

4th Consultative Forum of the Regional Cooperation Organizations (RCOs) in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Region

Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco

19-20 November 2024

Program

Day 1	
09:00 – 09:10	Registration
09:10 – 09:20	Welcoming Remarks by ICDT and Speech by OIC General Secretariat Welcoming Remarks by Ministry of Industry and Trade of Kingdom of Morocco Representative
09:20 – 09:25	Opening Remarks by IsDB
09:25 – 10:00	Group Photo and Coffee Break
10:00 – 12:00	Session 1: Best Practices of Digitalization of Trade Facilitation and Investment Promotion Services in the OIC Region <i>Moderator: ICDT Representative</i> <i>Discussant Organizations: COMESA, UNCTAD, ITC, ESCAP</i>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break (all invitees)
13:30 – 15:30	Session 2: The Role of Economic Corridors in Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Development in the OIC Region <i>Moderator: IsDB Representative</i> <i>Discussant Organizations: CETMO, AsDB, UNECE, ECO, ESCWA</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break and Networking

Day 2	
09:00 – 09:15	Recap of the First Day
09:15 – 11:15	<p>Session 3: The Contribution of Trade to Food Security in the OIC Region</p> <p><i>Moderator: IsDB Representative</i></p> <p><i>Discussant Organizations: UNCTAD, AfDB, ESCWA, IGAD, IOFS, FAO</i></p>
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Roundtable: Roadmap of Collaboration for RCOs in the OIC Region during the period 2025-2026</p> <p>Under this item, the Meeting is expected to agree on joint initiatives for the period 2025-2026 in the priority areas of cooperation as per the IsDB RCI Strategy and the ICDDT Strategy on Trade Facilitation. The proposals will include quick win initiatives to be started/accomplished and a regional program that may extend for multiple years. The discussion will be structured in a roundtable format across regions. The outcomes of discussion will be presented by each group/table for consolidation.</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:00	Wrap-up of all Sessions and Concluding Remarks (IsDB, ICDDT, Ministry of Industry and Trade of Kingdom of Morocco)
15:00 – 18:00	Sightseeing in Marrakesh

Islamic Development Bank
Banque Islamique de Développement



البنك الإسلامي للتنمية



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Concept Note



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Introduction and Background

Enhancing cross-border connectivity, improving investment climate and competitiveness, mainstreaming trade and Islamic finance, and facilitating cooperation to provide regional public goods are strategic objectives for the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT).

As achieving these objectives requires strong partnerships with international and regional organizations, IsDB and ICDT would like to offer a platform by organizing the 4th Consultative Forum of the Regional Cooperation Organizations in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Region to share information and capitalize on the competencies of different partners to achieve developmental results, in addition to identifying and understanding the most effective ways to work together.

The Forum will be attended by IsDB Group's relevant Entities/Departments, Regional Cooperation Organizations (RCOs), Regional Development Banks (RDBs) and UN organizations. It will provide a platform for exchange of views and information on the regional/subregional activities of the RCOs for enhancing regional cooperation and integration. The event will be a continuation to the previous similar Forums that started in 2016 with the objective of sharing the RCOs' views and experiences in promoting regional cooperation and integration in the OIC region.

Objectives

The Forum aims to:

1. Create awareness with partners on collaboration opportunities at the regional level and facilitate policy dialogue between IsDB, ICDT and RCOs in the OIC region,
2. Seek support and cooperation in the implementation of ongoing and proposed regional integration programs/projects in different sub-regions of the RCOs in the OIC region,
3. Facilitate the exchange of views and coordinate efforts to strengthen regional integration with development partners,
4. Provide a platform to build durable partnerships to support regional integration,
5. Promote the exchange of information and best practices focused on facilitating intra-regional trade and investment.

Target Audience

The Forum will be a meeting between IsDB, ICDT, RCOs and other relevant regional cooperation partners.

The participation of RCOs, UN organizations and MDBs with common MCs will be encouraged. IsDB and ICDT will cover the travel expenses of participating RCOs. The following organizations are planned to be invited to the event:

- Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) General Secretariat
- Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC)
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD)
- Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)
- Islamic World Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO)
- Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC)
- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)
- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- League of Arab States (LAS)
- United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- World Bank Group (WBG)
- Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- African Export-Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK)
- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
- Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- International Trade Centre (ITC)
- South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- The Commonwealth Secretariat
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- African Solidarity Fund (FSA)
- Centre for Transportation Studies for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO)

- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO)
- Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC)
- West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)
- Fonds Africain de Garantie et de Coopération Économique (FAGACE)

Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes of the Forum are as follows:

- Identification of priority actions by stakeholders to further strengthen trade and investment integration.
- Building new partnerships, scaling up of existing partnerships and showcasing best practices and lessons learned.
- Agreeing on a common agenda to promote regional connectivity, trade digitalization, investment promotion, and food security.

Organizers

- Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

Date and Venue

The Forum will be held from 19 to 20 November 2024, at the **ES SAADI Marrakech Hotel** - Kingdom of Morocco