

# **Training Course on “Skills Training Services”**

22 November 2021, 12:00 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,**

السَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

**I wish you all a very Good Day**

- **I am indeed pleased to address you at the opening of this online Training Course on “Skills Training Services”, which is being organized by the State Employment Agency of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan.**

- **I welcome you all to this training, which marks the second activity organised within the framework of the OIC Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET) Work Plan 2021-2022.**

- **In our capacity at SESRIC, as the Secretariat of this Network, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Mr. Mustafa ABBASBAYLI, the Chairman of the Board of the State Employment Agency of Azerbaijan, and his team, for their efforts in organising this important capacity building training activity and for being an active member of the OIC-PESNET.**

- **My deep thanks and appreciation are also extended to H.E. Mr. Oğuz Kağan GÜLDOĞAN, Director General of Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR), for assuming the role of the Chair of the OIC-PESNET and for the continuous support and technical contribution of İŞKUR to the activities of the Network.**

- **I would also like to thank all the participants who joined us today for their commitment and dedication towards enriching their knowledge and expertise in this crucial subject.**

## **Dear Participants,**

- **As we all know, unemployment stands as a primary concern globally, particularly in developing countries, including the OIC member countries. According to last year's edition of SESRIC's “OIC Labour Market Report”, the average unemployment rate of OIC countries was 6.7% in 2019 compared to the world average of 5.4%.**



- **This situation has been, unfortunately, worsened due to the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has seriously affected all the sectors of the economy in almost all the countries around the world, and the labour market was no exception.**

- **One of the challenges against tackling unemployment is skills mismatch, which has significant costs for the individuals and the economies as a whole. For the individuals, skills mismatch means unrealized expectations, lower returns on investment in education and training, lower wages and lower job satisfaction. For the private sector, skills mismatch reduces productivity and increases the staff turnover rate.**

- **From a macroeconomic perspective, non-skilled and semi-skilled workforce contributes to structural unemployment and hampers GDP growth through the underutilization of labour force and decreased productivity. Skills training has, therefore, become increasingly important.**

- **In this context, public employment services institutions are expected to take necessary efficient actions in order to fulfil their core function of matching job-seekers and vacancies in the labour market.**

- **Through appropriate training and capacity building programs responsive to the needs of the labour market, PES Institutions have a huge potential to be a gateway for life-long learning by providing basic skills education, helping unskilled workers qualify for jobs and helping skilled workers adapt to continuously changing work environments.**

- **Against this background, I believe that this training course will enhance the participants' knowledge and technical capacities on skills training services, especially on labour market expectations, learning concepts and strategies, creating learning atmospheres and developing skills in employment.**

## **Dear Participants,**

- **As you may recall, SESRIC, in its capacity as the Secretariat of OIC-PESNET, in collaboration with the Turkish Employment Agency (IŞKUR), in its capacity as the Chairman of the OIC-PESNET, virtually organised the 3rd Meeting of this important Network in June this year.**

- **National focal points and delegates from the national PES Authorities of 36 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 next two-year 2021-2022.**



- **In this regard, I am delighted to inform you that we are closely monitoring the activities implemented within the framework of the OIC-PESNET Work Plan 2021-2022 and we are glad that the implementation of the Work Plan is progressing successfully.**

- **I am also pleased to inform you that the members of the OIC-PESNET have committed to organize further capacity building training activities. Thus, we highly encourage the NFPs of the OIC-PESNET and all the national PES authorities of the OIC member countries to actively participate in the upcoming capacity building trainings to ensure a higher level of benefit, engagement and interaction.**

- **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**

**و السلام عليكم و رحمة الله و بركاته**