

8TH MEETING
OIC STEERING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

25-26 March 2014
Jakarta, Indonesia

Statement by H.E. Prof. Dr. Savas Alpay, Director General of the SESRIC

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Alaykum we Rahmatullahi we Barakatuhu

It is a distinct honour for me to address this august gathering on the occasion of the 8th meeting of the OIC Steering Committee on Health. At the outset, I avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep thanks and gratitude to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting this important meeting and for their generous and warm hospitality.

I would like to seize this opportunity to brief your august Committee on the activities and initiatives of our Centre in the area of health. I will start by mentioning that the Draft OIC Strategic Health Programme of Action 2014-2023 (OIC-SHPA) which was prepared by our Centre and submitted to the 4th Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (ICHM) held in Jakarta in October 2013, was adopted by member countries.

Meanwhile, SESRIC is keenly following the developments related to the OIC initiative on self-reliance in vaccines and medicines in OIC member countries. In this regard, our Centre has actively participated in two workshops organized by OIC General Secretariat

on self-reliance in vaccines and medicines in Kuala Lumpur (September 2012) and Dubai (February 2013) and contributed to the discussion through making two presentations on the subject. In this context, as requested by the OIC General Secretariat, we are currently working on a study which aims to estimate the vaccines requirement of expanded programme of immunization (EPI) in the OIC member countries for the next 10 years. The study will also investigate the status of bulk and finished product capacity and assess the vaccine supply and demand gap and resource requirement in the OIC member countries.

On the other hand, SESRIC has also given a special importance to training and capacity building in the field of health. Under the umbrella of its Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET), three capacity building programmes have been initiated and designed by the Centre with the aim of enhancing the capacities of human resources involving in health sector in the member countries. These programmes are: Ibn Sina Health Capacity Building Programme (IbnSina-HCaB), Tobacco Control Training Programme, and Occupational Safety and Health Capacity Building Program (OSHCaB). These programmes are based on matching the needs and capacities of the relevant national institutions in the Member Countries according to their responses to the related questionnaires of these Programmes. Within the framework of the implementation of these programmes, SESRIC organizes various training courses, workshops and study visits aiming at facilitating the exchanging of knowledge and know-how, best practices and models, experience and expertise among the OIC member countries in the field of health with a view to contributing to the South-South cooperation initiative within the OIC community.

The Centre has been exerting efforts to devise close coordination with member countries in order to explore ways and means for the implementation of the SHPA and plan concrete activities for future. In this regard, we have initiated our consultations with the six Lead

Country Coordinators for thematic areas of the OIC-SHPA. Furthermore, the Centre has also planned two consecutive meetings with international partners and NGOs working in health area in order to integrate activities and projects on health related issues focusing on the modalities that they can employ in complementing the role of the Member states in the implementation of the OIC-SHPA.

Firstly, the Centre will organize a Consultative Meeting on Development of Joint Cooperation Activities in OIC Member Countries in the Area of MNCH, on 7-8 April 2014, at its headquarters. The main objective of the meeting is to discuss the potential activities in the field of MNCH to OIC Member Countries and the ways and means for integrating and coordinating the efforts of the participating institutions towards promoting the transfer of knowledge and expertise to OIC Member Countries; so that services in the area of MNCH would be accessible by all communities and contribute more to the wellbeing of OIC citizens. The workshop will especially develop potential activities to be conducted using the available materials toward reducing death of mothers during pregnancy and delivery; and reducing death of infants. The meeting will involve OIC General Secretariat, SESRIC, WHO, IDB, USAID, JHPIEGO, MCHIP, and MNCH experts from the Ministry of Health of Indonesia (as the Lead Country Coordinator for Thematic Area 3 of OIC SHPA) and Ministry of Health of Turkey.

Secondly, the Centre will organise a Workshop on the “Role of NGOs in the Implementation of OIC Strategic Health Plan of Action 2014-2023 (SHPA)” on 7-8 April 2014, at its headquarters. The Workshop will bring together various key NGOs operating in the area of humanitarian and technical assistance, particularly on health related issues in OIC Member Countries. The main objective of the Workshop is to discuss possible ways of cooperation in line with OIC Strategic Health Plan of Action 2014-2023 (OIC-SHPA). In this regard, the Workshop will also explore the role of NGOs in health related issues

focusing on the modalities that the civil society institutions can employ in complementing the role of the Member states in the implementation of the OIC-SHPA.

Before concluding, I would like to express our readiness at SESRIC to strengthen our cooperation with all the Ministries of Health and health institutions in our Member Countries and we are confident that together we can continue to develop and introduce more new innovative approaches to support our efforts towards developing more effective modern and sustainable health systems in the OIC Member Countries.

I wish you all the success and thank you for your kind attention.