

Annexe 1: Concept Note of the Workshop



CONCEPT NOTE

WORKSHOP ON

MUSLIM DIASPORA:

PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND PROSPERITY

12-13 MAY 2018, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

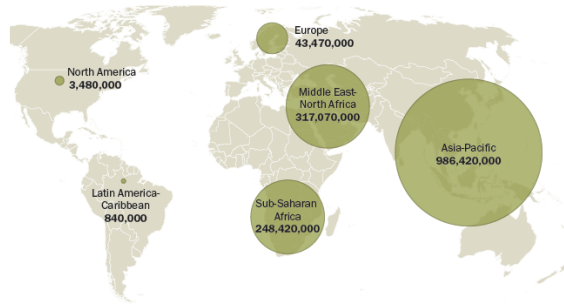
Background and Rationale

Global mobilization has reached to an unprecedented high in contemporary societies. The United Nations Population Division estimated that in 2015 the number of international immigrants on a worldwide scale has reached approximately to 244 million (about 3.3% of the World Population). In the face of increasing immigration across the world and a set of new social problems this global mobilization brings with it— from questions of political rights to economic

integration— the concept of diaspora has become ever more relevant both for host countries and immigrant communities.

Regional distribution of Muslims

Population by region as of 2010



Percentage of world Muslim population in each region as of 2010



Note: Population estimates are rounded to the ten thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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Within the current global mobilization, Muslim mobilization strikes the eye in particular. Although a great deal of Muslims continue to live in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East-North Africa, a considerable number live in “non-Muslim” countries and this number is growing rapidly.

In 2010, the number of Muslims in Europe reached to 43.470.000 making Islamic religion the biggest religious minority in the region. The same year in

America, the number of Muslims reached 4,320,000.

It is estimated that Muslims will constitute 8% of the European population in 2030 and 2.1% of the American population in 2050. Overall, until 2030 the number of countries that host more than 1 million Muslims will be seventy-nine. “Non-Muslim” countries like Belgium, Canada,

and Netherlands will be in the top seven of this category. These numbers indicate that the size of diasporic Muslim communities is growing rapidly and therefore it is critical to pay attention not only to their problems and challenges but also to improve the conditions and opportunities for them to make greater and impactful contributions to social, cultural, economic and political development in their countries.

Over decades, several factors have triggered Muslim immigration, including but not limited to: the impact of the colonial past, the need for labour in the Western countries, and the unemployment problem in the Eastern countries, followed by family reunification and asylum claims. In the 21st century, growing unrest and terror in Muslim regions have become additional push factors for Muslim global mobilization. Especially in the Middle East after 2010, many Muslims have been forced to abandon their countries due to civil wars and terrorism. Most of these groups have emigrated for economic reasons, with the hope of returning to their homeland; nevertheless the vast majorities have not returned and have begun to live in a guest country with their families.

The Muslim Diaspora has a diverse profile, such as country of origin, ethnicity, religious belief (sects), and socio-economic status and education level. One historical pattern that defines Muslim immigration has been clustering of certain Muslim country citizens in certain non-Muslim countries. For instance, in France the Muslim population is predominantly from the Maghreb countries, namely, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, while Turks are the main Muslim immigrant category in Germany, the Indian and the Pakistanis constitute the main Muslim immigrant segment in the United Kingdom. It should be noted that some Muslim groups, due to the gain of citizenship rights laws in the host country have lost their country of origin citizenship as well as the status of immigrant or foreigner.

Immigration to a new country poses many challenges as well as new opportunities. Cases where the host and country of origin have great religious and cultural differences are more vulnerable and exposed to severe adaptation and integration problems. Across the Muslim Diaspora, the main difficulties in terms of integration with the host country seemingly are language problems (having difficulties with the host country's language), unemployment or having to work in jobs that are substantially below one's skill, education, and knowledge level, and lower access to educational and socio-economic upward mobility. The broader international political context also impacts life quality and chances of Muslim immigrants; events such as the 11th September, the publication of caricatures of Prophet Muhammad and subsequent attacks on Charlie Hebdo, and bombed attacks in major European cities, have negatively affected the image and lives of Muslims in host countries.

On the other hand, with global remittances tripling over the past decade and now outstripping official aid, increasing attention is being given in both public and private forums to the issue of how the growing Diasporas from the developing world could promote development in their homelands. Indeed, diaspora involvement in development opportunities in the homeland has increased significantly during the past decade.

When we observe the rate of external migration (emigration) in 23 Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), for which data are available in 2015, the number of immigrants was over 1 million. Such high numbers in the majority of Muslim countries points out to the pressing need to further and more thoroughly study and work with the Muslim Diaspora.¹

With the recognition of such need and alarmed by the problems they face, resulting from discrimination, repression or persecution, the 44th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017, adopted the Resolution No. 1/44-MM "On Safeguarding the Rights of Muslim Communities and Minorities in Non-OIC Member States". The Resolution emphasizes the need to respect the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and stresses the importance of continued coordination between the OIC Member States in order to find ways to assist them to solve their problems, protect their religious, cultural, civil, political and economic rights, and preserve their Islamic identity.

In this perspective, SESRIC, jointly with the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB), will organize a "Workshop on Muslim Diaspora" with the purpose of exploring collaboration opportunities among diaspora authorities of the OIC Member States that are in charge of the citizens living abroad.

Objectives of the Workshop

The main aim of this workshop is to gather information on policies and works done by OIC Member States, with considerable amount of their citizens living abroad, on Diasporic communities to improve those communities' overall economic, social, and political well-being and enhance their success including their contributions both the host countries and countries of origin. For that goal, the workshop will inquire the problems and opportunities facing Diaspora communities and the nature and aspects of their relations with the host country. The workshop will contribute to:

- Identifying the current situation of Muslim Diaspora regarding existing obstacles and challenges;
- Deepening and spreading knowledge about policies, strategies and activities of Diaspora authorities of Member States;
- Exchanging experience and good practices amongst Member States on the ways and means for overcoming problems;

¹ United Nations International Migration Report 2015

- Exploring and developing effective cooperation models to carry out successful projects which will contribute to solving socio-economic, religious and cultural problems Diasporic communities experience on daily basis.

Methodology of the Workshop

The workshop will be held over two days. The first day will be composed of thematic sessions that will focus on one key aspect of the Muslim Diaspora issue. Each thematic session will be followed by a 10 minute Q&A. Thematic sessions will serve a broader framework, setting the tone of the workshop. The second day will be composed of presentations by national institutions relating to Diaspora and civil society organizations active in the field of Muslim Diaspora. Countries and civil organs will introduce their institutions/organizations and their activities. This will enable to host the closing session in the form of brainstorming session where all participant can formulate and suggest the ways in which intra-OIC collaboration can be improved and actions that can be taken to improve the status of Muslim Diasporic communities. Finally, brainstorming discussion will also bear upon discussing possible approaches to how to improve relations between communities and the host country.

Expected Outcomes and Follow-up

In order to contribute to global welfare and peace, the workshop will focus on issues faced by the Muslim Diaspora and develop collaborative actions to solve them. The workshop will shed light on the current situation of Muslim Diaspora. This will firstly allow the start of the necessary preliminary works with a view to developing a road map for strengthening cooperation amongst Muslim Diaspora, as well as helping to work out national collaborative projects.

Date and Venue

The venue and date will be held in Istanbul on 12-13 May 2018.

Working Language

The working language of the meeting will be English with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic and French.

Target Group

The participants of this workshop will include government officials from key Diaspora Authorities from OIC Member States, which have the highest population living abroad and which can share best-practices proven to be effective. The representatives from NGOs, universities and international organizations in charge of Muslim Diaspora issues will be also invited to the workshop.

Workshop Partners

The workshop will be jointly organized by SESRIC and the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB).

Annexe 2: Agenda of the Workshop



**Workshop on Muslim Diaspora:
Prospects and Challenges for Global Peace and Prosperity
12-13 May 2018 Istanbul, Turkey**

WORK PROGRAM

Day 1: 12 May 2018	
09.00 – 09.30	Registration and refreshments
09.30 – 11.45	<p>OPENING SESSION</p> <p>Recitation from the Holy Quran</p> <p>Welcoming and opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr. Sayit Yusuf, Deputy President of Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB)- H.E. Amb. Musa Kulaklıkaya, Director General of SESRIC- H.E. Amb. Umit Yardim, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey <p>Keynote Presentation</p> <p>Global Muslim Diaspora (GMD) Study and Findings Dr. Onur Unutulmaz, Lead Researcher of GMD</p>
11.45 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 – 13.30	<p>Session 1: Muslim Diaspora in Figures and Data</p> <p>Presenter: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gürol Baba, Researcher of GMD</p> <p>Aim: A quick review of the overall status of Muslim Diaspora across the world through data, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geographical distribution of diasporic communities & history of Muslim immigration towards the West• Demographic characteristics of the Muslim Diaspora (population and population projections, gender, median age, etc)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic (education, labour, divorce rate, family size, etc) profile of Muslim immigrants • Political, religious and civil rights and limitations (citizenship rights, rights to worship, religious traditions, etc. <p>- Questions and answers</p>
13.30 – 14.45	Lunch and prayer break
14.45 – 16.00	<p>Session 2: Existing and emerging challenges facing Muslim Diaspora</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Dr. Adil Salahi, Author and Translator</p> <p>Mr. Marwan Muhammad, Statistician, Human Rights Expert, Former Director of the Collective against Islamophobia in France</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gürol Baba, Researcher of GMD</p> <p>Aim: Understanding both long-breathed and emerging difficulties Muslim Diaspora face in host countries. One long-breathed challenge is the lack of unity and common institutional representation of Muslim Diasporic communities. Emerging challenges, on the other hand, may include youth and identity, growing Xenophobia and Islamophobia, media and Diaspora, etc.</p> <p>- Questions and answers</p>
16.00 – 16.15	Coffee break
16.15 – 17.30	<p>Session 3: Contribution of the Diaspora to Country of Origin and Host Country</p> <p>Presenter: Dr. Muhammad Abdul Bari, Scholar</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sayit Yusuf, Deputy President of YTB</p> <p>Aim: To highlight Diasporic communities' agency in terms of their economic, cultural, and political and otherwise contributions both to the host country (e.g., democratizing political system, labour participation, etc) and country of origin (remittances and economic growth, etc.)</p> <p>- Questions and answers</p>
19.30	Social Dinner

Day 2: 13 May 2018	
09.30 – 11.00	<p>Session 4: Presentations by Member Countries’ Diaspora Authorities</p> <p>Moderator: YTB</p> <p>Aim: To introduce the institutions on Diaspora and their activities and policies, especially those that address Diasporic communities’ problems both within host countries and countries of origin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions and answers
11.00 – 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 12.30	<p>Session 5: Presentations by Member Countries’ Diaspora Authorities (cont.)</p> <p>Moderator: YTB</p> <p>Aim: To introduce the institutions on Diaspora and their activities and policies, especially those that address Diasporic communities’ problems both within host countries and countries of origin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions and answers
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch and prayer break
14.00 – 15.30	<p>Session 6: Brainstorming Session for Intra-OIC cooperation</p> <p>Moderator: Mehmet Fatih Serenli, Director of TCD of SESRIC</p> <p>Aim: Formulating ideas as well as actionable insights that can;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen cooperation among OIC Member Countries on the issue of Muslim immigration • Strengthen cooperation between OIC Member Countries’ national institutions and civil society on the issue of Muslim immigration • Identify mechanisms and activities that can strengthen unity and bond among Diasporic communities across the world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questions and answers
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 17.00	Wrap up of Recommendations & Closing

Annexe 3: List of Participants

1	Afghanistan	Mohammad Zaman STANIKZAI	In charge of OIC desk UN-dept	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2	Azerbaijan	Kanan MAMMADOV	Senior Advisor	Republic of Azerbaijan State Committee on Affairs with Diaspora
3	Bangladesh	MD. Akhtaruzzaman	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment
4	Chad	Gamaleddin ADAM HAMDAN	First Secretary	Embassy of Chad in Ankara
5	Comoros	Nahia MAHAMOUD HADJI ALI MDAHOMA	Officer of the Directorate for the Coordination of Development Aid	Presidency of the Union, Commissariat General au Plan
6	Djibouti	Abdulkadir ALI	Global Djibouti Diaspora Representative	Global Djibouti Diaspora
7	Egypt	Nermeen Afifi METWALLY	Consul General	Consulate General of Egypt in Istanbul
8	Egypt	Moamen ELFEKY	Consul	Consulate General of Egypt in Istanbul
9	Gambia	Fatou NJIE- HYDARA	Director	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad
10	Jordan	Khalid Abdullah Krayyem SHAWABKAH	Ambassador / Director of International Relations & Organizations Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates of Jordan
11	Jordan	Moh'd Kais Mufleh ALBATAYNEH	Ambassador/Second Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates of Jordan
12	Kyrgyz Republic	Maksat TULARBEK KYZY	Chief Specialist	The State Migration Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
13	Lebanon	Mounir ANOUTI	Consul General	Consulate General Of Lebanon in Istanbul
14	Malaysia	Rafiq Hazura Binti MD RIDZUAN	Principal Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
15	Mali	Ahmed Mohamed YAHYA	Secretary General	Ministry of Religious Affairs and Faith
16	Morocco	Nouzha SAHEL	Counsellor of Communication and Cultural Affairs	Morocco Embassy in Ankara

17	Morocco	Aziz CHANNAOUI	Administrator	Ministry in Charge of Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Affairs
18	Niger	Boubacar OUSMAN SANDA	Technical Adviser	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
19	Pakistan	Muhammad Zahid MUSTAFA	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development
20	Palestine	Rafat M.A.MUSTAFA BADRAN	Ambassador/ Assistant to the Minister for Refugees and Expatriates' Affairs	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates
21	Senegal	Cheikh Baye FALL	Officer in the Directorate of International Organizations and Globalization	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Outside
22	Sudan	H.E. Dr. Yousif Ahmed ELTAYEB ELKORDOFANI	Ambassador	Embassy of Sudan in Ankara
23	Somalia	Abdisatar Mohamed GELLE	Director of Secretariat and Intergovernmental Affairs	Office of the President, Federal Republic of Somalia
24	Turkey	Özgür ARSLAN	Head of Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
25	Turkey	Sayit YUSUF	Vice President	Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB)
26	Turkey	Bilge ÖZBAY	Expert	YTB
27	Turkey	Hüseyin ÇARDAK	Expert	YTB
28	Turkey	Hasan Turan AYDAR	Expert	YTB
29	Turkey	Burhan BAŞOĞLU	Expert	YTB
30	Turkey	Sevilay YILDIRIM	Expert	YTB
31	Turkey	Hale KARAIŞMAİLOĞLU	Assistant Expert	YTB
32	Turkey	Gürkan POLAT	Expert	YTB
33	Turkey	Emre ORUÇ	Expert	YTB
34	Turkey	Ahmet ALEMDAR	Expert	YTB
35	Turkey	İlker KIRMIZI	Officer	YTB

36	Yemen	Mohammed AL-HAMED	Attaché	Embassy of Yemen in Ankara
37	France	Mohamed MAROUANE	Statistician, Human Rights Expert	Collective against Islamophobia in France
38	Germany	Ali KIZILKAYA	Deputy Secretary General	İslam Toplumu Milli Görüş (IGMG)
39	UK	Dr. Muhammad Abdul BARI	Scholar	
40	UK	Dr. Adil SALAHI	Scholar and Author	
41	UK	Mr. Muttalip ÜNLÜER	President	Nida Trust
42	CIGA	Linda HYÖKKİ	Research Associate	Center for Islam and Global Affairs (CIGA)
43	SSUA	Dr. Kadir Onur UNUTULMAZ	Lecturer	Faculty of Political Sciences Social Sciences University of Ankara
44	SSUA	Assoc. Prof. Dr.Gürol BABA	Lecturer	Faculty of Political Sciences Social Sciences University of Ankara
45	SSUA	Dr. Servet ERDEM	Lecturer	Faculty of Political Sciences Social Sciences University of Ankara
46	SSUA	Assoc. Prof. Dr.Erdal AKDEVE	Lecturer	Faculty of Political Sciences Social Sciences University of Ankara
47	ISESCO	Dr. Amina bint Abdullah Ubaid bin Ramadhan al-HAJRIYAH	Assistant Director General	ISESCO
48	ICYF-DC	Abdula Manafi MUTUALO	Director General	General Directorate of Youth Policy, Education and Training of ICYF-DC
51	ICYF-DC	Enes ÖZTOPRAK	Assistant	ICYF-DC
52	IDB Regional Hub, Turkey	Sabri ER	Senior Technical Cooperation Specialist	IDB
53	SESRIC	Amb. Musa KULAKLIKAYA	Director General	SESRIC
54	SESRIC	Mehmet Fatih SERENLİ	Director of Training and Technical Cooperation Department	SESRIC
55	SESRIC	Ömer Faruk DUMAN	Director of Administration and Finance Department	SESRIC
56	SESRIC	Esmâ DEMİRTAŞ	Training Expert	SESRIC
57	SESRIC	Ousman BAH	Project Assistant	SESRIC
58	SESRIC	Fatma Nur ZENGİN	Events and Communications Specialist	SESRIC

59	SESRIC	Erhan TÜRBEDAR	Researcher	SESRIC
60	SESRIC	Cihat Battalođlu	Researcher	SESRIC
61	SESRIC	Edmond Neza	PR and Media Officer	SESRIC

Annex 4. Workshop Recommendations

Recommendations Adopted at the Workshop on Muslim Diaspora:² Prospects and Challenges for Global Peace and Prosperity 12-13 May 2018, Istanbul, Turkey

We, the participants in the Workshop on Muslim Diaspora: Prospects and Challenges for Global Peace and Prosperity, jointly organized by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB), on 12-13 May 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey,

Reconfirming our commitment to the founding principles of OIC Charter, and reiterating the key role of the OIC as the main platform for dealing with the challenges faced by Global Muslim Communities, acknowledging the role of its organs to enhance cooperation in this field,

Reaffirming the essential values of democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as the basis of economic and social progress of Global Muslim Communities,

Remain determined to continue to promote dialogue and cooperation among Muslim communities, as well as between them and societies of non-Muslim majority countries,

Recognizing the valuable preliminary findings of the Global Muslim Diaspora Study commissioned by SESRIC and the contributions made by delegates of OIC Member States, aimed at identifying opportunities and challenges related to Muslim communities,

² The terms “Diaspora” and “Muslim community” used in this text refers to all Muslims living in non-OIC countries.

Highlighting the significance of developing follow-up activities related to identified challenges in Global Muslim Diaspora Study, including further exploration of the difficulties that Muslim communities encounter in their host countries such as civil and political rights, social integration, participation into economic activity and inclusion in the labour market, access to services, and family union, while assessing their contribution to the economic, social and political progress in their origin countries,

Having been informed by the insightful discussions and detailed presentations made by the participants from the OIC Member States, the representatives of Muslim communities, OIC institutions, international organizations and SESRIC, on policies and activities undertaken by OIC Member States, to improve Muslim communities' overall economic and social well-being, political participation, in both the host countries and countries of origin,

Noting that, according to the findings of the Global Muslim Diaspora Study; all representatives of the Muslim diaspora communities agree on the fact that the over-fragmentation and the lack of intra-communal and inter-communal interaction is the greatest problem of the larger Muslim community, whereas representation in media, the surge in far-right politics, and the rise in anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim incidents and attitudes constitute one of the pressing issues for Muslim communities,

Appreciating the on-going efforts at the international and OIC level to build a stronger and collaborating Muslim community for global peace and prosperity and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, best practices and models, experiences and expertise among the OIC Member States,

Recalling the Resolution No. 1/44-MM "On Safeguarding the Rights of Muslim Communities and Minorities in Non-OIC Member States", adopted by the 44th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017, which emphasizes the need to respect the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States, and stresses the importance of continued coordination between the OIC Member States in order to find ways to assist them to solve their problems, protect their religious, cultural, civil, political and economic rights, and preserve their Islamic identity,

Inspired by the shared common views towards addressing the challenges of Muslim communities in the non-OIC Member States, hereby agreed on the following recommendations:

1. **Strengthen** the sense of cooperation and solidarity amongst members of the global Muslim communities through emphasizing their commonalities and similarities, rather than differences and peculiarities, and highlighting the importance of cooperation in struggle against common challenges,
2. **Encourage** all stakeholders, including Muslim communities as well as local, national and international bodies to work towards a successful social, economic and political integration of Muslim communities, and a peaceful multicultural cohabitation and dialogue,
3. **Raise** awareness among relevant stakeholders as well as the wider groups in host-land and homeland societies and Muslim communities worldwide, of the nature of Islam.
4. **Empower** Muslim youth and strengthen inter/intra-generational dialogue and cooperation among Muslim and non-Muslim communities through various programs and initiatives,
5. **Invite** media, intellectuals, state officials and all other key actors of Muslim community to undertake their responsibility and play an active role in collecting, producing, processing and disseminating the knowledge concerning Muslim communities, in order to deconstruct this reductionist discourse and overcome the negative perceptions towards Muslim communities,
6. **Contribute** to construct a more objective and correct representation and coverage of the Muslim Diaspora, aim at eliminating stereotypical representations of and binaristic discourses about Muslims in the media, by establishing policy advisory bodies to work on the promotion of common Islamic values and doctrines, in cooperation with Islamophobia Observatory,

7. **Invite** the non-OIC countries to carry out political initiatives for enforcing anti-discrimination laws, such as legal protection from discrimination in public services, in education and other relevant fields,
8. **Advice** the establishment of a Communication Network among relevant Institutions of the Member States to ensure exchange of experiences and best practices, and request the SESRIC to undertake the secretariat of this network,
9. **Create** an international and transnational platform for Muslim interaction abroad and optimize the global Muslim dialogue in and between OIC Member States and host countries,
10. **Express** thanks and strong appreciation to the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) of Republic of Turkey and the SESRIC for their efforts in the organisation of the Workshop.