



Seventh Session of OIC Statistical Commission

2-3 May 2018, Ankara – Turkey

RESOLUTIONS

Expressing their thanks to SESRIC, as the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) and ex-officio bureau member, and IDB, as the ex-officio bureau member, for their support in co-organising the Seventh Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) which was held on 2-3 May 2018 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey with the participation of 69 delegates from the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of 31 OIC Member Countries and 10 regional and international organisations; and *acknowledging with appreciation* the presentations and interventions delivered by all participating countries and international organisations; the OIC-StatCom has adopted the following Resolutions:

1. **Noting with great satisfaction** the activities undertaken, the OIC-StatCom **thanked** the former Members of the Bureau (composed of **Indonesia** (Chair), **Kuwait** and **Senegal** (Vice-Chairs), and **Palestine** (Rapporteur)) for their support during the 5th and 6th sessions (2015-2017) and elected the following countries as the Members of the OIC-StatCom Bureau for the 7th and 8th sessions (2018-2019): **Malaysia** (Chair), **Turkey** and **Tunisia** (Vice-Chairs), and **Uganda** and **Palestine** (Rapporteurs).
2. **Having congratulated SESRIC upon its 40th anniversary of establishment** and **having welcomed with appreciation** the progress reports and presentations on the “*Implemented Activities of the OIC-StatCom*” prepared and delivered by the Secretariat, the OIC-StatCom:
 - a) **notes with satisfaction** the successful implementation of the OIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme in line with the principles enshrined in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (BAPA) in 1978 and membership of SESRIC in the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST) under the umbrella of United Nations Statistical Commission to facilitate collaboration among the Network members in the delivery of statistics courses in a more harmonised and standardised manner, **renews its confidence to** the Secretariat for the conduct of the StatCaB Programme with possible expansion into activities focusing on SDG indicators, **appreciates** the efforts of the Secretariat in the online

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dissemination of the materials covered in StatCaB courses and **requests** the Secretariat to further enrich the *Statistical E-Learning Materials Platform* (SEP) with relevant national, regional, and global statistics manuals and handbooks; **strongly encourages** the OIC-StatCom Members to actively participate in the StatCaB Programme in their capacities not only as beneficiaries but also as providers; **accordingly calls upon** its Members to promote the *Roster of Statistics Experts* (ROSE) hosted by the Secretariat with regards to registration of the details of their qualified official statistics experts; and **further invites** its Members, which have not done so yet, to complete the OIC StatCaB Biannual Survey 2018-2019 for better identification of the needs and capacities in their respective countries;

- b) **reaffirms its commitment to** the implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and **renews its trust to** the Secretariat to continue with the project on the Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) with the relevant stakeholders in order to facilitate the integration of the TQS into the nationwide surveys of OIC Member Countries;
- c) **acknowledges** the need to reinforce the competencies of National Statistical Systems (NSSs) of OIC Member Countries towards meeting the requirements of the regional and global development agenda; **underlines** the benefits of peer review exercises towards the improvement of the NSSs; **expresses its appreciation** to the Secretariat in the conduct of the OIC-PEER Survey and expansion of the ROSE to build a pool of experts to partake in the future peer review missions and **further reminds** its Members, which have not done so yet, to complete the said Survey and inform the Secretariat about the profiles of experts qualified for conducting peer review missions to be included in the ROSE; **emphasises** the synergies of partnerships between national, regional and international stakeholders for the implementation of peer reviews of NSSs of OIC Member Countries to support the countries in their common scope of work; and **recommends** the Secretariat officially engage with the relevant regional, international and supranational stakeholders to establish

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institutional cooperation linkages for the implementation of the peer reviews in the NSSs of OIC Member Countries as per the findings of the OIC-PEER Survey;

- d) **expresses its thanks to** all national stakeholders for the completion of the “*Survey on Islamic Finance Industry Database for OIC Member Countries*” and **further invites** its Members and other relevant national stakeholders, which have not done so yet, to fill in the aforementioned Survey so as to enable the Secretariat to identify the relevant agencies in this area; **commends** the Secretariat’s membership in the Islamic Finance Task Force under the Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) to better follow up the global statistical agenda on Islamic finance; and **lauds** the efforts of the Secretariat on the inclusion of key structural indicators on Islamic finance industry for OIC Member Countries into the OIC Statistics (OICStat) database under the “Islamic Banking and Finance” category;
- e) **auspiciously welcomes** the membership of SESRIC in the TOSSD (Total Official Support for Official Development) Task Force as an international institution to contribute in shaping the statistical features of the TOSSD, which aims to complement official development assistance (ODA) by increasing transparency and monitoring the broader development finance and its Reporting Instructions; **encourages** the Secretariat to actively cooperate with the OECD for the organisation of pilot TOSSD exercises and conduct of statistical capacity building activities after the finalisation of the TOSSD reporting instructions in its volunteering Members; and **urges** its Members to support the Secretariat in communicating the “*Questionnaire on Mapping the Landscape of Development Assistance and Cooperation in OIC Member Countries*” to the relevant agencies in their respective countries or complete the aforementioned Questionnaire to the extent possible within their capacities and timely submit it to the Secretariat;
- f) **further notes** the excellent organisation by the Secretariat of two Workshops on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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(FAO) to raise awareness about the monitoring of SDG 2.1; **draws attention** to the need for raising the capacities of the relevant stakeholders in the NSSs of OIC Member Countries; and therefore, **encourages** the Secretariat to bring about synergies with the FAO by signing a cooperation document for the continuation of activities on monitoring food security and agriculture statistics; and

g) congratulates the Secretariat for its continuous hard work regarding the development and deployment of online services, modules and applications including the new web presence of the OIC-StatCom, expansion of the coverage of OICStat Database with new categories and indicators, OIC Countries in Figures (CIF) module, SESRIC Mobile Application, and Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries related to the scope of mandate areas of SESRIC; **invites** its Members to periodically check the accuracy and validity of the information made available on their respective countries and inform the Secretariat accordingly in case of a mismatch; and **calls upon** its Members to provide the necessary support in the collation of relevant information on the institutions located in their respective countries once the Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries is launched.

h) underlines the necessity for increasing the sense of ownership of the aforementioned by its Members to assure the sustainability of the statistical activities and projects conducted by the Secretariat;

3. Having devoted attention with thanks to the presentations in the session “*Improvement of Census Conduct and Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Systems for the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses*” delivered by UNSD and UNFPA briefing the recent progress in global statistical arena on CRVS systems and 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses, and by **Albania, Azerbaijan, Gambia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mali,** and **Saudi Arabia** covering their national CRVS and census conduct practices; **bearing in mind** that weak CRVS systems and lack of coordination mechanism for inter-institutional data sharing lead to high reliance on population census that may not have been accordingly

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developed to provide the adequacy and granularity of data required for a holistic national planning; **mindful of the fact** that CRVS play a pivotal role especially in between census rounds; and **acknowledging** the diverse set of challenges ranging from decreasing participation rates to increasing data collection costs faced by its Members in conducting the population and housing censuses in the 2020 round and the innovative solutions developed and implemented by the international stakeholders for the countries with difficulties in conducting full traditional population and housing censuses, the OIC-StatCom:

- a) **congratulates Palestine** for having successfully conducted its third Population, Housing, and Establishments Census in light of the exceptional situations due to the occupation as well as the first ever Census of the Palestinian Refugees in the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon, and **supports** the sharing of the know-how and best practices accumulated by PCBS with all its Members;
- b) **strongly stresses** the allocation of adequate level of resources for the planning, development, implementation, and maintenance of CRVS systems and modernisation of paper based and manual ones into technology-driven CRVS systems by the OIC Member Countries to reduce the burden on NSOs overwhelmed with requests for provisional demographic data obtained from population censuses;
- c) **calls** its Members to advocate having well-established coordination mechanisms for the efficient inter-institutional data sharing towards building effective CRVS systems; and
- d) **requests** the Secretariat to collaborate with relevant international agencies to organise statistical activities on raising awareness about the electronic data collection technologies for improving the cost, quality, and efficiency of the census conduct; alternative methods for the augmenting the broader national census work and production of geo-referenced census data; hybrid census taking; and operating CRVS systems in line with the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System – Revision 3, and the Revised Handbook on CRVS Systems.

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4. **Having considered with great interest** the presentations under session “*Enhancing the Production, Dissemination, and Use of Migration Statistics*” by **IOM** and **UNHCR** focusing on the global initiatives on the production of migration and refugee statistics, and by **Indonesia, Maldives, Sudan, and Turkey** informing their current country experiences concerning their statistical systems on measuring migratory flows, and **cognisant of the fact** that the policies on migrants and refugees require high quality data in shaping the relevant decisions that are vital for not only the national governments and international organisations but also the migrants and refugees, the OIC-StatCom:

- a) **recognizes** that the bulk of migratory flows are among developing countries and lack of statistical capacities aggravate the data paucity on international migration and asylum statistics;
- b) **underlines** the need for a global programme in line with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and Global Compact on Refugees to improve the NSSs for the collection, collation, processing, and dissemination of migration-related data to increase the number of reporting countries and better contribute to the decision-making processes on migrants and refugees; **requests** the Secretariat to further seek possible avenues for cooperation with relevant regional and international stakeholders to contribute to the efforts of its Members in improving their NSSs to effectively measure and report the migratory flows; **calls upon** the Secretariat to organize a Workshop on Migration and Asylum Statistics for OIC Member Countries in collaboration with the relevant regional and international organisations including IOM, UNHCR, and UNSD;
- c) **encourages** its Members with relevant capacities to explore the suitability of alternative sources of migration data – originating from cellular data recorded, social media, search engine queries, and other possible online presences hosting related Big Data – by weighing their limitations and risks to rapidly identify the current situation and make future projections on migration flows;

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- d) **recommends** the Secretariat to consider the human-trafficking related statistics in the next Sessions; and
- e) **urges** its Members to exert efforts for significantly increasing the production of comparable data disaggregated by migratory and refugee status and accordingly **calls upon** the international statistical community to enhance capacity-building support in line with SDG 17.18.

5. **Having listened with appreciation to** the presentations delivered under the session “*Prioritisation and Measurement of SDG Indicators and Their Reconciliation and Ownership at the National Level*” by **SESRIC, PARIS21, and AFRISTAT** shedding light on the SDG priorities of OIC Member Countries, tools to localise and monitor SDGs, and regional initiatives to prioritise and measure SDGs, and by **Cameroon, Indonesia, Jordan, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, and Somalia** with country practices on the prioritisation and measurement of SDG indication in their local contexts; and **guided by** the relevant UN resolutions and documents that highlight the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda based on a voluntary and country-led approach taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development while respecting policy space and priorities; the OIC-StatCom:

- a) **expresses its appreciation** to the Secretariat in following up the global statistical agenda on the SDG Indicator and Monitoring Framework as the designated institution at the OIC level and the outstanding preparation of the Report on the Results of the Tendency Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries;
- b) **reiterates its call** to its Members, with partial or without any responses, to send the completed Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries in line with the relevant resolutions of the 31st, 32nd, and 33rd Sessions of the COMCEC so as to enable the Secretariat to present a more comprehensive coverage of the SDG priorities at the OIC level as well as identifying the needs and capacities of its

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Members concerning the SDGs indicators for purposes of analysis and organisation of skills enrichment activities;

- c) **requests** the Secretariat to cooperate with relevant international stakeholders in jointly organising statistical activities on the prioritised areas of the Report on the Results of the Tendency Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries and **recommends** to consider also institutional environment for official statistics in support of monitoring progress towards the SDGs, including governance, leadership, coordination mechanisms and tools as well as dialogue and partnership between producers and users of data and statistics; and
- d) **draws attention to** the lack of financial resources as a major obstacle as stated in the Report of the Secretariat on the path towards the achievement of SDGs and thus their monitoring; and **urges** the international community including SESRIC and Islamic Development Bank as the ex-officio member of OIC-StatCom Bureau and the decision makers of the OIC Member Countries to mobilise more resources for the transformation of the NSSs to be able to produce the SDG indicators.

6. **Having carefully examined** the outcomes as presented by the Groups of the Break-Out Session on “A New Strategic Vision for the OIC-StatCom: Where We Want to be by 2030”, the OIC-StatCom **welcomes** the establishment of a Working Group (WG) on the Development of New Strategic Vision of OIC-StatCom to be co-chaired by **Malaysia** and **Iran**, **invites** its Members to partake in this WG, **requests** the Secretariat to be an ex-officio member of the WG and to circulate a brief online questionnaire to its Members for the identification of the WG members and collecting the feedback from OIC-StatCom members towards drafting the outline of the contents of the New Strategic Vision of OIC-StatCom, and **expects** the WG Co-Chairs and Secretariat to submit a Progress Report to the next Session of OIC-StatCom on the outcomes of the physical and/or online consultations to take place for the development of the New Strategic Vision of OIC-StatCom.

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7. The OIC-StatCom **congratulates Morocco** for having successfully organised the 61st International Statistics Institute (ISI) World Statistics Congress (WSC) on 16-21 July 2017 in Marrakech, **further praises Malaysia** for hosting the 62nd ISI WSC to be held on 18-23 August 2019 in Kuala Lumpur, **invites** its Members to participate in and contribute to this important event, and **encourages** the Secretariat and IDB to promote the 62nd ISI WSC among OIC Member Countries.
8. **Affirming** that achievement of environmental protection starts with reducing our ecological footprint on natural resources, the OIC-StatCom, **supports** the endeavours and initiatives of the Secretariat to reduce the amount of paper documents made available for the usage of delegates during its Sessions, and **welcomes** the dissemination of the electronic versions of the relevant documents available on its web presence on a timely manner to be able to transform into a paperless environment.
9. The OIC-StatCom **decides** to have its Eighth Session in the last quarter of 2019 and encourages each Member Country wishing to host the said session to submit its candidacy to the Secretariat in due course.

The Members of OIC-StatCom

Ankara, 3 May 2018