

OIC/CFM-38/2011/MM/RES/FINAL

Original: Arabic.

**RESOLUTIONS
ON
MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES
IN NON-OIC MEMBER STATES**

ADOPTED BY THE

**THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(*SESSION OF PEACE, COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT*)**

**ASTANA — REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
26-28 RAJAB 1432H
28-30 JUNE 2011**

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RESOLUTION No. 1/38-MM
ON
SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS
OF MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MINORITIES
IN NON-OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-eighth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Cooperation and Development), held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, from 26 - 28 Rajab 1432H, (28 - 30 June 2011),

Recalling Resolution No. 1/37-MM adopted by the 37th session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers, and all the resolutions adopted by the Ministerial and Summit Conferences in this regard,

Recalling that, numberwise, Muslim Communities and Minorities living in non-OIC Member States constitute over one-third of the Muslim Ummah,

Recalling also the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the resolutions adopted by the various sessions of the OIC Summit and CFM Conferences as well as relevant international covenants, declarations, and conventions, in particular those which call for the respect of civil, economic, political, social, cultural, and religious human rights,

Recalling also the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the Situation of Muslim Communities and Minorities (Document No. OIC/CFM-38/2011/MM/SG.REP),

1. **Reiterates** its commitment to the Muslim Communities and Minorities belonging to and living in non-OIC Member States, and to offering them assistance and contributing to the settlement of their problems in full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries to which they belong, through cooperation with the governments of these States;

2. **Emphasizes** the need to respect the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States; **denounces** the problems they face, resulting from discrimination, repression or oppression; and **stresses** the importance of continued coordination between the Member States in order to find ways to assist them to solve their problems, protect their Islamic religious, cultural, civil, political and economic rights and preserve their Islamic identity;
3. **Emphasizes** that the protection of the rights and identity of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States is primarily the responsibility of the Governments of those States, by virtue of the principles of international law;
4. **Commends** the efforts exerted by the Secretary General in supporting the causes of the Muslim communities in Non-Member States, and **urges** him to continue those efforts within the framework of the extant principle of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States to which they belong, in accordance with international law and agreements, and in implementation of the relevant OIC Summit and CFM resolutions;
5. **Requests** the General Secretariat to continue its contacts with the Governments of States in which Muslim communities and minorities exist to apprise them of the resolutions issued by the OIC in this regard, and to identify the problems faced by those communities and their needs, with priority being given to contacts with the Governments of non-OIC Member States where Muslim communities and minorities are faced with grave difficulties; and **urges** the Member States enjoying solid relations with those States to put those relations to beneficial use in advancing the Secretary General's efforts; **also requests** the General Secretariat to cooperate with the Member States in order to call the attention of the United Nations and its subsidiary and affiliated bodies as well as the Human Right Council, among others, to this issue;
6. **Urges** the Member States and Muslim institutions in general and, more particularly, the OIC subsidiary, specialized and affiliated institutions, including the IDB and ISESCO, as well as Islamic NGOs to coordinate with the OIC General Secretariat for the extension of further support and assistance to these Muslim communities and minorities;

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7. **Reiterates** that education is a legitimate right for every member of society, without any discrimination, in accordance with all relevant international covenants; and **calls on** the Member States to provide every assistance to support education, including the provision of instructors for the children of Muslim communities, the allocation of scholarships for them to study in schools and universities and inviting Islamic NGOs and civil society organizations to contribute to this endeavor in coordination with the States concerned;

8 **Reiterates its calls on** the General Secretariat to maintain contacts with the Muslim communities in Africa, in implementation of the Ministerial resolutions, and to undertake field visits to Angola, South Africa, Namibia, Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Madagascar, among others, as soon as possible, in order to identify their difficulties and gain information on their conditions; and **invites** the General Secretariat to continue holding symposia and conferences in countries with Muslim minorities in order to learn of their problems and issues and foster and promote relations between States with Muslim communities and OIC Member States;

9 **Invites** Member States and Specialized Islamic institutions to provide further assistance and care to Muslim communities in Africa, especially in the least-developed countries, with a view to addressing the pressing difficulties which impede their progress and development;

10. **Expresses its deep concern** at the growing activity against Muslims in India by Hindu extremist groups trying to build a Hindu temple on the ruins of the historic Babri Mosque; **expresses its concern** also over the unnecessary delay in determining the responsibility for demolition of the Babri Mosque; and **urges** the Indian Government to see to it that the Babri Mosque is rebuilt on its original site;

11. **Expresses its deep concern** at the condition of the Muslim communities and minorities in India and **urges** the Government of India to take effective and immediate measures to end all violence against Muslims; **notes with regret** the plight of the victims of the Gujarat riots; **condemns** the environment of fear that the victims are constantly obliged to live in; **demands** that the perpetrators be immediately brought to justice; and **urges** the Secretary General in this regard, to report on the situation of Muslims in India to the next CFM meeting;

12. **Invites** the General Secretariat to monitor the situation of Muslims in India and to collect further information on the challenges and difficulties they are facing, politically, socially and economically with a view to offering them the required assistance, and to report on the matter to the next ministerial conference;
13. **Urges** the Indian Government to take steps to improve the economic conditions of Muslims in India in line with the recommendations of the Sachar Committee Report.
14. **Commends** the positive outcomes of the Secretary General's visit to the United States of America and his meeting with President Barack Obama and with members of the Government and Congress; also **supports** the Secretary General's proposal to hold a symposium in Washington on the US Muslim Communities, a proposal that has met with the approval of officials there;
15. **Expresses** satisfaction with the positive outcome of the Secretary General's visit to the People's Republic of China on 17-21 June 2010, and with the joint statement issued at the end of the visit which outlined the main ideas on deepening relations between the Muslim world and the People's Republic of China **and calls** on Member States to support the Secretary General's efforts in this regard;
16. **Lauds** the efforts of the Secretary General and his continued intensified engagement with the Government of Thailand and the representatives of Muslim inhabitants in the South in a bid to reach acceptable solutions to the problems facing them; **takes note** in particular of the discussions held by the Secretary General and his aides with the representatives of the Thai government and of the Muslim inhabitants in Southern Thailand;
17. **Takes note** of the steps taken by the Government of Thailand (General Secretariat's report) and observes that these steps are still of unilateral character and do not meet the inhabitants' aspirations towards an end to the state of emergency in all regions of the South and the start of a serious dialogue aimed at addressing the roots of the problem by allowing them control on their own affairs;
18. **Affirms** that the achievement of these objectives should be through associating the representatives of the Muslims in Southern Thailand together with the relevant segments, with such a plan being accompanied by a national reconciliation program;
19. **Requests** the Secretary General to continue his contacts with the Kingdom of Thailand to address the root causes of the problem as contained in the Joint Press Statement issued at the end of the visit of the Secretary General to Thailand on 1st May 2007, and **calls upon** the Member States enjoying close relations with Thailand to support the efforts of the Secretary General in this regard;

20. **Decides** to defer consideration on the adoption of a resolution on the situation of the Muslim Community in Southern Thailand to the next session of the Council of Foreign Ministers to allow for further contacts between the Secretary General and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand;

21. **Reiterates** the need to respect the human rights of the Turkish Muslim community in Bulgaria and to safeguard the properties of Muslim endowments there; and **calls on** Muslims in Bulgaria to unite their efforts and work together to enhance the position of their Grand Mufti's office in furtherance of the interests of Muslims there;

22. **Welcomes** the recent ruling by the Sofia Court of Appeals to endorse the result of the Muslim National Conference, held on 12 February 2011, which resolved the long-standing issue regarding the election of the Grand Mufti. His Eminence Dr. Mustafa Hadji, the Chief Mufti of Bulgaria, was re-elected with the majority of votes by the Muslim National Conference of Bulgaria. **Expresses** the hope that the Bulgarian authorities will do whatsoever necessary to avoid repetition of such unnecessary obstacles facing the rights of the Muslim community to elect their leadership and to administer their religious institution. **Commends**, on the other hand, the efforts of the Muslim community for their determination to solve the issue through legal means, and **also commends** the Bulgarian authorities for their acceptance of the legitimacy of the election.

23. **Appeals** to Muslim communities in the West to hold on to moderation as prescribed by our orthodox Islamic religion, which supports openness towards scientific and technological achievements, and **calls** on them to shun partisanship and extremism which creates undue sensitivities.

24. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/38-MM
ON
QUESTION OF MUSLIMS IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

The Thirty-eighth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Cooperation and Development), held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, from 26 to 28 Rajab 1432H, (28 - 30 June 2011),

Bearing in mind the resolutions of the OIC and the recommendations of the OIC Committee for Peace in Southern Philippines and the question of Muslims there,

Recalling the Tripoli Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), signed on 23 December 1976, under the aegis of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), and accepted by the signatory parties as the basis for a permanent, just, and comprehensive political solution to the question of Muslims in Southern Philippines within the framework of the national sovereignty and territorial unity of the Republic of the Philippines,

Paying tribute to the role of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, under the wise leadership of H.E. Colonel Moammar Gaddafi, in achieving the Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and hosting the first preliminary talks in Tripoli on 3-4 October 1992 as well as the Unity and Solidarity Meeting of the MNLF leaders on 6 April 2003,

Also paying tribute to the role of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in facilitating the peace process culminating in the signing of the Final Peace Agreement on 2 September 1996, and **expressing satisfaction** for the efforts of the OIC Peace Committee in this regard,

Recalling that, in accordance with the two Memoranda of Understanding under which the GRP and the MNLF concluded two rounds of preliminary talks, held successively in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 3-4 October 1992, and in Cipanas, Western Java, Republic of Indonesia, on 14-16 April, 1993, the two parties agreed to conduct official peace negotiations for the full implementation of the letter and spirit of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement,

Recalling also the results of the four rounds of formal peace talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia, including the subsidiary mechanisms, between the GRP and the MNLF, thanks to the facilities made available by the OIC Peace Committee,

Noting that the gains achieved by the Peace Agreement concluded between the GRP and the MNLF and existing cooperation between them need to be generalized and maximized in order to achieve comprehensive peace and development for the benefit of the people of Bangsamoro,

Also paying tribute to the role of the Republic of Indonesia as Chair of the OIC Peace Committee in Southern Philippines, and all members of the Committee, as well as to the Secretary-General's efforts aimed at facilitating the peace process and helping both the GRP and the MNLF to reach a formula of joint proposals aimed at ensuring the full implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement,

Reaffirming Resolution No. 2/10-MM (IS) on the Question of Muslims in Southern Philippines adopted by the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 16–17 October 2003, as well as Resolution No. 2/11-MM (IS) adopted by the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference,

Reiterating Resolution No. 2/34-MM on the Question of Muslims in Southern Philippines adopted by the 34th CFM held in Islamabad from 15 – 17 May 2007, and all previous ministerial resolutions in this regard,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the Question of Muslims in Southern Philippines (**Document No. CFM/38-2011/MM/SG.REP**).

1. **Renews** its support for the Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which was initialed on 30 August 1996 in Jakarta and officially signed in Manila on 2 September 1996;
2. **Calls** on both the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front to preserve the gains achieved since the signing of the Peace Agreement and **encourages** both sides to continue their efforts in favor of a solution to their differences and ensuring the full implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement;
3. **Renews** the mandate of the OIC Peace Committee for Southern Philippines (PCSP) and of the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary contacts with the GRP and the MNLF in favour of the full implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement;

4. **Welcomes** the progress made at the fourth session of the tripartite meeting between the OIC, the Government of the Philippines and Moro National Liberation Front, held in Jeddah on 22 and 23 February 2011, and **expresses** its support for the efforts of the Secretary General in following up the provisions of the meeting for the management of the key issues, including on the mechanism of plebiscite, the sharing of natural resources and other measures for fully implementing the 1996 Final Peace Agreement;
5. **Welcomes** the positive outcomes of the meetings of the expert working groups held in Manila on 25th - 29th of April, 2011 and the Ad-hoc High Level Group meeting held in Solo, Indonesia on 19th - 22nd of June, 2011 between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which narrowed their differences while taking note of their agreement in Solo, Indonesia for the remaining issues to be resolved on or by 30th September 2011;
6. **Welcomes** the resumption of negotiation between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the agreement to establish an international contact group (ICG), invitation to membership of which has been extended to Turkey, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom and Japan. **Urges** the two sides to continue negotiating until they reach a peace agreement that would cover all issues with a view to achieving stability and peace in Southern Philippines;
7. **Urges** the leaderships of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to continue their efforts at joint coordination and collaboration to achieve peace and development for the Bangsamoro people, based on the agreement signed between them on the margin of the thirty-seventh session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, and **commends** the efforts of the Secretary General in this regards and **invites** him to continue these efforts;
8. **Appeals** to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to see to the early resolution of the reported environmental problems resulting from the failure on the part of power and electricity plant in Lake Lanao and its surroundings to observe environmental standards, which resulted in serious and adverse environmental effects with damaging fallouts on local population's health and economic and social conditions;
9. **Urges** OIC Member States, subsidiary organs, and specialized and affiliated institutions as well as Islamic charitable organizations in the Member States to increase their medical, humanitarian, economic, financial, and technical assistance for the development of Southern Philippines with a view to accelerating the pace of social and economic development.
10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No.3 /38-MM
ON
THE SITUATION OF THE TURKISH MUSLIM
MINORITY OF WESTERN THRACE, GREECE

The Thirty-Eighth Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 26-28 Rajab 1432, (28-30 June 2011),

Recalling Resolution No. 3/37-MM on the Situation of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, Greece,

Reaffirming its commitment to Muslim communities and minorities living in non-OIC Member States,

Fully aware that the Muslims in Greece, in general, and the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, in particular, are an integral part of the Muslim World,

Recalling the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter, the Resolutions adopted by OIC Islamic Summit Conferences, Conferences of Foreign Ministers, and international agreements, declarations, and conventions calling for the respect of human rights, including political, social, cultural, and economic rights and freedom of worship, and most particularly the Lausanne Treaty which guarantees the rights of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace by virtue of which they have the right to use their Turkish language, practice their religious rites, and freely elect their representatives in all fields,

Further recalling the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Realizing that the basic rights and freedoms of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace are defined and protected by multilateral and bilateral treaties and conventions to which Greece is a party,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the Situation of the Turkish Muslim Minority of Western Thrace in Greece (Document No. OIC/CFM-38/2011/MM/SG.REPS),

1. **Invites** Greece once again to take all measures to respect the rights and identity of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace emanating from the bilateral and international agreements;
2. **Demands** that Greece recognize the elected Muftis of Xanthi and Komotini as the official Muftis;
3. **Calls on** Greece to take the necessary steps for the election of the Awqaf administration boards by the Turkish Muslim Minority with a view to ensuring their self-governance, enabling the elected Muftis to supervise the Awqaf properties, and putting an end to the expropriation of the Awqaf properties and to the heavy taxes levied on them. **Calls on** Greece therefore to introduce the necessary amendments in its laws on each of these aspects in consultation with the Muslim Minority representatives there;

4. **Regrets** Greece's practice regarding the appointment of 240 imams/religious instructors by a commission of Orthodox public employees, despite reactions from the Turkish Muslim Minority and urges Greece to abolish the related legislation;
5. **Regrets** the ban imposed by the Greek Supreme Court on the activities of the Turkish Muslim Minority's oldest Non-Governmental Organization in Western Thrace, namely the "Turkish Union of Xanthi", and **urges** Greece to implement the three verdicts issued by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) concerning the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) of the Turkish Muslim Minority, which lifted the discriminatory ban that had been imposed by the Greek Supreme Court on NGO activities under the pretext of containing in their names the words "Turkish/Minority".
6. **Regrets** the recent heavy fines incurred on minority newspapers and radio stations, which is perceived by the Minority as a means of intimidation;
7. **Regrets** the verdict of a Greek court penalizing some members of the Turkish Muslim Minority for taking part in the construction of the Avra (Hasanlar) Mosque minaret;
8. **Urges** Greece to reinstate the citizenship rights of tens of thousands of Turkish Minority members who were stripped of their citizenship under the now-repealed Chapter of Article 19 of the Greek Citizenship Law No. 3370/1955;
9. **Invites** Greece to take necessary and urgent steps, in consultation with the Turkish Muslim Minority, to address their educational problems which are also directly linked to the socio-economic development of the region they live in.
10. **Calls on** Greece to consult with the representatives of the Turkish Muslim Minority, concerning the proposal of merging also the minority schools in Western Thrace in order to find a solution acceptable for the Minority.
11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to initiate a fact-finding inquiry to ascertain the veracity of repeated reports of acts of vandalism and desecration targeting mosques and Muslim cemeteries in Western Thrace, and to present a report thereon to the Thirty-ninth Session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers;
12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Thirty-ninth session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 4/38-MM
ON
THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN MYANMAR

The Thirty-eighth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Cooperation and Development), held in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, from 26 to 28 Rajab 1432H, (28 - 30 June 2011),

Reaffirming Resolution No. 4/11-MM (IS) adopted by the 11th Islamic Summit Conference held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, in March 2008; and Resolution No. 4/37 adopted by the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM),

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the Muslim Community in Myanmar, Document No. OIC/CFM-38/2011/MM/SG.REPS,

1. **Calls upon** the Government of Myanmar to put an end the operations of displacement, expulsion, and exile of Arakan Muslims and to the continued attempts to eradicate their Islamic culture and identity, and **urges** government authorities to respect the texts of international legitimacy on human rights;
2. **Calls on** Member States to continue their efforts in conjunction with those of the international community and the United Nations in order to ensure the return of all Myanmar refugees displaced from their homes, particularly the Muslims of the Arakan region of Myanmar;
3. **Expresses** deep concern over the continued monumental violation of the rights of Rohingya Muslims in the Arakan region of the Republic of Myanmar, and **requests** the Secretary General to continue his efforts to end these practices in coordination with the international community together with international and regional organizations, and to continue those efforts in the context of dialogue, reconciliation and coordination among Islamic organizations in Myanmar;
4. **Commends** the efforts of the Secretary General which resulted in the formation of a United Rohingya Representatives abroad at the General Secretariat on 31st May, 2011 in implementation of paragraph 4 of Resolution No. 4/37-MM, with a view to coordinating amongst themselves to find a political solutions to their problems, achieve peaceful co-existence, democracy and human rights and **calls** on the Secretary General to continue his efforts to regain their rights in full.
5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to contact the Government of Myanmar to urge the latter to receive an OIC Mission to visit Myanmar in order to examine the conditions of Muslims there and persuade the Government of Myanmar to create conducive conditions for Arakan Muslims to return to their home and to report thereon to the next CFM;

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6. **Calls on** the Member States to continue to extend all possible forms of support and assistance to Myanmar Muslims and particularly to those among them living as refugees outside their homeland;

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Thirty-ninth session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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