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RESOLUTION (1)  
ON COOPERATION  
IN THE FIELDS OF  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS  
OF THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING  
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS  
IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

The First Meeting of the Ministers of Infrastructure and Public Works of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held from 6-9 October in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey,

Recalling Resolution No. 1/6-E adopted by the Sixth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers recommending that Islamic Countries promote their economic independence through greater mutual cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, financial and technical cooperation,

Taking into consideration the decisions of the Third Ministerial Consultation on Industrial Cooperation on the promotion of joint ventures,

Noting the decision adopted by the First Ministerial Meeting on Transport at which Member States were encouraged to undertake joint projects to establish connected road networks to ensure a reliable and continuous flow of traffic among them,

1. Federation of Consultants of Islamic Countries

Federation of Contractors of Islamic Countries:

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the establishment of the Federation of Contractors of Islamic Countries' and the activities undertaken by the Federation of Consultants of Islamic Countries since its establishment,

Invites Governments to give preference to the services of contractors and consultants of member countries subject to the enforced national laws and regulations.

2. Capacities and Needs of Member Countries:

Noting with satisfaction that Islamic Countries possess considerable potential and capacity for cooperation in the fields of infrastructure and public works that enable them to meet the present and future needs of OIC countries,

Urges governments to utilize all channels and means of cooperation.

3. Chapter on "Infrastructure and Public Works" to be added in the OIC Plan of Action:

Recalling Resolution (1) of the Sixth Session of COMCEC requesting the COMCEC Coordination Office to take the necessary measures so as to enable the Chairman of the COMCEC to seek a mandate at the Sixth Islamic Summit authorizing COMCEC to

develop new strategies for the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action, and subsequent developments and initiatives taken by COMCEC,

Requests that a separate section be devoted to public works and infrastructure, among the priority sectors formerly identified, in the revised version of the "Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States" to be prepared by COMCEC.

4. Cooperation in the Area of Housing and Construction Technology:

Reaffirming the urgency of housing problems and the need to cooperate in the field of housing and construction technologies in order to overcome the numerous problems facing all member countries,

Notes with appreciation the offer made by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to organize a symposium on low cost housing in Damascus;

Urges other governments to take similar initiatives on other aspects of the housing and construction sector;

Invites Member States to seek new channels of cooperation and exchange expertise through, inter alia, participation in and organization of trade fairs, workshops.

5. Extension of Trans European Motorway (TEM) Project and other Regional and Interregional Highway Projects to Cover Member Countries:

Emphasizes the importance of highway infrastructure projects to promote common interests in economic, cultural and social fields;

Proposes that, after consideration of the documents presented by the Turkish Delegation on the proposed TRAAM Project, Member Countries communicate their views and remarks to the OIC Secretariat as early as possible;

Also proposes that the other projects on regional highways and networks linking East Africa with Central and West Africa, proposed by the delegation of the Sudan; the project proposed by the delegation of Morocco known as the Tangier-Lagos Highway project; and the project on the bridge over the Straits of Gibraltar, including the highway project leading to East Asia as well as the Trans Sahel, be also communication to the OIC Secretariat for distribution to member states, together with the Turkish proposal, for comments and views.

6. Cooperation in the Area of Planning and Management of Urban Environment:

Recognizing the role of urbanization in the economic and social development of member countries and the extent of

environmental problems resulting therefrom that affect the general well-being of societies,

Requests member countries to prepare national reports focusing on priority areas of national interest;

Requests SESRTCIC to compile additional information to be provided by member states, and produce a synthesis report, based on this information and on the country reports to be prepared, identifying the priority areas of common interest that would lend themselves to concerted action;

Reaffirms that there is need for additional funds to enable SESRTCIC to undertake such a study;

Requests all governments that will benefit from this project to contribute to the costs that will be incurred for it, and notes with satisfaction the contribution made by Turkey.

7. Technical Cooperation:

Aware of the importance of sharing appropriate information and expertise ,

Requests governments to make available to other member countries their existing training capacities in infrastructure and public works;

Requests national focal points, set up or strengthened after the adoption of the relevant resolution by the First

Ministerial Meeting of Technical Cooperation, to include in their agenda an item on dissemination of information on the above mentioned training facilities;

Requests SESRTCIC to include in its Annual Bulletin on Training Opportunities in OIC Member Countries a separate section on Infrastructure and Public Works.

8. Development of an Information System for Contracting and Consultancy Services in Member Countries:

Conscious of the need for a mutual flow of information among member countries for the establishment and pursuance of a meaningful and sound cooperation;

Taking note of the generous offer made by the Federation of Arab Contractors to make available to the Islamic Federation of Contractors and to the Islamic Federation of Consultants its collected data, existing in Casablanca,

Recalling the Resolution of the 14th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers that states that duplication should be avoided as well as the establishment of any new institution within OIC;

Reaffirming the need to establish national focal points that will provide relevant data as well as make use of the information flow available to them,

Urges Governments to establish such links at the existing data centers;

Requests the Islamic Federation of Contractors and the Islamic Federation of Consultants to take the necessary measures to convene a meeting of a Group of Experts from interested countries to identify the kind and extent of information needed by the construction sector;

Recommends that the existing capacities and projects being considered under the umbrella of the OIC system in this field be utilized with a view to avoiding duplication and unnecessary expenditures.

9. Follow-Up:

Noting that the presentations ensuing discussions at the Meeting indicate that there is great scope for cooperation among OIC countries in the infrastructure and public works sectors,

Conscious of the need to pursue the development of the numerous projects and ideas put forward by the member countries,

Agrees to convene meetings of expert groups from interested countries and a Follow-Up Committee Meeting to which the expert groups will report, in order to monitor the implementation of the decisions taken at this meeting without imposing any financial burden on the OIC,

Decides that, after assessing the progress made in the envisaged activities to be reported by the expert groups, further action will be agreed upon at the Follow-up Committee meeting, to be convened in 2 years time.

Requests the Federation of Contractors of Islamic Countries and the Federation of Consultants of Islamic Countries to periodically report to the OIC Secretariat on the progress of their activities.

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