



OIC/CFM-39/2012/REPORT-FINAL

REPORT
OF THE
THIRTY-NINTH SESSION
OF THE
COUNCIL OF
FOREIGN MINISTERS

SESSION OF “*SOLIDARITY FOR SUSTAINABLE*
***DEVELOPMENT*”**

DJIBOUTI, REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI
(15-17 NOVEMBER 2012
1-3 Muharram 1434)

Report of the Thirty-ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers
Session of “*Solidarity for Sustainable Development*”

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1. At the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Djibouti, the 39th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Solidarity for Sustainable Development), held in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, from 1-3 Muharram 1434H (15-17 November 2012);
2. The Meeting was opened with a recitation of verses from the Holy Qur’an.
3. The Meeting was addressed by H. E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti. In view of the importance of the statement, the text of the President’s speech is enclosed to the report and will be issued as an official document of the meeting.
4. His Excellency Mr. Erlan Idrissof, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Chairman of the 38th CFM delivered a speech in which he highlighted the important activities, developments and achievements during the chairmanship of his country.
5. Addressing the opening session, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary-General of the OIC, reviewed the situation in the Muslim world and highlighted the major activities and challenges facing the OIC. The text of the Secretary General’s statement is also attached to the report.
6. The Meeting then unanimously elected H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Ali Yussof, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti, as Chairman of the 39th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers. It also approved the composition of the Bureau as follows: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Gabon, and the State of Palestine as Vice-Chairs, and Republic of Kazakhstan as Rapporteur.
7. The Meeting listened to a welcome address by His Excellency Mr. Mahmoud Ali Yussof, Foreign Minister of Djibouti who expressed his gratitude for the election of his country as the Chair of the 39th CFM and reaffirmed the determination of his country to use its leadership to promote peace and development of the Islamic Ummah and strengthen solidarity and cooperation among OIC Member States.
8. The representatives of the three geographic groups, Sultanate of Oman for the Arab Group, the Republic of Guinea for the African Group and People’s Republic of Bangladesh for the Asian Group thanked the Republic of Djibouti for hosting the

Meeting and for its generous hospitality. They also pledged the full cooperation of their respective regional groups for the success for its chairmanship.

9. Secretary General of the United Nations Ban-ki Moon sent a message to the Council in which he underlined the collaboration between the UN and the OIC in maintaining regional peace and security, providing humanitarian relief, promoting sustainable development, advocating mutual understanding and tolerance across the world and welcomed the selection of the theme of `solidarity for sustainable development` which is one of the primary outcomes of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. He also referred to the situation in the Middle East Peace Process and the requirement to have close dialogue and cooperation between the two organizations about the developments in Syria, Myanmar, Somalia and the Sahel. Finally, the UN Secretary General expressed his appreciation for the constructive involvement of the OIC in the Alliance of Civilizations initiative, and thanked the OIC for its critical role in helping bring about Resolution 16/18 of the Human Rights Council on combating negative stereotyping and stigmatization based on religion or belief and stressed the need for education and peaceful dialogue.
10. The European Union High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy and Vice President of the EU Commission Baroness Catherine Ashton addressed the Council as a Special Guest upon the invitation of the OIC Secretary General and the Government of Djibouti. It was the first time that a senior official from the EU to attend and address the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers. In her address to the Council, preceded by a bilateral meeting with the OIC Secretary General, the EU High Representative commended the OIC Secretary General on the leadership he has shown in advancing the goals of the OIC and in deepening the cooperation between the OIC and the EU which has become more important than ever, providing a unique opportunity to advance the shared interests and responsibilities of the two Organisations in promoting dialogue and tolerance towards reconciliation and peace. She stressed the role and actions of the OIC to contribute to common efforts to ensure peace and stability through seeking common stance against extremism and intolerance and called for a more intensive engagement between the OIC and the European Union to achieve these common goals. Finally, she expressed concern on the aggression against Gaza and referred to the aim of achieving lasting peace in the Middle East and expressed her determination to intensify the collaboration between the two Organisations and to reinforce the spirit of mutual understanding and support.
11. The Council adopted the report of the preparatory Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) for the current session, held in Jeddah from 9-11 September 2012. It also adopted the Draft Agenda and Work Program submitted to it by the SOM as well as the reports of the Islamic Commission on Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs.

12. A wide range of issues of interest to Member States were discussed by the Council leading to the adoption of resolutions on various issues, including the Cause of Palestine and the Middle East; Political Affairs; Ten-Year Programme of Action; Statutory, Organic and General Matters; Legal Affairs; Conditions of Muslim Minorities and Communities in non-OIC Member States; Information Affairs; Administrative and Financial Affairs; Humanitarian Affairs; Economic, Science and Technology, Cultural, Social, and Family Affairs.
13. The Council issued a special Communiqué in which it strongly condemned the dangerous Israeli escalation against Gaza which caused the death and wounding of tens of Palestinian in the Gaza strip. The Council considered this barbaric aggression a continuation of the on-going savage and devastating war waged by the Zionist occupation against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip since 2008. The Council also appealed upon the UN Security Council to assume its responsibility to safeguard international peace and security and hold an immediate session to take the necessary steps to bring an end immediately to Zionist aggression and raids currently being carried out against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, bring the perpetrators to account and protect the Palestinian people.
14. The Council commended the OIC Islamophobia Observatory for its Annual Report on Islamophobia and urged the Member States to support the Observatory in its efforts to combat the phenomenon of Islamophobia.
15. On the sidelines of the CFM, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the OIC and IGAD. A meeting of the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir was also convened to reiterate the OIC's continued support to the legitimate rights of the Kashmiri people.
16. The Council welcomed the holding of the brainstorming session on an OIC approach for combating discrimination and intolerance against Islam and congratulated the Secretary General for the most timely and important initiative. The Council actively participated in the deliberations and made constructive contributions and recommendations in combating intolerance against Islam and denigration of the image of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). They unanimously adopted the resolution on the basis of the Concept Paper that included inter-alia, the establishment of the Group of eminent scholars and human rights experts to draw up an effective strategy to address malaise of Islamophobia.
17. The Council unanimously adopted the “Djibouti Declaration” which addressed major issues affecting the Muslim world.
18. The Council reiterated its support to the Republic of Guinea for its offer to convene the 40th Session of the CFM.
19. The conference listened to the statement of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its capacity as President of the 4th Extraordinary OIC Summit Conference, delivered by His Highness Prince Abdulaziz Bin Abdullah Al-Saud, Deputy Foreign

Minister. The Conference took note of the candidacy of the Kingdom for the post of Secretary General of the Organisation Islamic Cooperation in the person of His Excellency Minister Iyad Amin Madani with effect from 01/01/2014, in accordance with the Final Communiqué of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Kampala, Uganda in 2008.

20. The Council noted the declaration by Uganda to cede its bid for the position of the Secretary General of the OIC to Saudi Arabia and proposed the creation of the position of Assistant Secretary General for African Affairs, to take care of Africa's aspirations.
21. The Delegation of Malaysia expressed reservation on the operating paragraphs No.9 and 10 of the Resolution No.2/39-MM on the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines.
22. The delegation of Iraq expressed its reservation on the resolution MA/39/3 on the Turkish Muslim community in Western Thrace in Greece and the Dodecanese Muslim community. On the same resolution, the delegation of Kuwait submitted its observations to the OIC General Secretariat for circulation to the Member States.
23. On behalf of all the participants, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, addressed a cable of thanks to H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti, for hosting of the 39th CFM by his country and for the facilities and the generous hospitality extended to the delegates, which has immensely contributed to the success of its 39th Session.

Djibouti, 17th November 2012