

# **Training Course on “International Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Regulations”**

14 April 2021, 12.30 PM Turkey Time

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

**Director General of SESRIC**

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

**Excellences, Dear Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

السّلام علیکم ورحمة الله وبرکاته

**I wish you all a very Good Day and a blessed month of Ramadan**

**It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to this virtual training course on “International Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Regulations”. We are organising this training course within the framework of SESRIC Occupational Safety and Health Capacity Building Programme (OSH-CaB) and in line with the Work Plan of the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) for the two-year 2021-2022.**

**Let me, at the outset, express my sincere thanks and appreciation to H.E. Mr. Habib NOUAIGUI, Director General of the Tunisian Occupational Health and Safety Institute (TOSHI) and H.E. Mr. Zailee bin DOLLAH, Director General of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) of the Ministry of Human Resources of Malaysia, for accepting our invitation and nominating prominent experts to provide this training course for the benefit of participants from the national OSH Authorities of the OIC Member States.**

**I would also like to thank H.E. Mr. Cafer UZUNKAYA, Director General of the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health at the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services of the Republic of Turkey for allocating part of his valuable time today to attend the opening session of this important training course.**

**We are grateful to the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health of Turkey, which, in its capacity, as the Secretariat of the OIC-OSHNET, spares no effort in supporting the Network's activities and initiatives since its inception in 2011.**

**Dear Participants,**

**The impact of occupational accidents and diseases on human suffering and related economic costs has been a long-standing source of concern at both national and international levels. According to the ILO's most recent estimates, 2.78 million work-related deaths are recorded each year, the bulk of which (2.4 million) are related to occupational diseases.**

**In fact, these tragedies could be avoided by establishing and adopting sound OSH standards and regulations with efficient prevention, notification, and inspection methods. The appropriate national OSH legislation and other related effective policies and instruments are crucial to maintain a safe and healthy working environment in general and the well-being of workers and employers in particular.**

**It is worth mentioning here that a well-functioning OSH system requires the existing of essential elements such as well-defined standards, principles, rules and guidelines, as well as effective adaptation mechanisms to various socio-economic developments and unforeseen challenges.**

**As we have all seen during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, OSH Authorities in the OIC Member States had to respond to this unprecedented situation immediately by developing and introducing new measures, procedures and rules to provide directions and specific guidance to safeguard decent work in the context of crisis management.**

**Therefore, national OSH systems and programmes must be designed in a way that can respond effectively to any type of social, political, technological and economic changes, including health crises that might negatively affect the delivery of OSH services by the national OSH Authorities.**

**Dear Participants,**

**SESRIC initiated its Occupational Safety and Health Capacity Building Programme (OSH-CaB) in 2011 with the aim of supporting the efforts of the member countries towards strengthening the human and institutional capacities of their national OSH institutions.**

**Within the framework of this programme, we organise short-term training courses (like this one), training workshops, and study visits on a wide range of technical topics related to the work field of OSH, such as labour inspection, OSH standards, and OSH culture in workplaces, etc. This is usually done by matching the needs and capacities of the national OSH institutions in our member countries.**

**The establishment of the OIC-OSHNET almost a decade ago is a clear indicator on our recognition of the importance of developing effective OSH systems in the OIC member countries. The OIC-OSHNET is an official OIC platform for closer cooperation and sharing and exchanging knowledge, experience and good practices among the national OSH institutions in OIC member countries.**

**As you may recall, in its capacity as the OIC Technical Coordinator institution of the OIC-OSHNET, SESRIC, together with the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health of Turkey, the Secretariat of the OIC-OSHNET, virtually organised the 4th Meeting of this important Network on 6-7 October 2020. National focal points and delegates from OSH Authorities of 37 OIC member countries attended the meeting to discuss and adopt two main documents of the Network: the Rules of Procedures and the Work Plan for the two-year 2021-2022.**

**Here, I am pleased to mention that this virtual training course is the first activity among eight more activities to be organised during this year within the framework of the said Work Plan. I am also pleased to announce that SESRIC will also organise next month a Webinar on “Occupational Safety and Health Systems (OSH) during the Pandemic: The Impact and Response”.**

**Dear Participants,**

**I believe that this training course, which aims at providing insights into various OSH related subjects, such as OSH regulatory frameworks, OSH legal instruments, international labour standards, OSH enforcement and coordination mechanisms will make a positive impact and add value to the work and experience of all the participants.**

**Before concluding, I would like to thank you all once again and wish you a fruitful exchange of experiences and successful training throughout the upcoming days.**

**Thank you all for your kind attention. Ramadan Kareem**

**والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته**