OIC Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)
History of the IOFS establishment

In 1995 Kazakhstan became a full member of the largest international Islamic organization — the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (hereinafter — OIC).

On June 28-30 in Astana the 38th session of the OIC Foreign Ministers Council (hereinafter — FMC) had been held and the Republic of Kazakhstan entered into chairmanship in this organization.

On the opening session of the OIC Foreign Ministers Conference Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan had announced the proposal on expedience of development of the food mutual aid system within the OIC with location of its headquarters of such organization in Kazakhstan as in the state that exports food resources.
The 39<sup>th</sup> FMC has adopted the decision on establishment of the new body in Astana (capital of Kazakhstan) and on development of its Statute.

On June 11-12, 2013 the Intergovernmental Experts Meeting of OIC member-states has been held in Astana aiming at coordination of the Statute of the body on food security. At this meeting the experts of 30 member-states had coordinated the draft Statute of the new body, including its nomination – “Islamic Organisation for Food Security” and have decided to submit this document to the next session of the OIC CFM.

During the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Foreign Ministers Council in Conakry, Guinea on December 9-10, 2013 the Statute of the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS) has been signed by 19 countries. Later 12 more states have joined it. Currently 31 states out of 56 OIC member states have joined the IOFS.
Objectives of the IOFS

➢ To 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;

➢ To 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;

➢ To mobilize and manage financial and agricultural resources for developing agriculture and enhancing the food security in member states; and

➢ To coordinate, formulate and implement common agricultural policies, including exchange and transfer of appropriate technology and public food management system.
The organizational structure of the IOFS

**General Assembly**
The General Assembly comprises Ministers of all member-countries responsible for matters within mandate of the Organisation. Its meeting are held once per year. During its sessions Chairman and Vice-Chairman are elected for a term of 1 year renewable once. It elects Chairman and members of the Executive Board. Also it elects Director General of its Secretariat. All main decisions will be taken during session of the General Assembly.

**Executive Board**
It is composed of members including its Chairman. The country hosting the Headquarters shall be a permanent member. One non-voting post shall be allocated for Director General. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice a year. Members of the Executive Board are elected for a period of 3 years renewable once. The Executive Board may appoint various committees of the Organisation, and the Executive Board shall appoint a Financial Control Committee made up of representatives from 5 member-states for a three-year period on a rotational basis to audit accounts and to ensure sound management of the Organisation.

**Secretariat**
The Secretariat shall comprise a Director General and official staff working in the permanent Headquarters and in such other offices as may be established. Director General shall be appointed by the General Assembly for a period of four years renewable once only.

**Centers**

**Regional food reserves**

**Offices**

**Subsidiary Organizations**
The Republic of Kazakhstan has hosted the inaugural session of the IOFS General Assembly on April 26-28, 2016. Totally 173 delegates within 50 delegations (39 OIC member states, 2 OIC observers, 9 international institutions) have participated in this event.
All working bodies of the IOFS have been elected during the session:

1. **Chairman** of the IOFS General Assembly – Republic of Kazakhstan;
   **Vice-Chairmen** of the IOFS General Assembly – Cote-D’Ivoire and Palestine;

2. **Executive Council**:
   - Chairman – Saudi Arabia;
   - Members – Niger, Burkina-Faso, Sudan, Turkey, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Director General;

3. **Director General** – Mr. Yerzhan Jalmukhanov (Kazakhstan).

Internal regulations (Rules of procedure, Financial rules, Personnel regulations) have been adopted.

Plan of actions of the IOFS for 5 years have been adopted.
## OIC Member States of the IOFS

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Food Security Situation in the OIC Member States

- 240 million people (representing 14.5 per cent of the total population) in the OIC countries are economically active in the agriculture sector.
- 51.8% of population in the OIC countries lives in rural areas, with many countries being low-income and food-deficit.
- Food trade deficit of the OIC Countries has increased from US$ 16 billion in 2000 to US$ 85 billion in 2015.
- Around 166 million recorded undernourished people in the OIC countries, corresponding to 20.8% of the total undernourished people in the world.
- 28 OIC Member States were among the world’s 54 low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) in 2015.
- Agriculture remains a source of productivity improvement, employment, and income growth—especially when connected to urban, industrial, and export markets.
In this regard:

• Enhancing agricultural productivity along with sustainable natural resources management is seen as an important goal in reducing poverty through improved food security and as a key to achieving the overall agenda in Medium to Long Term.

• These measures need to be aligned with the proposed Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goal to: *End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030.*
Food Security Situation in the OIC

Food insecurity is one of the key factors that will affect the region’s ability to both grow and achieve greater inclusion.

However, attaining food security faces multiple challenges as follows:

- Population growth (predicted to increase to 8.0 billion by 2025 and to 9.6 billion by 2050)
- Continuing poverty, hunger, and undernutrition
- Less water and land resources, and environment degradation
- Food loss and waste
- Food safety
- Long-term food price volatility
- Climate variability and change
- Lack of affordable financing and varying degree of structural transformation and inequality
Proposed Recommendations

Given the above described FS challenges, and to ensure sustainability and impactfulness of the interventions, it is proposed to focus on:

• Increasing the productivity and reducing pre- and post-harvest losses of food;
• Improving market connectivity and value and food value chain linkages (production, processing, distribution, and consumption);
• Enhancing food safety, quality, and nutrition;
• Enhancing management and climate resilience of crop varieties, technologies, and practices;
• Market infrastructure development and agribusiness development
• Fostering public-private partnership (PPP), drawing on cross-sector synergies and complementarities, strengthening intra- and inter-institutional coordination, and improving environmental sustainability
Thank you for your attention!