



OIC/ICIM-10/2014/SOM-Rep/FINAL

**REPORT OF THE
PREPARATORY MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FOR THE
10TH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF
INFORMATION MINISTERS
(SESSION OF MEDIA CONVERGENCE FOR PEACE AND CALM IN
THE ISLAMIC WORLD)
TEHRAN – ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
1 DECEMBER 2014**

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In response to the kind invitation extended by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (*Session of Media Convergence for Peace and Calm in the Muslim World*), the Senior Officials Meeting was held in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 1 December 2014 and chaired by His Excellency Mr. Peiman Seadat, Director General for Sustainable Development at the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Meeting was opened with recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the statement of the representative of the Gabonese Republic, Chair of the 9th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, the statement of His Excellency Mr. Peiman Seadat, and the statement of the representative of the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, Mrs. Maha Mustafa Akeel, Director of the Department of Information of OIC General Secretariat.

The bureau was elected as follows:

Islamic Republic of Iran	}	Chairman
Republic of Sudan		Vice Chairman
Republic of Niger		Vice Chairman
State of Palestine		Vice Chairman
Gabonese Republic		Rapporteur

The Meeting adopted the Draft Agenda and Draft Work Programme of the Senior Officials' Meeting preparatory to the 10th Session (documents OIC/ICIM-10/2014/SOM - OIC/ICIM-10/2014/SOM/WP).

Taking into account the resolutions of the 9th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Libreville, the Gabonese Republic, on 19 and 20 April **2012**, and with reference to the report submitted by His Excellency the OIC Secretary General at the 10th Session, in which he reviewed the accomplishments achieved since the 9th Session, the Meeting held elaborate discussions on the subjects listed on the work programme, reviewed the draft

resolutions submitted at the Meeting, and approved the submission of the following recommendations to the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

1. The Role of the Media in the OIC Member States in Supporting the Cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque:

The participants in the Meeting highlighted the extraordinary circumstances, in which the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers is being held, particularly in light of changes sweeping the Muslim World, the constant suffering of the Palestinian people as a result of the ongoing Israeli occupation and escalating aggression, and the continued violations by Israel in the Palestinian territories including in the city of Al-Quds. The participants condemned the brutal Israeli aggression, praised the international denunciation of the aggression, and the support of the Islamic states and peoples for the Palestinian cause in all international arenas. The participants also commended the UNESCO's recognition of the State of Palestine and affirmed their support to Palestine's bid for full UN membership.

In discussing the need to continue media coverage of the Israeli regime policies against the Palestinian people, the participants urged media outlets in the OIC Member States to continue their coverage of the repeated Israeli aggressions against Palestinian territories and the targeting of the Palestinian people. Participants also called for shedding light on the violations of human rights and war crimes committed by the Israeli authorities. In this context, the Meeting recommended adopting relevant draft resolution 1/10 – INF on *the Role of the Media in the OIC Member States in Supporting the Cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque*.

2. Internal and External Media Action in partnership with OIC Member States' and International Mass Media Institutions

The Meeting praised the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat to engage further with foreign media, and stressed the importance of providing the necessary financial resources to fund projects related to direct engagement with foreign mass media outlets; this includes considering the establishment of a fund based on voluntary contributions by the Member States, institutions, and individuals. In the same vein, the Meeting recommended adopting relevant draft resolution No. 2/10 – INF on *Internal and External Action in partnership with OIC Member States' and International Mass Media Institutions*.

3. Supporting the Work of Joint Islamic Media Action Institutions

The Meeting discussed the issue of supporting various media institutions under the OIC, including the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), the International Islamic News Agency (IINA), the OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (IBRAF), the OIC Journalists Forum, the OIC Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT). It called on Member States to pay their contributions to the budgets of these institutions, contribute effectively to their work and benefit from the services they offer. The Meeting recommended further synergy_coordination and consultation between these institutions and the Department of

Information at the OIC General Secretariat, with a view to giving greater media projection of their work and creating awareness about the important role they play, which could support joint Islamic media action. The Meeting recommended the adoption of draft resolution 3/10-INF on *Supporting the Work of Joint Islamic Media Action Institutions*.

4. Supporting the Implementation of the Special Media Programme Highlighting Africa's Position and Role in the Muslim World and Extending the Programme to other Regions

The participants discussed the issue of implementing the media programme on Africa aimed at highlighting its position and role in the Muslim world. They called on Member States to adopt this programme by financing it or providing the General Secretariat with material support to implement it and extend it to other regions. The participants lauded the importance of the programme which would help to create awareness about the make-up of the African continent and highlight its economic, cultural, tourism and natural potentials thereby reflecting the shining image of the continent in the local and international media. The Meeting recommended the adoption of the relevant draft resolution 4/10-INF on *Supporting the Implementation of the Special Media Programme Highlighting Africa's Position and Role in the Muslim World and Extending the Programme to other Regions*.

5. Media Cooperation and Coordination between the OIC and its institutions in the service of the causes of the Islamic Ummah

The participants extolled the role of the OIC institutions and called on them to contribute to highlighting their role in the various mass media while enhancing their synergy and effectiveness. The participants also called on the OIC General Secretariat and its affiliated institutions, particularly those in the media field to intensify coordination, hold joint programmes and undertake field visits to know the work of the institutions at close range. The Meeting recommended the adoption of the relevant draft resolution 5/10 – INF on *Media Cooperation and Coordination between the OIC and its Institutions in the Service of the Causes of the Islamic Ummah*.

6. Developments on the OIC Satellite Channel Launching Project

The Meeting discussed the development on the OIC Satellite Channel Launching Project and the deliberations held in this regard, and the obstacles impeding the implementation of this big project. The meeting recommended the adoption of draft resolution 6/10 – INF on *Developments on the OIC Satellite Channel Launching Project*.

7. Promoting Media Visibility of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation in Pioneering Cultural Exchange, Development and Peace

The Meeting discussed the issue of promoting media visibility of the OIC, particularly in championing cultural exchange, development and intercultural dialogue. They urged Member

States to provide media coverage for the activities of the OIC. They also praised the role of OIC General Secretariat in this regard. The participants recommended the adoption of resolution 7/9 – INF on *Promoting Media Visibility of the OIC, particularly in Championing Cultural Exchange, Development and Peace*.

8. Boosting the Capacity and Productivity of Journalists and Media Institutions in Member States and Cooperation among them

The Senior Officials Meeting discussed ways of boosting the capacity and productivity of journalists and media institutions in Member States and cooperation among them. It praised the efforts of the Department of Information at the OIC General Secretariat in this regard, including its organization of a training course on writing press releases in which 22 staff members of the OIC General Secretariat and OIC affiliated media institutions participated. The course which was delivered by the Prince Ahmad Bin Salman Applied Media Academy was held at the OIC General Secretariat from 27 – 30 October 2014 with the aim of improving their drafting and press release writing skills. The participants recommended the adoption of draft resolution 8/10-INF on *Boosting the Capacity and Productivity of Journalists and Media Institutions in Member States and Cooperation among them*.

9. Establishing a publications unit at the General Secretariat's Department of Information

The meeting discussed the possibility of establishing a publications unit within the structure of the Department of Information at the OIC General Secretariat, considering the growing number of periodic releases and publications at the General Secretariat. These publications are prepared and their printing is supervised internally by the Department of Information. In this regard, the Meeting recommended the adoption of resolution 9/10 – INF on *Establishing a publications unit at the General Secretariat's Department of Information*.

H.E. Mr. Peiman Seadat

**Director General for Sustainable
Development at the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting**