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**RESOLUTIONS**

**ON**

**CULTURAL, SOCIAL & FAMILY AFFAIRS**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1/44-C**  
**ON**  
**GENERAL CULTURAL MATTERS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary-General on the following subjects:

**A) DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILIZATIONS**

**Recalling** the principles of The Tehran Declaration adopted in December 1997 by the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference affirming that Islamic Civilization has always and throughout history been rooted in peaceful co-existence, cooperation, mutual understanding, and constructive dialogue with other civilizations and other ideologies; and also underlining the need to build understanding between civilizations; **bearing in mind** Resolution No. 53/22 adopted by the UN General Assembly, at the initiative of the Republic of Iran, designating the year 2001 as the “UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations” which called for taking all measures aiming at the enhancing the concept of dialogue among civilizations; and **recalling** also the provisions of The OIC-2025 called on the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary, specialized and affiliated bodies to contribute as a partner to intercultural and inter-religious dialogue and related efforts in this regard,

1. **Commends** the initiative of the Previous Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques The Late King Abdullah Bin Abdelaziz on Inter-faith and Intercultural Dialogue, which was concretized in the Conference of Makkah in 2005 which saw the participation of Muslim Scholars from different schools of thought and which paved the way to the organization of the International conference held in Madrid with the participation of a large number of followers of world civilizations and cultures and insisted on the unity of the humanity and on equality among peoples, regardless of their colors, races and cultures.
2. **Also commends** the continued efforts of the Previous Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in this regard, which led to the organization of a high-level meeting by the General Assembly of the UN in November 2008, to which many world leaders participated in support of the results of the Madrid Conference on the Initiative of the Previous Custodian of the Two holy Mosques about dialogue. This was emphasized in the statement of the Secretary General who commended the initiative and its role in the dissemination of the culture of dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding among all the peoples of the world.

3. **Commends** the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aimed at activating this initiative through the establishment of a relevant mechanism, namely King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID), whose headquarters were established in Vienna, and **calls on** the Member States to actively contribute with ideas, suggestions, and recommendations of making the Center an effective institution for promoting interfaith and inter-civilization dialogue.
4. **Commends** the OIC General Secretariat for initiating steps to institutionalize its cooperation with the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID), through signing of a memorandum of understanding, as a sign of its continued interest and support on its work and activities.
5. **Commends** the efforts of the United Arab Emirates through the Peace Promotion Forum which was established in 2014 under the leadership of Sheikh Abdullah bin Bayyah and held three sessions in Abu Dhabi, the UAE, and Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco; It also made significant efforts to promote sound Islamic thought and the civilized image of Islam in dealing with others and protecting non-Muslim minorities in Muslim countries.
6. **Commends** the High Patronage conferred by His Majesty King Mohammed VI on the Conference on the Rights of Religious Minorities in the Muslim World held in Marrakech in January 2016, during which the Marrakech Declaration was adopted as a cornerstone in the promotion of dialogue and interaction among various religions;
7. **Pays tribute** to the extensive efforts made by the United Arab Emirates through the Muslim Council of Elders, sponsored by the United Arab Emirates, which was established in 2014 under the chairmanship of Sheikh Al-Azhar Al-Sharif and has made considerable efforts through dialogue of civilizations between East and West in both Italy and France. Several meetings with the Elders of the West were held to bring together the Islamic and Christian perspectives through the common denominators that unite Islam, Christianity and other monotheistic religions for the sake of peaceful coexistence and cooperation among civilizations to the benefit of mankind.
8. **Commends** the great efforts of the UAE through the launch of the Award for World Peace of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, which recognizes individuals and organizations that make outstanding contributions to world peace, the biggest world award of USD 1.5 million, as well as the efforts of the Government of the UAE in promoting moderate Islamic culture in the country and beyond.
9. **Commends** the efforts exerted by His Majesty King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in initiating, at the UN General Assembly on September 23, 2010, *The World Interfaith Harmony Week*, which has been observed in every first week of the month of February since the year of 2011.
10. **Reiterates** the support by the OIC to the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, convened triennially on the initiative by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, which held its 5<sup>th</sup> session in Astana on 10-11 June 2015, **encourages** religious leaders of the OIC Member States and the international community to continue their active participation in that meaningful forum.

11. **Welcomes** the Appeal by the Participants of the IV Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Astana and acknowledges that the only way to create a safe world is through a dialogue based on the principles of mutual respect and understanding, compassion and forgiveness, justice and solidarity, peace and harmony;
12. **Commends** the outcomes of the international symposium on “Promoting the Values of Peace and Dialogue”, held on 18-20 April 2016 in Sousse in Tunisia, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in the Republic of Tunisia, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
13. **Commends** the Secretary General for engaging in dialogue with the United Nations, and other international organizations, including the OSCE and Council of Europe, political leaders and civil society to underscore the concerns as well as raise global awareness over the dangers of Islamophobia and for his initiative calling for a historical reconciliation between Islam and the Christianity.
14. **Calls on** the OIC General Secretariat, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) to continue to strengthen inter-cultural and inter-civilization dialogue through concrete and sustainable initiatives, conferences and symposia; and **appeals to** all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to provide with possible financial support for the success of these dialogues.
15. **Commends** the active role Azerbaijan plays in promoting inter-cultural and inter-civilization dialogue between the Islamic world and the West, including through the *World Forums on Intercultural Dialogue*, held in Baku since 2011 and Seventh Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan on 25-27 April 2016.
16. **Applauds** the initiatives, programs and activities taken by the General Secretariat and those by the relevant OIC Specialized and subsidiary bodies in particular the ISESCO and IRCICA for celebration of 2010 as the International Year for Promotion of Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, Understanding and Cooperation for peace.
17. **Welcomes** the new mandates that the Dialogue and Outreach Department (DAWA Department) has been entrusted with, and calls upon all Member States to give necessary assistance and support to the same in implementing its new mandates, considering the important role that the OIC plays in boosting dialogue, outreach and openness with all other cultures and civilizations, as described in the Secretary General’s Report to the 43<sup>rd</sup> of the CFM.

## **B) ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS**

**Cognizant** of the need to promote greater harmony and understanding between and among different cultures,

**Referring** to the OIC’s Ten-Year Program of Action and reemphasizing its premise that inter-civilization dialogue, based on mutual respect and understanding, and equality amongst peoples are prerequisites for international peace and security, tolerance and peaceful co-existence,

**Acknowledging**, in this respect, the valuable contribution of the Alliance of Civilizations, launched jointly by Turkey and Spain in 2005 to attaining the goals stated in the OIC's Ten-Year Action Plan,

**Remembering** its resolutions 1/38-C, 1/39-C, 1/40-C, 1/41-C, 1/42-C on the Alliance of Civilizations adopted by the 38<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> Sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers, respectively, **Recalling also** the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Secretariats of the OIC and the Alliance of Civilizations, **underlining** the significance of the Conclusions of the various AoC global forums in stemming the tide of intolerance, extremism and polarization between the Islamic world and the West as well as **encouraging** greater cross-cultural understanding,

**Emphasizing** the importance of membership in the Group of Friends of Alliance of Civilizations to effectively contributed to Alliance's noble goals,

**Noting** the Alliance's adoption of a Regional Strategy for Southern Europe, the Mediterranean, and Latin America,

1. **Appreciates** the continuing determination and efforts of the Republic of Turkey in contributing to the overall work of the Alliance and the dissemination of its noble goals.
2. **Commends** the Republic of Turkey for hosting Partners Forum, held in Istanbul on 31 May -1 June 2012.
3. **Also Commends** the Secretary-General for his efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Secretariats of the OIC and the Alliance of Civilizations, and also for the OIC's constructive contributions to AoC meetings and for proposing joint projects.
4. **Welcomes** the results of the Alliance's Seventh Global Forum held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan on 25-27 April 2016, which has been crowned with success.
5. **Calls on** Member States that have not yet done so, to join the Group of Friends of the Alliance of Civilizations. Through the Baku Declaration, adopted at the Seventh Global Forum of the Alliance, the Group of Friends reaffirmed its support to UNAOC and expressed its conviction that UNAOC plays an important role as a global platform for sharing good practices for living together in inclusive societies.
6. **Calls** upon Member States of the OIC to actively participate in the work of the Alliance, particularly the development and adoption of the Alliance's regional strategies and related guiding documents, and the implementation thereof.
7. **Appreciates** the initiative of the General Secretariat to hold the *2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the AoC Focal Points of the OIC Member States*, in coordination with ISESCO, in Rabat on 16-17 October 2011, and **appreciates** the active participation of the OIC and its Member States in the Seventh AoC Global Forum held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on 26-27 April 2016.

8. **Appreciates** the successful convening of the *3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the AoC Focal Points of the OIC Member States* by the Government of the State of Kuwait in Kuwait city on 12 January 2013.
9. **Commends** the successful convening of the *4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AoC Focal Points of the OIC Member State*, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in Bali, prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> AoC Global Forum.
10. **Thanks** the Secretary General, his team, and IRCICA for their dedicated efforts in organizing a sub event on ‘*Promoting Multicultural Perspective for Preventing Extremism*’ at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the AoC, held in the Republic of Azerbaijan in April 2016.

### **C) CULTURAL STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION**

**Taking note** of the reports of the Consultative Council on Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Muslim World (CCICS) adopted at its earlier meetings and the importance of the protection of intellectual and cultural heritage against external threats:

1. **Welcomes** the adoption of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world in its modified form and **calls upon** the Member States to implement cultural projects in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO.
2. **Commends** the activities carried out by ISESCO and host cities since 2011, to celebrate Islamic cultural capitals and thanks the Member States for their active participation in these events.
3. **Calls** for the activation of the Council of OIC Member States ambassadors in Europe and the Americas to hold cultural and artistic activities in order to improve the image of Islam and spread Islamic culture so as to reduce Islamophobia and serve joint Islamic causes in the above-mentioned countries.
4. **Commends** the Government of Bangladesh for internationalising the well instituted and regularly held Asian Art Biennale and holding the 17<sup>th</sup> Biennale in Dhaka during the month of December 2016 at an international scale for the first time with participation of artists from 55 countries including a large number of OIC member states. Also, calls upon the Secretary General to explore supporting and introducing an OIC prize for Islamic art to be awarded during the same Biennale; furthermore, Calls upon the member states to encourage participation of their artists, art galleries, and institutions in the regularly held Biennale thus made into a global event to promote peace and understanding;

### **D) THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR**

**Taking into account** the pressing need for the unification and standardization of the Hijri Calendar which will reflect the unity of Muslims during the feasts and celebrations;

**Taking note** of the conclusions of the scientific symposium on unifying the Hijri Calendar held in Tunis on 11 June 2009 in presence of the OIC General Secretariat, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy and the Member States, which include the following:



- **Need to** rely on vision while making use of astronomical calculations and observatories and to take into account scientific facts and fixed and accurate astronomical calculations.
- **Make** use of Al-Shahid System of the Tunisian Scientist Mohamed Al Awsat Al-Iyari.

**Taking also note** of the *International Conference of the Unity of Hijri Calendar*, hosted by the Turkish Administration of Religious Affairs (Diyanet) in May 2016 in Istanbul to which scientists, astronomers and officials from around 50 countries attended.

**Recalling** all previous resolutions supporting *Dar Al-Iftaa* in implementing the satellite project in cooperation with Cairo University and the Center for Aerospace Studies and Consulting in the Arab Republic of Egypt, and stressing the importance of implementing the project proposed 15 years ago with the aim of unifying the Hijra calendar in Islamic countries as an embodiment of their unity;

1. **Calls on** OIC Member States and institutions and civil society organizations to financially contribute towards the establishment and manufacturing of the Islamic satellite.
2. **Requests** the Secretary General to take all necessary measures in this regard in coordination with *Dar al-IftaaAl-Misriyah* with a view to starting the effective implementation of this project.
3. **Calls upon** all the Member States and Islamic institutions to implement previous resolutions to support the Fatwa Institution in implementing the satellite project with the cooperation of University of Cairo and Centre for Space Studies and Consultations in the Arab Republic of Egypt, and through cooperation with Turkish Administration of Religious Affairs (Diyanet).

**Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION NO.2/44-C**  
**ON**  
**PALESTINIAN CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 5<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Welcoming** the Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016) which stipulated, inter alia, “that it will not recognize any changes to the 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem”; while **stressing** the importance of this resolution in creating better prospects for achieving comprehensive, lasting and just peace;

**Taking into consideration** the policies and practices of the Israeli occupation authorities towards the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories, aimed primarily at the eradication of their cultural identity, along with Israel’s attempts to obliterate and disintegrate their national and Arab identity at all levels, including their history and heritage, and its continued practices to malign the Islamic civilization, distort historical and geographical facts, in addition to the ongoing policy of colonial expansionism and racial discrimination through claims of Israeli supremacy over the citizens of the occupied Arab territories, all of which constitute a blatant violation of their fundamental rights;

**Condemning** the aggression perpetrated by Israel in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif including the construction of colonies and the racist annexation and expansionist wall around the city for its judaization;

**Recalling** the Jakarta Declaration adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit, held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 6-7 March 2016 on Palestine and Al-Quds Ash-Sharif;

**Stressing** the importance of empowering the Palestinian people and the OIC Member States’ support to all efforts aiming to promote and develop quality education in Palestine and provide training to all Palestinian people, both in Palestine and in the Member States;

**Expressing deep concern** at the incessant Israeli threats and attacks against the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and Islamic and Christian holy places in the territory of the State of Palestine;

**Having considered** the Report of the Secretary-General on the following matters:

**A) TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WITH UNIVERSITIES IN OIC MEMBER STATES**

- 1. Calls on** Member States to allocate scholarships for the benefit of Palestinian students in all areas of study; **expresses** appreciation to Member States that have already given more scholarships; and **urges** them to increase these scholarships and reduce tuition fees for Palestinian students;

2. **Recommends** lending all forms of financial and academic support and assistance to Palestinian universities to enable them to play their national and educational role; **calls upon** the League of Islamic Universities to coordinate with the League's member universities to facilitate and encourage twinning agreements between Palestinian universities and member universities of the League with a view to fostering cooperation between; **calls upon** these universities to send and receive training and academic missions to and from Palestinian universities; and calls for a conference of universities from the Member States and Palestine to support the Palestinian universities in all fields;
3. **Requests** the General Secretariat, in coordination with the State of Palestine, in implementation of the resolution of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit on the Establishment of Al-Aqsa University in Jerusalem, to commence the necessary procedures for the establishment of the university; and **calls upon** Member States, Islamic funds, the IDB and other OIC organs to contribute effectively and generously to the establishment of the university, which is considered an important national achievement for the Ummah at large;
4. **Calls on** Member States to boycott Israeli universities, until Israel, the occupying power, ceases all its violations against the Palestinian people in general and the Palestinian university and school students in particular;

#### **B) THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY AND THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN**

1. **Condemns strongly** the decision by Israel, the occupying power, to attempt to impose Israeli curricula on the schools of the occupied city of Al-Quds to replace Arab Palestinian curricula, as an attempt by Israeli occupation authorities to impose its version of history on Al-Quds citizens as a prelude to judaize the city and obliterate its Arab identity, which constitutes a blatant violation of international laws and instruments; and **calls** for an international appeal to counter those measures and for the OIC Group at the relevant UN fora to act promptly to compel Israel, the occupying power, to stop its egregiously colonial and racial policies;
2. **Calls upon** Member States to provide all necessary financial assistance in order to secure the funding required for the development of education in the occupied territories, in general, and in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, in particular, and to work to actualize the educational aspect of the Strategic Plan for the development of Al-Quds Ash-Shareef adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the Extraordinary Islamic summit, in view of the extreme difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities to impose their own educational curricula, prevent the construction of schools or refuse their expansion and restoration, impose high taxes on schools reporting to the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education, close down schools outside their control, and erect security barriers impeding movement and transportation of teachers and students and prevent access to their places of work, schools and universities. They are also subjected to harassment and attacks by settlers. Therefore, we call on the Secretary General to set up a fund, under the supervision of the OIC, to support schools in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
3. **Invites** Member States to introduce an academic subject about the history of the city of Al-Quds into the Member States' curricula, so as to acquaint generations of the Muslim Ummah with the religious significance of the city of Al-Quds and Al Aqsa Mosque and the coexistence between followers of

revealed faiths, show the Palestinian people's suffering under occupation and identify their inalienable rights in their land. The Conference also calls on the General Secretariat, in coordination with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and with the State of Palestine, to prepare such materials and translate them into the OIC official languages, and hold in 2017 a symposium of experts to prepare this academic subject;

4. **Stresses** the importance of organizing, in cooperation with the State of Palestine, cultural symposia, lectures and such activities as may address the Palestinian cause and its significance to the Muslim countries, the aim being to sensitize future generations to the importance of the Palestinian cause;
5. **Reiterates** its full support and assistance for the inhabitants of the occupied Syrian Golan in their resistance against the oppressive Israeli practices, and their legitimate struggle to preserve their cultural, national, and Arab identity, and **appeals to** the United Nations and to specialized international bodies and institutions, particularly UNESCO, to counter these Israeli policies which violate international laws and conventions;
6. **Calls for** support to the steadfastness of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and **proclaims** its support for the preservation of the Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of their educational and cultural materials;
7. **Calls upon** the international community to shoulder its full responsibility in compelling Israel to abide by the principles of human rights, including the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and all international conventions on human rights, particularly those related to human rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and **calls upon** the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, to implement the measures adopted by the successive conferences of High Contracting Parties, according to the first article of the treaty, and take the necessary steps to end the violations and crimes committed by the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian civilians measures, and work collectively to hold the perpetrators of these crimes accountable,
8. **Condemns** the actions and practices of the Israeli occupation authorities against educational and other institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, their cancellation of the Syrian educational curricula in the villages of the Golan, and their substitution by Israeli curricula, their imposition of the teaching of Hebrew instead of Arabic, their replacement of the teaching staff to serve the goals and directives of Israeli policy, their imposition of measures to deny Syrian Arab citizens access to higher education in Syrian universities and their denying some of those who manage to get education in those universities the right to return to their homes.

### **C) THE ISRAEL AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC HOLY SITES AND CULTURE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER, HUMAN HERITAGE, AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF**

1. **Reiterates** the necessity of implementing all previous Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al-Quds Al-Sharif; and calls on the Member States to respect these resolutions, including through supporting and voting relevant resolutions at international institutions;

2. **Calls for** continued urgent and effective action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to compelling Israel to rescind its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif; reaffirming the City's Arab-Islamic character; and rejecting its annexation or Judaization, in line with the relevant Resolutions of international legality, particularly UN Security Council Resolutions No. 465 and 478; while exerting all efforts in order to implement these two resolutions in conformity with the resolutions of the United Nations and international legality. And reiterates that all practices through which Israel, the occupying Power, seeks to change the character and status of the city and its demographic composition null and void and should be abolished,
3. **Condemns** the ratification of the bill to "ban the call for prayer" which seeks to prevent other religions from freedom of worship, especially that Adhan (Mosques' call for prayer) is one of the rituals of the Muslim faith; and calls on the Secretary General to address a letter to the UN counterpart to pressurize Israel to stop its provocative acts which hurt the feelings of Muslims the world over;
4. **Condemns again** Israel's illegal decision to add the Mosque of Elibrahimi in Hebron and Bilal Bin Rabah Mosque in Bethlehem to the Israeli heritage list. **Considers** the Israeli act as looting of Palestinian cultural and heritage sites. Also **Calls** upon the international community and UNESCO to show their responsibilities of protecting the Palestinian cultural and heritage places, and compelling Israel to abide by international law and Geneva conventions and, in this regard, calls on Member States to support the efforts of the State of Palestine in its quest for the inclusion of a group of Palestinian positions, including the old city in Hebron and the Cremisan Valley in Beit Jala, in the World Heritage List;
5. **Condemns** the systematic and the continuous Israeli attempts to plunder and falsify Islamic and Arab heritage in Palestine, including the recent discovery of stealing by Special Forces of the Israeli occupation army of Arabic and Islamic books and manuscripts from Palestinian homes and institutions following the Nakba in 1948; the Council mandates the Islamic Group in UNESCO, ISESCO and IRCICA to follow up investigation of this major theft of Islamic and Arab history and culture and establish a joint follow-up expert group;
6. **Calls on** Member States to ensure the restoration of the old town in Al-Khalil and to safeguard the heritage and culture of this historic city and its resident Palestinian families in order to counter Jewish settlements in the city; and urges Member States to import Hebron's beautiful and famous pottery pieces in support for its people's steadfastness;
7. **Requests** the General Secretariat to continue working with international agencies and institutions and particularly with UNESCO in order to implement the initiative of UNESCO's Director-General to restore the Holy City; preserve the historic buildings of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the ancient buildings surrounding Al-Quds Holy Sanctuary; close the tunnels constructed by Israel; stop the excavation works especially on the south and west of the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque; and counter any designs aimed altering and obliterating the Islamic character of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.
8. **Strongly condemns** Israel for building the separation Wall, the so-called Jerusalem Envelope, which seeks to isolate the City of Al-Quds from its Palestinian environment, and for its unrelenting attempts to Judaize it by altering its civilizational, historical, and cultural landmarks. It also insists on the implementation of the advisory opinion rendered by the International Court of Justice on 9 July 2004

concerning the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the occupied Palestinian territory; and condemns all states and entities that encourage this illegal behavior;

9. **Strongly denounces** and decries the continued aggression perpetrated by Israel, the occupying power, against the Al-Aqsa Mosque, along with the Israeli attempts to install its temporal and spatial division by allowing settlers to enter and pray in the Mosque's compound; decries the continued excavations carried around and under the Mosque which led to the fall of a large section of the Mosque's fence on the Western Gate; and **condemns** Israel for denying the Palestinians access to their places of worship in Al-Quds and for its attempts to interfere in the Islamic Waqf (endowment) matters and prevent the repair of sanctuaries;
10. **Requests** Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international forums to counter the attempts of Israel, the occupying power, to alter the religious and historical character of Islamic and Christian sanctuaries, and also to counter the partitioning of Mosque in Al-Khalil;
11. **Demands** Member States to support resolutions related to Al-Quds Al-Sharif in international , while taking part in relevant sessions; and **expresses** in this regard its regret at the failure of a number of Member States to support decisions related to Al-Quds Al-Shareef and the Palestinian cause, including Cameroon, Albania, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo;
12. **Requests** the General Secretariat to devise a plan of action to promote religious tourism in the city of Al-Quds Al-Shareef in coordination with member states with a view to raising awareness of Israeli violations in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharqiya; and calls for practical steps to organize cultural weeks in member states, including photo exhibitions, seminars and the projection of documentaries on the city of Al-Quds Al-Shareef.
13. **Requests** the General Secretariat to constitute an ad-hoc committee of legal experts from Member States to discuss the grave violations perpetuated by Israel, the occupying power, in the vicinity of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque in the form of excavations and threat to the Mosque's foundations, make necessary legal recommendations for the protection of the Mosque and other holy places in the city of Al-Quds and other parts of Palestine, and ensure follow-up at international forums; and **invites** the Secretary General to conduct a workshop to accomplish this task.
14. **Calls on** the Member States to boycott all governments, companies, institutions or individuals that contribute to the imposition of Israeli colonial occupation in the State of Palestine and the judaization of Al-Quds city, such as holding formal meetings in the city of Al-Quds, relocating its embassies in the city, or installing projects as part of the Israeli colonial pattern in the State of Palestine. It also **calls** for circulating a nominal list of international companies contributing to the imposition of the Israeli control over the city of Al-Quds to Member States, in order to endeavor to boycott of these companies in line with the relevant international resolutions

**Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 3/44-C**  
**ON**  
**PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Recalling** the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

**Affirming** those objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the OIC aimed at coordinating efforts to safeguard and preserve the Islamic heritage;

**Also recalling** the Resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, especially Resolution No. 3/6-C (IS) of the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

**Recalling** the Resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of the Sacred Muslim Places:

**A) DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID IN INDIA AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES**

**Noting** that the Babri Masjid with its history spanning five centuries was the object of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

**Also noting** with regret that the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Babri Masjid has passed without concrete steps being taken towards rebuilding of the Masjid or punishing those responsible for the sacrilegious act of its destruction and killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in its aftermath;

**Recalling** also that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Masjid and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Masjid and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists:

**1. Strongly condemns** the destruction of the historic Babri Masjid in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists on 6 December 1992.

2. **Expresses deep regret** over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.
3. **Condemns** the forced and illegal entry of Hindu militants into the site of the Babri Masjid on 17 October 2001.
4. **Expresses deep concern** over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.
5. **Further expresses deep concern** at the recent provocative statements of BJP leaders about Taj Mahal of having been built on the site of a Hindu temple, and views such statements as reflective of sinister plans to desecrate this historical site.
6. **Strongly** believes that such statements are totally against historical facts and are only aimed at humiliating Muslim minority in India, and urges the Indian government to ensure the protection of this great historical site.
7. **Calls** on OIC Member States to raise the case of Babri Mosque at the UNESCO and the Islamic group at UNESCO to follow it up in a result oriented manner in order to prevent occurrence of incidents of desecration of Islamic sites in India in future.
8. **Recommends** the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution 3/11-C (IS) adopted by the 11<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, Resolution 3/39-C adopted by 39<sup>th</sup> CFM, Resolution 3/40-C adopted by the 40<sup>th</sup> CFM, Resolution 3/41-C adopted by the 41<sup>st</sup> CFM, Resolution 3/42-C adopted by the 42<sup>nd</sup> CFM and Resolution 3/43-C adopted by the 43<sup>rd</sup> CFM which call upon the Government of India to:
  - a) **Ensure** the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.
  - b) **Take** immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Masjid on its original site, to restore it as a Holy Place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered Muslim symbol.
  - c) **Take** effective measures to prevent the construction of a temple on the site of the Babri Mosque.
  - d) **Take** immediate steps to ensure the protection of the other 3000 Mosques, especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

**B) THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR AND OTHER ISLAMIC SITES THEREIN**

**Deeply concerned** that, as a result of Indian armed action on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha in 1415H (1995), over 1500 houses and shops were gutted, holy relics were destroyed and the mosque and the



Islamic Complex of Charar-e-Sharif razed to the ground, and deeply concerned at other incidences of damage to: the Dargah Hazratibal in 1993 and 1995, the Shrine of the Shah-e-Hamadan in December 1997, the Jamia Mosque of Safapur in Baramula district in January 1998, the historic Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar in January 2001, Chadora mosque in October 2001 and a mosque in Srinagar with burning of the Holy Qur'an on 14 December 2002, Khanqah-e-Faiz Panah Tral in 2012, Dastger Sahab in 2012, Zarith Zain Shah Wali Ashmaqam in 2013:

1. **Strongly deplores** the destruction of the 542 year old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious aggression against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashmir.
2. **Expresses its concern** over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civil residents of Charar-e-Sharif.
3. **Strongly condemns** the burning of the Shrine of Shah-e-Hamadan and the desecration of the Jamia Mosque at Safapur, and the burning of the Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar and other incidents of desecration of Muslim Holy places.
4. **Also condemns** the continuing desecration of Mosques and Muslim Holy Places and denial of religious rights to the Muslim population in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.
5. **Urges** the international community, especially the Member States to exert utmost efforts to protect the basic rights of the Kashmiri people, including their right to self-determination according to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions as well as to safeguard their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

**C) THE DESTRUCTION AND DESECRATION OF ISLAMIC HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELICS AND SHRINES IN THE OCCUPIED AZERBAIJAN TERRITORIES RESULTING FROM THE AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

**Emphasizing** that pieces of Azerbaijani history, culture, archaeology, and ethnography remaining in its territories occupied by Armenia are an integral part of Islamic heritage, and, therefore, must be protected;

**Reaffirming** United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993), and 884 (1993), which call on the Armenian forces to withdraw immediately, completely and unconditionally from all the occupied Azerbaijani territories, including the Lachin and Shusha areas, and strongly urge Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

**Reaffirming** also that the utter and barbaric destruction of mosques and other Islamic Shrines in Azerbaijani territories occupied by, for the purpose of ethnic cleansing is a war crime and a crime against humanity;

**Noting** the tremendous losses inflicted by the Armenian aggressors on the Islamic heritage in the Azerbaijani territories occupied by the Republic of Armenia, including total or partial demolition of rare antiquities and places of Islamic civilization, history, and architecture, such as mosques, mausoleums, graves, archaeological excavations, museums, libraries, art exhibition halls, and government theatres and

conservatories, besides the destruction and smuggling out of the country of large quantities of priceless treasures and millions of books and historic manuscripts;

**Stating** that such actions by the Republic of Armenia constitute a serious violation of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and 1954 and 1999 protocols thereto;

**Fully sharing** the anguish of the government and people of Azerbaijan in this regard:

1. **Strongly condemns** the barbaric acts committed by the Armenian aggressors in the Republic of Azerbaijan with the aim of total annihilation of the Islamic historic and cultural heritage in the occupied Azerbaijani territories.
2. **Vigorously demands** the strict and unconditional implementation by the Republic of Armenia of UN Security Council Resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993), and 884 (1993).
3. **Stresses** the need to ensure the protection of cultural heritage, cultural property and sacred sites in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, including, inter alia, the prohibition and prevention of any illicit export, other removal or transfer of ownership of cultural property, any archaeological excavation, as well as any alteration to, or change of use of, cultural property which is intended to conceal or destroy cultural, historical or scientific evidence;
4. **Demands** that Armenia cease any attempts to introduce Azerbaijani historical and cultural heritage as its own, including at tourism fairs and exhibitions.
5. **Reaffirms** its support for the efforts deployed by Azerbaijan at regional and international levels and aimed at protecting and preserving Islamic cultural values and treasures in the territories occupied by Armenia.
6. **Reaffirms** also Azerbaijan's right to claim appropriate reparation for the damages it has sustained, and **affirms** Armenia's responsibility to provide such reparation.
7. **Requests** the relevant OIC subsidiary organs and specialized agencies to explore the possibility of drawing up a program to help rebuild the mosques, educational institutions, libraries, and museums in the Azerbaijani territories liberated from occupation with the help of OIC Member States.
8. **Thanks** the Secretary-General for transmitting the OIC Member States' position on this issue to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), UNESCO, and other international bodies, and for the coordination measures he has taken within the framework of OIC subsidiary, specialized, and affiliated organs. It also **thanks** those organs and organizations for their response, especially for the adoption by the IDB and ISESCO of programs to implement projects aimed at protecting Islamic holy places in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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**RESOLUTION NO.4/44-CUL  
ON SOCIAL AND FAMILY AFFAIRS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the Thirteenth Ordinary and the Third Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Forty-Third Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States, the First Session of the Ministerial Conference on Marriage and Family Institution and Maintaining Its Values in the OIC Member States, and the Islamic Ministerial Conference on Youth and Sports;

**Conscious** of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world for revival of the values of Islam presented to humanity and promotion of those values to societies on the grounds of Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

**Reaffirming** of the fact that women and children are the most vulnerable parts of the societies during conflicts and wars as well as occupation periods;

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary General:

**A)SAFEGUARDING THE VALUES OF THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY INSTITUTION:**

The Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Recalling** the OIC Charter;

**Affirming** the importance of deepening the authentic Islamic teachings on the marriage and family institution to preserve its safety and cohesion to face ethical and intellectual challenges threatening its identity and existence;

**Taking note** that the United National Sustainable Development Goals do not include any specific family-oriented goals;

**Having considered** the Statement of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC); and the resolution of the Human Rights Council on "Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity";

**Commending** the decision taken by the Council of the League of Arab States at the ministerial level, which rejects this Resolution and the position of the Muslim and non-Muslim States, which opposed the Resolution within the Human Rights Council because of including many

unacceptable issues that are in total contradiction with the teachings and values of Islam and other divine religions and with the human common sense;

**Affirming** the need to accord utmost attention to preserving the marriage and family institution in Member States;

- 1- **Commends** the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in hosting the First Session of the Ministerial Conference on Marriage and Family Institution and Maintaining Its Values in the OIC Member States, held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 8-9 February 2017, and the efforts of the General Secretariat in this regard and **Welcomes** the Conference conclusions and resolutions issued by it; also **takes note of** the Jeddah Declaration, and **calls** for the implementation of all the Conference outputs.
- 2- **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government of Turkey for offering to host the Second Session of the Ministerial Conference on Marriage and Family Institution and Maintaining Its Values in the OIC Member States in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey in 2019, and **requests** the General Secretariat to take the necessary measures to prepare for this Conference in coordination with the host country and the concerned OIC institutions.
- 3- **Reiterates** its rejection of the HRC Resolution on Sexual Orientation and the establishment of the mandate of Independent Expert on the subject; **provides** full support for the position of the ambassadors of the OIC Group in Geneva that would neither recognize or cooperate with this new mandate; and **commends** the declaration it prepared titled: Condemnation of the Human Rights resolution "protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity."
- 4- **Requests** Member States to make every effort to prevent the adoption of the resolution on sexual orientation during the Seventy-First Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.
- 5- **Invites** the OIC Member States and relevant institutions to provide the required support to Member States under pressure in this regard.

## **B) PROMOTING WOMEN'S STATUS AND EMPOWERMENT AND FAMILY WELLBEING IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES**

The Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Recalling** the provisions of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam which stresses on the importance of human rights for all, as well as other relevant international conventions and instruments;

**Acknowledging** the outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 1-3 November 2016, in particular Resolution 4/6-W on the Women Consultative Council of the Women Conference;

**Acknowledging** the OIC Member States that have enacted laws and regulations to enable women and to protect and enhance their role in the political, economic and social life;

**Reiterating** the OIC's commitment to addressing a range of difficulties envisaged by women and reducing inequalities between women and men, and among poor and disadvantaged women in the OIC Member States;

**Recalling** the importance of the international humanitarian law particularly the provisions pertaining to the prohibition of military attacks against civilians and the necessity for protecting the victims of such wars particularly women, children, and elders;

**Stressing** the significant role of education in the empowerment of women, eradication of poverty, reduction of vulnerabilities, improvement of health, and enhancement of women's contribution in the development and decision making process;

**Recalling** resolution No. 2/37-Org on the Establishment of a specialized Organization for Women Development in OIC Member States and adoption of its Statute by the 37th Session of CFM held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in 2010;

- 1- **Calls** for the Member States to implement the provisions of the updated OPAAW that is adopted with the "Resolution 3/6-W (Conference on Women) on Adoption of the amended OPAAW and its annexed implementation Mechanisms", during the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of the OIC Member States, held in Istanbul on 1-3 November 2016, in coordination with the General Secretariat, through the approved mechanisms and in line with the indicators of evaluation of achieved progress in this area;
- 2- **Urges** the OIC Member States, yet to be done, to provide women with better opportunities through enacting and consolidating laws that empower women and provide them with a comprehensive role in the sustainable development of Member States.
- 3- **Calls upon** the parliaments of the OIC Member States to pass necessary laws to combat trafficking, abuse of women, and other forms of violence against them.
- 4- **Considers** that poverty among women has to be alleviated to promote their status in the Muslim world, formulating a roadmap to rectify misperceptions concerning women.
- 5- **Requests** the OIC Member States, yet to be done, to adopt appropriate measures to promote Islamic principles for reinforcing and consolidating the foundations of the family unit, dignity, and empowerment of women and girls.
- 6- **Urges** the governments of the OIC Member States, yet to do so to adopt the necessary policies and programs for promoting the education of women and girls through providing uncomplicated and free access to literacy programs and also providing easy, inexpensive and equal access to higher education and removal of any possible draw backs in this field and ensure, through legislation, women's access to advanced technologies including ICT in order to promote their role in the decision making and development process.
- 7- **Encourages** the OIC Member States to hold regional expert meetings to prepare guidelines aimed at supporting women and the family in cases of armed conflicts and economic blockades and sanctions, and recommends that the results of these meetings be submitted to relevant international organizations.

- 8- **Calls for** the denunciation of the aggressions and the bloodshed perpetrated by Israeli occupying power against women and children in Palestine, especially in Al-Quds and the Gaza Strip.
- 9- **Welcomes** the Tehran Declaration of the Third Ministerial Conference on the Women's Role in the Development of the OIC Member States, which enhances OIC collective work towards the advancement of women. In this context, it **endorses** the implementation of the recommendations therein.
- 10- **Reiterates** the urgent need to adopt the "Covenant on the Rights of Women in Islam".
- 11- **Commends** the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat and the Republic of Turkey for the successful holding of the Sixth Session of the Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of the OIC Member States in Istanbul on 1-3 November 2016. It **welcomes** its resolutions and **takes note** of the Istanbul Declaration that, inter alia, adopted the amended OIC Action Plan for Advancement of Women and its execution mechanisms and holding a workshop to strengthen the capacities of the national institutions concerned with women advancement and empowerment during 2017.
- 12- **Welcomes** the efforts made by the Government of Burkina Faso to host, in Ouagadougou in 2018, the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in OIC Member States' Development; and invites the Member States to support actively Burkina Faso's government in making this Conference a success.
- 13- **Calls** on the OIC Member States, which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the statute of the specialized Organization for Women Development, based in Cairo with the view to operationalize its role in the promotion of women, and follow up on the implementation of OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women (OPAAW).
- 14- **Welcomes** the UN Human Rights Council resolution on the "Protection of the Family", which was issued over the past three years with the initiative of Egypt and with the support of the vast majority of the OIC Member States; and invites all the OIC Member States to join the Family Friends Group in Geneva and New York and to support the UNHRC resolution.
- 15- **Appeals** to OIC Member States, which suffer from all forms violence of against women, including domestic violence, underage marriage and female genital mutilation and cutting, to take appropriate measures to prevent and criminalize such practices, and calls on the Islamic Fiqh Academy to conduct studies and research to highlight the OIC's position on such practices and help workers, organs and institutions in the field in OIC member states to exonerate Islam from them.
- 16- **Calls** on the OIC Secretary General to nominate OIC goodwill ambassadors in the fields of women and family empowerment, defending the youth, and child care according to the criteria stipulated in the previous CFM resolutions so that they would be able to advance the OIC efforts in these fields in light of the relevant resolutions taken.
- 17- **Invites** the Islamic Development Bank to cooperate with SESRIC and General Secretariat to contribute to the implementation of the OIC Plan for the Advancement of Women, especially in the field of economic empowerment of women, the fight against poverty and the empowerment of women in order to ensure a decent living for women and girls in conflict, refugee camps areas.

- 18- **Encourages** the General Secretariat to cooperate with philanthropic societies in supporting poor and needy families, as well as with civil society in taking an active role in gender and family well-being.
- 19- **Welcomes** the establishment of family, women and children affairs section in the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, and ISESCO, in order to provide solutions for religious and Fiqh-related, cultural and educational for children and Muslim women and family issues, including women's issues in the public sphere, and the mixing of the sexes, the marginalization of women and social solutions for women's issues, as well as sustainable solutions to the problems of marriage and the family, and calls on the rest of OIC specialized subsidiary organs to for the establish sections for social and family affairs in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.
- 20- **Encourages** the General Secretariat to sign memoranda of understanding with government institutions and international organizations in the social fields to implement the OIC plans in this regard.

### C) CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Recalling** in particular, the provisions of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, which stresses on the importance of the rights of the child;

**Welcoming** the Rabat Declaration on the issues of Children in the Islamic world, adopted by the 1st Islamic Conference of Ministers in-charge of Children's affairs, which was held in Rabat on 7-9 November 2005, in coordination with the General Secretariat, ISESCO and UNICEF;

**Recognizing** that the family has the prime responsibility for nurturing and protecting children as well as for full and harmonious development of their personality;

- 1- **Requests** Member States to disseminate the Islamic values relevant to women and children, through the media, to project the radiant image of Islam in improving child conditions in the Islamic world, and to reiterate Islamic States solidarity on all child-related issues.
- 2- **Welcomes** the contribution of UNICEF in supporting improvement of child conditions in the Islamic world; hails the remarkable, fruitful and continued cooperation between the OIC Member States, the OIC General Secretariat and the OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated institutions on the one hand, and UNICEF on the other, for the child's well-being and protection, protection; **calls** for the development of joint programs and plans to advance child's situation in Member States.
- 3- **Commends** the State of Qatar for its role in promoting the status of women and children and the institutions it sponsors which play major roles in this regard throughout the world, such as the Qatar Foundation for Education and Science and the Charity Hands.
- 4- **Urges** Member States to act, with the assistance of the international community, to improve the conditions and wellbeing of children, particularly those living under difficult conditions in conflict-ridden regions and those suffering from the effects of economic

blockades and sanctions imposed on their countries, as well as displaced and refugee children by providing for their physical and moral needs and by taking interest in their education, health and helping them to return to their normal lives, and **commends** the efforts expended by a number of Member States in this area.

- 5- **Requests** Member States to take the necessary measures to protect children from the dangers resulting from harmful mass media programs and to support programs which lead to the promotion of the cultural, moral and ethical values for safe family and children.
- 6- **Urges** Member States to take necessary action to implement the Rabat declaration adopted by the First Islamic Ministerial Conference on Children.
- 7- **Welcomes** the outcome of the Fourth Islamic Conference of Ministers in charge of Childhood, and **appreciates** the Republic of Azerbaijan for the successful outcome of the 4th Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers in charge of Childhood, held in Baku in November 2013 and **calls** for their implementation.
- 8- **Welcomes** the offer of the United Arab Emirates to host the Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers In charge of Childhood, **calls** for the early convention of the same with the close coordination between ISESCO and the OIC General Secretariat, and **encourages** Member States to actively participate and contribute for the success of this event in light of the tremendous challenges encountered by children in the Muslim World in this critical stage.
- 9- **Commends** the efforts of OIC General Secretariat, ISESCO and other relevant OIC institutions in promoting the status of children and preserving their rights; **commends** OIC's active involvement in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative; and **urges** the promotion of initiatives aimed to maintaining the child's health and safety psychological well-being.
- 10- **Encourages** Member States to promote the wellbeing of children and act against violence against children and children school dropout in the OIC region given its negative social and security implications on the future of Member States.
- 11- **Requests** the General Secretariat to engage on media awareness that highlights the role of family to safeguard the future of the next generations and help develop national strategies to spread parenting culture and develop preventive measures to have a robust and sound family.
- 12- **Requests** the General Secretariat to prepare an OIC comprehensive strategy in the field of child care and well-being in the Muslim World, dealing, inter alia, with the future of the children, sustainable development goals, developments relating to the status of children, maternity and maternal mental health, education opportunities in remote and poor areas, conflict zones and refugee camps, underage marriages and violence against children in Member States. It also **calls** on the General Secretariat to coordinate with the OIC relevant organs to take necessary action in this regard.
- 13- **Requests** the General Secretariat, in coordination with ISESCO, the Islamic Fiqh Academy, the Permanent Commission for Human Rights and all relevant Organs to take the necessary measures to review the "Covenant on the Rights of the Child in Islam" document to take into account the challenges faced by Member States in child care and to update the Covenant document prior to its adoption by Member States.



- 14- **Commends** Bangladesh's substantive role in the advocacy for and exemplary care and protection of the autistic children through adoption of national policy, mechanisms and programmes and holding international seminars and sideline events in the margins of various international fora and conferences including the UN ones; also calls upon member states to express their support for such advocacy efforts;

## **D) PROMOTING YOUTH BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD**

The Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Emphasizing** the role of the youth in the future of the Islamic world, in building nations, promoting dialogue among civilizations and cultures, in highlighting the true image of Islam and in the dissemination of its eternal values which call for moderation, dialogue, tolerance and the respect of the other;

**Reaffirming** the need to evolve sound approaches for the education and training of Muslim youth for the attainment of optimal cooperation between all the youth of the Islamic Ummah;

**Affirming** the need for Member States to create appropriate forums for the youth of the Muslim World to follow the OIC activities closely with a view to contributing to its development;

**Taking note** of the need for Member States to encourage media and social networks to promote family values and traditions among youth;

**Reaffirming** further the importance of the institution of marriage in Islam in terms of preserving youth and their psychological stability, which requires developing approaches by Member States to facilitate marriage among youth in the Islamic Societies;

- 1- **Underscores** the importance of the youth and their role in the society and **calls** for raising their awareness through building youth capacity by further training, promotion and empowerment, and promoting them in all fields to play positive roles in the renaissance of their respective countries.
- 2- **Calls** on Member States to work on developing adequate methods for the education of Muslim youth to enhance their role in comprehensive development with a view to meeting future challenges.
- 3- **Welcomes** the working paper presented by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and adopted by the 1st Islamic Conference of Youth and Sport on Muslim Youth on future challenges and the mechanisms included on promoting and protecting Muslim Youth and enhancing their status in the society included therein, and **calls** for coordination with the ad hoc Ministerial Follow-up Committee on all activities related to youth.
- 4- **Commends** the Republic of Turkey for the successful holding of the Third Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports, in Istanbul, on 5-7 October 2016 and **welcomes** its resolutions. It also **commends** the efforts of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, the Forum of Youth of the Islamic Conference for Dialogue and

Cooperation and the other institutions working in the field of youth that led to the success of the Session.

- 5- **Welcomes** the efforts of the Republic of Azerbaijan in hosting the Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports in Baku in May 2018.
- 6- A paragraph will be added in the light of holding of the Fourth Session of the Islamic Solidarity Games hosted by the Republic of Azerbaijan in Baku in May 2017.
- 7- **Welcomes** the outcome of the Ministerial Brainstorming Session on "Expanding Opportunities and Enhancing Creative Potentials of Youth in Member States" held on 19 October 2016 on the sidelines of the Forty-Third Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Tashkent, and **invites** Member States, General Secretariat and relevant institutions to implement the initiatives proposed during the Brainstorming Session.
- 8- **Welcomes** the establishment of the Youth Section in the OIC General Secretariat and **invites** Member States and relevant institutions to support, cooperate and coordinate with it to reach its desired goals for youth in the Muslim World and beyond.
- 9- **Requests** Member States to intensify their efforts to raise awareness among young people on the dangers of drug abuse by strengthening the role of the family institution, the media institution, youth centers and non-governmental organizations in raising awareness, enlightening the minds of young people and promoting a spirit of cooperation, recognition, citizenship and positive participation in society.
- 10- **Welcomes** the readiness of the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran to exchange their experiences and information in the field of drug abuse with the OIC Member States.
- 11- **Calls on** the OIC Member States to ensure that young people with disabilities and those who are socially and economically underprivileged are afforded equal opportunities to participate fully in the society.
- 12- **Calls on** the OIC institutions Active in the field of youth to provide training and learning opportunities for OIC youth and initiate events to promote youth capacity building, awareness, participation and a culture of moderation.
- 13- **Takes note** of recent developments leading to major changes affecting, in large part radicalization and disenfranchising of youth, and in follow-up on the declarations of Islamic Conference of Youth and Sport Ministers concerning safeguarding and protecting youth from social illnesses and extremism, and **calls upon** the OIC institutions Active in the field of youth to take action on the following items:
  - A) Developing further youth platforms for learning, growth, interaction, and sharing of experience;
  - B) Sustaining safe environment for youth development and improvement of diverse youth empowerment programs;
  - C) Providing youth with the knowledge base and positive experience required for the fine shaping of their character and values, healthy lifestyle, intellectual competence and social responsibility;
  - D) Equipping youth with social and professional skills alongside character development, with the goal of strengthening their personal and professional contribution to society;
  - E) Engaging youth in social work, volunteerism, development and environment; and
  - F) Empowering youth to complete tertiary education and motivate them to further excel in their academic and professional careers.

## **E) SAFEGUARDING THE WELLBEING AND SOCIAL SECURITY OF ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD**

The Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

**Aware of** the lack of appropriate OIC policies on the need to promote and safeguard the wellbeing and social security of elderly and people with special needs in the Islamic world,

**Also aware of** the increasing number of elderly in the OIC Member States due to improvements in life style and health services over recent decades, given the significant reduction in mortality rates;

**Affirming** the need to enhance the participation and inclusion of senior citizens and people with special needs in the democratic process, including their role in sustaining and educating future younger generations through exchange of daily life experiences and teachings;

**Aiming to** ensure that senior citizens and people with special needs are not discriminated against due to their age and conditions;

**Reaffirming** the need to promote and implement laws, policies and regulations pertaining to the rights and treatment of the elderly and people with special needs, as well as related supporting institutions and support Muslim values and traditions for a healthy elderly life in family and society;

**Bearing in mind** that elderly refugees together with women and children are among the people who are classified by the UNHCR in the most vulnerable situation.

- 1- **Recommends** the General Secretariat, in coordination with relevant OIC institutions, including the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESERIC), to develop an OIC Policy on Elderly (OPE) and OIC Policy on People with Special Need (OPPSN), which would provide strategies and guidelines for safeguarding the wellbeing and social security of elderly and people with special needs, as well as enhance their need for engagement in all important processes leading to development of OIC Member States, and further improve funding opportunities for their programs, and various social and medical services.
- 2- **Decides** that the OPE and OPPSN are to be submitted for discussion and endorsement by concerned experts and ministers of OIC Member States, in this regard, **calls** for the establishment of the Islamic Ministerial Conference on the Wellbeing and Social security of Elderly and People with Special Needs in the Muslim World.
- 3- **Calls on** the OIC Member States, and institutions and charities in the Muslim World to organize specialized workshops countries calls for the promotion of these groups.
- 4- **Requests** the General Secretariat, in coordination with the relevant OIC specialized institutions, particularly ISESCO, the Islamic Fiqh Academy, The Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission and the Center for Statistical and Social Research (SESERIC) and the IDB, to organize specialized workshops to address the challenges

faced by Member States in the field of protection of the elderly and people with special needs.

- 5- **Calls** on the General Secretariat to study different kinds of social safety net programmes working in member states for the purpose of encouraging the sharing of best practices in addressing the wellbeing and social security protection of the disadvantaged elderly people in need of special support;
- 6- **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the issues incorporated in this Resolution and report thereon to the Forty-Fifth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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**F) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN “OIC AWARD ON WOMEN ACHIEVEMENT”**

**The Forty fourth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Abidjan, Republic of Cote d’Ivoire,**

**Recalling** the outcomes of the 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 13-14 April 2016 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey;

**Recalling** the outcomes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the OIC Ministerial Conference on the role of women in Development of the Member States, held on 1-3 November 2016 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey; including Resolution No. 4/6-W on the Establishment of the Women Consultative Council; and Resolution No. 2/6-W on Welcoming the Appointment of OIC Ambassadors of Goodwill in the fields of family values safeguard and women's advancement and empowerment in OIC Member States;

**Recalling** the outcomes of the First Session of the Ministerial Conference on the ‘Marriage and Family Institution and preserving its Values in the OIC Members States held on 8-9 February 2017 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

**Cognizant** of the importance of the role of women in the Development of Member States and the necessity to develop their empowerment in economic, cultural, social and political arena;

**Desirous** to foster the women participation to the decision making process at the national and international levels;

**Desirous** to develop creativity and self-entrepreneurship among women with a view to supporting and reinforcing their inclusion in the development process in OIC Member States;

1. **Calls** for the establishment of an OIC Award on women achievement to reward the best initiatives undertaken by women as well as to honor, encourage and promote their role in OIC Member States.
2. **Requests** the General Secretariat to prepare in collaboration and consultation with member states as well as relevant OIC bodies, a concept paper regarding the awards and present it to the Committee of Permanent Representatives for consideration to be adopted by the 45<sup>th</sup> CFM.

3. **Requests** the Member States, the ISF, IDB, ISESCO, IRCICA and all other relevant OIC institutions to fully support this initiative.
4. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 5/44-C**  
**ON**  
**SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Having** considered the report of Chairman of the ISF Permanent Council, on the activities of the Fund and the execution of its budget for the financial year 2016, in which he referred to several projects implemented by the Fund in spite of the financial difficulties it faces in financing its budgets and implementing its annual programs;

Emphasizing the need for all relevant subsidiary organs to submit their work programmes and annual report of their activities to the General Secretariat by the month of November of each year with a view to allowing work complementarity and avoiding duplication of activities;

**Having considered** the report of the Secretary-General and reports submitted by IRCICA, IIFA and ISF on following the matters:

**A) THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA)**

1. **Notes with appreciation** the production of a number of research works and reference books and organization of congresses on subjects relating to history, history of culture, multicultural coexistence and intercultural dialogue, cultural and architectural heritage, arts and traditional handicrafts of the Muslim world in the context of the Centre's various programs and research projects.

2. **Commends** IRCICA's program of Studies on The Holy Quran comprising historical and orthographical studies on earliest copies of the Holy Quran which resulted in the publication of books on the copies at the National Library of France in Paris, at Tubingen University Library in Germany and at British Museum in London respectively, and also comprising its bibliographic studies on translations of the Holy Quran in world's languages, lastly the third volume covering translations in Turkish of the series on manuscript translations; also commends the co-organization, on request of the former President of The Gambia, of an International Award for Quran Memorization Competition, in Banjul, on 25-26 July 2016..

3. **Takes note** of the regional congresses on the history of Islamic civilization and Muslim countries and intercultural relations which help advancements of research in these areas and diffuse objective scholarly information on these subjects, lastly the international symposiums on "Interfaith Dialogue and Peaceful Coexistence in Multicultural Societies" organized in Bangkok, Thailand on 11-12 January 2016 jointly with Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs (DVIFA) of the Kingdom of Thailand,

“Islamic Civilization in Southern Africa”, convened in Durban on 4-6 March 2016 jointly with the Awqaf South Africa (Awqaf SA), the University of Kwazulu-Natal (UKZN) and the International Peace College South Africa (IPSA), Durban, and “Islamophobia: Past and Present” organized jointly with the Center for Balkan and Black Sea Studies, Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul for its holding on 13-14 January 2017.

4. **Commends** the series of events organized by IRCICA on inter-civilizational dialogue and peaceful coexistence in way to diffuse correct knowledge on Islam, its civilization, its values of inter-faith tolerance, its interactions with other cultures, in particular the Session on “Promoting multicultural perspectives to prevent violent extremism” organized at the 7th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations in Baku on 25-27 April 2016.

5. **Expresses its appreciation** of the research projects on the history of al-Quds and Palestine based on first-hand documents in the Turkish Prime Ministry’s Ottoman Archives in Istanbul and historical archives of other Member States which result in publications on administrative, cultural, educational and social life in al-Quds and Palestine in recent centuries, including, recently, the book Al-Quds in Muhimme Registers (1545-1594) and the series of volumes on Sharia Court Registers of al-Quds three more of which published in 2016 brought the total number of volumes to 11.

6. **Commends** IRCICA’s contributions to the program “Konya Islamic World Tourism Capital 2016” in development of its themes and by organizing the international symposium on “Konya in Islamic Civilization” jointly with Karatay University, in Konya on 17-19 December 2016, highlighting the role, contributions and importance of Konya in Islamic scholarship, to educational institutions, social, artistic and literary developments, urban and architectural heritage, and in diffusing a spirit of Islamic interfaith and intercultural tolerance..

7. **Praises** the Centre’s activities relating to the preservation of Islamic architectural heritage, including its permanent program on the Islamic heritage of al-Quds and its recently launching a joint project with Palestinian authorities concerned and international experts with a seminar held in Istanbul on 18-19 May 2016 aiming to improve life standards and welfare of the people of al-Quds and Palestine and help preserve their cultural and architectural heritage and its convening an IRCICA-ISESCO meeting in Istanbul, 1-2 August 2016, in preparation for an IRCICA-ISESCO international conference on Cultural Heritage of the Muslim World to be held in 2017.

8. **Praises** the program of short-term architectural heritage preservation schools titled “Islamic Urban Heritage. Research, Preservation and Management” conducted jointly with Al-Turath Foundation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, lastly, in this context, the ninth program held in Jeddah, from 12 to 19 March 2016 and the tenth program organized in collaboration with the National Built Heritage Center, Riyadh, the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization, Rabat, and The Assilah Forum Foundation, Morocco which was convened in Morocco, during 16-30 July 2016.

9. **Expresses its appreciation** of the Centre’s activities on Islamic architectural heritage that faces destruction and threat in conflict areas, in particular, its organizing an international symposium on “Karabagh: History and Heritage” in Baku, on 10-11 November 2016 jointly with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Azerbaijan about the Islamic heritage monuments in Azerbaijan’s Nagorno Karabagh region, which is occupied by Armenia, and its continuing studies on the heritage in Syria; and welcomes its research project on the situation of Islamic architectural heritage in Jammu and Kashmir to be coordinated with Pakistani authorities.

10. **Praises** the Centre's assistance to Member States, at their request, in its different fields of expertise and experience including, recently, the project undertaken to contribute technically to preservation of Timbuktu manuscripts in Mali, within the framework of the Cultural Cooperation Agreement signed with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Mali on 5 September 2016; and also, the expert meeting held at IRCICA on 24-25 November 2016 with a delegation from the Republic of Uzbekistan towards implementation of Resolution No. 9/43-ORG of the 43rd Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States (Tashkent, 18-19 October 2016) adopting the initiative of the Republic of Uzbekistan to establish in the city of Samarkand the "Imam al-Bukhari International Research Centre".

11. **Takes note** of IRCICA's activities relating to the study and registration of Islamic architectural heritage, recording of information on this heritage in contribution, among others, to cultural tourism, and its collaboration with international bodies concerned; commends the development of the Islamic Architectural Heritage Database sponsored by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Tourism and Antiquities, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and invites the Member States which have not done so yet to provide IRCICA with the required data and information on their Islamic sites and monuments and designate their respective focal points to collaborate continually with the Database unit at IRCICA..

12. **Takes note with appreciation** of the finalization of a large-scale Tenth International Calligraphy Competition in eleven style categories drawing 688 participants from 36 countries and distributing awards totaling US\$199,250 to 113 participants from 18 countries for 122 works submitted, followed by announcement of its results with a press conference held in Istanbul on 17 May 2016 and presentation of the awards of large groups of winners from some member countries by holding special events on the art of calligraphy in those countries, namely the Islamic Republic of Iran, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Republic of Turkey until now to be continued with others..

13. **Expresses its appreciation** of the organization of multidimensional events in the context of the Craft Development Program, including the Pendik International Festival for Islamic Artisans as at work organized jointly by IRCICA and Pendik Municipality in Turkey which took place in Pendik, Istanbul on 4-13 September 2015; the festival gathered artisans from 34 countries as well as innovators and artisans convened in pavilions forming a traditional heritage international craft village where they displayed their works, tools, and techniques applied in the following fields: Miniature, Sadaf Works, Pottery, Ornamentation, Tezhib, Leather and accessories, Metal repousse, Coppersmith, Carpets, Kilims, Tapestry and Felting, Wood Engraving, Handmade Suzani and Embroidery, Traditional Costumes, Fashion designing, Jewelry, Batik, Painting, Mosaic, Stone handmade Products, Lacquer Works, Silk, and many more; and, the Kuwait International Exhibition on Islamic Arts and its Application on Metal Crafts was organized jointly by IRCICA and Kuwait Centre for Islamic Arts of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, with the support of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Kuwait. The exhibition was held in Kuwait City on 7-14 February 2016 within the framework of "Kuwait Capital of Islamic Culture 2016". This international event gathered participation of 16 innovators in all types and forms of metal handicrafts, including jewelry, swords, boxes, light objects, metal repousse, metal ornamentations on vase, jugs, plates, and many more, which came from different countries: Algeria, Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Tatarstan, Tunisia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.



14. **Takes note** of the plan of IRCICA to organize the Third Tabriz International Festival for Arts, Crafts and Creativity” (Tabriz, 4-12 May 2017) to be organized jointly with Tabriz University for Islamic Arts and the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization of Iran and accompanied with an International Congress on “Miniature, Paper Making, Book binding and Ebru”, Tabriz International Award for Innovation and Creativity in Crafts – awards worth US\$80000, the International Exhibition of Artisans-at-Work, an arts and crafts market (bazaar), a folkloric parade under the slogan “Revival and protection of traditional heritage”, and an exhibition of albums, catalogs and books published in the fields of arts and handicrafts.

15. **Takes note** of the publication of issue no. 4 of IRCICA’s Journal, an academic periodical aimed at promoting research and cooperation in cultural and social sciences as regards studies on Islamic civilization and the Muslim world.

16. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the Member States, in particular the Republic of Turkey, host country of IRCICA and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, host country of the OIC General Secretariat, for their continuous support of IRCICA.

**17.Expresses its thanks** to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions to IRCICA’s budget and calls upon the other countries to do so and to settle their arrears due to IRCICA’s budget.

**18.While appreciating** the efforts of IRCICA, Calls upon the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) to continue to cover more geographic spaces of the world of Muslim communities in its research and activities as defined in its scope of work; also calls upon the IRCICA to continue and expand its collaboration with academic and research institutions for the sake of its research projects;

## **B) INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY (IIFA)**

**Recalling** the resolutions of the various sessions of the Islamic Summit and other Islamic Conferences, particularly the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

**Having considered** the activity report of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy;

1. **EXPRESSES** its profound gratitude to The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia and to Their Majesties, Excellences and Highnesses the leaders of Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, for their support constant at the international Academy of Islamic Fiqh, to enable it to play an active role highlighting the tolerance of Islam, a religion of moderation and justice, and **REAFFIRMS** that the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) is the reference institution in the field of promulgation of Fatwas for the Islamic Ummah.
2. **EXPRESSES** its sincere thanks to H. E. Dr. Yusuf bin Ahmad Al-Othaimen, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, for his special attention and support towards the Academy and its activities.
3. **APPRECIATES** the benevolent attention, by H. E. Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, Chairman of the Council of the Academy, towards the Scientific work undertaken by the latter, and for his unwavering support to the Academy Secretariat, which gives it a boost in its efforts to bring, through its Scientific Council, the appropriate solutions to the new issues and topics that arise every day.
4. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to H. E. Prof. Abdul Salam Daoud Al-Abbadi, Secretary of the Academy, for his performance at the head of this institution and for his effective role in the development of its administrative and scientific work, in addition to the various important projects he endeavours to implement, particularly in the framework of his plan for the renovation of the Academy.
5. **CONGRATULATES** the staff of the Academy Secretariat for the work done since the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.
6. **THANKS** the General Secretariat of the OIC for its support for the project to set up a creation of an Waqf (Endowment) Fund for the Academy and, in particular for inviting the Governmental Group of Experts to study the draft statutes of the Fund submitted by the Academy, and for their diligence in handing over the fruit of their deliberations in the form of a final version of the draft statutes to be submitted for adoption by the forthcoming 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers scheduled to be held in July 2017, in Abidjan (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire).
7. **THANKS** the Secretariat of the Academy for the efforts exerted in the implementation of the resolutions issued the Conferences of Foreign Ministers, in particular the 43<sup>rd</sup> session held in Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan), on social affairs and requesting the creation of a special section

within the Secretariat of the Academy dedicated to women, family and children affairs and attached to the Academy's Department of Studies and Research.

8. **WELCOMES** the efforts of the Academy to oppose the ideology of excommunication (*Takfir*), by highlighting the sparkling and serene face of the true Islam, by confronting this ideology with arguments and evidence drawn from the Holy Qur'an and prophetic Sunnah, as part of a collective thinking (“*Ijtihad Jama’ee*”) and by actively contributing to the OIC Messaging Centre.
9. **THANKS** the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and its Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) for their continued support to the Academy, and **URGES** them to continue the translation work of the resolutions of the Scientific Council of the Academy and to accelerate the publication of these decisions that are of great importance and interest for non-Arabic speaking Islamic countries.
10. **WELCOMES** the Academy's efforts in representing the OIC and its interest in issues regarding the Islamic Ummah, as well as its positive contribution to the meetings of dialogue and peace among religious leaders, in international events such as the inauguration of the Great Mosque of Moscow, the Marrakesh Conference, and the festivities organized in Croatia to commemorate the centenary of the official recognition of Islam as a religion by this country.
11. **EXPRESSES** its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for agreeing to host the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual session of the Scientific Council of the Academy, to be held during 2017, in the premises of the Islamic University of Medina, in addition to the eight (8) other session, which it has hosted in the past. **EXPRESSES** its thanks to Member States that have hosted the annual sessions of the Scientific Council of the Academy, namely the United Arab Emirates (3 sessions), -in the *Emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah*, respectively-, the State of Kuwait (3 sessions), the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (2 sessions), The Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Qatar, The Sultanate of Oman, Malaysia and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria (1 session each), thus providing concrete evidence of the support of these countries towards the activities of the Academy.
12. **INVITES** OIC Member States to host the next sessions of the Scientific Council of the Academy, contributing, in doing so, to achieving the goals and objectives for which the Academy was created.
13. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the outstanding quality of scientific publications of the Academy, given to the importance of the topics dealt with and the quality of the studies and research papers published, that respond to the needs and aspirations of the Islamic Ummah in the face of the cultural, intellectual and scientific challenges, and published in the *Magazine of the Academy*, the volumes of which, up to the 19<sup>th</sup> session of the Council, reached has reached the number of sixty-two (62).
14. **THANKS** the Member States that have settled their compulsory contributions to the budget of the Academy; **RENEWS** its appeal to Member States that have not yet done so to fulfill their financial duties in the best possible time and **RECOMMENDS** that all Member States continue to support the Academy, inter alia, through the funding of some of its projects, to enable it to carry out its noble mission in the service of Islam and Muslims.

### C) ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF (ISF)

**HAVING** considered the report of Chairman of the ISF Permanent Council, on the activities of the Fund and the execution of its budget for the financial years 2016-2017, in which he referred to several projects implemented by the Fund in spite of the financial difficulties it faces in financing its budgets and implementing its annual programs;

- 1) **EXPRESSES** its keen interest to preserve this important Islamic organ which is rightly considered as a noble symbol of Islamic solidarity.
- 2) **EXHORTS** Member States to commit themselves to make annual donations - within their available means - in favor of the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the ISF Waqf.
- 3) **EXHORTS** Member States, which had pledged donations, to fulfill their pledges as soon as possible.
- 4) **EXPRESSES** its profound thanks and gratitude to governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Turkey which made donations to the Fund and its Waqf during the financial year 2016-2017.
- 5) **APPROVES** the Report of the Chairman of the ISF Permanent Council to the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs.
- 6) **ADOPTS** the Permanent Council's approval of the ISF Closing Accounts for the financial year 2015.
- 7) **APPROVES** the Permanent Council's adoption of the ISF budget estimates for projects, of US\$ 20 million, for the financial year 2018.
- 8) **CALLS** upon Member States to pay their statutory contributions to the ISF operational budget for the financial year 2017, which amounts to US\$ 1,260,000.
- 9) **INVITES** the Permanent Council to continue providing assistances to projects as well as cultural, Islamic and educational centers in the Muslim world.
- 10) **EXPRESSES** thanks and gratitude to the Emergency Committee for its prompt response, by providing relief during catastrophes and calamities that afflict some of the Muslim countries, and exhorts Member States to make donations to provide the Fund with resources that enable it to strengthen action of this important body.
- 11) **EXPRESSES** thanks and gratitude to H.E. the OIC Secretary General for his efforts, distinct sponsorship and continued attention towards enabling the ISF to achieve its goals.
- 12) **ALSO EXPRESSES** thanks and gratitude to the Permanent Council and its Chairman as well as the ISF Executive Bureau for their efforts in order to achieve the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

**13) REQUESTS** H.E the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report to the 45th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6/44-C**  
**ON**  
**SPECIALISED INSTITUTIONS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Stressing** on the need for the Secretariats of OIC Institutions to always adhere to the principle of impartiality and disinterestedness and to abstain at all times from political influence or interfering in or giving opinion about Member States' affairs without being duly authorized or mandated by Member States concerned.

**Taking note** of the Report of the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) held in Tunis- Republic of Tunisia on 27-28 March 2016.

**Emphasizing** the need for all relevant specialized institutions to submit their work programmes and annual report of their activities to the General Secretariat by the of month of November of each year with a view to allowing work complementarily and avoiding duplication of activities;

**Having considered** with appreciation the reports submitted by ISESCO on the activities carried out between the two sessions of the Council and by ICIC:

**A) THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)**

1. **Commends** the remarkable activities and programmes carried out by ISESCO in its various educational, scientific, cultural, communicational and social fields of competence; **praises** its Director General, Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, for his efforts to develop the Organization's action and expand its scope; **commends** the content of ISESCO's Draft Action Plan and Budget for 2016-2018, which reflects a holistic, innovative and coherent multidisciplinary strategic vision; **lauds** ISESCO's outstanding contribution to implementing the Ten-Year Action Programme adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Islamic Summit; and **expresses** appreciation for the activities implemented by ISESCO under this programme
2. **Welcomes** the signing by ISESCO of new cooperation agreements and action programmes with several Arab, Islamic and international organizations; **commends** the joint activities implemented in this connection, particularly the international conferences and symposia and developmental projects that have added impetus to the invaluable initiatives of ISESCO Director General to establish varied cooperation relations that have been crowned with numerous programmes which were implemented by ISESCO in association with parallel organizations and institutions, thus contributing to

highlighting the positive true image of the Muslim world; and **invites** ISESCO to pursue such commendable efforts.

3. **Expresses** support and appreciation for the continued efforts and contacts made at the regional and international levels by ISESCO Director General to urge the international community to pressurize Israel into abiding by the international resolutions concerning the protection of religious landmarks, cultural and civilizational heritage, and educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, in accordance with the relevant international resolutions; **supports** ISESCO's efforts to document the war crimes and crimes against humanity which were and are still being perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Gaza and all Palestinian territories; and **hails** the the outcomes of the ninth meeting of ISESCO Archaeology Experts Committee on the new Israeli assaults on Al-Aqsa Mosque and its vicinity (Amman, Jordan, 26-28 April 2016).
4. **Notes with appreciation** the content of the joint Islamic action strategies and their implementation mechanisms devised by ISESCO, particularly in the areas of education, science, culture and communication; and invites the Member States to cooperate with ISESCO in implementing these strategies adopted by the Islamic summit conferences and the relevant specialized Islamic conferences, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, and in cooperation with the relevant regional and international organizations.
5. **Commends** the actions being made by ISESCO to develop national educational capacities in the Member States and beyond, in the fields of teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers, literacy and adult education, through its specialized educational centres and delegations in the Republic of Chad, the Union of Comoros, the Republic of Niger, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Guinea, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Burkina Faso, the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Malaysia, and through such advanced specialized teaching aids as (*Al Amal*) and (*Alarabya Almuyassara*) series, in both their print and electronic editions; **lauds** the educational and civilizational project on the transcription of Muslim peoples' languages in the Standardized Quranic Script being implemented by ISESCO in cooperation with its partners; **commends** the educational and civilizational project aimed at ensuring integration and interaction between Arab Islamic traditional schools and modern schools in Africa and Asia; and also **lauds** ISESCO's dedication to keeping up with technological and communication novelties through its implementation of the project on ICT for education in the Islamic world.
6. **Welcomes** the steps taken by ISESCO towards updating the Strategy for the Development of Education in the Islamic World in such a way as to keep abreast of new educational, social and economic developments in the Member States and outside the Muslim world and to provide a comprehensive guiding framework for addressing present-time and future challenges, based on a holistic prospective vision that would promote joint Islamic action in education; **thanks** the Republic of Tunisia for accepting to host the 1<sup>st</sup> ISESCO Conference of Education Ministers, in Tunis, on 27 October 2016, and **welcomes** its adoption of the Strategy for the Promotion of Education in the Islamic World and the creation of the Consultative Council for the Promotion of Education in the Islamic World.
7. **Commends** the efforts and actions made by ISESCO to foster intercultural dialogue and the alliance of civilizations and religions, redress the false image held about Islam and Muslims in the West and

counter Islamophobia; **welcomes** the initiative launched in the second half of 2015 by ISESCO, in coordination with the General Secretariat, to strengthen Africa's role in the alliance of civilizations; and **invites** the Organization to carry on such efforts inside the Muslim world and beyond, in association with its regional and international partner organizations, and to pursue coordination with the OIC General Secretariat and the Member States to undertake innovative initiatives and develop mechanisms to counter the fierce campaign targeting Islamic sanctities and cultural symbols of Muslims, in coordination with national and regional media and communication outlets.

8. **Commends** the efforts put by ISESCO in improving Higher Education systems in the Member States, establishing of the High-Level Quality and Accreditation Committee to ensure follow-up on the implementation of the “Key Performance Indicators” in the OIC Member States, its Terms of Reference (TOR), **thanks** the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, **expresses** support and appreciation for the launching of ISESCO's “TAFAHUM” project on exchange of students, faculty and researchers among universities of the Islamic World, and **urges** ISESCO and the OIC to enhance partnerships among the universities and prestigious schools and share experience and knowledge, with the ultimate aim to foster peace, understanding and mutual respect among the Member States and with the Other.
9. **Thanks** ISESCO for implementing a number of national, regional and international activities in the cities celebrated every year as Islamic culture capitals; and **invites** it to pursue such support. It also **commends** the efforts put by the Member States hosting Islamic culture capitals for 2016 (Kuwait, Malé, and Freetown) in preparing and implementing the celebration programmes, and **welcomes** the resolution of ISESCO's 10<sup>th</sup> General Conference calling for the expansion of the Islamic Culture Capitals Programme to include Islamic historic cities from outside the OIC Member States
10. **Invites** ISESCO to pursue its efforts to support the effective launch of the “Islamic World Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation” and the Pan-Islamic Research and Education Network (PIREN) as a platform for coloration between scientists, researchers and education networks, knowledge exchange, best practices, and stimulation of collaborative research.
11. **Invites** ISESCO to pursue efforts to support the establishment of OIC Collaborative Effort in Commercialization and Entrepreneurship Education (OIC-CECE), and **urges** Member States to develop entrepreneurship skills through developing curricula and monitoring best practices in this field in university scientific research institutions.
12. **Commends** the efforts of ISESCO to pursue work on spreading awareness, encouraging Member States and national academies of science to incorporate the science element in political and diplomatic action programmes, promote scientific diplomacy in Member States in the context of international talks, debate strategies, foreign policies, and 21<sup>st</sup> century global challenges that have a scientific dimension such as climate change, food security, nuclear disarmament, and energy resources management.
13. **Invites** ISESCO to sustain its effort to envisage major social mutations, study and analyze their causes and provide relating accurate data to enable professionals in charge of social and human policies to prepare plans and field programmes ensuring to address the impact of these mutations and rectify associated behaviors in Member States.



- 14. Invites** ISESCO to Monitor, analyze and promote human rights issues; capitalize on Islamic values to fight all forms of social discrimination; and foster the social, human, economic and cultural environment including, civil and political rights, in accordance with Islamic and international declarations of human rights, in order to anchor peace and justice and enable people to coexist peacefully in dignity and freedom.
- 15. Urges** ISESCO to dedicate more efforts to promoting the education of youth to enable them to actively contribute to achieving their societies' development; and lay down visionary frameworks for the youth's new roles in addressing the current issues such as global warming, industrial pollution, preventive healthcare, fighting corruption and bribery, and sensitization to the dangers of illegal immigration and drug abuse.
- 16. Invites** ISESCO to pursue its efforts and increase contacts with Islamic cultural centres and associations in Europe, Asia and Latin America, through the Supreme Council for Education, Culture and Science for Muslims outside the Islamic World, with a view to activating the Implementation Plan of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action outside the Islamic World, and the Strategy for Benefiting from Muslim Competencies outside the Islamic World. It also **commends** the outcome of the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of Heads of Islamic Cultural Centers and Associations in Southeast Asia, which launched the "Muslim Youth Ambassadors for Peace International" Programme; and **invites** ISESCO to pursue its efforts in this regard.
- 17. Commends** ISESCO's efforts devoted to technical and professional training of media and communication professionals in Member States through the establishment of regional centers for media training in Khartoum for the Arab region, Dakar for the African region and Islamabad for the Asian region, praises the activities ISESCO carried out in a number of European capitals to counter anti-Muslim media smear campaigns and Islamophobia; takes notes and appreciates the Study on Western Media Content on Islam in Light of International Law; and invites ISESCO to disseminate the study to the competent bodies and media faculties and institutes in Member States for a wider benefit.
- 18. Reiterates** ISESCO's efforts aimed at boosting the Islamic World Heritage Committee's action towards preserving Islamic heritage in the Member States, with special emphasis on the protection of endangered Islamic cultural heritage in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Afghanistan, inter alia; and **stresses** the necessity of coordination and collaboration with IRCICA in this regard.
- 19. Lauds** the efforts the FUIW devotes to establishing university chairs, devising plans and strategies and implementing activities, programmes and projects adopted by 7<sup>th</sup> FUIW General Conference (Rabat 13-14 February 2017) to promote university education. It also **commends** the FUIW's role in developing partnership and cooperation with the Member Universities and parallel organizations through its achievements and initiatives, which has earned the Federation its position as a leading player in joint Islamic higher education action.
- 20. Commends** ISESCO's contributions to holding under coordination of the General Secretariat the 5<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Ministers in Charge of Childhood, in Abu Dhabi, in 2017, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, in Khartoum, in 2017, on the occasion of the celebration of Sennar

as Islamic Culture Capital for 2017, in cooperation with the competent national parties and in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat; invites the Member States to actively participate in both conferences; and praises ISESCO's contributions and participation with OIC General Secretariat to hold the First Session of the Ministerial Conference on Strengthening Marriage and Family Institution and Preserving its Values in OIC Member States (Jeddah, 8-9 February 2017).

21. **Invites** ISESCO to pursue efforts to promote culture of moderation as the great Islamic principle of middle path through its educational, scientific and cultural work and contribute to awareness building that Islam does not support any radicalist and extremist views but rather urges for knowledge, enlightenment, inter-faith understanding and coexistence, and peace for Al Amin;
22. **Welcomes** the assistance of ISESCO in establishing a Special Chair of ISESCO at the Tashkent Islamic University.
23. **Expresses** sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, and to their Majesties, Excellencies, Highnesses the Kings, Presidents and Emirs of Member States for their generous support to ISESCO and for financing several educational, scientific and cultural programmes and activities.
24. **Expresses** sincere thanks, appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI for his high patronage of the conferences of ISESCO and for the constant support the Moroccan government extends to it to fully discharge its mission.

## **B) ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT (ICIC)**

1. **Urges** OIC member States which have not yet ratified the Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives.
2. **Invites** all member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the ICIC so that it may implement its programs.
3. **Calls** on the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) to exert efforts regarding the victims of natural disasters, victims of armed conflicts, refugees, displaced people and prisoners of war and provide humanitarian assistances, care and protection in collaboration with the UN high Commissioner's Office for Refugees, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross/ Red Crescent, the National Societies of Red Cross /Red Crescent and other relevant regional and international organizations.
4. **Expresses** its profound thanks to Libya (hosting State) for extending support and facilities to the ICIC Administration.
5. **Expresses** full thanks and appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and State of Qatar for the payment of their contributions to the ICIC budget;
6. **Calls** upon OIC Member States parties to the ICIC agreement, who have not yet done, to pay their contributions to the ICIC budget as soon as possible.

7. **Expresses** its profound appreciation to the ICIC president, members and its administration for the humanitarian activities and assistances executed in different regions of the Islamic world.
8. **Expresses** its deep thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank for their support to the ICIC and calls upon them to continue offering more assistance to it.
9. **Expresses** its full appreciation to the Turkish Red Crescent, the Saudi Red Crescent Authority, the Qatar Red Crescent, the Red Crescent of Iraq and the Tunisian Red Crescent for their cooperation with the ICIC to implement permanent bilateral programs.
10. **Welcomes** signing memorandums of understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the fields of humanitarian action between the ICIC and the OIC Humanitarian department , and MoU signed by the ICIC with the Islamic Development Bank, and the MoU signed by the ICIC with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society and the Tunisian Red Crescent.
11. **Calls** upon Member States and concerned Islamic institutions to contribute to the realization of the ICIC humanitarian programs within the framework of cooperation and partnership, in Palestine, Somalia , Syria , Niger, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, Chad, and Central Africa.
12. **Calls** upon Member States and concerned Islamic institutions to support the implementation of the ICIC program adopted in the framework of cooperation and partnership by the third consultation meeting of the ICIC and the Red Crescent/Red Cross national Societies in OIC member States, on the irregular migration in concerned African countries.
13. **Calls** upon Member States and concerned Islamic institutions to financially support funding the budget of the ICIC humanitarian programme for the return Syrian refugees and displaced persons, to be implemented by the ICIC regional Office for North Asia and Europe in Ankara.
14. **Calls** upon Member States and concerned Islamic Institutions to support the Social peace Centre established in virtue of the decision adopting its strategy of work, by of the Islamic Committee of International Crescent (ICIC) in its 30th session, and hosted by the Iraqi Red Crescent Society as joint programme of cooperation with the ICIC in accordance with the Memorandum of understanding signed by both sides on 27/5/2017.
15. **Decides** the election of the ICIC members to replace those whose mandate expired ,for a period of four years, starting from the date of this Resolutions, as follows:
  1. Profeesor Hussain Suliman Abu Saleh (Sudan) Member
  2. Dr Yaseen Ahmad Abbas (Iraq) ,Member
  3. Mr. Mehmet Gulluoglu (Turkey), Member
  4. Dr. Fethi Ben Zekri (Tunisia), Member.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 7/44-C**  
**ON**  
**AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Having taken note** of the decisions adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> I.S.S.F General Assembly Meeting as well as those of the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> I.S.S.F Executive Committee Meetings;

Emphasizing the need for all relevant affiliated institutions to submit their work programmes and annual activity reports to the General Secretariat by the month of November of each year to ensure complementarity of action and avoid duplication;

**Having considered** the reports submitted by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF), and Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC), International Union of Muslim Scouts (IUMS) and The World Federation of International Arab-Islamic –Schools (WFIAIS):

**A) THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE YOUTH FORUM FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION (ICYFDC)**

1. **Acknowledges** ICYF-DC as an affiliated \_OIC youth institution and its mandate as endorsed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers (ICYSM); **appreciates** important activities carried out by ICYF-DC in various fields pertaining to youth development; **welcomes** the results of the *First Young Leaders Summit* of the OIC countries successfully organized by the ICYF-DC in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the OIC General Secretariat on 11-13 April 2016 as the first-ever pre-Summit youth event of the Islamic Summit Conference; **upholds** approval by the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit Conference of the Young Leaders Summit's Recommendations under the title "*10 Goals in 10 Years*" as important development towards Joint Youth Strategy and Joint Youth Policy by the Member States; **calls upon** the Member States and the OIC Institutions to coordinate with ICYF-DC realization of the goals envisaged by the Recommendations; **praises** the President, the Board and the Secretariat of ICYF-DC for continuous efforts towards development of Muslim youth; and **endorses** decisions of ICYF-DC Board held since last CFM on institutionalization and strengthening of ICYF-DC's organizational capacity;
2. **Appreciates** the support and contribution by the Government of the Republic of Turkey as host of the ICYF-DC Headquarters (Istanbul); **welcomes** support by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan towards the activities of the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF-DC (Baku) and

**looks forward** to speedy completion of all governmental commitments related to hosting of the Baku Center, including providing the Center with appropriate office premises; **calls upon** the Member States to support the activities of ICYF-DC, to provide financial contribution towards the ICYF-DC's annual budget and to coordinate their work in the field of youth with ICYF-DC;

3. **Commends** the role of the Republic of Turkey as the seating Chair of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the ICYSM held on 5-7<sup>th</sup> October 2016, in Istanbul, Turkey in providing necessary support for full and timely implementation of its decisions; **calls upon** the Member States to exert necessary efforts in successful implementation of these decisions, and to coordinate their work in the field of youth with ICYF-DC as mandated by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the ICYSM, in particular, to speed up signing of Membership Memorandums between the Ministries responsible for youth of the Member States and ICYF-DC;
4. **Welcomes** the kind offer of the Republic of Azerbaijan to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICYSM in Baku, in May 2018; **calls** the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC) and the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF) to work with the host country and the OIC General Secretariat towards successful implementation of their mandate in organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICYSM; **encourages** the Member States to actively participate and contribute for an effective holding of the Ministerial Meeting in Baku, in 2018.
5. **Approves** the annual "OIC Youth Capital" international programme implemented by ICYF-DC; **congratulates** ICYF-DC, the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and other partners on successful implementation of the first edition of "OIC Youth Capital" in Istanbul, in 2016; **Congratulates** the cities of Fez (Kingdom of Morocco), Putrajaya (Malaysia) and Shiraz (Islamic Republic of Iran) as OIC Youth Capitals for 2017 for hosting a variety of events within the second edition of the "OIC Youth Capital" (2017); **Welcomes** selection of ..... (*Note: city/ies will be decided in June 2017 by Selection Committee*) as hosts of the third edition of the "OIC Youth Capital"(2018); **calls upon** the Governments and Municipalities of the Member States to actively cooperate with ICYF-DC for achieving overall success of the "OIC Youth Capital" International programme as important tool in strengthening development of and solidarity amongst Muslim youth;
6. **Welcomes** holding of "Model OIC" International Relations Training Programme in Mashhad (the Islamic Republic of Iran) in cooperation with the Municipality of Mashhad; **Welcomes** also holding of the 1<sup>st</sup> ICYF-DC Youth Summer Camp, organized in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Turkey (Duaci camp, Turkey, 10-24 August 2016) and its outcomes; **welcomes** ICYF-DC "Start-up Platform for the OIC countries" launched at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum held under the patronage of the President of Republic of Tatarstan (RF) in May 2017; **invites** IDB, ICCIA and the Member States' relevant public and private institutions to extend support in full-fledged work of the platform and Islamic Countries Young Entrepreneurs Network (ICYEN); **Endorses** the proposal by H.E. Dr. Yousef Al Othaimen, the OIC Secretary General to celebrate annually the 3 of September as the OIC Youth Day;

7. **Calls upon** the OIC Member States and the relevant institutions in particular IDB and ISESCO to support implementation of Joint Youth Action Plan and fulfill their commitments in this regard as required by the resolutions on youth adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of ICYSM;
8. **Upholds** the Memorandum of Understanding signed between ICYF-DC and IDB (June 2015) and **calls upon** IDB to streamline its youth related activities with ICYF-DC programmes and projects; **upholds also** Memorandum of Understanding signed between ICYF-DC and SESRIC (October 2015), Memorandum of Agreement signed between ICYF-DC and IIUM (April 2016); Letter of Understanding signed between ICYF-DC and ISESCO (April 2016); and Coordination mechanism agreed between the OIC General Secretariat and ICYF-DC;
9. **Welcomes** the establishment of the Global Youth Movement for the Alliance of Civilization (GYMAoC) based on the “Youth for the Alliance of Civilizations” initiative developed by the ICYF-DC and presented at the High Level Conference held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in November 2007 under the patronage of H.E. Mehriban Aliyeva, The First Lady of Azerbaijan, UNESCO/ISESCO Goodwill Ambassador; **recognizes** ICYF-DC as the OIC partner in youth related issues in OIC-UN Cooperation; **applauds** the joint projects implemented by ICYF-DC in the framework of cooperation between the Republic of Azerbaijan and UNAOC and **calls upon** the Members States to support ICYF-DC’s application for joining the UNAOC Group of Friends; **welcomes** the Cooperation between ICYF-DC and different UN agencies including UNDP, UNOSSC, UNAOC, UNFPA, UNEP and UNESCO in particular in regards to ICYF-DC initiative to establish a platform in Europe to monitor and counter Islamophobia and violent radicalization; and **commends** ICYF-DC’s efforts and actions to combat Islamophobia;
10. **Appreciates** the activities of ICYF-DC in promoting the program of “The OIC Memorial Day for commemoration of humanitarian catastrophes of Muslim communities throughout the Twentieth century”, including partnership with ISESCO and Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States to this end and calls upon the Member States to actively take part in the program; **invites** the Member States to actively support ICYF-DC campaign #SaveRohingyaNow; **Welcomes** “Justice for Khojaly” international civil awareness Campaign initiated by Mrs. Leyla Aliyeva, ICYF-DC General Coordinator for Inter-cultural Dialogue and aimed at disseminating of historical truth on the genocide of Azerbaijani civilians perpetrated by the Armenian armed forces in the town of Khojaly (the Republic of Azerbaijan) in February 1992; and commending the activities under the Campaign in the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Khojaly genocide, **calls upon** the Member States and OIC institutions to support and actively participate in the events of the Campaign and exert due efforts for recognition on national and international levels of this genocidal act as crime against humanity as well as for bringing to justice the perpetrators; **welcomes also** ICYF-DC programme to educate European youth in true history of Muslim sufferings in Anatolia in 1915;
11. **Commends** declaration of 2017 a Year of Islamic Solidarity in Azerbaijan by the relevant order of the His Excellency the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan; **commends** the Youth Leadership Programme co-organized by ICYF-DC, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the

Republic of Azerbaijan and the OIC General Secretariat, in the framework of the “2017 a Year of Islamic Solidarity in Azerbaijan” and the 4<sup>th</sup> Islamic Solidarity Games - a testimony of growing exchanges and cooperation among OIC Member States in the field of youth and sports; **Welcomes** the offer of Azerbaijan to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the “OIC Young Leaders Summit” in Baku, in May 2018;

**12. Expresses** its deep appreciation and gratitude to H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the President of the Republic of Turkey and H.E. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan for their devotion to the cause of development of Muslim youth and personal support towards ICYF-DC activities as well as constant support the governments of Turkey and Azerbaijan extends to ICYF-DC to accomplish its mission effectively;

**13. Thanks** H.E.Dr. Yousef Al Othaimen, the OIC Secretary General for the efforts resulted in increasing efficiency of cooperation by the OIC General Secretariat with ICYF-DC on whole range of youth issues as the major partner vis-à-vis implementation of the OIC-2025 Programme of Action in the field of youth related activities and **requests** the Secretary General to submit annual report on the Forum’s activities to the next session of the Council of Foreign Ministers;

#### **B) INTERNATIONAL UNION OF MUSLIM SCOUTS (IUMS)**

1. Bless future activities IUMS decided to do within his plan 2017/2018, and urged Members to hosting effective in these activities and participation in order to make it a success and give him every possible material and moral support.
2. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, led by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the Crown Prince and the Crown Crown to embrace the headquarters of the International Union of Muslim Scouts in Jeddah and moral and financial support in terms of full faith interest in all issues related to the youth of the Islamic nation.
3. Expresses its sincere thanks and **appreciation** to H.E. Dr. Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimen Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to support the activities and programs of IUMS executed by through the World Medal projects (I'm a Muslim Scouts and cooperating) and Muslim youth programs.
4. Expresses its sincere gratitude to Minister of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its support for the participation of Saudi university students in international trips for students and university students, and to Dr. Mohammed bin Abdul Aziz Al Ohali Undersecretary for Educational Affairs.
5. Expresses its thanks to Mr. Ahmad Hindawi, the Secretary-General of the World Scout Organization for its cooperation with the International Union of Muslim Scouts and its activities and programs and calls for further cooperation with the International Union of Muslim Scouts. Also expresses its thanks to Mr. Scott Terre Secretary-General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, he ended his tenure and wish him well.

6. Welcomes the accession of Palestine full membership in WOSM by Palestinian Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides Association of Member States and calls for active participation in the activities and programs of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Palestinian to achieve the objectives of the Scout Movement.
7. Expressing gratitude to the directors of scout regions of the World Scout Organization for their cooperation and support to young Muslims in the world and the work of the scout teams for young people is recognized and recorded in the Scout associations recognized countries by the World Scout Organization and invite them for further cooperation with the International Union of Muslim Scouts.
8. Expressing his thanks for the Scout associations that cooperated in the implementation of the medal projects: (literacy), (Removing harmful from the road) and (Green World).
9. Invites the ministers of higher education in the Member States of the Organization to emphasize the universities to participate in international trips for youth and university students organized by the International Union of Muslim Scouts achieve the desire of the kings and heads of Islamic countries in the Third Extraordinary Summit held in Makkah, 2005 at the invitation of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, which aims to strengthen national unity and to assign managers universities to participate in these trips .
10. Demanding Ministers of Education and Higher Education Ministers in the Member States to support the International Union of Muslim Scouts at the opening of the "World of Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, training centers for the children of associates residing in distance learning" in the Member States of the Organization of the communities and to assign jurisdiction so calls to support this centers because of their importance in the training of the children of residents of Muslims in other countries to honor the name of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, God bless his soul for his contribution to the establishment of such centers .
11. Request the banks in Saudi Arabia to support the international trips for the youth and university students organized by the International Union of Muslim Scouts out of their role towards social responsibility and service support of Muslim Youth.
12. Requests from Minister of Education, Saudi Arabia complete the opening of the "World of Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, training centers for the children of associates residing in distance learning" in Saudi Arabia.
13. Congratulates the IUMS Secretary-General Dr. Zuhair Hussain Ghunaim for receiving the Order of the Republic of South Korea to volunteer and is the fourth character gets this award in the history of South Korea.
14. **Expresses** sincerest thanks and appreciation to ICYF-DC, as well as the Republic of Turkey and the OIC General Secretariat for the organization of and cooperation in the youth event on the sidelines of the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit Conference.
15. Bless the International Union of Muslim Scouts starting in the training of the youth of the Islamic nation in the media and qualify for the courses in the media and the graduation of



qualified media generation of universities Member States are required to higher education ministers directing university administrators to share their students in this important activity, and implemented in collaboration with the Islamic Organization for Education, Science of Culture and ISESCO .

16. Expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation for the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC) for its cooperation with the International Union of Muslim Scouts and calls for more cooperation.
17. Expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Islamic Development Bank to support projects and activities of the International Union of Muslim Scouts in the past and hopes to re-support .
18. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to Ambassador Nasser Al Zaabi, head of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Mr. Ibrahim bin Abdullah AlKhozim Executive Director of the Fund for their support for the projects and activities of the International Union of Muslim Scouts.
19. Bless the signing of the construction project Cooperative Waqf Muslim Scouts agreement and who donated their land, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, God bless his soul and the World Federation of Scouts Muslim built to house him and Scouts Muslims during their visit to the performance of rituals, and thank Dr. Bandar Hajjar President of the Islamic Development Bank, and Fund property Endowments Bank for their support and cooperation in the construction of this entity, which serves the Muslim Scouts.
20. Recommends supporting the preparation Scout leaders Muslim courses for access to wood to create a badge scout team leaders under the auspices of the Muslims do Muslim children and explain the religion of Islam to non-Muslims.
21. Requests the Sports Federation of Islamic solidarity and the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation, coordination and cooperation in youth affairs through activating the memorandum of understanding to establish the activities and programs in collaboration with the International Union of Muslim Scouts.
22. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Organization for Education, Science and of Culture (ISESCO), headed by Director General Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri its support for the programs of the World Federation of Muslim Scouts and the signing of a cooperation agreement with the Union of Islamic universities in the world and bless their efforts in joint activities carried out by the Union with ISESCO in the field Media and special programs for agents universities.
23. Bless IUMS as an advisory body for training and international activities and programs organized by universities and Islamic countries in collaboration with ISESCO and asks Excellencies, Ministers of Higher Education and directors of universities to cooperate with them in this area.
24. Thanks USA for organizing 5<sup>th</sup> World Scout Interreligious Symposium and asked for more cooperation with American Muslim Scouts.

25. Thanks British Muslim Scout Association on hosting the World of the jamboree of Muslim Scouts and Scout associations asked OIC member to participate in this jamboree.
26. Asked foreign ministers of Islamic countries to emphasize the scout associations to participate in the 13th IUMS International Conference to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 13.08.2017 on the sidelines of the 41st World Scout Conference.
27. Asked the Minister of Hajj and Umrah in Saudi Arabia to cooperate with the IUMS in implementing and achieving the objectives of the buses guidance project.

**C) THE WORLD FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL ARAB-ISLAMIC SCHOOLS (WF-IAIS)**

1. **Recommends** the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and bodies, the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), and the Islamic Development Bank to support the plans and projects of the World Federation of International Arab Islamic Schools in spreading Arabic language and Islamic culture and to extend every possible assistance for the implementation of such plans and projects; thanks the ISF for financing the Federation's projects.
2. **Recommends** continued support for the organisation of training courses for teachers of Arabic language and Islamic culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia, the Caucasus and the Balkans.
3. **Recommends** the IDB and the ISF to contribute towards the printing of the textbook series prepared by the WF-IAIS, for teaching Arabic to Non-Arabic speakers, the distribution of those books among Muslim learners, and the establishment of a WF-IAIS Press at its headquarters, as well as other print shops in central locations in Muslim countries in order to maximize their benefit in those countries and among Muslim communities.
4. **Recommends** support for the Assistance Fund for International Arab-Islamic Schools and Educational Institutions members of WF-IAIS to help them promote Islamic education standards, in particular in non-Arabic speaking Islamic countries.
5. **Requests** support for the WF-IAS project to establish an education section at the Imam Shafii College – Comoros Islands University to award Bachelors Degree in all Arabic language specialties in accordance with the agreement signed between the WF-IAIS and the Comoros national Ministry of Education preparatory to Masters and Doctorate studies in Teaching Curricular and Methods in the Section.
6. **Recommends** support for the Examination Council of International Arab-Islamic Schools Project, set up by the WFIAIS in collaboration with the League of Islamic Universities and the Muslim World League, which aims to set the examinations of private Islamic schools under the supervision of well-known Islamic universities, and to activate this Council and establish its regional branches.
7. **Recommends** support for the projects undertaken by the WFIAIS to set up the Arabic language center and forum of civilizations in London, the educational center in Cairo, and Turkish Arab University in Istanbul.

8. **Recommends** support for the WFIAIS activities towards the establishment of an examination council in Uganda in collaboration with the Islamic University in Uganda as well as an examination council in Malaysia in collaboration with the International Islamic University in Malaysia.
9. **Recommends** support for the two projects of the WF-IAIS submitted by the Arab Academy for Educational Science to establish a university under the name (International University of Educational and Information Sciences) to be based in Cairo and to have branches in other countries, and a virtual university to provide remote technical support to schools.
10. **Welcomes** the establishment of the first Arabic University named Islamic Arabic University by the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh and the encourages OIC institutions to support the institution;
11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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## RESOLUTION NO. 8/44-C

### ON

#### STANDING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC)

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** Resolution No. 13/3-P(IS) adopted by the Third Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah/Taif (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) in June 1981, in favor of establishing a Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) as well as all the decisions of the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC, and 10<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Ministers of Information held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 2-4 December 2014,

**Recalling** the recommendations contained in the Ten-Year Program of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

**Taking note** of the important recommendations adopted by the Ninth Session of COMIAC, held in Dakar (Republic of Senegal) on 11-12 October, 2010:

- 1. Notes with appreciation** the establishment of the COMIAC Coordination Office.
- 2. Expresses satisfaction** with the efforts put in by the Republic of Senegal to reenergize COMIAC; in this regard, **commends**, in particular, the appointment of the Director of the COMIAC Coordination Office.
- 3. Commends** the Republic of Senegal for having successfully hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> session of the COMIAC in Dakar on 28-29 April 2015, and appreciates Member States' active participation at the event.
- 4. Encourages and supports** cooperation between COMIAC and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to explore ways and resources that can be tapped to finance the COMIAC activities.
- 5. Welcomes** the constant contribution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the COMIAC and invites Member States and relevant institutions to bring their financial support to the COMIAC's programs and activities through the expeditious settlement of voluntary contributions.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 9/44-C**  
**ON**  
**THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC AND WORLD**  
**HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGES**

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of COMIAC;

**Emphasizing** the importance of protection and preservation of historical religious sites and various places of worship and ancient historical artifacts in OIC Member States as well as other parts of the world;

**Stressing** the importance for the Member States to provide the necessary protection to cultural, archaeological and historical monuments and antiquities located on its territory and within its borders, including religious sites, places of worship, educational institutions, museums, and other archaeological, historical and cultural heritage monuments.

**Recalling** and welcoming the relevant Security Council resolutions, specifically Resolution 1483 (2003) and Resolution 2199 (2015) on combating the trafficking of cultural and scientific property looted from Iraq and Syria and on urging its restitution to the institutions of both countries, along with Resolution 2347 (2017) on the protection of cultural heritage and cultural property in the event of armed conflict.

**Noting** the decision of the 197<sup>th</sup> Session of UNESCO Executive Board held in October 2015, to establish a Blue Helmets Cultural Unit to protect or defend important cultural sites before they are destroyed by terrorist attacks, war, or hit by natural disasters;

**Recalling** the decisions adopted by UNESCO Executive Board at its 197<sup>th</sup>, 199<sup>th</sup>, 200<sup>th</sup> and 201<sup>st</sup> sessions, regarding the Plan of Action to Implement the Strategy for Reinforcing UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict, which contains measures on which the Member States can build to safeguard archaeological and historical sites, cultural property and institutions involved in cultural activities, in cooperation with the relevant UN bodies.

- 1. Welcomes** the establishment by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of a Center on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage named after the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, the establishment by the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage of a center for national architectural heritage to preserve and rehabilitate national heritage, the recent change of the name of the "Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities" to become the "Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage" to be inclusive of all aspects and components of heritage.

2. **Welcomes** the decisions taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to protect heritage, chief of which is the decision on the preservation of Islamic heritage sites; as well as the Saudi Government's adoption of the law on museums and architectural heritage and the executive rules and regulations thereof.
3. **Stresses** the focus on the two elements of awareness-raising and the importance of cultural heritage among local communities with all their constituents by presenting effective programmes designed to promote the individual's knowledge of his cultural assets, in coordination with specialized educational, vocational and cultural institutions, with a view to building a generation of the Muslim society that is capable of playing its part towards its country and its security.
4. **Welcomes** the hosting by the UAE of the international conference on “Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict Zones”, which took place at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi, on 2-3 December 2016.
5. **Commends** the UAE’s heritage preservation efforts translating in the launch of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage and the setting up of cultural heritage centers and institutes in the country and the world over.
6. **Stresses** the need to utilize the outputs of regional workshops on 'the protection of cultural heritage at the time of crises' held on 15-17 December 2015 under the patronage of His Highness the Ruler of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates, with the participation of the Athar Regional Conservation Center (ICCROM), the Islamic Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).
7. **Welcomes** the Member States’ efforts in protecting cultural and natural heritage; and calls on the Member States in this regard to design the necessary educational and training programmes on the regional and international mechanisms for the protection of cultural and historical property as well as cultural and natural heritage, enlarge scope for scientific research activities, establish museums and stage specialized exhibitions.
8. **Emphasizes** the creation of appropriate mechanisms to activate the charter on the conservation of Islamic heritages.
9. **Strongly condemns** the crimes committed against tangible and intangible cultural heritage in all its forms in Iraq, Libya, Mali, Palestine, Yemen, Syria and in other Member States; and Invites ISESCO and IRCICA, in coordination with Member States to strengthen the cooperation with UNESCO in order to monitor the situation of cultural, civilizational and religious heritages in the Muslim World, and taking part in countering acts of destruction and vandalism against such heritages.
10. **Calls** on ISESCO and IRCICA to coordinate with the Member States to jointly organize a seminar on “Islamic Action to Protect Cultural Heritage” at the earliest convenience, as was decided by the 9<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Cultural Ministers (ICCM), held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 2-4 November 2015, and endorsed by the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of Islamic Summit Conference, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 14-15 April, 2016.

- 11. Supports** the call from the OIC Group at UNESCO, for this UN Agency to cooperate closely with experts from OIC Member States in help-countering the attacks on culture and heritage, as to exert the tolerant principles of Islam and profound respect to human heritage.
- 12. Requests** to support to rebuild and rehabilitate Nineveh prophets' tombs as well as historical and Islamic monuments brought to ruin by terrorist groups and organizations;
- 13. Commends** the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Nomad Games, which took place in the Kyrgyz Republic on 03-08 September 2016 for contribution to the development of ethno-historical sports, inter-civilizational and intercultural dialogue, youth, tourism and education in a healthy spirit.
- 14. Calls upon** Member States, the IDB, and ISESCO to finance the ethno-historical sports (hunting with birds of prey and dogs, horse and camel racing, kok-boru/buzkasi, the national wrestling and intellectual games) and other national, traditional and historical sports in the Member States through opening of the sport centers in the Member States and organizing regular sports competitions on the basis of the World Nomad Games.
- 15. Calls on** the Member States to intensify their efforts to preserve their natural heritage areas and the habitat of animals threatened with extinction; commends in this connection the Member States' efforts to safeguard the natural habitat of snow leopards; values the Kyrgyz Republic's efforts in this area, which chiefly involved hosting the First International Forum on Snow Leopard Conservation in 2013; and expresses support for the country's efforts to host and organize the Forum's second session in 2017.

**Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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## Resolution No. 10/44-C

### On

### Supporting Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Historical Monuments and Property in Iraq

*The Forty Fourth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in a World of Solidarity), held in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 10-11 July 2017,*

**Recalling** Resolution No. 10/43-C of its 43<sup>rd</sup> session held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on 17-18 Muharram 1438 H (18-19 October 2016), regarding the protection and preservation of Islamic and world historical and cultural heritage,

**Referring to** the second paragraph of its 43<sup>rd</sup> session's Resolution No. 42/43-POL on the crimes of Daesh, wherein it condemned the complete and systematic destruction, particularly in Mosul, of human civilization antiquities in Iraq,

**Pointing out to** the relevant UN Security Council's resolutions, most recently Resolution 2347 (2017) for the protection of historical property and heritage during armed conflict, especially in Iraq and Syria, and calling on it to examine ways to protect these antiquities and restore looted cultural property,

1. **Condemns anew** the destruction and demolition of Iraq's historical antiquities and cultural property at the hands of the terrorist organization of Daesh.
2. **Calls for** holding an international conference in the shortest possible time, to coincide with the near liberation of all Iraqi cities and territories from the terrorist organization of Daesh. The conference, to be held under the patronage of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and with the coordination of the Iraqi government and regional and international partners, including the UN and its relevant agencies, will seek to examine rebuilding and rehabilitation means for Iraqi antiquities and cultural property which have been destroyed and demolished by the terrorist organization of Daesh.
3. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow through efforts to hold the said Conference and to coordinate to this end with the Iraqi government and all countries and organizations, both regional and international.

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