

**FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE OIC
COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF
JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION IN THE FIELD OF
DAWA**

TRIPOLI, GREAT SOCIALIST
PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
28-30 JUMADA II, 1430 H
(21-23 JUNE 2009)

In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

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In implementation of resolutions adopted by the summit and ministerial conferences, in particular Resolution No.1/11 DA (IS) on Dawa Activities and Activation of the Committee on Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa;

Pursuant to Resolution 1/36-DW on Dawa Activities and Activation of Committee on Joint Islamic Action adopted by the 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, on 28 Jumada I-1 Jumada II 1430H, corresponding to 23-25 May 2009, which calls on all Islamic organizations and bodies as well as civil society institutions in the OIC Member States to cooperate with the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action to promote solidarity and concert efforts with a view to defending Islamic Causes;

In implementation of Paragraph 4 of Resolution 1/36-DW which calls on the Work Group of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa to continue its work in order to clarify the role of Islamic organisations and institutions working in the field of Dawa and Relief in implementing the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action;

Recognizing the need for Islamic institutions, societies and organisations working in the field of Dawa to coordinate their activities, with a view to avoiding duplication of work, overlap and waste of efforts, in the context of a more effective joint Islamic Action;

Referring to the offer of the World Islamic Call Society to host the Sixteenth Session of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa, the OIC General Secretariat invited the Members of the Coordination Committee to hold this Session in Tripoli, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 28-30 Jumada II 1430 H, corresponding to 21-23 June 2009.

Representatives of member Islamic organizations and institutions in the Coordination Committee on Joint Islamic Action participated in the deliberations of this Session (Attachment No. 1).

The opening session was attended by some members of Islamic diplomatic corps in Tripoli, representatives of some international organisations, heads of universities and research institutes, intellectuals and Islamic figures.

The Session was opened with a blessed recitation from verses of the Holy Quran, after which, Dr. Salem Al-Houni, the OIC High Commissioner in charge of Dawa Affairs, delivered the Statement of Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, OIC Secretary General. The Secretary General started the statement by commending the role of Brother Colonel Muamar Gaddafi in serving the causes of the Islamic Ummah and his support for all forms of joint Islamic action. The Secretary General also appreciated the efforts of the World Islamic Call Society and its hosting of this distinguished Islamic event. His Excellency also stated that 'it is high time for us to dedicate enough time for conducting a thorough evaluation of the work of this Committee in all its aspects including the study of its recommendations and review of its Statute and all relevant Islamic Resolutions adopted by both the Summit conferences and CFM meetings. To this end, the OIC General Secretariat prepared a comprehensive file on the progress of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawa since its establishment, to be presented with the session documents to assist the Committee members in their discussion and analysis of this topic with a view to finding out the gains that have been made and obstacles that hindered its progress.

His Excellency, the Secretary General stated that it would be necessary after the stage of evaluation to proceed to discuss the ways and means of activating the work of this Committee to get it aligned with the new vision that began with the Ten-Year Programme of Action. This Programme, adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah in December 2005, was aimed at meeting the challenges facing the Muslim Ummah in the twenty first century (a copy of the statement is hereto attached).

The participants considered the opening statement of the Secretary General, Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu an official document.

After that, Sheikh Ayatollah Mohammad-Ali Taskhiri, Secretary General of the World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought, delivered a statement on behalf of the participants in the sixteenth meeting of the Coordination Committee. In his statement, Sheikh Taskhiri commended the role of Brother Colonel Muamar Gaddafi, the Leader of the World Islamic Popular Council in supporting Islamic action programmes, particularly in Africa. He also expressed his thanks and appreciation to the efforts of the World Islamic Call Society in the different spheres of Islamic action, - cultural, educational or humanitarian, and stressed the seriousness of challenges facing Islam and Muslims, and the hostile images aiming at distracting and dividing Muslims. Sheikh Taskhiri added that through sincere work, we can put the Ummah back on the right track and mobilise its power for a brighter Islamic future.

Dr. Muhammad Ahmad Al-Sharif, Secretary General of the World Islamic Call Society, delivered a statement in which he hailed the distinguished participants and stated that the meeting at such time is particularly important to

address Muslims causes and promote the Ummah status. He also stated that the Society is looking up to the outcome of the Committee deliberations and that it has always been keen on coordination with all Islamic institutions to face the challenges ahead of the Muslim Ummah. He then went through the efforts of the Society on coordination among Islamic Action organisations, stressing that considerable achievements have been made, in collaboration with many organisations, in promoting and teaching Arabic language in Africa, boosting Arabic and Islamic culture, and educating people about Islam in order for goodness, amicability and peace to prevail among all human beings. Dr. Al-Sharif pointed out that the significance of this meeting lies in addressing the questions and causes serving the interests of the Muslim Ummah. He also commended the continuous patronage by Brother Colonel Muamar Gaddafi to any Islamic action which enhances Islamic identity and deepens affiliation to Islam as a religion, culture and civilisation in the people's hearts, particularly in Africa.

Over two days of work the Committee members discussed research papers on Islamophobia and its implications; challenges ahead of cultural and dawa activities in Africa; media and its role in Dawa; relationship between Islam and the West and its implications on Islamic Action in its cultural and civilisational dimensions. Similarly, reports by the Committee Expert Group meetings, particularly the recommendations adopted at the last Meeting in Cairo on 17-18 May 2009, were presented.

The Committee also examined ideas and proposals on the requirements of developing mechanisms of coordination among the Islamic organisations working in the field of dawa and relief, and embarking on joint programmes to serve Muslim communities and groups.

All the Committee members contributed ideas and visions through their interventions which enriched the discussion of causes of interest. Proceeding from the above, the following recommendations were adopted:

1. Adopting the report of the Committee Work Group, which was adopted at Cairo Meeting on 17-18 May 2009, and the proposed projects therein in implementation of the Ten Year Programme of Action adopted by the Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in Makkah Al-Mukarrama in 2005. Such projects are to be considered by the member Organisations for their inclusion in these Organisation's annual plans of action, and submitting reports thereon to the OIC Department of Dawa.
2. Increasing attention to Dawa, cultural and humanitarian work in Africa, embarking on the implementation of joint programmes under the umbrella of the OIC, and inviting active African Islamic organisations to attend the meetings of the Coordination Committee to hear their recommendations on Islamic action in the African continent.

3. Enhancing the presence of the Arabic Language in Africa, activating its programmes, and utilising social peculiarities and conventional authorities to inform people about Islam and its culture, with a focus on benefitting from local Islamic events in the continent.
4. Leveraging available Islamic media capabilities and improving their performance to present Islam's universality, openness and moderate principles, coordinating with regard to all that can assist young Muslim media people, and sensitizing Islamic governments and media institutions to the danger of the disintegrating and decadent materials being promoted by some satellite TV channels.
5. Supporting Muslim minorities to enable them establish educational and social institutions that will preserve their Muslim identity and bring up future generations respecting citizenship in all its rights and duties.
6. Expanding admission pool for the membership of the Coordination Committee, particularly from Africa and South East Asia, taking into account the considerations and rules regulating this matter.
7. Increasing attention to women and Muslim family issues, coordinating and cooperating within the OIC to conduct educational and cultural programmes promoting the role of family in society and motivating women for a wider participation in Islamic activities.
8. Working on the establishment of a comprehensive information center concerned with the conditions of Muslim minorities and communities in non-Muslim countries. This center should cover the demographic composition, history and civilisational and economic contributions of Muslim minorities and communities to their respective countries.
9. Execution by Members of the Coordination Committee of joint projects which would contribute to extending cooperation bonds between the Member States and Muslim communities in the non-Member States. This can be achieved through developing the potentials of these communities in domains of education, health and poverty eradication.
10. Strengthening the moderate and open approach of the Islamic message, and revising its language in line with the global nature of the Islamic call as a religion that promotes good, peace, justice and accommodation with the other.
11. Coordinating efforts to check Islamophobia, providing material and human support to deal with such phenomenon, and expressing satisfaction with the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat's Observatory in this respect. The Committee also calls for the establishment of academic chairs at world reputable universities to tackle this phenomenon.

12. Continuation of the training of dawa workers to get them qualified culturally and professionally, enabling them to utilize communication and information technology, giving more attention to the African languages being the basis for educating people about Islam, and spreading it in the four corners of the continent.
13. Adopting development projects which provide Muslims with job opportunities, income and self realization, and calling for cooperation between organisations in this regard.
14. Considering the possibility of adopting an Islamic dawa code of procedure reflecting the strategies of dawa, its goals, means and priorities. This code will also set the ethical framework which is based on the fundamentals of religion and faith.
15. Calling for the establishment of a website for the Committee, to which the member Islamic Organisations contribute, in order to document and follow the activities of the Committee on the Internet.
16. Working on the establishment in Africa of short wave and FM radio stations in international and African languages to be concerned with African educational, health, social, environmental and dawa issues.
17. Encouraging Western initiatives which advocate Muslim causes, support the use of international instruments and norms in arbitration, and reject all aggression policies, injustice and double standards with which Muslim causes are treated. In this respect, the Committee commends the European Union's statement on the massacre of the Bosnian people.
18. Calling for conducting a documentary scientific study on the attempts to take advantage of the economic and human conditions of some Muslims, especially in Africa, to influence their Muslim and cultural identity.

Tributes

1. The Committee expressed its sincere appreciation to Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, OIC Secretary General, for the strenuous efforts His Excellency is making to advance joint Islamic action to greater heights. The Committee also commends the course of action His Excellency adopts to achieve reform at the Organisation.
2. The participants express their appreciation to the World Islamic Call Society for its initiative to provide material support to the projects of the Department of Dawa in order to enable it conduct pioneer programmes enhancing the coordination process and achieving the OIC cultural strategic objectives in coordination with the relevant OIC General Secretariat bodies.

3. The Committee expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the World Islamic Call Society for hosting the deliberations of this meeting and for its positive contributions and active participation in boosting joint Islamic action, which effectively contributed to the success of the Session.
4. The Committee expresses thanks for the invitation by the Islamic Dawa Center in Brazil to host the Seventeenth Session of the Committee. Similarly, the Committee expresses thanks to the World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought for its offer to host the Eighteenth Session in Tehran.
5. The Participants at the meeting decided to send a cable of gratitude to Brother Colonel Muamar Gaddafi, Leader of World Islamic Public Council, in appreciation to his dawa efforts and support to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.
