



OIC/2-ICLM/2013/MIN/REP/FINAL

**REPORT OF
THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF LABOUR MINISTERS
Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan
25-26 April 2013/ 15-16 Jumada II, 1434H**

- The Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM) was held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan on 25-26 April 2013 (15-16 Jumadal Thani 1434H).
- The Conference was attended by Ministers in charge of labour and employment, Heads of delegation from 39 member states, representatives of the OIC General Secretariat, OIC institutions, regional and International Organizations. List of participants is attached as **Annex-I**.

OPENING CEREMONY

- Following the recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an, H.E. Dr. Mufrij Bin-Sa'ad Al-Huqbaani, Deputy Minister of Labour of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in his capacity as Chairman of the First Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM), delivered an opening speech. Dr. Mufrij underscored the various activities of the OIC in the area of labour, employment, occupational safety & health, and social protection, dwelling on the progress realized in the execution of the diverse projects and programmes of the Organisation.

ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

- The Conference elected the following members of The Bureau:
 - Chairman : Republic of Azerbaijan.
 - Vice Chairman : Republic of Yemen
 - Vice Chairman : Republic of The Gambia
 - Vice Chairman : State of Palestine
 - Rapporteur : Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- In his speech as Chairman of the Session, H.E. Mr. Fizuli Alakbarov, Minister of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of Republic of Azerbaijan, he enumerated the major challenges facing the Muslim world as it addresses the consequences of global socio-political and economic crises. Stressing the need to find urgent and concerted solution to the problems of youth and women unemployment, declining productivity and human resource development, the Minister identified potential areas of cooperation among the OIC member states. These include poverty reduction and better use of the labour market innovation and exchange of best practices on labour protection mechanisms, among others.

- On his own part, His Excellency Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, expressed gratitude to H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and his Government for their generous initiative to host Second Session of ICLM and for all the arrangements made for ensuring its success. He emphasized that the development of a common action plan to promote job creation, guaranteeing rights at work and extending social protection were directly related to the basic objective of poverty alleviation, to which OIC member states have been committed. While congratulating Indonesia for its offer to host the Third Session of ICLM, the Secretary General urged the Conference to identify quick-win actions that will scale-up national and multilateral actions towards addressing developmental challenges of OIC member states and their peoples.

AUDIENCE WITH PRESIDENT OF AZERBAIJAN

- Heads of delegation were received in audience by H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan at the Presidential Palace in Baku on 25 April 2013 during which the President graciously proposed the establishment of an OIC Specialised Institution on Labour and Employment issues in Baku

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME

- The Conference adopted its Agenda and Work Programme, which are attached as **Annex-II** and **Annex-III**, respectively.
- The Chairman of the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Preparatory to the Second Session of the ICLM presented the report on the SOM, held in Baku, on 23-24 April 2013. The Conference adopted the report of the SOM, which is attached as **Annex - IV**.
- During the General Debate, Ministers and Heads of delegation addressed the Conference on their various national programmes, underscoring areas of potential collaboration with the OIC.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION ON LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

- The Conference adopted the OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection, which was examined by the Senior Officials' Meeting. The Framework shall include, *inter alia*, the following objectives: to streamline a concrete common objective in the area of cooperation among member states in the field of capacity building, employment, foreign migrant labour, labour market information strategy and social protection; and to adjust, whenever required the common policies and programmes related to social protection and development.
- The Conference designated the following OIC member states as members of the Steering Committee for the implementation of the Framework:

- Chairman - Republic of Azerbaijan
- Members - Kuwait, Libya, Turkey, Malaysia, Guinea, Cameroon, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia.

- The Conference mandated the Steering Committee to work out plans and programmes including time-lines and benchmarks, with a view of ensuring effective and speedy implementation of the programmes identified in the adopted OIC Framework. The Steering Committee was also mandated to include performance mechanism and evaluation on the implementation of the Framework every two years and submit its reports to the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers through the General Secretariat of the OIC. The Framework document is attached in **Annex-V**.

ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION AND BAKU DECLARATION

- The Conference further adopted the Baku Declaration and Resolution on the Cooperation on Labour, Employment and Social Protection among the OIC Member States. The documents are attached in **Annex - VI & VII** respectively.

VOTE OF THANKS

- The Conference expressed its profound gratitude to H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan for having patronized the Second Session of the ICLM and for all the facilities accorded to all delegations since they arrived in the historic and cultural city of Baku. The Conference also expressed its gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to the delegates and for the excellent arrangements made to ensure the success of the Conference.
- The Conference also expressed its thanks to the General Secretariat of the OIC under the able leadership of its Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, for their dedicated and tireless efforts in making the necessary arrangements for the Second Session of the ICLM.
- The Conference welcomed the offer made by the Republic of Indonesia to host the Third Session of the ICLM in 2015 and invited the member states to actively participate in the Conference.
- At the end of the proceedings, the delegates addressed their thanks to the Chairman of the Second Session of the ICLM and congratulated him for the excellent way in which he steered the debates.
