

**FOLLOW-UP MEETING OF THE OIC STATISTICAL
COMMISSION**

25 February 2021, (11:00 - 12:00 Ankara time)

**OPENING REMARKS OF H.E. MR. NEBIL DABUR
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SESRIC**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**H.E. Mr. Nyakassi SANYANG
Statistician General, Gambia Bureau of Statistics, Chairman of
the 9th Session of the OIC-StatCom,
Distinguished Representatives of the NSOs of OIC Member
Countries,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

I wish you all a very Good Day

I am pleased to welcome you all and thank you for accepting our invitation to participate virtually in this Follow-up Meeting of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), which we organise it, in our capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom, on the margins of the 52nd Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC).

As you know, SESRIC, which is the only OIC institution mandated the work in the domain of statistics, is assuming the role of the Secretariat of this unique OIC statistical cooperation platform since 2010.

As the Secretariat of this important OIC forum, SESRIC continued its efforts to regularly organize the annual Sessions of the OIC-StatCom, where representatives of the NSOs of the OIC Member Countries and relevant regional and international organizations come together every year to deliberate on specific technical statistical agenda items, with a view to exchanging knowledge and sharing best practices related to the subjects of these agenda items.

**Distinguished Members of the Commission,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As you may recall, the 8th Session of the OIC-StatCom, which was held in October 2019 at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, decided that SESRIC, in its capacity as the Secretariat of this Commission, shall organize a Follow-up Meeting of the OIC-StatCom annually on the margins of the regular sessions of the UN Statistical Commission.

The aim of this Follow-up Meeting is to brief the Members of the Commission on the progress of the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations adopted during the main Sessions of the OIC StatCom as well as to discuss and exchange views on the proposed provisional agenda of the upcoming Session.

In this regard, we have already started the preparation for organising the upcoming 10th Session of OIC-StatCom. We have

circulated a Note Verbale on the 26th of January this year to the Members of the Commission seeking their feedback on our proposal for the composition of the bureau members, the draft agenda items, and the date and venue of the Session, including both virtual and physical options.

The proposed composition of the Bureau Members of the upcoming 10th Session reflects the geographical distribution of the three official groups of the OIC; namely, the Arab, the African and the Asian groups as follows:

- Chair: Tunisia (OIC Arab Group)**
- Vice-Chair: Pakistan (OIC Asia Group)**
- Vice-Chair: Uganda (OIC Africa Group)**
- Vice-Chair: Palestine (permanent)**
- Rapporteur: SESRIC (permanent)**

In this context, I would like to inform you that all the responses that we have received so far indicated that they agree on the proposed composition of the Bureau Members of the 10th Session of OIC-StatCom.

As for the proposed draft agenda items of the upcoming 10th Session of OIC-StatCom, all the responses that have so far received indicated that they accept the following three agenda items to be covered during the Session:

- 1. 2020 Round of the World Population and Housing Census Programme: Population and Housing Census Editing**
- 2. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Monitoring and Reporting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) Indicators**
- 3. Statistical Capacity Development: Efforts to Maintain Statistical Capacity Development during COVID-19 Pandemic**

This is in addition to the agenda item on “the Implementation and Follow-up Mechanism of the Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030 and its Programme of Action for 2021-2025”.

Concerning the date and venue of the upcoming 10th Session, the majority of the member countries agreed on the proposed virtual option of three days from 5th to 7th of October this year. Yet, we hope that the pandemic will be over soon and we meet physically at our Headquarters in Ankara as usual Insha’Allah.

**Distinguished Participants,
Dear Colleagues,**

Following the opening remarks, our meeting today will proceed by a brief presentation by Dr. Atilla Karaman, Director of Statistics and Information Department, on the follow up on the implementation of the resolution adopted by the 9th Session. Then,

following this presentation, we would be pleased to receive additional views and comments or any questions from the participants on our preparations for the upcoming 10th Session of the OIC-StatCom.

Before concluding, I would like, on behalf of you all, to thank the Chairman of the 9th Session, Mr. Nyakassi M.B. SANYANG, Statistician General of Gambia, for his effective management of the 9th Session, which was held virtually online on 28 September – 1st October last year.

I would also like, on behalf of you all, to congratulate the elected Chairman of the 10th Session of OIC-StatCom, H.E. Mr. Adnen LASSOUED, Director General of the National Institute of Statistics of Tunisia and wish him all the success in moderating the Session in October Insha'Allah.

I would like to thank you all once again for designating your valuable time to participate in our virtual meeting today and to share with us your views and comments.

I am confident that your cooperation with us, as the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom, will be instrumental in improving our work and better targeting our activities and programs for more benefit to the NSOs of our member countries.

Thank you all. والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.