



# SESRIC

## TRAINING COOPERATION

### *E-Newsletter Vol.3 No.2*



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## EDITORIAL

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Over the last five years, Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) has been developing and implementing new and diversified technical cooperation and training initiatives and activities within its mandate. You can follow our dedication to promoting and enhancing economic cooperation and human capacity building in the member countries through conducting relevant training programmes and engaging in technical cooperation activities with various national and international organizations throughout this new issue of Training E-Newsletter.

In this connection, the Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) emphasizes the importance of coordination and cooperation among all Member States to improve the quality of vocational education and training in the public and private sectors with the aim of supporting and enhancing the opportunities for individuals to develop their knowledge and skills and thus to contribute to the development and competitiveness of the economies of their countries. Since its official launch by H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC, during the COMCEC Economic Summit held in Istanbul on 9 November 2009, SESRIC, the Executive OIC Organ of the OIC-VET Programme, has worked towards the successful implementation of the various projects under the framework of OIC-VET Programme. To this end, I am very proud to say that, three successful pilot projects have already been accomplished and have become full-fledged programmes under the umbrella of OIC-VET.



In line with the recommendations adopted during the cooperation project in Ankara in May 2010, OIC- Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) has been kicked-off with a meeting, jointly organized by SESRIC and Turkish Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (ISGUM) on 16-17 May 2011, in Ankara Turkey, with the

participation of experts and directors of occupational safety and health, besides deputy secretaries of Ministries of Labour from 15 OIC Member Countries. SESRIC has also started to work on the establishment of OIC-OSHNET Portal and experts' database and requested Member Countries to designate their National Focal Points for the OIC-OSHNET. Our aim is to turn this network into a platform for OSH professionals to exchange their best practices and to share their experiences and projects in the field so that OIC Member Countries would enhance their capacities in this important area.

The second pilot project, in June 2010, has yielded to İSMEK Master Trainer Programme (İMTP), a joint programme between SESRIC and the Centre for Art and Vocational Training Courses of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İSMEK) in 2011. In this context, İSMEK provides training courses to master trainers in various institutions in OIC Member Countries, under nine different categories. The courses are planned within the framework of "Training of Trainers (ToT)", and open for participants who have field knowledge of at least intermediate level. First training project under the İMTP was implemented during the period 21 March – 1 April 2011 in İstanbul, Turkey. A group of ten master trainers from different provinces of the Republic of Pakistan were awarded İMTP

Certificate upon successful completion of the training courses in various categories.

As you may remember, successful pilot implementation of OIC International Student Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP), a special international internship programme operated under the International Business Forum (IBF), in the summer of 2010 and the award ceremony, where H.E Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey, presented students their plaques, has marked the start of the actual implementation phase. I am proud to let you know that the second group of students, who will develop their practical knowledge in the fields of medicine, engineering, finance, tourism, IT, media/communication and business, has started their internships in the summer of 2011.

In the meanwhile, Third Meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) of the Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) was organized by SESRIC in collaboration with Technical and Vocational Training Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran (TVTO) on 17-18 July 2011, in Tehran. The meeting reviewed the progress since the last meeting and adopted a set of recommendations that defines the ways and means of collaboration within the scope of on-going and planned projects under the framework of OIC-VET Programme. In this connection, three thematic working groups on the subjects of "Virtual Training and Simulation", "Training of Trainers" and "Sharing of Best Practices in Vocational Education and Training" have been established recently. You may follow the activities of these working groups from the coming issues of this e-newsletter.

On the other hand, the Capacity Building Programme of SESRIC has been continuing to provide training to the professionals

working in different fields of socio-economic activity. Increasing participation of the relevant institutions to the Programme augments its impact and contributes significantly to the human capital development in the Member Countries. In this regard, I am happy to announce that activities under the Capacity Building Programme for Stock Exchanges in OIC Member Countries are about to begin. The responses to the related questionnaire have started to be collected and some training programmes for the last quarter of 2011 have already been planned.

As part of the technical cooperation activities and upon the request of 26th Session of COMCEC, SESRIC organised a workshop on "Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism", the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 27th Session of the COMCEC in October 2011, in collaboration with Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and Ministry of Transport and Communication of the Republic of Turkey on 7-8 June 2011 in Izmir, Turkey. The workshop identified and examined the common obstacles and challenges facing the OIC Member States in the area of transport and proposed possible ways and means of cooperation in this important field with a view to enhancing intra-OIC trade and tourism.

Another important development during the past six months was the establishment of OIC E-Government Working Group. SESRIC successfully organized the first meeting of the Working Group on 5-6 July 2011 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. The Working Group has discussed the main activities and roles as well as areas of cooperation and collaboration where it can act as a facilitator and catalyst for the benefit of e-government systems of the OIC Member Countries.

Last but not least, SESRIC hosted the Third Meeting of the Joint Management Team

(JMT) of the Atlas Project in Istanbul, Turkey under the Chairmanship of OIC General Secretariat. The meeting was attended by the representatives of project partners, namely OIC, Royal Society, SESRIC, Qatar Foundation, British Council, OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), Nature and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). The main objective of the meeting was to review the status and progress of the project since the last JMT Meeting held in Istanbul on 3-4 October 2010, to examine lessons learned from the pilot phase of the project and devise appropriate methods to improve the process for further studies, as well as to collectively plan for the remainder of the project. It is decided that Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Nigeria and Senegal are the next tranche of countries, in addition to the on-going case studies of Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan and Qatar.

This issue of the Training E-Newsletter includes an article on the "State of Occupational Safety and Health in Pakistan" by Muhammad Javaid Iqbal, Central Labour Advisor at the Ministry of Labour and Manpower of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In addition, you would have a chance to know Technical and Vocational Training Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran closer at the "Institution in Focus" section in this issue.

I would like to end my words by thanking to all contributors from different parts of the OIC geography for their kind collaboration in SESRIC's Training and Technical Cooperation activities. I sincerely believe that SESRIC's vision and invaluable support of the Member Countries are the two powerful driving forces behind all this success. Please continue to follow this e-newsletter closely as SESRIC becomes a more integral part of the socio-economic well-being of the people in the Islamic World.

Dr. Savaş Alpaya  
Director General

# STATE OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY IN PAKISTAN BY MUHAMMED JAVAID IQBAL GILL, CENTRAL LABOUR ADVISER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

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## **STATE OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY IN PAKISTAN**

**By Muhammed Javaid Iqbal Gill,  
Central Labour Adviser in the  
Ministry of Human Resource  
Development**



Pakistan being an active member of ILO has ratified 34 Conventions and accepted 19 Recommendations. These instruments address the broad subjects of basic human rights, conditions of work including occupational safety and health, social policy, social security, industrial relations, labour administration, employment of women, children and young persons and special categories of workers like seafarers, indigenous and tribal populations and migrant workers. The Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan under Article, 37 (e) guarantees making provisions for securing just and human conditions of work, ensuring that children and women are not employed in vocations unsuited to their age or sex. Legislation on labour is a provincial subject and provinces are responsible for implementation of the provisions of occupational safety and health under following enactments.

- a) The Factories Act, 1934,
- b) The Mine Act, 1923,
- c) The Road Transport Workers Ordinance, 1961,
- d) The West Pakistan Shops and Establishments Ordinance, 1969,
- e) The Dock Labourers Act, 1934,
- f) The Employment of Children Act, 1991.

g) Workmen Compensation Act, 1923.  
Main health & safety provisions under these laws includes; cleanliness at

workplace, disposal of waste and effluents, ventilation and temperature, dust and fumes, humidification, noise, lighting, drinking water, latrine and urinals, spittoons, interval for rest, working hours, first aid, guarding and fencing of machinery, medical checkup, special provisions for women and children, prohibition of work in hazardous conditions etc. Supplementing these enactments rules are also framed to address occupational safety and health in certain specific occupations like, manufacturing and processing of lead, Aerated water, rubber, chromium, cellulose solution spraying, sand blasting, sodium, potassium, petrol gas generating plants etc. Following organizations are directly responsible for implementation of those provisions:

- a. Provincial Directorate of Labour Welfare
- b. Directorate of Dock Workers Safety
- c. Inspectorate of Mines at the provincial level
- d. Inspectorate of Boilers at the provincial level
- e. Centre for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment

Occupational safety and health has always been an area of concern for the national policy formulation. Labour Policy, 2011, Labour Inspection and protection Policies widely covered this subject and recommended for consolidation of law on safety and health, constitution of Tripartite National Safety & Health Council and effective implementation of the law.

Training and capacity building of the implementing machinery and other stake holders has always been a grey area in Pakistan. The only well-equipped center,

namely, Centre for the Improvement of Working Conditions & Environment (CIWC&E) located at Lahore is providing training, information and advisory services on safety, health and environment in Pakistan. The principal aim of this Centre is to combat the safety, health and working environment hazards in the industries in the province of Punjab, and to create awareness and change the attitudes of the employers/workers regarding safety, health and working environment. The Centre published its own newsletter, publicity material on safety and health, safety posters, safety leaflets, brochures and signs. Alongside providing on job and plant level training in the field of safety and health the Centre provides services of noise measurement, control of chemical hazards, selection and use of personal protective equipment, industrial hygiene, occupational disease control, machine safety, electrical Safety, ergonomics etc.

Occupational safety and health situation, in general, is criticized on the grounds that it

has implementation lags. There are problems of limitation of scope and coverage. Evasion of laws also noted in the informal sector, home based industry and mines. Lack of awareness of the stakeholders and incapacity of the inspection machinery are the common problems in Pakistan. There is a dire need of revolutionary steps in training and capacity building in this area. There are also possibilities of sharing expertise with the members of OIC. A first ever national training for the stakeholders on occupational safety and health was organized in Pakistan with the collaboration of SESRIC, during April, 2011. The training was really useful. SESRIC, therefore, should extend its maximum support to explore further opportunities of collaboration in the field of occupational safety and health, particularly, for the informal sector, mines and home based industries.

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME (OIC-VET)

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The OIC Vocational Education and Training Programme (OIC-VET) for Member Countries is a programme prepared by the SESRIC in order to improve the quality of Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the public and private sectors with the aim of supporting and enhancing the opportunities for individuals in the Member Countries to develop their knowledge and skills and thus to contribute to the development and competitiveness of the economies.

The Programme supports and supplements the activities of the Member Countries, while respecting the responsibility of the Member Countries for the content and

implementation of vocational training. It aims at improving the competencies and skills of the people according to the needs and priorities of labour markets through intra-OIC partnerships at institutional level. The Programme focuses on increasing accessibility and raising the quality of VET, and provides an opportunity for organizations involved in VET to build OIC partnerships, exchange best practices, increase the expertise of their staff and develop the skills and competencies of the participants. The Programme will cover the training areas included in the national training programmes in the Member Countries by introducing a transnational perspective in conformity with national priorities of the Member Countries.

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## OIC-VET Training Opportunities (TROP) Database Release

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OIC Training Opportunities (TROP) Database is an online platform of information where training institutions operating in the OIC Member States can participate in the system and share their relevant institutional and training information in order to generate further cooperation and collaboration initiatives among them. All related training institutions are given online access, by assigning them usernames & passwords to TROP system so that they are themselves be enabled to maintain, monitor and enhance information of their institutions and available training categories.



participate in the training programmes conducted by peer institutions in the other ones. SESRIC is interested in gathering information on training categories under which short-term courses, workshops and/or seminars open to participants from the OIC Member States and designed for experienced staffs who aim at increasing their skills/knowledge in their areas of expertise.

TROP Database provides training institutions an opportunity to become a member of SESRIC Training Opportunities in order to ensure a more efficient and wider use of training facilities existing in the Member States. Institutions can subscribe to the membership of SESRIC Training Opportunities by the following link:

<http://www.oicvet.org/trop-member-form.php>

For details please [click here](#).

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### Third Meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) of the Vocational and Educational Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET), 16-20 July 2011

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The Third Meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) of the Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) was held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. The meeting hosted by Iran Technical and Vocational Training Organization (TVTO) and was attended by the delegations of the



National Focal Points (NFPs) of the OIC Member States, namely Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia and Turkey. The Representatives of the concerned OIC institutions, namely



COMCEC, IDB, IUT and SESRIC, were also present in the meeting.

The main purpose of the meeting was to review the progress since the Second Meeting of MAC and to discuss the ways and means of collaboration within the

scope of ongoing and planned projects under the framework of OIC-VET Programme.

For details please [click here](#).

## LATEST NEWS

### Memorandum of Understanding between SESRIC and ICRIC, 16 July 2011

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and Islamic Chamber Research and Information Centre (ICRIC) on 16 July 2011 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.



assistance in the matters of common interest and share information to benefit from each other's experiences, resources and expertise with respect to best practices.

The MoU aims to provide a general framework to develop cooperation and collaboration between two institutions in the areas of common interest under their mandates so as to facilitate the attainment of the goals of both centers with a view to enhancing cooperation among the Member States of the OIC.

According to the MoU, the parties shall exchange technical and administrative

Moreover, the parties shall support each other for both ongoing and potential training programs, seminars, congresses, conferences, workshops and other activities, including activities under the framework of Small and Medium Scaled Enterprises (SMSEs), Islamic World Trade Directory (IWTD), Muslims Excellence & Competitiveness Corporations' Award (MECCAward), Islamic Countries Tourism Chain (ICTC), Halal World, and Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET Programme).

For details please [click here](#).

### A Declaration of Intention for Cooperation between the SESRIC and the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training of Morocco, 28 June 2011

A Declaration of Intention for cooperation between the SESRIC and the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training (MEVT) of the Kingdom of Morocco has been signed during the closing ceremony of Vocational Training Meda2 Project and launching of the study on elaboration on the National Strategy for the Development of Vocational Training by 2020, which has



been held on 28th June 2011 in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco.

In accordance with the Declaration of Intention, SESRIC will support the MEVT of the Kingdom of Morocco in the elaboration on the development and implementation of National Strategy for the Development of Vocational Training Vision by 2020 through, inter alia, facilitating exchange of

experts between Morocco and other OIC member countries and organizing training programmes and study visits in order for the General Secretariat of the Department of Vocational Training and the Directorate of Planning and Evaluation of Morocco, to benefit from the experience of various OIC member countries in the field of vocational education and training.

For details please [click here](#).

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### **OIC Network for Occupational Safety and Health (OIC-OSHNET): Kick-off Meeting, 16-17 May 2011**

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Kick-off Meeting of OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) has successfully been organized by SESRIC, in collaboration with the Turkish Centre

for Occupational Health and Safety (İSGÜM), on 16-17 May 2011, in Ankara, Turkey.

The meeting took place with the participation of experts and directors of occupational health and safety, besides deputy secretaries of Ministries of Labor from 15 OIC Member

Countries, namely, Albania, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

Participants mainly shared the current state of occupational safety and health in their countries respectively; discussed the areas for future collaborations and called for consideration of some recommendations for future cooperation, including the establishment of a portal, designation of national focal points for the OIC-OSHNET and preparing country profiles. As part of the program, participants also visited İSGÜM Centre in Ankara.

For details please [click here](#).

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### **Memorandum of Understanding among SESRIC, İSMEK of Turkey and MONE of Indonesia, 05 April 2011**

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A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Statistical,

Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Centre for Vocational and Art Courses of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İSMEK) and Ministry of National Education (MoNE) of the Republic of Indonesia on 5 April 2011 during the official visit of H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey and Chairman of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of

the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC).

Witnessed by H.E. Mohammad Nuh, Minister of Education of the Republic of Indonesia, the MoU aims to develop cooperation and collaboration between the Institutions in the areas of common interest so as to facilitate the attainment of the goals of the institutions with a view to enhancing cooperation in vocational, technical and art education and training

among the Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of Turkey.

According to the MoU, the parties shall exchange technical and administrative assistance in matters of common interest, share information to benefit from each other's experiences, resources and expertise with respect to best practices, potential projects and initiatives related to vocational education and training.

For details please [click here](#).

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### Memorandum of Understanding among SESRIC, ISMEK of Turkey and MONE of Indonesia, 05 April 2011

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A group of ten master trainers from different provinces of the Republic of Pakistan was awarded with ISMEK Master Trainer Programme (IMTP) Certificate on 1 April 2011 after successful completion of the training courses during the period 21 March – 1 April 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey.



Being the first training project under the ISMEK Master Trainer Programme, Pakistani Master Trainers received training during the period 21 March and 1 April 2011, at a number of ISMEK training centers in Istanbul. Ten trainers from related vocational institutions in Pakistan have attended to courses on "Child Raising and Education", "Wood Shaping", "Needle Lace", "Sewing Women Clothes" and "Machine

Embroidery" in the format of training of trainers.

The ten-day training programme was hosted by the Centre for Art and Vocational Training Courses of İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İSMEK) and included visits to kindergartens as part of course activities, as well as various cultural tours to historical places of İstanbul.

Participants had also the opportunity to attend the famous İSMEK Fashion Show where clothes designed by İSMEK trainers were exhibited at Sütlüce Convention Centre.

İSMEK Master Trainer Programme (IMTP) is a programme developed jointly by SESRIC and İSMEK within the framework of the Vocational Education and Training Programme of the OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) to provide intensive free training courses to master trainers from OIC Member Countries in various subjects under different categories.

**For more information on latest news and announcements visit the [OIC-VET Portal](#)**

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

SESRIC endeavours to enhance cooperation with all related national, regional and international institutions aiming at assessing training needs and capacities of the OIC Member Countries in order to effectively plan and implement training programmes and workshops through matching needs and capacities of the related institutions of the OIC Member Countries.

The main objective of Capacity Building Programmes is to explore the most practical ways of sharing the existing capacities among all relevant institutions in the OIC Member Countries. In implementing these programmes, the Centre regularly sends questionnaires to the Member Countries on the relevant subjects of training. Subsequently, based on the assessment of the responses of the Member Countries to these questionnaires, the Center makes arrangements to organize

short-term training courses and workshops together with the contribution of national and international experts in order to support the capacity building activities in the Member Countries.

In this respect, SESRIC is currently organizing its activities under seven major categories, including Statistical Capacity Building Programme for National Statistical Organizations, Capacity Building Programme for Central Banks, IbnSina Programme for Health Capacity Building, Occupational Safety and Health Capacity Building,

OIC Cotton Training Programme, Environment Capacity Building and Stock Exchanges Programme.

For more information on the Capacity Building Programme please visit the OIC-VET Portal.



### STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING (STATCAB) PROGRAMME FOR NSOs

#### Training Course on “Price Statistics” in Jordan, 03-05 July 2011



Statistics on 3-5 July 2011. The Course was provided by Mr. Ashraf Samarah, an expert from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, and was attended by 14 staff members from Department of Statistics in Jordan.

For details please [click here](#).

The Centre organised a training Course on “Price Statistics” at Jordan Department of

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### Training Course on “National Accounts: Supply and Use Tables” in Egypt, 06-08 June 2011

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The Centre organized training on “National Accounts: Supply and Use Tables” at the Central Agency for Public

Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 6-8 June 2011. The Course was provided by Mr. Mehmet Kula, an expert from the Turkish Statistical Institute (Turk Stat), and was attended by 22 staff members of the CAPMAS.



For details please [click here](#).

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### Training Course on “Geographic Information Systems (GIS)” in Kuwait, 05-07 June 2011

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the Central Statistical Bureau of State of Kuwait, on 5-7 June 2011. The Course was provided by Mr. Mohamed Montaser Mohsen Hussin Mohamed, an expert from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) of Egypt, and was attended by five staff members of the Central Statistical Bureau of State of Kuwait.

The Centre organized training on “Geographic Information Systems (GIS)” at

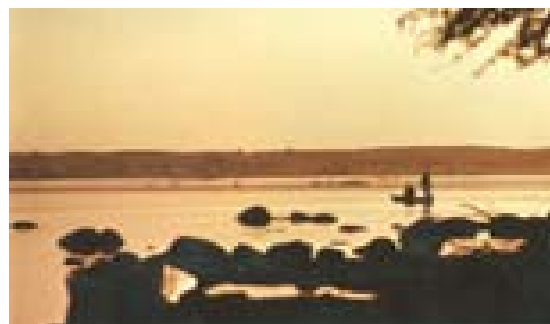
For details please [click here](#).

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### Training Course on “Education & Training Statistics” in Niger, 12-15 January 2011

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The Centre organized a training Course on “Education & Training Statistics” at the National Statistical Institute of Niger on 12-15 January 2010. The Course was provided by Dr. Bruno Magloire KAMGHO TEZANOU, an expert from the National Statistical Institute of Cameroon, and was attended by 20 staff members of the National Statistical Institute of Niger.



For details please [click here](#).

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL BANKS IN THE OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

### Training Course on “Payment Systems” in Kyrgyz Republic, 25-27 January 2011

The Centre organized a training Course on “Payment Systems” at the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic on 25-27 January 2011. The Course was provided by Ms. Sinem Kamiloğlu, an expert from



the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, and was attended by 15 specialists of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic.

For details please [click here](#).

## IBNSINA HEALTH CAPACITY BUILDING (IBNSINA-HCAB) PROGRAMME

### Training Course on “Occupational Health and Safety” in Pakistan, 26-28 April 2011



The Centre organized training on “Occupational Health and Safety” at the

Ministry of Labour and Manpower of Pakistan, on 26-28 April 2011. The Course was provided by Dr. Sirajuddin bin Hashim, an expert from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of Ministry of Health in Malaysia, and was attended by staff members of the Ministry of Labour and Manpower of Pakistan.

For details please [click here](#)

### Training Course on “Occupational Hygiene: Chemical Factors and Chemical Exposure” in Oman, 25-27 April 2011

The Centre organised training on “Occupational Hygiene: Chemical Factors and Chemical Exposure” at the Environmental and Occupational Health Department of Ministry of Health in the Sultanate of Oman, on 25-27 April 2011. The Course was provided by Mr. Nihat Eđri, an expert from the Centre for Occupational Health and Safety of the Republic of Turkey, and was attended by staff members of the Environmental and Occupational Health Department of

Ministry of Health in the Sultanate of Oman.

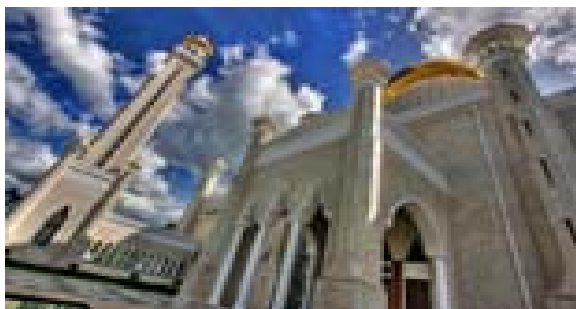


For details please [click here](#).

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### Training Course on “Occupational Health and Safety” in Brunei, 19-21 April 2011

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The Centre organized a training Course on “Occupational Health and Safety” at

Occupational Health Division of Ministry of Health in Brunei on 19-21 April 2011. The Course was provided by Dr. Priya Raguath, an expert from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of Ministry of Health in Malaysia, and was attended by staff members of Occupational Health Division at Ministry of Health in Brunei.

For details please [click here](#)

## OIC OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY CAPACITY BUILDING (OHSCaB) PROGRAMME

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### Training Course on “Breeding and Biotechnology: Pedigree Selection” in Azerbaijan, 22-24 June 2011

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The Centre organised a training on “Breeding and Biotechnology: Pedigree Selection” at the Cotton Research Institute of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 22-24 June 2011. The Course was provided by Mr. Ramazan Şadet Güvercin, an expert from the Kahramanmaraş Agricultural Research Institute of Turkey, and was attended by 15 staff members of the Cotton Research Institute of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



For details please [click here](#).

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### Training Course on “Breeding and Biotechnology: Pedigree Selection” in Azerbaijan, 22-24 June 2011

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The Centre organised a training on “Plant Protection and Disease” at the Cotton

Development Organization of the Republic of Uganda on 20-22 June 2011. The Course was provided by Dr. Oktay Erdoğan, an expert from the Nazilli Cotton Research Institute of Turkey, and was attended by 18 staff members of the Cotton Development Organization of the Republic of Uganda.

For details please [click here](#).

For more information on the Capacity Building Programme visit the [OIC-VET Portal](#)

## LATEST NEWS

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### Memorandum of Understanding between SESRIC and CITC, 18 July 2011

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A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and Center for Innovation and Technology Cooperation of the I.R. Iran Presidency (CITC) on 18 July 2011 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.

The MoU aims to develop cooperation and collaboration between the two institutions in the areas of Science & Technology (S&T) so as to facilitate the attainment of the goals of the institutions with a view to enhancing cooperation in development of S&T in the Member Countries.



According to the MoU, the parties shall exchange technical and administrative assistance in the matters of common interest and share information to benefit from each other's experiences, resources and expertise with respect to best practices in the field of S&T.

For details please [click here](#).

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### First Meeting of the OIC E-Government Working Group, 05-06 July 2011

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The First Meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation E-Government Working Group (OIC eGovWG) was organized by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) on 5–6 July 2011 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. Delegates from six OIC Member Countries including Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Syria, Turkey and Uzbekistan and observers from academia and public sector participated in the Meeting.

The decision for the establishment of the OIC eGovWG has been taken in the 25th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC). The Resolution No. 68 adopted at the 25th Session of the COMCEC, held in Istanbul, the Republic of Turkey, from 5 to 7 November 2009 "requests the SESRIC in cooperation with relevant OIC institution to establish a working group and develop a portal for knowledge and experience sharing and to conduct e- government initiatives".

The First Meeting of the OIC eGovWG focused on main activities and roles as well as areas of cooperation and collaboration where the Working Group can act as a facilitator and catalyst for the benefit of e-



government systems of the OIC Member Countries.

The participants exchanged their experiences and views to establish an action plan regarding closer cooperation

and collaboration in e-government applications and services, and content and framework of the OIC E-Government Portal, besides visiting the IT Department of Turkish Ministry of Justice and TURKSAT Gölbaşı Campus.

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### The Fifth Forum on Statistical Capacity Building for Arab Countries, 04-05 July 2011

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Under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Marouf Suleiman al-Bakhit, Prime Minister of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Fifth Forum on Statistical Capacity Building for Arab Countries with the theme “Statistics, Media and Policy Making” was held on 4-5 July 2011 in Amman, Jordan. The delegates of National Statistical Offices (NSO) from 13 Arab Countries including Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia, and the representatives of the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS), Arab League, EUROSTAT, European Central Bank,

International Cooperation Agency for the French Ministries of Economy and Finance (ADETEF), PARIS21, Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Statistics Netherlands, Statistics Norway, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), and World Bank participated in the Forum.

During the meeting, recommendations of the previous forums were assessed in the context of lessons learned from the challenges experienced in the implementation of the recommendations. Participants also discussed the knowledge and experience exchange, the role of media to create statistical awareness and increase the visibility, and reputation of the NSOs and their products. The importance of coordination with national stakeholders and strengthening role of international partners by providing financial and technical support were also highlighted for further development of national statistical systems.

For details please [click here](#).

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### The conference on “Economic Development through Science and Technology” in Morocco, 16-17 June 2011

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Dr. Savaş Alpay, Director General of SESRIC, attended the “Economic Development through Science and Technology” conference organized by Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST) initiative and participated the Panel Discussion "Creating a Favorable Innovation Environment" as a

panelist, on 16-17th June 2011, in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco.

The Panel focused on practical policy changes that can be made in the short to medium terms with a specific emphasize on the types of internal policy changes that

can be made by research and development institutions and incentives that can be developed by lower-level governments- city, municipal, or regional- to create a more favorable innovation environment, especially for entrepreneurs.

For details please [click here](#).

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### Meeting on “Addressing Unemployment in the IDB Member Countries in the Post-Crisis World”, 09-10 May 2011

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The IDB Group organized the Meeting on “Addressing Unemployment in the IDB Member Countries in the Post-Crisis World”, which has been held at the IDB Headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 9-10 May 2011. The Meeting was attended by experts from relevant institutions and organizations from the IDB Member Countries as well as from international organizations and institutions such as the ILO, IMF, OECD, World Bank and UN ESCWA.

The main objectives of the Meeting were to diagnose the unemployment crisis in member countries in order to gain a better understanding of the problem in the post-crisis world; to identify the nature of the crisis and issues, address the challenges and bridge the gaps at the national and regional levels; and to find solutions to tackle the unemployment crisis in IDB member countries.

Based on the general deliberations and discussions during the working sessions, the Meeting prepared and agreed on “General Framework and Recommendations” for addressing unemployment in Member Countries in the post-crisis world. The Framework includes the major challenges and constraints as well as a set of recommendations to overcome the problem of unemployment in Member Countries at both national and regional levels.

For details please [click here](#).

## LATEST NEWS

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### LATEST NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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#### Third Meeting of the Joint Management Team of the Atlas Project, 11-12 June 2011

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The Third Meeting of the Joint Management Team (JMT) of the Atlas of Islamic World Science and Innovation Project was held during the period 11-12 June 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey under the

Chairmanship of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). The meeting was attended by the representatives of project partners, namely OIC, Royal Society, SESRIC, Qatar

Foundation, British Council, OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), Nature and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).



The Meeting reviewed the progress made so far in the Atlas Project concerning the country case studies and discussed several issues pertaining to the execution of the project, schedule of launching country reports,

The main objective of the meeting was to review the status and progress of the project since the last JMT Meeting held in Istanbul on 3-4 October 2010, to examine lessons learned from the pilot phase of the project and devise appropriate methods to improve the process for further studies, as well as to collectively plan for the remainder of the project.

key events for profiling the project and future country studies. In addition to the ongoing country case studies, Malaysia, Pakistan, Egypt, Jordan and Qatar, the next tranche of countries were decided to be Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Nigeria and Senegal.

For more information about the Atlas Project, please visit: <http://www.aiwsi.org/>

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### The Atlas of Islamic-World Science and Innovation Meeting: 'A Medium for Open Discussion', 09-10 May 2011

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The Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP) organized a meeting entitled "The Atlas of Islamic-World Science and Innovation Meeting-A Medium for Open Discussion", 9-10 May 2011, at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt.

The Meeting was in the form of a follow up to the Atlas of Islamic-World Science and Innovation research project, which aims to explore the changing landscape of science and innovation across a diverse selection of countries, with large Muslim populations, in the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

The Meeting included open discussions regarding the changes that need to be made in light of the current situation so that Egypt's current policies to promote science, technology and innovation can be modified and enhanced.

For details please [click here](#).

## WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS/SEMINARS

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### WORKSHOPS

#### Workshop on "Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and Tourism" and Expert Group Meeting on "Transport Cooperation in the OIC Member Countries", 07-09 June 2011

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SESRIC organised a workshop on "Impact of Transportation Networks on Trade and

Tourism" and Expert Group Meeting on "Transport Cooperation in the OIC Member

Countries”, in collaboration with IDB and Ministry of Transport and Communication of the Republic of Turkey on 7-8 June 2011 and 9 June 2011, respectively in Izmir, Turkey.



The 26th Session of the COMCEC, which was held in Istanbul in October 2010, decided that “The Impact of Transportation Network on Trade and Tourism” is the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 27th Session of the COMCEC, which will be held in October 2011, and requested the SESRIC, in collaboration with the IDB, the OIC General Secretariat, relevant OIC institutions and other related international organizations to organize a workshop on this topic prior to the 27th Session of the COMCEC and to submit its report to the said COMCEC Session.

For details please [click here](#).

## SEMINARS

### Seminar on “Risk Aversion, Volatility Risk Premium, and the Cross-Section of Stock Returns”, 31 May 2011



SESRIC organized and hosted a seminar on “Risk Aversion, Volatility Risk Premium, and the Cross-Section of Stock Returns” in its headquarters in Ankara on May 31, 2011. The seminar has been delivered by Mr. Alper Corlu.

For details please [click here](#).

## COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

### Seminar on “Loopholes in USA Markets and Financial Regulation”, 05 May 2011



SESRIC organized and hosted a seminar on “Loopholes in USA Markets and Financial Regulation” in its headquarters in Ankara on May 5, 2011. The seminar has been delivered by Mr. Mustafa Sahin, Senior Analyst at Maple Securities USA, Inc.

For details please [click here](#).

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### Seminar on “Effects of Infrastructure Investment on Economic Performance: A Meta-Analysis”, 21 April 2011

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SESRIC organized and hosted a seminar on “Effects of Infrastructure Investment on Economic Performance: A Meta-Analysis” in its headquarters in Ankara on April 21, 2011. The seminar has been delivered by Dr. Abderrahman El Makhloufi, VU University Amsterdam.



For details please [click here](#).

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### Seminar on “The General Equilibrium Wage Impact of Trade-Induced Shifts in Industrial Compositions of Employment in Brazilian Cities 1991-2000”, 08 April 2011

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SESRIC organized and hosted a seminar on “The General Equilibrium Wage Impact of Trade-Induced Shifts in Industrial Compositions of Employment in Brazilian Cities, 1991-2000” in its headquarters in Ankara on April 8, 2011. The seminar has been delivered by Mr. Jian Mardukhi, University of British Columbia.

For details please [click here](#).

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### Seminar on “Managing Liquidity in the Islamic Financial Services Industry”, 06-07 April 2011

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The Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) organized a seminar on Managing Liquidity in the Islamic Financial Services Industry on 6-7 April 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey. The Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (CBRT) hosted the event.

Having been recorded as the third IFSB initiative addressing liquidity management issues this year, the seminar focused on existing and emerging issues in liquidity management in the Islamic financial services industry. The building blocks and infrastructure for liquidity management, along with its regulatory setting, were also examined – with particular emphasis on



related case studies from various jurisdictions. The meeting further offered new insights into and prospects for a robust Islamic financial services industry.

For details please [click here](#).

## INSTITUTIONS IN FOCUS

### Iran Technical and Vocational Training Organization



Iran Technical and Vocational Training Organization (TVTO), which is affiliated to Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA), was founded in 1980 by integrating three training bodies- MOLSA's General Directorate for Vocational Trainings, Apprenticeship Fund and Apprenticeship Society - as Technical and Human Force Training Organization. In 1981 it was renamed as Technical and Vocational Training Organization. According to more than 10 related laws and 151 Articles of The Third Development Program and its confirmation in Fourth Development Program, TVTO is the main institution in charge of short-term Technical and Vocational Trainings. It is also the Head of Special Committee on non-formal Technical and Vocational Training with 16 members from various ministries, organizations; employee & employer associations. TVTO implements its trainings through both public and private sectors.

TVTO's main task is to provide vocational training and research courses at permanent centers of the public sector (600 centers- nationwide), besides mobile training teams (in remote areas), training in prisons, training in garrisons, training in industries, training in Instructor Training Center (ITC) and private training institutions (fourteen thousand institutions authorized by TVTO). TVTO trains skilled and semi-skilled labor force which is needed by industry, agriculture and service providers throughout the country, and improves the culture of getting technical skills in the society.

TVTO has continuously developed communication with international Institutes like International Labor Organization (ILO) and World Skills International (WSI), to achieve the latest sciences and technologies and keep pace with international standards.

Research, as one of the main tasks of TVTO, deals with major challenges between training and labor market and industries. Through research, TVTO tries to deeply understand the industries and the skills they need, collect the information required for skills training curriculum development, training software and hardware, training aid; and study the existing training systems in other local and global institutions, study and suggest the labor force replacement trend, upgrade the workers' skills and set up unions for technical and vocational trainers to attract their participation.

Main strategies of the institution are skills training, based on customer's need and request (demand-based); maximum privatization of skills training – delivering the skills training to non- governmental individuals and entities; and using all local and international capacities and experiences efficiently.

Target community of the institution consists of employees (nearly 21 million nation-wide), university students and graduates (2.5 million nation-wide), and urban and rural job seekers (3 million nation-wide).

For more information please visit [TVTO's official website at www.irantvto.ir](http://www.irantvto.ir)