



CONCEPT NOTE

4th Meeting of the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET)

07-08 October 2020

12:00-3:00 PM (Istanbul Local Time GMT+3)

Background

Every industry comes with its own risks and hazards which may lead to serious injuries that affect its workers and employees. Thus, a well-structured Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) system that includes good policies, standards, records and clear rules and regulations is a must in workplaces in order to maintain a safe working environment.

Moreover, decent work and safe work places are unique elements to ensure the sustainability and well-being of societies. Generating continuous improvement in working conditions is of paramount importance and promoting the rights of workers to a safe and healthy working environment is recognised as a fundamental human right, as already listed under Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and Goal 2.9.15 of the OIC 2025 Programme of Action.

The OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) was launched in 2011 in order to establish closer cooperation for sharing knowledge, experience and good practices among the OIC Member States in the area of OSH. The network was welcomed by the First Session of Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers held during the 19th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work on 10 September 2011 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey. Since its initiation, the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health (DGOSH) of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services of the Republic of Turkey assumes the role of “Secretariat of the Network”. The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and DGOSH worked, in close collaboration with the relevant national OSH Institutions, on the formulation and implementation of the activities of the OIC-OSHNET. These activities have been appreciated by the relevant OIC fora including the 3rd and 4th Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers, in which the relevant OSH institutions in the OIC Member States were called upon to actively participate in this Network.

Accomplishments of the OIC-OSHNET

Since the establishment of the OIC-OSHNET, three meetings were held, respectively in 2011, 2013, and 2016. Moreover, the Preparatory Senior Experts Meeting for the 4th Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET was organized on 11-13 April 2018 in Ankara, Turkey. These meetings took place with the participation of the National Focal Points as well as senior experts of the OSH Institutions of the OIC Member States which lead to several important outcomes as follows:

1. SESRIC Occupational Safety and Health Capacity Building Programme (OSHCaB)
2. OIC/SMIIC Standard on General Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health, (a joint study carried out by the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health (DGOSH) of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services of the Republic of Turkey and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC))
3. Publication of the Fatwa about the essence of OSH for Workers (by International Islamic Fiqh Academy)
4. Capacity Development Project on “Improving Occupational Safety and Health in Mauritania” (carried out jointly by SESRIC and DGOSH, Turkey).

Objectives

The objectives of the 4th Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET are to:

- Present the implemented activities since the 3rd Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET,
- Discuss and adopt the Rules of Procedure (RoP) of the OIC-OSHNET,
- Elaborate a solid Work Plan for OIC-OSHNET for the year 2021-2022,
- Discuss the modalities of implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Work Plan,
- Discuss the capacity building needs of the OSH authorities with respect to the relevant thematic areas of the Work Plan,
- Identify bilateral and multilateral areas of cooperation in the field of OSH.

Participants

The 4th Meeting will be attended by senior representatives of OSH authorities (Director General or Director level), the National Focal Points of the OIC-OSHNET and relevant OIC Institutions.

Partnership

The 4th Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET will be jointly organized by DGOSH and SESRIC.

Methodology

The Meeting will start with an opening session followed by presentations by the partners. Afterwards, the proposed Rules of Procedure of the OIC-OSHNET will be presented and reviewed by the participants of the meeting. On the second day of the meeting, the OIC-OSHNET Draft Work Plan 2021-2022 will be discussed by the members of the Network. The comments and suggestions received during the sessions will be incorporated into the documents and the final versions will be shared with the members of the Network duly.

Language

The Meeting will proceed in English. Arabic and French simultaneous translation will be provided.

Date and Time

The 4th Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET will be held through a video conferencing platform on 07-08 October 2020 at 12:00-3:00 pm (Istanbul Local Time GMT+3).