercises between the OIC countries and the pertinent partners provided that sufficient budget amounts are allocated by the OIC countries requesting the peer review; and
- Participate as an observer in peer review exercises conducted by other regional and international agencies – upon their invitations – to better shape the possible peer review exercises in other OIC countries.

4   Islamic Banking and Finance Statistics (IBFStat) in OIC Countries

Following the circulation of a survey by the Secretariat focusing on the current practices on Islamic Banking and Finance Statistics to NSOs (and diplomatic missions for broader distribution to related institutions), Central Banks, and Monetary Authorities in 2017 and to Capital Market Authorities and Insurance Supervisory Authorities in 2018 to gather a preliminary insight about existing Islamic finance data collection, compilation and dissemination practices in OIC countries. Up to now, 46 institutions from 31 OIC countries have submitted their responses. In the light of the feedback received, SESRIC finalized the analysis of results of the Survey in September 2019 and published on the websites of both SESRIC and OIC-StatCom.

Having selected and integrated 5 indicators on Islamic Finance industry size and structure into OICStat database under the "Islamic Banking and Finance" category in April 2018, the Secretariat further added 10 indicators on Total Assets, Total Funding/Liabilities, and Total Shariah-Compliant Financing into the OICStat Database in 2019. Currently, 15 indicators are available on 21 OIC countries retrieved from international sources.

Besides, the Secretariat is closely following up the developments in the Islamic Finance statistics arena including its membership in the Inter Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) Task Force on Islamic Finance initiated by UNSD and ESCWA. In this regard, the Secretariat hosted the Workshop on Islamic Finance in the National Accounts (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2021*) in October 2018. Additionally, SESRIC and IFSB signed a Memorandum of Understanding in November 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey, to reinforce the collaboration on the field of Islamic Banking and Finance Statistics.

As a way forward, the Secretariat will continue to:

- Increase the number of Islamic Banking and Finance related indicators after assessment of additional indicators from international sources; and
- Contribute to the Working Group on Data Collection and Coordination established under the ISWGNA Task Force on Islamic Finance and follow up further global developments in the Islamic Finance statistics field.

5   Official Development Assistance (ODA) Statistics in OIC Countries
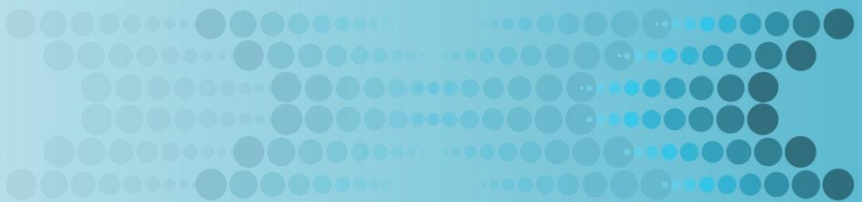
In accordance with the resolutions of the 7th Session of OIC-StatCom in 2018, the Secretariat circulated the "*Survey on Mapping the Landscape of Development Assistance and Cooperation in OIC Member Countries*" on 10 May 2018 to NSOs and relevant agencies of OIC countries. The aim of the Survey is to gather institutional information, activities of existing National Development Assistance Agencies in OIC countries responsible for the coordination of Official Development Assistance (ODA). So far 10 countries communicated their willingness to submit the survey responses; nevertheless, the Secretariat could only receive partially completed responses from 6 OIC countries. Due to low level of interest shown by the OIC countries, the Secretariat has stopped its work related to the Survey.

The Secretariat also continued to contribute to the work of Task Force on Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD, led by OECD Development Co-operation Directorate) for building a robust framework how development finance is extended in the SDG era. During the sessions of the Task Force Meetings (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1979; http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2103; http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2133; and http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2158*), SESRIC has proposed the modification of the Draft TOSSD Reporting Instructions to reconsider classification of the Islamic Finance instruments as a financing arrangement rather than mode of collaboration in 2018 and 2019. Additionally, TOSSD Data Survey was communicated by OECD to Task Force member countries and international organisations including the Secretariat in March 2019. The Secretariat responded to this exercise by reporting its statistical activities and encouraged some OIC countries to respond to the Data Survey.

On the data dissemination side, the International Finance category of the OICStat Database hosts 6 indicators related to ODA, 4 of which has been integrated in 2019.

The Secretariat plans to:

- Expand the coverage of International Finance category of the OICStat database by adding new indicators related to ODA;
- Follow up TOSSD proceedings by participating in the future Task Force meetings; and

- Collaborate with various national and international partners so as to reflect and improve the visibility of development assistance flow of the member states.

6 Cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

After the conduct of two Workshops on Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) in 2017 (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1628* and *http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=1752*), the Secretariat has applied to COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism in September 2019 to organise a Regional Training Workshop on Food Balance Sheets in 2020. In this connection, the Secretariat is in contact with FAO to further discuss the cooperation possibility concerning the continuation of activities on monitoring food security and agriculture statistics.

7 2020 ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

With reference to the Resolution #3.d of the 7th Session of OIC-StatCom, SESRIC and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) jointly organised the 'Regional Workshop on the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International Standards and Contemporary Technologies' on 12-15 March 2019 at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, Turkey (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2137*). The objectives of the Workshop were to help OIC countries to achieve a common and improved understanding of the process of adopting new technologies/methodologies in conducting population and housing censuses and collecting data according to internationally recommended definitions and classifications. The Workshop also provided a platform to discuss good practices among OIC countries and the potential challenges and risks that have to be taken into consideration for the successful adoption of contemporary technologies in censuses.

8 MIGRATION STATISTICS

SESRIC became a member of the Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (EGRIS) on 4 September 2018 in accordance with the resolutions of the 7th Session of OIC Statistical Commission (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2063*).

With reference to the Resolution #4.b of the 7th Session of OIC-StatCom, SESRIC hosted the 3rd Global Meeting of the EGRIS at its Headquarters in Ankara, Turkey on 12-14 February 2019 (*http://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2062*). The objectives of the Meeting were to develop an initial draft version of the Compilers Manual, a practical guide for practitioners in countries working to improve statistics on forced displacement, and to discuss capacity-building activities on the relevant area. A meeting on Stateless Persons Statistics was also hosted on 15 February 2019 as well as the 10th Regional Workshop on the Experiences and Tools under MED-HIMS (Households International Migration Surveys in the Mediterranean countries - a programme initiated by European Union) took place on 14-16 February 2019 at SESRIC Headquarters.

With reference to the Resolution #4.d concerning the inclusion of human-trafficking related statistics in the 8th Session of OIC-StatCom, the Secretariat included this topic in the Inclination Survey used for the identification of the themes of the 8th Session of OIC-StatCom. However, respondents assigned a low priority to this topic. Thus, this topic cannot be covered in 8th Session of OIC-StatCom.

9   SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In September 2018, the Centre finalised the collection of feedback for the "Tendency Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries" in line with the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC held in 2015, 2016, and 2017. Based on the responses received, SESRIC prepared the report titled "Results of the Tendency Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries" available in 3 official languages of the OIC (*http://www.sesric.org/publications-detail.php?id=456*).

In light of the responses, 8 SDGs (No Poverty, Good Health & Well-Being, Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Decent Work & Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure, and Climate Action) are prioritised at the OIC level. Additionally, in line with resolution #121 of the 34th Session of the COMCEC, the Report presented by SESRIC was welcomed and an annual report on the progress at the OIC level towards achieving the aforementioned 8 prioritized SDGs to be submitted to the Ministerial Sessions of the COMCEC has been requested. The Resolution further requested the statistical capacity development activities of the SESRIC to focus on the SDGs indicators.

During the period between 4 May 2018 – 22 October 2019, 34 statistical activities relevant to the 8 prioritized SDGs were conducted by the Secretariat. Of those, 17 were short-term statistics courses, 10 were study visits and 7 were technical missions.

For the biennium 2020 and 2021, the Secretariat will:

- Match the OIC countries based on their responses for the new StatCaB questionnaire and organise the statistical capacity development activities on related indicators of the 8 prioritised SDGs;
- Follow up the upcoming meetings of the IAEG-SDGs; and
- Increase the coverage of the SDGs category of the OICStat Database based on the data hosted at the Global SDGs Database of the UNSD.

10   62nd INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE WORLD STATISTICS CONGRESS 2019 (ISI WSC 2019)

The 62nd International Statistics Institute World Statistics Congress 2019 (62nd ISI WSC 2019) was hosted by Malaysia on 18-23 August 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. Around 3,000 statisticians and practitioners from all fields from more than 130 countries shared their insights on the development and applications of statistics and statistical science. In this 62nd ISI WSC 2019, SESRIC sponsored the participation of some statisticians from NSOs of OIC member countries. In this regard, the Secretariat plans to:

- Cover the flight tickets of some OIC LDCs for their attendance to World Data Forum sessions and ISI World Statistics Congresses based on the budget availability.

11   SESRIC'S ONLINE SERVICES, MODULES AND APPLICATIONS

11.1 OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database

Since the last session of the OIC-StatCom in May 2018, the OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database (*http://www.sesric.org/oicstat.php*) has been enriched with more than 370 indicators and

currently hosts 777 indicators under 24 categories. As in October 2019, the indicator breakdown of the OICStat Database categories is as follows:

1. Agriculture: 41
2. Demography: 28
3. Education: 38
4. Energy: 19
5. Environment: 18
6. Gender and Family: 11
7. Health: 37
8. Indices: 12
9. Industry and Manufacturing: 51
10. Infrastructure: 24
11. International Finance: 22
12. Islamic Banking and Finance: 15
13. Labour and Social Protection: 33
14. Money and Prices: 10
15. National Accounts: 43
16. Private Sector: 38
17. Public Finance: 25
18. Science, Technology and Innovation: 11
19. Sustainable Development Goals: 214
20. Tobacco Control: 23
21. Tourism: 7
22. Trade: 19
23. Water: 25
24. Youth: 13

As a way forward, the Secretariat will:

- Increase the number of indicators, particularly on SDGs, after assessing the data availability on OIC countries; and
- Create new categories on socio-economic fields of common interest provided that sufficient number of indicators exist with data on at least half of the OIC countries.

11.2 OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF)

The OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF; *http://www.sesric.org/cif-home.php*) presents the most recent available information and statistical data of OIC countries under 9 sections (Background, Geography and Climate, Society and Demographics, Government and Politics, Economy and Sectors, Country in Figures, International Partnerships, Logistics, and Special Links) with downloadable reports. The profiles of the countries are regularly updated.

The Secretariat plans to update continuously the relevant sections of the OIC-CIF on each OIC country.

11.3 Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries (OIC-DIR)

The Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries (OIC-DIR; *http://www.sesric.org/oicdir.php*) serves for hosting the profiles of Central Banks, Chambers, Development Agencies, Government-Funded News Agencies, Investment Promotion Agency, Line Ministries, National and Sub-National Statistics Offices, Research Institutes, Think Tanks under Government Institutions, Training Institutes, Trade Union / Employers' Organisation, Universities/Higher Education Institutes, and Other (public or public-benefit institutions).

Due to extensive number of institutions in OIC countries and the low response rate to the Secretariat's previous questionnaire sent to OIC countries through diplomatic channels for receiving the list of institutions in countries, the Secretariat will gradually expand the coverage of the OIC-DIR.