

## Tentative Work Plan

### OIC-StatCom Working Group No: 1 (Statistical Indicators Specific to OIC Member States)

**Lead Country:** Jordan

**Members of the Working Group:** Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Comoros, Egypt, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkey, IDB, SESRIC

#### Background

Based on the decision of the last Meeting on National Statistical Offices (NSO) of OIC Member States that was held in Istanbul, Turkey on 22-23 March 2010, an Expert Group Meeting on Islamic Indicators was co-organised by Department of Statistics Jordan and SESRIC in Amman, Jordan on 21-22 December 2010 in order to discuss needs and requirements for new indicators specific to OIC Member States. In this meeting, a framework was identified by the participants. It was also decided to present this Framework in the First Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) in order to get comments from and approvals of the Member States. The Final Report of the Expert Group Meeting is enclosed as Annex-1 to this document.

The results of the Expert Group Meeting were introduced in the First Session of the OIC-StatCom held in Istanbul, Turkey on 11-12 April 2011. In this Session, the delegates decided to set up a Working Group for Statistical Indicators Specific to OIC Member States under the OIC-StatCom in accordance with the decision number 4.

#### Objective

Development of the set of indicators reflecting common values and the specific behaviours of the Muslim Community spread around the world is one of the niche areas that OIC-StatCom has an interest. The Working Group comprised of volunteer Member States is expected to identify priority areas specific to the Member States, develop conceptual background for these areas, prepare methodologies to establish the necessary framework, and develop the set of indicators consistent with the international standards and create awareness on Islamic Statistics among OIC member Countries and at international level.

#### Tasks

The conceptual and methodological framework on Islamic Indicators will be developed by this working group including; definitions, classifications, methods of data collection and dissemination for priority themes proposed in Annex 1.

#### Expected Outputs

- Draft Methodological Guideline describing methods of data collection and dissemination for Islamic Indicators
- Interim/final reports

## Modalities of Work

The key activities and functions of the Working Group should focus on the following fields:

- In order to enhance the participation and get the opinions of the Member States in the Working Group more directly, the Lead Country is expected to assign specific tasks to the participants. The documents prepared by the participating Member States will be used as inputs to the Interim/Final Reports of the Working Group.
- A meeting will be convened by the Lead Country in collaboration with the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom to prepare the Final Report of the Working Group to be submitted to other members of the OIC-StatCom by the end of February 2012 the latest.
- Taking the abovementioned items into consideration, the Working Group should decide on a list of activities/tasks with deadlines:

| # | Activity  | Deadline             |
|---|---|----------------------|
| 1 |   |                      |
| 2 |   |                      |
| 3 |   |                      |
| 4 |   |                      |
| 5 | Submission of the Final Report to the OIC-StatCom Members | End of February 2012 |

## Enclosure:

1. Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Islamic Indicators that was held in Amman, Jordan on 21-22 December 2010.

## **Annex 1.**

### **Report of the Experts' Group Meeting on Islamic Indicators**

#### **21 – 22 December 2010 / Amman, Jordan**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Owing to the increasing importance of the role of statistics in all stages of human life and due to the increasing demand for statistics reflecting all aspects of life, the Istanbul Declaration of "The Meeting of NSOs of OIC Member States" held in Istanbul on 22-23 March 2010 called for an Experts' Group Meeting (EGM) on Islamic Statistics. The meeting was co-organized by SESRIC and the Department of Statistics, Jordan on 21-22 December 2010 in Amman, Jordan. Experts from NSOs of Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen and Islamic Development Bank (IDB) participated in the meeting.

This meeting could be considered as a first step towards defining the context of Islamic Statistics needed for the launch of a comprehensive database on the subject that is built in a scientific structure through extensive discussions by the member countries of the OIC. It is noted that there is a strong potential for the availability of Islamic statistics especially through administrative records of member countries, as most Islamic countries already have administrative records on the Muslim behaviour. Additional data could also be obtained through surveys executed by statistical offices of countries.

The Islamic statistics shall be a part of the official statistics; the responsibility for its production shall be borne by the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of the OIC Member States. Deployment of Islamic Statistics shall be on voluntary basis for countries to suit their priorities, resources, and need. The aim here is to develop a framework that any NSO can utilize if and when they need to produce this kind of statistics.

It is advisable that a committee of experts be formed to develop a framework and a roadmap for the subjects of Islamic statistics, to identify a preliminary list of indicators and to point out potential cooperation mechanisms between NSOs.

Based on this, there exists an urgent need to initiate a framework for Islamic statistics considering the following dimensions:

1. It should be reliable (i.e. the decision makers should be provided with reliable data from the original sources based on scientific methodology).
2. It should be comparable and consistent (i.e. the basis for conducting international comparisons within generally accepted standards should be established).
3. It should be comprehensive and policy oriented (i.e. the growing global demand for Islamic statistics should be initially addressed through covering various fields such as demography, economy and social issues. Additionally, the indicators should be selected in a way to identify the actual situation of OIC Member States, to diagnose the problems facing them and to work on the required remedies.)
4. It should be interactive (i.e. the concerned statistical agencies should be encouraged to produce and enhance the Islamic statistics).
5. It should be referenced. The source of data of Islamic statistics should be scientifically outlined and managed.

## II. PROPOSED INDICATORS for ISLAMIC STATISTICS

### A) THE ECONOMIC FIELD

1. Zakat Statistics: The proposed Zakat indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:
  - Annual volume of Zakat funds.
  - Disposal methods of the Zakat funds.
  - Beneficiary categories of the Zakat funds.
2. Islamic Banking and Finance Statistics: As the Islamic banks have become a global phenomenon during the last international financial crisis, special attention should be given to Islamic banking and finance. The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:
  - Number and types of Islamic banks.
  - Volume of deposits in these banks.
  - Projects funded by the concerned banks.
  - Volume of credits extended by the Islamic banks.
  - Characteristics of users of Islamic banking.
3. Investment Statistics: The profile of Foreign Direct Investment of OIC Member States is not available in detail. The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following indicators:
  - Total Flow and Stock of FDI of OIC countries
  - Intra-OIC FDI: FDI within OIC Member States by themselves
  - Inter-OIC FDI: FDI among OIC Member States and the rest of the World
4. Islamic Waqf Statistics: Waqfs play a key role in the development of societies. The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:
  - Types of recorded Islamic waqfs
  - Volume of revenues from the Islamic waqfs
  - Distribution of revenues of Islamic waqfs
5. Islamic Mirath (Inheritance) Statistics: The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:
  - Value and nature of inherited items
  - Distribution structure of Mirath
  - Timing of Mirath assignment and distribution between males and females

## B) THE SOCIAL FIELD

The statistics on marriage, education, orphanage, religious tourism, poverty, etc can be covered under this heading.

### 1. Marriage and Divorce:

- Marriage Expenses (dowry, wedding expenses, etc-)
- Nafaqa (alimony)
- Demographics about Islamic marriage (age, number of children, etc.)

### 2. Statistics on Islamic schools, universities and other teaching institutions: In some of OIC Member countries, there are schools bases on Islamic curricula. The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:

- Number of students
- Types of Islamic schools
- Number of graduates (alumni)
- Number of academic staff

### 3. Orphanage:

- Number of registered orphans in the orphan care institutions
- Number of registered orphans residing with their relatives
- Religious Tourism:
  - Number of pilgrims annually by country
  - Number of umrah performers by country

### 4. Poverty:

- Poverty rate among Muslim communities
- Statistics about the methods of distributing Sadaqah
- Sadaqah al Fitr statistics

## C) THE CULTURAL FIELD

The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:

- Number of Islamic charity associations
- Distribution of Islamic associations by activity
- Islamic cultural events (seminars, conferences, lectures, etc.)

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- Number of annually published Islamic books
- Characteristics of Islamic curriculum and providers

#### D) THE DEMOGRAPHIC FIELD

The proposed indicators can be developed by considering the following dimensions:

- Number of Muslims in each country.
- Demographic characteristics of Muslims such as crude birth and death rate, fertility rate, etc.
- Migrant Statistics of OIC Member States
- Number of Immigrants (from rest of the World to OIC Member States)
- Number of Emigrants (from OIC Member States to the rest of the World)
- Number of Migrants (among OIC Member States)
- Statistics about Muslim converts

### III. FUTURE ACTIONS

- A general framework for the database should be agreed by the member countries; SESRIC and the IDB should support this process.
- Priority categories for the database of Islamic statistics should be defined and basic required indicators in each category should be identified.
- A technical committee of experts from the concerned OIC member countries should be formed, and this committee should draw an executive work plan, necessary documentation, plans of action, and metadata roadmaps.
- After defining the roadmap, the process of producing Islamic statistics should be initiated on voluntary basis by National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of OIC Member States. The potentials present in the administrative records should be fully utilized.
- All member countries and the international community should be informed about the developments in the area of Islamic statistics, and awareness raising in this area should be given special attention by SESRIC and other concerned parties.