



OIC/CFM-41/2014/LEG/RES/FINAL

**RESOLUTIONS
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS
ADOPTED BY THE
FORTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
SESSION OF EXPLORING AREAS OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION
JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
18-19 JUNE 2014
(20-21 SHABAN 1435H)**

INDEX

| <i>Ser.</i> | <i>Subject</i> | <i>Page No.</i> |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | <i>RESOLUTION NO.41/1-LEG</i> ON THE FOLLOW-UP AND COORDINATION OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS | 1 |
| 2 | <i>RESOLUTION NO.41/2-LEG</i> THE SIGNING/RATIFICATION OF (ACCESSION TO) THE CHARTER AND THE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED UNDER THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION. | 6 |

RESOLUTION NO. 1/41-LEG
ON
ON THE FOLLOW-UP AND COORDINATION OF WORK IN THE
FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Forty-first Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Exploring Areas of Islamic Cooperation) Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 20-21 Shaban 1435H (18-19 June 2014);

Recalling the noble motives and objectives of the glorious Islamic faith, which emphasizes the importance of human rights; **and mindful of** the universal and integral nature of Islamic laws on human rights and the pre-eminence and stature of man;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all people without distinction as to race, sex, or religion;

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences, in particular Resolution No. 49/19-Pol on the adoption of the “Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam”;

Conscious of the need for strengthening the existing mechanism within the OIC for exploring ways and means to promote and protect human rights through, inter-alia, the formulation of a set of Islamic covenants on human rights,

Recognizing the obligations and endeavours of the Member States to promote and protect internationally-recognized human rights, while taking into account the significance of their religious, national, and regional specificities and various historical and cultural backgrounds, and with due regard to the “Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam”;

Cognizant of the universal and integral nature of Islamic values with respect to human rights, the prominent place of Man in Islam as vicegerent of Allah on earth

and hence the great importance attached by Islamic thought to the promotion, encouragement, and respect for human rights,

Recalling also the resolutions of the UN Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, entitled “defamation of religions” which expressed deep concern at negative stereotyping of religions, and that Islam is frequently and wrongly associated with human rights violations and terrorism, and also expresses concern at the use of print, audio-visual, and electronic media to incite violence, xenophobia, or related intolerance and discrimination towards Islam or any other religion,

Reaffirming the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of all human rights and the need to promote and protect human rights through cooperation and consensus rather than confrontation and/or imposition of incompatible, alien and inhomogeneous values;

Expressing its deep concern at the attempts to exploit the issue of human rights to discredit the principles and rules of Islamic Shariah (laws) and to interfere in the affairs of Islamic States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the matter: (OIC/CFM-41/2014/LEG/SG.REP1),

- 1- **Affirms** that human rights are universal in nature and must be considered in the context of dynamic and evolving process of international norm-setting, bearing in mind the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds;
- 2- **Emphasises** the need for the international community to address the human rights issue on an objective and indivisible basis, in all states, without selectivity or discrimination;
- 3- **Calls for** the need to consider human rights in their global conception and in all their civil, political, social, economic, and cultural facets within the framework of international cooperation and solidarity;

- 4- **Reaffirms** the right of states to uphold their religious, social, and cultural idiosyncrasies, which are legacies that help enrich common universal concepts of human rights;
- 5- **Calls for** abstaining from using the universality of human rights as a pretext to interfere in the states' internal affairs and undermine their national sovereignty;
- 6- **Recalls anew** the states' right to express, where necessary, reservations on the international conventions, covenants, and agreements they subscribe to, as part of their sovereign rights;
- 7- **Also expresses** its deep concern at the frequent and erroneous association of Islam with violations of human rights and the use of print and audio-visual media in propagating such misconceptions which perpetuate prejudice and discrimination against Muslims and calls on the Member States to undertake information activities to counter such activities;
- 8- **Notes with grave concern** the increasing trend of Islamophobic measures in Western countries, stresses the responsibility of those States to ensure full respect to Islam and all divine religions, and the inadmissibility of using freedom of expression or press as a pretext to defame religions, and calls for refrain from imposing restrictions, in any form whatsoever, on cultural and religious rights and freedoms.
- 9- **Denounces** media campaigns and fabrications made by some circles in non-OIC Member States regarding the mistreatment of non-Muslim minorities and communities in OIC member states in the name of religious freedoms and so on.
- 10- **Expresses** the need to pursue, as a matter of priority, a common policy aimed at preventing defamation of Islam perpetrated under the pretext of freedom of expression, in particular through media and Internet;
- 11- **Commends** the valuable efforts of the Secretary General during his visit to Geneva in March 2014, his speech at the Meeting of the Human Rights

Council as well as his intensive consultations with senior officials of States and International Organisations regarding human rights and the valuable contribution of the OIC Open-ended Working Group on Human Rights and Humanitarian Issues at the United Nations Office in Geneva and New York, geared at safeguarding the interests of Islamic countries; and urges OIC Member States to consider the possibility of establishing regional arrangements in the field of human rights in Islam to boost their regional cooperation in this regard;

- 12- **Expresses deep concern** over any activities which may be carried out by certain governmental or non-governmental organisations, supported by governments which use them against OIC Member States for political purposes and to further their foreign policy objectives in international fora;
- 13- **Exhorts** all member states to take, in line with their national laws and in consonance with international human rights instruments, all appropriate measures to encourage understanding, tolerance, and respect in matters related to the freedom of religion or belief;
- 14- **Calls upon** Member States to continue their active coordination and cooperation in the field of human rights particularly in the relevant international fora in order to strengthen Islamic solidarity to confront any initiative that may lead to the use of human rights as a means of exercising political pressure on any Member State;
- 15- **Decides** that the General Secretariat and the Member States shall undertake to follow up the work of their missions to the relevant international organisations, in particular, at the UN Headquarters in New York and Geneva, and to hold meetings on appropriate occasions, to consider and discuss human rights issues with a view to adopting a common position of Member States vis-à-vis campaigns and draft resolutions that target OIC Member States at relevant international fora;
- 16- **Invites** member states again to participate in the programs of King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue

established in Vienna by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in cooperation with the Republic of Austria and the Kingdom of Spain to promote interreligious and inter-cultural dialogue;

- 17- **Invites** Member States to participate in the UN Alliance of Civilizations co-chaired by the Republic of Turkey and the Kingdom of Spain;
- 18- **Requests** Member States to sign and ratify the Covenant on the Rights of the Child in Islam as soon as possible;
- 19- **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the 42nd Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/41-LEG
ON
THE SIGNING/RATIFICATION OF (ACCESSION TO)
THE CHARTER AND THE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED UNDER
THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION

The Forty-first Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Exploring Areas of Islamic Cooperation) Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 20-21 Shaban 1435H (18-19 June 2014);

Having considered the signing, ratification and accession status of the agreements concluded under the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Taking note of the fact that the minimum ratifications by Member States required for some of these agreements to enter into force has not been achieved, as stipulated in their provisions, and of the need to expedite ratification in order to consolidate the Organisation's role and expand the scope of cooperation among Member States,

Having taken note of the OIC Secretary General's report contained in Document No. (OIC/CFM-41/2014/LEG/SG.REP.2.),

- 1- **Urges** Member States again to see to their early signing, ratification, or accession to the Charter and the various agreements concluded within the OIC framework;
- 2- **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the 42nd Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.
