



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



Islamic Development Bank
(IDB)

THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

22-23 March 2010

Istanbul, Turkey

Agenda and Programme

Theme: Statistics for Development in Post-Crisis World

22 March 2010

08:30 – 09:00 Registration and arrival of delegates

09:00 – 09:45 **Inaugural Session:** Welcome and opening remarks

- *The Message of H. E. [Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu](#), Secretary General of the OIC, to the Meeting of the National Statistical Organisations of the OIC Member Countries*
- *Mr. Ifzal Ali, Chief Economist, IDB*
- *Mr. Mohanna Al Mohanna, Director General, CDSI, Saudi Arabia*
- *Mr. Savaş Alpay, Director General, SESRIC*

09:45 – 10:30 **Keynote Addresses**

- *[Mr. Mohamed-El-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou](#), Manager, PARIS21 Secretariat*
- *[Mr. Ifzal Ali](#), Chief Economist, IDB*

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 **Session I: Better Statistics for Better Policy Response During and Post-Crisis World**

In late 2008, the world was engulfed in financial crisis which morphed into global downturn. Data became a major issue as policymakers and researchers across the world

were deeply interested in understanding the extent to which the crisis affects poverty and other associated sectors of the economy. Could availability of data allow us to pre-empt and predict the onset and the impact of crisis? Were national statistical offices as well as regional and international statistical data users and providers prepared to respond adequately to demand for data during and after the crisis? What are the issues of data collection and disseminations that should be addressed and lessons learnt from the recent crisis and what should be done to remedy the shortfall in post-crisis era? It is universally agreed that better statistics lead to better policy formulation. Can access to data help member countries' economies prepare well for any future crisis? The session will also consider the issues on the collection and dissemination of specific indicators, such as Islamic finance, awqaf and zekat, that are particularly important for the OIC Member Countries.

Chairman: Mr. Mohanna Al Mohanna, Director General, CDSI, Saudi Arabia

Panellists:

- [Mr. A. Ömer Toprak](#), Acting President, TurkStat, Turkey
- [Mr. Kamal Saleh](#), Deputy Director General, Jordan
- [Mr. Babakar Fall](#), Director General, National Agency of Statistics and Demography, Senegal
- [Mr. Rusman Heriawan](#), Chief Statistician, BPS, Indonesia

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch and Prayer**

14:30 – 16:30 **Breakout Session II: NSOs and Data Demand on Emerging Development Issues**

In today's world, there are many emerging challenges that require timely access to reliable and accurate data. The challenges include new frontiers of development challenges such as climate change, food security, poverty, gender indicators, etc. The role of NSOs in providing such data is very critical. However the NSOs have diverse challenges that need to be discussed at regional level. In this breakout session, NSOs will be grouped by regions to discuss their roles and common issues that affect them in the context of data demand arising from emerging development issues. Each group will appoint a rapporteur, who will later make presentation to the wider audience. The group discussion will take one hour and the presentation will take 10 minutes each.

Chairman: Mr. Abdullateef Bello, Director of Data Resources and Statistics Department, IDB

19:30 **Gala Dinner at Şehzade Mehmet Sofrası**

Shuttle will leave from Ceylan InterContinental at 19:00.

23 March 2010

09:00 – 10:30 **Session III: Capacity Building Initiatives at the OIC Level**

The increasing role of statistical capacity building in support of NSOs activities is crucial for strengthening national statistical systems, which in turn will lead to improved data for both national development plan and monitoring of international initiatives including MDGs and OIC Ten Year Action Plan. Thus, there is a need for coordinated use of scarce financial and technical resources available at the OIC and other international institutions for the NSOs. In this session, international institutions providing technical and financial support for the NSOs will make presentations on the progress of their activities as well as their future plans and programmes. The views and comments of the NSOs regarding the capacity building activities by international organizations will be instrumental in enhancing the design and expected outcomes of these activities.

Chairman: Ms. Wan Ramlah Wan Abdul Raof, Chief Statistician, Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Panellists:

- [Mr. M. Said Chahoua](#), Head, General Statistics Division, Morocco
- [Ms. Sıdıka Başçı](#), Director of Statistics and Information Department, SESRIC
- [Mr. Abdullateef Bello](#), Director of Data Resources and Statistics Department, IDB
- [Mr. Mohamed-El-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou](#), Manager, PARIS21 Secretariat
- [Mr. Mustafa Dinç](#), Senior Economist/Statistician, World Bank
- [Ms. Fathia AbdelFadil](#), Senior Statistician, Statistics Division, UNESCWA

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 13:00 **Breakout Session IV: Bridging the Communication Gap between the Data Users and Providers**

Data providers are primarily the NSOs while data users vary widely including OIC institutions and researchers worldwide. In recent years, there has been sustained efforts to develop database (e.g. SESRIC's BASEIND and IDB's COSDAT etc.) all require constant data from NSOs. Unfortunately, there is a considerable communication gap between the NSOs and international data users, and in many cases this leads to missing or incomplete data on some indicators for some years. In this regard, there is urgent need to discuss the root causes of data communication gap at the level of NSOs with the view to find everlasting solutions to bridge the communication gap. The breakout session will follow the pattern of Session II of day one.

Chairman: Mr. Abdullateef Bello, Director of Data Resources and Statistics Department, IDB

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch and Prayer**

14:30 – 16:00 **Session V: Case Studies and Best Practices from NSOs**

NSOs have over the years undertaken initiatives that have transformed them from what they used to be in the past. Even though some have operated on meagre resources and faced many other challenges. Despite all these constraints, some have achieved successes. We want NSOs to present case studies on how they were able to turn their institutions round, what stories they would like to tell others, their best practices which can be leveraged. Five countries will be selected to present their case studies and best practices.

Chairman: Mr. A. Ömer Toprak, Acting President, TurkStat, Turkey

Panellists:

- [Ms. Wan Ramlab Wan Abdul Raof](#), Chief Statistician, Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- [Ms. Ola Awad](#), Acting President, PCBS, Palestine
- [Mr. E. S. K. Muwanga-Zake](#), Chairman, UBOS Board of Directors, Uganda
- [Ms. Tamy Mohamed Amein](#), General Director at the Population Studies and Research Center, CAPMAS, Egypt
- [Mr. Ousseini Hamidou](#), Advisor to the Director General of the National Institute of Statistics, Niger

16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee break**

16:30 – 17:00 **Session VI: İstanbul Declaration on the NSOs Meeting**

24 March 2010

09:00 – 13:00 **Social Programme: Visit to Dolmabahçe and Topkapı Palaces**