

In the name of God

**2<sup>nd</sup> D-8 Agricultural Ministerial Meeting on Food Security**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Working Group Meeting on Standards and Trade Issues**  
**16 May 2011. Tehran – Iran**

**Summary Report**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group Meeting on Standards and Trade Issues was held on 16 May 2011, led by Islamic Republic of Iran with the absence of Turkey as the jointly prime mover countries. The meeting was attended by the delegates from Arab Republic of Egypt, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia and Nigeria. The list of the participants appears in **Annex 1**.

2. Mr.Mohammad Reza Shafeinia, Advisor to the Minister of the Jihad-e-Agriculture and the head of Iranian delegates has convened the meeting with reminiscence the background of the standards and trade issues raised during the D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Food Security in Kuala Lumpur, 25-27 February 2009.

**Agenda No.1:. Election of the Chairperson**

3. Mr.Mohammad Reza Shafeinia, head of delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been elected as the Chairperson of the meeting which was proposed by the delegate of Malaysia and unanimously agreed by other member countries.

**Agenda No.2: Adoption of the Agenda**

4. The Agenda of the meeting was adopted unanimously as appears in **Annex II**.

**Agenda No.3:Election of the Raporteur**

5 Delegate from Islamic Republic of Iran was elected as the Raporteur

**Agenda No.4: Presentation of Country Report**

6 The head of delegation of member countries presented their country reports as appear in **Annex III**.

**Agenda No.5: New Projects and Area of Cooperation in Agricultural Standards and Trade Issues**

7. Member countries deliberated wide range of issues pertaining to the standards and trade. The Chairperson emphasised on the area of cooperation of food standards

and trade on plant products and agricultural inputs such as seed, fertilizer, livestock feed and fishery. As such, the member countries have agreed for standards issues to include standards for food safety and inputs.

8. During the meeting, the issues on the standards of Halal products have been raised and discussed. The Chairperson informed the meeting on the development of Halal Food Standards among OIC member countries. Malaysia further informed the meeting that during the "26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC)" in Turkey from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010, most of the OIC member states have not ratified the OIC Halal Food Standards and Procedures. In view of this, if the issues on OIC Halal Food Standards and Procedures being resolved by the OIC member states, then only the member countries may consider to facilitate trade on Halal products and using the standards labeling among the member countries.

9. Member countries drafted the 1<sup>st</sup> Draft on Terms of Reference (TOR) for D-8 Working Group on Standards and Trade issues (Annex IV). However, TOR has not been finalised during the meeting and member countries agreed to submit their comments, views and additional inputs to the draft of TOR to the prime mover country (Islamic Republic of Iran) by the end of June 2011. If the member countries unable to finalize the draft of TOR, it was suggested that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group Meeting on Standards and Trade Issues should be convened.

#### **Agenda No.6: Date and Venue of the Next Meeting**

10. No date and venue was proposed for the next meeting. However, the meeting agreed for the Islamic Republic of Iran as the prime mover of this Working Group to initiate communication in organizing a meeting to resolve any pending issues in the future.

#### **Agenda No.7: Any Other of Business**

11. Under this agenda item no other issues were raised

#### **Agenda No.8: Adoption of the Report**

12. The meeting considered and adopt the report of the meeting unanimously.

#### **Agenda No.9: Vote of Thanks and Closing of the Meeting**

13. Delegations expressed their gratitude to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Working Group Meeting on Standards and Trade Issues for the excellent arrangement made for the meeting.

As of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011



Annex IV

### 1<sup>st</sup> Draft on Terms of Reference

#### D-8 Working Group on Standards and Trade Issues

##### A. INTRODUCTION.

1. Developing countries in every corner of the globe are being affected by the global food crisis in 2008. This illustrates the state of uncertainty in the world food supply chain to provide enough nutritious food for mankind, mainly due to the sky rocketing price in food commodities coupled with shortages and diminishing food stocks as a result of reduce in yield and production.
2. International organizations such as WTO, IMF and FAO had issued statements that any shortages of food supplies can create uncertainty that would have negative impacts and political instability of a country if it is not urgently addressed. This can become a global concern since it

led to an increasing number of people across regions not able to access to adequate food at affordable price.

3. Commonly the concept of food security is defined as including both physical and economic access to food that meets people's dietary need as well as their food preferences. Based on this definition, Food Security is built on three main pillars :

Food availability: The availability of sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production and/or imports (including food aid).

Food accessibility: Access by individuals to adequate resources (entitlements) for acquiring appropriate foods for a nutritious diet. Entitlements are defined as the set of all commodity bundles over which a person can establish command given the legal, political, economic and social arrangements of the community in which they live (including traditional rights such as access to common resources).

Utilization: Utilization of food through adequate diet, clean water, sanitation and health care to reach a state of nutritional well-being where all physiological needs are met. This brings out the importance of non-food

## **Objectives**

D-8 Working Group on Standards and Trade Issues will serve as a forum for member countries to enhance the capacity on Food Security, Standards and Trade Issues contributing to economic growth and social well-being of the member countries.

## **Principles of Cooperation**

The activities of the Working Group will accord with the principles of Kuala Lumpur Initiatives to Address Food Security in D-8 Countries. These activities will:

- . be based on the principles of mutual respect and equality, mutual benefit and assistance;
- . develop an environment favourable to integrate the cooperation process;
- . integrate environmental considerations in all relevant activities;

In addition, the D-8 Working Group will:

- . pay due respect to the diversity of agricultural sectors of the D-8 member countries;
- . recognise changes occurring in the agricultural sectors of D-8 member countries;

#### **Scope of Activities**

- . D-8 member countries will carry out its activities consistent with the vision of the D-8 Initiatives;
- . identification and sharing of information on standards and regulations among D-8 member countries; and
- . selection of priority on agriculture and fisheries products for harmonisation standards and regulations.

The D-8 Working Group on Standards and Trade Issues will concentrate in its future work on capacity building and technical cooperation along the chain of agriculture and

food production, processing, marketing and distribution.

Capacity Building and Technical Cooperation will focus on the following areas of activities:

- Promote activities and cooperation to strengthen food security among D-8 Member Countries in the field of animal feed productions, fertilizers, seed bank and marine and fisheries.

Above mentioned areas of activities will be reviewed annually;

The Working Group will liaise with the business sector and relevant authorities;

### **Structure of the Group**

The Working Group will meet at least annually, with meetings arranged in such a way which minimizes resource costs and maximizes member participation.

The Working Group may establish special task forces with strictly defined terms of reference and duration.

The Working Group shall review the scope of its activities and all aspects of its operations every three years or as new issues appear.

The Working Group will report to SOM.