



OIC/CFM-43/2016/INF/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

ON

INFORMATION AFFAIRS

SUBMITTED TO THE

43RD SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (CFM)

**(SESSION OF EDUCATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT-PATH TO
PEACE AND CREATIVITY)**

TASHKENT, REPUBLIC OF UZBEKESTAN

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(17-18 MUHARRAM 1438H)

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Resolution No. 1/43-INF
on
Launching the OIC Satellite Channel

The Forty-third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Education and Enlightenment-Path to Peace and Creativity), held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan from 17-18 Muharram 1438H (18-19 October 2016);

Recalling Resolution 2/10-INF on Supporting the Launching of the OIC Online Channel, adopted by the 10th session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 27-28 April 2015;

Based on Resolution 6/10-INF on the "*Progress Made in the Project of Launching OIC Satellite Channel*" adopted by the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 3-4 December 2014 (Session of Media Convergence for Peace and Stability in the Muslim World);

Recalling Resolution No. 8/9-INF on launching the OIC Satellite Channel, adopted by the ninth session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Libreville, Republic of Gabon, on 19-20 April 2012, which approved in principle the project of launching an OIC satellite channel under the OIC umbrella which had been adopted by the CFM sessions held in the Republic of Djibouti on 15-17 November 2012, in Conakry, the Republic of Guinea on 9-11 December 2013, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 18-19 June 2014, and in the State of Kuwait on 27-28 May 2015;

Taking note of the two open-ended expert-group meetings on the launch of the OIC Satellite channel, held at the OIC headquarters in Jeddah, on 23-24 February 2013 and 11 May 2016 respectively; the four meetings of the ad hoc committee, following up the finalization of the launch of the OIC Satellite Channel, comprising Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Gabon, Palestine, Qatar, Egypt, Mauritania and the OIC General Secretariat, held to discuss the project and its feasibility study on 12 May 2013, 10 March 2015, 20 October 2015, and 11 May 2016 respectively;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on information affairs submitted to the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers:

1. **Commends** the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat to launch the OIC satellite channel, through the numerous expert-group meetings of Member States and the ad hoc select committee mandated to follow up the conclusion of the launching process.

2. **Adopts** the feasibility study with reservation on financing section on the launch of the channel, prepared by leading consultants, pursuant to the recommendations of the second open-ended expert-group meeting, held at the OIC headquarters in Jeddah on 11 May 2016, and **approves** the launch of the satellite channel.
3. **Calls on** the OIC General Secretariat to continue its endeavours for ways to finance the OIC satellite channel in consultation with OIC Member States and institutions and the private sector. Mandates the OIC General Secretariat to take practical steps towards establishing and initiating the OIC Satellite Channel.
4. **Invites** the General Secretariat to create an OIC YouTube streaming channel to broadcast its recorded conferences, meetings, programmes and activities as well as the statements of the Secretary General on certain occasions, meetings with officials, short thematic videos, cultural and economic programmes, etc, pending the actual launch of the satellite channel; **calls on** the General Secretariat to submit a paper, containing an estimated budget for this project, to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.
5. **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution No. 2/43-INF
on
promoting the OIC's utilization of social media for its media visibility

The Forty-third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Education and Enlightenment-Path to Peace and Creativity), held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan from 17-18 Muharram 1438H (18-19 October 2016);

Based on paragraph 132 of the final communiqué of the 13th Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 14-15 April 2016, which stresses that media, including social media, is the most effective tool for spreading information and shaping public opinion, and recognises the decisive role it can assume in projecting the bright image of Islam and Member States to the outside world and achieving the objectives of Islamic solidarity;

Recalling the new OIC Ten-year Programme of Action (2016-2025), adopted by the 13th session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 14-15 April 2016, in particular Paragraph 50 on Media and Public Diplomacy, which states that the former, including social media, is the most effective tool and source for the dissemination of information, and that the OIC is in the process of putting in place an elaborate strategy for effective public outreach and employing media for promoting the goals and objectives of the Organisation;

Guided by Resolution 7/10-INF on "Supporting the Promotion of the OIC's Media Visibility in Pioneering Cultural Exchange, Development and Peace", adopted by the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, 3-4 December 2014, and endorsed by the 42nd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Kuwait on 27-28 May 2015;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on information affairs submitted to the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers:

1. **Commends** the information efforts of the OIC General Secretariat to use all sorts of media, including social media, to promote OIC's media visibility and disseminate news and reports covering the Organization's programs, projects, initiatives and activities for the benefit of public opinion within Member States and beyond.
2. **Invites** the OIC to benefit from the potential of social media to promote its objectives and the principles of intercultural peace and dialogue, including through broadcasting short thematic videos, launching media campaigns and reaching out to young people, given the appeal and effectiveness of new media.

3. *Requests* the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution 3/43-INF
on
Supporting the OIC's public information work to counter Islamophobia

The Forty-third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Education and Enlightenment-Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan from 17-18 Muharram 1438H (18-19 October 2016);

Recalling Paragraph 173 of the final communiqué of the 13th Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 14-15 April 2016, which encourages all Member States to work with the media to promote understanding towards a responsible use of freedom of speech, to hold the media accountable for perpetuating hate speech and extremism, and to speed up the implementation of the OIC Media Strategy to Counter Islamophobia, adopted by the 9th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM), held in Libreville, Gabonese Republic, in April 2012.;

Recalling the open-ended expert-group meeting on external media action, held at the OIC General Secretariat's headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 25-26 February 2013, which considered ways to implement Resolution 2/9-INF on external media action through the elaboration of a comprehensive media plan with the contribution of Member States and Ambassadors' groups in key world capitals to project the true image of Islam and Muslims, adopted by the 9th session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers;

Proceeding from Resolution 2/9-INF on external media action through a comprehensive media plan with the contribution of Member States and Ambassadors' groups in key world capitals to project the true image of Islam and Muslims, adopted by the 9th session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers;

Recalling the OIC's Information Strategy to combat Islamophobia, adopted by the 9th session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on information affairs submitted to the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers:

1. **Commends** the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat to interact with external media, and **stresses** the need to provide financial resources to finance projects related to direct interaction with foreign media and the partnerships entered into by the General Secretariat with a number of leading media organisations.
2. **Appreciates** the OIC's utilisation of various social media to address Islamophobia in the media.

3. *Encourages* the OIC General Secretariat to produce short videos to counter Islamophobia, to be uploaded to social media, launch media campaigns on social media networks against violence and extremism, advocate dialogue and coexistence and hold information seminars and workshops in countries where the phenomenon is rampant to promote intercultural peace and dialogue.
4. *Calls* on the OIC General Secretariat to consider the possibility of entering into cooperation partnerships with research and study centers and universities to address Islamophobia in the media and through public relations programmes.
5. *Requests* the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution No. 4/43-INF

on

OIC Member States' support to the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC)

The Forty-third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Education and Enlightenment-Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan from 17-18 Muharram 1438H (18-19 October 2016);

Endeavouring to support the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) to fulfil its mandate, which includes giving information and culture in the Muslim world a new breakthrough to acquainting the international public opinion with the Islamic Ummah's lofty issues, particularly the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to counter ill-conceived Islamophobic campaigns, follow up the implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference in the COMIAC's areas of competence, consider ways to enhance cooperation among Member States on information and culture, and elaborate programmes and proposals to support the capacities of Member States in these two areas;

Pursuant to Paragraph 184 of the final communiqué of the 13th Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Unity and Solidarity for Justice and Peace), held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 14-15 April 2016, which praised the efforts of the Republic of Senegal to reinvigorate COMIAC and encouraged COMIAC to develop programmes and activities in the field of information and promote the OIC's media visibility in partnership with the relevant OIC institutions and international partners;

Recalling Resolution 3/10-INF on "the Role of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) in its Capacity as Coordinator of the Action of the OIC Information Organs", and Resolution 5/10-INF on "Reactivating the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) and Supporting its Coordination Office", adopted by the 10th session of the COMIAC held in Dakar on 28-29 April 2015;

Proceeding from Resolution 3/10-INF on "supporting the work of joint Islamic media action institutions", adopted by the 10th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 3-4 December 2014 (Session of Media Convergence for Peace and Calm in the Islamic World), which underscores, in Operative Paragraph 3, the need to support the work of all joint Islamic media action institutions, including the Standing Committee for information and Cultural Affairs, to enhance synergy among them, improve their efficiency, contribute to their activities effectively, and benefit from the services they offer;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on information affairs submitted to the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers:

1. ***Expresses*** appreciation to the Republic of Senegal for its efforts in support of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), including the appointment of the Director of the COMIAC's Coordination Office and the allocation of its seat in the capital, Dakar, and **calls** for continued reinvigoration and promotion of the work of COMIAC.
2. ***Commends*** the new dynamism of COMIAC to reinvigorate joint Islamic media action, and highly appreciates its convening of a media workshop on the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, in Dakar, Senegal, on 30 May 2016, which was attended by many of the OIC Member States' Ambassadors in Dakar, representatives of the media, civil society and the OIC General Secretariat, who have contributed to the OIC's media visibility in Senegal and Africa.
3. ***Calls on*** all Member States to be understanding of the critical financial situation of COMIAC, which requires them to continuously lending necessary support, including financial and in-kind support, and joint projects and programmes, proposed and submitted by the Coordination Office of COMIAC to enable it to carry out its mandate on information and culture within the framework of the Organisation of Islamic cooperation.
4. ***Requests*** the OIC Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION NO. 5/43-INF
ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR THE MEDIA AND
JOURNALISTS**

The Forty-third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Education and Enlightenment-Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan from 17-18 Muharram 1438H (18-19 October 2016);

Welcoming the praiseworthy efforts deployed by the chairman of COMIAC by giving new dynamism to the Commission,

Relying on the outcomes of the 10th session of COMIAC held in Dakar on 27 and 28 April 2014, particularly its recommendations on increasing support for Islamic journalism,

Taking into consideration the announcement by the chairman of COMIAC contained in his report which was adopted by Heads of State and Government who met in Istanbul in April 2016 during the 13th session of the Islamic Summit, particularly in relation to the guidelines proposed for adoption as a basis for the COMIAC' future programme,

Convinced of the major role that should be played by the media in the area of peace and development in Member States,

1. **Expresses** its profound gratitude for the initiative launched by the president of the Republic of Senegal, in his capacity as the chairman of COMIAC to establish as international prize to compensate excellent mass media and journalists in the area of promoting dialogue, tolerance and harmony among cultures;
2. **Recommends** the establishment of a specialized committee comprising, among others, representatives of the 3 OIC Groups, COMIAC and the media affairs section in the OIC Secretariat, SESRIC and all OIC institutions relevant to the media, in order to discuss the criteria and procedures for establishing the international prize.
3. **Invites** all Member States, OIC financial institutions and relevant OIC institutions to provide their full support to this initiative.
4. **Requests** the OIC General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of this initiative, in cooperation with COMIAC and to present a report in this regard to the 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.
