

Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC)

# Proceedings of the 21st Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group

# "Promoting Entrepreunership for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries."



COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE October 2023

#### Proceedings of the 21st Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group

"Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries" (October 16<sup>th-</sup>17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Ankara, TÜRKİYE)

> COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE October 2023

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#### Introduction

The Tourism Working Group (TWG) held its 21st Meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. 2023, with the theme of "Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries".

The 21st meeting was attended by 10 Member States. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), and COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO).

#### 1. Opening Session

In line with the tradition of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Meeting started with a recitation from the Holy Quran. At the outset, Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, Director General of the COMCEC made a brief opening speech about the latest developments in entrepreneurship for tourism industry competitiveness.

He mentioned that tourism entrepreneurship is a dynamic force that drives economic growth, fosters cultural exchange, and empowers local communities. In addition to these benefits, entrepreneurship in tourism, as a human intensive and an export industry, usually generates foreign exchange and creates additional employment. Tourism industry has a vital role in development process of countries. Tourism sector affects nation's development in many different aspects.

Mr. KOÇ also emphasized the fact that tourism entrepreneurs, often operating at the grassroots level, do not only create livelihoods but also act as a guardian of the cultural and natural heritage by infusing vitality into local economies and forge connections across borders.

He underlined the fact that entrepreneurship also enables a competitive environment that would force suppliers to improve their service quality, professionalism and standards. The more the service quality improves, the more suppliers would reach competitive prices. Entrepreneurship would also enhance the variety of the differentiated products, services and activities in tourism.

On the other hand, Mr. KOÇ expressed that the main objective of our discussions in this two days meeting would be to elaborate on the main findings of the research report conducted for this meeting, identify the challenges faced and formulate policy recommendations for submission to upcoming COMCEC Ministerial Session. In the meeting, we will also listen presentations on the experiences of member countries, various organizations and private sector.

Mr. KOÇ finally outlined that countries' deliberations could contribute further enhancement of our cooperation in this area.

Mr. Selçuk KOÇ, gave the floor to Mrs. Dr. Yasmeen YASIM, Undersecretary, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, for chairing the meeting. Welcoming the participants, Mrs. YASIM briefly informed the attendees on the agenda and program of the meeting.

#### 2. COMCEC Tourism Outlook

In the first session, Prof. Dr. Gürel ÇETİN, Professor of Istanbul Teknik University, Türkiye and Consultant to the COMCEC Tourism Working Group made a presentation about COMCEC Tourism Outlook. In the first part of the presentation, Prof. Dr. ÇETIN gave a brief background of the Outlook and stated that the presentation is expected to focus on mainly in these areas;

- The Importance of Tourism for Development
- Tourism Trends
- Overview of International Tourism in the World
- International Tourism in the OIC Member Countries

Mr. ÇETİN overviewed the importance of tourism for the development of member countries by referring it as remarkable socio-economic phenomena and related to more than 185 supplyside economic activities, with direct and indirect effects. He expressed that a strong tourism sector contributes in many ways to development and the economy. It makes both direct contributions, by raising the national income and improving the balance of payments, and indirect contributions, via its multiplier effect on other industries and by providing the means for connecting countries, through hard and soft infrastructure attributes that are also critical for a country's general economic competitiveness, international trade and foreign direct investment.

Prof. ÇETİN also gave information about the recent developments in OIC member countries on tourism sector. He stated that Türkiye (4th) and Saudi Arabia (13th) were ranked in the top 20 countries in terms of arrivals in the World and while UAE (4th), Türkiye (6th) and Saudi Arabia (11th) were also ranked at top 20 list in terms of receipts in the World in 2022.

He stated that Gulf Countries experienced and extraordinary growth compared to pre-pandemic year of 2019. Mega events in the region (e.g. World Cup, World Expo) not only attracted millions but also increased average spending. OIC members in Asia such as Malaysia and Indonesia have suffered from the impacts of pandemic and extended travel restrictions on their source markets.

Prof. ÇETİN also underlined that OIC Member Countries has tourism opportunities such as natural and cultural resources, human resources, authenticity and novelty, price competitiveness and dynamism, and challenges including travel facilitation problems, safety and security related problems, low tourism service quality, insufficient marketing and promotion

#### **3.** Overview of the Report

In the first session, Prof. Dr. Ziad ALRAWADIEH, Professor of Jordan University, and Consultant to the COMCEC Tourism Working Group made a presentation on the general review of the research report with respect to the scope, conceptual framework and methodology of the study. In the first part of the presentation, Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH gave the background of the research and stated that the presentation is expected to focus on mainly in these areas;

- a. Overview of Tourism Entrepreneurship
- b. Brief Analysis of Tourism Entrepreneurship in OIC Countries
- c. Research Methodology
- d. Findings

Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH mentioned the importance of entrepreneurship and underlined the fact that entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in societies by bringing about various social and economic benefits contributing to the overall well-being of local communities. Mr. ALRAWADIEH expressed that entrepreneurship contributes to the economy though creating jobs, increasing GDP, fostering competition, and introducing innovative technologies, products, and services. Therefore, countries often view venturing and business growth as a path to boost the economy. While this study analysing the entrepreneurship issue in countries in general and specifically in the tourism industry, it aimed to decide on the best entrepreneurship policies among the countries.

Prof. ALRAWADIEH explained that entrepreneurs can be defined as independent, determined, open-minded, passionate, curious, creative, responsible, with higher focus of control, tolerant with ambiguity, and risk-bearer individuals who seek to innovate.

Mr. ALRAWADIEH underscored that entrepreneurship brings about several social benefits like independence and the enhanced standards of living, empowering local people, supporting local economies, reducing unemployment rates, developing services in the tourism sector and enhancing the destination image. Then he underlined that entrepreneurship in tourism is different from mainstream entrepreneurship as entrepreneurship in tourism is featured with the prevalence of SMEs representing 80% of global businesses in the field. Entrepreneurs in tourism get motivated by the willingness of independence, autonomy, time flexibility, self-employment, lifestyle, monetary achievements, networking and prestige. On the other hand, poverty, low wages, child care gets the push factors of tourism sector.

Prof. ALRAWADIEH also stated the challenges faced by tourism entrepreneurs composes the lack of incentives and the weak public support for the entrepreneurs, taxation policies, regulatory issues, time and effort-consuming bureaucratic procedures, poor knowledge and expertise, and the lack of access to information.

Afterwards, Prof. ALRAWADIEH informed the participants about the entrepreneurship in OIC Member Countries. The majority of businesses in OIC member countries are SMEs whose most significant characteristic of entrepreneurship is goods and services can be marketed through small-sized enterprises.

OIC countries have established significant institutions funded for professional and economic purposes within their borders. The following are a few examples that represent the overall institutional efforts of OIC Member Countries:

• Ministry for the Promotion of Private Investment, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and National Entrepreneurship (Mali)

• Ministry of Trade, Industry and Youth Entrepreneurship (Niger)

• The National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (ASK) (Azerbaijan)

• The Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism Entrepreneurial Development Centre (Brunei Darussalam)

• "Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund" and "The National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken" (Kazakhstan)

- Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives (Malaysia)
- SME and Entrepreneur Federation of Maldives (Maldives)
- Small Businesses and Private Entrepreneurship's Export Promotion Fund (Uzbekistan)
- Small and medium enterprises development organization (KOSGEB) (Türkiye)

New technologies, access to financial resources, human capital and innovation and product development are referred as the current needs and requirements for local tourism entrepreneurs to grow in OIC Countries. Future needs of tourism entrepreneurs and the transformations of tourism entrepreneurship are; raising public awareness of their tourism assets, new ideas to promote its attractions for long-term success and sustainability, helping entrepreneurs find financial capital, appropriate legal, institutional, and administrative conditions and the digital transformation.

Prof. ALRAWADIEH finally indicated the success factors of tourism entrepreneurs in nationallevel proposals for OIC member countries. Investing in basic tourism-related infrastructure, improving safety, developing public-private cooperation, diversifying tourism destination services through entrepreneurs, and raising awareness to improve entrepreneurial capacities and managerial skills are the most important needs that can help tourism development in OIC member countries.

#### 4. Selected Case Study

#### 4.1.Türkiye

In the second session, Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH expressed that the research report is expected to have case studies (Türkiye, The Gambiya, Jordan, United Kingdom and Australia) and made a presentation about Türkiye. He underlined that the tourism industry is an important part of Türkiye's economy and Türkiye enjoys a promising entrepreneurship ecosystem that encourages venturing and supports business growth through various tools including financial incentives, access to funding opportunities, and training/knowledge transfer support.

Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH explained that, despite the important overall contribution of entrepreneurship as a whole to economic growth, tourism entrepreneurship is particularly

crucial to enhance competitiveness of Türkiye as a tourist destination. Fostering tourism entrepreneurship as a path to enhance destination competitiveness is necessary, as Türkiye has become among the world top five tourist destinations. He mentioned that Türkiye has considerably succeeded in achieving a sustained economic growth over the last two decades that contributed to the notable increase in the entrepreneurial activities as well as foreign investment in the country.

Then, Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH emphasized that tourism entrepreneurship in Türkiye is also featured by considerably strong ability to innovation and adaptation. This is important given that tourism entrepreneurship is highly sensitive to rapid change in tourist behaviour, tourist preferences, and industry trends. To stay competitive, tourism entrepreneurs in Türkiye are highly responsive to technological advancements and marketing strategies. Many tourism and hospitality entrepreneurs have adopted online platforms, social media marketing, and other digital tools to promote their businesses and attract customers.

He mentioned that tourism entrepreneurship in Türkiye has characteristics as prevalence of small- or medium-sized family businesses, richness and diversity of services offered by tourism businesses, strong ability to innovation and adaptation and efficient collaboration and networking among tourism entrepreneurs. Drivers of Tourism Entrepreneurship in Türkiye can be stated that the desire to become "financially" independent, the desire to enjoy a good lifestyle and personal satisfaction and growth.

#### 4.2. Jordan

Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH made a presentation about Jordan. He underlined that the tourism industry became an important part of Jordan's economy and is rapidly growing sector in Jordan, as the country is known as a popular tourist destination for its rich history, culture, and natural attractions. He highlighted Jordan's position as one of the top ten halal tourism destinations, alongside Malaysia, UAE, Türkiye, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Qatar, Tunisia, and Egypt. Jordan has also been selected by Lonely Planet, a renowned travel guidebook publisher, as one of the 30 destinations to inspire travellers to visit in 2023.

Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH stated that Jordan recognizes the importance of new businesses in boosting its economy and aims to enhance entrepreneurial capacity. There are numerous government and donor programs in place to support entrepreneurs in the country. Jordan's national entrepreneurship policy (2021) states that the government has supported some entrepreneurs through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Union, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, the Innovative Startups and SMEs Fund (ISSF) funded by the World Bank, and the King Abdullah II Fund for Development (Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, 2021). The country also makes efforts to include women in entrepreneurship training programs, such as the Arab Women Empowerment in Technology and Entrepreneurship Program (AWETE).

According to him, tourism entrepreneurship in Jordan show some characteristics as;

- Heavy reliance on the contribution of small and medium enterprises (SMEs),
- The majority of tourism enterprises in Jordan are confirmed to be family-owned businesses,

• Jordan boasts a diverse array of natural and cultural attractions that make it an attractive destination for investors,

- The Strive to develop innovative tourism products and services,
- Engagement in sustainable tourism practices,
- Remarkable resilience in the face of various challenges (e.g. COVID-19).

Drivers of Tourism Entrepreneurship in Jordan can be stated that the desire to live in the right environment, the desire to enjoy a good lifestyle, providing a retirement income and finally the desire to become "financially" independent.

He also underlined the policies for Jordan as differentiating tourism offerings, supporting earlystage tourism entrepreneurial activities, reducing utility bills, facilitating access to financial resources, establishing more vocational and traditional academic programs to meet the labour market needs and enhancing physical and digital infrastructure in the less-developed regions.

#### 4.3. The Gambia

As another case study, The Gambia was elaborated by Prof. Dr. ALRAWADIEH through a presentation. Underlining that the tourism industry serves as a critical source of employment creation, he explained the opportunities for entrepreneurs in areas such as cruise transport, eco-tourism, and recreational fishing. It was also emphasized that these are the main areas and initiatives to support local entrepreneurs in overcoming obstacles and maximizing their contribution to the tourism sector is very important. He also added that developing a national entrepreneurship policy for the Gambia is vital.

He stated that the industry serves as a critical source of employment creation, with more than 115,000 jobs directly or indirectly created by the tourism sector in 2019. To incentivize entrepreneurs, the Gambian government provides free-charge lands and offers accelerated investments in 4 and 5-star hotels, convention centres, sports and entertainment centres, ecotourism, and river tourism.

The main features of the tourism entrepreneurship in the Gambia were presented as;

- A rich array of natural and cultural attractions that serve as valuable assets for the creation of successful tourism enterprises,
- The government's commitment to the development of the tourism industry creates a favourable environment for growth and expansion in the sector,

• Tourism entrepreneurship in the Gambia is a thriving sector that offers numerous avenues for growth,

• Tourism entrepreneurship is aided by governmental and non-governmental organizations providing them with information and consultancy services.

Drivers of Tourism Entrepreneurship in the Gambia can be stated that the desire to become "financially" independent, the desire for personal satisfaction and growth and finally the desire to maintain personal freedom.

He also referred the policies for the Gambia should include streamlining regulatory frameworks and licensing procedures, developing long-term strategic plans, and aggressive marketing efforts to induce greater tourist demand.

#### **5. Member Country Presentations**

#### 5.1. Malaysia

Mr. LIONEL HARITH SEBASTIAN DARAUP Assistant Director, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, made a presentation relating Malaysia's practices in promoting entrepreneurship for tourism industry competitiveness in tourism sector. MR. DARAUP first gave information about Malaysia's tourism system. Ms. DAMPHA stated that, entrepreneurship is the driving force behind economic growth and innovation. He gave information about The Malaysian Homestay Experience Programme, which is a cultural exchange program that promotes tourism and provides tourists with a cultural immersion experience, managed and operated by homestay entrepreneurs who adhere to MOTAC standards. According to him, currently, there are 210 homestays with 450 village communities in Malaysia. Government provides assistance such as grants for repairs, package development training modules, and digital marketing training modules.

Mr DARAUP also gave information about Islamic Tourism Entrepreneurship and Leadership Seminars (ITELS). These seminars aims to promote Islamic tourism to youths, entrepreneurs, and those in the tourism industry by Showcasing the possibilities of the industry and provides information and insights into how to sustainably leverage and fit Muslim travel needs. He underlined that entrepreneurship is the creation of new businesses, products, or services. It is important in tourism because it can help to create competitive businesses that meet the evolving needs of consumers while promoting sustainable tourism practices. Finally, he stated that innovation, problem solving, risk taking, leadership, and adaptation are the key entrepreneurial skills in entrepreneurship.

# 5.2. Republic of Uganda

Mr. DAVIDS HALONGO, Curator, Ministry of Tourism Wild life and Antiquities of Uganda gave overview of tourism industry in Uganda. After that, Mr. HALONGO gave information about the Government agenda to tourism development and competitiveness in Uganda. According to him, the government is aware of tourisms potential to create jobs for the hundreds of thousands of new job seekers in Uganda, as tour guides, tour operators, hospitality workers, and marketing professionals, among many others. In order to achieve these demands, the government makes a deliberate effort to support (youth) entrepreneurship in the tourism sector. So far; the policy and legislative framework are in place and enables the initiatives for creative and innovative change, which are the core of entrepreneurship. The government and its various structures identify, source and support the potential entrepreneurs to invest in the tourism and hospitality sector in various parts of Uganda. The government also provides tax holidays and exemptions. Government works in partnership with universities, NGO's and industry to foster youth innovations. Government is also promoting domestic tourism through various initiatives to encourage locals to explore and experience the beauty of their country. These initiatives include: a drive dubbed Tulambule Uganda undertaken by Uganda Tourism Board; publicizing of Uganda Martyrs through production of a movie called Final Flames of Uganda Martyrs and development of the Uganda Martyrs trail, which include 16 visitation sites.

Mr. HALONGO, finally stated that there are challenges to tourism development in Uganda. Some of them are inadequate and unskilled manpower/personnel, low presence of international branded hotel operators, uncompetitive destination, infrastructure challenges and uncompetitive destination.

#### 6. The COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism

Mr. Kadir ALTINTOP, Program Coordinator at COMCEC Coordination Office, made a presentation on utilizing the COMCEC Project Funding Mechanism (CPF).

Mr. ALTINTOP informed the participants about the essentials of the COMCEC Project Funding. Mr. ALTINTOP continued his presentation by highlighting the timeline and budget limits for the project submission. He stressed the importance of finding a project idea and informed the participants on how they can find project topics. He also explained the main project types along and criteria for being an applicant for a project. He also reminded the participants to read the application documents particularly the Project Preparation and Submission Guidelines as well as supported sectoral themes before designing and submitting their project proposal.

Mr. ALTINTOP finally informed the participants about other two grant programs, namely COMCEC Al-Quds Program and COMCEC COVID Response Program.

#### 7. Closing Remarks

The Meeting ended with closing remarks of Mrs. Dr. YASMEEN YASIM, Undersecretary, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, Chairperson to the meeting and Mr. M. CELALETTIN AKTAŞ, Head of Department at the COMCEC Coordination Office.

In her closing remarks, Mrs. YASIM conveyed his appreciations to all the presenters and participants for the fruitful deliberations made during the meeting. Then, she informed the participants that the policy advices formulated in the 21st Meeting of the COMCEC Tourism Working Group will be submitted to the COMCEC Ministerial Session to be held in 2-5 December 2023. Afterwards, in his closing remarks, Mr. AKTAŞ expressed his thanks and appreciation to all participants for their contributions to the discussions throughout the meeting. The meeting ended with vote of thanks.

#### **Annex I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

21st Meeting of the Tourism Working Group

(16-17 October 2023, Ankara-TÜRKİYE)

## A. MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OIC

#### **REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

Ms. NGO NJONOK EPSE LEA MIREILLE

Head of Unit, Ministry of Tourism

#### **REPUBLIC OF GABON**

- Ms. LILIANE NGART

Secretary General, Ministry of Tourism

- Mr. ELOUI BOUSSAYOU

Charge of Affairs, Ministry of Tourism

## **REPUBLIC OF IRAQ**

- Dr. MUTHANA ALWAN

Commercial Attaché, Iraq Commercial Attaché

#### THE STATE OF KUWAIT

- Mr. OTHMAN ALSENAFI

First Secretary, the Embassy of the State of Kuwait

# MALAYSIA

- Dr. YASMEEN YASIM

Undersecretary, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia

- Mr. LIONEL HARITH SEBASTIAN DARAUP

Assistant Director, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia

# STATE OF QATAR

- Ms. FATİMA ALSADA

International Cooperation Specialist, Qatar Tourism

# KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

- Mr. HUSSAM FAYEZ HARBİ

Multilateral Affairs Senior Specialist, Ministry of Tourism

#### **REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL**

- Ms. BA RAMATOULAYE

Economist, Ministry of Tourism and Leisure

## TÜRKİYE CUMHURİYETİ

- Mr. MAHFUS ÇETİN

SME Expert, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Türkiye (KOSGEB)

- Ms. MELEK GÜLER

Officer, Ministry of Culture and Tourism

#### **REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

- Mr. DAVIDS HALONGO

Curator, Ministry of Tourism Wild life and Antiquities

#### B. THE OIC SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

# STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRIC)

- Mr. ABDULHAMİT ÖZTÜRK

Researcher, SESRIC

- Mr. DAVRON ISHNAZAROV

Researcher, SESRIC

- Ms. SARAH ALMAIMAN

Assistant Technical Cooperation Officer, Training and Technical Cooperation Department,

Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)

- C. CONSULTANTS
- Mr. GÜREL CETİN
- Prof., Istanbul University
- Prof. Dr. ZIAD ALRAWADIEH

Consultant, the University of Jordan

- Dr. SULEIMAN FARAJAT

Consultant, Jordanian Prime Ministry

#### D. COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE

- Mr. SELÇUK KOÇ

Acting Director General, COMCEC Coordination Office

- Mr. CAN AYGÜL

Head of Department, COMCEC Coordination Office

- Mr. MEHMET ASLAN

Head of Department, COMCEC Coordination Office

- Mr. MEHMET CELALETTİN AKTAŞ

Head of Department, COMCEC Coordination Office

- Ms. AYTEN AKMAN KAÇAR

Senior Expert

- Ms. ÖZGÜL YÜKSEL

Coordinator

- Mr. OZAN LİF

Coordinator

- Mr. HAKAN USLU

Coordinator

- Mr. Selim UYAR

Registration and Accommodation Coordinator

Annex II: Agenda of the Meeting



#### THE 21st MEETING OF THE COMCEC

#### TOURISM WORKING GROUP

(October 16-17, 2023)

"Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness

#### in the OIC Countries"

## DRAFT AGENDA

Opening

- 1. "Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries" (Scope, Conceptual Framework and Methodology)
- 2. Lessons Learnt from the Selected Case Studies
- 3. Experiences/Perspectives of the Member States, International Institutions, Private Sector, and NGOs on the Subject

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- 4. COMCEC Project Support Programs
- 5. Policy Debate Session: Formulation of Policy Recommendations for the 39th COMCEC Ministerial Session
- 6. Closing

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Annex III: Programme of the Meeting



# **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

# $\mathbf{21^{ST}}$ MEETING OF THE COMCEC TOURISM WORKING GROUP

(October 16-17, 2023, Ankara)

"Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries"

#### October 16th, 2023

- 09.30 10.00 Registration
- 10.00 10.05 Recitation from Holy Qur'an
- 10.05 10.15 Opening Remarks
- 10.15 10.35 Outlook of Tourism in the OIC Member Countries
  - Presentation : Prof. Gürel ÇETİN

COMCEC Consultant

- 10.35 10.45 Discussion
- 10.45 11.25 Presentation of the Draft Research Report
  - Presentation : Prof. Ziad ALRAWADIEH

Consultant

- 11.25 11.55 Discussion
- 11.55 12.10 Coffee Break
- 12.10 12.50 Lessons Learnt from the Selected Case Studies and the Policy Options
  - Presentation : Prof. Ziad ALRAWADIEH

Consultant

12.50 - 13.20 Discussion

#### 13.20 - 14.50 Lunch

#### 14.50 - 15.40 Perspectives of the Member States

Sharing Experiences and Good Practices in Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness

- Malaysia

- Uganda

Discussion

#### 15.40 - 16.00 Coffee Break

#### 16.00 - 16.30 Perspectives of International Institutions/ OIC Institutions

- Presentation : Davron ISHNAZAROV

Researcher, SESRIC

Discussion

#### 16.30 - 17.00 Utilizing the COMCEC Project Support Programs

• Presentation: Kadir ALTINTOP

**COMCEC** Coordination Office

Discussion

#### October 17th, 2023

#### 10.30 - 12.30 Policy Debate Session: Formulation of Policy Recommendations for the 39th COMCEC Ministerial Session on Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness in the OIC Countries

There will be a policy debate session to come up with a set of policy recommendations to address promoting entrepreneurship in tourism competitiveness in the Member Countries.

Discussion

#### 12.30 - 12.40 Closing Remarks and Family Photo

12.40 - 14.00 Lunch

#### 14.00 - 18.00 Social Program