



# **An OIC Water Council**

## **The Organization of Islamic Cooperation**

### **Draft Terms of Reference**

#### **Introduction**

The First Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water held at sideline of 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in March 2009 at Istanbul requested the OIC General Secretariat to formulate concrete proposals to elaborate a strategy framework through preparation of an OIC Water Vision and establishment of an OIC Water Council;

An Advisory Panel of Experts comprising of experts and specialists from the three OIC regions was established to prepare an OIC Water Vision document. The OIC General Secretariat and the IDB the organized the First and the Second Meetings of the Advisory Panel of Experts (Dubai, 25 – 26 May, 2010 and Astana, 13-14 July, 2011) and the International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) and the Republic of Kazakhstan for hosting the meetings respectively.

The Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water (Istanbul, March 2012) decided to adopt the OIC Water Vision document outlining a framework for cooperation in the field of water and requested the Chair of the Current Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water in close coordination with the OIC General Secretariat to prepare draft Terms of Reference for the OIC Water Council for consideration by the next Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water

#### **Article 1: OIC Water Council**

An OIC Water Council is to formulate policies and discuss the progress of cooperation in the water field.

#### **Article 2: Vision, Mission and Goal**

**2.1. Vision:** Working together for a water-secure future for all the OIC Member States;

- 2.2.. **Mission:** to start with small but significant steps, building confidence and experience, creating institutional and financial mechanisms and demonstrating success for future consideration of greater cooperation, potentially for water security across the OIC;
- 2.3. **Goal:** building upon existing collaboration, solidarity and mutual exchange between Member States of the OIC Member States in developing framework for water cooperation and enhancing alliances between governments, research and educational institutions, the private sector and civil society groups involved in water development in the OIC to cooperate in implementing water activities.

### **Article 3: Scope of activities**

- 3.1. Preparation for the Islamic Conferences of Ministers responsible for Water
- 3.2. Monitoring implementation of recommendations and decisions of the Islamic Conferences of Ministers responsible for Water;
- 3.3. Periodically assess the water situation in member states and prepare a joint platform for the relief of water short countries;
- 3.4. Analyze and review the interests of OIC member countries in inviting investment opportunities in the water and agricultural sectors to boost food production;
- 3.5. Prepare a draft water charter to be adopted by member states and adhered to;
- 3.6. Interact with the world community, particularly the organs of the United Nations, concerning water issues;
- 3.7. Work out a unified position that OIC member countries can adopt concerning water issues addressed by the world community;
- 3.8. Promote water research and development activities within OIC member countries.

### **Article 4: The Membership of OIC Water Council**

The OIC Water Vision functions under the authority of and guided by the Islamic Conferences of Ministers responsible for Water

The membership of the OIC Water Vision shall comprise:

#### **(A) Member States**

- (1) The Host of the Current Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;
- (2) The Host of immediate up coming Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;

(3) The Host of immediate past Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;

(4) The current Chair of the OIC Summit Conference;

(5) Three Member States representing three OIC regions:

- Africa;
- Arab;
- Asia.

(6) Host of the OIC Headquarters;

**(B) OIC General Secretariat and Institutions**

(7) The OIC General Secretariat;

(8) The OIC Institutions;

- The Islamic Development Bank (IDB);
- The COMSTECH;
- The ISESCO;
- The SESRIC;

**(C) Intergovernmental organizations and other institutions**

(9) Intergovernmental organizations:

- UN Water;
- ICBA;
- ;

**(E) Invitees**

(10) Any other members deemed necessary.

**Article 5: Structure**

The OIC Water Vision shall comprise of:

- 5.1. Chair who is the Host of the Current Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;
- 5.2. Two (2) Vice Chair, who shall be selected from Member States, members of the Council;
- 5.3. The **SUEN** is the Secretariat of the Council. The OIC General Secretariat shall assist in performing the secretarial duties.

#### **Article 6: Duties, Responsibilities and Procedures**

- 6.1 The meetings of the OIC Water should normally be chaired by the Chairman who shall ensure compliance with the Rules of Procedures of the OIC (see para 7.5).
- 6.2 The Vice Chairs shall assist the Chair in all Meetings. In the absence of the Chair, one of the Vice Chair by acclamation shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chair.
- 6.3 The Chair//Vice Chairs shall report on the proceedings and the decisions made by the OIC water Council for consideration by the Islamic Conferences of Minister responsible for Water;
- 6.4. The duties of the Secretariat/shall include:
  - a. Coordination and convening of the OIC Water Council meetings
  - b. Facilitating preparation of all the necessary documentation for the meeting  
Submitting decisions of the meetings for approval of the Islamic Conferences of Minister responsible for Water;
- 6.5. The meetings will be governed by the Rules of Procedure of the OIC Conferences and Meetings as in **Annex I**.

#### **Article 7: Meetings and Reports**

- 7.1 All expenses for attending the meeting shall be borne by the participants.
- 7.2 The meeting reports shall be submitted to the Islamic Conferences of Minister responsible for Water.