

*Fourth Session of OIC-StatCom
21-23 April 2014, Ankara-Turkey*

Follow-Up Reports and Activities of the OIC-StatCom

**Outcomes of the Training Programme on
“Statistical Database Design and Visualization Tools Development”**

1 Background Information

In accordance with the Resolution item 8c, the Third Session of the Statistical Commission of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-StatCom), held on 10-12 April 2013 in Ankara, Turkey, has welcomed the initiative of SESRIC in offering the National Statistical Offices (NSO) of OIC Member Countries its Motion Chart Module (SMC) to enable them present their data in a visual way so as to improve the analytical capabilities and effective use of data in evidence based policy making.

The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and Islamic Development Bank (IDB) jointly organized the Training Programme on “Statistical Database Design and Visualization Tools Development” on 11-12 December 2013 at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

2 Profile of Participants

The training programme was attended by 30 experts from the National Statistical Offices (NSO) of 16 OIC Member Countries including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Gambia, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Senegal, Turkey and Yemen. The representative of IDB was also present during the two-day training.

3 Objective of the Training Programme

The training course aimed at introducing statistical database design principles with a focus on data visualisation tools development, and in particular, guiding the participants on how to deploy the SESRIC Motion Chart (SMC) Module within the IT infrastructure of their institutions.

4 Content of the Training Programme

The Training Programme on “Statistical Database Design and Visualization Tools Development” covered the following components:

- Statistical Database Design
 - Relational Database Systems and the Life Cycle
 - Database Management Principles
 - Good Database Design Characteristics
 - Statistical Database Requirements Analysis
 - XML Data Source and Structure, XML in Web Services, XML with Favourite
 - Programming and Mark-up Languages
- Visualization Tools Development
 - Visualisation Tools Essentials
 - Using Flex in Visual Programming
 - Visualization of Time Series Data
- SESRIC SMC Module

At the end of the workshop, the SMC Module source codes were shared with the participants.

5 Recommendations of the Training Programme

At the end of the training, the participants expressed their thanks and appreciation to OIC-StatCom Secretariat and SESRIC for hosting the training, in collaboration with IDB, and adopted the following recommendations.

The participants of the Training Programme on “Statistical Database Design and Visualization Tools Development”:

1. **expressed** their strong satisfaction with the in-house implementation of the SESRIC Motion Chart (SMC) Module by SESRIC.
2. **appreciated** SESRIC’s efforts of freely sharing and distributing source codes of the SMC Module software to the IT Departments of the National Statistical Offices of OIC Member Countries.
3. **agreed** to share their experiences on statistical software development and to technically cooperate through establishing a forum among the IT Departments of NSOs of OIC Member Countries.
4. **agreed upon** strengthening their capacities through the exchange of experts, joint training programmes and projects and field and study visits in the area of information technologies.

5. **agreed on** cooperating on the standardization on IT-related issues such as database design and software development standards among the IT Departments of NSOs in OIC Member Countries.
6. **agreed on** the importance of developing and maintaining their own critical software components through the use of in-house resources and adhere to the principle of customizable software development with an aim and willingness to share complete software packages or components with NSOs of other OIC Member Countries.
7. **agreed** that it would be critical, more secure and much more cost-effective to address critical software needs (such as Operating Systems and Office Tools among others) of governmental and non-governmental institutions of OIC Member Countries through the establishment of a non-profit OIC software institution as a long term vision.
8. **requested** SESRIC to establish an e-mail group in order to enhance the communication among participants of the training.
9. **requested** SESRIC to implement an online and well-structured forum to facilitate experience sharing and online technical cooperation among NSOs in general and IT Departments in particular.