



**United Nations Conference  
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: Restricted  
3 October 2013

Original: English

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**Trade and Development Board**

Fifty-eighth executive session  
Geneva, 12–13 December 2013  
Item 4 of the agenda

**Designation of non-governmental organizations for the  
purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

**Application from the Islamic Chamber Research and  
Information Center**

**Note by the UNCTAD secretariat**

*Executive summary*

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Islamic Chamber Research and Information Center requesting its inclusion by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board.

Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Board, the Center may be classified in the general category under the provisions of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its fifty-eighth executive session.

Information concerning the Center is annexed to this note.

## Annex

### **Background information on the Islamic Chamber Research and Information Center**

#### **History**

1. Since its inception, the Islamic Chamber Research and Information Center has devoted its efforts to fostering closer collaboration among countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in the areas of trade, insurance, shipping, banking and joint ventures. In order to promote intra-organizational and regional convergences among the member States of the Center and in conformity with decisions made at the eighth session of the Heads of Government of OIC countries held in Tehran in 1997, and following the Doha deliberations held in Qatar on the creation of an Islamic common market, the Center was established in 2002 to identify and explore challenges and opportunities related to the promotion of trade among 54 national chambers of commerce of OIC countries.

#### **Aims and objectives**

2. The Center aims to achieve the following objectives:
- (a) To collect, compile and disseminate trade data of OIC countries;
  - (b) To analyse the economic and technical implications of rules of the World Trade Organization for OIC countries;
  - (c) To contribute to efforts to establish an Islamic common market;
  - (d) To conduct research on trade between OIC countries, to plan capacity-building programmes for small and medium-sized enterprises in OIC countries, to assist OIC entrepreneurs in marketing and to work on competitive advantages in different sectors of the OIC countries;
  - (e) To design training programmes for the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) in different sectors; to organize seminars, workshops and training programmes on economic issues and to develop relations with other training and research institutions;
  - (f) To carry out studies for project sponsors and entrepreneurs in OIC countries, to implement studies on the promotion of intra-OIC tourism and to focus on research activities relating to development issues;
  - (g) To establish close linkages with the economic bodies of OIC countries and organizations in order to further its objectives.

#### **Structure**

3. The Center has a Board of Directors whose nine representatives sit for a four-year term: a chairman (President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines of the Islamic Republic of Iran (ICCIM)); two vice-chairmen (Secretary General of the Center; Director General of the Center, from ICCIM), three representatives of ICCIM and three representatives of the national chambers of OIC member States appointed by the General

Assembly of the Center. The Director of the Center, appointed by the Board, runs the Secretariat and ensures the smooth functioning of the Center according to the aims and objectives of ICCI and prepares a quarterly activity report – or whenever necessary – for the Secretary General of ICCI. The Board of Directors meets monthly and the Secretariat, weekly.

## Membership

4. The Center's membership stands at 54 national chambers of commerce from OIC countries.

## Financial resources

5. The Center is authorized to accept grants and contributions from various sources with the approval of the Board of Directors. It receives financial contributions from the Islamic Development Bank and other affiliations, covering expenses such as furniture and equipment. Total costs and expenditures for projects and research from June 2011 to June 2012 amount to €312,400. An extrabudgetary contribution of €200,000 was made by the Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and \$10,000 was received from the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture for the annual budget. The balance is made up of income from the Center's training courses and activities on Halal-related issues.

6. The table below shows the balance sheet for the period from 24 March to 20 December 2012, in Iranian rials.

Islamic Chamber Research and Information Center, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Balance sheet for the period 24 March to 20 December 2012**  
 (Iranian rials)

<i>Account</i>	<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>Debit balance</i>	<i>Credit balance</i>
Cash in hand and bank balance	8 820 430 169	4 824 876 220	3 995 553 949	0
Receivable accounts and bills	3 607 298 616	2 692 439 731	914 858 885	0
Fixed assets	183 392 000	0	183 392 000	0
Reserves	0	71 622 873	0	71 622 873
Long-term investments	1 500 000 000	0	1 500 000 000	0
Payable accounts and bills	347 021 730	499 435 751	0	152 414 021
Profit and loss	993 703 506	4 506 532 804	0	3 512 829 298
Revenues	122 800 000	5 728 416 346	0	5 605 616 346
Costs	2 672 419 921	6 001 297	2 666 418 624	0
Current operation control	138 378 880	56 119 800	82 259 080	0
Regulatory accounts	105 000 000	50 000 000	55 000 000	0
Party to regulatory accounts	50 000 000	105 000 000	0	55 000 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 540 444 822</b>	<b>18 540 444 822</b>	<b>9 397 482 538</b>	<b>9 397 482 538</b>
<b>Total (dollars)</b>	<b>747 494</b>	<b>747 494</b>	<b>378 878</b>	<b>378 878</b>
Balance			0	0

### **Relations with other international organizations**

7. The Center has relations with the following organizations:
  - (a) OIC
  - (b) Islamic Development Bank
  - (c) ICCI
  - (d) UNCTAD
  - (e) World Trade Organization
  - (f) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
  - (g) United Nations Industrial Development Organization
  - (h) International Trade Centre
  - (i) United Nations Development Programme

### **Publications**

8. The Center issues the following publications: *Islamic Trade and Development*, *The Changing Face of Retailing*, *Halal World* and *Report of Activities*.

### **Liaison**

9. Liaison with UNCTAD:

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### **Address**

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www.icric.org

### **Working languages**

11. The working languages of the Center are English, French and Spanish.