



Information network in Muslim countries—II

M. Jasimuddin

practical ways of utilizing the available information resources to the maximum extent to meet (increasing) demands from the user.

It seems to be necessary to take into account several important factors responsible for some initial problems and how they can be solved:

INITIAL PROBLEMS
It is taken as an axiom that every information centre would participate in co-operative network, but in reality all may not be willing to do so for lack of awareness. To overcome the problem IMIN may plan to consolidate efforts to bring awareness among the participants. Co-operation among information scientists is most important and willingness of professionals to co-operate is a "Sine qua non" for any co-operative information system. Other levels in co-operation and co-ordination are among institutions and authorities responsible for education, research, planning and application.

Lack of well-trained and well-informed personnel, hence weak management and other organizational weaknesses are prevalent in many of the libraries and information centres of developing Muslim countries. There is lack of required funds. Hence absence of balanced collection in many information centres. National authorities may be motivated to improve the condition of libraries in respect of physical facilities, personnel and resources.

Selection of information resources have done with resources available in the country and international resources.

A common weak point in the field of information delivery and international resource-

adequate care and any information contrary to Islamic Faith should not get priority in distributing within the information delivery system of IMIN, since drinking is Haram, information about wine production and industry is not relevant to our aspiration for development.

The growth rate of resources is high in quantity and varied in quality. There are two types of information resources viz. (i) literature or records created inside the country and (ii) literature or records produced in other countries in other situations and imported in the country. The resource to be imported depends on the economic and scientific capacities of the country and belief of the people. Again, records created inside the country may not be enough in quantity and the quality may not be of international standard, but they are important for national requirements, since they are related to national problems and relevant to national needs. Information from both the resources is important and should be included in a national information system and IMIN system.

A common weak point in the field of information delivery and international resource-

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

Information delivery system should, cover all main activities, i.e. education and research where highly educated professionals participate, for whom usually language is no problem, they need specialized and updated information for teaching and research. IMIN may therefore, limit resource-sharing activities to specialized and latest current information for national scientists and teachers and other intellectuals who may contribute to education of the nation and create books. The participating units of all the tiers in IMIN will be treated as equal partners. Information units (centres) differ from each other in degree rather than in kind and we are concerned with the unite and their services.

The following may be

included in the objectives of IMIN:

(i) to make best possible use of the information resources available in a library and in a country within IMIN system;

(ii) to ensure easy access to national and international information for all scientists, teachers, intellectuals and other potential users of the Muslim countries. Other libraries of the world may volunteer;

(iii) to meet users need by providing improved bibliographical access to world literature, records and information.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The network of information centres in the Muslim world may be established in three main levels, viz. (i) National level (ii) regional level and (iii) Intra-regional level. The type of network at national level may be decided upon by National Government. At this level there may be more than one system.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION NETWORK
A system of academic information network may be developed to improve information delivery in university libraries of a country with the

sharing is related to language. This factor has to be considered in planning the IMIN. Any one language of the Muslim countries may not serve in the international communication. English may be used to overcome the problem.

Sources for adequate funds should be identified to cover up IMIN expenditures. Major co-operative activities are supposed to be within the 'focal point', 'resource centres' and other 'minor centres' of a country. The responsibility to make provision for funds, for them, lies with the national government.

Necessary funds for the IMIN could be obtained through an agreement among the participant Muslim countries.

To materialize the concept of 'information network', 'resource-sharing', 'co-operation' etc. the condition of information centres in national or country level should get consideration for improvement in respect of funds, manpower, collection, physical facilities, equipment and information delivery system.

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

Information delivery system should, cover all main activities, i.e. education and research where highly educated professionals participate, for whom usually language is no problem, they need specialized and updated information for teaching and research. IMIN may therefore, limit resource-sharing activities to specialized and latest current information for national scientists and teachers and other intellectuals who may contribute to education of the nation and create books. The participating units of all the tiers in IMIN will be treated as equal partners. Information units (centres) differ from each other in degree rather than in kind and we are concerned with the unite and their services.

The following may be

included in the objectives of IMIN:

(i) to make best possible use of the information resources available in a library and in a country within IMIN system;

(ii) to ensure easy access to national and international information for all scientists, teachers, intellectuals and other potential users of the Muslim countries. Other libraries of the world may volunteer;

(iii) to meet users need by providing improved bibliographical access to world literature, records and information.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The network of information centres in the Muslim world may be established in three main levels, viz. (i) National level (ii) regional level and (iii) Intra-regional level. The type of network at national level may be decided upon by National Government. At this level there may be more than one system.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION NETWORK
A system of academic information network may be developed to improve information delivery in university libraries of a country with the

sharing is related to language. This factor has to be considered in planning the IMIN. Any one language of the Muslim countries may not serve in the international communication. English may be used to overcome the problem.

Sources for adequate funds should be identified to cover up IMIN expenditures. Major co-operative activities are supposed to be within the 'focal point', 'resource centres' and other 'minor centres' of a country. The responsibility to make provision for funds, for them, lies with the national government.

Necessary funds for the IMIN could be obtained through an agreement among the participant Muslim countries.

To materialize the concept of 'information network', 'resource-sharing', 'co-operation' etc. the condition of information centres in national or country level should get consideration for improvement in respect of funds, manpower, collection, physical facilities, equipment and information delivery system.

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

adequate care and any information contrary to Islamic Faith should not get priority in distributing within the information delivery system of IMIN, since drinking is Haram, information about wine production and industry is not relevant to our aspiration for development.

The growth rate of resources is high in quantity and varied in quality. There are two types of information resources viz. (i) literature or records created inside the country and (ii) literature or records produced in other countries in other situations and imported in the country. The resource to be imported depends on the economic and scientific capacities of the country and belief of the people. Again, records created inside the country may not be enough in quantity and the quality may not be of international standard, but they are important for national requirements, since they are related to national problems and relevant to national needs. Information from both the resources is important and should be included in a national information system and IMIN system.

A common weak point in the field of information delivery and international resource-

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

Information delivery system should, cover all main activities, i.e. education and research where highly educated professionals participate, for whom usually language is no problem, they need specialized and updated information for teaching and research. IMIN may therefore, limit resource-sharing activities to specialized and latest current information for national scientists and teachers and other intellectuals who may contribute to education of the nation and create books. The participating units of all the tiers in IMIN will be treated as equal partners. Information units (centres) differ from each other in degree rather than in kind and we are concerned with the unite and their services.

The following may be

included in the objectives of IMIN:

(i) to make best possible use of the information resources available in a library and in a country within IMIN system;

(ii) to ensure easy access to national and international information for all scientists, teachers, intellectuals and other potential users of the Muslim countries. Other libraries of the world may volunteer;

(iii) to meet users need by providing improved bibliographical access to world literature, records and information.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The network of information centres in the Muslim world may be established in three main levels, viz. (i) National level (ii) regional level and (iii) Intra-regional level. The type of network at national level may be decided upon by National Government. At this level there may be more than one system.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION NETWORK
A system of academic information network may be developed to improve information delivery in university libraries of a country with the

sharing is related to language. This factor has to be considered in planning the IMIN. Any one language of the Muslim countries may not serve in the international communication. English may be used to overcome the problem.

Sources for adequate funds should be identified to cover up IMIN expenditures. Major co-operative activities are supposed to be within the 'focal point', 'resource centres' and other 'minor centres' of a country. The responsibility to make provision for funds, for them, lies with the national government.

Necessary funds for the IMIN could be obtained through an agreement among the participant Muslim countries.

To materialize the concept of 'information network', 'resource-sharing', 'co-operation' etc. the condition of information centres in national or country level should get consideration for improvement in respect of funds, manpower, collection, physical facilities, equipment and information delivery system.

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

Information delivery system should, cover all main activities, i.e. education and research where highly educated professionals participate, for whom usually language is no problem, they need specialized and updated information for teaching and research. IMIN may therefore, limit resource-sharing activities to specialized and latest current information for national scientists and teachers and other intellectuals who may contribute to education of the nation and create books. The participating units of all the tiers in IMIN will be treated as equal partners. Information units (centres) differ from each other in degree rather than in kind and we are concerned with the unite and their services.

The following may be

included in the objectives of IMIN:

adequate care and any information contrary to Islamic Faith should not get priority in distributing within the information delivery system of IMIN, since drinking is Haram, information about wine production and industry is not relevant to our aspiration for development.

The growth rate of resources is high in quantity and varied in quality. There are two types of information resources viz. (i) literature or records created inside the country and (ii) literature or records produced in other countries in other situations and imported in the country. The resource to be imported depends on the economic and scientific capacities of the country and belief of the people. Again, records created inside the country may not be enough in quantity and the quality may not be of international standard, but they are important for national requirements, since they are related to national problems and relevant to national needs. Information from both the resources is important and should be included in a national information system and IMIN system.

A common weak point in the field of information delivery and international resource-

Where there was inadequacy of coordination among a national government offices i.e. inter-ministerial functions

there occurred consequent and wasteful duplication of money and effort, therefore, coordination of such functions was indispensable for promoting co-operation in the field of information delivery.

In addition to cooperative work, a strong commitment by the administrators will be essential for successful implementation and development of the IMIN system.

Information delivery system should, cover all main activities, i.e. education and research where highly educated professionals participate, for whom usually language is no problem, they need specialized and updated information for teaching and research. IMIN may therefore, limit resource-sharing activities to specialized and latest current information for national scientists and teachers and other intellectuals who may contribute to education of the nation and create books. The participating units of all the tiers in IMIN will be treated as equal partners. Information units (centres) differ from each other in degree rather than in kind and we are concerned with the unite and their services.

The following may be

included in the objectives of IMIN:

(i) to make best possible use of the information resources available in a library and in a country within IMIN system;

(ii) to ensure easy access to national and international information for all scientists, teachers, intellectuals and other potential users of the Muslim countries. Other libraries of the world may volunteer;

(iii) to meet users need by providing improved bibliographical access to world literature, records and information.

objectives of (a) acquiring and providing original information (b) establishing an information retrieval system (c) promotion of various databases (d) establishing a bibliographic information centre as a leading organization to compile and develop a comprehensive union list of scientific periodicals and books with the help of modern equipment.

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION NETWORK
A scientific information network may be developed to exchange mutual information on science and research, promote and strengthen co-operative projects, consolidate and expand an information network for science within a country, develop database in local and English languages.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION NETWORK
A system may be developed to exchange mutual information on technology and practical application of a science and research, promote and strengthen co-operative projects, consolidate and expand an information network for technology within the country, develop databases in local and English languages.

HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK
This system may be developed to exchange mutual information on national health, health science, medical research, promote and strengthen co-operative health projects, consolidate and expand an information network for health sciences education and research within a country, establish and strengthen a

sound hospital record system in the hospitals and clinics in the country, develop databases in local and English languages.

ISLAMIC INFORMATION NETWORK
This system of co-operative information delivery should have been developed for strengthening bondage of brotherhood by mutual exchange of developed and better ideas and explanations of scholars throughout ages about the teachings of Islam and practice of Islam as a "Complete Code of Life". The system may help consolidate, promote and expand an information for 'Tablig' within the country.

REGIONAL LEVEL
A network linking all the national network may be established at a convenient region with a regional secretariat to support the activities of the national network. One of the national focal points may be strengthened with physical facilities and adequate number of skilled personnel for deliberation of functions of a regional secretariat. The regional network might be considered useful for the regions where easy communication is not possible all the time for geographical and similar other causes.

INTRA-REGIONAL LEVEL
A centre of excellence for overall support of the activities of the regional and national network may be established with a central secretariat. Active patronage from international organizations like Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) for IMIN may be an expectation.