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RESOLUTION ON CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS SUBMITTED TO THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC STANDING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC)

DAKAR – REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL 22-24 SHAWWAL 1427H (13-15 NOVEMBER 2006)

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RESOLUTIONS ON CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS SUBMITTED TO THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC STANDING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC) DAKAR — REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL 22-24 SHAWWAL 1427H (13-15 NOVEMBER 2006)

GENERAL CULTURAL MATTERS

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10^{th} Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3^{rd} Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in

Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Recalling Resolution No. 13/31-P on <u>the Rationalization of Islamic</u> <u>Resolutions and Agenda Items</u> adopted by the 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) held in Istanbul, Turkey, in June 2004;

Recalling the results of the Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM) held in Algiers, Algeria, on 15–16 December 2004, and the reports of the Consultative Council on Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Muslim World (CCICS) adopted at its earlier meetings;

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, which call for protecting intellectual and cultural heritage and safeguarding Islamic values against external threats;

Observing the spread of globalization, advances in communication technologies, and the concomitant remarkable flow of information in all fields and their repercussions on cultural aspects;

Recalling also the principles of <u>*The Tehran Declaration*</u> adopted in December 1997 by the 8th 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. The Tehran Declaration also underlines the need to build understanding between civilizations,

Recalling the provisions of <u>The OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action to Face</u> <u>the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century</u> adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) held in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, which called on the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and its subsidiary and affiliated organs to contribute as a partner to intercultural and inter-religious dialogue and related efforts in this regard.

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Underlining the prominent role played by Mosques as symbols of unity and brotherhood in the Muslim World;

Cognizant of the pioneering role of the Islamic Waqfs System in enriching Islamic civilization and the effective contribution of Waqfs to the building of economic and social institutions of the community in addition to their notable contribution to the educational and health fields and to poverty alleviation;

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

- <u>Calls on</u> 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 follow up the negative fallout of globalization and to strengthen inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue through concrete and sustainable initiatives; and <u>appeals to</u> all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to provide all possible moral and financial support for the success of these dialogues.
- 2. <u>**Calls upon**</u> all the Member States and Islamic institutions to support the Fatwa Institution in the Arab Republic of Egypt in implementing the satellite project.

- 3. <u>**Calls on**</u> the Member States to commemorate the World Week of Mosques through celebrations with a view to consolidating and safeguarding Mosques, as holy places in accordance with the tolerant values of Islam.
- 4. <u>Urges</u> the Member States to provide further attention and care to Waqfs in their countries in the legislative and administrative fields, and to foster opportunities for them to develop their communities and <u>requests</u> the OIC General Secretariat and IDB to hold regular meetings in order to examine and enhance the performance of the various Waqfs, especially those devoted to Islamic Universities.

PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on this subject;

1. **Requests** the secretary-General to follow up the subject of the protection of Islamic holy places, particularly the destruction of the Babri Mosque in India, the destruction of the Charar-e-Sharif Islamic Complex in Kashmir and other Islamic Sites therein, the destruction and desecration of Islamic historical and cultural relics and shrines in the occupied Azerbaijani territories resulting from the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, in addition to the destruction of sacred mausoleums, sites, mosques and houses of worship in Iraq and to submit a report thereon to the 9th Session of COMIAC.

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SOCIAL ISSUES

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the Secretary-General's Report on the issue;

 <u>Urges</u> all the Member States to implement <u>The Rabat Declaration</u> on issues of children in the Muslim World adopted by the 1st Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers in-charge of Children's Affairs (ICMC), which was held in Rabat from 7 to 9 November 2005, in coordination between the General Secretariat, the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

- 2. **<u>Requests</u>** the Member States to participate in the 1st Conference of Ministers in-charge of Women's Affairs (ICMW), which is to be graciously hosted by the Republic of Turkey on 20-21 November 2006 in order to discuss adequate ways and means to enhance the role of women in developing Muslim society and providing greater opportunities for them in all walks of public life.
- 3. **<u>Calls on</u>** the Member States to make their generous contributions to the welfare of orphans and minors in Islamic countries affected by wars and disasters.
- 4. **<u>Calls on</u>** the Member States to work on developing adequate methods for the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youths so as to enhance their role in society with a view to meeting future challenges.
- 5. **Urges** Member States to participate actively in international meetings and symposia on drug and psychotropic substance abuses and their illegal production, processing, and trafficking, particularly those organized by the United Nations and its specialized and subsidiary organs, and <u>requests</u> the Secretary-General to coordinate efforts in this regard with the Member Sates and to cooperate with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) in Vienna and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- 6. <u>Calls also</u> on Member States to work collectively on combating the spread of the Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) and the AIDS pandemic and to exert serious efforts in medical research on this subject at national, regional, and international levels, and <u>renews its invitation</u> to the Secretary-General and ISESCO's Director-General to set up an Inter-Governmental Group of Experts (IGGE) composed of medical and pharmaceutical specialists from the Member States in order for them to meet and immediately set up a mechanism for monitoring and the early exchange of information among the Member States.
- 7. **Welcomes** the gracious offer made by Malaysia to host the First Session of the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (ICHM) on 7-8 June 2007 and **calls on** all the Member States to participate in this conference.

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- 8. **Urgently calls on** the international community, OIC Member States, Islamic philanthropic organizations, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the international community to provide multi-year pledges of additional financial resources to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to combat polio in OIC countries in 2006 and in 2007.
- 9. <u>**Requests</u>** OIC General Secretariat to endeavour, in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank, the World Health Organisation and other relevant institutions, to launch a programme to control poverty, mainly diseases and epidemics, funded by the Special Fund created within the Islamic Development Bank for that purpose.</u>
- 10. **<u>Requests</u>** the Secretary-General to identify adequate ways and means to establish effective cooperation between the OIC, ISESCO, and the World Health Organization (WHO) and ensure the effective participation of the OIC in WHO meetings and conferences.

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITIES

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

<u>Recalling</u> the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary-General on the subject;

- 1. **Expresses its thanks** to the Islamic Solidarity Fund which bore the greater pazrt of the budget of the Islamic University of Niger, and **appeals to** the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and Islamic philanthropic organizations and individuals to extend urgent financial support to the Islamic University of Niger (IUN) in order to help it establish faculties of Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Economics, Social Sciences, Economics, Computer Sciences, and Information Technology (IT). It extends its thanks to the government of Niger for donating a piece of land to establish thereon the University Waqf.
- 2. **Appeals to** the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and Islamic philanthropic organizations and individuals to extend urgent support to the Islamic University of Uganda (IUU) in order to help it establish applied science faculties in Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinarian Medicine, Computer Sciences, and Information Technology (IT). Moreover, the Committee calls for assistance to enable IUU to establish a radio and a television station for educational and Dawa purposes.
- 3. **Calls for** support and contributions to the progress and development of the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IUM) with the aim of enhancing its capacities and enabling it to operate with its full potential in order to achieve its objectives.

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- 4. **Urges** all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), the Muslim World League (MWL), and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh (IUB) so that it can achieve its objectives.
- 5. <u>Thanks</u> the General Secretariat, the IDB, and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) for extending assistance to the Zeitouna University; <u>calls on</u> them to continue extending material support until the completion of the construction of all the components of the project; and <u>calls on</u> them also to consider dispatching a delegation to Tunisia to assess the progress of the construction works.
- 6. **Urges** all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate financial and moral assistance to the King Faisal University (KFU) in N'djamena, Republic of Chad, and **requests** the General Secretariat to follow up this University's conditions

and identify its requirements with a view to ensuring achieving its development.

ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, CENTERS, AND INSTITUTES

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

1. <u>Appeals to</u> all Member States and Islamic financial institutions to extend support and assistance to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research (RIISR) in Timbuktu, Mali; the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE), in Islamabad, Pakistan; the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau (ICGB); and the Islamic Institute of Translation (IIT) in Khartoum, The Sudan, in order to enable them to optimally assume their role. In this context, it expresses its thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund which financed the Guinea Bissau Center, which will open next month..

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the subject;

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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 Israeli attempts to wipe out and disintegrate their national and Arab identity at all levels, the Israeli policy of systematic stamping out of education aimed at creating a poorly educated generation ignorant of its history, heritage, homeland, and Ummah, the Israeli practice of a policy bent on maligning Arab and Islamic civilization and causing prejudice to Arabs and Muslims, the Israeli abuse and distortion of historical and geographical facts, in addition to the continued Israeli policy of racial discrimination through claims of Israeli supremacy over the citizens of the occupied Arab territories, all of which constitutes a blatant violation of their fundamental rights;

Condemning the aggressive actions perpetrated by Israel to extend and the municipal boundaries of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif by constructing more settlements and building the racist isolation and separation Barrier around the city in order to annex it;

Expressing deep concern at the Israeli threats and attacks against the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and holy places in the Palestinian territories;

A) The Twinning of Palestinian Universities in the Occupied Territories with Universities in OIC Member States

- 1. **<u>Calls on</u>** the Member States to allocate scholarships for the benefit of Palestinian students; <u>expresses its appreciation</u> to Member States who have already given scholarships; and <u>urges</u> them to increase these scholarships and reduce their tuition fees for Palestinian students.
- 2. **Recommends** also extending all forms of financial and academic support and assistance to Palestinian universities in order to enable them to play their national and educational role. The Committee <u>calls upon</u> the Union of Islamic Universities (UIU) to coordinate with the Member universities in order to facilitate and encourage twinning agreements between the Palestinian universities and its members with a view to fostering joint cooperation between them and calls upon these universities to receive training and academic missions from Palestinian universities.
- 3. <u>**Calls upon**</u> the Member States to participate effectively in the establishment of Al-Aqsa University in the City of Al-Quds, in implementation of the resolution of the 3rd Session of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit.

B) The Educational Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and the Occupied Syrian Golan

- 1. **Condemns** the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organizations in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in terms of the obstacles created by the racist separation Barrier preventing Palestinian students and teachers from reaching their schools and universities and thus denying Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity, alienate them from their culture and history, and distort their civilization so as to serve the designs of occupation.
- 2. **Calls upon** Member States to extend all necessary financial assistance in order to provide 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, in view of the extreme difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation

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authorities, including imposing their own educational curricula and closing down schools outside their control.

- 3. **<u>Reiterates</u>** 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.
- 4. **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.

- 5. Calls upon the international community to shoulder its full responsibility in compelling Israel to abide by the principles of <u>The Universal Declaration on</u> <u>Human Rights</u> and all international conventions on human rights, particularly <u>The Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War</u> of 20/8/1949, as well as the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies.
- 6. **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 Shrines in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and the Preservation of the Islamic Character, Human Heritage, and Religious Rights of Al-Quds Al-Sharif

- 1. <u>**Reiterates**</u> the necessity of implementing all previous Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.
- 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.
- 3. **Requests** the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with international agencies and institutions and particularly with UNESCO in order to implement the initiative of UNESCO's Director-General to renovate the Holy City; preserve the historic buildings of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the ancient buildings surrounding Al-Quds Holy Sanctuary; close the tunnel; stop the excavation works especially on the south and west of the Holy Sanctuary; and preclude the implementation of any designs aimed at destroying and removing the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Committee **calls upon** the General

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Secretariat to implement the special agreement with UNESCO on Palestinian Territories and Palestine Affairs. It also requests ISESCO Director General to follow up the issue of adding Al-Quds by UNESCO to the list of Israeli heritage and to endeavour to have the decision cancelled.

4. **Urges** the General Secretariat and Member States to provide material assistance, in implementation of the content of the Final Communiqué of the 3rd Extraordinary Islamic Summit on the contribution of one dollar by every Muslim, alongside the contributions of Member States, in order to enable the Palestinian people to face Israeli assaults and designs aimed at obliterating religious landmarks in the Holy City of Al-Quds, and reaffirms the need to extend all forms of support and assistance to the Palestinian Arab residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to enable them to renovate their houses, support their steadfastness and protect Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif from demolition and waste.

- 5. **Strongly condemns** the threats by Israel and Jewish extremists to attack and desecrate the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. **Stresses** that the threats to partition the Holy Al-Quds Mosque clearly confirm the Israeli authorities' direct official support for the process of Judaization of Al-Quds, of altering its religious, cultural, and political character in order to complete the plan to Judaize the city by surrounding it internally and externally with settlements, and to tighten Israel's grip on it by building the annexation and racist separation Barrier.
- 6. **Strongly condemns** Israel for the building the separation Barrier, the socalled Jerusalem Envelope, which seeks to isolate the City of Al-Quds by severing it from its Arab-Palestinian environment, and for its persistent attempts to Judaize it by obliterating its civilizational, historical, and cultural landmarks.
- 7. **<u>Requests</u>** Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international forums in order to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure access to it for Muslim worshippers and preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only, just as it has been down the ages.
- 8. **<u>Calls on</u>** 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.
- 9. **Strongly denounces** Israel for digging excavations under the perimeter of Al-Aqsa Mosque, leading to the collapse of a large section of the Mosque's perimeter along the Western Gate. Further **condemns** Israel for denying Palestinians access to their places of worship in Al-Quds and for its attempt to interfere in the Islamic Waqf (Endowment) matters and prevent the renovation of holy places.
- 10. **<u>Requests</u>** the Secretary-General to follow up the matter and report thereon to the 9th Session of COMIAC.

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

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Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the reports submitted by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF);

A) The Research Centre for Islamic History, Art, and Culture (IRCICA, Istanbul)

1. **Expresses** its appreciation of IRCICA's accomplishments and **commends** the progress it has made in the fields of research, publication and promotion of scholarly studies on various subjects, organizing a number of academic

symposia, cultural lectures, and exhibitions in its fields of interest at IRCICA's headquarters as well as in the Member States; **notes with appreciation** that IRCICA has realised many projects in cooperation with cultural and academic institutions in the member states and worldwide;

- 2. Underlines the importance of IRCICA's efforts in defining new horizons for its future activities, in particular with respect to correcting the accusations associating Islam and the Muslim world with violence and terrorism; requests IRCICA to take up this issue and make every effort to improve the image of Islam in the West and cooperate with other international organisations around the world to organise activities such as symposia dedicated to this purpose; and, in this regard, commends IRCICA for drawing up a study centred on protecting Islamic culture and heritage against the negative effects of globalization and promoting the Islamic perspective of cultural diversity.
- **3.** <u>**Commends**</u> IRCICA's efforts to conduct a feasibility study to document and classify archaeological and historical Islamic sites and monuments in the Member States and to build a database of these sites and monuments. <u>**Invites**</u> the Member States and the private sector to extend all possible forms of assistance to finance the project.
- **4.** <u>Welcomes</u> IRCICA's efforts to organize workshops on Al-Quds 2015 relating to the Islamic architectural heritage and its preservation in Al-Quds and Palestine, in collaboration with Al-Quds University and all States.

B) The International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA)

- 1. **Commends** the scholarly achievements of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy and its interpretive rulings on all new contemporary issues, while taking into account the historically required adaptation, in accordance with the spirit of the noble Islamic Sharia, particularly the Islamic Thought Forum, which brings together an eminent elite of scholars from inside and outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with a view to combating Islamophobia and promoting the true image of Islam.
- 2. <u>Also commends</u> the adoption by the 33rd ICFM of the new by-laws of the Academy, enlarging its field of competency and providing it with new internal structures that will allow it to better shoulder its new responsibilities.

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- 3. <u>Calls Upon</u> the Member States that have not yet settled the arrears of their contributions to do so as soon as possible, taking advantage of the provisions of the Resolution of the 10th Summit held in Putrajaya, which grants 50% reduction in arrears for any Member State that will settle its contributions for two consecutive financial years; <u>Reminds</u> that the implementation of the provisions of this Resolution ends on June 30, 2007.
- 4. Appeals to the OIC Member States that have yet to join the Academy to do so as soon as possible, so as to enable it to achieve its noble objectives and work in cooperation with all the Member States to promote the goals of providing them with the necessary guidelines, Fatwas, and jurisprudential rulings, as well as implementing whatever projects it can within their programmed activities; and <u>recommends also</u> H.E. the IIFA Secretary-General to make the necessary contacts in order to urge those Islamic countries to join the Academy.

C) The Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF)

- 1. **Expresses** its deep concern over the low-level of donations received by the ISF during the financial years 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and **appeals to** all the Member States to commit pledge annual contributions commensurate with their financial resources in favour of the budget of the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) as well as the ISF Waqf Endowment.
- 2. <u>Requests</u> the Member States to consider the possibility of allocating a percentage of institutional company shares for subscription in the name of the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), provided this is considered a grant from the Member State concerned in support of the ISF. It <u>calls on</u> the Member States to donate a piece of land to build a Waqf project for the benefit of the Fund.
- 3. <u>Calls on</u> the Overseers Board of the ISF Waqf Endowment to develop a comprehensive strategy and plan of action on ways and means to develop ISF resources in line with the spirit of <u>The OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action</u> to Face the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century.

SPECIALIZED INSTITUTIONS

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

Having considered the reports submitted by the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization ISESCO and the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) on the subject;

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A) The Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)

- 1. **Expresses its appreciation of, and satisfaction with** the educational, cultural, scientific and informational programmes and activities included in ISESCO's Action Plan for 2007-2009, which are distinguished by their innovation, creativity, and cohesion in the selection of projects in such a way as to meet the needs and fulfil the aspirations of the Muslim Ummah towards achieving a comprehensive renaissance and enable it to meet the challenges underlined by **The OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action** adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Mecca Al-Mukarammah (December, 2005).
- 2. <u>Commends</u> the activities implemented by ISESCO to promote intercivilizational dialogue as well as European and Arab-Islamic cooperation; to promote the Islamic perspective, and supports the programme of ISESCO Ambassadors on the dialogue of civilization to correct the misperception of

Islam in the West, and counter the campaigns waged by some Western media against Islam and its sanctities. The Committee **thanks** ISESCO for drawing up a study centred on the protection of Islamic culture and heritage against the negative impact of globalization and the promotion of the Islamic viewpoint on cultural diversity and ways to deal with international developments.

3. <u>Praises</u> ISESCO's distinguished academic and organizational efforts in organizing numerous international Conferences in the fields of science, technology, informatics, renewable energy, the preservation of natural resources, the alleviation of the impact of disasters and the development of scientific research, and **invites** ISESCO to continue to dedicate efforts to these vital areas for the future of the Ummah.

B) The Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC)

- 1. <u>Urges</u> the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Constitutional 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 mission and realize its noble objectives. <u>Invites</u> all Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to ICIC so that it may implement its programmes.
- 2. <u>Welcomes</u> the entry into force of the Constitutional Agreement of ICIC following its ratification by fifteen States so far in accordance with the resolution of the 28th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) in Bamako, in June 2001, which defined the quorum of ratifications required for this Agreement to enter into force by applying the principle of ratification by one third of the OIC Member States based on membership at the time of the 17th Session of the ICFM in 1982, which stood at 39 Member States.

AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS

The Eighth Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 22–24 Shawwal 1427H (13-15 November, 2006);

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Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences (ISC) and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, and the 33rd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM);

<u>Having considered</u> the reports submitted by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF), the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools, and the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation (ICYF-DC);

A) The Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF)

1. <u>Hails</u> the future activities to be organized by the ISSF within its programs for 2006-2007, including in particular organizing the 2nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers (ICYSM), the Second Islamic Solidarity Games to be held in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2009, and urged the Member States participating in the games to do their best in making a

success of these games, as was the case for the previous games hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- 2. <u>Calls upon</u> the Member States to honor their obligations towards the ISSF and settle their outstanding annual subscription fees so as to enable the ISSF to implement its programs.
- **3.** <u>Welcomes</u> the convening of the Select Committee of Ministers of Youth and Sports under the chairmanship of HRH Emir Nawaf Ibn Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdelaziz, Executive Chairman of the Youth Committee, in support of the working paper tabled by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the First Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports, in coordination with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, in the first quarter of 2007.

B) The World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools (WF-IAIS)

1. <u>Recommends</u> the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to support the Plans and Projects of the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools (WF-IAIS) and to extend to it all possible assistance for their implementation.

C) The Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation

- **1. <u>Invites</u>** the Member States to support the ICYF-DC and to encourage their respective youth organizations to actively participate in, and contribute to the Forum's activities aimed at achieving the intellectual development of, and solidarity among the youth of the OIC countries.
- 2. <u>Calls upon</u> the Member States, the OIC subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions as well as other Islamic institutions to support the activities of ICYF-DC, to extend their generous financial contributions toward ICYF-DC's annual budget and, wherever possible, to coordinate their work in the field of youth with the ICYF-DC.

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