



Organisation islamique pour
l'Éducation, les Sciences et la Culture
ISESCO

Direction générale

المنظمة الإسلامية
للتربية والعلوم والثقافة
إيسيسكو

الإدارة العامة

Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
ISESCO

General Directorate

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Rabat, - 2 AVR. 2018

H. E. Dr. Galimkair Mutanov
Rector
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU)
Almaty – Republic of Kazakhstan

Assalamu alaikum warahmatu Allah wbarakatuh,

I have the honour to inform you that ISESCO has received a letter from the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) inviting H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Director General of ISESCO, to attend the 21st Meeting of COMSATS Coordinating Council, scheduled to take place in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 3-4 April 2018, hosted by the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU).

Since H.E. the Director General of ISESCO is unable to attend the meeting personally due to his previously planned commitments on the date, and considering the importance of the event and the excellent cooperation relations between the ISESCO and the COMSATS in the fields of common interests, His Excellency the Director General of ISESCO kindly suggests that you represent ISESCO at this important event, and deliver the attached ISESCO statement in the opening ceremony.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.



Dr. Ahmed Said Bah

Director of External Relations
and Cooperation

Encl: ISESCO statement.

MAH/



The 21st Meeting of COMSATS Coordinating Council

Organized by

**The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
(ISESCO)**

3rd –4th April 2018, Almaty, Kazakhstan

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful
Praise be to God, Prayer and Peace on Mohamed the Messenger of God,
and on his kith and kin

Excellencies,

Distinguishable guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatu Allah Wabarakatouh

It is a matter of great honor and privilege for me to extend warm and cordial welcome to all of you on behalf of His Excellency, Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) at the "The 21st Meeting of COMSATS Coordinating Council, to be held from 3rd -4th April 2018, in the wonderful city Almaty, Kazakhstan

I am grateful to the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in The South (COMSATS) and Al-Farabi Kazakh National University for all efforts they have done, facilities they have provided to implement this prestigious Meeting and to ensure its success which is of prime importance of Science, Technology, Research and Education in Islamic Countries.

I am pleased to see the presence of eminent participants in this important event to contribute in the development of Science and Technology in Islamic Countries. Our combined wisdom and vision will enable us to contribute in utilizing the results of our meeting for the benefits of the society.

Excellencies,

Distinguishable guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like especially to stress on the long, excellent and close cooperation between ISESCO and COMSATS to address Science, Technology and Innovation issues of Member States.

Science has taken a central place in ISESCO's action towards building international scientific cooperation for sustainable development. As you may know, ISESCO's role is to support Member States in building the knowledge societies we need for the current era. This is especially important at a time of global change, as countries work to face the challenges the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals 2016-2030.

The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) share many noble objectives and have a common mission of bringing about sustainable socio-economic development in the South, through building capacities and events, and making judicious use of science and technology applications, by instituting South-South and North-South collaborations and exchange, and sensitizing the countries in the South to the centrality of science and technology in the development process, to the adequate allocation of resources for research and development, and to the integration of science and technology in the national and regional development plans.

I am pleased to present ISESCO and COMSATS have enjoyed cordial relations and have implemented jointly various important scientific and technological programmes in the Islamic countries. The two organizations signed Memorandum of Understanding since 2004, for an indefinite period with the intention of strengthening the partnership and cooperation between the two parties and discuss future collaborative potential programmes to join hands in the South-South Technical Cooperation Programme.

A brief on the activities and projects completed jointly by the two organizations in 2016-2017

ISESCO attaches great importance to strengthening capacities in the field of scientific and technological research in order to step up Member States' efforts in these areas and, consequently, contribute to their socio-economic development. Under this axis, ISESCO Centre for Promotion of Scientific Research (ICPSR), in close cooperation with COMSATS, has exerted constant and sustained efforts to promote online networking of scientific institutes, researchers, engineers and faculties. Databases of research and development institutes, science academies, universities and experts are regularly updated.

In addition, ICPSR, in a bid to facilitate information retrieval and sharing of experiences and expertise among researchers, while contributing to international efforts, continues to post the new electronic version of "ISESCO Journal of Science and Technology" online for free access.

As concern the Activities implemented in 2016, I would like to mention the following

- "Regional Workshop on Biosafety and Biosecurity in Life Sciences" Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 26th-28th April 2016. The activity was jointly organized with The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) and Pakistan Academy of Science (PAS). It provided training and material on Biosafety and principles of biosecurity to research/lab staff and academicians. More than 170 participants from academicians, students, science administrators and media personnel took part in the workshop.
- "2nd International Conference on 'Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology'" Khartoum, Republic of the Sudan, 17th-18th October, 2016. The activity was jointly organized in collaboration with the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), COMSATS' Centre of Excellence in Sudan and the Industrial and Research and Consultancy Centre (IRCC). It attended by over than 150 scientists, researchers, technologists and faculty members to update and share the recent developments in the field of agriculture and biotechnology. 150 participants has attended this activity from Iran, Senegal, Egypt, Pakistan, Oman and Sudan.
- "5th International Workshop and Conference on Nanomaterials and Nanodevices (IWCN) " Selangor, Malaysia, 28th-30th November 2016, successfully organized by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), ISESCO and COMSATS, about 100 participants has taken part from Malaysia, Pakistan, Indonesia, China, Brunei and Bangladesh.

- Updating Nanotechnology Online Training Program, this program was implemented in cooperation with COMSATS, ISESCO adapted the Strategy for Promotion of Nanotechnology in the Member States. This Strategy covers comprehensively all aspects to allow the Member States to take right actions, promote necessary technologies and to derive commercial and economic benefits from new finding, research outcome and innovations. In line with this strategy, ISESCO established Expert Panel on Nanotechnology (IEPN) in 2010. In 2016, ISESCO launched the ISESCO-Nano Web Portal (isesco-nano.org) working as hub to meets the needs of experts, scientists and students to elaborate the importance of Nanotechnology. It also opens the opportunity for them to meet through Nanotechnology.
- 3rd International Workshop on 'Applications of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture" Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Amman, Kingdom of Jordan, 31st May - 1st June 2016. It was jointly organized by The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), The Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT) and The Royal Scientific Society Jordan (RSS). 56 participants from Jordan, Morocco, Egypt, Palestine and Pakistan took part in the workshop.
- "6th International Training Workshop on Internet Security: Enhancing Information Exchange Safeguards, Rabat ,Kingdom of Morocco, 19th- 23rd December 2016, was organized by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), and the Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT). The

workshop was attended by more than 70 participants from Gambia, Iran, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Palestine, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia, and Uzbekistan.

- **As concern the Activities implemented in 2017, I would like to mention the following**

- 3rd International Conference on 'Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology' Islamabad, Islamic republic of Pakistan, 26-27 April, 2017, was organised by: COMSATS and Pakistan Agriculture research Centre and was attended by participants from Tunis, Sudan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. There were about 3300 scientists participated in the inaugural session. Federal Minister for Food Security and Agriculture was the chief guest. Some renowned Scientists from Pakistan were also present. The key objectives of this international Conference are to: Provide a forum to scientists, researchers, technologists and faculty members to update their knowledge and share now-how on the recent developments in the field of agriculture and biotechnology.

- 7th International Workshop on 'Internet Security: Enhancing Information Exchange Safeguards' December, 19-23, 2017, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan. This activity was organized within the Cooperation program between ISESCO, COMSATS and CIIT as well as the Farabi University. The participants were from Bangladesh, Iran, Mauritania, Jordan, Sudan, Gambia, Palestine, Nigeria, and Pakistan and from Kazakhstan the hosting country

- "4th International Workshop on Application of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture' at FMST/NASRDA, Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, July 25-27, 2017, organized by COMSATS and attended by Participants from: Egypt, Jordan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Gambia, Palestine, Sudan and Nigeria. The workshop aims to conduct a knowledge-

sharing exercise regarding the role of ICTs in the sectors of Education, Healthcare and Agriculture, and their impact on the socio-economic landscape of a country. The workshop is expected to expand knowledge-base and capabilities of the participating scientists, researchers and professionals belonging to the Member States of OIC and COMSATS, regarding the cutting edge innovative ICT-based technologies and techniques used in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture sectors. The event will also attempt to explore an enabling policy framework for strengthening ICT policies in OIC and COMSATS Member States for enhancement of their technological capabilities for achieving national developmental goals.

- 1st International Congress on Viruses and Vaccines in Tropical Areas, Sere Kunda, Gambia, 11-12 October 2017. This activity was organized within the Cooperation programme between ISESCO, COMSATS and the University of the Gambia. The purpose of this activity was to promote the development of vaccines for tropical viruses and improve the health situation in these regions. The participants were from Pakistan, Nigeria, Sudan, Gambia, Ghana.
- 3rd International Conference on 'Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology' Islamabad, Islamic republic of Pakistan, 26-27 April, 2017, was organised by: COMSATS and Pakistan Agriculture research Centre and was attended by participants from Tunis, Sudan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. There were about 3300 scientists participated in the inaugural session. Federal Minister for Food Security and Agriculture was the chief guest. Some renowned Scientists from Pakistan were also present. The key objectives of this International Conference are to: Provide a forum to scientists, researchers, technologists and faculty members to update

their knowledge and share now-how on the recent developments in the field of agriculture and biotechnology.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that there will be joint activities between ISESCO and COMSATS to be implemented during 2018.

Excellencies,

Distinguishable guests

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I take pleasure to reiterate thanks and consideration of each and every one of you presents here today and encourages you all to contribute in this ISESCO led activity to enable us to achieve a tangible result out of this meeting. Wish you all a fruitful activity and nice stay at Islamabad.