

OIC/ICMYS/1-2005/FC.FINAL

**FINAL DECLARATION  
OF THE  
FIRST SESSION OF THE  
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF  
YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA  
24-25 SAFAR 1426H  
(3-4 APRIL, 2005)**

OIC/ICMYS/1-2005/FC.FINAL

**FINAL DECLARATION  
OF THE  
FIRST SESSION OF THE  
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF  
YOUTH AND SPORTS**

JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA  
24-25 SAFAR 1426H  
(3-4 APRIL, 2005)

**FINAL DECLARATION  
OF THE  
FIRST SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE  
OF MINISTERS OF YOUTH AND SPORTS**

1. The First Session of the Islamic Conference Ministers of Youth and Sports, generously hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, was held in Jeddah from 24-25 Safar, 1426H (3-4 April, 2005). The Conference was attended by delegations representing most of OIC Member States, Observer States, Subsidiary and Specialized Bodies, a number of Islamic associations, institutions and societies, as well as a gathering of guests and those concerned with the issues of youth and sports in the OIC Member States.

2. The Session was inaugurated with recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. Following that, the Minister of Youth, Sports and Physical Education of the Republic of Tunisia, Mr. Abdallah Al-Kaabi, being the Deputy Chairman of the 31<sup>st</sup> OIC Foreign Ministers Conference, delivered a welcome statement in which he conveyed the greetings of His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz, his Crown Prince and his Royal Highness the Second Deputy Prime Minister. He recalled the proclamation by the UN General Assembly of the Year 2005 as the International Year for Sports and Physical Education in the Service of World Peace in response of an initiative from the President of the Republic of Tunisia, Mr Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

3. His Excellency the Minister Abdallah Al-Kaabi proposed the formation of the Conference Bureau. His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, Head of the Saudi Kingdom delegation, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Session. Burkina Faso, the Republic of Turkey and the State of Palestine were elected Vice-Chairmen, while the Islamic Republic of Iran was elected Rapporteur.

4. The Secretary General of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, Dr. Muhammad Saleh Gazdar, delivered a statement in which he highlighted the significance of this conference which is held within the framework of the Ministerial conferences system aimed at achieving greater cooperation and fraternity among the peoples of the Islamic Ummah and making Joint Islamic Action more effective and more developed. He said that the Sports Federation was one of the Bodies of the Organization of the Islamic Conference striving to achieve its goals through its various activities.

5. His Excellency Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference addressed the meeting welcoming Their Royal Highnesses Excellencies attending. In his statement His Excellency the Secretary General remembered the great youths advocate, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, Mercy be upon him, who did much for the promotion of youths and sports issues in the Islamic World. He reviewed the history of the Islamic Sports Solidarity Federation since the idea to establish was first mooted during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Islamic Summit Conference was held in Makkah and Taif. He pointed out that the OIC resolutions paid great attention to deepening the Islamic values among the Muslim youth and providing the Islamic cultural activities in addition to securing the basic

requirements that guarantee the participation of youth in the political, cultural, economic affairs of the society and creating propitious environment for encouraging the participation of youth in the inclusive development of the character of the Muslim, off-setting immoralities and avoiding the grave consequences that leisure may cause among the various spectra of youths.

6. The inaugural meeting was also addressed by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Fadh Bin Abdulaziz, President General of the Youth Welfare in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He warmly welcomed the delegates in their second home, Saudi Arabia in the name of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz, May Allah bless him, his Crown Prince and the Second Deputy Premier, Allah Bless them all. He pointed out that holding the conference at this particular time was motivated by the Kingdom's belief in the importance of Joint Islamic Action and its constant keenness on supporting all the causes of the Islamic world including youth to prove to the world that our tolerant religion of Islam is a religion of love and peace. He said the Kingdom was seeking through this conference to lay down the first bricks of Islamic joint action for the service of Muslim youth in realization of the aspiration of Islamic leaderships. His Royal Highness also expressed his thanks and appreciation of His Excellency Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, the OIC Secretary General, the Heads of the affiliate and specialized bodies of the OIC for their promotion of youth and sports activities in the Islamic world.

7. The meeting listened attentively to the report of the Director of the 1<sup>st</sup> Islamic Solidarity Games, Dr. Saleh Ahmed Bin Nasser, Vice President of the Youth Welfare, on the achievements realized over the past period and the measures that will be taken in the future. He mentioned that invitation was extended to 57 Member States to participate in the events of the session. He received the approval of 54 States to compete in 15 Games, Athletics, Equestrian, Swimming, Basket Ball, Football, Volley Ball, Handball, Tennis, Weight-lifting, Karate, Taekwondo, Fencing and Sports of those of Special Needs. He illustrated his excellent report by a documentary film on the complete sports installations in the four cities hosting the Games: Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Madina Al-Munawarah, Jeddah, Taif.

8. After the examination of all reports and working papers presented, the conference adopted a comprehensive resolution whose operative paragraphs read as follows:

- 1- **To adopt** the Report prepared by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts and the additions contained in the document prepared by the Ad-hoc Working Group on Enriching the Themes contained in the Report, taking into account the observations of heads of participating delegations at the 1<sup>st</sup> Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers on improving the content of the Report, particularly the aspect concerning introduction of the issue of environment in school curricula.
- 2- **To adopt** the decision to convene a regular session of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers (ICYSM) every two years, with the Islamic Solidarity and Sports Federation assuming the functions of the Secretariat.

- 3- **To entrust** the ISSF General Secretariat with preparing a Draft Strategy and Plan of Action for Sports Activities in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and other relevant bodies.
- 4- **To invite** Member States to extend necessary financial assistance to the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation with a view to promoting its activities to meet the desired objectives along the lines of the OIC system and to **recommend** to the OIC General Secretariat to develop the necessary mechanisms for this subject.
- 5- **To welcome** the Working Paper submitted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on "The Muslim Youth and Future Challenges" and adopt the proposed mechanisms contained therein for advancing, protecting and strengthening the position of the Muslim youth in the society, and to **constitute** a Ministerial Committee composed of four states selected from: (Asia, Africa, a Member State of the Gulf Cooperation Council and a Member of the League of Arab States), to be chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Nawaf Bin Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, to activate the proposals contained in the working paper submitted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- 6- **To welcome** also the offer made by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Islamic Solidarity Games in 2009 and invites all Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in these games.
- 7- **To encourage** the establishment of Science Clubs, given their importance in today's world, to cater to talented and creative Muslim youths in all scientific fields.
- 8- **To welcome** the Islamic Conference Youth Forum to become a leading institution in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.
- 9- **To affirm** the need to prepare a draft professional code of conduct on youth and sports information.
- 10- **To invite** Member States to formulate their youth plans within the framework of the Cultural Strategy of the Muslim World and its Implementation Mechanisms developed by the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO and adopted by the 6<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit Conference in Dakar
- 11- **To affirm** the importance of promoting and unifying efforts of Member States for greater attention to youth issues and for providing the necessary financial appropriations to develop projects and programmes for the benefit of the youth.
- 12- **To affirm** the need for complementarity between Ministries of Youth and Sports and Ministries of Education, Culture, Information, Waqf

and Religious Guidance in the sports, cultural, educational and religious care of youth.

- 13- **To encourage** Member States to increase their efforts and accelerate the spiritual, intellectual and physical empowerment of the youth, particularly the female youth, in accordance with modern standards while respecting religious and cultural principles and values with a view to promoting and coordinating their effective participation in political, social and economic lives of their societies.
- 14- **To commend** the ratification by the United Nations General Assembly of the initiative of the Republic of Tunisia to adopt the Year 2005 as the International Year for Physical Education in Support of World Peace, and **to invite** Member States to contribute to the implementation of this resolution by executing programmes and activities in the field.
- 15- **To commend highly** the efforts of HRH the late Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz (May Allah grant him mercy) and of Their Royal Highnesses Prince Sultan Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz and Prince Nawwaf Bin Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz for their attention to youth activities and sports development in the Islamic world.
- 16- **To express profound** gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, to his loyal Crown Prince and First Deputy His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz, and to the Second Deputy His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz for the kind hosting by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the 1<sup>st</sup> Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers and the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games.
- 17- **To commend** the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for its outstanding contribution towards the convening of the 1<sup>st</sup> Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers.
- 18- **To thank** the General Secretariat of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation for its efforts towards the success of the proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers and for organizing the First Edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games.