

**Training Workshop on**  
**“Institutional Capacity Building for Effective Labour Market**  
**Information Systems”**

01 February 2021, 12:00 PM, Turkey Time

**Opening Statement**

**H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR, Director General of SESRIC**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

**Very Good Day to All of You**

- **I am pleased to welcome you all to this virtual training workshop on “Institutional Capacity Building for Effective Labour Market Information Systems”. We organize this workshop within the framework of SESRIC Public Employment Services Capacity Building Programme (PES-CAB) and in line with the OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection.**
- **I thank you all for accepting our invitation and designating your valuable time to participate virtually in this important workshop.**
- **My thanks and appreciation are also extended to H.E. Mr. Bekir AKTÜRK, Director General of Turkish Employment Agency**

**(İŞKUR) and his team, for their close cooperation and collaboration with SESRIC in the organisation of this training workshop.**

**Dear Participants,**

- We organise this online capacity building training workshop with a view to supporting and contributing to the efforts of our member countries towards enhancing the capacities of their public employment agencies during this critical time in which the world is severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- Labour markets are still facing massive job losses and unprecedented uncertainties. According to the last year's edition of SESRIC "OIC Labour Market Report", it was estimated that 8 million people were at risk of losing their job by the end of the year. In fact, in order to be able to evaluate the accurate disruption level of the pandemic on employment, there should be an accurate labour market information system.**
- Labour Market Information Systems (LMIS) provide a fundamental basis and represent an important element in the design, implementation, and monitoring of better focused and targeted employment and labour policies.**

- **In fact, most countries recognise the importance of Labour Market Information Systems. However, in practice, especially in developing countries, few of them possess a fully-operational Labour Market Information System. In some of these countries, even though such a system exists, it is often underutilised due to the limitation of timely and quality of labour market data and information, which affect both employment and labour market decision-making processes.**
- **Among other factors, the limitation of such data in developing countries are usually due to the lack of resources, insufficient technical analytical capacities and inadequate information technologies. Accurate labour market indicators help labour market institutions, including workers' and employers' organizations, developing their accurate strategies and policies. The absence of such indicators may lead to misinformed policy formulation and implementation, which in turn may hamper the efforts to achieve labour market and development objectives.**

**Dear Participants,**

- **It is against this background, that we organize this Workshop with the aim of providing the participants with a sound understanding of the main employment statistics, which are**

**used to monitor and evaluate the demand side of the labour market and the reporting processes. The workshop will also give insights into labour market research and reporting processes as well as monitoring labour market trends.**

- **The Workshop will also serve as a discussion platform for public employment agencies to exchange their experiences on data collection processes, including data analysis and interpretation. The participants will also share and exchange their experiences in the use of technological and physical infrastructure to support their capacities of statistics production and the role of this infrastructure in designing effective labour market policies such as skills development and vocational education programmes.**
- **I would like, here, to inform you that “Labour Market Information Strategy” is highlighted as the 5<sup>th</sup> Cooperation Area in the OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection. This Framework of Cooperation recognises the importance of having access to reliable labour market information for employers, businesses, and governments to ensure well-functioning and inclusive labour market in the OIC member countries.**

**Dear Participants,**

- **I would like also to draw your kind attention to the OIC Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET), which is an Intra-OIC platform for sharing experiences and best practices among the public employment agencies of the OIC member countries. In this regard, as some of you may recall, SESRIC is assuming the role of the Secretariat of this Network.**
- **The OIC-PESNET was established in accordance with the “Resolution on the Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection among the OIC Member States”, which was adopted by the 2nd Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in April 2013.**
- **The Conference called upon the establishment of a forum among public employment authorities of OIC Member States to promote collaboration on transfer of knowledge and experience, as well as generate joint action towards enhanced employment services and overcoming common challenges in the field of employment.**
- **In its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC OIC-PESNET, SESRIC organized two meeting of this important Network. The**

**1<sup>st</sup> meeting was held at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara in April 2014, which brought together heads and directors and senior experts of Public Employment Authorities in 17 member countries. SESRIC was requested by the participants of the Meeting to undertake the role of the Secretariat of the OIC-PESNET to represent, publicize and raise awareness in both OIC and international level, and to develop an OIC-PESNET Portal to facilitate knowledge sharing.**

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, which was held in Ankara in September 2016, reviewed the progress achieved since the first meeting and discussed innovative cooperation opportunities among respective authorities in member countries.**

**Dear Participants,**

- In this context, I would like to inform you that SESRIC, in cooperation with Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR), is currently in the process of preparing for organizing the 3<sup>th</sup> meeting of this important Network virtually in July this year.**
- The main objective of this meeting will be activating the work of this important Network through, first, reviewing and discussing the activities that have been implemented so far under the umbrella of this Network, and, second, discussing and adopting**

**new Rules of Procedures and two-year Work Plan (2021-2022) for this important Network.**

- **Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to thank all the Public Employment Institutions of the OIC member countries for their active participation and cooperation with SESRIC.**
- **I believe that the exchange of knowledge and sharing of experiences among our member countries, especially during these difficult times are needed more than ever before. Therefore, I hope that this training workshop would contribute to our efforts towards enhancing intra-OIC cooperation and dialogue in this important domain.**
- **Before concluding, I would like to assure you that SESRIC will continue to take an active role in this important domain through supporting the efforts of the member countries towards enhanced employment services and overcoming common challenges in the field of employment.**
- **Thanking you once again, I wish you all a fruitful exchange of experiences and productive discussions throughout the upcoming days.**

**Thank you all for your kind attention. والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.**