

R E P O R T A N D R E S O L U T I O N S

OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

COMCEC Coordination Office
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ADDRESS:

COMCEC Coordination Office

Necatibey Cad. 108
Ankara-TURKEY

Tel : 90-4-231 97 40
Tlx : 421 10 DPT TR
Tlfax : 90-4-229 04 50

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FOREWORD

The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works have been concluded successfully with a high level of participation on the part of the Member States.

The Seventh Session, like the previous ones, certainly owes its success to the spirit of cooperation which prevailed during the Meetings and the valuable and indispensable contributions of the Member States, the General Secretariat and Subsidiary and Affiliated organs of the OIC.

The present book contains the Report and Resolutions of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC.

The book consists of two main parts:

The first part contains basic reference documents, namely, the Resolutions adopted at the Third, Fourth and Fifth Islamic Summit Conferences regarding the establishment and functioning of the COMCEC.

The second part contains the Report of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the list of documents presented at this Session.

The List of Participants, the Agenda of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, the Report of the Senior Officials' Meeting, Resolutions of the Seventh Session and main Statements made at the opening and closing sessions are attached as annexes to the report.

The other documents considered at the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, which are shown in the list contained in Section II of Part Two of this Book, are available through the COMCEC Coordination Office.

I am sure that the resolutions adopted at the Seventh Session of the COMCEC will be instrumental in the overall performance designed to achieve the economic cooperation objectives of the OIC Member States.

I am convinced that resolutions adopted at the present session will be fully implemented by the Member States, the General Secretariat and the subsidiary and affiliated organs of the OIC.

Aydan Karahan
Head of the
COMCEC Coordination Office

P A R T O N E

RESOLUTIONS OF THE OIC FORMING THE BASIS
AND GUIDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMCEC

I

R E S O L U T I O N

ADOPTED AT THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE
ESTABLISHING THE STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE OIC CHAIRED BY HEADS OF STATE

Resolution No. 13/3-P(IS)

The Third Islamic Summit Conference (Palestine and Al-Quds Session), meeting in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 19th to 22nd Rabi-Al-Awal, 1401 H. (25-28 January, 1981);

HAVING listened to the proposals by His Majesty King HASSAN II, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, that three committees will be established and chaired by the Kings and Presidents of the Islamic States,

PROCEEDING from a firm belief that joint Islamic action needs to be consolidated in the scientific and technological field, and in the economic and trade sphere,

PROMPTED BY THE DESIRE to give information and culture a fresh impetus to help world public opinion understand the basic issues of the Islamic nations, particularly those of Al-Quds and Palestine, and to confront the tendentious campaign launched against Islam and Muslims,

DECIDES:

I. To establish three Standing Committees, the first for scientific and technological cooperation, the second for economic and trade cooperation, and the third for information and cultural affairs;

II. These Committees shall undertake to follow up implementation of the resolutions passed, or about to be passed, by the Islamic Conference in those fields; to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Muslim States in those fields, and to draw up programmes and submit proposals designed to increase the Islamic States' capacity in those fields;

III. Each Committee shall consist of the representatives of ten Islamic States, at ministerial level, and shall be chaired by the Head of State of an Islamic State;

IV. Members of these Committees shall be elected by the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference for a renewable term of three years;

V. A Committee shall hold a meeting, if invited to do so by its Chairman or by a majority of its members; its meeting shall be valid if attended by a majority.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT
CONFERENCE ON THE PLAN OF ACTION TO STRENGTHEN
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES

Resolution No. 1/3-E(IS)

The Third Islamic Summit Conference (Palestine and Al Quds Session) meeting in Mecca Al-Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 19th to 22nd Rabi-Al-Awal, 1401 H. (25-28 January 1981)

RECALLING the LAHORE Declaration adopted by the Second Islamic Summit which called for consultations among Member States to adopt a joint and agreed position on important economic issues;

RECALLING Resolution No.1/11-E, 2/11-E, 3/11-E and 11/11-E pertaining to economic and trade cooperation among Member States and Resolution No. 8/11-E concerning the activities of the Islamic Bank adopted by the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan;

NOTING the relevant resolutions, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Sixth Conference of Heads of State and Governments of Non-Aligned Countries, the Buenos Aires Plan of Action on Technical Cooperation among developing countries;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that the problems of developing countries have aggravated due to the current crisis in international economic relations leading to the widening of the gap between the developed and the developing countries;

DEEPLY CONCERNED at the adverse impact on the terms of trade and balance of payments of the Member States due to their reliance on exports of primary products;

REGRETTING the lack of political will demonstrated by some developed countries in negotiations on economic issues, particularly in the fields of trade, industrialization, transfer of technology and the restructuring of the international economic relations;

RECOGNIZING that economic cooperation among developing countries in general and the Member States in particular is a key element in the strategy of collective self-reliance and an essential instrument to bring about structural changes resulting in a balanced and equitable process of global economic

development in order to consolidate their unity in their endeavours to achieve the New International Economic Order;

REITERATING that the developing countries must direct their efforts in their negotiations with the developed countries in all forms towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION that the Member States of the Islamic Conference have been laying great stress on the principles of self-reliance and progressive economic interaction among developing countries which will enhance cooperation with each other to increase their economic capabilities and attain their development needs;

CONVINCED that development of close commercial and trade ties between the Member States is an initial essential step towards achieving economic cooperation and self-reliance requiring formulation and adoption of policy proposals on the elimination of existing barriers to trade and adopting a coordinated programme of cooperation and priorities for the expansion of trade and commercial relations;

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the high level Meeting of Member States held in Ankara, Republic of TURKEY, from November 4-6, 1980 to examine the economic prospects of the Islamic countries during the Third Development Decade and to draw up a

Plan of Action for strengthening Economic Cooperation among Member States;

NOTING ALSO the recommendations made by the Sixth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs held in JEDDAH on 16-19 November 1980 pertaining to the Plan of Action drawn up by the Ankara Meeting and on the trade cooperation programme and priorities among Member States proposed by the Expert Group;

RECALLING ALSO resolution No. 8/11 of the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on increasing paid up capital and widening the scope of the Islamic Development Bank and also its recommendations relating to allocation of resources for financing of imports of Member States by the Bank and taking into account the importance of this decision for the successful implementation of the Plan of Action;

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION the measures taken by the Islamic Development Bank to expand its activities for foreign trade financing;

EXPRESSING SATISFACTION at the progress made by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries in Ankara in its study and data collection on Islamic trade aimed at formulation of policy proposals;

DECIDES:

1. To approve the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States (as at Annex I).
2. To direct the General Secretariat to take appropriate measures without delay for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States.

PLAN OF ACTION TO STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES

The Conference on Economic Cooperation among Islamic Countries was held in Ankara from 4 to 6 November, 1980, by virtue of the Resolution No.3/11-E of the 11th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers concerning the convening of a high level meeting of Islamic countries to examine the economic prospects of the Islamic countries during the Third Development Decade and to recommend measures for strengthening the economic cooperation among the Member States of the Islamic Conference;

RECALLING the resolution of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on Economic Cooperation among the Member States in the areas of food and agriculture, industry, transport and communications and tourism, financial and monetary cooperation, labour and know-how and technical cooperation;

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION that the majority of the Member States have signed the General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States;

BEARING IN MIND the resolutions of the Sixth Special Session of the United Nations' General Assembly for the establishment of the New International Economic Order;

NOTING the limited progress made in the various international negotiations between the developed and developing countries owing largely to the lack of political will and serious intentions on the part of the developed countries to bring about structural changes in the world economy;

RECOGNIZING that the primary responsibility for economic development of the Islamic and developing countries would rest upon themselves, placing increasing emphasis on collective self-reliance in the global efforts to establish the New International Economic Order;

ENCOURAGED by the growing desire on the part of the Member States to cooperate among themselves in sharing experience and knowledge in the areas of industrialization and technology, development of human resources, promotion of direct trade, strengthening of institutions responsible for promotion of economic cooperation, and maximum utilization of the economic, human and technical energies and potentialities available in the Islamic World for the prosperity and welfare of their people through collective efforts;

RECOMMENDS the following Plan of Action to Strengthen the Economic Cooperation among Member States of the Islamic Conference :

I. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1. To take necessary measures towards the implementation of the provisions of the General Agreement regarding maximum utilization of potentials for food production within the Islamic countries and to cooperate for meeting their food requirement;
2. With a view to creating balanced development of the agricultural and industrial sectors of the economies of Member States, greater accent be placed upon agro-based and agro-related industries such as the production of tractors, fertilizers, seed industry, pesticides as well as the processing of the agricultural raw materials;
3. To ensure food security in the Islamic World, regional food reserves' stocks must be created;
4. Necessary measures be taken to improve the agricultural infrastructure and the transport facilities;
5. Consideration be given towards assisting the Islamic countries affected by natural calamities such as drought and flood;
6. Consider to devise ways and means for tackling such natural phenomena as desertification, deforestation, water logging and salinity;

7. The Islamic Development Bank and other financial institutions should play a more active role in financing food and agricultural projects of Member States both at national and communal level.

II. TRADE

1. Necessary measures for acceleration of the tempo as well as the changes in the pattern of production be taken in order to realise a gradual integration, expansion and diversification of their foreign trade;

2. To expand the present trade flows among Member States; identification of the real opportunities for expanding trade based on the use of existing idle or underutilized production capacities in the field of primary and processed agricultural goods. To create new capacity for production and trade in these goods including intermediate and capital goods;

3. To promote bilateral trade among the Member States in order to substantially increase their share in international trade, and the volume of such trade in the processed, semi-processed goods and commodities within the Islamic Community;

4. To strengthen further the export promotion activities among Member States in particular, and with other countries in general, by way of greater flow of information, improved training facilities and appropriate financial mechanisms to this end. In

this connection, early completion of the studies on cooperation in the fields of insurance, reinsurance, export credit guarantee schemes and the possible establishment of clearing mechanisms would constitute steps towards removing some of the most important barriers to bilateral trade;

5. To apply equal and non-discriminatory commercial treatment towards one another in their foreign trade policies without prejudice to the obligations under other agreements already concluded by the Member States, and special treatment should be given in favour of products of export interests to least developed Member States;

6. To strive to enlarge and develop trade exchanges among themselves through, INTER-ALIA, accelerating the establishment of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade, strengthening the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange, promoting cooperation among the Member States' trading organizations, facilitating joint-ventures in the area of trade promotion and gradually reducing the tariff and non-tariff barriers to such trade by means of multilateral trade arrangements, promoting the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral and general agreements, exchange of information relating to the prospects of trade, exchange of specialized trade delegations;

7. To make an inventory of the existing preferential schemes applied by groups of Member States with a view to strengthening and linking them so that the establishment of a system of trade preferences through a step-by-step approach on the part of all interested Member States (sic). It should be based on the principles of mutuality of advantages yielding benefits to all participants and taking into account the respective levels of economic and industrial development, trade regimes and international obligations of individual Member States with, the ultimate aim of a free trade area and with that end in view to render support to the efforts towards trade liberalization of global system of trade preferences and to recommend to Islamic countries participating in the G.S.T.P. negotiations to avail that opportunity for pursuing negotiations among themselves;

8. To organize and actively participate in trade fairs and exhibitions held in Member States to promote and to market the Member States' products in order to contribute to the expansion of trade amongst themselves, and in this context a scheme for standardization should be undertaken;

9. To study the possibility of creating a coordinating mechanism in the Member States in the field of maritime transport to enable the Member States' enterprises to compete with their counterparts in the developed countries and with the transnational merchants fleets;

10. To facilitate effective cooperation between landlocked Member States and their transit neighbours involving the harmonization of transport planning and the promotion of joint ventures in the field of transport at regional, subregional and bilateral levels;

11. To implement decisions of the Islamic Conference concerning the Economic boycott of the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine (Israel).

III. INDUSTRY

1. To develop appropriate policies and programmes at the national levels conducive to rapid industrialization, as an indispensable element and a dynamic instrument of self-sustained growth, by strengthening, expanding and diversifying the industrial capacities of the Member States;

2. To conclude bilateral and/or multilateral agreements of industrial cooperation among Member States for augmenting their industrial production and achieving industrial complementarity and by adopting economies of scale with a view to strengthening the manufacturing capacities and acceleration of industrialization in Member States to contribute to their collective self-reliance;

3. To consider giving priority to promotion of joint ventures among Member States in the following fields; food and

agriculture, industry, trade, marketing, research services and infrastructure;

4. The Islamic Development Bank as well as the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange may consider establishing within themselves a mechanism for the promotion and the implementation of joint projects and projects among Member States.

IV. TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM

1. To speedily implement various recommendations developed towards strengthening coordination and co-operation in the fields of shipping, air transport, telecommunications, meteorology, and postal services;

2. To speed up creation of institutional mechanisms necessary for such activities as per decisions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

3. To harmonize the activities of the Member States in the fields of transport, communications and tourism with the existing sub-regional, regional and global agencies.

V. FINANCIAL AND MONETARY QUESTIONS

Member States, the meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States and the Islamic

Development Bank should study and to take appropriate action on the following issues:

1. Contribution to an enhanced flow of financial resources in the Member States on terms and conditions that are better attuned to the development, programmes and economic circumstances of the Member States, to help meet their rising investment, import and export needs commensurate with *an* accelerated growth within the framework of the International Development Strategy, giving special consideration to most pressing socio-economic problems of least developed Member States;

2. To strengthen direct, cooperation between financial institutions in Member States in the area of direct financing and other banking facilities in the area of trade of Member States and to support Islamic financial institutions particularly the Islamic Development Bank;

3. To strengthen the existing payments' arrangements participated in by the Member States and to explore the possibility of setting up a communal network of multilateral schemes in the light of the experience gained in the operation of the existing ones;

4. The meeting of the Governors of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States to complete their assessment of the existing national capital markets for the

possibilities of improved access by other interested Member States to these markets with a view to encouraging investment within the Member States on the basis of mutual benefits and sound commercial practice;

5. To ask further the monetary authorities of Member States to strengthen their mutual exchange of information on monetary and financial matters in accordance with the rules and regulations of the concerned countries and taking particularly into consideration the international trends;

6. Implementation of the penultimate and final operative paragraphs of the Resolution on the Cyprus Question adopted by the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Islamabad, for the reactivation and development of the economy of the Muslim Turkish People of KIBRIS.

VI. ENERGY

To work mutually towards strengthening the position of each Member State of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, with the aim of achieving the objectives of development by:

1. Encouraging the most efficient method of utilization of energy, and the development of the conventional and non-conventional sources of energy;

2. Encouraging greater cooperation among Member States in the areas related to the production of energy;

3. Urging the regional and international financial institutions to finance the local projects related to enhancing self-capabilities in the conventional and non-conventional energy fields in the Member States;

4. Exchanging expertise, technical experience and skilled manpower in the energy sector among Member States.

VII. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. To give high priority to cooperation among Member States in the area of science and technology;

2. To consider Islamic community-wide mechanism to enhance the overall financial inputs into the national science and technology systems, as well as programmes in the areas of research, education and training on a continuous basis;

3. To cooperate on transfer, acquisition, assimilation and adaptation of imported technologies and in their assessment compatible with national policies for development and use of science and technology;

4. To extend preferential treatment for technology from the Member States;

5. To consider the feasibility of setting up a network of scientific and technological agencies or institutions to organize and support research and development programmes, training programmes to promote technological institutions; to establish information systems, to undertake joint efforts to solve specific technological problems and to develop science and technology policies commensurate with their development aims;

6. To expedite the establishment of an Islamic Foundation for Advanced Science and Technology as foreseen in the General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States to serve their needs, in cooperation with the national institutions, organizations and agencies to sponsor basic research, to facilitate the exchange of information, expertise and know-how and to be implemented in the diffusion of technology among the producers and users within the Member States. This Foundation would also endeavour to coordinate the disbursement of fellowships and scholarships in relevant fields to be established through private and public financial resources available in the Member States;

7. To combine research efforts and share their results with one another by means of agreement on scientific and technical cooperation, strengthen indigenous research centres and scientific and other institutions and link them with those in other Member States.

VIII. MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

1. To expand cooperation among Member States for the exchange and to support actively the creation of skilled manpower pools, coordination of education and manpower training activities on a medium-term and long-term basis, establishment of joint consultancy agencies, and procurement of links between skill flows and capital transfer;

2. To make a concentrated effort to cooperate in the area of manpower exchange following an assessment of the needs and availabilities in the Member States, and to delineate the potentials that can be allocated for the benefit of the Member States in industrial and other research institutions;

3. To provide preferential treatment for the employment of manpower available within the Member States and to ask the General Secretariat to devise a model social security system commensurate with the national legal and institutional environments of the participating Member States;

4. To make a thorough evaluation of the 'brain-drain' problem, including the emigration of skilled manpower, with a view to identifying community-wide measures to stop the exodus of the scientific and technological manpower to developed countries, and thus make their services available to the Member States in

conformity with the manpower exchange programmes to be established;

5. To develop mechanisms and programmes for professional and technical undating (sic), systematically organized at all levels, so as to train specialized personnel required to cover all the links in the chain that associates research and development with production and marketing;

6. To facilitate continuous training, development and upgrading of the labour force in the Member States so that it may be better able to assimilate and benefit from technological change and also to secure their adaptation to the socio-economic conditions of the host countries through cooperative programmes.

IX. POPULATION AND HEALTH

1. To initiate studies and research on population policy in the Member States with a view to improving the responsiveness of population to the development efforts of Member States;

2. To initiate studies and research in the field of health to ensure better health and sanitary conditions and higher standard of nutrition and health care with a view to developing a common public health policy;

3. To undertake research in the field of medicine;

4. To intensify exchange of information and expertise in the fields of population and health among Member States.

X. TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1. To improve, develop and expand the information system of the Member States concerning the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of technical information available in the Member States on the capacities and needs and to match the specific needs of Member States through the wider use of experts, consultants, training facilities, equipment and other capacities of the Member States in line with the provisions of the General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States;

2. To endeavour to identify the national potentials for technical cooperation among Member States in the formulation of their national development plans or programmes. On this basis, the Governments of Member States may consider national requirements in research, technology, skills, consultancy services and training facilities that can be met most effectively through co-operation with other Member States;

3. To examine the feasibility of a legal and administrative framework for effective and equitable technical cooperation, taking into account practices already established on the basis of formal conventions, thus ensuring their widest possible

applicability and acceptance. Such framework should cover the administrative and legal arrangements concerning the entry, employment obligations and privileges of experts and consultants, arrangements concerning fellowships, the use of contractors and other specialized services, entry of equipment and supplies, fiscal and currency regimes favourable to Member States' technical co-operation together with financial arrangements aimed at an equitable sharing of costs;

4. To expand bilateral and multilateral arrangements for promoting technical cooperation through such mechanisms as cooperative agreements and programmes, joint commissions, the regular exchange of information and experience, and also by establishing direct linkages among relevant institutions;

5. To take the necessary steps to establish a joint mechanism for the pooling of information within the Community, on resources and opportunities for technical cooperation that are available within the Member States;

6. To identify and improve the effectiveness and potentials of national institutions that can contribute to technical cooperation efforts, and adopt concrete measures so that such national organizations in the Member States could develop. Operational modes of collaboration which would strengthen their capabilities through joint efforts and sharing experiences with

sister organizations working on similar problems, and by contributing to common training activities (sic);

7. To provide financial and personnel support to the greatest extent possible to the training activities of the OIC related institutions with mandates to meet the immediate needs of the Member States for skilled administrative and technical manpower. For this purpose, the Member States should cooperate closely with the said institutions by supplying data and information on their availabilities and potentials in this area;

8. To pursue with the UNDP and other relevant agencies of the UN to seek necessary assistance and conclude arrangements to implement the Plan of Action.

XI. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The PLO shall have special facilities in the sphere of economic cooperation so as to buttress the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and consolidate their struggle for the liberation of their homeland, Palestine.

XII. COORDINATION AND FOLLOW UP

The General Secretariat shall take all necessary steps to follow up the implementation of the Plan of Action and may arrange meetings on periodic basis at ministerial level as often

as deemed necessary and in any case at least every two years on subjects covered by the Plan of Action and especially to:

- a) review progress on work done,
- b) set out guidelines,
- c) to solve problems,
- d) to formulate policies and plans for future action.

III

FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE FOURTH ISLAMIC
SUMMIT CONFERENCE ENTRUSTING THE
CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION
TO H.E. KENAN EVREN, PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

Final Communique No. IS/4-84/E/DEC

".... The Conference decided to entrust H.E. Mr. Kenan EVREN, President of the Republic of Turkey, with the Chairmanship of the Permanent Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation..." (Page 18, para 40).

IV

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT
CONFERENCE DETERMINING THE PRIORITY
AREAS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Resolution No. IS/4-84/E/RES; 1/4-E(IS)

"...Recommends the adoption of the following priorities during the next six years:

Agricultural Development and Food Security

Industry

Science and Technology

Trade

Transport and Communications

Energy

Which in no way means that the other fields included in the Plan should be neglected..." (page 4, para 2).

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE FIFTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT
CONFERENCE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMCEC

1. CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

Resolution No. 1/5-E (IS)

The Fifth Islamic Summit conference, the Session of Islamic Solidarity, held in Kuwait, the State of Kuwait from 26-29 Jumada Al-Oula, 1407 H corresponding to 26-29 January 1987;

RECALLING Resolution No. 13/3-P(IS) adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1981, establishing the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) with the mandate of consolidating joint action in the field of economic and commercial cooperation among Member States;

NOTING WITH DEEP SATISFACTION the steps taken and progress achieved by the Standing Committee towards the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States;

RECOGNIZING the need for streamlining economic cooperation activities at different levels within the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

1. APPROVES the enlargement of the membership of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) so as

to enable all Member states of the OIC to participate in the work of the Standing Committee.

2. ENDORSES the representation of the Member States in COMCEC by Ministers responsible for the overall management of economic affairs in view of the functions entrusted to the Committee, and urges Member States to adhere to this practice to ensure the highest degree of effectiveness.

3. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the establishment of the follow-up committee which will ensure effective coordination of the economic and commercial activities coming under the purview of COMCEC.

4. WELCOMES the decision of the Standing Committee to apprise the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of its decisions for appropriate action.

5. ENDORSES the recommendations of COMCEC to reduce the frequency of ministerial level meetings which have overlapping implications with COMCEC and to incorporate the results of such meetings into the overall work of COMCEC.

6. APPROVES that the subsidiary and affiliated agencies and other bodies of the OIC in the economic field present progress reports on their activities to COMCEC in order to enable it to coordinate and follow-up the implementation of the

OIC resolutions in these fields in cooperation with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

7. COMMENDS the role played by the COMCEC Coordination Office to facilitate its activities.

8. SUPPORTS the decision of COMCEC urging Member States, who have not yet done so, to sign and/or ratify the statutes and agreements previously approved by the OIC with respect to economic and commercial cooperation, particularly, the "General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation among Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference" and the "Agreement on Promotion, Protection and Guarantee of investments in Member States".

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION
TO STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG
THE MEMBER STATES OF THE OIC

Resolution No. 3/5-E (IS)

The Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, the Session of Islamic Solidarity, held in Kuwait the State of Kuwait, from 26-29 Jumada Al Oula 1407H, corresponding to 26-29 January, 1987;

RECALLING Resolution No.1/3-E(IS) of the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in 1981, adopting the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation. Among Member States, which at the same time assigns the General Secretariat the task of taking all necessary steps to follow-up the implementation of its recommendations and arranging meetings on periodical basis at ministerial level as often as deemed necessary, in order to;

- (a) review the progress on work done
- (b) set out guidelines
- (c) solve problems, and
- (d) formulate policies and plans for future action;

RECALLING Resolution No. 13/3-P(IS) of the Third Islamic Summit Conference, establishing the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation with the mandate;

- i) to follow-up the implementation of the resolutions adopted, or to be adopted, by the OIC in relation to economic and commercial cooperation and scientific and technological cooperation;
- ii) to study all possible means of strengthening cooperation among Member States in the relevant fields;
- iii) to draw up programmes and to submit proposals designed to increase the capacity of the Member States in economic, commercial, scientific and technological fields.

RECALLING Resolution No.1/4-E(IS) adopted by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in 1984, on the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among Member States;

APPRECIATING the efforts exerted by the General Secretariat in following up the implementation of recommendations contained in the Plan of Action and the commendable progress achieved thereby;

ALSO APPRECIATING the efforts and assistance by the Statistical. Economic and Social Research and Training Centre (SESRTCIC), Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity

Exchange (ICCICE), Islamic Centre for Vocational and Technical Training and Research (ICTVTR), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), in the implementation of the Plan of Action;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the activation of the Standing Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation under the Chairmanship of H.E. President Kenan Evren of the Republic of Turkey, and the Standing Committee on Science and Technology under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mohammad Zia-Ul Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in pursuance of the decision of the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference to promote and strengthen economic cooperation among Member States in implementation of the Plan of Action;

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION that the First and Second Meetings of the Standing Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation were convened in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey in November 1984 and, March 1986, respectively;

NOTING ALSO WITH APPRECIATION that the Standing Committee on Science and Technology has, in its three meetings, elaborated a comprehensive Action Programme for fostering cooperation among Member States in the field of Science and Technology;

EXPRESSING thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Ministerial Conferences on Trade, Industrial Cooperation and Food Security and Agricultural Development, which

provided necessary guidelines for the implementation of the Plan of Action, in these three vital sectors;

TAKING NOTE of the report submitted by the General Secretariat highlighting the stages reached in the implementation of the Plan of Action;

FURTHER NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the programme of meetings and other activities, planned by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the Standing Committee on Science and Technology up to 1990 in implementation of the Plan of Action which would require full and constant material and technical support by the Member States to attain the objectives set out in the Plan of Action;

ALSO NOTING WITH CONCERN the constraints which have impeded the implementation of the Plan of Action in certain sector, due to financial limitations, lack of data and information, and the slow response of Member States;

NOTING that the Stding Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation have adopted as the basis of their activities the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic, Commercial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation among the Member States with special emphasis on the priority areas as designated by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference;

1. REQUESTS the Member States to render necessary assistance to the Standing Committee on Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation to expedite the implementation of the Plan of Action in order to strengthen economic and technical cooperation among Member States.

2. WELCOMES the establishment of the Longer-Term Trade Financing Scheme under the Islamic Development Bank and urges all Member States to participate in this scheme, as soon as possible, to facilitate its optimum utilization.

3. WELCOMES the offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the Third Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development.

4. NOTES with satisfaction the holding of the first meeting of the OIC Ministers of Transport and Communications in September 1987 simultaneously with COMCEC-III and decides to convene a meeting of the Group of Experts to consider the possibility of pooling the resources and capacities including maintenance, repair and training services among the aviation companies of Member States.

P A R T T W O

REPORT AND LIST OF DOCUMENTS
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC
AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

I

R E P O R T

OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
COOPERATION

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : English

R E P O R T
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL
COOPERATION

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

1. The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC) was held, concurrently with the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, in Istanbul, on 8-9 October 1991 (18-19 Rabi'ul Awal 1412 H) preceded by preparatory meetings of Senior Officials on 6-7 October 1991 (16-17 Rabi'ul Awal 1412 H).

2. The Session was attended by the representatives of the following Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC):

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. State of United Arab Emirates
3. Republic of Indonesia
4. Republic of Uganda
5. Islamic Republic of Iran
6. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
7. State of Bahrain

8. Negara Brunei Darussalam
9. Burkina Faso
10. People's Republic of Bangladesh
11. Republic of Turkey
12. Republic of Tunisia
13. Republic of Gambia
14. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
15. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
16. Republic of Senegal
17. Republic of Sudan
18. Syrian Arab Republic
19. Republic of Iraq
20. Sultanate of Oman
21. Republic of Guinea
22. State of Palestine
23. State of Qatar
24. Republic of Cameroun
25. State of Kuwait
26. Republic of Lebanon
27. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
28. Malaysia
29. Arab Republic of Egypt
30. Kingdom of Morocco
31. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
32. Republic of Yemen

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the Session as observer.

3. The Session was also attended by H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-GABID, the Secretary General of OIC, and the following subsidiary and affiliated organs of OIC:

- The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC)
- The Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR)
- The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- The Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD)
- The Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- International Association of Islamic Banks (IAIB)

The Representatives of UNCTAD, UNDP and the COMSTECH Secretariat were present in the Session as observers.

(A copy of the List of Participants to the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee is attached as Annex 1).

Opening Session

4. The joint Opening Ceremony of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works was held under the chairmanship of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC.

5. At the beginning of his inaugural address, H.E. Turgut ÖZAL welcomed the delegates to Turkey and expressed satisfaction for observing the successful continuation of the work of the COMCEC since 1984, thanks to the willing and active participation of the

member- states and the OIC General Secretariat. Referring to the importance of infrastructure and public works in the development of countries, the President expressed confidence that work to be initiated at the first OIC Ministerial Meeting on that area would result in the establishment of global infrastructure projects ensuring peace, stability, and development within the Islamic Community. Indicating the need for revision of the Plan of Action which constituted the basis for the activities of the COMCEC, H.E. ÖZAL stated that the forthcoming Sixth Islamic Summit in Dakar would be a good opportunity to get a mandate for the COMCEC to that effect. The President went on to state that the revision of the Plan of Action in the light of the radical developments in the world economic and political scene would help to restructure the activities of the COMCEC on a more realistic and rational basis. H.E. ÖZAL concluded his address by wishing success to the delegates.

(A copy of the text of the Inaugural Statement of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL is attached as Annex 2.)

6. H.E. Mesut YILMAZ, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, began his statement by welcoming the delegates to Turkey and expressing his pleasure for participating in COMCEC Meetings, for the first time, as Alternate Chairman. Referring to the importance of cooperation in the area of Infrastructure and Public Works among member countries, the Prime Minister stated the willingness of Turkish Government to share its experience in the area with

Member Countries and to provide maximum support for the implementation of the projects that would be agreed on during the Meeting. Referring to the continuing economic problems of the developing countries, in spite of the reasonable growth rates in the world economy foreseen for 1990s, H.E. Mesut YILMAZ stressed the importance of peace and stability for development in member countries. H.E. Mesut YILMAZ went on to state that the new steps to be taken towards initiating concrete action for strengthening economic cooperation among Member Countries would help to ensure peace and stability in the region. The Prime Minister concluded his statement by wishing every success and a pleasant stay in Turkey to the delegates.

(A copy of the text of the statement of H.E. Mesut YILMAZ is attached as Annex 3).

7. In his statement, H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-GABID, Secretary General of OIC, expressed his profound thanks and appreciation to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC for his keen interest and wise guidance in promoting economic cooperation among the Member Countries of OIC. The Secretary General expressed his confidence that the vast experience and able leadership of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL will significantly contribute to the success of the COMCEC work. The Secretary General also congratulated H.E. Mesut YILMAZ for his election as Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and for assuming the duties of the Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC.

H.E. Hamid Ai-GABID pointed out that the six previous sessions of the COMCEC had achieved encouraging results in translating the broad outlines of the Plan of Action into concrete programmes and projects of mutual cooperation and prompted the Member States to adopt measures for boosting their economic and commercial exchanges.

H.E. the Secretary General referred to the convening of the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, which he considered another important step forward in the efforts to strengthen economic cooperation among the Member States. The Secretary General also expressed confidence that this meeting would formulate joint projects of cooperation in the area of Infrastructure and Public Works.

(A copy of the text of the Statement of H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-GABID, is attached as Annex 4.)

8. The Heads of the Delegations of the Syrian Arab Republic the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of the Gambia made statements on behalf of the three geographical groups of Member States they represent. In their statements, the Heads of Delegations, while expressing their thanks and appreciation to H.E. Turgut ÖZAL and H.E. Mesut YILMAZ for their wise guidance as the Chairman and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, referred to the increasing economic difficulties of the Member Countries and the need for more effective modes of cooperation. The Heads of Delegations praised the progress achieved by the COMCEC in the

field of economic cooperation among the Member Countries. They thanked the President, the Prime Minister, the Government and the People of Turkey for their continued support to the fostering of economic cooperation among the Member States of OIC and for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to the delegates.

9. The President of the Islamic Development Bank, H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohamed ALI, in his statement delivered at the opening ceremony, gave a summary account of the activities of the Islamic Development Bank and of the progress achieved by the Bank in terms of the studies assigned to it by the COMCEC.

10. Following the Opening Ceremony, H.E. Turgut ÖZAL received the Heads of Delegations.

Ministerial Working Session

11. The Ministerial Working Session of the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee was held in the afternoon of the same day under the Chairmanship of H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekrem PAKDEMİRLİ, Minister of State and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey.

12. The Ministers adopted the Draft Agenda of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and decided to review the Draft Resolutions OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(1) and OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(2) prepared by the Senior Officials, instead of reconsidering the items of the Agenda.

(The Agenda of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, the Report of the Meeting of Senior Officials and the Report of the Sessional Committee are attached as Annexes 5, 6 and 7, respectively).

13. H.E. Khaled Amin ABDULLAH, Minister of Planning of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Rapporteur of the COMCEC, first read out the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(1).

The Ministers approved the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(1).

14. H.E. Khaled Amin ABDULLAH then read out the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(2) containing resolutions on the State of Palestine and the Republic of Lebanon.

The Ministers also approved the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(2).

15. The Ministers decided to submit the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(1) and the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(2), through their Chairman, H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekrem PAKDEMİRLİ, at the Closing Session for adoption.

Closing Session

16. The Closing Session of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works was held jointly, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC.

17. At the Closing Session, H.E. Hüsamettin ÖRÜÇ, Minister of Public Works and Settlement of the Republic of Turkey, presented the Draft Resolution(s) of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, as approved by the Ministers concerned.

The Standing Committee adopted the Resolutions of the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works.

18. H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekrem PAKDEMİRLİ, Minister of State and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, then presented the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(1) and the Draft Resolution OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D.RES(2), of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, as approved by the Ministers concerned.

The Standing Committee adopted the Resolutions OIC/COMCEC/7-91/RESd) , OIC/COMCEC/7-91/RES(2) .

(The Resolutions OIC/COMCEC/7-91/RES(1) and OIC/COMCEC/7-91/RES(2) are attached as annexes 8 and 9, respectively).

19. In his statement delivered at the closing session, H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-GABID, Secretary General of OIC, stressed the significance of the results achieved at the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, and praised the keen interest and wise guidance of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, and H.E. Mesut YILMAZ in promoting economic cooperation among the Member States. The Secretary General assured the meeting of the OIC General Secretariat's full cooperation in the follow-up work for ensuring the implementation of the decisions adopted at the Seventh Session of the COMCEC as

well as at the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works.

(The text of the closing statement of H.E. Dr. Hamid AL-GABID, Secretary General of OIC, is attached as Annex 10).

20. H.E. Marwan Hamada, Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lebanon, delivered a speech, on behalf of all the delegations, in which he expressed deep appreciation for the significant results achieved at the Session and for the wise and able leadership of President Turgut ÖZAL and Prime Minister Mesut YILMAZ in realizing to achieve the objectives of the COMCEC. Indicating the concrete results achieved at the Session, the Minister expressed his confidence that the decisions adopted at the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works will be implemented by the Member States and the OIC organs concerned. H.E. Hamada thanked the Government and People of Turkey for the generous hospitality extended to the delegates and for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

21. In his statement at the closing session, H.E. Mesut YILMAZ, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC expressed his thanks and appreciation to delegates, the OIC General Secretariat and specialized institutions of OIC, for the sincere efforts they made for the success of the meetings. The Prime Minister Stated his pleasure in observing that Ministers responsible for infrastructure and public works have come together for the first time and laid the foundation for

sound cooperation in this important area. H.E. Mesut YILMAZ concluded his statement by wishing the delegates a safe journey back to their homes.

(The text of the statement H.E. Mesut YILMAZ delivered at the Closing session is attached as Annex 11).

22. In his closing address, H.E. Turgut ÖZAL President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Standing Committee, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the delegations, the General Secretariat and specialized institutions of OIC, for their valuable efforts and constructive contributions to the work of the Standing Committee. The President, stating his pleasure for the concrete steps taken towards implementation of the projects appearing on the agenda of the COMCEC, pointed out the importance of the activities of the COMCEC in the face of the rapid developments in world economy, in creating additional means for economic development and welfare of the member countries. H.E. Turgut ÖZAL wished delegates a safe journey home.

(The text of the closing address of H.E. Turgut ÖZAL is attached as Annex 12).

OIC/COMCEC/7-91/LD

II

LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS
CONSIDERED AT THE SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : English

LIST OF BASIC DOCUMENTS
CONSIDERED AT THE SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

- 1- Background Report by the General Secretariat of the OIC
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(1))
- 2- Report of the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of
the COMCEC
(OIC/COMCEC-FC/7-91/REP)
- 3- OIC Information Systems Network Project: Background and
Progress
- 4- Progress Report on the Status of the Establishment of an
Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(3))
- 5- Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Corporation for the
Insurance of Investment and Export Credit
- 6- Draft Statute and Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(4))
- 7- Plan for Joint Economic Action
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(5))
- 8- Final Report on the Establishment of a Multilateral Islamic
Clearing Union for the OIC Countries
- 9- Report of the Director General of the Ankara Centre
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(6))
- 10- Report on the Activities of the IAIB
(OIC/COMCEC/7-91/D(7))

A N N E X E S

- 1 -

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION
OF THE OIC

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : English

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE OIC

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

- H.E. M. Ahmed FOUJIL
Minister of Trade

- Mr. Amor NEDJAI
Cultural Attache
Embassy of the Democratic and Popular Republic
of Algeria in Ankara

STATE OF BAHRAIN

- H.E. Shaikh Isa Bin Mohammed Al-KHALIFA
Ambassador of the State of Bahrain to Saudi Arabia

- Dr. Ali Al-DOY
Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

- H.E. Sofi Ahmed CHOWDHURY
Ambassador of the People's
Republic of Bangladesh to Turkey

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- H.J. Salleh HIDUP
- H.J. Othman YAAKUP
- H.J. Diris BELAMAN
- M.D. Yunous BOLHASSAN
First Secretary

BURKINA FASO

- Mr. Daouda DIALLO
Secretary of Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of External Relations

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROUN

- Mr. Abogo NKONO
Vice Minister of Trade and Industry,
Ministry of Industrial and Commercial Development
- Mrs. Halima Haman ADAMA
Director of Commerce, Ministry of Industrial
and Commercial Development

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

- H.E. Nabil Saleh FAHMY
Ambassador, Deputy Director of Economic Department
in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Saleh A. FAYED
Consul for Economic and Commercial Affairs
- Mrs. Nadia KAFAYAY
Consul

- Mr. Mostafa A. MIKKAWI
Third Commercial Secretary

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

- H.E. Mbemba JATTA
Minister of Trade, Industry and Employment
- Mr. Muhammadou O.S N'DURE
Principal Assistant Secretary
- Mr. Ibrahima DIALLO
First Counsellor in Embassy of the
Republic of the Gambia to Saudi Arabia

REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

- Mr. Ibrahima DIALLA
First Counsellor,
Embassy of the Republic of Guinea in Cairo

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

- H.E. Rahadi ISKANDAR
Ambassador, Department of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Indonesia
- Mr. Abubakar MUHAMAD
Second Secretary to the Indonesian Embassy in
Ankara

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

- H.E. Dr. Mehdi NAWAB
Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance
- Mr. Mohammad Reza Yousouf KHAN
Director, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance

Annex 1 to OIC/COMCEC/7-91/REP

- Dr. Mohsen KAKAVAND
Chairman and Managing Director of the
Export Development Bank of Iran
- Mr- Astane PARAST
Official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Kararan KHATAMI
Official in the Ministry of Economic
Affairs and Finance
- Mr. Daryoush Haghghi-TALAB
Director, Ministry of Commerce,
Foreign Trade Department
- Mr. Nasrollah Tahmasebi ASHTIANI
Director Central Insurance of Iran
- Mr. Kambiz ARZANI
Official in the Ministry of
Economic Affairs and Finance
- Mr. Mohammad Reza SALAMAT
Official of the Iran Embassy in Ankara

REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

- H.E. Mohammad Mahdi SALIH
Minister of Trade
- H.E. Rafi Dahham Mejwel El-TIKRITI
Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to Turkey
- Mr. Qasim Ibrahim AL-BAKRI
Director General of Planning Department,
Ministry of Housing and Construction
- Mr. Abdul Maniem Uthman ALI
Expert, Foreign Economic Relations
Department, Ministry of Trade

- Dr. Mahdi Salih HAMOUDI
Chief of Section of Non-Alignment and
Organisation of Islamic Conference,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Mr. Ahmed Abdul Karim HASSAN
Chief Super Intendent,
Foreign Economic Relations, Ministry of Trade

- Mr. Muhsin K. AHMED
Commercial Counsellor,
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Ankara

- Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Ahmed
Superintendent, the Bureau of the Ministry of Trade

- Mr. Hussein KHIDIR
General Consul in Istanbul

- Mr. Ahmed A. HASAN
Manager

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

- H.E. Sa'ad Hayel SROUR
Minister of Public Works and Housing

- Dr. Jamal SALAH
Director of Research and Studies Department,
Central Bank of Jordan

- Mr. Khalaf AL-HADID
Head of the International Cooperation
Division of the Ministry of Planning

STATE OF KUWAIT

- H.E. Nasser A. Al-ROUDHAN
Minister of Finance

Annex 1 to OIC/COMCEC/7-91/REP

- H.E. Faisal A. Al-RIFAL
Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Turkey
- Mr. Khalid Al RUBIAN
Director of Economic Organizations,
Ministry of Finance
- Mr. Ishaq ABDULKERIM
Controller of International Relations,
Ministry of Finance
- Mr. Mübarek Al-MAILAM
Minister's Office, Ministry of Finance
- Mr. Meshal Al-ARDI
Economic Reseacher, Ministry of Finance

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

- H.E. Marwan HAMADA
Minister of Economy
- H.E. Khalil AL-KHALIL
Ambassador of the Republic of Lebanon to Turkey
- H.E. Jaafar MOAWI
Ambassador,
General Director of Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Zaidan AL-SAGHIR
Consul General of the Republic of Lebanon in
Istanbul

SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB GREAT JAMAHIRIYA

- H.E. Ahmed A. EL-ATRASH
Ambassador of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab
Great Jamahiriya to Turkey

- Mr. Mohamed Salah El SHILLI
Department of Cooperation -
Ministry Foreign Affairs, International
Cooperation Office

- Mr, Salim Muhammed OSTA
Department of Islamic Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Public
Office of International Office

- Mr. Mohamed HAMAN
First Counsellor of the Libyan Embassy in Ankara

MALAYSIA

- Mr. Ashaary SANI
Counsellor

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

- Mr. HADRAMI

- Mr. Mohamden A.S.

- Mr. Mohamed ELHFED

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

- H.E. Abdallah AZMANI
Minister of Commerce and Industry

- H.E. Mohamed GUEDIRA
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Turkey

- Mr. Haddou ESSAADI
Counsellor of Moroccan Embassy in Ankara

- Mr. Hamid RHAZI
Ministry of Foreign Trade

SULTANATE OF OMAN

- H.E. Mohammed Bin Al-Zubair BIN-ALI
His Majesty's Advisor for Economic Planning
- H.E. Hamood Hilal Hamood Al HABSI
Undersecretary of Economic Affairs,
Ministry of Finance and Economy
- H.E. Abdullah Said Al BALUSH
Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Turkey
- Mr. Zaher Mubarak Al NUBI
Counsellor, Ministry of Commerce
- Mr. Ashraf Nabhan Al NABHANI
Director of Economic Research Department, Ministry
of Finance and Economy

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

- H.E. Sardar Aseff Ahmad ALI
Minister of State for Economic Affairs
- H.E. K.A. Aziz KHAN
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Turkey
- Mr. Saeed KHALID
Minister, Embassy of Pakistan in Ankara
- Mr. Ajmal Mahmood QURESHI
Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
in Istanbul
- Mr. Abbas Raza KAZMI
Director (OIC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Mr. Tanveer Akhtar KHASKHELI
Vice Consul of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in
Istanbul

STATE OF PALESTINE

- H.E. Abdul Razzak Al YAHYA
- H.E. Fouad YASSIN
Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Turkey
- Dr. Mohammed Al NAHHAL
Director of Economic Affairs

STATE OF QATAR

- H.E. Ahmed Mohammed Ali AL SUBAI
Minister of Industry and Public Works
- Mr. Ali Hassan AL KHALAF
Director of Economic Affairs Department, Ministry
of Economy and Commerce
- Mr. Ahmed Saleh AL MOHAMEDI
Economic Researcher, Ministry of Economy and
Commerce
- Mr. Mubarak Abdullah AL KHOLAIFI
Vice President of the Construction and Engineering
Chamber
- Mr. Abdullah Ahmed AL HAMMADI
Vice President of the Public Housing Department
- Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim FAKHRO
Director of the Reconstruction Engineering Chamber

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

- H.E. Mohammed ABALKHIAL
Minister of Finance and National Economy

- H.E. Dr. Jobarah AL-SURAISSY
Deputy Minister for the International Economic
Cooperation

- H.E. Dr. Abdul Aziz M. KHOJAH

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Turkey

- Mr. Abdulaziz Al WIHEBI

- Mr. Mohammed Al MEZYED

- Mr. Abdulbaqi Ahmad ASLAN
Consul
- Mr. Sulayman Salih AL-FRAIH
Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Mr. Jamal Abdullah Al-AJAJI
Economic Specialist

- Mr. Hasan Abuzaid AL-JEHANI
Economic Advisor

REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL

- H.E. Allassane Dialy NDIAYE
Minister of Industry, Trade and Handcrafts

- Mr. Ndong MAFODE
Advisor, Senegalian Embassy in Riyadh

- Mr. Abdou NIANG
Vice Chief of MAE Transregional Division, Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

- Mr. Tanor THIENDELLA
General Director of Asace, Ministry of Economic,
Finance and Planning
- Mr. Alioune Badara SY
Economist in Technics and Economics Cooperation
Department, Ministry of Economic, Finance and Plan
- Mr. Mamadou Ndoeye DIAGNE
Technical Advisor, Ministry of Industry, Trade and
Handcraft

REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN

- H.E. Mirghani S. KHALIL
Ambassador of the Republic of The Sudan to Turkey
- Mr. Ahmet Malik
Deputy Undersecretary, Department of Economy,
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
- Mr. Mubbarak H. RAHAMTALLA
Minister Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic
of the Sudan in Ankara

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

- H.E. Mohammad IMADY
Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade
- H.E. Abdulgani AL-IMADI
Deputy Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade
- Mr. Ahmad Al-SAYAH
Deputy Director of Arab Relation Directorate

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

- H.E. Mohammed MEGDICHE
Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Turkey
- Mr. Lakhdar DJEBALI
Director, Ministry of National Economy
- Mr. Sadok BARKI
Director at the Ministry of Economy
- Mr. Mohamed Habib Ben ABDALLAH

Consul of Tunisia

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

- H.E. Ekrem PAKDEMİRLİ
Minister of State and Deputy Prime Minister
- H.E. Yaşar YAKIŞ
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Saudi Arabia
- H.E. Necati UTKAN
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Iraq
- H.E. Taner BAYTOK
Ambassador, Advisor to the Minister of State and Deputy Prime Minister
- Mr. Osman ASLAN
Deputy Director General, EXIMBANK
- Mr. Bahattin GÜRSÖZ
Head of the Department, General Directorate of Bilateral Political Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Sanran ALKILIÇ
Group Director, General Directorate of Foreign Economic Relations Undersecretariat of State for Treasury and Foreign Trade

- Dr. H. Nadir ERBİL
Head of Implementation and Coordination Office,
Export Promotion Center of Turkey (İGEME)
Undersecretariat of State for Treasury and Foreign
Trade

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

- H.E. Saeed GOBASH
Minister of Economy and Commerce
- H.E. Yousuf Abdulkhaliq Mohammed Al-ANSARI
Ambassador of U.A.E. to Turkey
- H.E. Atiq Abdurrahman ATIQ
Assistant Undersecretary for Economic Affairs
- Mr. Saeed Ben KHADEM
Director of the Ministry's Office in Sharjah
- Mr. Omar Ahmed Al-MOHARAMI
Chief of the Division for International
Organizations and Economic Relations
- Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Al GERGAW
Director of Minister's Office

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

- H.E. J.S. Mayanja NKANGI
Minister of Planning and Economic Development
- Mr. Ralph Albert ONEKA
Senior Economist
- Mr. Hassan Mogamu WACHA
Desk Officer of OIC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. David S. NSUBUGA
Economist- Personal Assistant to Minister

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

- H.E. Mohamed Ahmed SALMAN
Minister
- Mr. Al Azani Ali ABDULLAH
Public Relations

TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

- H.E. Nazif BORMAN
Minister of Economy and Finance
- Mr. Münir MUHTAROĞLU
General Consul of TRNC in Istanbul

GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC
CONFERENCE (OIC)

- H.E. Dr. Hamid AL-GABID
Secretary General of OIC
- H.E. Ousman N.R. OTHMAN
Assistant Secretary General (Economic, Science and
Technology Department)
- Mr. Nouredine MEZNI
Director of Protocol and Public Relations
- Mr. Nabika DIALLO
Director of Economic Affairs Department
- Mr. Hassan Ibrahim BASHIR
Director in Economic Affairs Department
- Mr. Fouad Abdul WALI
Administrative Officer (EAD)

THE STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING
CENTER FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRTCIC)

- Dr. Sadi CİNDORUK
Director General

- Mr. İlhan UĞUREL
Executive Coordinator

- Dr. Abdelrahman ZEINELABIDIN
Head of the Research Department

THE ISLAMIC CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE (ICDT)

- DR. Badre-Eddine ALLALI
Director of Studios

THE ISLAMIC CENTER FOR TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND
RESEARCH (ICTVTR)

- Prof.Dr. A.M. PATWARI
Director General, ICTVTR

THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT
(IFSTAD)

- Dr. Arafat R. ALTAMAMI
Director General

- Mr. Mohamed-Ali Touré
Senior Officer

FEDERATION OF CONSULTANTS FROM ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (FCIC)

- Mr. U. Atilla KAPRALI
Secretary General
- Mr. Yıldırım GELGİN
Vice President
- Mr. Slah-Eddine BENSAID
President
- Mr. Ehsan Ilahi JOHRI
Member
- Mr. Khaja WAHAEEDUDDIN
Member
- Mr. Amjad ACHA
Vice President
- Mr. Mohammed EL-MOGHAZI
Member
- Mr. Slaheddine BENSAID
President
- Mr. Jiddou HAIBA
Member
- Mr. Mohammed Ben YOUSSEF
Member

THE ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)

- H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohamed ALI
President of IDB, Head of Delegation
- Mr. Abdurrahman Nur HERSI
Advisor to the Bank

- Mr. Bouasria BELGHOULLA
Executive Director
- Dr. Assibi O. ABUDU
Acting Director of the Economic and Policy
Department
- Mr. Al Rayiah Abdul SALAM
Section Head, Operations Department
- Dr. Ridha SAADALLAH
Researcher, IRTI
- Dr. Murghani Hasan MOHAMED
Lawyer Legal Department
- Mr. Mansour BENFETEN
Technical Assistant
President's Office
- Mr. Mohsin Saleh Salem Al-AWALAQI
Public Relations

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ISLAMIC BANKS (IAIB)

- H.E. Fouad Abdulhameed ALKHATEEB
Ambassador, Secretary General of IAI

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

- Mr. Shamsuzzakir KAZEMI
Chief of Special Economic Unit-RDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

- Mr. Adalat Khan
Deputy Resident Representative

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (COMSTECH)

- Dr. M.D. SHAMI
Consultant

COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE

- Mr. Aydan KARAHAN
Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of the COMCEC
Coordination Office
- Mr. Celal ARMANGİL
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mrs. Nurhan MACUN
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office
- Mr. Mustafa ŞİRİN
Deputy Head of the COMCEC Coordination Office

Drafting

- Mrs. Nebil TAYŞI
Expert
- Mr. Yakup KARACA
Expert
- Mr. Fatih ÜNLÜ
Expert

Documentation

- Mr. Ferruh TIĞLI
Coordinator
- Ms. Seher ÖZTÜRK
Computer Services Expert

Protocol

- Mr. Ahmet KOCAER
Expert
- Mr. Orhan ÖZTAŞKIN

Expert

List of Participants

- Ms. Neşe ÖZTÜRÜYEN
Expert
- Mrs. Sunay KEÇECİ

Expert

Press Relations

- Mr. Orhan ÖZTAŞKIN
Expert

Administration and Finance

- Mr. Ali IŞIKLAR
Head of the Administration and Finance Department,
State Planning Organization
- Mr. Zeynettin KASIMOĞLU
Deputy Head of the Administration and finance
Department, State Planning Organization
- Ms. Mükerrerem ÖZKILIÇ
Expert
- Mr. Mevlüt YAŞAR
Expert
- Mr. Yaşar GÜLSOY
Expert
- Mr. Adnan DİNGİL
Expert

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY
H-E. TURGUT ÖZAL, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC
AT THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING ON
INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Original : Turkish

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY
H.E. TURGUT ÖZAL, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
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(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Distinguished Delegates,
Distinguished Secretary General,
Honourable Guests,

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you in Turkey and inaugurate the Seventh Session of the COMCEC as well as the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works.

The Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was also held a short time ago in Istanbul. Important decisions were taken and preparations made for the Islamic Summit Conference, to be held in December. I am convinced that this meeting will likewise produce fruitful results.

The success of our activities within the framework of the Islamic Conference assume more weight than ever before, as great changes are taking place in the world today. We have now to assess the work that we have hitherto completed and determine what new steps to take in the light of the latest developments.

Distinguished Guests,

Some of the above-mentioned changes have a direct impact on the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. We are indeed meeting in the aftermath of the Gulf Crisis, which resulted in tragic events, caused great human and material losses and endless sufferings. Although the invasion of one member country by another is a thing of the the past, the situation in the region is still uncertain. It will be necessary to compensate moral and material damage and heal the wounds incurred. We have to undertake important tasks and the COMCEC will be in a position to play a major role in the development of economic cooperation among member countries and in the region.

On the other hand, there are signs which augur hope for the success of the peace process in the Middle East. Were these hopes to be fulfilled, new horizons will undoubtedly open for cooperation in this region.

This Organization is likewise closely concerned by the various national and religious awakenings following the changes prompted by the alleviation of the heavy pressures of communism in Europe, in the Balkans, in the Caucasus and in Central Asia. Consequently, opportunities will also arise for our organization to explore new fields of cooperation in these regions.

Distinguished Delegates,

As I pointed out during the Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the only lesson we can draw from the changes that are taking place around us is that economic cooperation is the best and most efficient way to peace and stability. This has further been proved by the steps taken by Western European countries to seek closer relations through economic integration. That is why I have always attached great importance to economy and trade and reiterated that they must be based on reciprocal interests. These considerations were also taken into account when Turkey assumed a leading role in the establishment of the COMCEC.

Distinguished Delegates,

As we inaugurate this Seventh Session of the COMCEC, it is gratifying to note that some of the projects aimed at the promotion of commercial cooperation among Islamic countries, that appeared on the agenda of the COMCEC at its First Session held in November 1984, have already been carried out, others are nearing the stage of completion and some projects are in the process of implementation. Indeed, this concrete development in cooperation has been achieved among forty five sister Islamic countries, geographically located in a vast area of the world, with different economic structures and development levels. This development has occurred in a relatively short period as compared to similar efforts at international cooperation.

In addition to projects aimed at the promotion of commercial cooperation, included in the COMCEC agenda, other useful cooperation projects have been initiated in various fields of the Plan of Action for Economic Cooperation through ministerial meetings, convened concurrently with the annual COMCEC Sessions. The activities carried out since 1984 in the priority areas of the Plan of Action, defined by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference, have now covered all these fields.

This meeting will address a field of action which, though not included in the existing Plan of Action, is of utmost importance for the development of our countries as well as for the promotion of economic cooperation within our community; namely, the field of infrastructure and public works, which will be dealt with at the ministerial level.

Distinguished Delegates,
Honourable Guests,

Given the swift political and economic changes that today's world is undergoing, concrete cooperation mechanisms established among our countries will play a major role in securing peace and stability and raise the standard of living in our community. The Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme, set up by virtue of a decision of the COMCEC, or the Trade Preferential System and the Export Credit Insurance Scheme, which are being finalized, are concrete examples of such mechanisms. On the other hand, common transportation, power supply and telecommunications projects, as

well as some regional infrastructure projects, are likewise major fields of cooperation which we should take up.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to once more emphasize the importance of our present endeavours to adapt to current world conditions the Economic Cooperation Plan of Action, adopted at the 1981 Taif Summit, on the basis of which the COMCEC activities have hitherto been carried out. The radical and structural changes taking place on the world political and economic scene since 1981 have given rise to new priorities in the economic cooperation among our countries that call for changes in the cooperation strategy.

The world is indeed changing at a very rapid pace. The role of the State, as central authority, will gradually diminish during the 21st Century. Individuals and individual rights will take their place at the forefront. Large industrial complexes are expected to be replaced by small units, even by units operated by robots. The emphasis is no longer on production itself, but on high quality production and marketing of the produced goods. In the same context, the bulk of economic activities and employment will shift to services. This being the case, the task of the State is to leave the commercial and economic activities to the able hands of individuals and provide, or facilitate, the provision of the infrastructure needed to make their work easier.

Priority in this regard is that of the transport infrastructure which is of vital importance to shorten distances within the country and connect markets with one another. Construction of highways, air and sea ports, and modernization and increasing the capacity of those existing, are of great importance. It is only through such facilities that domestic and international commercial exchange can be activated and can generate a vast economic activity without the need for any state intervention in the market. Another issue is to establish a modern telecommunications network and update the transfer of information, sound and images, to enable a swift exchange of information and thoughts regardless of distances. As a matter of fact, was it not the ability to communicate, thanks to technology, that was instrumental in the collapse of communism? It is such technological means that brought forth the individual abilities of people and facilitated their translation into concrete contribution to national economies.

At the threshold of the 21st century, these developments also call our attention to the need to train generations that possess more information and that integrate that information with their own abilities.

I am of the opinion that the trend to eliminate economic borders between countries will grow even stronger in the near future. As a matter of fact, one of the highest benefits provided by the free market economy to countries is that of lifting the limitations on imports, allowing local entrepreneurs to acquaint

themselves with new products, endeavouring to improve the quality of goods to a level that will enable them to compete with imported products, and being receptive to innovations so as to fully utilize their own potential. It is generally accepted nowadays that over-protectionism leads to economic regression, as the world is gradually becoming a single market of which every country is preparing to get a larger share.

I am convinced that a mandate will be received from the Dakar Summit to revise, on the basis of the latest world developments, the Economic Cooperation Plan of Action, which has always been the basis for the work of the COMCEC, and that the technical work to be initiated will carefully assess the above changes so that our cooperation will be based on realistic and rational foundations. In this context, it will be important to make an assessment of human resources. It will also be useful to examine what can be done in the field of education in the framework of the COMCEC.

Distinguished Delegates,
Esteemed Guests,

It is with great pleasure that I note, on the occasion of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, that two more of the projects that were on our agenda have reached the implementation stage. I hope that the Trade Preferential System Framework Agreement, which is now open to signature and ratification by member countries, will shortly become operational, and that the Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Mechanism, which is to

be submitted for final approval at this Session, will start operating in the shortest possible time through the valuable efforts of the Islamic Development Bank.

I will personally present the usual progress report on the activities carried out under the umbrella of the COMCEC at the Sixth Summit Conference to be held next December in Dakar, and I will also request a mandate to initiate work on issues aimed at further strengthening economic cooperation among our countries. I am convinced that we shall take all the measures needed to ensure the most propitious conditions in this respect.

I am also convinced that, at this Session, we shall work out a formula that will satisfy all member countries regarding the election of the Members of the COMCEC Bureau and the composition of the Follow-up Committee, and that we shall find a lasting solution to this issue before the Dakar Summit.

In conclusion, I wish you success in your work and a pleasant stay in Istanbul.

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STATEMENT BY H.E. MESUT YILMAZ,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC
AT THE JOINT OPENING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Original : Turkish

STATEMENT BY H.E. MESUT YILMAZ,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMCEC
AT THE JOINT OPENING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Mr. President,
Distinguished Ministers,
H.E. the Secretary General of the OIC,
Honourable Delegates,

On the occasion of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, I would like to welcome you all on behalf of my government as well as of the people of Turkey., and extend my sincere wishes for your success.

I wish to express my pleasure for participating, this time as the Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC, in yet another activity of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, whose work I had the opportunity of closely following up during my tenure as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The government of Turkey, who has been hosting every COMCEC Session since 1984, values these meetings not only as venues to strengthen economic cooperation among member countries, but also

as most beneficial activities that provide our countries with ample room for gaining better knowledge of each other.

Our government believes that economic cooperation efforts, the observance of the principle of the reciprocity of benefits and respect for the rights of sovereignty will greatly contribute to the advancement and well being of our countries. Upholding this conviction, Turkey will continue to mobilize all its available potentials with a view to strengthening economic cooperation among our countries.

The COMCEC Session is being held this year concurrently with the Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, thereby enabling us to promote cooperation in yet another field which is of great importance to development in our countries. I am convinced that the cooperation projects to be initiated as a result of that meeting will unleash the potentials of our community, minimize the technological dependence on industrial countries, and reduce the large transfer of resources to those countries. Turkey will be happy to share with sister Islamic Countries its experiences in the areas of infrastructure and foreign contracting jobs that it has gained as a result of the implementation of economic liberalisation policies during the last decade.

Distinguished Ministers,
Honourable Delegates,

In today's world, where openness and competition have become increasingly predominant, raising the level of income and

promoting the well-being of developing countries are now hinging on the pursuance of adequate policies oriented towards maximizing the positive impact of globalization. On the other hand, becoming more exposed to the influence of the outside world does indeed involve certain risks for these countries. Such risks stem mainly from high interest rates, financial squeezes at international finance institutions in industrialized countries, the deterioration of the terms of trade, and a stalemate in world trade negotiations. However, the globalization of capital, manpower and the flow of goods and services also bring about a marked growth of competition and economic efficiency, which in effect facilitate the use of modern technologies aimed at raising the standard of living.

Unless a chain of unexpected negative events unfolds on the world scene, the per capita income in the industrial countries is expected to increase by 2,5% annually in the nineties. On the other hand, should the world trade volume show a 5% annual increase, it would be possible for developing countries to realise an annual growth of 3% in their per capita income. These increase rates will no doubt reflect certain variations between one country and another and should therefore be assessed with caution, especially by countries which are beset by population increase, foreign debt and structural economic problems.

The achievement of this modest development in the nineties will depend on the maintenance of peace and stability in the

world, as well as on the policies to be pursued by the developing countries, as I have previously stated.

In order to ensure sustained development and well-being, industrialized countries should reduce the protectionist measures they adopt in foreign trade, make the necessary efforts in the trade negotiation rounds which started in Uruguay to abolish the tariff and non-tariff barriers applied to exports of developing countries, and adopt policies which will safeguard the stability of their own economic growth and financial structure.

The impact of the economic and financial policies adopted by industrialized countries on the world economy as a whole cannot be denied. Nor should we overlook the fact that sustained progress in developing countries will depend largely on the policies adopted by these countries themselves. Accordingly, it becomes increasingly essential for developing countries to invest in human resources and attach importance to the issues of health and population control, adopt measures to promote private enterprise, and implement macroeconomic policies to open their countries to foreign trade and investments.

It is therefore evident that cooperation among us and the work carried out under the COMCEC umbrella will greatly contribute to development processes in the member countries. I am convinced that the realisation of the projects appearing the COMCEC agenda will promote developmental efforts and help create such capabilities that enable us to get our due share in the

growing world trade as well as to have access to the new markets already being formed.

In this spirit, I wish you a pleasant stay in Turkey as well as success in your work.

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STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. HAMID AL-GABID,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
AT THE JOINT OPENING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Original : French

STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. HAMID AL-GABID,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
AT THE JOINT OPENING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 8 October 1991)

Bismillahir Rahman Ar-rahim

Mr. President,
Excellency Mr. Prime Minister,
Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Aleykum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh

It is always with renewed pleasure that I take part in the proceedings of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC). I am all the more happy as this Seventh Session of COMCEC is meeting concurrently with the First Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure and Public Works of Islamic countries, being held only weeks before the Sixth Islamic Summit of Dakar, Republic of Senegal, next December. This Summit will no doubt be able to review the commendable work done by your Committee under the wise leadership of its Chairman, H.E. President Turgut ÖZAL.

First of all, I would like to express my profound gratitude to His Excellency Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and His Excellency Mesut YILMAZ, Prime Minister and COMCEC alternate Chairman for the great interest they personally take in promoting economic and commercial cooperation among Islamic countries. The sincere and quite enlightening speech of His Excellency Turgut ÖZAL and the statement of His Excellency Mesut YILMAZ clearly reflect the firm commitment of Turkey and its leaders to the strengthening of links of Islamic fraternity and solidarity among Member States, a condition sine qua non for their fruitful economic cooperation. Indeed, economic progress and integration should form the foundation of a strong and unified Ummah. I am confident that the Standing Committee and the Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works will be guided in their deliberations by the wisdom given in these two speeches.

I also wish to congratulate H.E. Mesut YILMAZ on his nomination as Prime Minister.

I wish to express my warm thanks to the government and people of Turkey for the excellent arrangements made for these two important conferences and for the warm and generous hospitality extended to the delegations since their arrival in this important, beautiful and lively capital, Istanbul, which for centuries bore high the torch of Islamic tradition, culture and civilization. The eminent role that Turkey has always played in the Islamic world will be long remembered by the future

generations. It is in this context that we shall always remember the important sessions of the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held here in Istanbul from 24 to 28 Muharram 1412H (4-8 August 1919) at the kind invitation of Turkey and which achieved remarkable results.

Mr. Chairman,

We are meeting today at a particularly critical moment for the economies of Islamic countries. During 1990/91 the world economy underwent multiple jolts due in particular to the Gulf crisis and its negative effects to the politico-economic changes and to upheavals in Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile, the terms of trade between developed and developing countries continued to deteriorate, thus widening the gap existing between them. Though according to figures released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the prices of manufactured goods increased by 9.6 % in 1990, those of raw materials (excluding the price of oil) fell by 8.3 for the same period. Again according to the International Monetary Fund, the prices of these raw materials will further fall by 2.5 % in 1991.

The trade balance of OIC petroleum non-exporting countries fell by 14.9 % in 1990 and is expected to deteriorate further. Our efforts aimed at rapidly developing our countries have been severely hampered by a hostile economic environment marked by a fall in export earnings from raw materials (with the exception of oil), a price increase of imported goods and services, an

increasing external debt of our countries and a limited and inadequate flow of external financial resources.

As a result, the external debt of all OIC Member countries increased by 3.2 % in 1990 with a further 9.2 % increase expected in 1991.

In short, after recording some progress in their economies in 1990, most of the OIC Member countries should expect to experience a period of stagnation, not to say regression, in 1991.

The efforts our countries are deploying to improve the situation could be made much easier if the inflow of external resources proved steady and reliable, which implies increased prices of primary commodities, increased resource transfer to OIC Member countries, reduced debt burden and elimination of protectionism.

Excellency Mr. Chairman,
Honourable delegates,

We can legitimately draw satisfaction from the fact that, despite a most unfavorable international economic environment and difficulties we are still faced with, the activities of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference continue to develop in all sectors including the economic and commercial one, in particular since the Third Islamic Summit held at Makkah Al-Mukarramah/Taif in 1981, adopted the Plan of Action for strengthening economic and commercial cooperation. The Standing Committee for Economic

and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) set up by the Third Islamic Summit plays an ever increasing role under the wise Chairmanship of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Turkey. Its multiple efforts aimed at intensifying cooperation and economic contracts among Member States deserve our admiration. The success achieved by the Committee since its inception is quite impressive, since, in just six years, this body has dealt with six of the priority areas of the Plan of Action as adopted at the Fourth Islamic Summit held in Casablanca. Furthermore, the Committee has prepared and implemented the Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme which has become a very important instrument for active cooperation among Islamic countries. A Trade Preferential System among Member Countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference has also been prepared and approved and is currently being signed.

In addition, the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation has made giant steps in establishing an Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme and an Islamic Multilateral Clearing Union. These two schemes which should play an important role in strengthening intra-Islamic cooperation constitute an agenda item of the present Session which will hopefully adopt them and urge their implementation. Other important issues like the Trade Information Network in the Islamic Countries (TINIC), the harmonization of standards in the Islamic States, the organisation of fairs and sectorial meetings in priority domains, should also be considered by participants. These instruments will supplement agreements already prepared by

various Islamic institutions and approved by COMCEC and will contribute to strengthening cooperation and developing trade among Islamic countries. There is indeed no denying that the volume and increase in trade among Islamic States give a marked impetus to their cooperation and integration.

However, the absence of complementarity in their economies, the inadequacy of their infrastructures and the persistence of other traditional constraints constitute real hurdles impairing the achievement of satisfactory intra-community exchanges.

In acknowledgment of the positive achievements by COMCEC, the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, after being apprised of the activities of the Committee, decided to recommend to the Sixth Islamic Summit to be held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, in December 1991, to mandate COMCEC to prepare new strategies within the framework of the present Plan of Action by taking into consideration the changes which have taken place in the world since the adoption of this Plan in 1981.

The Conference reviewed the economic situation in the world and expressed serious concern over its impact on the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It further urged Member States to intensify their cooperation efforts to minimize the negative effects likely to result from this economic situation and from the prospects of establishing a Single European Market in 1992, attempts to set up economic groupings in North America and Asia, economic upheavals in Eastern Europe

including the Soviet Union and, lastly, consequences of German reunification.

The Islamic Development Bank, and the Ankara and Casablanca Centers have been mandated to examine the consequences of 1992 Europe on Member States and propose measures enabling Islamic countries to make the most of this European economic integration while keeping to a minimum the negative impact on their economies.

The Conference also urged Member States to promote trade exchanges and investments among themselves while bringing down any obstacles thereto.

It is comforting to note that the preoccupations of the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers are properly reflected in the working programme of the Seventh Session of COMCEC.

I feel that Islamic States should adopt dynamic measures to be in a position to further diversify their economies and strengthen their complementarities. It goes without saying that the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the Islamic Development Bank as well as all other relevant institutions of the OIC System will work closely together for the realization of these priority objectives.

Therefore, we should in prospect of the year 2,000, strive to bring the present level of intra-Islamic trade, now accounting for about 10% of their foreign trade, to a much higher level.

Such an objective is not utopic. It can be achieved. We should achieve it to safeguard the future of our countries, that of the Islamic Ummah and face the numerous challenges before us.

To that end, Mr. Chairman, we have to develop, inter-alia, our infrastructures, our means of transportation and communication which constitute the fundamental bases likely to contribute to achieving a rapid economic integration among our States. I am, therefore, happy to note that COMCEC has always accorded this issue all the attention it deserves and I remain confident that the First Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure and Public Works will undoubtedly contribute to the strengthening of economic and commercial cooperation among our States.

I am also happy to note that COMCEC is still giving priority to agricultural development which, together with infrastructure, is a basic sector in the development of OIC Member States.

In this context, I would like to inform our august assembly that the OIC, in conjunction with the Government of the Republic of Senegal, the Islamic Development Bank and the African Development Bank, will organise a symposium on Food Security and agricultural development within the framework of the Sixth Islamic Summit which will be to the credit of COMCEC and specifically to its President.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Government of Senegal, to IDB and ADB for their effective contributions to this seminar which will take place at a very opportune time and will further

promote awareness, among the senior officials of our Organisation, on the importance of food security and agricultural development.

Distinguished Chairman,
Honourable Delegates,

Before I conclude, I would like to invite you to reflect with me on some objectives which, in my view, could help Member States to overcome their present economic difficulties while putting them on the path of a true and lasting development. These objectives consist of:

accelerating the transformation and diversification of their economies;

strengthening complementarities and cooperation among Member Countries so as to free them from the constraints and whims of the world economy while strengthening their negotiating positions as a group in the face of other economic world groupings (European Common Market, North American Common Market, Asian Common Market) and at different international fora (GATT, etc.);

ensuring a sustained development including an increase in Gross National Product (GNP)

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to wish every success to the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the First Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure and Public Works. I may assure you that, as usual,

the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference will do everything in its power to implement rapidly and efficiently the outcome of your deliberations.

I thank you,

Wassalamu Alaykum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh.

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AGENDA
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF COMCEC
(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : English

AGENDA
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF COMCEC
(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

1. Openings Session.

Inaugural Statement by H.E. Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey, Chairman of COMCEC.

- Statement by H.E. Mesut YILMAZ, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, Alternate Chairman of COMCEC.

Statement by H.E. Dr. Hamid AL-GABID, Secretary General of OIC.

Statements by Heads of Delegations on Behalf of the Three Regional Groups of the Member States of OIC.

Statement by H.E. Ahmed Mohammed ALI, President of IDB.

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

3. Report by the General Secretariat of OIC.

4. Report of the Follow-up Committee.

5. Adoption of the Statute and Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC and the Election of the Bureau.

6. Consideration of New Strategies for the OIC Plan of Action.

7. Report by ICDT on the Establishment of a Trade Information Network Among the Member States of OIC.

8. Report by IDB on the Establishment of an Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme.

9. Economic Measures in Support of the State of Palestine and the Republic of Lebanon.

10. Report of the Sessional Committee.

11. Any Other Business.

Multilateral Islamic Clearing Arrangement

Preparation for the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference

12. Adoption of the Resolutions of the Seventh Session of COMCEC and the First OIC Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works.

13. Date of the Eighth Session of COMCEC.

14. Closing Session.

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
SENIOR OFFICIALS
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6-7 October 1991)

Original : English

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
SENIOR OFFICIALS
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6-7 October 1991)

1. The Meeting of the Senior Officials of the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of the Islamic Conference was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 6-7 October 1991 to discuss the items of the Draft Agenda and prepare draft resolutions to be submitted to the COMCEC.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives from the following Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) :

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. State of United Arab Emirates
3. Republic of Indonesia
4. Republic of Uganda
5. Islamic Republic of Iran
6. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
7. State of Bahrain
8. Negara Brunei Darussalam
- 9- Burkina Faso

10. People's Republic of Bangladesh
11. Republic of Turkey
12. Republic of Tunisia
13. Republic of the Gambia
14. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
15. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
16. Republic of Senegal
17. Republic of Sudan
18. Syrian Arab Republic
19. Republic of Iraq
20. Sultanate of Oman
21. Republic of Guinea
22. State of Palestine
23. State of Qatar
24. Republic of Cameroun
25. State of Kuwait
26. Republic of Lebanon
27. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
28. Malaysia
29. Arab Republic of Egypt
30. Kingdom of Morocco
31. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
32. Republic of Yemen

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus participated in the Meeting as observer.

3. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives of the General Secretariat and the following subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of OIC :

- The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC)
- The Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT)
- The Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD)
- The Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- The Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR)
- International Association of Islamic Banks (IAIB)

Representatives from UNDP, UNCTAD and the COMSTECH Secretariat were present at the Meeting as observers.

4. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Yaşar YAKIŞ, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Riyadh.

5. H.E. Yaşar YAKIŞ inaugurated the Meeting by welcoming the participants to Turkey and explained the work programme of the Meeting.

6. The Senior Officials reviewed the Draft Agenda of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, as prepared at the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee, and decided to consider those items of the Draft Agenda which pertained to them.

7. The Senior Officials then established an open-ended Drafting Committee, under the chairmanship of the Rapporteur, to prepare

the Report of the Meeting and the draft resolutions to be submitted to the COMCEC. An open-ended Sessional Committee under the chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was also established to review the activities of the OIC organs and institutions working in the field of economy and trade.

Report by the General Secretariat of OIC

8. Under Draft Agenda Item 3, H.E. Ousman N.R. OTHMAN, Assistant Secretary General, in charge of the Economic, Science and Technology Department of the OIC General Secretariat, presented the Background Report of the General Secretariat. While presenting the Report, he congratulated the Chairman, H.E. Yaşar YAKIŞ, and expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting and for the traditional hospitality extended to the participants.

H.E. the Assistant Secretary General gave a resume of the Report, highlighting the developments which took place since the Sixth Session of the COMCEC in the implementation of various resolutions on economic and commercial cooperation among the OIC Member States, pertaining to the priority areas of the OIC Plan of Action; namely, Trade, Industry, Food Security and Agricultural Development, Transport, Communications, Energy and Technical Cooperation, taken up under the auspices of the COMCEC since its First Session in November 1984.

9. The Senior Officials while appreciating the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, stressed the importance of early signing and ratification of the Statutes and Agreements approved by the COMCEC for strengthening economic cooperation among member countries. In this connection, they shared the view that the signature of such Statutes and Agreements could take place during the Annual Sessions of the COMCEC.

10. The Senior Officials, expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for its offer to host the Second OIC Ministerial Meeting on Communications on from 5 to 8 November 1991 in Bandung and to **the** Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its offer to **host** the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agriculture in a near future.

Report of the Follow-up Committee

11. Under Draft Agenda Item 4, the representative of the OIC General Secretariat presented the report of the Follow-up Committee which contained recommendations pertaining to the projects and issues on the agenda of the COMCEC. The Senior Officials continued their discussions on the rest of the Draft Agenda Items in the light of the recommendations of the Follow-up Committee.

Adoption of the Statute and Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC
and the Election of the Bureau

12. Under Draft Agenda Item 5, the representative of the OIC General Secretariat presented the revised version of the "Draft Statute and Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC", incorporating a formula for the election of the Bureau and the composition of the Follow-up Committee.

13. The Senior Officials, after having reached consensus on the submission of the "Draft Text of the Statute and the Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC" for the approval of the Ministers, proceeded with the election of three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur to the Bureau, in conformity with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure.

14. The Senior Officials agreed to recommend the election of Arab Republic of Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Cameroun as Vice-chairmen to represent Arab, Asian and African regions, respectively, in the Bureau of the COMCEC, and Malaysia as the Rapporteur. They also recommended that newly elected members would assume their positions in the Bureau following the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to serve for three years.

Consideration of New Strategies for the OIC Plan of Action

15. Under the Draft Agenda Item 6, the representative of the Ankara Centre presented an outline of the "Plan for Joint Economic Action", prepared in accordance with the instructions of

the Chairman of the COMCEC, as a preliminary step for the formulation of new strategies for the OIC Plan of Action in pursuance of the decisions of the 19th and 20th Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, which was duly appreciated.

16. Reaffirming the need to develop new strategies for the Plan of Action taking into consideration the rapid and structural changes that have taken place in the world economy since 1981, including the possible effects of the Single European Market on the economies of the Member Countries and the results of the multilateral trade negotiations of the Uruguay Round, the Senior Officials decided to recommend to the COMCEC that the General Secretariat, in cooperation with the COMCEC Coordination Office, undertake the necessary preparations for seeking a mandate for the COMCEC from the Sixth Islamic Summit to that effect.

17. The Senior Officials agreed that the mandate to be sought from the Sixth Summit should basically include the following elements:

- a) It should give full authority to the COMCEC in developing and implementing new strategies for the Plan of Action; and,
- b) It should be flexible enough to enable the COMCEC to define the coverage of the new strategies and to take into account the needs and capacities of the Member Countries.

18. The Senior Officials also agreed to recommend to the COMCEC that, following the adoption of the mandate at the Sixth Islamic Summit, a number of expert group meetings or workshops be organized by the Ankara Center among the Member Countries, before the eighth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee, to work out new strategies for the Plan of Action so that the Follow-up Committee, if possible, could be able to submit a complete study to the Eighth Session of the COMCEC for approval and appropriate action.

Trade Information Network Among Islamic Countries (TINIC)

19. Under Draft Agenda Item 7, the representative of ICDT presented a progress report on TINIC covering the progress achieved so far in the implementation of the project. The report of the representative of ICDT was complemented by the information given by the representative of IDB on the establishment of OICIS-NET project currently under study by the Bank.

20. The Senior Officials, while appreciating the efforts of ICDT and IDB agreed to recommend to the COMCEC that TINIC become a database system specialized in trade information within OICIS-NET when in operation, and the combination of the OICIS-NET Project and TINIC to save time, effort and money.

21. The Senior Officials requested ICDT to continue its efforts to finalize the necessary preparations for TINIC pending the establishment of OICIS-NET.

Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme

22. Under Draft Agenda Item 8, the representative of IDB presented the progress achieved towards establishment of the Scheme and outlined the Draft Articles of Agreement as approved at the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee.

23. The Senior Officials appreciated the efforts of IDB for hosting the Expert Group Meeting on 23-24 April 1991 in Jeddah and for the preparation of the revised version of the Draft Articles of Agreement.

24. The Senior Officials, while agreeing to recommend to the COMCEC the approval of the Draft Articles of Agreement, requested IDB to take necessary legal and administrative measures for the establishment of a subsidiary institution under the aegis of IDB as envisaged in the Draft Articles of Agreement. They expressed the hope that the next annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Bank would be in a position to approve the establishment of the Scheme.

Economic Measures in Support of the State of Palestine
and Republic of Lebanon

25. Under Draft Agenda Item 9, the Senior Officials agreed on the contents of the Draft Resolutions calling for economic assistance to the State of Palestine and the Republic of Lebanon and decided to submit them to the COMCEC for adoption.

Report of the Sessional Committee

26. Under Draft Agenda item 10, the Senior Officials duly noted the recommendations contained in the Report of the Sessional Committee and agreed on their inclusion in the first Draft Resolution of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC.

Any Other Business

27. Under Draft Agenda Item "Any Other Business", the Senior Officials first took up the subject of the establishment of an Islamic Clearing Union. The Senior Officials noted with satisfaction that IDB has finalized the "Model of Multilateral Clearing Arrangement" and submitted it to the 8th meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States held on 30-31 May 1991 in Cairo. The Senior officials agreed to recommend to the COMCEC the endorsement of the decision of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities that :

- a) the Scheme should be flexible in its coverage of goods and its membership should be on a voluntary basis; and,
- b) in view of the differences in economic and trading systems, as well as monetary rules and regulations among the Member States, formation of clearing arrangements could be among sub-groups of the Member States willing to participate in them.

28. Under the same item of the Draft Agenda, the Senior Officials also agreed to recommend to the COMCEC the undertaking

of the necessary preparations by the OIC General Secretariat, in cooperation with the COMCEC Coordination Office, for submission of a detailed progress report on the activities of the COMCEC to the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.

29. The Senior officials took note of the recommendation made by the representative of UNCTAD that in view of the fact that the State of Palestine is not yet in a position to exchange trading concessions with its trading partners, the member countries which will enter into negotiations with Palestine upon the signature and ratification of the Framework Agreement on the Establishment of Trade Preferential System Among Member Countries should extend to it, on a unilateral basis, trade concession until such a time as it can reciprocate. These member countries will also facilitate, on a transit basis, the passage of Palestinian goods through their territory.

Date of the Eighth Session of the COMCEC

30. Under Draft Agenda Item 13, concerning the date of the Eighth Session of the COMCEC, the Senior Officials decided to recommend to the COMCEC that its Eighth Session be held from 1 to 4 September 1992 and the Eighth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee on 5-7 May 1992 in Istanbul. The Senior Officials took note that the Eighth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee will be followed by the Third Meeting of the Focal Points in the field of Technical Cooperation from 9 to 11 May, 1992.

31. The Senior Officials agreed to recommend to the COMCEC that the Eighth Session of the COMCEC should be held by itself, without the usual concurrent ministerial meeting in a specific area of economic cooperation, to review the progress made by the COMCEC since its inception and to formulate new strategies for joint economic action in the light of the decisions of the Sixth Islamic Summit.

32. At their concluding session, the Senior Officials adopted the Report of the Meeting and reviewed the Draft Resolutions prepared by the Drafting Committee, reflecting the consensus reached by the Senior Officials on the items of the Draft Agenda and on other issues raised during the Meeting and, decided to submit the Draft Resolutions through the Rapporteur to the Seventh Session of the COMCEC Meeting at the Ministerial level.

33. At the end of the deliberations, the delegates expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Chairman for the effective conduct of the Meeting and to the Turkish Government for the excellent arrangements, as well as to the supporting staff and interpreters for their untiring efforts, which ensured the success of the Meeting.

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE OIC SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED ORGANS, HELD
DURING THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6 October 1991)

Original : English

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
SESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE OIC SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED ORGANS, HELD
DURING THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC

(Istanbul, 6 October 1991)

1. In pursuance of the decision of the Senior Officials Meeting of the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation, the open-ended Sessional Committee of the COMCEC on the Activities of the OIC Subsidiary and Affiliated Organs met on October 6, 1991.

2. The Meeting of the Sessional Committee was attended by Representatives from Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Lebanon and Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

3. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives from the following subsidiary organs and affiliated institutions of the OIC:

Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training
Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC),

Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT),

Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and
Research (ICTVTR),

Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD),

The International Association of Islamic Banks (IAIB).

4. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Saeed Khalid of Pakistan, and the representatives of SESRTCIC and IFSTAD served as Rapporteur.

5. The Committee heard the activity reports of the OIC organs present, and deliberated in detail on the issues and problems contained in the said reports. (These reports have been circulated as part of the documents of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC).

6. On the activities of the institutions in question, the Sessional Committee made the following observations and recommendations to the Seventh Session of the COMCEC:

The Committee:

- a) Expresses its deep appreciation for the activities of SESRTCIC, ICDT, ICTVTR, IFSTAD and IAIB in the areas of economic, commercial and technical cooperation among the OIC Member Countries, in conjunction with and complementary to the activities of the COMCEC.
- b) Invites the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Center for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR) and the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development

(IFSTAD), in close cooperation with the relevant OIC bodies, to jointly undertake the necessary surveys and studies in order to prepare and publish country profiles of the OIC member countries in the fields of human and natural resources, tradable industrial products, technical cooperation capacities and technology transfer potentials (including the potentials of the National Patent Offices), and calls upon the OIC member states to support this effort,

- c) Supports the research and studies by ICDT and SESRTCIC on the prospective impact of the Single European Market on the OIC Member States.
- d) Recommends regular contacts between the financial and the operational institutions of OIC, in particular between the subsidiary organs of OIC and the International Association of Islamic Banks in order to help implement their respective programmes.

7. On the financial crisis of the OIC organs, the Sessional Committee concurred on the following recommendations:

- a) Takes note of the further aggravation of the financial crisis of the OIC subsidiary organs arising from the non-payment of the mandatory contributions and arrears on the part of the Member States, which has become so serious as to threaten their very existence.

- b) Requests the Seventh Session of the COMCEC to appeal to the Heads of Delegation of the Member States to intervene at the appropriate level in their respective governments with a view to paying immediately their mandatory contributions to the SESRTCIC, ICDT, ICTVTR and IFSTAD.

- c) Requests the Chairman of the COMCEC to kindly consider raising this issue at the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to be held in Dakar in December 1991 in Dakar, as non-payment of mandatory dues by the Member States might eventually prove detrimental to the work of the COMCEC.

- 8

R E S O L U T I O N (1)
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : English

RESOLUTION (1) OF THE SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND
COMMERCIAL COOPERATION OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC), held in Istanbul from 6 to 9 October, 1991:

Recalling Resolution No. 13/3-P (IS) of the Third Islamic Summit Conference establishing the COMCEC;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/3-E (IS) on the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation among the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, adopted at the Third Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/4-EF (IS) adopted at the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference designating trade, industry, food and agriculture, transport and communications, science and technology and energy as priority areas for economic cooperation contained in the Plan of Action;

Bearing in Mind the provisions of the Resolutions No. 1/5-E (IS), and No. 3/5-E (IS) adopted at the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference ;

Taking into Consideration the Resolutions adopted at the six previous Sessions of the COMCEC and the recommendations made by its Follow-up Committee;

Taking Note of the relevant Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers;

Noting the decisions adopted at :

- the Third Ministerial Consultation on Industrial Cooperation held in Istanbul from 27 to 28 June 1987,
- the First Ministerial Meeting on Transport held in Istanbul from 9 to 10 September 1987,
- the First Ministerial Meeting on Communications held in Istanbul from 6 to 7 September 1988,
- the Third Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Islamabad from 18 to 20 October 1988,
- the First Ministerial Meeting on Energy held in Istanbul from 5 to 6 September 1989,
- The First Ministerial Meeting on Technical Cooperation held in Istanbul from 7 to 10 October 1990,

Noting with Satisfaction the progress achieved since the Sixth Session of the COMCEC in the implementation of the Plan of Action and, in particular, that:

- the Republic of Tunisia, which hosted the Fourth Islamic Trade Fair in Tunis from 4 to 15 October 1990, has already made arrangements to provide temporary facilities in warehousing of goods with a view to contributing in an efficient manner to the promotion of trade exchanges within the Islamic community and between Islamic countries and the rest of the world.
- the expert group meeting was held at the Headquarters of the OIC General Secretariat from 20 to 21 April 1991 to review the Draft Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC;
- the Islamic Development Bank hosted the High Level Experts Meeting from 23 to 24 April 1991 to review the Draft Articles of Agreement Establishing the Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme;
- the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC was held in Istanbul from 7 to 9 May, 1991 to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the ongoing appearing projects on the agenda of the COMCEC;
- the Second Meeting of the Focal Points for Technical Cooperation among the Member States was held in Istanbul from 12 to 13 May, 1991;
- a symposium on the Promotion of Joint Ventures Among OIC Member Countries was organized by the Islamic Development

- Bank in conjunction with the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of IDB, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 29 to 30 May, 1991;
- the study concerning the Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union has been finalized by the IDB and was submitted to the Eighth Meeting of Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities held in Cairo from 30 to 31 May, 1991;
 - the Eighth Meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States was held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 30 to 31 May, 1991 in conjunction with the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank;
 - the Framework Agreement on the establishment of a Preferential Trade System among Member States of OIC, as adopted at the Sixth Session of the COMCEC, was opened by the OIC General Secretariat to the signature and ratification by the Member States;
 - the first workshop on OIC Information System Network (OICIS-NET) organized by the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) took place at IDB Headquarters in Jeddah from 21 to 24 July, 1991;

- the IDB held the meeting of the Technical Secretariat of the Symposium on Food Security in African OIC Member States in Jeddah from 24 to 25 September, 1991, in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat, the African Development Bank and the Republic of Senegal, as preparatory to the symposium on food security to be organized in conjunction with the Sixth Islamic Summit;
- the Second Ministerial Meeting on Communications will be held in Bandung, Republic of Indonesia, from 5 to 8 November 1991;
- the Fifth Islamic Trade Fair will be organized in Sudan in 1992;
- a preliminary study on the formulation of new strategies for the OIC Plan of Action was prepared by the Ankara Centre and sent to the Member States, by the General Secretariat, for their examination and comments;
- 21 Member States have joined the Longer Term Trade financing Scheme under the aegis of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in pursuance of a COMCEC decision, and the scheme is actually being utilized by the participating Member countries to finance their intra-OIC export of non-traditional commodities. The paid capital of the Scheme is now over 300.000.000 Islamic Dinars;

DECIDES:

A. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Activities of OIC Organs and Institutions Working in the
Field of Economy and Trade

1. Expresses its deep appreciation for the activities of SESRTCIC, ICDT, ICTVTR, IFSTAD, IDB and IAIB in the areas of economic, commercial and technical cooperation among the OIC Member Countries, which are in support of and complementary to the activities of the COMCEC.

2. Invites the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Center for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR) and the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD), in close cooperation with the relevant OIC bodies, to jointly undertake the necessary surveys and studies in order to prepare and publish country profiles of the OIC member countries in the fields of human and natural resources, tradable industrial products, technical cooperation capacities and technology transfer potentials (including the potentials of the National Patent Offices), and calls upon the OIC member states to support this effort,

3. Supports the research and studies by ICDT and SESRTCIC on the prospective impact of the Single European Market on the OIC Member States.

4. Calls for regular contacts between the financial and the operational institutions of OIC, in particular between the subsidiary organs of OIC and the International Association of Islamic Banks, in order to help implement their respective programmes.

5. Takes note of the further aggravation of the financial crisis of the OIC subsidiary organs arising from the non-payment of the mandatory contributions and arrears on the part of the Member States, which has become so serious as to threaten their very existence.

6. Appeals to the Heads of Delegations of the Member States to intercede with their respective governments with a view to facilitating their mandatory contributions to the SESRTCIC, ICDT, ICTVTR and IFSTAD.

7. Requests that this issue be reflected in the report of the COMCEC to the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to be held in Dakar in December 1991, as non-payment of mandatory dues by the Member States might eventually prove detrimental to the work of the COMCEC.

Signature and Ratification of Statutes and Agreements

8. Urges the Member Countries that have not yet signed and/or ratified various statutes and agreements in the field of economic cooperation drawn up or concluded within the framework of OIC, to do so at an early date.

B. COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

Trade Preferential System Among the Member States of OIC

1. Appreciates the efforts of the General Secretariat and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) in finalizing the technical preparation for opening up the Framework Agreement For the Establishment of a Trade Preferential System Among the Member States of OIC (TPSOIC) to the signature and ratification of the Member States and calls for early completion of the necessary legal formalities by the Member States so that trade negotiations could start as soon as possible.

Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC)

2. Appreciates the efforts of ICDT and IDB in revising their joint study to identify functional interrelations and complementarities between TINIC and OIC IS-NET.

3. Requests ICDT to continue to work out, in close cooperation with the focal points and IDB, the necessary preparations regarding the required data bases and to submit the results to the next meeting of the Follow-up Committee.

4. Expresses satisfaction at the progress achieved by IDB towards establishing the OICIS-NET project which may comprise TINIC as a data base specializing in trade information.

Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Scheme

5. Appreciates the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank for hosting the Expert Group Meeting, organized in cooperation with the COMCEC Coordination Office, to revise the text of the Draft Articles of Agreement, and notes with satisfaction that the contents of the Draft Articles of Agreement conform to the terms of reference given by the COMCEC.

6. Endorses the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit.

7. Requests the IDB to finalize, at the earliest, the legal and administrative preparations for the establishment of a subsidiary institution under the aegis of IDB as envisaged in the Articles of Agreement.

Methodology for the Harmonization of Standards

8. Appreciates the efforts of the Turkish Standards Institution, acting as the Secretariat for the Harmonization of Standards Among the OIC Member Countries, in finalizing the "Methodology for the Harmonization of the Existing Standards in the Islamic Countries and the Preparation of Common Standards" in the light of the views and comments of the Member States.

9. Requests the Turkish Standards Institution to take the necessary measures for the harmonization of existing standards in the Member Countries and preparation of common standards in

accordance with the Methodology, and to submit, through the OIC General Secretariat, progress report to the Follow-up Committee.

Multilateral Islamic Clearing Union

10. Notes with appreciation that the IDB has finalized the "Model of a Multilateral Islamic Clearing Arrangement" and submitted it to the 8th meeting of the Governors of Central Banks and Monetary Authorities of the Member States of OIC.

11. Agrees, in principle, on the proposed arrangement and endorses the recommendation of the Governors of the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities that:

a) the arrangement should be flexible in its coverage of goods and its membership should be on a voluntary basis; and,

b) in view of the differences in economic and trading systems, as well as in monetary rules and regulations among Member States, the formation of clearing arrangements could take place among sub-groups of the Member States willing to participate in them.

Fifth Islamic Trade Fair

12. Notes with appreciation that the Fifth Islamic Trade Fair will be organized in Sudan in December in 1992.

13. Requests the ICDT to extend assistance to the Sudanese authorities concerned, with a view to ensuring the success of that event, and appeals to the Member States to actively participate in the Fifth Islamic Trade Fair.

C. INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

1. Notes, through the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, that, in pursuance of the decision of the Third Ministerial Consultation on Industrial Cooperation, the meeting of the "Task Force for the Promotion of Joint Ventures" was convened by IDB in Jeddah from 1 to 2 November 1987 and considered in detail the mechanism for the promotion of joint ventures among the Member Countries as outlined by the Ministers.

2. Invites the Member States to examine the recommendation of the Task Force regarding the proposed mechanism and communicate their views and comments thereon to the OIC General Secretariat to facilitate the consideration of the matter at the Fourth Ministerial Consultation, and appeals to the Member States to host the Fourth Ministerial Consultation.

3. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the Resolutions of the Ministerial Consultations on Industrial Cooperation and to submit progress reports to the OIC conferences and to the COMCEC.

D. FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Notes, through the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, the Resolutions adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development held in Islamabad from 18 to 20 October 1988, and the ensuing steps taken to study the establishment of an OIC Food Security Reserve.
2. Calls upon the Member States and the relevant organs of OIC to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Resolutions of the Third Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development.
3. Appreciates the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development.
4. Notes with appreciation that the Islamic Development Bank, in collaboration with the Republic of Senegal, the General Secretariat of OIC and the African Development Bank, shall organize a Symposium on Food security in Islamic African Countries during the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, and appeals to the Member States to actively participate in the Symposium.
5. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the Resolutions of Ministerial Conferences on Food Security and Agricultural Development and to submit progress reports to the OIC Conferences and to the COMCEC.

E. TRANSPORT

1. Notes, through the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, the action taken since the First Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the Member States held in Istanbul from 7 to 10 September 1987, to implement its Resolutions.

2. Calls upon the Member States and the OIC organs concerned to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Resolutions of the First Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the Member States, and appeals to the Member States to host the Second Meeting of the Ministers of Transport.

3. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the Resolutions of the First Meeting of the Ministers of Transport and to submit progress reports to the OIC Conferences and to the COMCEC.

F. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Notes, through the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, that the Report and Resolutions of the First Ministerial Meeting on Communications had been circulated among the Member States and agencies concerned for implementation.

2. Further notes with appreciation that the Republic of Indonesia has offered to host the Second Ministerial Meeting on Communications in Bandung from 5 to 8 November 1991 and the preparation made by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia to ensure the success of the Meeting.

3. Calls upon the Member States and the OIC organs concerned to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Resolutions of the First Ministerial Meeting on Communications, and to actively participate in the Second Ministerial Meeting to be held in Bandung.

4. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the Resolutions of the Ministerial Meetings on Communications and to submit progress reports to the OIC Conferences and to the COMCEC.

G. ENERGY

1. Notes, through the Report of the OIC General Secretariat, the action taken since the First Ministerial Meeting on Energy, held in Istanbul from 5 to 6 September 1989, to implement its resolutions.

2. Calls upon the Member States and the OIC organs concerned to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Resolutions of the First Ministerial Meeting on Energy, and appeals to the Member States to host the Second Ministerial Meeting on Energy.

3. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the Resolutions of the First Meeting of the Ministers of Energy and to submit progress reports to the OIC Conferences and to the COMCEC.

H. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC

1. Appreciates the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat in organizing the Expert Group Meeting in Jeddah from 21 to 22 April, 1991, to revise the Draft Rules of Procedure of the COMCEC and submit the revised version of it, with a formula **for** the election of the Bureau and the composition of the Follow-up Committee, to the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee.
2. Endorses the document titled "Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC)" as revised at the Seventh Meeting of the Follow-up Committee.
3. Agrees on the following formation of the Bureau of the COMCEC and the composition of its Follow-up Committee :

General Assembly Bureau

- (a) The General Assembly Bureau shall be composed of the Chairman of the COMCEC (or Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC), the Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur.

The Secretary General Shall be ex-officio member of the Bureau, without a right to vote.

- (b) The General Assembly Bureau shall, inter-alia, assist the Chairman in coordinating all the works of the Sessions.

- (c) The President of the Republic of Turkey shall be the permanent Chairman (the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey shall be the Alternate Chairman and he shall preside over the sessions in the absence of the Chairman).
- (d) The State of Palestine shall be the permanent Vice-chairman.
- (e) The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia shall be the permanent Vice-chairman.
- (f) The State of the Sessional Chairman of the Summit shall be a Vice-chairman.
- (g) The General Assembly shall, every three years, elect three Vice-chairmen representing the three geographical regions in OIC, nominated by the members of their respective regional group.
- (h) The General Assembly shall elect every three years a Rapporteur from among Member States.

Composition of the Follow-up Committee

- (a) The Follow-up Committee shall be composed of the following :
 - (i) Members of the General Assembly Bureau as defined above.

(ii) Vice-chairmen of the previous Bureau representing the geographical regions.

(b) Vice-chairmen of the previous Bureau representing the geographical regions shall retain their membership status for a period of three years.

(c) A representative of the General Secretariat and one from the National Coordinating Office shall be ex-officio members, without the right to vote.

Provisional Clause

The remaining members of the present Follow-up Committee; namely, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Guinea, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Kuwait, shall remain members for three years as of the forthcoming election.

4. Elects the Arab Republic of Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Cameroun as Vice-chairmen to the Bureau of the COMCEC to represent the Arab, Asian and African regions, respectively, and Malaysia as the Rapporteur, to assume their positions in the Bureau following the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, to serve for three years.

Date of the Eighth Session of the COMCEC

5. Agrees on the dates for the Eighth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee and the Eighth Session of the COMCEC, to take place in Istanbul, as 5 to 7 May 1992 and 8 to 11 September

1992, respectively, and notes that the Third Meeting of Focal Points in the field of Technical Cooperation will be held in Istanbul from 9 to 11 May, 1992.

6. Decides that the Eighth Session of the COMCEC should be held by itself, without the usual concurrent ministerial meeting in a specific area of economic cooperation, to evaluate the progress achieved by the COMCEC since its inception and to formulate new strategies for joint economic action in the light of the decisions of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to be held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal.

7. Requests the Follow-up Committee to prepare the draft agenda of the Eighth Session of the COMCEC.

8. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to communicate as soon as possible the dates of the Eighth Session of the COMCEC and the Eighth Meeting of the Follow-up Committee to the Member States.

Preparations for the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference

9. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to undertake, in close cooperation with the COMCEC Coordination Office, the necessary preparations for submission of a detailed progress report on the activities of the COMCEC to the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference to take place in Dakar from 9 to 12 December, 1991.

10. Also requests the COMCEC Coordination Office to make the necessary preparations, in collaboration with the General

Secretariat, SESRTCIC and ICDT, to enable the Chairman of the COMCEC to ask at the Sixth Islamic Summit for a mandate for the COMCEC to formulate and implement new strategies for the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic Cooperation Among Member States of OIC, taking into account those rapid and structural changes that have taken place in the world economy since 1981, including the possible effects of the Single European Market on the economies of the Member Countries and the results of the multilateral trade negotiations of the Uruguay Round.

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RESOLUTION (2) ON MATTERS
RELATED TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

Original : Arabic

RESOLUTION (2) ON MATTERS
RELATED TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES

(Istanbul, 6-9 October 1991)

A. ECONOMIC MEASURES IN SUPPORT OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE

The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC), held in Istanbul (Republic of Turkey) from 6 to 9 October 1991,

RECALLING the Resolutions of the Islamic Summits on the question of Palestine,

RECALLING also the resolutions adopted by the Sixth Session of the COMCEC on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people, as well as the resolutions adopted by the Ministerial Conferences of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference concerning the extending of support to the Palestinian people;

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the previous resolutions adopted on the provision of support and assistance in all fields,

particularly in the financial, economic and social fields, to the Palestinian people;

2. Expresses support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its unrelenting efforts aimed at convening the peace conference and implementing all international legitimacy resolutions pertaining to the rights of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination and to independent statehood on the territory of their homeland, Palestine, with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital;

3. Invites Member-States to pursue the provision of all forms of support, assistance and backing to the Palestinian people in order to enhance their steadfastness and enable them to carry on the struggle until they fulfil their national aspirations;

4. Requests the Follow-up Committee to report to the Eighth Session of the COMCEC on the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution.

B. ECONOMIC MEASURES IN SUPPORT OF LEBANON

The Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC), held in Istanbul (Republic of Turkey) from 6 to 9 October, 1991,

NOTING the course of the peace process in the Republic of Lebanon since the Taif Agreement and the success of the Lebanese Government in exercising its sovereignty over the major part of its national territory,

CONVINCED that the reconstruction of what the war has destroyed calls for strong support and assistance from all the countries that can provide such assistance to alleviate the sufferings of the Lebanese people and help them repair the dire consequences of a 15- year war in which the Lebanese people were target and victim;

REAFFIRMS its previous resolutions calling for all forms of economic, technical and material support and assistance, to be provided to Lebanon as well as preferential treatment and customs facilities for its products, in addition to an assistance to enable it to reconstruct its infrastructure in the fields of electricity, energy, agriculture, irrigation, health, housing projects, transport, communications and administration;

CALLS upon all OIC Member states to respond to the call of the Arab Tripartite Committee, composed of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Algeria, and subscribe and contribute to the International Fund for the Reconstruction of Lebanon;

- 3) INVITES the member states to respond to Lebanon's request for financing the projects it will be submitting to the present Session;
- 4) INVITES the member states to provide assistance in kind and other material assistance to Lebanon in the areas of medicine, education, and protection of the environment;
- 5) CALLS UPON the member states to provide scholarships to Lebanese students wishing to pursue their studies in any of the member countries.

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STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. HAMID AL-GABID,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Original : French

STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. HAMID AL-GABID,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Bismillahi Al-Rahman Al-Rahim

Mr. President, Chairman of the COMCEC
Mr. Prime Minister, Alternate Chairman of the COMCEC
Distinguished Ministers,
Excellencies,
Honourable Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamou Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatou

May I be permitted to express my joy and honour for participating in the Joint Closing Session of the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation and the First OIC Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure and Public Works. It is always a rewarding privilege to participate in the COMCEC meetings, convened under the wise and efficient leadership of H.E. President Turgut ÖZAL, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of COMCEC who has spared no effort to turn COMCEC into a forum, abounding in a fruitful

exchange of views and orientations for the development of economic and commercial cooperation among OIC Member States.

I wish first to express my profound gratitude and warm thanks to H.E. President Turgut ÖZAL, Chairman of the COMCEC, for his inaugural speech which guided our work and enabled our Meeting to arrive at positive results.

I also wish to thank H.E. Mesut YILMAZ, the Prime Minister of Turkey and Alternate Chairman of COMCEC, for his very useful proposals, conducive to strengthening cooperation between member countries, and for the readiness he expressed on behalf of Turkey to let other Islamic Countries benefit from its material resources and its technical expertise.

Mr. Chairman,

We are happy to note that, as it has always been the case in the past, our deliberations were conducted under excellent conditions and culminated into concrete and positive results, thanks, to the wise directives of H.E. President Turgut ÖZAL, Chairman of the COMCEC. This Meeting represents a new phase towards the implementation of the objectives of COMCEC. As I pointed out at the opening of this Seventh Session of the COMCEC, the success achieved by COMCEC since its establishment, merely six years ago, is noteworthy. Indeed, in a relatively short time, COMCEC has already dealt with the six priority areas of the Plan of Action adopted by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca, and it is opportune at this juncture to reiterate,

that the COMCEC has adopted programmes and agreements of great importance for the development of economic, commercial, financial and technical cooperation among Member States. In this connection, we refer in particular to the Longer-Term Trade Financing Scheme, the Trade Preferential System among member countries that COMCEC had already adopted, as well as the Export Credit Guarantee Scheme and the Islamic Multilateral Clearing Union that we have just adopted. Other projects, just as important, are under consideration and will be added to the measures already adopted with a view to promoting cooperation among OIC Member States in accordance with the Plan of Action of the Third Islamic Summit of Makkah Al-Mukarramah and the Fourth Islamic Summit of Casablanca.

Mr. Chairman,

I am also happy to note that the Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works which was concurrently held with the Seventh Session of COMCEC led to positive results owing to the excellent preparations made by the Republic of Turkey and the constant attendance of all participants.

The development of infrastructures is undoubtedly a fundamental basis for the development of OIC Member States and it is gratifying to note that the COMCEC grants due importance to it and might include it among the priority areas of concern to our Organisation.

Mr. Chairman,,

In spite of a difficult international environment, we can certainly express satisfaction at the progress achieved in the development of cooperation among OIC Member States. In this context I would like to express my gratitude to the Islamic Development Bank that is endeavouring at best to contribute effectively to the strengthening of economic, trade, financial, technical and technological cooperation among OIC Member States. While we are considering the drawing up of a new plan of action, it would be appropriate to refer to the remarkable efforts exerted by the OIC subsidiary organs such as the Ankara and Casablanca Centres that spare no effort, in spite of the financial difficulties they encounter, to contribute to the implementation of the Plan of Action.

Mr. Chairman,

May I once again be allowed to express my profound gratitude to you and to H.E. Mesut YILMAZ, the Prime Minister, for the considerable care and the sincere interest taken all COMCEC activities. On behalf of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, I would also like to express our gratitude for the generous hospitality accorded to us every time we visit this beautiful country.

I would also like to express our deepest appreciation and sincere thanks to the honourable Ministers, and to the distinguished delegates and observers from international

organisations for their fruitful contribution to the success of these meetings.

I cannot fail to add that we are equally grateful to the COMCEC Coordination Bureau, to the interpreters and translators and to the entire personnel who, behind the scenes, ensured the success of this Conference.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you once more, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity of taking the floor at this closing session and assure you that the Secretariat of our Organisation will spare no effort in implementing the decisions of the Seventh Session of COMCEC and of the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works of OIC Member States.

May God the Almighty bless you all.

Wassalamou Alaikoum We Rahmatoullah Wa Barakatruh.

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STATEMENT BY H.E. MESUT YILMAZ
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN OF COMCEC
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Original : Turkish

STATEMENT BY H.E. MESUT YILMAZ
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN OF COMCEC
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST OIC MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Mr. President,
Distinguished Ministers,
H.E. the Secretary General of the Organization of the
Islamic Conference
Esteemed Delegates,

As we come to the end of the four-day work of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, I would like to thank the distinguished Ministers and delegates and His Excellency Hamid Al-Gabid, Secretary General of the OIC, for their sincere efforts towards the success of the meetings, as well as the Islamic Development Bank, the Ankara Centre and other subsidiary organs which have carried out, with dedication and diligence, the tasks they have been entrusted with.

Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

The rapid and radical changes taking place on the world economic and political scene, increase the importance of the efforts for regional cooperation and emphasize the necessity for

developing more efficient cooperation and solidarity within the Islamic world. In the present state of affairs, where reciprocal cooperation and interdependence tend to replace self-sufficiency in international relations, economic cooperation will contribute, not only to the welfare of our countries, but also to the achievement of durable peace and stability in our region as well as in the world. In this spirit, I would like to reiterate that the government of Turkey attaches special importance to the activities of the COMCEC, and will continue, as it did in the past, to extend all possible support to these activities.

Our Ministers of Infrastructure and Public Works met for the first time concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, and laid the foundations of cooperation between our countries in that field. I wish to express my pleasure in seeing the COMCEC field of activities extend to Infrastructure and Public Works, and hope that the work to be initiated will soon be translated into concrete projects which will yield results at an early time.

During this meeting, which is held prior to the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference in Dakar, we have also approved the implementation of the third project on the agenda. After the Longer Term Trade Financing Scheme, put in operation as of 1987, and the Trade Preferential System Framework Agreement opened to the signature and ratification of the member countries in the beginning of this year, we are now processing the Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee Mechanism for implementation. The results achieved in such a short time by an such a forum

formultilateral economic cooperation as the COMCEC, grouping as it does countries spread over a vast geographical area of the world, truly give us hope for the future.

Over the seven sessions it held since its inception in 1984, the COMCEC has launched cooperation activities in many of the fields defined in the Economic Cooperation Plan of Action, and has also provided additional impetus and consistency to those that had been earlier initiated. In this connection, I would like to express satisfaction over the appropriate decision we have reached to the effect of devoting next year's Session to an assessment of the activities carried out so far under the COMCEC umbrella -in the light of the resolutions to be adopted at the Dakar Summit- as well as to the elaboration of new strategies adapted to the changing conditions in the world.

Distinguished Ministers
Esteemed Delegates,

Before I conclude, I would like to once more thank all the delegations participating in the meetings for their constructive work and valuable contribution. May I also express, on behalf of my government and the Turkish people, our sincere and best wishes to the brotherly governments and peoples you represent, and hope that you take back home pleasant memories from your stay in Turkey.

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CLOSING ADDRESS OF H.E. TURGUT ÖZAL
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
CHAIRMAN OF COMCEC
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Original : Turkish

CLOSING ADDRESS OF H.E. TURGUT ÖZAL,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
CHAIRMAN OF COMCEC
AT THE JOINT CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMCEC
AND THE FIRST MINISTERIAL MEETING
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS

(Istanbul, 9 October 1991)

Distinguished Ministers,
His Excellency the Secretary General,
Esteemed Delegates,

We have now reached the end of the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works. During the four-day work at the level of Senior Officials and Ministers, many fruitful discussions took place, and we have made decisions which, I believe, are beneficial to all member countries.

I would like to express my thanks to the distinguished delegates, to the General-Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to the affiliate institutions and to all technical and administrative personnel who have taken part in the organization of the sessions, as well as to the translators and interpreters, for their valuable efforts and contribution towards the success of the meetings.

With the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works, held concurrently with the Seventh Session of the COMCEC, we have launched efforts to develop cooperation in yet another field vitally important for the development of our countries. I hope that with the active participation of the member countries, these efforts will soon lead to the implementation of projects aimed at securing the foundations of peace, stability and welfare in our community.

It is a source of special pleasure for me to see that final ratification has been obtained during these meetings for one more of the projects appearing on the COMCEC agenda. Based on this ratification, I hope that the Export Credit Insurance and Investment Guarantee System will be at the service of our coun* -ies as soon as the necessary work is completed by the Islamic Development Bank. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Distinguished President and experts of the Islamic Development Bank, who have executed the technical work related to this project with great diligence,

I would also like to reiterate my belief that the work started thanks to the dedicated efforts of the Ankara Centre will greatly facilitate our access to a mandate, from the upcoming Islamic Summit Meeting, to update the existing Economic Cooperation Plan of Action, which has hitherto served as the basis for COMCEC activities.

During this meeting, another issue solved to the satisfaction of all member states was that of the election of the members of the Bureau of the COMCEC and the composition of the Follow-up Committee. I would like to congratulate the countries that have been elected to serve on the Bureau of the COMCEC and Follow-up Committee in accordance with the new formula, and wish them success in their work.

Distinguished Delegates',

During the seven years since its establishment, thanks to your valuable support and contribution, the COMCEC has been accepted as an august body where economic cooperation is strengthened, and where senior decision-makers meet and exchange views regarding the mutual interests of their countries. In today's world of accelerated change and globalization, cooperation among our countries becomes all the more vital. Such cooperation will enable us to secure for our countries additional potentials for development and welfare in the face of changing world conditions by pooling our manpower, technology and economic resources.

I am convinced that with your continued support and contribution, the COMCEC will proceed towards new achievements in the future.

I conclude by asking you to convey my best wishes as well as the best wishes of the Turkish people to the brotherly Heads of

State and peoples of your countries, hoping that you carry back with you pleasant memories from our country.

I herewith declare the Seventh Session of the COMCEC and the First Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure and Public Works closed.

Thank you.