Report of the OIC-StatCom Secretariat on the Implementation of the Resolutions of the 13ᵗʰ Session of the OIC-StatCom

INTRODUCTION

This Report provides a comprehensive overview of the implementation of the resolutions adopted during the 13th Session of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) (https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=3072), held in October 2024. The progress detailed herein is based on actions taken by the Member States and the Secretariat, with data collected through Part B of the Survey (*https://www.oicstatcom.org/strategic-vision.php*) circulated on 4 June 2025. Two reminder emails were also sent on 25 July 2025 and 25 August 2025 to all NSOs to encourage the timely submission of their completed questionnaires to the Secretariat. As of 15 September 2025, responses have been received from 26 member countries: Albania, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cameroon, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Türkiye, UAE, and Yemen.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #1 and #2: Implementation of the Programme of Action for 2021-2025 of the Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030

The Secretariat has prepared a detailed report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for 2021-2025, based on findings from Part A of the Survey circulated on 4 June 2025. The report outlines the progress made towards achieving the objectives set forth in the Strategic Vision for 2030. Both the report and the Survey are available on the OIC-StatCom Strategic Vision website: *https://www.oicstatcom.org/strategic-vision.php*

Resolution #4: Statistical Capacity Building Programme and Other Statistical Activities

In alignment with the new Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA 2.0) and Objective 4.2 of the Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030, the Secretariat revised the Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Questionnaire for the Biennium 2024-2025. The revised questionnaire includes adjustments based on CSA 2.0 and an additional section aimed at identifying needs and capacities related to the development of Islamic tourism indicators. It was circulated to the NSOs of OIC member countries on 31 May 2024. As of 30 September 2025, the Secretariat has received responses from 33 NSOs. The StatCaB Questionnaire for the biennium 2026-2027 will be circulated in October 2025, with the statistical activities plan for 2026 to be developed in parallel based on the responses received.

Since the last session of the OIC-StatCom in October 2024, the Secretariat has conducted a total of 34 statistical activities. These activities comprise 17 statistical training courses, 16 international meetings/workshops, and 1 webinar. Approximately 1,300 participants from all 57 OIC member

countries and 20 international organizations have engaged in these activities. The events were facilitated by experts from 9 OIC countries and 20 international organizations. Detailed information about these activities is available at: *https://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php, https://www.oicstatcom.org/webinar-series.php,* and *https://www.oicstatcom.org/activities-archive.php*

Resolution #5: Integration of the "Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS)" into the National Surveys in OIC Countries

Since October 2024, significant progress has been made in integrating the Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) into national surveys. The Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) of Albania submitted its final report in January 2025 on the findings from the Income and Living Conditions Survey (SILC 2023), which included TQS prevalence questions Q1, Q2a, Q2b, and Q3. In addition, the Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan has also completed the integration of TQS-Youth into their National Household Budget Survey in May 2025. With these contributions, the total number of countries that have completed the TQS and TQS-Youth integration projects has reached 21.

Furthermore, SESRIC has received a commitment from Djibouti, Guinea and Uzbekistan, and continues to follow up on TQS integration projects with their respective NSOs. SESRIC has also received initial agreement from Uganda, and the necessary procedures are being followed for the initiation of the project. The partnership between SESRIC and the CDC Foundation has been extended through 2025 to support these initiatives.

Resolution #6: Importance of inclusive data collection in significantly contributing to the development of effective, equitable, and sustainable social protection systems

To monitor the implementation of Resolution #6, the Survey included questions regarding the capacity of OIC-StatCom members to share best practices in collecting inclusive data for developing effective, equitable, and sustainable social protection systems. 10 respondents indicated that they have the capacity to share best practices, while 12 indicated they do not.

The 10 respondents who indicated their readiness to share experiences highlighted a diverse set of topics, including the Government Financial Support Service for Food Beneficiaries, compilation of SDG data through the SDG Tracker, administrative data management in national social protection, incorporation of disability considerations in social protection, the Social and Economic Household Survey 2024, and the use of computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) for collecting gender-disaggregated and disability-inclusive data to support social protection targeting. They further expressed their willingness to share these experiences and best practices through webinars.

A follow-up question in the Survey asked whether OIC-StatCom members had sought or received technical assistance from relevant regional and international organisations to develop

or implement to enhance inclusive data collection methods for social protection statistics. 11 respondents confirmed such assistance, while 12 had not received assistance.

The forms of assistance received by the OIC-StatCom members varied, including participation in regional and international programmes such as the EU IPA multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation projects and workshops on measuring living standards and social security systems. Others benefited from training courses and technical guidance provided by organizations, including the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), Statistical Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC-STAT), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Labour Organization (ILO), World Bank, and WFP. The assistance covered a wide range of aspects, including setting targets for social protection programmes, training on best practices in data collection and disaggregation (particularly on gender and disability), the development of tools for inclusive data design, methodological support for compiling social protection statistics (e.g. ESSPROS), and guidance on improving data quality and the use of partially available data. In some cases, the support resulted in concrete outputs such as publications under specific programmes.

Resolution #7: Significance of integrating ethics into the use of new data sources and technologies for the NSOs to safeguard privacy, ensure data quality, and promote responsible use of technology

To monitor the implementation of Resolution #7, the Survey asked whether OIC-StatCom members had established any ethical guidelines or frameworks for the responsible use of new data sources and technologies in official statistics. 11 respondents indicated that such frameworks are in place, while 11 reported that no framework currently exists.

The OIC-StatCom members who reported having ethical guidelines or frameworks for the responsible use of new data sources and technologies in official statistics informed that these frameworks generally address core principles, including privacy and confidentiality, data security, transparency, fairness, impartiality, neutrality, independence, and accountability.

As per the responses, a diversity of approaches is evident in the OIC-StatCom members: some have enacted comprehensive laws or formal policies (e.g., AI regulations, statistics acts), while others apply internal guidelines, "terms of use", or embed ethical principles within broader data governance, privacy, and quality assurance systems.

One of the respondents informed that their efforts are aligned with international standards, including the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS), regional codes of practice, and national quality assurance frameworks. These measures aim to ensure that new technologies, such as AI, big data, and administrative sources, are used strictly for statistical purposes while safeguarding confidentiality, maintaining public trust, and supporting the quality of official statistics.

The Survey further inquired whether their respective institutions are actively collaborating with other OIC countries or international organisations to share best practices or develop common approaches on data ethics and the use of new technologies. 13 respondents confirmed that they are collaborating with OIC countries or international organisations to share best practices or develop common approaches, while 10 reported that they are not engaged in such collaboration.

Resolution #8: Monitoring and Reporting Indicators under SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)

To assess the alignment of member countries' processes with recent methodologies and approaches developed by relevant regional and international organizations for monitoring Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2), the Survey included pertinent questions. 14 respondents indicated that they have taken measures to align their relevant processes, whereas, 4 respondents indicated that they have partially taken measures to align their relevant processes, while 6 had not.

Additionally, the Survey inquired whether OIC-StatCom members could share their knowledge and best practices related to SDG 2. 8 respondents answered "No", while 9 respondents affirmed their readiness for sharing best practices. These practices range from country experiences in reporting on SDG 2 to establishing coordination mechanisms related to SDG 2 indicators.

7 of the 9 respondents who answered "Yes" highlighted various topics related to SDG 2 indicators, including the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), the Food Security Survey within the national statistical system, the integration of the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) into national surveys, the Agriculture Survey Manual, and best practice-sharing sessions on SDG indicator 2.1.1 (Prevalence of Undernourishment) as well as on methodologies for calculating deprivation and food security indicators.

Resolution #11: Role of Population and Housing Censuses in providing essential data for effective development planning and decision-making, particularly within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Survey inquired whether OIC-StatCom members had completed a census under the 2020 Round of the World Population and Housing Census Programme (covering approximately 2015-2024). 19 respondents reported that they had completed a census, 1 respondent indicated partial completion, and 5 respondents stated that they had not yet completed.

As a follow-up, members who had completed a census were asked whether they would be willing to share their experiences and lessons learned from the 2020 Round with other OIC member countries. 15 respondents expressed their readiness to share, while 2 indicated that they were unable to do so.

Those willing to share their experiences provided a range of topics and modalities, including:

- the use of administrative records and national registers;
- the transition toward register-based or combined census approaches;
- the digitization of census operations using tablets and real-time monitoring systems;
- the adoption of cloud-based data management systems;
- preparations for upcoming population censuses; and
- lessons learned from previous census rounds.

For modalities, respondents preferred webinars and training courses within the framework of capacity-building activities.

The Survey also asked whether OIC-StatCom members are currently collaborating with other countries or international partners, such as through twinning projects or technical working groups, to develop strategies or adopt innovative methodologies for future population and housing censuses. 18 respondents confirmed that they are engaged in such collaboration, while 6 reported that they are not. 1 respondent noted active cooperation with UNFPA, UNSD, and UNESCAP, while another highlighted close collaboration with the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) within the framework of the Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses, which facilitates the exchange of national practices and innovations in preparation for the 2030 Round of Censuses.

Resolution #12: Importance of Data Protection, Safety, and Data Provision, Especially in Countries Affected by Conflict and Crises

In line with Resolution #12, the Survey asked OIC-StatCom members whether they are engaged in collaboration with other organisations (national, regional, or international) to strengthen the resilience of their National Statistical Systems (NSSs) in the face of crises. 16 respondents confirmed such collaboration, while 7 indicated that they are not currently engaged in these efforts.

Respondents who reported ongoing collaboration were asked to list their key partners and briefly describe the focus of their cooperation. International partners mentioned included ASEANstats, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), IrishAid, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), PARIS21, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), the World Bank, and the World Health Organization (WHO).

At the national level, institutions mentioned included the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), the General Directorate of Encryption and Information Systems Security, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security, the National Crisis Management Centre, the National Cryptology Commission, the National Digital Department, the National Economic Action Council (NEAC), the National Registration Department (civil registration and vital statistics), the National Cyber Security Agency (NACSA), the Presidency (Information and Communication Security Guide), the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK), and the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE).

The survey responses highlighted diverse areas of collaboration aimed at strengthening the resilience of NSSs. Many respondents reported initiatives to improve data infrastructure and security, including the development of secure platforms, compliance with ICT security standards, and the establishment of disaster recovery systems. Collaboration with disaster management agencies, health ministries, and crisis management centres was also emphasized, particularly in the areas of post-disaster statistics, pandemic response, and continuity planning. Several members underlined the importance of statistical capacity-building through training, workshops, and policy dialogue with international and regional organizations. Partnerships with line ministries and government agencies were also reported as instrumental in integrating sectoral data, particularly in health, education, and civil registration. In addition, development partners and international organizations were noted to have provided funding, technical assistance, and tools to strengthen crisis-resilient data ecosystems and improve data governance.

In line with the Resolution, the Secretariat has scheduled a Workshop on "Safeguarding Data in Crises" for the benefit of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of OIC member countries. The workshop will be held online on 22–23 October 2025 and will bring together experts from international organizations and representatives of NSOs to exchange knowledge and experiences.

The workshop will cover, among others, the following topics:

- Statistical frameworks for data protection in crises, including roles and responsibilities across the NSS;

- Secure data collection, processing, storage, dissemination, and sharing during crises;

- Strengthening NSO preparedness and response through risk-based planning, business continuity, backups and redundancy, and basic cyber hygiene;

- Exploring common challenges faced by NSOs of OIC member countries in digitalisation and data protection, and identifying context-appropriate solutions;

- Sharing experiences and good practices among OIC member countries to enhance the resilience of NSSs.

CONCLUSION

Significant progress has been achieved by the Secretariat and member countries in implementing the resolutions adopted at the 13th Session of the OIC-StatCom. Ongoing efforts include strengthening statistical capacity; promoting the integration of specialized survey modules; advancing inclusive data collection to support effective, equitable, and sustainable social protection systems; and integrating ethics into the use of new data sources and technologies to safeguard privacy, ensure data quality, and promote responsible use of technology. Further progress has been made in aligning national practices with methodologies for monitoring SDG 2, enhancing the role of Population and Housing Censuses in providing essential data for development planning and decision-making within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reinforcing data protection and safety, particularly in countries affected by conflict and crises.

The Secretariat reaffirms its commitment to supporting member countries in these endeavours and will continue to monitor and report on the implementation of the resolutions in the subsequent sessions of the Commission.