

Distinguished Guests,
Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalam-o-Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakutuh

On behalf of the Group of the Islamic Development Bank, I wish to express my deep and profound gratitude to the Governments of Iran and Turkey for the efforts made to encourage and strengthen IDB activities and for implementing this Course on **Project Risk Management**, organized jointly by Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), SESRIC and the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of IDB.

I also would like to thank the Management of the ECO and SESRIC all the personnel involved, for sponsoring this Course and for their fruitful collaboration in implementing this important course. I wish to thank all the participants from Turkey and from other countries for accepting our invitation to participate in this Course.

Last but not least I would like to express my deep thanks to the distinguished experts and speakers, who have accepted the invitation to be the main resource persons and for their valuable input to this important Course.

IDB, as you know, is an international financial institution established in December 1973 by Muslim countries. Its main objective is to foster the economic development and social progress of its 56 member countries.

IRTI is a full member of DB Group and is devoted to research and training. The purpose of IRTI is to undertake research to enable the economic, financial and banking activities in Muslim countries to conform to *Shari'ah* and to extend training facilities for personnel engaged in development activities in the Bank's member countries.

The present course on Project Risk Management is designed for representatives from ECO/IDB member countries working in development projects of their respective countries. Its main objectives are to familiarize the participants with the main concepts and tools related to project management and provide a forum for sharing experiences with other countries.

The course will provide the participants with an opportunity to discuss these important issues in analytical details and to express their critical views and observations.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge once again and with appreciation the efforts of the Management and staff of ECO and SESRIC for sponsoring this course, which, I am sure, will be of great help to participants engaged in development activities.

In this context, I wish to assure you that IRTI is willing to continue offering training facilities in order to satisfy your training needs.

I earnestly ask Allah, the Almighty, to make this course successful in achieving its constructive objectives and to guide all of us to serve the Ummah in the best possible manner.

Wassalamu Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh