



**Draft Resolution**

**adopted by**

**"The third Conference on Health Tourism in Islamic Countries (CHTIC)"**

**18-19,December 2012**

**Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran**

*"The Third Conference on Health Tourism in Islamic Countries (CHTIC)", 18-19 December 2012, Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran, organized by the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), Mashhad Razavi Hospital, Ministry of Health and Medical Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Organization of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) and the Islamic Development Bank,*

*Recalling Resolution of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), 28-30 November 2010, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, calling upon the OIC Member States to extend their support to and cooperation with the Islamic Countries Health Tourism Association (ICHTA),*

*Recalling further the Third Coordination Committee Meeting for Implementation of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in the domain of tourism among the OIC Member States, 12-13 June 2012, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, during which ways and means of promoting health tourism among the OIC Member States, on the basis of the principle of Islamic Solidarity were explored,*

*Focusing* on challenges and opportunities facing health tourism in the Islamic world in order to improve stream of Health tourists among the OIC Member States,

*Aiming at* contributing to expansion of knowledge and capacities among health tourism experts and operators in the Islamic countries in order to improve capabilities and collaboration opportunities available in the region in the area of health tourism,

*Expressing* support for the efforts carried out by relevant affiliated bodies of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCIA) in the development of OIC Health Tourism Market,

*Appreciating* the efforts undertaken by the Islamic Countries' Health Tourism Association (ICHTA) to expand health tourism initiatives among the Islamic countries,

1. *Stresses* the importance of establishing branches of the Islamic Countries Health Tourism Association (ICHTA) in the OIC Member States in accordance with the Resolution of the 7th Islamic Countries Tourism Ministers Meeting (ICTM) Nov 27-28,2010 in Tehran to contribute to further exploring opportunities in the area of health tourism among them;
2. *Expresses* appreciation to the Islamic Health Tourism Association (ICHTA) for its initiative on launching the portal of Health Information Center for the OIC Member States at **www.hicoic.com/net** and encourages the participating Member States, with due attention to the importance of communication and information sharing among their health tourism operators to actively join and contribute to enrichment of this portal;

3. *Calls upon* the OIC Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and other development cooperation institutions in the OIC Member States, to continue supporting efforts on promotion of health tourism among the Islamic countries, in particular by contributing to the construction of hospitals to facilitate provision of health services to Islamic Ummah;
4. *Recognizes* that research and scientific studies are indispensable for promotion of health tourism and calls upon the Islamic Development Bank and the OIC to support the "Islamic Countries Health Tourism Association (ICHTA)" for conducting and facilitating relevant research projects;
5. *Decides* to establish an open ended expert committee, comprising of the representatives of the OIC Member States, with the support of the ICHTA Secretariat, to explore possibilities for an OIC Accreditation System, taking into account national accreditation systems, and submit the outcome of its work to the 4th Conference on Health Tourism in the Islamic Countries (CHTIC) for its consideration;
6. *Calls upon* the insurance companies and authorities of the Islamic countries to, with the support of the ICHTA Secretariat, look into ways and means of mutual collaboration to provide joint medical insurance services in support of boosting health tourism among the OIC Member States;
7. *Invites* the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), to consider on its agenda an item on ways and means of facilitating entrance visa procedures between and among the Member States, including possibilities for visa exemption, in support of encouraging health and medical travels and to

- propose required action to the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) for their consideration;
8. *Acknowledges* the important role that tour operators play in promoting health tourism and calls upon the governments and the private sector of the Member States to support their tour operators in the areas of joint collaboration, investment, training and etc.;
  9. *Invites* the Islamic Countries Health Tourism Association (ICHTA) to strive to explore and facilitate collaboration among the member states on exportation/importation of medical equipment and training of technicians as well as curricula development;
  10. *Encourages* the relevant authorities of the OIC Member States to look into integrating promotion of health tourism clusters in their policies;
  11. *Encourages further* strongly all OIC Member States to actively participate and contribute to the 4<sup>th</sup> CHTIC for the furtherance of the health tourism among them;
  12. *Invites* the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (ICHM) to include on its agenda and item on “promotion of health tourism”, taking into account the outcome of the ICHTA meetings;
  13. *Welcomes* the establishment of women hospitals to be run by women personnel, taking into account the experience of the relevant Member States;
  14. *Supports* national and regional initiatives for the promotion of health tourism and in this regard welcomes the agreement reached among the Member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in the sideline of this conference;

15. *Requests* the Secretariat of the Islamic Countries Health Tourism Association (ICHTA) to submit a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the 4th meeting of the CHTIC;
16. *Requests* the ICHTA Secretariat to submit a report to the 4<sup>th</sup> Islamic Countries' Health Ministers Meeting (ICHM) on the outcome of the CHTIC meetings.