



OIC/COMIAC-11/INF/RES.FINAL

**RESOLUTIONS
ON
INFORMATION AFFAIRS**

**11TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC)**

***(SESSION OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AS DRIVERS OF PEACE,
DEVELOPMENT AND RAPPROCHEMENT OF PEOPLES)***

DAKAR, REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL

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14-15 MAY 2018

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RESOLUTION 1/11-INF
ON
ISLAMIC INFORMATION AND THE CAUSE OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF
AND PALESTINE

The 11th Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (Session of Education and Culture as Drivers of Peace, Development and Rapprochement of Peoples) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 May 2018 (28-29 Shaaban 1439);

Based on Resolution 1/13-(IS)PAL on the Cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Shareef adopted by the 13th session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 14-15 April 2016;

Based on Resolution No. 1/11-INF on the Role of Information in the OIC Member States adopted by the Eleventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 21 December 2016,

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter and from the Islamic resolutions stressing the importance of continuing to provide appropriate coverage of the cause of Al-Quds Ash-Sharif and the issue of Palestine in the Arab and Islamic media,

Affirming the resolutions adopted by the previous sessions of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) on the Cause of Palestine, Al-Quds Ash-Sharif, and the Occupied Arab Territories, including the occupied Syrian Golan and the Lebanese Shebaa Farms,

Praising the efforts of the Bayt Mal Al-Quds Agency pursuant to the noble directives of His Majesty King Mohamed the VI, Chair of the Al-Quds Committee, to safeguard the identity and religious, cultural and civilizational hallmarks of Al-Quds Ash-Sharif, and strengthen the steadfastness of its people through the support and financing of programmes and projects in the health, education and housing sectors amongst others,

Affirming its full support for the Palestinian political position, which is in conformity with all relevant international resolutions, the Legal Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004 and the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 on the applicability of the provisions of the Convention on the territory of the State of Palestine, Al-Quds and the protection of civilians in times of war,

Condemning all acts of aggression by Israel, the occupying Power, in the city of Al-Quds and in the entire occupied territory of the State of Palestine, including its continued construction of illegal settlements and the Apartheid Wall,

Taking into account the policies of Israel, the occupying Power, and its practices towards the Palestinian citizens of the occupied State of Palestine, aimed primarily at the elimination of their cultural identity, the erasure of the Arab and Islamic national character and its dissolution at all levels, including its history and heritage, and its distortion of the historical and geographical facts, in addition to its continuing policy of expansionist colonialism and the policy of racial discrimination, which constitute a flagrant violation of the basic rights of the inhabitants of these lands, which calls for the importance of providing media coverage appropriate to the conditions experienced by the Palestinian people and showing their suffering in the light of the continuation of Israel, the occupying Power, in escalating its aggression against them, and shedding light on Israeli violations in Al-Quds and the whole land of the State of Palestine and the attempts to Judaize the Holy City,

Expressing its appreciation for the media coverage provided by the media in Member States during the repeated Israeli assaults on Gaza, most recently on the Land Day and the need for more media focus on the human rights violations and war crimes committed by Israel during its aggressions to show the world the reality of these violations and crimes,

Taking into account the need to support the organs and bodies of the Palestinian Authority in all fields, particularly in the field of information and communication,

Reaffirming that information and communication organs constitute one of the most efficient tools used by governments and institutions to express their positions and their political, national and cultural identity,

- 1- **Launches** an urgent appeal to Member States to assist the State of Palestine to support and develop the capacity – offices, facilities and equipment- of the Palestinian Radio and Television Corporation and Palestinian News Agency (Wafa) to exchange programs and expertise with them in this domain;
- 2- **While it commends** the steadfastness of the Palestinian people, **calls** Member States and their media to continue maximum media coverage of the suffering of the Palestinian people because of the growing Israeli aggression, to highlight the Israeli human rights violations and war crimes, and show the whole world the reality and scale of the Israeli violations and its attendant humanitarian disaster;
- 3- **Requests** Member States to allocate a space in their media to highlight the aggression against the sanctities in Al-Quds and the Israeli practices aimed at Judaizing the Holy City and dividing the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque both spatially and temporally, and to counter the US Administration's decision to recognize Al-Quds as the alleged capital of the occupation and transfer its embassy to it;
- 4- **Calls upon** Member States to direct their media to conduct focused media campaigns on various political, economic, cultural, social and tourist areas in the City of Al-Quds Ash-Sharif;
- 5- **Calls on** the media personnel in Member States to take advantage of the proliferation of online social media to highlight the Palestinian Cause, and the violations of the Israeli occupation against the right of Palestinian people, property, and the holy places;
- 6- **Stresses** the importance of creating a media platform for young people to be a free Palestinian youth media framework in which young people express their vision, initiative and

views in a manner that serves the national cultural aspects and constitutes a platform for communication with young people in Member States;

- 7- **Mandates** the OIC General Secretariat, in coordination with Al-Quds Committee and the Palestinian Ministry of Information to organize as soon as possible a symposium on Al-Quds Ash-Sharif and the aggressions against the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and all other sanctities;
- 8- **Calls Upon** the media in Member States to intensify the production and exchange of media programs with the Palestinian media organizations, to utilize the media effectively in presenting the information materials available on the Israeli aggressions, to address the world public opinion, to project the real image of the Palestinian Question and the suffering of the Palestinian People, and to correct the image projected by the Israeli information machine;
- 9- **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 12th session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC).

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RESOLUTION 2/11-INF
ON
SUPPORTING THE INFORMATION WORK OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
(COMIAC)

The 11th Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (Session of Education and Culture as Drivers of Peace, Development and Rapprochement of Peoples) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 May 2018 (28-29 Shaaban 1439);

Recalling the resolutions on Information Affairs adopted by the 45th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) held in Dhaka on 5-6 May 2018;

Recalling resolution 3/10-INF on “COMIAC’s Role in its Capacity as Coordinator of the Action of the OIC Information Organs”, along with resolution 5/10-INF on “Reactivating COMIAC and Supporting its Coordination Office”, issued at the Committee’s 10th session in Dakar, Senegal, on 28-29 April 2015;

Taking note of resolution 1/44-INF on “OIC Member States’ support to COMIAC”, issued by the CFM in its 44th session (Session of Youth, Peace and Development in World of Solidarity) held in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, on 10-11 July 2017 (16-17 Shawwal 1438H);

In a bid to support COMIAC in discharging its duties of, inter alia, giving a new impetus to information and culture across the Muslim world, enabling it to introduce the international public opinion to Muslim world supreme causes, including the Palestinian and Al-Quds Al-Sharif cause, in addition to countering smear campaigns targeting Islam and Muslims, exploring ways to boost cooperation among the Member States on information and culture, and preparing capacity-building programs and proposals in these two areas;

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

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

Having considered the Secretary General’s report on information affairs submitted to this session,

- 1. Expresses** appreciation to the Republic of Senegal for its efforts in support of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), such as through the

appointment of the Director of COMIAC Coordination Office and the allocation of its premises in the capital city of Dakar, and **calls for** continued reinvigoration and promotion of the work of COMIAC.

2. **Commends** COMIAC's new dynamism to reinvigorate joint Islamic media action, and highly appreciates its convening of a media workshop on the OIC, in Dakar, Senegal, on 30 May 2016, which was attended by many of the OIC Member States' Ambassadors in Dakar, along with media representatives, civil society activists and the OIC General Secretariat, who have contributed to increasing media visibility for the OIC in Senegal and Africa, while paying tribute to COMIAC for conducting a number of specialized media workshops in 2017, in association with the OIC Information Department and ISESCO.
3. **Encourages** COMIAC to develop journalistic and information programs and activities to ensure greater visibility for the OIC worldwide, in cooperation with COMIAC and relevant OIC institutions, including the OIC Union of News Agencies (UNA), the Islamic Broadcasting Union (IBU), the OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (IBRAF), the OIC Media Forum (OMF), and the OIC General Secretariat's Information Department.
4. **Calls on** all Member States and stakeholders in the Republic of Senegal to provide COMIAC with all the necessary material and logistical support to undertake its leading role of coordinating the OIC media action.
5. **Calls on** all Member States to be understanding of the critical financial situation of COMIAC, which requires them to continuously lending necessary support, including financial and in-kind support, and joint projects and programs, proposed and submitted by the Coordination Office of COMIAC to enable it to carry out its mandate on information and culture within the OIC.
6. **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 12th session of COMIAC.

RESOLUTION 3/11-INF
ON
LAUNCH OF INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR MEDIA OUTLETS AND
JOURNALISTS

The 11th Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (Session of Education and Culture as Drivers of Peace, Development and Rapprochement of Peoples) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 May 2018 (28-29 Shaaban 1439);

Recalling Resolution 5/10-INF on “Reactivating the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) and Supporting its Coordination Office”, issued at COMIAC 10th session (Dakar, 28-29 April 2015), particularly operative paragraph 4 which proposes organizing a TV production contest among OIC Member States’ media outlets, to be run by Dakar-based COMIAC Coordination Office;

Based on the resolution on the OIC International Prize for Media Outlets and Journalists”, adopted by the 45th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) held in Dhaka on 5-6 May 2018;

Taking note of Resolution 2/44-INF on “Establishment of International Prize for Media Outlets and Journalists”, issued by the Council of Foreign Ministers in its 44th session held in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, on 10-11 July 2017;

Taking into account the proposed broad lines of COMIAC program of action, contained in COMIAC Chair’s report, adopted by the heads of states and government in the 13th Islamic Summit (Istanbul, April 2016);

Welcoming the commendable efforts of COMIAC Chair to revitalize the Committee;

Being aware of the importance of the role to be assumed by the media in relation to peace and development in the Member States;

Having considered the OIC Secretary General’s report submitted to this session,

- 1. Expresses** its profound appreciation for the initiative launched by the President of the Republic of Senegal, in his capacity as the chair of COMIAC, to establish an international prize for outstanding media outlets and journalists active in dialogue, tolerance and cross-cultural harmony.
- 2. Praises** Senegal’s efforts to establish a committee responsible for the terms and conditions of the prize, highly commending the engagement of states and institutions members of the said committee.
- 3. Commends** the outcome of the Prize Committee’s first and second meetings, both held in Jeddah, on 10 April 2017 and 30 October 2017 respectively, wherein committee members examined (in their first meeting) the prize concept paper (outlining the target population, prize title “OIC International Media prize”, categories of submissions, subjects, accredited languages, cash and in-kind value, number of laureates, prize sponsorship and prize amount),

and discussed the prize technical paper detailing the prize goals, scope, nomination conditions, submissions, prize amount, prize categories, selection procedure, prize structure, jury, date and venue for 2018.

4. **Invites** all Member States, OIC financial institutions and relevant OIC institutions to provide full support – both moral and material – to give effect to the prize.
5. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 12th session of COMIAC.

RESOLUTION 4/11-INF
ON
SUPPORTING THE WORK OF JOINT ISLAMIC MEDIA ACTION
INSTITUTIONS

The 11th Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (Session of Education and Culture as Drivers of Peace, Development and Rapprochement of Peoples) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 May 2018 (28-29 Shaaban 1439);

Based on paragraph 184 of the Final Communiqué of the 13th session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 14-15 April 2016 on promoting coordination between the COMIAC and other OIC institutions;

Proceeding from Resolution 1/10-INF on “Supporting the Restructuring Process of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic Broadcasting Union (IBU), along with support to the OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (IBRAF) and the OIC Media Forum (OMF)”, which was issued by COMIAC in its tenth session held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 28-29 April 2015;

Recalling Resolution 3/10-INF on “Supporting the Work of Joint Islamic Media Action Institutions”, issued by the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers in its tenth session (Session of Media Convergence for Peace and Calm in the Islamic World), held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 3-4 December 2014;

Recalling Resolution 3/9-INF on “Supporting the Restructuring Process of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic Broadcasting Union (IBU)”, which was issued by the ninth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Libreville, Republic of Gabon, on 19-20 April 2012;

Guided by Resolution 1/40-INF on “Granting the OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (IBRAF) an Affiliated Institution Status”, adopted by the 40th Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Dialogue of Civilizations, Factor for Peace and Sustainable Development), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, on 9-11 December 2013 (6-8 Safar 1435 AH);

Recalling Resolution 3/40-INF on “Granting the OIC Media Forum (OMF) an Affiliated Institution Status”, adopted by the 40th Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Dialogue of Civilizations, Factor for Peace and Sustainable Development), held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, 6-8 Safar 1435 AH – 9-11 December 2013;

Recalling Resolution 2/8-INF on “Energizing the Sector of Information and Communication in the Organization”, adopted by the Eighth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, 25-28 January 2009;

Having considered the OIC Secretary General’s report submitted to this session,

- 1. Commends** the efforts of joint Islamic media action institutions (COMIAC, UNA, IBU, the OIC Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum, and the OIC Media Forum) in boosting media work, publicizing the OIC activities and programs and contributing

specialized training programs and workshops for journalists across the Member States; and **calls on** them to coordinate, such as in conducting joint media projects, activities and programs as part of implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of OIC conferences and meetings.

2. **Stresses** the need to support the work of all these institutions; **calls on** Member States that have not yet acceded to them to do so; and **invites** all Member States to actively engage in the work these institutions are doing, to avail of the services they offer, and to pay their contributions to their budgets.
3. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 12th session of COMIAC.