

**OIC/3-WCOD/2010/DEC**

**Tehran Declaration**

**The Third Ministerial Conference  
On the Role of Women in the  
Development of OIC Member States**

**“Women, Family and Economy”  
19-21 December 2010,  
13-15 Moharram-ul Haram 1432 Hijra**

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### **The Third Ministerial Conference On the Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States**

#### **“Women, Family and Economy”**

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1. We, the participants in the Third Biennial Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States, held, under the theme of “women, family and economy”, in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 19-21 December 2010, 13-15 Moharram-ul Haram 1432 Hijra, aim to promote the role of women in the family as well as to strengthen their role in economic development in their societies;
2. We appreciate the efforts undertaken by the OIC in implementing the OIC’s 10-Year Programme of Action, adopted at the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in 2005 in Mecca, which refers to the need to expedite developing the Covenant on the Rights of Women in Islam, in accordance with Resolution No. 60/27-P and the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam (1990),
3. We reiterate the need to implement the provisions of Resolution No. 3/32 C (b) on "Muslim Women and their role in the development of Islamic Society", adopted in the Thirty-Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Sanaa in 2005, which refers to the holding of Ministerial meeting to deal with the issue of “providing women with opportunities in all aspects of social life”,
4. Recalling the outcome of the first and second Ministerial Meetings on advancing the role of women in Islamic society, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 20 – 21 November 2006 and Cairo, Egypt, on 24-25 November 2008 respectively, we reaffirm the OIC Plan of Action for the advancement of women (OPAAW) and welcome the establishment of a OIC women development organization, based in Cairo, on the advancement of women and call on all members to expedite the process of ratification of its statute,

In accordance with all referred-to principles and commitments agreed in OIC relevant conferences and the latest report of the Secretary-General;

5. We are conscious that there have been improvements with regard to the legal framework on women's rights in the OIC Member States, but we acknowledge that there is still need for further progress, both in terms of legislation and implementation. In this regard, we express the need to set monitoring and evaluating [indicators] for assessment and follow-up,
6. We reaffirm that OIC Member States which reflect religious and cultural diversity within their society provide equal rights to all women without any exclusion on the bases of religion and colour.
7. Realizing the importance of dialogue between Muslim and non Muslim women, and realizing that divine teachings and values of Islam meet with teachings and values of other religions, we highlight the importance of the involvement of women inter-religious dialogue;
8. We adopt the mechanism for the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of women;
9. We invite OIC member states to improve means of collaboration on bilateral and multilateral levels to enhance the status of women based on shared knowledge and best practices as well as on sound mobilization of resources. The progress of the overall OIC countries can only be reached if equal opportunities and resources are made available to all.
10. We underscore that the advancement of women and the promotion of their role within the family and society is a major factor for development in society and that there would be no meaningful progress if women who comprise one half of the society, remain out of the mainstream of society and do not have access to opportunities including those of quality education , healthcare, employment, protection from violence and for their participation in decision making process in society as well ensuring their rights,
11. We are cognizant of deficiencies in the existing indices on development in the world and therefore recommend that such indices be supplemented in order to take into account Islamic specificities and cultural diversity, aimed, inter alia, to promote the status of women in politics, culture and economy;
12. We recognize that the divine teachings and values of Islam have provided for all political, cultural and economic rights of women in the process of building an ideal human society, and that development goals in OIC Member states are achievable in these countries, considering the effective role of women play,

13. While reiterating that the Islamic development approach is based on individual advancement and, ultimately, the sublimity of society on the basis of the divine teachings, we stress the indivisibility of moral and justice from the process of development of the OIC Member States,
14. While recognizing that [the] comprehensive sustainable development could be accessible through concentrating on human-centered development approach, we stress the need to pay more attention in development literature to the central role of women, who are at the helm of the most important social unit, i.e., the family, in educating the forthcoming generations,
15. Further recognizing such important and creative role of women in the family as spreading selflessness, altruism and right education of siblings, we reiterate the need for appropriate planning for the promotion of and respect for the roles of women in the family;
16. Taking into account the role of women in the management of consumption in the family, we emphasize on the effective influence of women in reforming consumption pattern in the family and in educating a progressive generation with sustainable consumption practices, including through the media and educational curricula,
17. We emphasize the critical role of education including vocational education for women and girls in development and poverty eradication therefore the issue of education should be addressed including within the framework of poverty eradication,
18. We invite governments to take necessary measures and arrangements with the view to promoting women education and training and their access to science and technology as well as equal opportunities in this regard and ensure this goal inter alia through enhancement of their motives and culture;
19. Reiterating the role of women in personal health and well being of the family, we urge governments to ensure individual, environmental and occupational health of women, particularly through awareness raising with full respect to divine values for women and girls and enhancement of health programs to provide equal access to health care and reproductive health services for women;
20. We reaffirm the role of women in preserving biological and natural resources and its appropriate managements in respect to Divine Blessings with a view to alleviating poverty as well as strengthening economic development of the OIC Member States;
21. We recognize that the extensive negative impacts of the global financial Crisis on women including poverty in all countries in the area of

economic security, particularly decline of indices in their education, health and employment, necessitates further integration and collaboration among member states of the Organization of Islamic Conference towards adoption and enforcement of protective policies for family economy with particular focus on women and children, as vulnerable members of societies,

22. We are cognizant that the Muslim world is facing major challenges, to which common solutions should be sought in the framework of the common denominators of Islamic culture and civilizations;
23. We recognize the important role of women in safeguarding the institution of family and the role of family in establishment of individual and social security in countries; and encouraging efforts for providing women with employment opportunities which would develop their creativeness and talents and uphold the role of women in the family and protect it from any harm.
24. Emphasizing the role and responsibility of women and men, boys and girls in the family and societies, and in this regard encourage men and boys to continue to take positive initiatives to eliminate gender stereotypes in order to contribute towards eradicating poverty and combating violence against women.
25. We reiterate that all forms of violence against women contradict the rights recognized by the Islamic Human Rights Declaration, at home, work and in the society. We stress that violence against women occur in different forms in both developed and developing societies and we further emphasize the respect for human dignity of women as well as prevention of violence against them in all its physical and mental dimensions through adopting special legislation;
26. We underscore the urgent need to create opportunities for women to encourage their participation in the process of decision making in the field of political and social progress;
27. We recommend that the OIC Member States work together on establishing a road map with a view to helping initiate a universal movement seeking to revive rights of human beings, in particular women. We recognize that this important measure requires cooperation and consultation among the elite and thinkers from all countries;
28. With full respect for the eminent women revered in all divine religions, we emphasize the need to further introduce these eminent women as sources of inspiration for women in the OIC Member States and across the world, utilizing the world media in full;

29. Appreciating the endeavors of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry-ICCI- in holding special sessions, we deem adoption of executive policies for improvement of the position of Muslim businesswomen as a necessary action for further enrichment of trade relations among Muslim states;
30. We welcome the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the establishment of a Governmental Group of Experts within the OIC framework to draft the “Covenant on Rights of Women in Islam”, and recommend that it be taken up by the next CFM meeting.
31. We noted the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the establishment and hosting an “OIC Family Research Center” as a scientific and research institution;
32. While respecting all Divine religions, we condemn the escalation of Islamophobia and are concerned over the consequences arising from insulting values of the Muslim great Ummah;
33. Reiterating the necessity of paying due attention to the rights of Muslim women in other countries, we express our concern over acts ignoring the rights of Muslim women derived from their adherence to the Islamic beliefs in educational, employment and social environments;
34. We condemn any unjustified and politically motivated economic sanctions against all countries, specially OIC Member States, which may affect the welfare and economic security of the families in the countries under sanctions;
35. Emphasizing that the safety and security of any Muslim country is important for all the OIC Member States, we support the rights of the Palestinian people and call for ending Gaza's siege and reiterate that attacking the Freedom Flotilla by the occupying regime and the siege in fact, constitutes the worst violence against the defenseless and besieged women and children in the occupied territories, especially in Gaza;
36. Reemphasizing the Palestinian matter as a main issue for the Muslim world we stand to achieve the establishment of the independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its Capital;
37. We reaffirm our commitment to the full implementation of the resolution 54/3 (2010) on “Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned in armed conflicts” and all relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and urge all parties to an armed conflict to respectfully the norms of international humanitarian law and to take all necessary measures for

the protection of civilian population and for combating the acts of hostage-taking;

38. While sympathizing with OIC Member States afflicted by natural disasters, we invite Member States to voluntarily extend their assistances to those in need and request them to support the Organization of the Islamic Conference to take due measures to provide the financial resources needed to assist the peoples in need, in particular women and children, in the countries concerned. In this regard we support the role of women in disaster prepare and disaster management;
39. We appreciate the Secretary General for his efforts towards the women's issues and their role in development of OIC Member States, and welcome continuing his activities to coordinate the policies of the OIC Member States, aiming at promoting women's status in accordance with the Islamic values;
40. We request the Secretary General to follow up and report on implementation of the outcome of the Third Ministerial Meeting on women affairs at the next session.
41. We welcome the proposals made by Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Kazakhstan and Kuwait to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on the women in the development of the OIC Member States in 2012, and request the OIC General Secretariat to facilitate further consultation on the issue;
42. We express our gratitude to the people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of the OIC Member States and for the excellent arrangements made towards the successful outcome of the meeting and for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us.

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