



The Statistical, Economic and Social Research
and Training Centre for Islamic Countries
(SESRIC)



Islamic Development Bank
(IDB)

The First Session of the
OIC Statistical Commission

Hilton Hotel
Istanbul, 11 – 12 April 2011

**INFORMATION
BOOKLET**

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Agenda

11 April 2011

- * *Morning*
 - Registration
 - Opening Session
 - **Session I.** OIC-SC: Expectations, Goals, and Operational Principles
- * *Afternoon*
 - **Session II.** Effective Cooperation for Statistical Capacity Building
- * *Evening*
 - **Social Program**

12 April 2011

- * *Morning*
 - **Session III.** Enhancing Statistical Awareness and Outreach
- * *Afternoon*
 - **Session IV.** Concerted Efforts, New Prospects and Future Challenges in Statistics
 - **Closing Session**



General Information

* **Venue**

The meeting will take place at the **Hilton Hotel** in Istanbul, Turkey.

Address : Cumhuriyet Caddesi, 34367, Harbiye, Istanbul–Turkey

Web : <http://hilton.com.tr/eng/Hilton-Istanbul/default.aspx>

Phone : +90-212-315 60 00

Fax : +90-212-240 41 65

The Hilton Hotel is also offering special rates for the First Session of the OIC-SC. To learn more, please send an e-mail to statistics@sesric.org

* **Meeting Language**

The working language of the meeting will be Arabic, English and French.

* **Information Desk**

The Information Desk located at the lobby of the Hilton Hotel will be at the service of the participants during 11-12 April from 09:00 to 18:00 hours daily.

* **Visas**

All participants are advised to check with the Turkish Consular missions (where available) for visa requirements. Detailed information on visa requirements is available at:

http://www.konsolesluk.gov.tr/Visa/Visa_Welcome.aspx

(Please select your language from the upper right-hand corner)



Some Practical Information for Travel

* **Local Time**

The time in Istanbul is GMT/UTC plus 2 (two) hours.

* **Electricity**

The electric current in Istanbul is 220 Volt, 50 Hz. Two-pin round plugs are used.

* **Weather**

The weather in Istanbul is generally mild and rainy in April. Coats, sweaters and jackets are recommended for outdoor activities . In the month of April, the mean temperature is around 12°C and the expected temperature is min. 8°C and max. 16 °C.

* **Currency Exchange**

The currency used in Turkey is 'Turkish Lira'. Convertible foreign country currency can be exchanged at the airport, hotels, exchange offices and at all banks in accordance with the current exchange rates announced daily. International credit cards are widely used.

* **Banks**

Working hours for most of the banks are from Monday to Friday, 08:30 - 17:00. They are closed at weekends and at public holidays.

* **Driving License**

International Driving Licenses are recognized throughout Turkey. Car Rental Companies ask for a valid driving license.



Some Practical Information for Travel *(cont.)*

* **Restaurants**

Various samples of Turkish, European, Asian and international cuisine can be found in Istanbul.

* **Shopping**

Shops in Istanbul are generally open from 09:00 to 19:00, Monday to Saturday. Big shopping centres are open all through the week, usually from 10:00 to 22:00. In all shopping centres, major credit cards are accepted and tax-free shopping is possible. The Grand Bazaar and the Spice Bazaar are the must-sees of the Old City District. You can experience the annual Istanbul Shopping Fest between 18 March and 26 April. For more info: <http://www.istshopfest.com/en/about-isf.aspx>.

* **Prayer Times**

Prayer times in Istanbul during the 1st Session of the OIC-SC are:

Date	Fajr	Shuruq	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghreb	Ishaa
10 April	04:40	06:26	13:17	16:57	19:46	21:20
11 April	04:38	06:24	13:16	16:58	19:47	21:22
12 April	04:36	06:23	13:16	16:58	19:48	21:23
13 April	04:34	06:21	13:16	16:58	19:49	21:24



Hotels around the OIC-SC Venue

* **Hilton Istanbul Hotel (Venue of the Meeting)**

Address : Cumhuriyet Caddesi, 34367, Harbiye, Istanbul–Turkey
Web : <http://hilton.com.tr/eng/Hilton-Istanbul/default.aspx>
Phone : +90-212-3156000
Fax : +90-212-2404165
E-mail : sales.istanbul@hilton.com

* *Ceylan InterContinental Istanbul Hotel*

Address : Asker Ocagi Cad. No:1 Taksim, 34435 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.interconti.com.tr>
Phone : +90-212-3684444
Fax : +90-212-3684499
E-mail : burcu_altay@interconti.com.tr

* *Grand Hyatt Istanbul Hotel*

Address : Taskisla Caddesi, Taksim, 34437 Istanbul
Web : <http://istanbul.grand.hyatt.com>
Phone : +90-212-3681234
Fax : +90-212-3681000
E-mail : istanbul.grand@hyatt.com

* *Nippon Hotel*

Address : Topcu Caddesi No: 6 Taksim, 34437 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.nipponhotel.com.tr>
Phone : +90-212-3133300
Fax : +90-212-3133333
E-mail : info@nipponhotel.com.tr



Hotels around the OIC-SC Venue

(cont.)

* *Elite World Istanbul Hotel*

Address : Sehat Muhtar Caddesi No:42 Taksim, 34435 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.eliteworldhotel.com.tr>
Phone : +90-212- 3138383
Fax : +90-212- 3138393
E-mail : info@eliteworldhotel.com.tr

* *The Central Palace*

Address : Lamartin Caddesi No:18 Taksim, 34437 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.thecentralpalace.com>
Phone : +90-212-3134040
Fax : +90-212-3134039
E-mail : reservations@thecentralpalace.com

* *The Madison Hotel*

Address : Receptasa Caddesi No:15 Taksim, 34437 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.madison.com.tr>
Phone : +90-212-2385460
Fax : +90-212-2385151
E-mail : info@madison.com.tr

* *Golden Park Hotel*

Address : Lamartin Caddesi No:24 Taksim, 34437 Istanbul
Web : <http://www.hotelgoldenpark.net>
Phone : +90-212-3614141
Fax : +90-212-3615740
E-mail : info@hotelgoldenpark.net



Transportation to the Hotels Area

Ataturk International Airport (IST)

Venue of the meeting and the Taksim Hotel Area is around 50 minutes (23 km/14.29 miles) from the Ataturk Airport.

- Transportation by airport cabs is approximately 50 TL.
- Havař shuttle service stops are within walking distance to the hotels area and costs 17 TL. Shuttles start to operate at 04:00 in the early morning till 01:00 late night.
- The urban tramway operates from the airport to Aksaray, transfers to another tramway and heads to Kabatař and by funicular system reaches Taksim Square, which is only 5 to 10 minutes walking distance from the hotels.
- The subway station close to the hotels area is called Taksim Metro (Subway) Station and within walking distance to all listed hotels.



Downtown Information

Historical Places

- Dolmabahçe Palace
- Galata Tower
- Hagia Sophia
- Covered Bazaar
- Topkapi Palace
- Blue Mosque

Distance to OIC-SC Venue

- 1.8 km / 1.12 miles
- 2.8 km / 1.74 miles
- 5.7 km / 3.54 miles
- 5.7 km / 3.54 miles
- 5.7 km / 3.54 miles
- 6.3 km / 3.91 miles

Business and Entertainment

- Lütfi Kırdar Convention Centre
- The Bosphorus Bridge
- Taksim Square
- Nişantaşı Shopping District
- CNR Expo Centre

Distance to OIC-SC Venue

- 0.6 km / 0.37 mile
- 4.7 km / 2.92 miles
- 0.8 km / 0.50 mile
- 1.2 km / 0.75 mile
- 23.1 km / 14.35 miles



Useful Contact Information



The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)

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ext. 308 (Mr. Karaman)

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Map of the OIC-SC Venue and its Environs

