



OIC Water Council

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Terms of Reference

Article 1: Mandate of the OIC Water Council

The OIC Water Council has been established pursuant to the recommendation of the First Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water (ICMW) held in March 2009 and resolution of the Second Session of the ICMW held in Istanbul in March 2012 adopting the OIC Water Vision that outlined a framework for cooperation in the field of water.

The 2nd ICMW also called for preparation of draft Terms of Reference for the OIC Water Council for the consideration of the next Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water.

The establishment of the Water Council is in conformity with the principles of the OIC Charter and its Terms of Reference would be governed by the relevant OIC rules and regulation.

Article 2: Objectives

2.1 The purpose of the Water Council is to promote activities recommended by the OIC Water Vision, capacity building and exchange of experience through collaboration among OIC stakeholders, elaborate on a potential financial mechanism and demonstrate success for future consideration of greater cooperation among OIC Member States.

2.2 The Water Council shall work under the authority of and guided by the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water to implement the Water Vision for a water-secure future of OIC Member States enshrined also in UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

2.3 The Water Council shall encourage technical cooperation among the Member States, research and educational institutions, private sector and other possible stakeholders for implementation of the OIC Water Vision. It shall particularly focus on:

- (1) Connecting institutions within the OIC in water science, technical policy management and technology development to build capacity, and share and enhance knowledge;
- (2) Supporting OIC Member States to overcome water related challenges through increased dialogue and exchange of experience as well as through promoting concrete actions;
- (3) Promoting scientific measures to water related challenges in the national and international agenda of OIC leaders.

Article 3: Scope of activities

The OIC Water Council shall;

- 3.1 Support OIC Member States for the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the Conferences of Ministers responsible for Water as well as the Water Vision and subsequent follow-up.
- 3.2 Enhance cooperation among OIC Member States concerning water issues in international fora;
- 3.3 Promote water research and development activities and disseminate the research findings and the best practices in water-related activities within OIC Member States;
- 3.4 Develop financing mechanisms to implement activities under the OIC Water Vision.

Article 4: Composition

4.1. The OIC Water Council shall comprise 15 members:

- (1) Current host of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;
- (2) Next host of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;
- (3) Host of the last Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water;
- (4) Chair of the OIC Summit Conference;
- (5) Three Member States from each of the following three OIC groups:
 - Africa;
 - Arab;
 - Asia;Each of group elects three of its Member States during the meeting of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for water for membership in the OIC Water Council.
- (6) Host of the OIC Headquarters;
- (7) OIC Secretary General or his representative.

4.2 Observers:

The observers will include relevant OIC institutions and international organizations including but not restricted to COMSTECH, SESRIC, IDB, ISESCO, INWARDAM, UNDP, ICBA, Arab Water Council and AMCOW in accordance with related issues.

4.3 Invitees:

Any other entity as deemed necessary by members of the Water Council.

4.4 The host country enabling the establishment of the OIC Water Council during the First Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water (ICMW) held in March 2009, shall be the member of the OIC Water Council till 2022, after which this article may be reviewed.

4.5 The members of the Water Council shall be appointed for a term of two years and renewable for another term by the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water.

Article 5: Bureau of the Water Council

5.1 The Bureau of the OIC Water Council shall comprise:

- (1) Chairperson of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water (the Host of the current Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers responsible for Water);
- (2) 2 Vice Chairs, from the Member States within the Council;
- (3) One Rapporteur

5.2 These, with the chairperson of the previous Bureau, who shall be an ex-officio member, shall constitute the Council's Bureau. The OIC Water Council shall elect its Bureau by consensus at the commencement of the first meeting of its regular session.

5.3 In electing its officers, due regard will be given to the principle of equitable geographical representation. The Chairperson, the Vice Chairpersons and the Rapporteur shall hold office until their successors are elected. None of them may hold office after the expiration of the term of office of the member of which he is a representative.

5.4 The Chairperson of the Bureau shall discharge the following duties:

- (a) Fix, in consultation with the Secretariat, the dates of the Sessions of the Council;
- (b) Prepare the sessions of the Council, in consultation with the Secretariat;
- (c) Prepare for the program of the Council;
- (e) Discharge all other duties assigned by the Council.

5.5 Meetings of the Bureau may be convened between meetings of the Council.

Article 6: Secretariat, its duties and responsibilities:

6.1 The OIC General Secretariat shall be the Secretariat of the Council. The Secretariat may seek technical advice on water-related issues from the relevant institutions of the Member States.

6.2 The duties of the Secretariat shall include:

- a. Coordination and convening of the OIC Water Council meetings in consultation with the Chairperson of the Bureau;
- b. Facilitation in preparation of documentations for the meeting;
- c. Submission of the decisions of the Water Council meetings for approval of the Islamic Conferences of Minister responsible for Water;

Article 7: Procedures

7.1 The meetings of the OIC Water Council should normally be chaired by the Chairperson.

7.2 The Vice Chairs shall assist the Chair in all meetings. In the absence of the Chair, one of the Vice Chairs shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chair.

Article 8: Meetings

8.1 The OIC Water Council shall meet at least once in a year. The Council may hold extraordinary virtual meetings as frequently as required.

8.2. All expenses for attending the meetings shall be borne by the participants.

Article 9: Decisions

The OIC Water Council takes decisions by consensus and submits them to the subsequent meeting of OIC Ministers responsible for water for their consideration.

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