

**The Atlas of Islamic-World Science and Innovation
Joint Management Team Meeting
Istanbul, Turkey
11 June 2011**

Summary of meeting and next steps

Present

Chair: HE Professor Ihsanoglu, Secretary General, OIC
Ambassador Abdul Moiz Bokhari, Assistant Secretary General, OIC
Dr Razley bin Mohd Nordin, Director General of S&T, OIC
Mr Mehmet Fatih Serenli, Advisor to DG, SESRIC
Dr Abbas Sadri, ISESCO
Dr Fathy Saoud, President, Qatar Foundation
Ms Maryah Al-Dafa, Senior Projects Manager, Qatar Foundation
Mr Nick Campbell, Managing Editor, Nature
Dr Claire McNulty, Acting Director of Science, British Council
Dr Mohammed Ali Mahesar, COMSTECH
Dr Halit Kaplan, SESRIC
Hatice Melek Ateş Taşçı, Communication Manager, SESRIC
Hatice İlbay Söylemez, Documentation Manager, SESRIC
Dr Julie Maxton, Executive Director, Royal Society
Dr James Wilsdon, Director of Policy, Royal Society
Dr Tracey Elliott, Head of International, Royal Society
Mr Luke Clarke, Senior Policy Adviser, Royal Society

Apologies:

Dr Savaş Alpay, Director General, SESRIC
Dr Philip Campbell, Nature
Dr Sameh Hussain, IDB
Mr Naser Faruqi, IDRC
Dr Faiq Billal, ISESCO
Dr Yasemin Koc, Adviser, S&I Communication, British Council
Professor Atta Ur-Rahman, COMSTECH
Dr Lloyd Anderson, British Council

This paper serves as a brief summary of the recent Joint Management Team meeting held in Istanbul, 11 June 2010. It provides a summary of discussions, next steps and outcomes of the meeting.

Summary of actions

Action 1: Agree and appoint a chair of the Pakistan peer review committee by 24 June – All

Action 2: Comment on Pakistan report and suggest where the word count could be reduced by 24 June – All

Action 3: Nominate possible PRC members and chairs for Egypt and Jordan by 27 June – All

Action 4: Add a clause on explicit mention of capacity building outcomes to the project TORs – RS

Action 5: Add Annex B, and a clause on conflict of interest to the peer review TORs to cover case studies in which the project managers are also authors - RS

- Action 6: Send clause on conflict resolution and incorporate in peer review TORs and send all documents to JMT for approval by end June – OIC/RS**
- Action 7: Produce integrated overall budget for Atlas project as a whole - RS/SESRIC**
- Action 8: Lead on Iran, Indonesia and Senegal case studies – RS**
- Action 9: Lead on Kazakhstan and Nigeria case studies – SESRIC**
- Action 10: Produce ‘data wishlist’ for final report and send to Nature – RS**
- Action 11: Suggest potential dates for final Atlas conference in late 2012/early 2013 – QF**
- Action 12: Prepare and submit proposal for Islamic-world science session at ESOF 2012 – RS/BC**
- Action 13: Prepare forward-looking rolling calendar for Atlas project – RS/SESRIC**
- Action 14: Investigate options for a communications strategy –SESRIC**
- Action 15: Confirm availability for possible December JMT - All**

Opening session

HE Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC and Chair of the JMT, opened the meeting. Professor Ihsanoglu reiterated the objectives of the meeting: to review the status and progress of the project since the last JMT in October 2010, to revise the project methods in light of lessons learned from the pilot phase, and to step up efforts for the successful completion of the project. He reiterated that the OIC will contribute US\$100,000 per annum for the remainder of the project.

Session I: Progress and current status of project.

Dr James Wilsdon and Luke Clarke presented an overview of progress of the project to date. The Malaysia report was published in March 2011; a first draft of the Pakistan report was sent to JMT, NFP and peer reviewers in June; a first draft of the Jordan report has been received, but needs the word count to be reduced; and the Egypt report is in the final stages of drafting. All reports are expected to be launched in the latter half of 2011. Progress continues on the Qatar case study, with the first phase of fieldwork completed and a launch scheduled for December 2011.

Dr Fathy Saoud generously offered to sponsor the translation of the country case studies (and other relevant reports – like the RS’s *Knowledge Networks and Nations*) into Arabic and other languages, via the Qatar Foundation’s partnership with Bloomsbury.

Dr Razley Mohd Nordin reminded the JMT to comment on the Pakistan report by the June 24 deadline, and particularly offer guidance as to how to reduce the word count to 25,000. He also reminded all that the JMT needs to appoint a chair of the peer review committee (PRC). The JMT also needs to nominate members of the PRC for Egypt, Jordan and Qatar.

Dr Tracey Elliott mentioned that the Royal Society would continue to explore possible Fellows for the Egypt and Jordan review committees.

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Session II: Project governance, peer review, roles and responsibilities: lessons learned

Dr Tracey Elliott highlighted a number of issues which had arisen from the pilot phase of the project and at the last JMT, including the governance of the project, roles and responsibilities of in-country

partners, the peer review process and the research methodology. A revised terms of reference (TORs) for the project, TORs for the peer review process, and research methodology were provided at Annexes C, D and E.

It was agreed that good lead researchers are essential to the success of the report, and that these could be policy experts, other academics, scientists or science journalists, provided they had good in-country knowledge and a good body of written work behind them. The credibility of each report derives from the partners in the JMT, and they must approve the selection, and ensure the quality, of the lead researcher.

It was also agreed that lead researchers need to have a good working relationship with the NFP to increase the likelihood that their recommendations are taken forward and have real impact. The NFP should be consulted regularly to ensure their views are taken into account in the report. That said, the reports should remain entirely independent.

It was agreed that editorial control should rest with LRs and the project managers, in consultation with the chair of the PRC. However there is a potential conflict of interest where the project managers are also authors (for example, with the Malaysia and Qatar reports). In cases such as these, editorial control should rest with the chair of the PRC; in case of editorial dispute, the JMT should make the final decision.

Country reports should explicitly address capacity building. This would be added to Section 2, 'Project scope and dimensions' in the TORs.

It was agreed that with these amendments, the project TORs, peer review TORs and research methodology were approved.

Finally, Mehmet Fatih Serenli emphasised the importance of good communication and unity in decision-making and implementation between the project managers themselves, and between the project managers and the JMT. It was agreed that the Project Managers would keep in regular communication and work closely together to ensure a coordinated approach to project management and decision making.

Action 4: Add a clause on explicit mention of capacity building outcomes to the project TORs – RS

Action 5: Add Annex B, and a clause on conflict of interest to the peer review TORs to cover case studies in which the project managers are also authors - RS

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Session III: Looking forward

Project resources and future country studies

Dr Razley Mohd Nordin gave a brief update. The project was originally intended to cover 15 case studies, but this will have to be revised due to the time and resources available. Africa is particularly under-represented of the case studies committed to so far, with only Senegal due to be covered. Dr Razley proposed that Nigeria, Iran and Kazakhstan should be the 3 final countries covered.

It was noted that of the two joint project managers, the RS had received funding from the British Council, IDRC and the Qatar Foundation, while SESRIC had received funding from the IDB and OIC. It

was agreed that the RS and SESRIC would work together to produce an integrated budget for the project as a whole.

Mehmet Fatih Serenli suggested that SESRIC take the lead on some of the remaining case studies, with the funding from the OIC and some of the outstanding IDB money, which would also fulfil the capacity building aims of the project.

It was agreed that SESRIC lead on the Kazakhstan and Nigeria case studies, while the RS leads on Iran, in addition to the two studies it is already committed to, Indonesia and Senegal. The two project managers agreed to work closely to deliver the current and remaining case studies, and to follow the clear template established by the project thus far.

It was agreed that all country studies and the final report would be completed by the end of 2012, with a final report launch taking place late 2012 or early 2013. It was estimated that each case study takes around 10 months to complete and that late 2012 was a feasible end date.

The overview/final report

Luke Clarke gave a brief overview of some potential ideas for the final report and the themes it could cover. There was some discussion about whether it should be grouped geographically or by theme. Ambassador Bokhari affirmed that the OIC supported a desk-based approach, highlighting commonalities across the OIC member states. Dr Razley Mohd Nordin suggested the report be grouped geographically, and to use the template for the country case studies for a final snapshot/overview report. Dr Claire McNulty expressed a preference for a more thematic approach, and highlighting regional differences within that, recognising the importance of public engagement and science in society. Dr James Wilsdon suggested the final report include brief contributions from key figures in Islamic world science, such as Her Highness Sheikha Moza , and Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid, Malaysia's chief scientific adviser. It was also suggested that the report could recommend some potential priority areas of science and technology (eg biotechnology, nanotechnology) for the OIC to invest in.

It was agreed that the writing of the final report could take place in parallel with the writing of the final country case studies, and that some serious consideration should be given as to how the legacy of the project is taken forward after the end of the project.

It had also been suggested to approach Elsevier to join the project as a 'data partner', after their work with the RS on the *Knowledge, Networks and Nations* report which used bibliometric data to highlight new and emerging trends in global science and international collaboration, which would also build on their data which was used for the Malaysia report as part of that agreement. Nick Campbell pointed out that a lot of this information might already be held by Nature Publishing and Digital Science, and that the RS should put together a data 'wish list' for the final report which Nature could then look at and see if they can access the necessary data, before any approach be made to Elsevier.

Nick Campbell also raised the possibility of a special "Nature Outlook" supplement which could be produced to tie in with the final report.

On behalf of Qatar Foundation, Dr Mohammad Fathy Saoud offered to host the final report launch and final Atlas conference in Doha in late 2012 or early 2013. Qatar Foundation will suggest suitable dates and get back to the JMT.

Action 7: Produce integrated overall budget for Atlas project as a whole - RS/SESRIC

Action 8: Lead on Iran, Indonesia and Senegal case studies – RS

Action 9: Lead on Kazakhstan and Nigeria case studies – SESRIC

Action 10: Produce 'data wishlist' for final report and send to Nature – RS

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Session IV: Communications, events diary and future JMT dates.

Dr James Wilsdon introduced this item, and encouraged JMT members to think about opportunities for launching future case studies, other opportunities to promote the Atlas project, future JMT dates and the project's internal and external communications.

Dr Claire McNulty suggested that a proposal be submitted for a session on "European and Islamic-World Science" at the European Science Open Forum in Dublin in July 2012 – the deadline for submissions is 30 June 2011. Another possible opportunity for an Atlas-themed session could be provided by the British Council's "Going Global" conference in March 2012.

Ambassador Bokhari suggested that the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers in May/June 2012 could also be a good opportunity for launching a future case study. IDRC had also submitted some suggestions for potential launch opportunities in Pakistan.

It was agreed that a rolling calendar of confirmed and provisional events related to the Atlas project would be useful, and the RS and SESRIC agreed to take this forward.

Dr Razley Mohd Nordin reminded JMT members that the previous JMT had agreed on the need to develop a communications strategy for the Atlas project, and this action was still outstanding. It was agreed that SESRIC would take this forward, but it was acknowledged that this was a secondary priority to the actual delivery of the project.

It was agreed that the next JMT will take place in Doha in December 2011, to coincide with the launch of the Qatar case study. This will take place around the UN Alliance of Civilisations meeting from 11 – 13 December, which HE Professor Ihsanoglu will attend. It was suggested that the next JMT take place either before or after this meeting, and that the launch of the Qatar case study take place after the JMT.

Action 12: Prepare and submit proposal for Islamic-world science session at ESOE 2012 – RS/BC

Action 13: Prepare forward-looking rolling calendar for Atlas project – RS/SESRIC

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Action 15: Confirm availability for possible December JMT - All

Session V – Recapping key discussions and decisions

Dr Julie Maxton closed the meeting with a brief summary of what had been agreed:

Project governance: Reiterated that the JMT has a clear role in selecting the right lead researcher, and making sure the NRP is informed of key aspects of the study as it is brought forward. Noted the agreement of the revised project TORs, peer review TORs and research methodology with minor changes.

Resourcing the project: The RS will lead on Iran, Indonesia and Senegal. SESRIC will lead on Nigeria and Kazakhstan in parallel. The country case studies and the final report will be completed by end

2012, with a possible early 2013 launch for the final report. QF has offered to translate studies through its partnership with Bloomsbury.

Final report: Geography and themes both important. RS to discuss data with Nature. Agreed on the need to ensure a sustainable legacy for the project after the final report.

Communications strategy: Agreed on the need for the project managers to produce a communications strategy.

HE Professor Ihsanoglu closed the meeting by thanking all participants for a productive and successful meeting, and wished all the partners every success in the timely and successful completion of the project.