

**Online Training Course on  
“Statistical Data Analysis”  
for the Benefit of ICESCO Regional Educational Centre in Chad**

17-19 February 2021, 11:00 AM, Turkey Time

**Opening Statement of H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR**

**Director General of SESRIC**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**H.E Dr. Ali Mohamad GAMAR, Director of the Regional Educational Centre of the ICESCO in Chad, H.E Mr. Adil Bouraoui, Advisor to ICESCO Director General for Arabic Language Centers Abroad, dear participants,**

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Very Good Day to all of you

- I am pleased to welcome you all to this Online Training Course on “Statistical Data Analysis”, which we organize within the framework of SESRIC Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB).
- Let me, at the outset, express my sincere thanks and appreciation to H.E. Dr. Ola AWAD, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), for accepting our invitation to technically contribute to this training course through nominating Ms. Waad Bani Odeh, Project Manager of Balance of Payments Statistics at PCBS, to provide this important training course. Thanks go also to you sister Waad and I wish you the best of luck in this training course.
- My sincere thanks and appreciation are also extended to H.E Dr. Ali Mohamad GAMAR, Director of the Regional Educational Centre of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) in Chad for coordinating the participation of the mentors and Arab school principals in the Republic of Chad in this training course.

- I also welcome all the representatives of the National Statistics Offices of the OIC Arab Group countries and wish them a fruitful training.

**Dear Participants,**

- Education is one of the most important investments that a country can make in its people and its future. It is the core of human capital formation and central to the development of a society. Investment in education is vital in achieving higher economic growth and reducing poverty and inequality. Quality education generates benefits to the society that go beyond the gains secured by the individuals involved.
- Being a pre-requisite for achieving progress in many other development areas including poverty alleviation, employment, industrialization, science, technology, and innovation, the importance of “education” as a priority development area has been highlighted in the OIC-2025 Programme of Action.
- The OIC-2025 calls for cooperation among the member countries to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The Programme urges the member countries to encourage and promote life-long learning opportunities that advance knowledge and skills needed for employment, entrepreneurship, innovation and sustainable development.
- On the other hand, under the motto “High-Quality Education”, the Sustainable Development Goal #4 of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda focuses on free primary and secondary education, equal access to quality pre-primary education, eliminate all discrimination in education, universal literacy and numeracy, and increase the supply of qualified teachers among others.
- Representing around 25% of the world population, the majority of OIC member countries are unfortunately lagging far behind the other country groups in the area of education. Although great achievements in terms of access to education have been observed in many OIC Countries, based on recent relevant statistics, it seems that there is still a long road ahead to improve the teaching conditions and quality of education in many other member countries.
- This situation has been recently even worse due to the widespread consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on education. The School closures in many of our member countries to limit the further spread of the pandemic have led to disruptions in education, especially in the disadvantaged communities where education outcomes have been adversely affected.

**Dear Participants,**

- This unprecedented global health crisis has proven the importance of understanding and using data and statistics to support the decision-making processes. Understanding statistics and analyzing data are very crucial skills for comprehending the circumstances that surround us.
- From this perspective, I hope that this training course will add value to the knowledge and experience of the mentors and school principals who are participating through enhancing their skills in collecting and analyzing statistical data. This, in turn, will help them in making well-informed decisions, measuring the effectiveness of policies and programs, and thus utilizing the resources effectively.
- I believe that this training course will contribute to and enrich the statistical technical capacities of the participating mentors and school principals.
- I would like to conclude by thanking you all once again and wish you a successful training throughout the upcoming days.

Thank you for your kind attention,

Wassalamualeykum.