



Progress on “Implementation of STI Agenda 2026”



Institution Name: COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad

Period: 31 Jan. 2019 - Dec. 2019

Sr. No.	Priority No., Title	Activity Title, date, Venue	Corresponding to Implementation Workplan Activity No.	Status	Outcome / Steps
1.	Implementation of OIC STI Agenda 2026, according to directives of the Astana Declaration 2017.	<p>Titles:</p> <p>A. 1st Meeting the Steering Committee for Implementation of OIC STI Agenda 2026 Date: 18-19 March 2019 Venue: COMSTECH Secretariat</p> <p>B. Meeting of Key Member States for Implementation of STI Agenda</p> <p>C. Development of OIC 15 Platform as approved by the CFM</p> <p>D. Brainstorming Session of OIC15, Almaty Kazakhstan. 15 Nov.2019</p>		<p>Completed</p> <p>Planned for February, 2020</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>	<p>1. Approval of TORs of Steering Committee</p> <p>2. Approval of the presented Draft Workplan and Activities for implementation of STI Agenda 2026, with revisions and additions.</p> <p>3. Responsibilities of OIC institutions identified and actions agreed.</p> <p>4. Revised Workplan shared with all partners.</p> <p>Agenda and working Paper prepared and shared with OIC GS</p> <p>Detailed input delivered to OIC GS on the Concept Note of OIC 15 prepared by the Govt. of Kazakhstan.</p> <p>Meeting adopted the Agenda and programme of work by consensus</p>

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2.	Priority # 1: Creating Thinking Minds	Title: 1 st OIC Robotics Challenge Date: 28-31 October 2019 Venue: Tashkent, Uzbekistan	(1d) Organizing OIC Science and Robotics Competition	Completed in cooperation of OIC, Govt of Uzbekistan and the IsDb	32 teams from 23 member states participated in the event. Prizes to 3 winners in each of the two categories awarded by OIC.
3.	Priority # 3b: Safety of Water, Food and the Environment.	Title: COMSTECH-ICGEB-NIBGE International Workshop on “Use of Genome Editing and Other New Breeding Technologies for Global Food Security” Date: 08-10 April 2019 Venue: COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad	I. Preserving plant diversity & genetic resources I. (3) Working group to identify area of intense efforts on short term and long term basis.	Completed	Developing self-reliance for natural and genetically modified crop varieties). Participated by 125 participants including 19 from outside Pakistan attended.
4.	Priority # 3b: Safety of Water, Food and the Environment.	Title: A. Consultation Workshop on Development of Multi National Project on Plant Genetic Resources organized by COMSTECH, FAO and PARC Date: 11 th of April, 2019 Venue: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) representative office, NARC in Islamabad.	I. Preserving plant diversity & genetic resources I. (1) Project based collaboration between national gene banks. Current composition of working group:	Completed	A. Status reports presented by 5 countries representatives outlining available PGR facilities and desired support and needs. Agreements to prepare a project proposal for funding to address the needs and sharing of technical resources between members of working group

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	<p>Priority # 3b: Safety of Water, Food and the Environment.</p>	<p>B. Hiring of consultant for preparation of above project proposal. C. Preparation of Project proposal</p> <p>Title: D. 2nd Consultative Workshop on the Project-<i>Promotion of Plant Genetic Resources, use of varietal development and integration in the seed system.</i> 18-19 November, 2019, Baku, Azerbaijan</p>	<p>Pakistan, Iraq, Jordan, Azerbaijan, Oman</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed in cooperation with FAO and Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences. Attended by UNDP, FAO, JICA and IOFS representatives</p>	<p>Meeting with perspective donors for PGR Project in Azerbaijan later this year (early October 2019)</p> <p>B. Consultant hired, concept paper prepared. Approved by the FAO.</p> <p>Detailed proposal to be completed and shared with funding bodies at 2nd Consultation Workshop.</p> <p>Finalized the consultations; discussed with prospective donors. To be shared with UNDP, FAO and JICA. Participating countries: Azerbaijan, Jordan, Oman and Pakistan.</p>

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5.	<p>Priority # 4: Ensure healthy Lives for all citizens</p> <p>Strengthening public health through research and technological advancement</p>	<p>Biodiversity and Health Big Data (BHBD) Alliance Annual Meeting and one-day Symposium entitled “International Genomics Symposium 2019), Date: July 2019 Venue : COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad</p>	<p>c. Extensive biomedical research and clinical programs</p> <p>1. Expand research in genomics, proteomics, regenerative medicine, personalized medicine (nano-medicine , next generation sequencing, immuno-genetics)</p>	Completed	<p>BHBD Alliance included Saudi Arabia and Pakistan amongst the 5 founding Members. COMSTECH requested for other Member States as partners, with access to Genome database and Sequencing facilities. Institutions from Malaysia (MARDI) and Iran (University of Shaheed Bahonar, Kerman) applied, and were approved as members. BHBD meeting invited other member states particularly from Africa to join the scientific alliance.</p>

6.	<p>Priorities #5. Improve the quality of higher Education and Research.</p> <p>Priority #5. Improve the quality of higher Education and Research.</p> <p>&</p> <p>Priority #10. Enhancing Intra-OIC Cooperation</p>	<p>A. 2017 COMSTECH Lifetime Achievement Awards in Biology and Chemistry; Young Researcher Award, Best Scientific Book, Best Patent Award, Best Research Paper (Biology, Chemistry, Physics).</p> <p>B. 2019 COMSTECH Lifetime Achievement Awards in Mathematics and Physics; Young Researcher Award, Best Scientific Book, Best Patent Award, Best Research Paper (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics)</p> <p>C. COMSTECH Inter-Islamic Network on Nanotechnology (INN) organized international Workshop on "<i>Nanotechnology and Renewable Energy</i>", 10 November 2019, at Materials and Energy Research Center (MERC), Alborz, Iran</p> <p>D. COMSTECH Inter-Islamic Network of Virtual Universities (CINVU), Tehran, Iran, hosted the 2nd General Assembly (GA) and the 1st Exhibition of the achievements of Virtual Universities in the Islamic World during October 6-8, 2019 in Tehran.</p>	<p>3. Initiate innovation awards;</p> <p>4. Initiate best research publication awards annually (quality based) separately for various S&T fields</p> <p>5. Identify/promote centers for sharing of expertise and joint research activities</p> <p>7. Provide travel and living support for exchange programs between OIC countries</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Announced</p> <p>Announced</p> <p>Completed</p>	<p>9 Scientists from different member states awarded. Certificates, shields and cash prizes for winners.</p> <p>Financial support from COMSTECH</p> <p>This meeting was attended by about 30 universities from all regions of the OIC. It finalized the statutes of the network, elected its Executive Committee (EC), and agreed on holding a meeting of EC in six months in Turkey and its GA meeting in a year's time in Islamabad.</p>
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	<p>Priority # 5: Improve the quality of Higher Education and Research</p> <p>2. Building domestic innovation and technology capabilities</p>	<p>Title: IsDB Transformers Roadshow for Pakistan Date: 4th May 2019 Venue: COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad</p>	<p>5. (3). Initiate innovation awards; Science Expos to highlight OIC innovations</p>	<p>Co-organized by COMSTECH Completed</p>	<p>Applications from over 300 innovators; from 20 shortlisted projects 3 winners selected for innovative technological solutions for SDG goals. Winners will participate in IsDB Annual Transformers Roadshow.</p>
7.	<p>Priority #7: Big Data and Digital Economy</p>	<p>Title: Building Knowledge Economy in the OIC Region through Digital Skills Development in partnership with COMSTECH Network INIT.</p>	<p>Digital Skills Development programme c. Development of digital skills development platform for the OIC member countries</p>	<p>Planned</p>	<p>Various IT related activities in planning stage in partnership with INIT. Participation and presentation at the <i>Workshop on Digital Skills Development in OIC Countries</i>. Pursuing cooperation and collaboration with SESRIC in developing the Digital Skills Development programme.</p>
8.	<p>Priority # 8: Managing Energy Requirements Sustainable Energy projects</p>	<p>Title: International Workshop on Renewable Energy: Affordable & Clean Energy for All Date: 29 – 31 July, 2019 Venue: SERI, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (Co-organized by COMSTECH)</p>	<p>b. Renewable Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intra OIC & International Cooperation - Capacity Building Trainings, conferences & workshops 	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Initiated the formation of a OIC / COMSTECH working group on energy with focus on energy mix policies appropriate for member states.</p>