



Federation of UAE Chambers
of Commerce & Industry

14th Private Sector Meeting

**for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture
Investment among Islamic Countries**

Theme:

**SMEs in Developing Economies of OIC
Countries and the Role of Private Sector**

**Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
24-26 April 2011**

14th Private Sector Meeting
for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture Investment among Islamic Countries
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Theme:
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the Role of Private Sector

Preamble:

The General Secretariat of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), an affiliated Institution of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) regularly organizes Private Sector Meetings in different OIC Countries with the objective of bringing the private sector in the forefront of economic development. The General Secretariat of the OIC in its Road Map for the implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action has also mandated ICCI to continue its activities, especially organization of Private Sector Meetings and to ensure effective implementation of the agreements signed during these Meetings.

The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry being the major Institution within OIC representing the private sector, was given the mandate by the 9th Session of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of OIC Countries (COMCEC) held in September 1993 in Turkey to organize private sector meetings, with the objective of bringing the private sector in the forefront of economic development.

Private Sector Meetings:

So far ICCI has successfully organized the thirteen (13) Private Sector Meetings in various Islamic Countries. All the Private Sector Meetings, organized in different Islamic Countries were held on the kind invitation of National Chambers of Commerce & Industry and were patronized on the highest level by the Presidents of the State / Prime Ministers / Ministers of Economy / Trade / Commerce of the host Countries.

These Meetings have been successful in gathering a large number of entrepreneurs, traders and industrialists from Islamic Countries for bilateral contact and discussions, particularly, economic and business issues. Representatives from International Financial Institutions including IDB / ITFC have been attending these annual meetings of businessmen and in turn informing the Private Sector about their activities for the Islamic Countries.

These events also provided opportunities to the entrepreneurs / institutions to discuss the possibilities of cooperation with the private sector in common areas of interests, such as finding new markets for their products, financing new projects setting up joint ventures and applications for trade financing. Through these meetings, greater awareness has been created among OIC business community regarding opportunities for collaboration in industrial ventures and for expansion of trade among Islamic Countries.

The most recently held Meeting was the Second OIC Business Forum – 13th Private Sector Meeting for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture Investment among Islamic Countries, which was held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan on 14th May 2010 on the sidelines of the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the OIC.

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The Resolution of 25th Session of COMCEC as well as the 32nd Session Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs called upon the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry to look into the possibility to hold the Private Sector Meetings concurrently with the Islamic Trade Fairs, as well.

The Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry have kindly offered to jointly host the said event in Sharjah from 24 to 26th April 2011 alongside the 13th Islamic Trade Fair. It is expected that a large number of entrepreneurs / traders / industrialists and representatives of international institutions as well as banks / financial institutions from Arab and other OIC Countries will participate in this important Meeting.

It may be mentioned that the Islamic Chamber had successfully organized the 9th Private Sector Meeting in Sharjah 21-23 December 2002 alongwith the 7th Islamic Trade Fair jointly with Ministry of Economy & Commerce, UAE, Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Objectives:

1. To provide a platform to facilitate business networking, partnership building and opportunity for dialogue among the OIC business community, Government, Civil Society, Banks and Financial Institutions for creating an enabling environment for sustainable business growth.
2. To promote OIC Countries private sector cooperation by focusing on key issues of interest, especially investment and strengthening the capacity in the field of trade.
3. To provide an opportunity for the exchange of policy options, experiences and opportunities for mutual cooperation in the areas of trade, joint venture, entrepreneurial development and technology transfer among OIC Countries.
4. To build and strengthen effective public-private partnership mechanisms for capacity building, through enhanced networking, entrepreneurial mentorship and information exchange between and among trade policy-makers, promotion agencies, relevant multilateral organizations as well as private sector partners.
5. The Private Sector Meeting is not a one way platform only for talks and discussions, but it is an event for interaction. It gathers businessmen face to face with the concerned project sponsors and potential investors. It provides the businessmen, opportunity to meet and establish business ties with their counterparts from the other Islamic countries.

Opportunities:

- The participants will have the opportunity to interact with the representatives of the private sector from the GCC countries, other OIC countries and non OIC countries.
- Business and Matchmaking opportunities with private sector, financial institutions, banks, project sponsors, investors and traders.
- Interaction with Ministers and other senior officials of the Governments of OIC countries
- First hand knowledge of commodities available in the OIC countries by visiting the 13th Islamic Trade Fair being organized during the same period.
- Opportunities to discuss the possibilities of cooperation with each other in common areas of interests, such as finding new markets for products, financing new and expansion of projects as well as setting up joint ventures.

For Further information please contact the organizers at the following addresses:

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