



NOTE ON

**THE TRADE PREFERENTIAL SYSTEM
AMONG THE MEMBER STATES OF THE
ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION**

DOCUMENT SUBMITTED BY

**THE ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT
OF TRADE**

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THE TRADE PREFERENTIAL SYSTEM AMONG THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION

I- HISTORY:

The idea of establishing a Trade Preferential System specific to O.I.C Member States is based on the recommendations of the General Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the OIC Member States and more precisely of the MECCA Declaration and the Plan of Action to strengthen economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States set up by the 3rd OIC Summit Conference in 1981.

In fact paragraph II item 7 of the Plan of Action recommended:

"To make an inventory of the existing preferential schemes applied by groups of Member States with a view to strengthening and linking them in order to establish a system of trade preferences through a step by step approach by all interested Member States.

It should be based on the principles of mutuality of advantages yielding benefits to all participants and taking into account the respective levels of economic and industrial development, trade regimes and international obligations of individual Member States with the ultimate aim of establishing a free trade area...".

In implementation of these relevant resolutions of the third and the fourth summit of the OIC, which included trade among the priority sectors, the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) and ICDT have strived jointly since 1984 for the working out of a draft Framework Agreement on TPS/OIC.

In fact since the holding of its first session in 1984 in Istanbul, the COMCEC recommended the setting of a working group to define the principles and rules that are to rule negotiations; this group held its first session in Izmir (Turkey) and was followed by the presentation by ICDT of the first version of TPS/OIC.

In order to solemnly corroborate the necessity of setting up a trade preferential system specific to the OIC Member States, the COMCEC adopted at its fourth session held in Istanbul in September 1988, a declaration of intent on the establishment of Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States specifying the basic principles and the orientations to be followed for the setting up of such a system.

During this period of time, ICDT finalised the draft agreement, in consultation with the GATT and the UNCTAD and submitted it to experts for appreciation, who met twice, in December 1989 in (Turkey) and in 1990 in (Casablanca) to put the finishing touches to the draft agreement.

Six years after its inclusion in the agenda items of the COMCEC's meetings, the Framework Agreement on TPS/OIC was endorsed by the sixth session of the COMCEC, which submitted it to the OIC General Secretariat for signature and ratification.

Legally, TPS/OIC came into force in October 2003.

II- ENFORCEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT:

The TPS/OIC agreement was deposited in 1990 in the OIC General Secretariat for signature and ratification, in compliance with article 18; it will enter into force three months after ten Member States have deposited their instruments of ratification.

In November 2017, forty Two Member States have signed the framework Agreement TPS/OIC: Kingdom of Bahrain, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Republic of Benin, Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Chad, Union of the Comoros, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Gabon, Republic of The Gambia, Republic of Guinea, Republic of Guinea Bissau, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Iraq, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, State of Kuwait, Republic of Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Republic of Maldives, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Niger, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Sultanate of Oman, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Palestine, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Sierra Leone, Republic of Somalia, Republic of Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Turkey, Republic of Uganda and State of United Arab Emirates.

Thirty Two Member States have ratified it: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Republic of Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, State of the United Arab Emirates, Republic of Gabon, Republic of the Gambia, Republic of Guinea, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kuwait, Republic of Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Oman, Republic of Uganda, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Palestine, State of Qatar, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Tunisia and the Republic of Turkey.

The legal quorum (10 states) required for the entry into force of the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferences among Islamic Countries has therefore been exceeded recently, following the ratification of the Republic of Cameroon in September 2002.

18 Member States of the OIC have ratified the Protocol on Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS-OIC (PRETAS), these are: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain, People's Republic of Bangladesh, State of the United Arab Emirates, Republic of The Gambia, State of Kuwait, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Kingdom of Morocco, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Sultanate Oman, State of Palestine, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Qatar, Republic of Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Turkey.

The PRETAS became effective on 5 February 2010.

32 countries have signed the Rules of Origin of the TPS/OIC, namely Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, United Arab Emirates, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. In addition, **18 countries have ratified**: Bahrain, Bangladesh, UAE, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria and Turkey. **The Rules of Origin came into force on 9th August 2011.**

To date, the following **14** OIC Member States: Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Turkey, Malaysia, Syria, Bangladesh, **Iran**, Pakistan and Jordan have sent to the TNC Secretariat the List of Products for tariff concessions under the TPS/OIC.

Besides, during the seminar on the rules of origin of the TPS/OIC Agreement organized by the COMCEC Office and Turkey's TOBB in January 2015 in Ankara, it was recommended to the participating countries to update their products' list of concession into an Harmonized System with 8 digits, 2015 Version in order to facilitate the launching of a new round of trade negotiations among the OIC Member Countries.

During the 32nd Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC held in Ankara on 17-18 May 2016, the Committee invited the GCC Secretariat, on behalf of its six Member States and Morocco to convey their updated concession lists to the TNC Secretariat with the view to early realization of market access opportunities to brought by the TPS/OIC.

Pakistan, Bangladesh, Jordan, Morocco and Turkey notified to the TNC Secretariat their internal measures to be undertaken for the implementation of the TPS/OIC Rules of Origin.

The Committee welcomed the submission of updated concession lists to the TNC Secretariat by Turkey, Malaysia, Morocco, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Jordan and Iran.

The Committee requested the concerned Member States to notify the TNC Secretariat of their relevant internal measures to be undertaken for implementation of the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin at their earliest convenience.

The Committee requested the ICDT, COMCEC Coordination Office, and other relevant OIC Institutions to continue organizing awareness raising and capacity building activities with regard to TPS-OIC.

III. ICDT'S ROLE AS MEMBER OF THE TNC SECRETARIAT:

The 19th Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation has entrusted to ICDT and the COMCEC coordination Office the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating committee.

Within this framework, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade provides to Member States technical assistance under the form of training sessions intended for the executive staff operating in the field of foreign trade or by submitting explanatory notes on the framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States and on the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS/OIC (PRETAS) and the protocol on the Rules of Origin.

The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade provides comprehensive explanatory notes related to issues debated within the framework of negotiations on the Trade Preferential System (TPS/OIC), the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS and the Protocol on the Rules of Origin.

In this regard, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade has recently prepared explanatory notes on "the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States, the PRETAS Protocol, intended for the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Indonesia.

Upon the successful conclusion of the 1st and 2nd Rounds, the Trade Negotiating Committee will carry on its work that will focus on two main actions: on the one hand, the implementation of the PRETAS, notably by applying the fast track and the consideration of issue relating to the removal of para- and non-tariff measures on the other.

Within the framework of the operationalization of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its protocols, ICDT sent circular letters to participating Member States in March, April and May 2015 relating to checklist of the implementation process of the Rules Origin, the conversion of tariff lines from 2003 to 2015 version of applied tariffs with a view to facilitating trade negotiations between these countries. The deadline for the submission of this information was 1st March, 2016 as recommended by the Resolution 29 of the 31st Ministerial Session of the COMCEC held in November 2015 in Istanbul.

Since 2012, the following awareness-raising seminars were organized:

- **Training and Awareness-raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols:** Tripoli-Libya, 13-14 March 2012.
- **Training and Awareness-raising Seminar on the TPS/OIC and its Protocols for the benefit of the Countries of the Arab League:** Kuwait, 14-15 May 2012.
- **Seminar on “The proliferation of Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements and their impact on the regional integration process in Arab Countries”:** Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco, 4-6 June 2012.
- **National Seminar for the popularization of ICDT’s and IDB’s Group Services:** Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco, 7th June 2012.
- **Training Seminar in the field of International and Islamic Trade intended to the Officials of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Iraq:** Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco, 26-30 June 2012.
- **Training Seminar on TPS / OIC and issues related to the WTO,** Baghdad - Republic of Iraq, 17-19 March 2013.
- **Seminar on the Trade Preferential System of OIC Member Countries for the benefit of the private sector:** Sharjah, State of the United Arab Emirates, 20 March 2014.
- **National Training Seminar on the “Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States” and the International Trade Issues for the Benefit of the Private Enterprises and Public Administrations of Sultanate of Oman”:** Muscat, 15-16 September 2014.
- **National Training Seminar on the “Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States and the Provisions of the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS-OIC (PRETAS) and the Rules of Origin” for the benefit of the executive staff of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:** Riyadh, 22-25 September 2014.

In 2015, additional seminars were organized by the ICDT as follows:

- **Training Seminar on TPS/OIC and its protocols for the benefit of the Executives of the Organization of Economic Cooperation (ECO):** Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 7-9 April 2015.

Within the framework of the implementation and development of cooperation among the OIC Member States and ICDT in its capacity as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee of the TPS/OIC, the Centre jointly organized with the

Cooperation and Integration Department of IDB, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Turkey and the COMCEC office , a training seminar on TPS/OIC and its protocols for the benefit of the Executives of the countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation (ECO) in Istanbul from 7th to 9th April 2015.

The objective of this seminar is to raise the awareness of the executives of these countries of the importance of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols and its tariff dismantling process and the selection of the lists of concessions and the impact of the aforesaid Agreement on intra-OIC trade of ECO Member countries.

More than 30 participants from the following countries and organizations participated in the seminar: Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, the Cooperation and Integration Department of the IDB, ICDT, the COMCEC Office and ECO.

On this occasion, the experts of ICDT, COMCEC and ECO presented the following themes:

- ❖ Presentation of the activities of ICDT, COMCEC and ECO;
 - ❖ Overview of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols (ICDT);
 - ❖ Structure and methodology of negotiations (ICDT);
 - ❖ The TPS/OIC Agreement and WTO agreements (ICDT);
 - ❖ Results of the two rounds of negotiations (ICDT);
 - ❖ Presentation of the Protocol of the Rules of Origin (COMCEC);
 - ❖ Presentation of the Legal impact of the TPS/ OIC and its effect on the trade of the ECO countries (ICDT).
- **National Training Workshop on TPS/OIC and its protocols for the benefit of the Executives of the State of Qatar:** Doha, 13-14 April 2015.

Within the framework of the implementation of cooperation among the OIC Member States and ICDT, the Ministry of Economy of the State of Qatar of Commerce and the Centre organized a national training seminar on TPS/OIC and its Protocols in Doha from 13th to 14th April 2015.

The objective of this seminar is to raise the awareness of the executives of the public and private sector of the State of Qatar of the importance of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols in order to contribute to the development of trade between this country and the other OIC Member States.

On this occasion, the ICDT's experts presented the following themes:

- ❖ Presentation of the OIC and the ICDT;
- ❖ Overview of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its protocols;
- ❖ Structure and methodology of the negotiations;
- ❖ The TPS/OIC Agreement and the WTO Agreements;
- ❖ Negotiations results;
- ❖ The impact of the Agreement on the Qatari economy;
- ❖ Economic integration and Legal impact of the TPS/OIC;
- ❖ The membership procedures to TPS/OIC and technical instruments.

More than 20 public and private sector executives of the State of Qatar took part in the seminar.

- **Seminar on TPS/OIC and its protocols for the benefit of the private and public sector of Suriname and Guyana:** Paramaribo, Suriname, 1st June 2015.

Within the framework of the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the OIC General Secretariat and boosting cooperation Among the OIC Member States and the ICDT, the Centre in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and the Industry of the Republic of Suriname, organized an awareness-raising seminar on the TPS/OIC and Its protocols for the benefit of the public and private sector of the Republic of Suriname and the Republic of Guyana and Paramaribo on 1st June 2015. The Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Suriname attended the opening session of the Seminar. The objective of this seminar was to raise the awareness of the staff of the public and private Sectors of the importance of the Agreement on the development of intra-OIC trade of their countries. Over 50 participants attended the seminar. The ICDT's experts presented the Agreement and Its Protocols, the results of the rounds of negotiations, dealt with its compatibility with WTO rules and its impact on intra-OIC trade of both countries.

- **Training Seminar on The "Trade Preferential System Among the OIC Member States (TPS OIC) and its Protocols" for the benefit of the African Countries,** Casablanca - Kingdom of Morocco, 28-30 March 2016

Within the framework of the implementation of relevant Resolutions of the Ministers of Foreign Trade of the OIC Countries, particularly those relating to the raising awareness of the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States (TPS/OIC) and its protocols, for the benefit of Regional Economic Groupings, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the Department of Cooperation and Integration of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) organized in collaboration with the Ministry in Charge of Foreign Trade of the Kingdom of Morocco a Training Seminar on " TPS / OIC Agreement and its protocols for the benefit of African Countries" from 28th to 30th March 2016 in Casablanca, Morocco.

The objective of this seminar is to raise awareness among the Member States of the Regional Economic Groupings (REG) such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), on the TPS/OIC Agreement and its protocols in order to accelerate its signature and ratification by these groupings to strengthen the development of intra-OIC trade.

The following countries attended this seminar: **Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Chad, Togo and Tunisia.**

The following international organizations also participated: the ICDT, the IDB (Department of Cooperation and Integration and the Regional Office of Rabat) and the WAEMU.

The experts presented the following topics:

- New Ten Year Program of Action (2016-2025) of the OIC and ICDT on enhancing intra-OIC Trade ;
- Program of Trade Regional Cooperation of the WAEMU;
- Presentation of the Framework Agreement of the TPS/OIC;
- Provisions of the TPS/OIC;

- Structures and the Negotiations Methods;
- Conformity of the TPS/OIC and WTO provisions;
- Presentation on the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme For TPS-OIC (PRETAS);
- Presentation on the Protocol of the Rules of Origin of the TPS/OIC
- Impact of the TPS/OIC and its protocols on the Economies of the WAEMU Member States ;
- Accession procedures to the TPS/OIC and practical implementation modalities.

During the sessions, participants were asked questions relating to the TPS/OIC agreement, the tariff dismantling mechanism, dispute settlement, the process of ratification of the Agreement and its Protocols by the REG, such as WAEMU and review of some parts of the Agreement and the base year of the tariff dismantling.

After a fruitful discussion, the participants proposed the following recommendations:

- The need to organize a meeting of the Trade Negotiating Committee in 2016 to review the protocol PRETAS notably the base year (2003) of tariff dismantling in order to improve the implementation of the TPS-OIC Agreement and other related issues;
- The preparation of explanatory notes on the rules of origin in English and French for the Participating States in trade negotiations among the OIC countries;
- The transmission of the results of the study on the impact on trade of (TPS/OIC) in WAEMU countries to the OIC General Secretariat, IDB and the WAEMU Commission;
- The ability to embed accompanying measures in the implementation of the Agreement;
- The establishment of databases on non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to trade in the ICDT-NTBs observatory in collaboration with the REG and private sector;
- The invitation of the focal points in the REG (ECOWAS, WAEMU, CEMAC, COMESA, AMU, League of Arab States) as observers in the OIC Trade Negotiations Committee;
- The organization of regional awareness-raising seminars for Member States notably for LDCs;
- The organization of training workshops on the rules of origin and the NTBs for the benefit of Member States;
- Technical Assistance to the contracting Member States within the framework of the implementation of the PRETAS and the Protocol of the Rules of Origin, especially for establishing the lists of concessions;
- Conducting impact studies of the TPS / OIC on the other OIC regions.

Organizers distributed to all participants Certificates and CD's containing the presentations of the experts.

- **Training Seminar on "TPS/ OIC Agreement and its protocols for the benefit of executives of the state of Palestine and Jordan"**, Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 4-5 April 2016.

As part of the implementation of cooperation among OIC Member States and the CIDC, and further to the request of the Ministry of National Economy of the State of Palestine, ICDT and the aforementioned Palestinian Ministry organized in collaboration with the

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Supply of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan a training seminar on "TPS/OIC and its protocols for the benefit of executives of the state of Palestine and Jordan" in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 4 to 5 April 2016.

The objective of this seminar is to raise awareness among Palestinian and Jordanian executives of the public and private sector on the importance of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its Protocols in order to contribute to the development of trade between these countries and the other OIC Member States.

On this occasion, the ICDT's experts presented the following themes:

- ❖ Presentation of the OIC and the ICDT;
- ❖ Overview of the main provisions of the TPS/OIC Agreement and its protocols;
- ❖ Structure and methodology of the negotiations;
- ❖ The TPS/OIC Agreement and the WTO Agreements;
- ❖ Negotiations results;
- ❖ The impact of the Agreement on intra-OIC trade of Palestine and Jordan;
- ❖ Economic integration and Legal impact of the TPS/OIC;
- ❖ The membership procedures to TPS/OIC and technical instruments.
- ❖ The OIC vision on the outcomes of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference concluded in Nairobi;
- ❖ The Jordanian experience with the World Trade Organization;
- ❖ Technical assistance provided by the IDB and the ICDT.

More than 40 public and private sector executives of both countries took part in the seminar.

Recommendations:

After a fruitful debate, the participants proposed the following recommendations:

1. The importance of implementing the TPS-OIC to enable the Palestinian economy to benefit from it, and to increase synergy as well as economic and trade integration between Palestine and the other OIC Member States
 2. Provide technical support to the Palestinian institutions from the public and private sectors in order to benefit from the COMCEC and the IDB Group projects.
 3. The importance of holding the meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee of the OIC Member States in order to expand the TPS/OIC to trade in services, dismantling of the mechanism of Non-Tariff Barriers, and specific and effective rules for dispute settlement;
 4. To ensure that the State of Palestine submit its list of concessions in order to allow the Palestinian economy to benefit from the Trade Negotiations of the participating Countries, and to provide it with technical assistance for establishing the positive lists of products for the implementation of this Framework Agreement.
- **Training Workshop on "Trade Preferential System among the Member States of the Organisation (TPS/ OIC) "**, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, 13-14 September 2017.

Within the framework of the implementation of the 32nd Session of the COMCEC resolution relating to TPS-OIC and other relevant Resolutions of the Ministers of Foreign Trade of the OIC Countries, particularly those relating to the raising awareness of the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System among OIC Member States (TPS/OIC) and its protocols, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia, a training Workshop on Trade Preferential System among the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (TPS - OIC) in Jakarta on 13 - 14 September 2017.

The workshop aimed at raising the awareness of Indonesia's, Brunei and Malaysia officials and business stakeholders of the TPS-OIC implementation and its benefits. It also provided an interactive discussion that helps participants to address some of the issues and challenges faced by the Indonesian government in completing the ratification process of the TPS-OIC.

More than 80 Participants from Indonesia (Public and Private Sector), Malaysia, Pakistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Kuwait, Bangladesh, Qatar, Iran and also COMCEC Coordination Office and ICDT attend this workshop.

After the statements of the representatives of the Ministry of Trade of Indonesia, the President's Special Envoy to The Middle East and to The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation/ OIC, COMCEC Coordination Office and ICDT, the workshop was briefly presented to participants.

ICDT's, COMCEC's and Ministry of Trade of Indonesia made presentations on the following topics:

- ✓ Presentation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action (2016-2025) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and ICDT for enhancing intra-OIC trade;
- ✓ Presentation on the Trade Cooperation and TPS-OIC in the COMCEC Strategy;

- ✓ Presentation on the Current Status of the TPS-OIC: Basic Features of the System and the Way Forward;
- ✓ Presentation of the Framework Agreement on the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS/OIC);
- ✓ Provisions of the TPS/OIC;
- ✓ Structures and the negotiations methods;
- ✓ TPS/OIC and the WTO provisions and RTAs;
- ✓ Presentation of the outcomes of the First Round of Trade Negotiations;
- ✓ Presentation on the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme For TPS-OIC (PRETAS);
- ✓ General Discussion on speeding up the signature and ratification of the TPS/OIC and its protocols by Indonesia.

Certificates of participation were distributed to all participants.

All participants mentioned the importance of the workshop which allow them to understand TPS/OIC and its protocols and its role to enhancing intra-OIC Trade with Indonesia and its private sector.

The Indonesian Government ensured that it will follow this issue and finalize the ratification of the Rules of Origin after having internal discussion on some issues such as:

- The Application of MFN Principle to non-WTO members that participate in the OIC Preferential Tariff Scheme ;
- The provisions of article 5 and 6 of the Protocol of the Rules of Origin concerning the aggregate content originating in least developed Participating State that is not less than 30% of its ex-works price. Indonesia has particular concern as it grants regional value content of not less than 40% for LDCs in ASEAN, as opposed to giving 30% LVC commitment to OIC LDCs ;
- The Provisions of Article 22 of the Protocol of the Rules of Origin concerning Importation by Instalment, as the customs procedure in Indonesia does not recognize such rule. Moreover, it would be difficult for Indonesia, as archipelagic state to control Importation by Instalment in all ports which spread across the archipelago.

ICDT Sent an official letter after the workshop to explain all these issues.

LIST OF THE MEMBERS STATES WHICH HAVE SIGNED AND RATIFIED THE AGREEMENTS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ICDT AND COMCEC (As of November 2017)

AGREEMENTS COUNTRIES	TPS/OIC		PRETAS		RULES OF ORIGIN		Documents submitted of list
	Signed	Ratified	Signed	Ratified	Signed	Ratified	
Bahrain	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bangladesh	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Benin	*		*		*		
Brunei	*	*					
Burkina Faso	*		*		*		
Cameroon	*	*	*		*		
Chad	*						
Comoros	*		*		*		
Côte d'Ivoire	*		*		*		
Djibouti	*	*	*		*		
Egypt	*	*	*				
Gabon	*	*					
The Gambia	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Guinea	*	*	*		*		
Guinea Bissau	*		*		*		
Indonesia	*	*	*		*		
Iran	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Iraq	*	*					
Jordan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kuwait	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Lebanon	*	*					
Libya	*	*					
Malaysia	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maldives	*	*					
Mauritania	*	*	*	*	*		
Morocco	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Niger	*		*		*		
Nigeria	*		*		*		
Oman	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pakistan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Palestine	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Qatar	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Saudi Arabia	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Senegal	*	*					
Sierra Leone	*		*		*		
Somalia	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Sudan	*		*		*		
Syria	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tunisia	*	*	*		*		
Turkey	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
U.A.E	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Uganda	*	*					
TOTAL	42	32	33	18	32	17	14

Source: COMCEC, OIC GS, ICDT.