

***REPORT***

***OF***

***THE 4<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF  
THE ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION FOR FOOD  
SECURITY (IOFS)***

***NUR-SULTAN, REPUBLIC OF  
KAZAKHSTAN  
11-12 DECEMBER 2019***



### **OIC/IOFS/2019/REP-EXEC.BOARD**

## **Report** **of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Executive Board of IOFS**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Executive Board of the Islamic Organization for Food Security was held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan on 11-12 December 2019. The meeting was attended by all eight (8) members of the Executive Board as follows:

### **Attendees:**

1. Mr. Abdulaziz A. Alhowaish (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – Chairman)
2. Mr. Nurbek Dairbekov (Republic of Kazakhstan – Member)
3. Mr. Ahmet Volkan Gungoren (Republic of Turkey – Member)
4. Mr. Musa M. Humma (Republic of the Gambia – Member)
5. Mr. Mollah Abdul Aziz (People's Republic of Bangladesh – Member)
6. Mr. Zeba Momini (Burkina-Faso – Member)
7. Mr. Essa Abdul Rahman Al-Hashmi (The State of the United Arab Emirates – Member)
8. Mr. Yerlan Baidalet (IOFS – Member)

### **Opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Board**

- a) The meeting was opened by His Excellency, Mr. Abdulaziz A. Alhowaish, Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in his capacity as the Chairman of IOFS Executive Board.
- b) The Chairman welcomed all members to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Board

and congratulated them on their election and re-election to the Executive Board of IOFS. The Chairman also congratulated the new Director General of IOFS in the person of His Excellency, Mr. Yerlan Baidaulet on his appointment at the headship of the Secretariat of the Organisation.

- c) The meeting approved its Agenda and Work Programme.
- d) His Excellency, Mr. Yerlan Baidaulet IOFS Director General delivered his statement, in which he highlighted the various activities of the Secretariat since the last Executive Board meeting and the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of IOFS.

**1. Current Status on Date and Venue of the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of IOFS**

- e) The meeting welcomed the offer by the Government of Turkey to host the Third Session of the General Assembly of IOFS as announced during the 35<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the OIC Standing Committee for Commercial and Economic Cooperation (COMCEC) held in Istanbul, Turkey on 27-29 November 2019. The distinguished Board Member from Turkey offered to communicate the agreed date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly in due course.

**2. Report on Participation in the Annual Coordination Meeting of OIC Institutions and OIC related cooperation.**

- f) The Executive Board welcomed the implementation of decisions of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Annual Coordination of OIC Institutions (ACMOI) and the outcome of 5<sup>th</sup> ACMOI held at the OIC Headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from 4-5 December 2019, including the various IOFS-led and IOFS-partnered projects.
- g) Emphasizing the need for IOFS to continue to identify with the decisions and resolutions of OIC, in line with its statute and considering its status as a Specialised Institution of OIC, the meeting commended the offer of the OIC Secretary General, His Excellency, Dr. Yousef Ahmed Othaimen to host a programme-based activity of IOFS in the nearest future.

**3. Administrative matters (updates on Mandatory Contributions and Resource Mobilization).**

- h) On mandatory contributions to the budget of IOFS, the meeting commended efforts by the Director General to sensitise member states on the need for early payment of their assessed mandatory contributions for 2020 to enable the proper functioning of the Secretariat.
- i) The meeting expressed its appreciation to the Government of Kazakhstan for supporting the budget of the Secretariat from 2016-2019, and the expressed undertaking of the Government of Saudi Arabia to support IOFS to the tune of

US\$2 million within the next four years. It, however, called on other member states to pay their assessed mandatory contributions to the regular budget of IOFS, even as it called for special contributions in support of IOFS administrative and project budgets, considering its varied but costly programmes.

- j) The meeting requested DG IOFS to send the revised list of assessed mandatory contributions to all Members States in January 2020, in the aftermath of the joining of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

#### **4. Establishment of IOFS Financial Control Committee.**

- k) The meeting agreed on the need to appoint a Financial Control Committee made up of representatives from three member states, for a three-year period and on a rotational basis. It underscored the need to observe the basic principles of competence and equitable geographical distribution in the appointment of the Financial Control Committee. Members of the Board agreed to provide Secretariat with additional information on this issue.
- l) The meeting requested the DG to share the Terms of Reference of this Committee along with the call for nomination of candidates for this Committee.

#### **5. Implementation of operational related Resolutions of the 2nd IOFS General Assembly: a) Grain Fund and Related Programmes; b) Islamic Food Processing Association; c) Action Plan upon Strategic Commodities.**

- m) The Executive Board, having noted all presentations, reports and having scrutinized all background papers (including Matrix of IOFS Programmes, Concept Notes, Action Plans, etc.), supported IOFS programmes as set-out in the Matrix and recommended execution by member states of IOFS, after their approval by the General Assembly. It also recommended that, as far as practicable, these programmes should be implemented in partnership between IOFS Secretariat and other OIC institutions and regional and international organisations for proper synergy and efficiency. Members of the Executive Board undertook to take the lead in supporting the execution of these projects through making available their countries' expertise and best practices as well as hosting some of the events and programmes accordingly. The meeting underscored the need to use the private sector as much as possible in the execution of the projects.
- n) The meeting requested the IOFS Secretariat to explore the possibility of convening the Roundtable on Increasing Water Use Efficiency as a side event of the 5<sup>th</sup> OIC Meeting of Ministers responsible for water issues, scheduled for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from 5-7 October 2020.

- o) The meeting requested IOFS Secretariat to share the amended Protocol on Food Security with IOFS Members States and obtain their comments with a view to elaborating a comprehensive report for consideration of the General Assembly.

**6. Database Platform and further implications. Workflow.**

- p) The Executive Board took note of the operationalization of a database platform and e-office in the Secretariat and requested Secretariat to continue to strengthen and increase its quality and service delivery, in the light of the valuable comments made by Board Members on use of open source National data, including sharing the methodology used in collecting data from open platform.

**7. Partnership and Reverse Linkage Programmes.**

- q) The meeting took note of the importance of Reverse Linkage Programmes, which are aimed at promoting the principles of “South-South Cooperation” whereby member countries exchange their knowledge, expertise, technology and resources with fellow member states. Members of the Board agreed to take the lead in sponsoring some Reverse Linkage Programmes in order to develop the capacities of Member States and devise solutions for their socio-economic development. In particular, the distinguished Board Member from UAE indicated his country’s readiness to host technical workshops on Biosaline Agriculture; Genetic and Bio-engineering; and Livestock development on Artificial Intelligence. On their part, the Chairman and distinguished delegate from Turkey expressed their countries’ readiness to host Reverse Linkage programmes on forestry, fisheries and livestock development, among others respectively. The meeting agreed that all concerned IOFS member states, including those with members on the Executive Board, should be encouraged to host IOFS Reverse Linkage Programmes. The meeting noted the important role of the IsDB Group in the facilitation and implementation of Reverse Linkage Programmes.

**8. Other business.**

**Memoranda of Understanding**

- r) The Executive Board commended the effort of the Secretariat in signing nine (09) MOUs within four months of its operations.
- s) The Executive Board resolved to recommend to the General Assembly a retroactive approval for Memorandums of Understanding earlier concluded with the following institutions:
  - (1) Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDB Group)

- (2) Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- (3) National Agrarian Science and Education Center (NASEC)
- (4) National Chamber of Commerce “Atameken”
- (5) Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development
- (6) Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control
- (7) International Association of Islamic Business
- (8) Corporate Fund “Eurasian Fund of Innovation Development”
- (9) Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- t) The meeting invited DG to conclude an MoU with the International Halal Accreditation Forum (IHAF).

#### **Time of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meetings.**

- u) The Executive Board agreed to set 14-15 April 2020 as the date for the 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting and 29-30 September 2020 as the date for the 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting, in Kazakhstan.
- v) The Executive Board requested the Director General to continue to use his good offices in sensitizing non-IOFS states to accede to the Statute of the Organisation. It is convinced that the diligent implementation of all IOFS quick-win programmes would encourage universal membership of IOFS.

#### **VOTE OF THANKS**

- w) The Chairman and members of the Executive Board expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the warm reception and excellent arrangement made for the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Executive Board. The Board also expressed appreciation to the Director General and the entire personnel of the Secretariat for their contribution to the success of the Session.

**Adopted in Nur-Sultan, 12 December 2019**