

LEARN MORE ABOUT SMIIC WITH FAQ

What is OIC?

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations and established in September 1969. OIC has 57 Member States spread over four continents and is the collective voice of the Muslim world which ensures to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world.

What is SMIIIC?

Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization which is affiliated to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and established in 2010 as the competent body of the OIC in developing standards and achieving uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among member states. Its headquarters are located in Istanbul, Turkey.

What is SMIIC's Status?

SMIIC is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization, also recognized as an international organization which also is a diplomatic mission.

What are the main objectives of SMIIC?

- To endeavor to realize OIC/SMIIC standards in Member States and to eliminate any factor relating to the standards covering products, processes and systems, likely to affect adversely the trade among Member States.
- To prepare OIC/SMIIC Standards aiming at enabling the Member States to reap a maximum benefit from the economic advantages to be brought about by the standards.
- To establish a conformity assessment scheme for the purpose of expediting exchange of materials, manufactured goods and products among Member States, beginning with mutual recognition.
- To achieve uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among Member States.
- To supply to the Member States; through cost sharing system, calibration and metrology services which necessitate large investments and expenditures.
- To provide education and training for the Member States personnel in the domain of standardization and metrology by making most efficient use of existing means and sharing accumulated information and experience.
- To provide documentation and information services in connection with standards and issues related to the needs of the Member States in this field.
- To provide technical assistance to the OIC Member States which do not possess such standardization bodies with the view of enabling them to establish their own standardization body.



ORGANISATION OF
ISLAMIC COOPERATION



SMIIC

“ SMIIC is the only competent body of the OIC in developing standards and achieving uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among Member States”

Conformity Assessment is a voluntary field by its nature. Membership in SMIIC is also voluntary and is only open to all OIC members which have the willingness to work as a part of SMIIC.

Who pays for SMIIC?

SMIIC Member States pay contributions that meet the operational cost of SMIIC activities. The dues paid by each member state are calculated as a proportion of their country's Gross National Income (GNI) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures according to SMIIC Financial Regulation. Another source of revenue is the sale of OIC/SMIIC standards.

Can any organization join SMIIC?

No. Membership of SMIIC is only open to the member states of the OIC and SMIIC members are represented by national standards, metrology and accreditation bodies of member states. Up to date, SMIIC has 42 members including 3 observers. Although, others cannot become SMIIC members, they can get involved in our technical work by contributing to the development of standards as part of technical committees through the SMIIC member of their country which can be found in the following link: <https://www.smiic.org/en/members>

Regional and international organizations can be liaison to the relevant TCs and make an effective contribution to the technical work of SMIIC in line with the rights defined in the SMIIC Directives.

Why not all OIC members are SMIIC members?

OIC has 57 Member States and all of them can become a member of SMIIC by completing necessary procedures upon their application. However, SMIIC is a technical body of the OIC and its main focus on developing standards for the pillars of conformity assessment which is a voluntary field by its nature. So, membership in SMIIC is also voluntary and is open to all OIC members which have the willingness to work under SMIIC and those who want to make contribution to the standardization and its relevant fields become members of SMIIC.

Who runs SMIIC?

The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making organ of the SMIIC and composed of the Member States. The General Assembly meets at least once each year in an ordinary session and is empowered to make all kinds of decisions stated in the Statute and operates in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

The Board of Directors of the SMIIC is the organ entrusted with the supervision of the execution of the programs, plans and activities of the Institute. The Board of Directors is comprised of thirteen members, including the host country as the permanent member, elected by the General Assembly, on the basis of an equitable geographic distribution, for a term of three years. Any member of the Board may be re-elected for successive terms. The Board shall elect a chairman and three vice-chairmen among its members for a term of three years re-electable for successive terms.

The General Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of the programs, plans and decisions of the SMIIC; it is headed by the Secretary General of the Institute who is elected for three-year term.



What is a standard?

Standard is a document developed by consensus, approved by a recognized body, contributed by its stakeholders for common and repeated use. Standards define the musts of a product or a service or a process. Developing and using standards are voluntary.

What is a halal standard?

Contrary to common belief, documents used in the halal industry for decades cannot be considered as standards yet they are basic documents prepared by a group of certification bodies or a country according to their rules and needs.

However, in SMIIC, halal standards are considered as both technical and religious issues therefore, we apply international practices and follow decision of International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) of the OIC in developing OIC/SMIIC halal standards.

Why is there a charge for standards?

Developing, publishing and maintaining OIC/SMIIC standards is a costly process and charging for standards allows us not only to get revenues from the sales but also to ensure that they are prepared in an impartial and professional environment. You may purchase OIC/SMIIC standards via using this link: <https://www.smiic.org/en/standards>.

Is SMIIC developing only halal standards?

SMIIC is established to develop standards by identifying the needs of the OIC region. So, it does not necessarily mean that SMIIC is setting only halal standards but the main focus is on creating a well-structured halal conformity assessment system that is most reliable and professional. Besides halal standards, SMIIC has published various standards on such subjects as; OSH, saffron, date, petroleum, leather, baby diapers etc. and will continue to develop and publish new standards according to the demands. Nevertheless, SMIIC has never been or will be in any effort to develop duplicative standards which belong to international or regional organizations.

What is conformity assessment?

Conformity assessment involves a set of processes that show your product, service or system meets the requirements of a standard. It includes testing & inspection, quality management, surveillance, accreditation and certification. It is important to indicate that using standards are vital for each pillar of conformity assessment.

Does SMIIC carry out certification?

No. SMIIC is not a conformity assessment body and doesn't provide certification or conformity assessment.

Developing and using standards are voluntary

In SMIIC, halal standards are considered as both technical and religious issues

SMIIC is not a conformity assessment body and doesn't carry out conformity assessment activities



Use
“Certified according
to OIC/SMIIC 1,4,9 etc.” in
your certificate and seek for
“accredited HCABs”
according to
OIC/SMIIC 2
standard



Can certifiers use the SMIIC logo?

No, SMIIC logo cannot be used to demonstrate that the product/service/ process is performed in accordance with OIC/SMIIC standards. SMIIC develops OIC/SMIIC standards but we are not involved in their certification, and do not issue certificates. This is performed by external certification bodies; thus, a company cannot be certified by SMIIC or a certification body cannot use SMIIC logo on their certificates. Instead, a certifier or a producer should use the name of the standard that they implement as given below:

Don't use: Certified by SMIIC

Do use: Certified according to OIC/SMIIC 1,4,9 etc.

Which halal conformity assessment body should we choose?

Companies should be careful while choosing a halal conformity assessment body (HCAB) by bearing in mind the following notes:

- Seek for several halal conformity assessment bodies
- Check if the HCAB applies relevant OIC/SMIIC standards
- Check if the HCAB is accredited according to OIC/SMIIC standards

Accreditation, like the other pillars of conformity assessment, is not compulsory but it does provide independent confirmation of competence.

To find an accredited HCAB, contact the national halal accreditation bodies of SMIIC Member States.

How does SMIIC decide what standards to develop?

Within SMIIC, standards are developed according to the identified needs of the OIC region. A particular industry or business sector can communicate its need for a standard to their national SMIIC member; the idea is then proposed to SMIIC by using the necessary procedures.

If accepted, the project is assigned to an existing technical committee. Proposals may also be made to establish new technical committees to cover new scopes of activity.

If you feel there is a need for a standard in your sector, please contact your SMIIC member.

Is SMIIIC developing standards by itself?

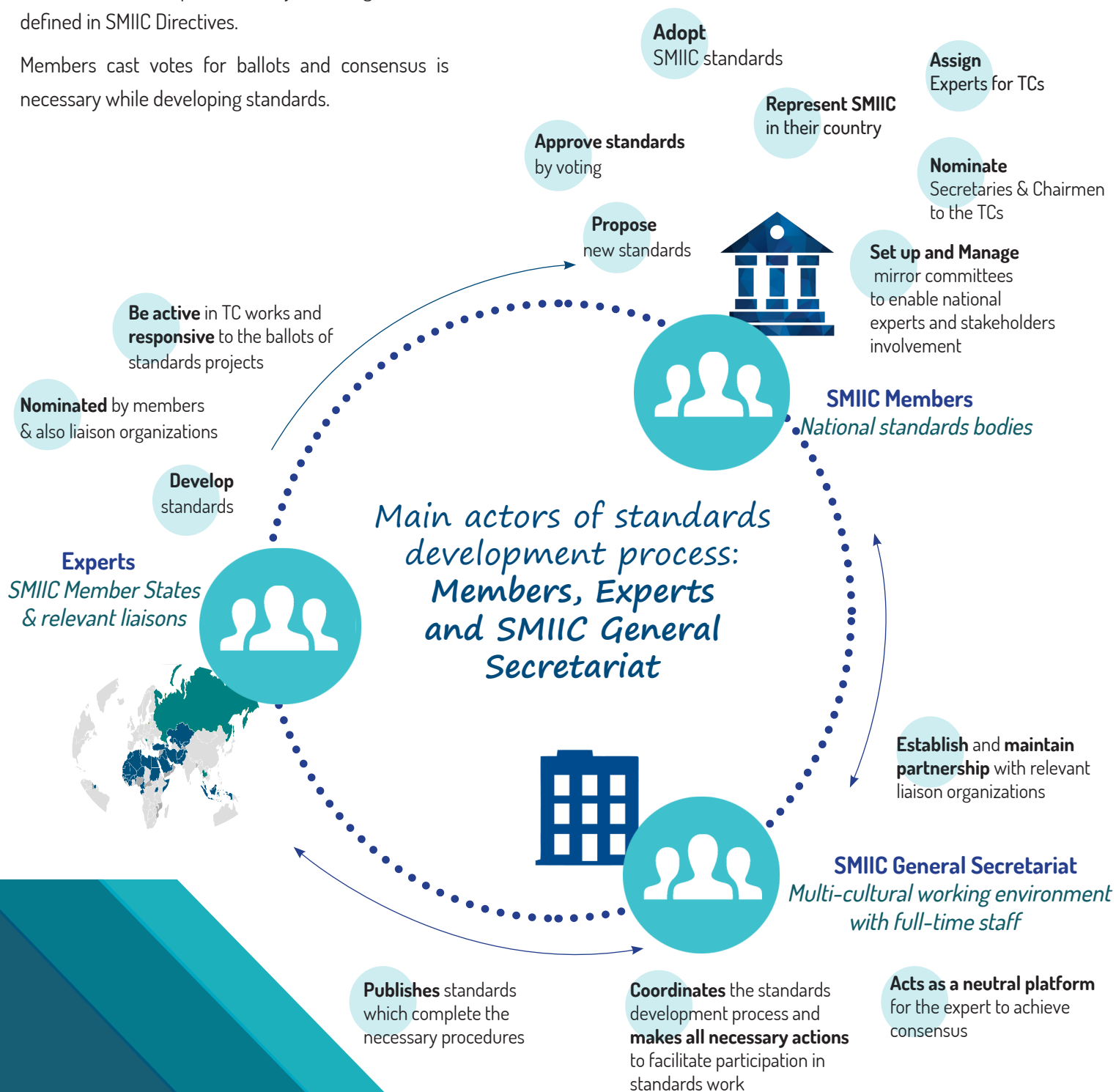
No. OIC/SMIIIC standards are prepared in SMIIIC Technical Committees (TCs) by the experts of Member States and Liaisons who are competent to work and contribute to the standardization process. SMIIIC already has 17 Technical Committees and SMIIIC Committee on Standards for Conformity Assessment (SMIIIC/CCA) which are continuously working to develop and revise OIC/SMIIIC standards. In SMIIIC TCs, OIC/SMIIIC Standards are developed on the basis of a project approach and every standard project passes through relevant stages from proposal of a new standard to its publication by following the rules defined in SMIIIC Directives.

Members cast votes for ballots and consensus is necessary while developing standards.



What are the rules for developing standards?

SMIIIC Directives (Part 1 & Part 2) specify the rules and procedures for the development stages, structure and drafting of OIC/SMIIIC standards. All OIC/SMIIIC standards shall, in principle, use consistent structure, common text and terminology so that they are easy to use and compatible with each other.



Member states need to stop their national approaches and adopt or use OIC/SMIIC standards in order to establish a single “OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure” which is intended for all humankind.

Why countries still use/adopt different halal standards?

Halal certification concept has started with slaughtered meat only in 1970s. After the common application of processed goods in 1990s, the halal concept became very popular all around the world starting mostly in Malaysia. Then, it was followed by other countries and these national initiatives have caused the existence of multiple standards and systems for halal.

On the other hand, halal standards development studies under the OIC date back to early 2008 even before the establishment of SMIIC. As a result of this study, three halal guidelines for food manufacturers, certification and accreditation were accepted as basic standards with the contribution of 40 OIC member states. Later on, these standards were brought to the umbrella of SMIIC, because SMIIC is the official standards body of the OIC and responsible for the halal related issues on behalf of the OIC.

However, these standards were publicly available and accessible at that time as the official documents of the OIC and most of the countries have copied these standards and used them as their national standards. Since, International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) took part in the development of the said standards by issuing necessary fatwas, even the fatwas are the same for all documents. This means that all so-called halal standards are originally taken from the text of the OIC/SMIIC standards.

After the establishment of SMIIC, our main focus was on the revision of the main OIC/SMIIC halal standards to update them according to developing factors. Following the intensive studies in relevant technical committees, new and more modern edition of these standards have been published in 2019 for global use. In addition to these three standards, SMIIC published halal standards on cosmetics, service site, tourism, food additives as well as 4 new conformity assessment guidelines.

With regards to adoption, by its nature, using standards and adopting them are voluntary actions. SMIIC has 42 Member States up to date and most of these countries are using OIC/SMIIC standards as they are or with some deviations. For using international standards, there is no any obligation for national adoption. Anyone can use them directly, without any endorsement or adoption.

What should be done to have a single system for halal?

Considering the drawbacks of the existing halal system due to multiple halal standards and unprofessional mechanisms applied in halal certification, the need for a single halal system has arisen and hence, OIC/SMIIC standards are available to make this system more transparent and more professional.

When an OIC/SMIIC standard is published, this means that members and/or liaisons are involved in writing and voting process of the standard's content as in international practices. This transparent and professional process gives the OIC/SMIIC standard its value being developed on consensus of its members and stakeholders. SMIIC is providing all necessary infrastructure for the development and maintenance of these standards. So, there is only one way to move forward in achieving a single halal system:

- Member states need to stop their national approaches and adopt or use OIC/SMIIC standards in order to establish a single “OIC Global Halal Quality Infrastructure” which is intended for all humankind. If countries would insist on their national systems, understandings or approaches, this will only prevent the world from reaching this goal.

Why accreditation is so important? What are the outcomes and value of accreditation?

Accreditation provides conformity assessment bodies, their clients and stakeholders with a third-party attestation of their competence to perform specific activities.

Accreditation though being voluntary, enhances the acceptance of the outputs of conformity assessment bodies by regulators, suppliers, purchasers, consumers and other interested parties. Accreditation also contributes to facilitate international trade in goods and services through the international recognition of the outputs from conformity assessment bodies accredited by signatories to international multilateral arrangements which potentially eliminates the need for exported products to be re-tested, re-inspected or re-certified in the importing economy, thereby reducing costs for manufacturers and importers.

Does a conformity assessment body always need to be accredited?

Keeping in mind the benefits and reliability of accreditation, producers and regulators in many economies make accreditation necessary in relation to high risk products and services. Although it is the decision of the conformity assessment body whether it wants to be accredited, the main factor to get accredited is often the expectation of the conformity assessment body's customers.



How SMIIC manages standardization, metrology and accreditation works?

SMIIC has three Councils operating under Board of Directors and consisting of the national standards, metrology and accreditation bodies of the Member States in order to study and develop necessary documents and establish necessary structures in accordance with their Terms of References and relevant internal regulations. These Councils are;

- Standardization Management Council (SMC)
- Metrology Council (MC)
- Accreditation Council (AC)

a) Standardization Management Council (SMC)

SMC is the organ assigned the task of development of OIC/SMIIC standards in cooperation with Member States and shall coordinate and oversee the performance of technical committees.

Standards are not developed by the standardization organization itself. Standardization is handled by various technical committees or TCs, as they are called. The TCs are the key bodies in standardization activities and are comprised of experts from the members organizations. Standardization activities in TCs are completely voluntary efforts and the effectiveness of the TCs depends on the devotion and enthusiasm of Member States.

A TC is a technical decision-making body with a precise title, scope and work programme, established within SMIIC. A TC essentially manages the preparation of SMIIC deliverables in accordance with an agreed business plan.

The primary duty of a Technical Committee is the development and systematic maintenance of the OIC/SMIIC Standards according to related activities within a particular scope of work (e.g.: TC 1 Halal Food Issues, etc.).

A Technical Committee is composed of a chairman, a secretary and SMIIC Members. The national delegations are designated by the SMIIC Members.

All SMIIC Member States have the right to participate in the work of SMIIC TCs either as a Participating-member (P-member) or an Observer-member (O-member). Observers of SMIIC may also participate in the work of SMIIC Committees as O-members.

SMIIC Technical Committes

TC1 Halal Food Issues
TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues
TC3 Service Site Issues
TC4 Renewable Energy
TC5 Tourism and Related Services
TC6 Agriculture Processes
TC7 Transportation
TC8 Leather and Tanning Material
TC9 Textiles and Related Products
TC10 Halal Supply Chain
TC11 Halal Management Systems
TC12 Dangerous Goods Transportation
TC13 Jewelry
TC14 Petroleum and Related Products
TC15 Terminology Committee
TC16 Halal Pharmaceuticals Issues
TC17 Handicraft
SMIIC/CCA



b) Metrology Council (MC)

Metrology forms the backbone of standards and is one of the main areas of concern for SMIIC. SMIIC aims to achieve uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing among Member States, for this purpose, has established the SMIIC Metrology Council consisting national metrology institutes of SMIIC Member States and main objectives of MC are:

- Having an inventory of existing calibration standards and establish a chain of traceability reaching reference standards for each basic unit.
- Acting as intermediary, for any unit, for meeting calibration requirements which may arise at any link of the chain to be established. It shall, through its staff of experts, certify the extent of accuracy and precision with which any calibration laboratory offers services.
- Supplying metrology services by making the most efficient use of the existing potentials in the Member States and aid in solving their problems in the field of metrology through coordinated research.

MC consists of a chair and members from national metrology institutes of the Member States and Observers of SMIIC.

c) Accreditation Council (AC)

AC is the organ carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme in the OIC Member States. AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing an OIC-wide accreditation system and raising awareness on accreditation concept within the Member States.

Accreditation Council (AC) consists of members from national accreditation bodies authorized by Member States and Observers of SMIIC.

The chair and 12 members from national accreditation bodies authorized by Member States shall be appointed or elected by the Board of Directors for the management of AC, on the basis of an equitable geographic distribution, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

AC will form accreditation technical committees (ATC) to implement accreditation related policies/projects/programs in line with the SMIIC Strategic Plan. Membership of ATC is open to all Member States.



Published OIC/SMIIC standards

OIC/SMIIC 1:2019, General Requirements for Halal Food

OIC/SMIIC 2:2019, Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification

OIC/SMIIC 3:2019, Conformity Assessment – Requirements for Halal Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Halal Conformity Assessment Bodies

OIC/SMIIC 4:2018, Halal Cosmetics – General Requirements

OIC/SMIIC 5:2017, Occupational Safety and Health Guidelines

OIC/SMIIC 6: 2019: Particular requirements for the application of OIC/SMIIC 1 to places where Halal foods and beverages are prepared, stored and served

OIC/SMIIC 9:2019, Halal Tourism Services – General Requirements

OIC/SMIIC 10:2019, Saffron (*Crocus sativus* L.) — Specification and Test Methods

OIC/SMIIC 11:2020, Date – Specifications and Test Methods

2 OIC/SMIIC standards on Disposable Baby Diapers and Disposable Sanitary Pads –Specifications&Test Methods

OIC/SMIIC 17-1:2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 1: Transportation – General Requirements

OIC/SMIIC 17-2: 2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 2: Warehousing – General Requirements

OIC/SMIIC 17-3: 2020 Halal Supply Chain Management System – Part 3: Retailing – General Requirements

OIC/SMIIC 20:2020, Precious Metals – General Requirements for Refined Gold

OIC/SMIIC 24:2020, General Requirements for Food Additives and Other Added Chemicals to Halal Food

10 OIC/SMIIC Standards on Petroleum and Related Products including Lubricants and Industrial Oil

OIC/SMIIC 33:2020, Conformity Assessment- Example of a Certification Scheme for Halal Products

OIC/SMIIC 34:2020, Conformity Assessment- General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons Involved in the Halal Related Activities

OIC/SMIIC 35:2020, Conformity Assessment- General Requirements for the Competence of Laboratories Performing Halal Testing

OIC/SMIIC 36:2020, Conformity Assessment- General Requirements of Proficiency Testing for Halal Purposes

9 OIC/SMIIC Standards on Leather and Related Issues

*Online sale of standards has started in 2017 and you may purchase them through the following link:
<https://www.smiic.org/en/standards>*

**42
Members**

**18
Technical
committees**

**38
standards**

**14
Halal
standards**

by 2021



! SMIIC is the only competent institution of the OIC working in the fields of standardization, metrology and accreditation.

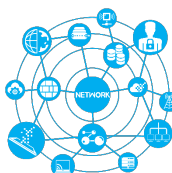


! SMIIC applies international practices in developing and maintaining its standards.



! SMIIC carries out its activities in accordance with its internal documents and strategic plans.

HQ



We are;

an intergovernmental organization affiliated to the OIC

a cooperation of Member States' national standards, metrology and accreditation bodies

developing new standards according to the needs of the OIC region

headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey and coordinated by the General Secretariat

presenting a professional structure and network for our stakeholders in setting standards and maintaining the integrity of conformity assessment system