

## Sixth Session of OIC-StatCom

5 – 6 November 2016, Konya-Turkey

### Session on “Implemented Activities of the OIC-StatCom”

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## Progress Report on “Improving Capacities of OIC Member Countries in Tourism Statistics”

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### 1 Project Background

As a follow-up of the previous project called “Improving Statistical Capacities of Tourism Sector in Mediterranean and Gulf Regions of the OIC” (2013-SESRIC-0111), the project titled “Improving Capacities of OIC Member Countries in Tourism Statistics” aims at building statistical capacity in tourism statistics and overall contributing to the national statistical systems of OIC Member Countries through capacity building programs including trainings and workshops with the participation of national and international experts.

### 2 Objective

To build statistical capacity in the compilation, production and dissemination of tourism statistics and overall contribute to the national statistical systems of the OIC Member Countries in terms of capacity building programs including short-term trainings and a workshop.

### 3 Project Purpose

Identification of the statistical capacities and needs in tourism statistics in OIC Member Countries through the biannual SESRIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme Survey, conducting short-term training programmes based on survey results and organising Regional Workshops on Tourism Satellite Accounts with the participation of national and international experts.

### 4 Expected Results

- Capacities and needs in tourism statistics through a questionnaire identified
- Tourism statistics capacity of staff in National Statistics Offices and relevant government agencies increased

- Evaluation of the trainers and trainees performed so as to enhance the content and scope of trainings to be conducted in the future
- Awareness of decision makers in the OIC Member Countries towards evidence based policy making on tourism investments increased

## 5 Completed Activities

### 5.1 Training Courses Conducted within the Project Framework

No	Subject	Date	Beneficiary	Provider	Venue
1	Training Course on Tourism Statistics	18-20 May 2015	Azerbaijan (State Statistical Committee)	Turkey (Turkish Statistical Institute)	Baku, Azerbaijan
2	Training Course on Tourism Statistics	26-28 October 2015	Malaysia (Department of Statistics)	Indonesia (BPS-Statistics Indonesia)	Putrajaya, Malaysia
3	Training Course on Tourism Statistics	9-11 August 2016	Suriname (Surinamese Tourism Foundation)	Indonesia (BPS-Statistics Indonesia)	Paramaribo, Suriname
4	Training Course on Tourism Statistics	24-26 August 2016	Gambia (Gambia Bureau of Statistics)	Uganda (Uganda Bureau of Statistics)	Banjul, Gambia

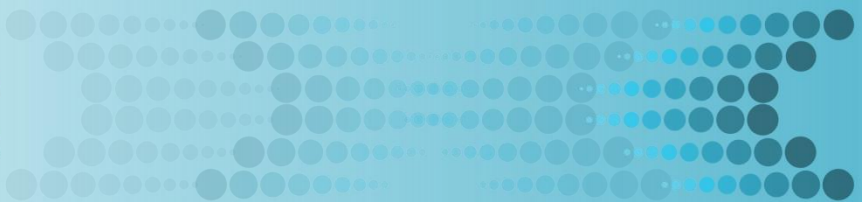
### 5.2 Regional Workshop on Tourism Satellite Accounts

The Regional Workshop on ‘Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA)’ was organised by SESRIC in collaboration with the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) and hosted by the Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 30 November-3 December 2015 in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Regional Workshop on the TSA was a follow-up activity of the Regional Workshop on Tourism Statistics and Tourism Satellite Accounts (<http://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=1050>) organized at the SESRIC Headquarters on 2-4 December 2014 within the framework of the 2013-SESRIC-0111 Project.

The Regional Workshop on TSA focused on the Central Asia and South Asia regions of the OIC and was attended by 16 experts working at the National Statistical Offices, Tourism Authorities, and Central Banks from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

The main purposes of the Regional Workshop on TSA were to:



- explain the TSA structure and the relationships between its tables; provide necessary clarification of the TSA underlying concepts;
- provide venue for the exchange of knowledge and country experiences in the preparation of TSA, in addressing challenges in collecting basic tourism data as well as in the interpretation of the TSA results for more informed decision making by the tourism industries; and
- assist countries in setting up their longer term work programme on the TSA development.

During the Workshop, the participants found the opportunity to cover the compilation fundamentals of the 10 tables under the TSA methodology and shared their experiences in producing the relevant TSA tables based on their country practices.

More information on the Workshop is accessible on: <http://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=1301>

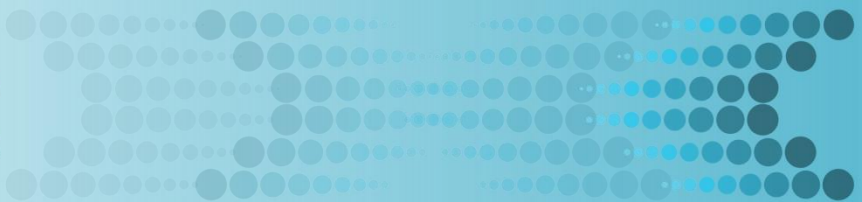
## **6 Memorandum of Understanding with the UNWTO**

In order to bring about synergies to contribute to the efforts of OIC Member Countries in improving their capacities in tourism statistics, SESRIC and UNWTO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in June 2016. The objective of the MoU is to enhance cooperation between UNWTO and SESRIC and to identify areas of mutual interest with a view to:

- Improving the National Statistical Systems of OIC Member Countries regarding the System of Tourism Statistics including Tourism Satellite Accounts;
- Identifying major prospects and challenges in selected aspects of tourism sector in the OIC member countries.
- Taking necessary steps to exchange technical know-how and to provide inputs related to tourism for the purpose of joint research, policy analysis, cooperation projects, capacity building, training and consultation;
- Contributing to the human resources capacity with a linkage to evidence based decision making for tourism sector.

SESRIC and UNWTO will cooperate in the implementation of the following statistical projects:

- Cooperating in carrying out statistical training activities (i.e. seminars, workshops, technical missions, etc) on areas of mutual interest, notably on the production, compilation and dissemination of tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts;



- Promoting the development of the System of Tourism Statistics of OIC Member Countries in order to progress in the measurement and analysis of the economic impacts of tourism;
- Impulsing mutual cooperation at a regional level in the area of tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts by developing future activities which may be of mutual interest in the areas of tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts;
- Facilitating the organization of seminars, workshops and interface meetings, wherever possible in cooperation and also meetings at regular intervals between the members of the two organizations with a view to exploring and discussing new opportunities and avenues for development and promotion of tourism.