



**STATUTE
OF
THE ISLAMIC ORGANISATION FOR FOOD SECURITY**

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PREAMBLE

The Governments of the member states of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, Parties to this Statute,

Inspired by the provisions of the OIC Charter on strengthening the bonds of unity, cooperation and solidarity among the peoples of OIC member states for the sake of promoting their welfare, prosperity and socio-economic development,

Pursuant to Resolution No. 3/39-E on Establishment of OIC Food Security Institution in Kazakhstan adopted by the Thirty Ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti on 15-17 November 2012,

Recognizing the need to address the major food security problems facing their member states, particularly the spate of hunger, malnutrition, famine, widespread poverty, growing population, food shortage, desertification, deforestation, salinity and under utilization of existing potentials,

Desirous of creating a collective platform to promote food security, rural and agricultural development in a sustainable manner through the mobilization of all available resources within their countries, exchange of best practices and experiences, promotion of investment and transfer of appropriate technologies,

Do hereby lay the present Statute:

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Article 1: Definitions

In the present Statute, the following terms shall have the meanings set opposite each one of them:

1. The Organisation means: Islamic Organisation for Food Security.

2. The General Assembly means: the General Assembly of Islamic Organisation for Food Security.
3. The Executive Board means: the Executive Board of Islamic Organisation for Food Security.
4. The Secretariat means: the Secretariat of Islamic Organisation for Food Security.
5. The Chairman means: the Chairman of Islamic Organisation for Food Security.
6. The Director General means: the Director General of Islamic Organisation for Food Security.
7. The OIC means: Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.
8. The member states means: OIC member states, which have acceded to Islamic Organisation for Food Security in line with the Article 5 of this Statute.
9. The CFM means: OIC Council of Foreign Ministers.
10. The Islamic Summit Conference means: Summit of Kings and Heads of State and Government of OIC member states.
11. Accredited Representative means: any person empowered by the authorities of the state to sign the Statute.
12. Food means: any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for human consumption.
13. Food security means: a condition when all people, at all times, have physical, social, economic and financial access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

Article 2: Headquarters

1. The Headquarters of the Organisation shall be located in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan. The host country shall provide all necessary facilities for its smooth functioning, including diplomatic immunities and privileges.

2. The Organisation may, in accordance with a General Assembly resolution and upon a proposal from the Executive Board, establish in any other country, centres, offices or institutions which are subsidiary to it or are under its supervision.

Article 3: Legal Status

1. The Organisation shall be a specialized institution of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, as defined by Article 24 of the OIC Charter.

2. The Organisation shall enjoy the status of fully-fledged legal entity as an international organisation, using its full legal capacity to exercise its functions and fulfill its objectives as defined in this Statute.

3. The immunities and privileges including the judicial immunity and tax exemption granted to any subsidiary offices, pursuant to Article 2 para 2 should be determined by a bilateral agreement between the Organisation and the concerned host country.

Article 4: Aims and Objectives of the Organisation

1. The aims and objectives of the Organisation shall be to:

- (a) provide expertise and technical know-how to member states on the various aspects of sustainable agriculture, rural development, food security, and biotechnology including addressing the problems posed by desertification, deforestation, erosion and salinity as well as providing social safety nets;
- (b) assess and monitor, in coordination with member states, the food security situation in member states, in order to determine and make necessary emergency and humanitarian assistance, including the creation of food security reserves;
- (c) mobilize and manage financial and agricultural resources for developing agriculture and enhancing the food security in member states; and
- (d) coordinate, formulate and implement common agricultural policies, including exchange and transfer of appropriate technology and public food management system.

2. To attain the above objectives, the Organisation shall endeavor to perform the following functions:

- (a) collect, study, interpret and disseminate information on nutrition, food and agriculture;
- (b) conduct and supervise scientific, technological, social and economic research on nutrition, food and agriculture;
- (c) exchange of information, data, researches and studies on sustainable agricultural development, biotechnology and production practices models, including irrigation, seed production, pesticides and agronomic management;
- (d) promote modernization of agricultural processes and institutional capacity building;
- (e) pursue mobilization and management of resources for the sustainable development of agriculture and food security of the member states;
- (f) stimulate intra-OIC investment in agriculture and food security, through micro-finance projects, extension facilities, cross-border projects and increased access to Islamic financial products;
- (g) develop and implement appropriate national and regional projects, international programs, legal and other regulations in area of food security for the realization of the objectives of the Organisation;
- (h) develop and implement common agricultural policies;
- (i) participate in humanitarian programs upon relevant requests of the OIC ;
- (j) create necessary regional mechanisms for providing necessary assistance in case of food emergencies in member states, resulting from food shortages, natural and artificial calamities, disaster, drought and similar conditions taking into account peculiarities of each member state;
- (k) cooperate with other international and regional organizations as stipulated in Article 7;
- (l) implement the OIC resolutions and recommendations in this regard as may be conveyed through the Islamic Summit Conferences, CFMs and OIC Ministerial Conferences on Food Security and Agricultural Development; and
- (m) adopt all necessary and relevant measures to implement the objectives of the Organisation.

Article 5: Membership of the Organisation

1. Every member state of the OIC may become a member of the Organisation upon signing the Statute, and after it has completed the membership legal formalities, in accordance with its national legislation, and informed in writing the Secretariat of the Organisation. A state, which is not a member, or is an observer of the OIC, cannot become a member of the Organisation.
2. A member state or observer of the OIC, which is not member of the Organisation, may apply for the status of observer at the Organisation. Regional and international organisations may enjoy the status of observer, after submitting a request to, and upon the approval of, the General Assembly.
3. Only the member states of the Organisation shall have the right to vote at the General Assembly. Decisions shall be taken by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the decision shall be made by a majority of two thirds of the member states present and voting.
4. The nature and scope of rights and responsibilities of the member states shall be defined by the present Statute as well as rules and regulations of the Organisation.

Article 6: Reports by the Member States

1. All member states should periodically send to the Executive Board and the Secretariat texts of laws and regulations on matters falling within the mandate of the Organisation, including statistical, technical and other information published or otherwise issued or made available by government bodies except information protected by national legislation.
2. The General Assembly, the Executive Board and the Secretariat may request member states to present other information, reports or documents on matters falling within the mandate of the Organisation.

Article 7: Relations between the Organisation and Other Organisations

1. The Organisation shall maintain close cooperation with all OIC organs in order to strengthen collaboration and cooperation among them and to improve coherence and synergy in the implementation of OIC policies and programs.

2. The Organisation shall be guided by the general objectives of the OIC as may be provided for in the decisions of Islamic Summit Conferences and CFMs.

3. The Organisation shall, subject to General Assembly approval and consistent with OIC aims and objectives, establish closer collaboration with regional and international organisations with common membership with OIC to help achieve its aims and objectives. Similarly, it shall also establish closer collaboration with any other governmental or non-governmental regional and international organisations concerned with agriculture, rural development and food security.

Article 8: Conventions and Agreements

1. The General Assembly shall, subject to the decision of two-thirds of its votes, adopt and submit to the member states conventions and agreements in area of food and agriculture for their adoption.

2. For the purpose of para 1 above, conventions and agreements shall:

- (a) contain provisions on entry into force including the number of approvals by the member states; and
- (b) not incur any financial obligations for member states which are not parties to this Statute.

3. The General Assembly shall have the right to elaborate rules on consultations with governments and technical support for the preparation of conventions and agreements.

CHAPTER II ORGANS OF THE ORGANISATION

Article 9: Organs of the Organisation

The organs of the Organisation shall be:

- (a) The General Assembly;
- (b) The Executive Board; and
- (c) The Secretariat.

Article 10: The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall comprise Ministers responsible for matters within the mandate of the Organisation or their representatives, who are nominated by their respective member states. The General Assembly shall hold ordinary sessions once a year. Extraordinary sessions may be held, if necessary, at the request of five members, subject to the agreement of two-third members of the Organisation. Each member shall be entitled to one vote.

2. The powers and duties of the General Assembly shall be to:

- (a) elect the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen for a term of one year renewable once, taking into consideration the principle of equitable geographical distribution;
- (b) elect the Chairman and members of the Executive Board on the basis of equitable geographical representation;
- (c) draw up the general policy of the Organisation;
- (d) adopt the budget, establish and control the financial policy and the general work programme of the Organisation and methods for implementing this programme;
- (e) elect the Director General of the Organisation in conformity with Article 15 (2) of this Statute; and
- (f) adopt recommendations, resolutions and reports of the General Assembly sessions as well as its Rules of Procedure.

Article 11: The Chairman of the General Assembly shall assume the following responsibilities:

- 1. The Chairman shall convene, conduct and preside over the sessions of the Organisation.
- 2. The Chairman will represent the Organisation between its sessions.
- 3. The Chairman may be assisted by representatives of the member states for carrying out the tasks assigned to him.

4. The Chairman may delegate whatever powers he deems fit to the Vice-Chairman.

5. In case the Office of Chairman temporary falls vacant for any reason, the Vice-Chairman shall assume his functions during the period of absence of the Chairman.

Article 12: The Executive Board

1. The Executive Board shall be composed of 8 members, including the Chairman. Members are elected by the General Assembly based on equitable geographical distribution. The country hosting the headquarters of the Organisation shall be a permanent member, while one non-voting post shall be allocated to the Director General. Members of the Executive Board are elected for a period of 3 years, renewable once. A member state may decide to change its representative on the Executive Board as it deems fit.

2. The quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of two-third of the members and its resolutions shall be adopted by two-third majority of members.

Article 13: Meetings of the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall meet at least twice a year at the Headquarters of the Organisation or at any other venue as may be agreed. Extraordinary meetings of the Executive Board may be convened upon the request of the Chairman or a simple majority of its members when necessary.

Article 14: Duties and Powers of the Executive Board

1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible to the General Assembly. Its duties and powers are to:

- (a) ensure the efficient working of different organs of the Organisation in line with the general policy of the Organisation;
- (b) approve the general calendar of meetings (Sessions, Working Groups and Groups of Experts);
- (c) prepare the provisional agenda for the regular and extraordinary sessions in consultation with the member states and the Director General;

- (d) decide on the advisability of inviting to the sessions of the Organisation any person or organisation as expert or observer;
- (e) review the budget and financial statements of the Organisation, and to submit them to the General Assembly;
- (f) set up Specialized Committees as and when necessary and prepare their agenda, appoint their members and fix their duration of work;
- (g) submit detailed reports to the General Assembly on the activities of the organs of the Organisation;
- (h) supervise the activities of the Organisation and ensure that its duties are implemented in accordance with resolutions of the General Assembly, decisions of the Executive Board and internal regulations;
- (i) conduct and supervise scientific, technological, social and economic research on nutrition, food and agriculture;
- (j) exchange information, data, researches and studies on sustainable agricultural development, biotechnology and production practices models, including irrigation, seed production, pesticides and agronomic management;
- (k) promote modernization of agricultural processes and institutional capacity building;
- (l) pursue mobilization and management of financial and agricultural resources for the sustainable development of agriculture and food security of the member states;
- (m) stimulate intra-OIC investment in agriculture and food security through micro-finance projects, extension facilities, cross-border projects and increased access to Islamic financial products; and
- (n) develop and implement appropriate national and regional projects, international programs, legal and other regulations in area of food and nutrition security for the realization of the objectives of the Organisation.

Article 15: The Secretariat

1. The Secretariat shall comprise a Director General and official staff working in the permanent Headquarters and in such other offices as may be established. The Director General shall determine the official list of the staff of the Organisation.
2. The Director General shall be appointed by the General Assembly for a period of four years, renewable once only. The Director General shall be appointed from among the candidates nominated by member states in accordance with the principles of equal opportunity for all member states with due consideration to competence, integrity and experience.
3. The Director General shall be accountable to the Executive Board and General Assembly, and shall have direct authority over the entire staff of the Secretariat.
4. If the office of the Director General becomes vacant for more than ninety (90) days before the end of his/her term, the General Assembly shall appoint a successor for the remaining term.

Article 16: The Functions of Director General

1. In addition to any other functions as may be approved by the Executive Board and General Assembly, the Director General shall:
 - (a) appoint the staff of the Secretariat and see to the application of the provisions of the Personnel Regulations;
 - (b) supervise the activities of the Secretariat;
 - (c) prepare an annual report on the budget and the closing account;
 - (d) submit an annual report on the activities of the Secretariat to the Executive Board;
 - (e) be responsible for the funds of the Organisation and its expenditure in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Rules of the Organisation;

- (f) collect, study, interpret and disseminate information on nutrition, food and agriculture;
- (g) provide necessary humanitarian assistance, and participate in humanitarian programs upon relevant requests by the OIC; and
- (h) create necessary regional mechanisms for addressing food emergencies in member states, resulting from food shortages, natural and artificial calamities, disasters, drought and similar conditions.

CHAPTER III BUDGET AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Article 17: Budget

1. The budget shall be prepared for three years and shall become effective each year as of January 1st up to the end of December of the same year. It shall be executed after its adoption by the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organisation.
2. The Director General shall prepare an annual report on the budget and the closing account, which he shall submit to the Executive Board at its following session subsequent to the end of the financial year. The report on the financial year shall include his proposals on the implementation of the budget as well as his observations on the closing account.

Article 18: Financial Resources

1. The financial resources of the Organisation shall include:
 - (a) annual assessed contributions received by the Organisation from member states as approved by the General Assembly;
 - (b) donations and voluntary contributions from the member states, non-member states, institutions and partners, provided that donations from all external sources are not incompatible with the objectives and regulations of the Organisation;

- (c) fund-raising from member states and international organisations for special projects of the Organisation;
- (d) proceeds of the sales of publications, products, services relating to the Organisation's field of competence; and
- (e) member states are expected to contribute to the Budget in accordance with the scale of assessment in use at the OIC or any other formula as may be approved by the General Assembly.

Article 19: Expenditures

1. The expenditures of the Organisation incurred for such purposes as follows:
 - (a) running of the Secretariat and other approved offices of the Organisation, including obligations towards permanent and commissioned staff;
 - (b) commitments resulting from projects undertaken jointly with governmental or non-governmental partners;
 - (c) subsidies and assistance to institutions and organisations under its supervision; and
 - (d) commitments resulting from previous contracts, resolutions or programmes of a binding nature for the Organisation.

Article 20: Accounts

1. The Director General shall prepare the annual report on the budget and submit it to the Executive Board upon completion of the financial year. The Executive Board shall prepare the final annual report on the budget and submit it to the General Assembly during its regular session. The Executive Board shall appoint a Financial Control Committee made up of representatives from five member states, for a three-year period and on a rotational basis, to audit the accounts of the Organisation, and to ensure sound management of Organisation's Permanent Headquarters and its offices. The Committee may seek assistance of experts in related fields, if need be.

2. The Financial Control Committee shall have the right to examine all the relevant books and records and to request the Executive Board, the Director

General or the officials of the Organisation to provide any information it deems necessary for the performance of its duties. Accounts shall be audited by the Financial Control Committee on an annual basis so as to verify the accuracy of the budget and the accounts.

3. The Financial Control Committee shall submit its report to the Director General, who shall refer it to the Executive Board with his observations thereon. The Executive Board shall submit the report to the General Assembly at its following session.

CHAPTER IV FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 21: Entry into force

1. The Statute shall be open for signature of OIC member states following its adoption by the Islamic Summit Conference or CFM. It shall be applied provisionally upon signing by at least ten (10) OIC member states through their accredited representatives, and definitively enter into force upon the 30th day from the date of submission of the 10th instrument of ratification or acceptance. For any member state which signs, ratifies or accepts this Statute after its entry into force, this Statute shall enter into force on the 30th day after the date when an instrument of ratification or acceptance is submitted.

2. The instruments of ratification or acceptance of this Statute shall be deposited at the General Secretariat of the OIC.

3. The Secretary General of the OIC shall inform all member states of the receipt of required number of instruments of ratification or acceptance.

4. The original of the Statute in a single copy in the Arabic, English and French languages shall be deposited at the General Secretariat of the OIC. The General Secretariat of the OIC shall send certified copies of this Statute to all the signatories.

Article 22: Amendment of the Statute

1. The Statute may be amended by the General Assembly upon approval by two-thirds majority votes of the member states. However, amendments approved

by the General Assembly resulting in basic changes in the objectives of the Organisation or in new obligations for member states, can only take effect upon ratification by two-thirds of the member states.

2. An amendment that shall not incur new obligations for the member states shall enter into force immediately, unless the resolution on adoption of the amendment shall state otherwise. Amendments setting new obligations shall enter into force for each member state adopting them after approval of two-thirds of the member states and for other member states they shall enter into force after they adopt them.

3. Proposals to amend the Statute shall be initiated by a member state and delivered to the Chairman. The Chairman shall immediately notify the member states about all proposals to amend the Statute.

4. No proposal to amend the Statute shall be included in the agenda of the session of the General Assembly if relevant notification is sent by the Chairman to the member states less than 120 days before the session.

Article 23: Interpretation

Any question or dispute concerning the interpretation of this Statute shall be referred for determination to the General Assembly of the Organisation. The General Assembly shall decide on such disputes by two-thirds majority votes of the member states.

Article 24: Withdrawal

1. Any member state shall have the right to withdraw from the Organisation through a notice directed to the Chairman one year before its withdrawal and conveyed to all member states.

2. The State seeking withdrawal shall meet its financial obligations up to the end of the financial year in which it presents its withdrawal request, and shall pay to the Organisation all other financial obligations it owes.

3. If a member state fails to implement its obligations under this Statute, the General Assembly shall have the right to suspend its membership or within one year from the date of suspension re-establish its membership.

4. The suspended member state shall lose all rights defined by this Statute but keep all obligations.

Article 25: Dissolution

1. The Organisation shall not be dissolved or merged with another institution except by a decision of four-fifth majority of the General Assembly at an extraordinary session held in accordance with Article 10 of this Statute.

2. The assets and liabilities of the Organisation, after dissolution, shall be transferred to the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

Article 26: The text of the Statute

The Arabic, English and French texts of this Statute shall be regarded as equally authentic.

Article 27: Official Languages

The official languages of the Organisation shall be Arabic, English and French.

Statute adopted by the 40th Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea on 09-11 December, 2013.