

ISC's (the Islamic countries' Science Citation Center) Policy Plan

Approvals of the 623th meeting of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution, 29-04-2008

Introduction:

To uphold and uplift Iran's contribution in production and provision of science within the scope of the Islamic countries; to materialize the sage and succinct remarks made by the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran as regards the necessity for the establishment of the ISC (the Islamic countries' Science Citation Center), and following the approvals in the 9th General Assembly of the ISESCO regarding promotion of the ISC, the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution called its 623th meeting during which the following policies were discussed and approved thereafter:

Article 1: The ISC seeks the following as its general objectives:

- 1- Founding a Science Citation Center encompassing information related to the scientists from the Islamic countries, and working in conjunction, coordination and constructive interaction with those presently at work over the globe.
- 2- Providing incentives that would uplift the Islamic countries researchers' zeal for initiating innovative research in humanities, while considering local needs and Islamic values, such that would encourage the whole Islamic countries to adopt such incentives.
- 3- Preparing the ground for promotion of science and scientometrics in the Islamic countries.
- 4- Exercising needful attention to the Islamic laws and moralities in production and provision of science.
- 5- Adopting facilitative policies that would uplift constructive interaction amongst Muslim scientists and Islamic centers.
- 6- Proposing suitable instruments and mechanisms that would fulfill optimally the information needs of the Islamic Ummah.

Article 2: The ISC will bear the following as its most significant responsibilities:

- 1- Monitoring as well as adopting suitable policies as regards the status of scientific publications of various types.
- 2- Encouraging and advocating research in humanities that would be Islamic-values-oriented and should tackle and propose solutions for the Islamic world's social problems.
- 3- Proposing a time-wise plan for the citation analysis of scientific publications.
- 4- Introducing quantitative and qualitative measures for ranking journals and other publications with an emphasis on the Islamic ethics and indexes, and publicizing the ultimate rankings through the ISC.
- 5- Indexing the Islamic countries' scientific productions to facilitate accessibility to them amongst the Islamic world.
- 6- Highlighting the most cited scientific works in a subject-wise manner.
- 7- Adopting measures that would facilitate registration of patents of the Islamic countries to preserve Muslim scientists' patent rights.
- 8- Preparing the grounds for publicizing the ISC publications throughout the world besides increasing the volume of such works.
- 9- Introducing the ISC's most cited scientists and those bearing maximal publication volumes.

Article 3: The Ministry of Science, Research and Technology would bear, through the establishment and management of the ISC, the responsibility to produce analytical citation reports on the status of universities, research institutions, technology centers, Howza offices, scientists and journals in Iran and in the Islamic countries.

Article 4: The Steering Committee of the ISC is composed of the following members:

1. Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, The Minister (Head of the committee)

2. Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, Deputy Minister for Research (Deputy Head)
3. Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, Deputy Minister for Research
4. The Islamic Culture and Communication Organization, The Deputy President-in-Charge
5. Foreign Ministry, The Deputy Minister-in-Charge
6. Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, The Deputy Minister-in-Charge
7. Ministry of Education, The Deputy President-in-Charge
8. Howza Central Office in Qom, , The Deputy Director-in-Charge
9. Jihad Daneshgahi (Jihad University), The Deputy President-in-Charge
10. The Islamic Azad University, The Deputy President-in-Charge
11. Two members as selected by the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution
12. Representative from the Organization of the Islamic Conference (the OIC)
13. ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran, The Director
14. Two of the Editor-in-Chiefs of Research-Scientific Journals as selected by the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology's Commission for the Scientific Journals and one editor-in-chief as selected by the Commission for the Scientific Journals of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education
15. Head of the center executing the ISC (Secretary of the Committee)

Note 1: Membership of real representatives will be enforced after the approval of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution and on receipt of the order from the Minister of Science, Research and Technology.

Note 2: Secretary of the Steering Committee will be appointed by the Minister of science, Research and Technology.

Note 3: Laws as regards ISC's and other affiliated citation databases' monitoring and policy making were approved by the Steering Committee.

Article 5: Academies, universities, research institutions, technology centers, Howza offices, Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, and other affiliated bodies are obliged to exercise optimum needful cooperation with the Steering Committee in enforcing the Committee's approvals.

Article 6: The ISC reports will be produced and submitted to the Discriminatory Boards of universities, research institutions, technology centers, academies as well as Howza offices, which are advised to consider the ISC output, as they do presently with other outstanding global indexing and citation databases, for promotion of the faculty as well as assessment of journals and articles.

Article 7: The Foreign Ministry and the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization will cooperate with the ISC and the Steering Committee in publicizing the ISC amongst the Islamic countries and collecting their scientific journals.

Article 8: The ISC will produce comprehensive yearly reports on the outputs of the ISC to the advantage of the scientific society.

Article 9: After the approval of these policies the government must approve the work force required and make needful considerations in the budget bill submitted annually to afford the financial requirements.

Article 10: Secretariate of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution together with the Steering Committee of the ISC are granted the perfect implementation and execution of the aforementioned approvals. The Ministry of Science, Research and Technology will submit the annual progress reports to the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution.

Article 11: The executing laws for the enforcement of these policies will be approved by the Steering Committee.

Article 12: These policies, incorporating 12 Articles and 3 Notes, were approved in the 623th meeting of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution called on 29 April, 2008

Mahmood Ahmadi Nejaad

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