



REPORTS OF THE

**3rd FORUM OF THE TRADE PROMOTION ORGANS OF THE MEMBER
STATES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION**

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Report of the 3rd Forum of the Trade Promotion Organs of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Casablanca- Kingdom of Morocco,
11-12 October 2017**

Within the framework of the implementation of the recommendations of the 2nd Forum of the Trade Promotion Organs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation held in Riyadh on May 2016, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and “Maroc Export” organized in collaboration with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) the “**3rd Forum of the Trade Promotion Organs (TPOs)** of the OIC Member States held on 11th -12th October 2017 in Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco.

This Forum also falls within the framework of the Trade Bridge Program between the Arab and African Member States of the OIC, launched by the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), which aims to strengthen coordination and to create a dynamic of cooperation between all the Trade Promotion Organs of the OIC Member States, and the exchange of national and international experiences in the field of capacity building of Trade Promotion Organs with a view to improving their services for the promotion of intra-OIC trade.

During the opening session the General Manager of “Maroc Export”, the CEO of the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), the Director General of ICDT and the representative of the International Trade Center (ITC) delivered opening remarks on the dynamization of the activities of the Trade Promotion Organs of the OIC Countries in collaboration with regional and international institutions, with a view to achieving the objectives set by the new TYPOA 2025 and sustainable development goals of United Nations.

Participated in this Forum:

➤ **Representatives of the Trade Promotion Organs of the following OIC Member States:**

Bangladesh, Benin, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates and Representatives of Embassies accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco (Nigeria, Brunei, Libya, Cameroon, Turkey, Oman, Kuwait, Gabon, Iran) (the participants are listed in annex 1)

➤ **The Forum was also attended by representatives of the following Ministries and Institutions:**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco, the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), the International Trade Center (ITC), Bayt Mal Al Quds and the ICDT.

In addition, the opening ceremony was crowned with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the ITFC and the National Transport and Logistics Company (SNTL) - Morocco.

1. PROCEEDINGS OF THE FORUM:

After the opening session, the work of the Forum was organized around the following axes:

- Overview on the promotion of trade in the OIC Member States;
- Promoting trade in African countries
- Promotion of trade in Arab countries
- Promotion of trade in Asian countries
- General discussion on the promotion of trade among the OIC Member States
- How to create more connectivity and synergy between the OIC TPOs

This was followed by presentations of the actions carrying out by the Institutions and the International Organizations to develop and strengthen the capacity of the TPOs and other presentations on national experiences in the promotion and facilitation of trade:

- ICDT
- ITFC.
- ITC
- Senegalese Agency for the Promotion of Exports (ASEPEX);
- Association for the Promotion of Exports of Côte d'Ivoire (APEX-CI);
- Uganda Export Promotion Board (UEPB)
- Benin Investment and Export Promotion Agency (APIEx);
- Burkina-Faso Export Promotion Agency (APIEx- Burkina);
- Nigerian Exports Promotion Council (NEPC);
- Maroc Export;
- Dubai Export;
- Saudi Export Development Authority (SEDA);
- Tunisia Export;
- Experience of the Ministry of Economy and Trade of Lebanon in the promotion of intra-OIC trade;
- PALTRADE Palestine;
- Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE);
- Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau (EPB);
- Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

2. REVIEW OF THE "CASABLANCA DECLARATION" DRAFT:

The organizers submitted a draft of the Casablanca Declaration which was adopted unanimously at the closing session of the 3rd Forum of the TPOs (Declaration is attached as Annex 2)

3. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT FORUM:

- It has been suggested to hold a coordination meeting of the TPOs in Kuwait on the sidelines of the 16th edition of the Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (06-10 February 2018).
- The 4th Forum of the TPOs of the OIC Member States will be held in Dubai in 2019 and will be organized by "Dubai Exports" in collaboration with ICDT and ITFC.

4. MOTION OF THANKS:

At the end of the meeting, participants extended their deepest thanks and gratitude to His Majesty Mohamed The Sixth, King of Morocco, May God Assist Him for the unstinted care He bestows on the OIC and the activities of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and for His continued support to strengthen inter-Islamic cooperation and commitment to the Joint Islamic Action.

The Participants also conveyed their deepest thanks to His Excellency Dr. Yousef bin Ahmad AL-OTHAIMIEN, the Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, and reiterated their profound gratitude and thanks to H.E Dr. Bandar M.H HAJJAR, President of the IDB Group and H.E Eng. Hani Salem SONBOL, Chief Executive Officer of the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC).

They also expressed their gratitude to the Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy of the Kingdom of Morocco and to the Moroccan Government for the facilities which were provided to facilitate the holding and to ensure the success of this Forum, and to Dr. El Hassane HZAINI, Director General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and "Maroc Export" in the person of Mrs. Zahra MAAFIRI, the General Manager and their respective staff for their efforts to ensure the success of this Forum.

Casablanca, 12 October 2017

CASABLANCA DECLARATION

THIRD FORUM OF THE TRADE PROMOTION ORGANS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION

Casablanca - Kingdom of Morocco

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Casablanca- Kingdom of Morocco, 12th October 2017

We, the Representatives of the Trade Promotion Organs of the OIC Member States and the Institutions operating in the field of trade and investment promotion, attending the Third Forum of the Trade Promotion Organs of the Member States Organization of Islamic Cooperation held on 11th -12th October 2017 in Casablanca – Kingdom of Morocco;

Recalling the provisions of the “New Ten Year Programme of Action (TYPOA)” OIC-2025 which was adopted by the 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Istanbul, 14-15 April 2016) especially to increase intra-OIC trade to 25% by 2025;

Recalling the New Strategy drawn up by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation between OIC Member States (COMCEC) and adopted by the 4th Session of the Extraordinary Summit Conference of the OIC held in Makkah Al Mukarramah in August 2012;

Recalling the provisions of the final communiqué and relevant resolutions adopted by the 44th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC, held in Abidjan on 10th - 11th July 2017; relating to economic cooperation;

Recalling the recommendations of Sharjah Declaration and Plan of Action 2016-2020 adopted in Sharjah (State of United Arab of Emirates) in Mars 2014 by the 1st Forum of OIC-TPOs and the recommendations of the 2nd Forum of the OIC-TPOs held on 23rd May 2016 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the COMCEC, especially those adopted by the 32nd Session of the COMCEC held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 21- 24 November 2016;

Commending the important role played by ICDT and the Secretariats of the three regional TPOs networks;

Expressing our appreciation for the work of the institutions working under the umbrella of of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation , in particular the COMCEC, the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) and the International Trade Centre (ITC), we declare our wish to enhance the Joint Islamic Action as well as cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations in order to benefit from their expertise ;

Welcoming progress of implementing activities within the framework of TPO’s plan of action 2016/2020 especially trade fairs and exhibitions, capacity building programs, trade missions, TPS/OIC awareness workshops and strategic commodities projects;

Call up on Member States to participate actively in the OIC Trade Fair to be held in Kuwait-City on 6-10 February 2018 and other activities to be organised by the above mentioned Institutions;

With a view to implementing the provisions of this Declaration, we have agreed on the following:

- ❖ To entrust the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade to continue the task of the Secretariat of the Global Network of the Trade Promotion Organs of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC);
- ❖ To entrust the task of the Secretariat of the OIC Arabic-speaking Network of the Trade Promotion Organs to Dubai Exports, the OIC French-speaking network of the Trade Promotion Organs to the Senegalese Agency for Export Promotion (ASEPEX) and to appoint Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) (**to be confirmed**) as the Secretariat of the OIC English-speaking network of the Trade Promotion Organs;
- ❖ Requesting ITFC to study the possibility of organizing in collaboration with ICDT and Dubai Exports, the 4th OIC TPOs Forum on the sidelines of the “Trade Development Forum” which will be organized by ITFC in Dubai in 2019;
- ❖ Mobilizing resources for the implementation of Projects adopted by the Network with OIC and regional and international partners such as OIC-TISC Members and UN Agencies;
- ❖ The three TPOs networks reiterated their support to the OIC TPO’s Action Plan 2016-2020 which includes technical support, training and capacity building and organizations of common promotional events. This action plan may be financed by the OIC Institutions and other Financial Institutions and funds.

We declare our wish to boost cooperation and coordination between us in order to achieve the Trade related OIC TYPOA 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we stress the utmost importance of supporting the active involvement of the private sector in economic and trade cooperation between the Member States as the main driving force.

MOTION OF THANKS:

At the end of the Forum, participants kindly requested H.E the Minister in charge of foreign Trade of the Kingdom of Morocco to convey their deepest thanks and gratitude to His Majesty Mohamed The Sixth, King of Morocco, May God Assist Him, to the Government and the Moroccan People for the warm welcome, hospitality and the facilities which were provided to facilitate the holding and ensure the success of this Forum.

The Participants also conveyed their deepest thanks to H.E Dr. Yousef A. AL-OTHAIMEEN, the Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation for his sustained support to strengthening of Trade and Investment Cooperation among the OIC Member States.

The Participants also conveyed their warm thanks and gratitude to H.E Dr. Bandar M. H. HAJJAR, President of the IDB Group and H.E Eng Hani Salem SONBOL, CEO of ITFC for their full and active support to the trade promotion among the OIC Member Countries.

The participants also expressed their deep congratulations to Mrs Zahra MAAFIRI, Director General of Maroc Export and Chairman of the Global TPOs Network and Dr. El Hassane HZAINI, Director General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and all their staff for the laudable efforts they have made to provide the excellent conditions, which ensured the success of this event.

Done in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, 12th October 2017