

Message of H.E. the Acting Secretary General of the OIC
to the Sixth Session of the Statistical Commission of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
(OIC-StatCom)

Konya, Turkey, 5-6 November 2016

Bismillahi Arrahmani Arrahim

Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellency Ambassador Musa Kulaklıkaya, Director General of SESRIC,

Distinguished Members of the OIC Statistical Commission,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Alaikum wa-Rahmatu Allahi wa-Barakatuhu

I have the honor to deliver this message on behalf of the Acting Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the Sixth Session of the Statistical Commission of the OIC holding in this marvelous and historical city of Konya, which was selected as OIC City of Tourism for this year. On this occasion, let me, first and foremost, express my sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for its constant support for the various activities of the SESRIC as well as other OIC institutions. I also wish to commend the SESRIC and Islamic Development Bank for the elaborate preparations made for this meeting and for the generous hospitality accorded all participants.

It is obvious that the issues being addressed during this session are both significant and timely, especially given the increased importance of statistical data in the aftermath of the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the new OIC-2025: Programme of Action. Monitoring progress of SDGs as well as targets set by OIC-2025 will require pooling our resources and our collective efforts to deliver on the new development agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Members of the OIC Statistical Commission,

You are well aware that promoting sustainable development and human well-being in OIC Member States is one of the main priorities of our Organization. This has translated into several important initiatives in the areas of trade and investment, agriculture, rural development and food security, tourism, social protection and employment, and transportation and infrastructure development, among others. To succeed with all these initiatives, we need relevant, timely and comparable statistics. Timely and reliable data is essential to support and realize our collective aims and objectives, in such a way that truly addresses the real needs of OIC Member States. Accordingly,

for OIC Member States capacity building at institutional level, human development and application of technologies and innovations in terms of cost effective data production becomes very important. To this end, the activities of the OIC Statistical Commission are commendable, since it will further enhance and sustain statistical capacity building in OIC Member States. In addition, for OIC Member States investment in data and capacity building becomes imperative if we want more access to reliable data, which truly matter for effective governance.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Members of the OIC Statistical Commission,

While global indicators are being developed to facilitate the follow-up and review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national and international levels, the OIC-2025: Programme of Action will also need to be further elaborated through meaningful and reliable indicators. The OIC-2025 provides us with a comprehensive guidance for sustainable development in our Member States for the next 10 years. It will contribute to promoting human well-being and prosperity in our countries. In order to ensure the successful implementation of goals of the OIC-2025, we need clear and solid indicators and data framework to help OIC Member States develop implementation strategies and allocate adequate resources for them.

I therefore encourage the esteemed members of this Commission to use this session to consider how they can best support the OIC-2025. We count on your expertise and knowledge to provide a statistical and data framework that helps with the measurement of progress as well meets the hopes and aspirations we are all attaching to this new development programme.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm the OIC General Secretariat's commitment to working closely with you to further strengthen and enhance intra-OIC cooperation in the development, production, dissemination and communication of statistics. .

I thank you for kind your attention and wish all of you a successful deliberation at this meeting.

Wassalamu Alaykum wa-Rahmatullah wa-Barakatuh.