Terms of Reference

of Steering Committee
for implementation of STI Agenda 2026

Article 1: Mandate

a. The First OIC Summit on Science& Technology held in Astana, Kazakhstan in September 2017 adopted the OIC STI Agenda 2026 and Astana Declaration. The OIC STI Agenda 2026 outlines priority areas and set targets for the advancement of Science & Technology in the OIC member States.

b. The Astana Declaration calls upon the Chairman of COMSTECH and the OIC Secretary General to put in place institutional mechanisms for effective overseeing of the implementation of OIC S&T Agenda 2026.

c. Outlining the implementation and monitoring mechanisms, the OIC STI Agenda 2026 vide Priority No 12 called for establishment of a Steering Committee comprising all relevant OIC institutions and organs and headed by COMSTECH for overall supervision.

Article 2: Objectives

The Steering Committee shall oversee the implementation of the OIC STI Agenda 2026. It shall particularly aim:

a) to coordinate the efforts of the OIC organs and institutions involved in implementation of the OIC STI Agenda 2026 to avoid duplication of efforts.

b) to liaise with the relevant institutions of the Member States for their support in carrying out the activities outlined in the Work Plan of the OIC STI Agenda.

c) to provide directions and guidelines to the Member States on all major programmes, as outlined in the OIC STI Agenda 2026 that requires funding.

d) to monitor the decisions taken and progress made by the OIC sectoral Ministerial meetings which are relevant to the implementation of the OIC STI Agenda 2026; and to submit policy proposals for the consideration of those ministerial meetings through their respective Secretariats.

e) to review the proposals, progress, and final reports of the activities submitted periodically by the OIC institutions and make recommendations accordingly.

Article 3: Composition

The Steering Committee comprises the following OIC institutions and organs;

a. OIC Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) - Chair
b. OIC General Secretariat,
c. Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC),
d. Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDB),
e. Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO),
f. Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS),
g. Statistical, Economic, Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRIC),
h. Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA),
i. Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS),
j. OIC Computer Emergency Response Team (OIC-CERT),
k. Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC),
l. The Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF),

The Steering Committee may invite any other OIC institutions or relevant organisation of the Member States to attend the meeting.

**Article 4: Secretariat, its duties and responsibilities**

COMSTECH shall be the Secretariat of the Steering Committee. The duties of the Secretariat shall include:

a) Convening of the Steering Committee meetings in consultation with the other members of the Committee;
b) Preparation of documents for the Committee meeting;
c) Preparation of annual progress reports on the implementation of the work Plan of the OIC STI Agenda 2026
d) Submission of the decisions of the Committee meetings for perusal and approval of the Executive Committee and General Assembly of COMSTECH.
e) The Secretariat will disseminate new information in between the Steering Committee Meetings to the members of the Steering Committee.

**Article 5: Meetings/ Procedures**

a) The Steering Committee shall meet at least twice a year. The Committee may however hold virtual meetings as frequently as required.
b) The Committee shall generally hold its meetings at the COMSTECH Secretariat. However if a Member State or an Institution offers to host the meeting and sends an official invitation to this effect to the Chairman, the meeting may be held elsewhere.
c) The Committee meetings shall be chaired by the Coordinator General of COMSTECH or his/her designated representative.
d) Any changes in the TOR’s, if required, may be made with the consensus of the Members of the Steering Committee.