

OIC/CFM-32/2009/CS/RES//FINAL

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**RESOLUTIONS
ON
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

ADOPTED BY THE

**THE 36TH SESSION OF THE
COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF ENHANCING ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY)**

**28 JUMADI UL AWWAL – 1 JUMADIUL THANI 1430H
(23-25 MAY, 2009)**

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CTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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RESOLUTION No. 1/36-C
ON
GENERAL CTURAL MATTERS

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 35th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the following subjects:

A) ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS:

Cognizant of the need to promote greater harmony and understanding between and among different cultures;

Referring to the OIC's Ten Year Program of Action and reemphasizing its Premise that inter-civilizational dialogue, based on mutual respect and understanding, and equality amongst peoples are prerequisites for international peace and security, tolerance and peaceful co-existence;

Acknowledging in this respect, the valuable contribution of the Alliance of Civilizations, launched jointly by Turkey and Spain in 2005 to attain the goals stated in the OIC's Ten-Year Program of Action;

Recalling its Resolution 1.35/C, adopted during the 35th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Kampala, on 18-20 June 2008, which called the OIC Secretary-General to finalize the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Secretariats of the OIC and the Alliance of Civilizations:

- 1. Applauds** the convening of the Second Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations in Istanbul, on 6-7 April 2009.
- 2. Appreciates** the determination and efforts of the Republic of Turkey in contributing to the overall work of the Alliance and the dissemination of its noble goals.
- 3. Welcomes** the signing of the MoU between Secretariats of the OIC and the Alliance of Civilizations.
- 4. Requests** the OIC Secretary-General to monitor and encourage effective implementation of the MoU.
- 5. Underlines** the significance of the conclusions of the Istanbul Forum in stemming the tide of intolerance, extremism and polarization between the Islamic world and the West as well as encouraging greater cross-cultural understanding, **welcomes** the signature

of a MoU between the ISESCO and the UN Alliance of Civilizations Secretariat in 2007 and **commends** the activities implemented in the framework of this MoU.

6. Appeals to the Member States to become affiliated to the Alliance of Civilizations, thereby generating an additional momentum to the development of this initiative benefiting all humankind.

7. Calls upon the Member States of the OIC to take into consideration the conclusions of the Istanbul Forum and actively participate in the implementation stage.

B) DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILIZATIONS:

Recalling the principles of The Tehran Declaration adopted in December 1997 by the 8th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference affirming that Islamic Civilization has always and throughout history been rooted in peaceful co-existence, cooperation, mutual understanding, and constructive dialogue with other civilizations and other ideologies; and also underlining the need to build understanding between civilizations; **bearing in mind** Resolution No. 53/22 adopted by the UN General Assembly, designating the year 2001 as the “UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations” which called for taking all measures aiming at the enhancing the concept of dialogue among civilizations; and **recalling** also the provisions of The OIC Ten-Year Program of Action called on the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary, specialized and affiliated bodies to contribute as a partner to intercultural and inter-religious dialogue and related efforts in this regard;

1. Commends the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdelaziz on Inter-faith and Intercultural Dialogue, which was concretized in the Conference of Makkah in 2005 which saw the participation of Muslim Scholars from different schools of thought and which paved the way to the organization of the International conference held in Madrid with the participation of a large number of followers of world civilizations and cultures and **insisted** on the unity of the humanity and on equality among peoples, regardless of their colours, races and cultures.

2. Also commends the continued efforts of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in this regard, which led to the organization of a high-level meeting by the General Assembly of the UN in November 2008, to which many world leaders participated in support of the results of the Madrid Conference on the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two holy Mosques about dialogue. This was emphasized in the statement of the Secretary General who commended the initiative and its role in the dissemination of the culture of dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding among all the peoples of the world.

3. Commends the efforts exerted by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan through The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought, with the organization of many meetings

and conferences in the framework of dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations, both inside and outside the kingdom, and its contribution to the Amman Message adopted in an international conference held in Amman in 2005, with the participation of religious scholars from different Islamic schools of thought. The Message which was translated into living languages and which was distributed on a large scale, highlighted the enlightened image of Islam and its commitment to dialogue with the other in order to achieve the wellbeing and progress of the human society.

4. Welcomes the efforts of Kazakhstan in supporting dialogue among civilizations and the organization of the Ministerial Conference on “Common World: Progress through Diversity” held in 17 October 2008 in Astana and **calls on** the OIC Member States and the international community to support the efforts of the Republic of Kazakhstan and facilitate the implementation of Astana Declaration adopted by the Conference.

5. Also welcomes the initiative of the Republic of Kazakhstan which calls for the organization of the Third Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Astana in July 2009.

6. Commends the Secretary General for engaging in dialogue with the United Nations, the EU and other international organizations, political leaders and civil society to underscore the concerns over the dangers of Islamophobia and for his initiative calling for a historical reconciliation between Islam and the West.

7. Calls on the OIC General Secretariat, UNESCO, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) to continue to strengthen inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue through concrete and sustainable initiatives, conferences and symposia; and **appeals to** all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to provide all possible moral and financial support for the success of these dialogues.

8. Commends the active role Azerbaijan plays in promoting inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue between the Islamic world and the West, in this emphasizes the importance of the Conference on "Intercultural Dialogue as a basis for peace and sustainable development in Europe and its neighboring regions" held on 2-3 December 2008 in Baku and its "Baku Declaration for the Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue", which presents a unique opportunity for the OIC to develop initiatives and possible joint projects for further promoting sustained process of intercultural dialogue and highlighting the true image of Islam in the world.

9. Highly appreciates the efforts of the Republic of Tunisia and its initiative in the field of dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions through hosting many conferences and symposia under the high patronage of His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and **supports** the candidacy of Tunisia as an Islamic capital of dialogue among civilizations.

10. Appreciates the UN General Assembly Resolution regarding announcement of year 2010 as the Year of the International Rapprochement of Cultures that calls for promotion of the religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, advocating the respect of the specificities of each culture or religion and stressing the need to respect and protect religious sites in accordance with the relevant international treaties.

C) CULTURAL STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION:

Taking note of the reports of the Consultative Council on Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Muslim World (CCICS) adopted at its earlier meetings and the importance of the protection of Intellectual and cultural heritage against external threats:

1. Welcomes the adoption of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world in its modified form and **calls upon** the Member States willing to implement cultural projects to submit their projects to ISESCO.

2. Commends the activities carried out by ISESCO and host cities in 2009 to celebrate Islamic cultural capitals and calls on Member States to actively participate in Baku, Kuala Lumpur, N'djamena and Kairouan celebrating in the course of 2009.

3. Expresses its appreciation and gratitude to His Excellency President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali for giving his patronage to the programme of celebration of Kairouan as the capital of Islamic Culture for the year 2009. This celebration contributed to explain the role of Kairouan in spreading the Islamic civilization and making the human civilization as a beacon of peace, which contributed to the dissemination of the lofty values of Islam in the world for centuries. This celebration also contributed to emphasizing the cultural and civilizational radiance of Tunisia further confirmed after the 7th November and which reinstated Tunisia's standing and consolidated its Arab and Islamic affiliation.

D) THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR:

Taking into account the pressing need for the unification and standardization of the Hijri calendar which will reflect the unity of Muslims during the feasts and celebrations:

1. Calls upon all the Member States and Islamic institutions to implement previous resolutions to support the Fatwa Institution in implementing the satellite project with the

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cooperation of the University of Cairo and Centre for Space Studies and Consultations in the Arab republic of Egypt.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/36-C
ON
PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 35th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Recalling the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

Affirming those objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the OIC aimed at coordinating efforts to safeguard and preserve the Islamic heritage;

Also recalling the Resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, especially Resolution No. 3/6-C (IS) of the Sixth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling the Resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of the Sacred Muslim Places:

A) DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID IN INDIA AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES:

Noting that the Babri Mosque with its history spanning five centuries was the object of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

Also noting with regret that the 16th Anniversary of the Babri Masjid has passed without concrete steps being taken towards rebuilding of the Masjid or punishing those responsible for the sacrilegious act of its destruction and killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in its aftermath;

Recalling also that the Organization of the Islamic Conference made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Mosque and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Mosque and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists;

1. **Strongly condemns** the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists on 6 December 1992.
 2. **Expresses deep regret** over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.
 3. **Condemns** the forced and illegal entry of Hindu militants into the site of the Babri Masjid on 17 October 2001.
 4. **Expresses deep concern** over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.
 5. **Recommends** that the issue be submitted to (UNESCO) through the OIC Member States accredited to Parties.
 6. **Recommends** the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution 19/9-C)(IS) adopted by the 35th CFM and Eleventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference which calls upon the Government of India to:
 - a) **Ensure** the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.
 - b) **Take** immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Masjid on its original site, to restore it as a Holy Place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered Muslim symbol.
 - c) **Take** effective measures to prevent the construction of a temple on the site of the Babri Mosque.
 - d) **Take** immediate steps to ensure the protection of the other 3000 Mosques, especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.
- B) THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR AND OTHER ISLAMIC SITES THEREIN:**

Deeply concerned that, as a result of Indian armed action on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha in 1415H (1995), over 1500 houses and shops were gutted, holy relics were destroyed and the mosque and the Islamic Complex of Charar-e-Sharif razed to the ground, and deeply concerned at other incidences of damage to: the Shrine of the Shah-e-Hamadan in December 1997, the Jamia Mosque of Safapur in Baramula district in January 1998, the

historic Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar in January 2001, Chadora mosque in October 2001 and a mosque in Srinagar with burning of the Holy Quran on 14 December 2002:

1. **Strongly deplores** the destruction of the 538 year old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious aggression against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashmir.
2. **Expresses its concern** over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civil residents of Charar-e-Sharif.
3. **Strongly condemns** the burning of the Shrine of Shah-e-Hamadan and the desecration of the Jamia Mosque at Safapur, and the burning of the Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar and other incidents of desecration of Muslim Holy places.
4. **Also condemns** the continuing desecration of Mosques and Muslim Holy Places and denial of religious rights to the Muslim population in the Indian Occupied State of Jammu and Kashmir.
5. **Urges** the international community, especially the Member States to exert utmost efforts to protect the basic rights of the Kashmiri people, including their right to self-determination according to the relevant UN Resolutions as well as to safeguard their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

C) THE DESTRUCTION AND DESECRATION OF ISLAMIC HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELICS AND SHRINES IN THE OCCUPIED AZERBAIJANI TERRITORIES RESULTING FROM THE AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN:

Emphasizing that pieces of Azerbaijani history, culture, archaeology, and ethnography remaining in the territories occupied by Armenia are an integral part of Islamic heritage, and, therefore, must be protected;

Reaffirming United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions No. 822, 853, 874, and 884, which call on the Armenian forces to effect a full withdrawal from all the occupied Azerbaijani territories, including the Lachin and Shusha areas, immediately and without conditions; and strongly urge Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Reaffirming that the utter and barbaric destruction of mosques and other Islamic Shrines in Azerbaijan, at the hands of Armenia, for the purpose of ethnic cleansing is a crime against humanity;

Noting the tremendous losses inflicted by the Armenian aggressors on the Islamic heritage in the Azerbaijani territories occupied by the Republic of Armenia, including total or partial demolition of rare antiquities and places of Islamic civilization, history, and architecture, such as mosques, mausoleums, graves, archaeological excavations, museums, libraries, art exhibition halls, and government theatres and conservatories, besides the destruction and smuggling out of the country of large quantities of priceless treasures and millions of books and historic manuscripts;

Fully sharing the anguish of the government and people of Azerbaijan in this regard:

- 1. Strongly condemns** the barbaric acts committed by the Armenian aggressors in the Republic of Azerbaijan with the aim of total annihilation of the Islamic heritage in the occupied Azerbaijani territories.
- 2. Vigorously demands** the strict and unconditional implementation by the Republic of Armenia of UN Security Council Resolutions No. 822, 853, 874, and 884.
- 3. Reaffirms** its support for the efforts deployed by Azerbaijan at regional and international levels and aimed at protecting and preserving Islamic cultural values and treasures in the territories occupied by Armenia.
- 4. Asserts** that Azerbaijan is entitled to adequate compensation for the damages it has sustained and **affirms** the Republic of Armenia's responsibility to pay up full compensation for such damages.
- 5. Requests** the relevant OIC subsidiary organs and specialized agencies to explore the possibility of drawing up a program to help rebuild the mosques, educational institutions, libraries, and museums in the Azerbaijani territories liberated from occupation with the help of OIC Member States.
- 6. Thanks** the Secretary-General for transmitting the OIC Member States' position on this issue to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and other international bodies, and for the coordination measures he has taken within the framework of OIC subsidiary, specialized, and affiliated organs. It also **thanks** those organs and organizations for their response, especially for the adoption by the IDB and ISESCO of programs to implement projects aimed at protecting Islamic holy places in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

D) THE DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES, HOLY TOMBS, HUSSAINIAT AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP IN IRAQ:

Deeply concerned about the terrorist destructions in Iraq that affected the Mosques, Holy Tombs of Imam Al-Hadi and Imam Al Hasan Al Askari, Hussainiat and Houses of Worship in addition to the killing of many Iraqis:

1. **Deplores strongly** the destruction of the Holy Tombs of Imam Al Hadi and Imam Al Askari, and religious sites, mosques and places of worship as acts aimed at causing sedition and sectarian strife among Iraqi citizens.
2. **Expresses** its deep concern about the numerous and substantial losses of life and public and private property.
3. **Urges** the international community, in particular the Member States to exert utmost efforts by providing possible assistance in order to protect religious places, especially because they are citadels of Islamic civilization.
4. **Affirms** the necessity and importance of strengthening the unity of the Iraqi people and of rejecting differences, particularly those with sectarian foundations

Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 3/36-C
ON
SOCIAL ISSUES

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25 May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 3^{5th} Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Conscious of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world to promote Islamic revival and evolve societies grounded in the Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

Having taken note of the fact that women and children are most vulnerable parts of the societies during conflicts and wars as well as occupation period;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the following subjects:

A) PROMOTING WOMEN'S STATUS IN THE OIC:

Recalling the OIC's obligations towards international conventions and instruments, particularly those related to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (the Fourth World Conference on Women 1995), and Beijing + 5 and recommendations made in the 1st Conference on "Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States" in Istanbul as well as within the OIC framework of the Ten Year Program of Action;

Reiterating the OIC's commitment in addressing a range of difficulties envisaged by women and reducing inequalities between women and men, and between particular groups of women in the OIC Member States, which earmarks the visionary and comprehensive strategy of the OIC to advance the status of women;

Acknowledging the outcomes of the 2nd Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt on November 24-25, 2008, with particular reference to the adoption of OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women (Cairo Plan of Action for Women), and its welcoming of Egypt's proposal to establish and host a new specialized organ within the framework of the Organization concerned with women's affairs and advancement;

Recalling the importance of the international humanitarian law specially the provisions pertaining to the prohibition of military attacks against civilians and the necessity for protecting the victims of such wars particularly women and children;

Stressing the significant role of education in the empowerment of women, eradication of poverty, reduction of vulnerabilities, and enhancement of women's contribution in the development and decision making process:

1. **Urges** the OIC Member States to provide women with better opportunities through enacting and consolidating laws that empower women and provide them with greater role in the development of Muslim society in various fields.
2. **Considers** that poverty among women has to be alleviated to elevate them into equally productive and proactive partners of men in the Muslim world, formulating a roadmap to rectify those misperceptions emanating from the false attribution of women's problems and social ills in the Muslim societies to Islam.
3. **Calls** the parliaments of the OIC Member States to pass necessary laws to campaign smuggling, sexual abuse of women, exploitation of women's labor, pornography and abuse of women for commercial purposes by the media and protect the victims of such cases, recalling women's high moral and spiritual status and dignity and their right to decent life.
4. **Requests** the OIC Member States to adopt appropriate measures to promote Islamic principles for reinforcing and consolidating the foundations of the family unit and empowerment of women.
5. **Urges** the governments of the OIC Member States to adopt the necessary policies and programs for promoting the level of education of women and girls through providing uncomplicated and free access to literary programs and also providing easy, inexpensive and equal access to higher education and removal of any possible draw backs in this field and ensure, through legislation, women's access to advanced technologies including ICT in order to promote their role in the decision making and development process.
6. **Recommends** the OIC Member States, due to the dangerous implications of the recent conflicts in the region including those in the occupied Palestinian lands, Iraq and Afghanistan and also the recent Israeli invasion against Lebanon, to hold regional expert meetings to develop some directives to support women and girls in military conflicts and submit the results to the relevant international organizations as well as condemning the attacks by Ghods Occupying Regime to Palestine, killing innocent women and children.
7. **Requests** the academic and research institutes of the OIC Member States to work together to address the existing problem of inconsistencies in the international instruments on women's human rights and the need for observance of cultural diversity and religious, historical, social and indigenous backgrounds of nations in the formulation of women's Islamic human rights instruments.

8. Welcomes the adoption of the OPAAW by the Second Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States as a comprehensive plan of action and **endorses** it for the implementation by Member States in coordination with the General Secretariat within the prescribed timeframes, and **reiterates** the welcoming highlighted by the said Conference of Egypt's Proposal to establish and host a new specialized organ within the framework of Organization concerned with women's affairs and advancement.

9. Welcomes the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Third Session of the Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States in 2010.

B) CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD:

Recalling in particular, the provisions of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam which stresses on the importance of the rights of the child,

Welcoming the Rabat Declaration on the issues of Children in the Islamic World, adopted by the 1st Islamic Conference of Ministers in-charge of Children's affairs, which was held in Rabat on 7-9 November, 2005, in coordination with the General Secretariat, ISESCO and UNICEF;

1. Requests the Member States to disseminate the Islamic values relevant to women and children, through the media, and to project the radiant image of Islam in improving child conditions in the Islamic World, and to reiterate the Islamic States solidarity on all child-related issues.

2. Commends the role of UNICEF in improving child conditions in the Islamic World, and **hails** the remarkable, fruitful and continued cooperation between the OIC Member States, the OIC General Secretariat and the OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated institutions on the one hand, and UNICEF on the other, for the benefit of the child's survival, protection and development in the Member States.

3. Urges Member States to act, with the assistance of the international community, to improve the conditions of children, particularly those living under difficult conditions in conflict-ridden regions and those suffering from the effects of economic blockades and sanctions imposed on their countries, as well as displaced children refugees, by providing for their physical and moral needs and by taking interest in their education and helping them to return to normal lives, and **commends** the efforts expended by a number of Islamic countries in this area.

4. **Requests** Member States to take the necessary measures to protect children from the dangers resulting from harmful mass media programs and to support programs which lead to the promotion of the cultural, moral and ethical values of children.
5. **Urges** the Member States to act for the implementation of Rabat declaration adopted by the 1st Islamic Ministerial Conference on Children.
6. **Welcomes** the outcomes of the 2nd Islamic Conference of Ministers In-charge of Childhood held in Khartoum, The Sudan on February 2-4, 2009.
7. **Welcomes** the offer of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to host the Third Islamic Conference of Ministers In-charge of Childhood.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 4/36-C
ON
ISLAMIC, CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 Al Jumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 35th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the following subjects:

A) REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN:

- 1. Emphasizes** once again the importance of the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and encouraging the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries.
- 2. Appeals** to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools to contribute generously to this project.
- 3. Appreciates** the plans of RICE project to design new programmes in the spirit of information technology including television, the internet, emails etc for promoting the Arabic language and Islamic Culture in non-Arabic countries.
- 4. Expresses** its appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to ensure operation of the Institute and conveys its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has provided to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for seconding a number of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

B) ASSISTANCE TO THE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM

Reiterating the importance of the mission of the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum and the pioneering and vital role it plays in promoting translation, consolidating the bonds between the Islamic States themselves on the one hand and between them and the other States on the other, and enhancing intra-civilizational dialogue and reflecting the image of the Islamic world and the culture of the other such as

to contribute to the intra cultural and scientific exchange in the service of the Islamic world and humanity at large.

1. Urges and requests the Member States and the Islamic financial institutions foremost of which the IDB and the ISF, to extend their financial and technical assistance to the Translation Institute so that it may continue fulfillly its duties optimally. It also pays tribute In this connection to the ISF for its financial support to the Institute and urges it to keep up this assistance.
2. Pays tribute, once again, to the Government of Sudan for its financial assistance to the Institute's budget such as to enable it to assume its role optimally, as well as for its contribution towards the resolution of the financial difficulties faced by the Institute.
3. Requests the Member States to extend their financial and technical assistance to the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum.
4. Requests the General Secretariat to make use of the various facilities offered by the Institute in the area of translation and training, for the General Secretariat and Member States' work.
5. Requests the General Secretariat to offer the Institute's doors to the students from OIC Member States so that it may benefit all desirous citizens of the Islamic Ummah.

RESOLUTION No. 5/36-C
ON
PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 35th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Taking into consideration the policies and practices of the Israeli occupation authorities towards the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories, aimed primarily at the eradication of their cultural identity, along with Israeli attempts to wipe out and disintegrate their national and Arab identity at all levels, the Israeli policy of systematic stamping out of education aimed at creating a poorly educated generation ignorant of its history, heritage, homeland, and Ummah, the Israeli practice of a policy bent on maligning Arab and Islamic civilization and causing prejudice to Arabs and Muslims, the Israeli abuse and distortion of historical and geographical facts, in addition to the continued Israeli policy of racial discrimination through claims of Israeli supremacy over the citizens of the occupied Arab territories, all of which constitutes a blatant violation of their fundamental rights;

Condemning the aggressive actions perpetrated by Israel to expand the municipal boundaries of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif by constructing more settlements and building the racist isolation and separation Wall around the city in order to annex it;

Recalling the Final Communiqué issued by the expanded Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Committee held in Jeddah on 22/2/2007 to discuss the excavations of and threats to the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque;

Expressing deep concern at the Israeli threats and attacks against the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and holy places in the Palestinian territories;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on following the matters:

A) THE TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WITH UNIVERSITIES IN OIC MEMBER STATES:

1. Calls on the Member States to allocate scholarships for the benefit of Palestinian students; **expresses its appreciation** to Member States who have already given scholarships; and **urges** them to increase these scholarships and reduce their tuition fees for Palestinian students.

2. Recommends also providing all forms of financial and academic support and assistance to Palestinian universities in order to enable them to play their national and educational role. The Committee **calls upon** the Union of Islamic Universities (UIU) to coordinate with the Member universities in order to facilitate and encourage twinning agreements between the Palestinian universities and its members with a view to fostering joint cooperation between them and **calls upon** these universities to receive training and academic missions from Palestinian universities.

3. Calls upon the Member States to participate effectively in the establishment of Al-Aqsa University in the City of Al-Quds, in implementation of the resolution of the 3rd Session of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit.

B) THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES AND THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN:

1. Condemns the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organizations in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in terms of the obstacles created by the racist separation Wall preventing Palestinian students and teachers from reaching their schools and universities and thus denying Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity, alienate them from their culture and history, and distort their civilization so as to serve the designs of occupation.

2. Calls upon Member States to provide all necessary financial assistance in order to provide the funding required for the development of education in the occupied territories, in general, and in the City of Al- Quds Al-Sharif, in particular, in view of the extreme difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities, including imposing their own educational curricula and closing down schools outside their control.

3. Reiterates its full support and assistance for the inhabitants of the occupied Syrian Golan in their resistance against the oppressive Israeli practices, and their legitimate struggle to preserve their cultural, national, and Arab identity, and **appeals to** the United Nations and to specialized international bodies and institutions, particularly UNESCO, to counter these Israeli policies which violate international laws and conventions.

4. **Calls for** support to the steadfastness of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and **proclaims** its support for the preservation of the Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of their educational and cultural materials.

5. **Calls upon** the international community to shoulder its full responsibility in compelling Israel to abide by the principles of *The Universal Declaration on Human Rights* and all international conventions on human rights, particularly *The Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War* of 20/8/1949, as well as the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

6. **Condemns** the actions and practices of the Israeli occupation authorities against educational and other institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, their cancellation of the Syrian educational curricula in the villages of the Golan, and their substitution by Israeli curricula, their imposition of the teaching of Hebrew instead of Arabic, their replacement of the teaching staff to serve the goals and directives of Israeli policy, their imposition of measures to deny Syrian Arab citizens access to higher education in Syrian universities and their denying some of those who manage to get education in those universities the right to return to their homes.

C) THE ISRAEL AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC SHRINES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER, HUMAN HERITAGE, AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF:

1. **Reiterates** the necessity of implementing all previous Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to this end supports the decision of the Arab League declaring Al-Quds as the capital of the Arabic Culture for the year 2009.

2. **Calls for** continued urgent and effective action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to compelling Israel to rescind its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif; reaffirming the City's Arab-Islamic character; and rejecting its annexation or Judaization, in line with the relevant Resolutions of international legality, particularly UN Security Council Resolutions No. 465 and 478; while exerting all efforts in order to implement these two resolutions in conformity with the resolutions of the United Nations and international legality.

3. **Requests** the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with international agencies and institutions and particularly with UNESCO in order to implement the initiative of UNESCO's Director-General to renovate the Holy City; preserve the historic buildings of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the ancient buildings surrounding Al-Quds Holy Sanctuary; close the tunnel; stop the excavation works especially on the south and west of the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque; and preclude the implementation of any designs aimed at destroying the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- 4. Urges** the General Secretariat and Member States to provide material assistance, in implementation of the content of the Final Communiqué of the 3rd Extraordinary Islamic Summit on the contribution of one dollar by every Muslim, alongside the contributions of Member States, in order to enable the Palestinian people to face Israeli assaults and designs aimed at obliterating religious landmarks in the Holy City of Al-Quds, and **reaffirms** the need to provide all forms of support and assistance to the Palestinian Arab residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to enable them to renovate their houses, support their steadfastness and protect Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif from demolition and waste.
- 5. Strongly condemns** Israel for building the separation Wall, the so-called Jerusalem Envelope, which seeks to isolate the City of Al-Quds from its Arab-Palestinian environment, and for its unrelenting attempts to Judaize it by altering its civilizational, historical, and cultural landmarks.
- 6. Requests** Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international forums in order to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure access to it for Muslim worshippers, and preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Haram as a Mosque for Muslims only, just as it has been down the ages.
- 7. Commends** the efforts of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the high orientations of His Majesty King Abdullah Ibn Hussein (May God protect him) in rehabilitation of the Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, specially rebuilding the historical tribune Salahuddin and restoring the holy Dome of the Rock, in addition to the efforts of the Kingdom in facing the Israeli planes aimed at Judaism the Holy City and stop the excavations under the foundation of the Aqsa Mosque.
- 8. Also commends** the important role of Baith Mal Al Quds of Al-Quds Committee in preserving the identity over Al-Quds Sharif and its religious, cultural and civilizational characters, and encouraging the resistance of its inhabitants through supporting and financing programmes and projects in the sectors of health, education, housing and in many other domains.
- 9. Calls on** Member States to ensure the restoration of the old town in Al-Khalil and to safeguard the heritage and culture of this historic city and its resident Palestinian families in order to counter Jewish settlements in the city.
- 10. Strongly denounces and condemns** Israel for digging excavations under the perimeter of Al-Aqsa Mosque, leading to the collapse of a large section of the Mosque's perimeter along Al-Maghariba Gate. Further **condemns** Israel for denying Palestinians access to their places of worship in Al-Quds and for its attempt to interfere in the Islamic Waqf (Endowment) matters and prevent the renovation of holy places.

11. Requests the General Secretariat to constitute a committee of legal experts from Member States to discuss the grave violations perpetrated by Israel in the vicinity of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque in the form of excavation and threat to the Mosque's foundations, and make necessary legal recommendations for the protection of the Mosque and other holy places in the city of Al-Quds and other parts of Palestine.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 6/36-C
ON
SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 Al Jumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions of Islamic Summit Conferences and the other OIC Conferences Islamic Conferences, specially the Third Extra-ordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005 and the Eleventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Dakar (Republic of Senegal) on 13-14 March, 2008 and the 35th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on following the matters:

A) THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA), ISTANBUL:

1. Notes with appreciation the production of a number of reference books in the field of culture, history, arts, and crafts of the Muslim world resulting from the Centre's various programs and research projects, and organization of academic congresses, awards and diverse exhibitions;

2. Takes note of the various activities of the Centre aimed to improve the image of Islamic civilization and Muslim cultures by raising more awareness and introducing a policy of better understanding among cultures of the world;

3. Notes with appreciation the successful organization of the second symposium on "The Image of the Other in the context of globalization" jointly organized by IRCICA and the Council of Europe which has been held at the Center's premises in Istanbul on 1-3 December 2008;

4. Commends the efforts of IRCICA for successfully organizing the third International Congress on "Islamic Civilization in Volga-Ural Region" held in Ufa on 14-16 October 2008 under the patronage of I-I.E. M. G. Rakhimov, President of Bashkortostan;

5. Takes note of the successful organization of the International Congress on "The Second Constitutional Period of the Ottoman State on its Centenary" held in Istanbul on 7-10 May 2008;

6. Commends the initiative of the Centre and the cooperation of the Government of Bangladesh for successfully organizing the Second Congress on Islamic Civilization in South Asia held in Dhaka on 16-18 November 2008 in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh and the University of Dhaka;

- 7. Commends** of the successful organization of the International Congress on Employment of Traditional industries within the new Architectural Projects held in Tunis on 27-31 October 2008, under the patronage of H.E. President Zain El-Abedine Bin Ali, the President of the Republic of Tunisia, in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Handicraft and the Ministry of Culture and Heritage Preservation of the Tunisian Republic;
- 8. Commends** the efforts made by IRCICA jointly with the Council of Europe to organize, in cooperation with the Alliance of Civilisations, a Meeting of Historians on “Intercultural Dialogue, History and History Teaching in the context of Globalisation” in Istanbul, on 4 April 2009, prior to the Second Summit of the Alliance of Civilisations (Istanbul, 6-7 April 2009), which issued a report and submitted it to the Summit.
- 9. Notes** with appreciation the finalization of the international Competition for the “Prince Faisal bin Fahd Awards for the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage” that IRCICA dedicated to the memory of the late Prince Faisal bin Fahd, the Chairman of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) as a tribute for his remarkable contributions to the preservation of Islamic cultural heritage, and the presentation of the awards to the winning architectural restoration projects in October 2009;
- 10. Commends** the progress made in the ongoing work aimed at establishing the Prince Sultan bin Salman Islamic Architectural Heritage Database, sponsored by HRH Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Tourism and Antiquities, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and requests the Member States which have not done so yet, to provide IRCICA with the required data and information on their Islamic sites and monuments and designate their respective focal points to collaborate permanently with the Database unit at IRCICA in this respect;
- 11. Notes** with gratitude the generous donation of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maictoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Dubai towards establishing a digital library on Islamic civilisation at IRCICA, and commends the progress of activities at the Centre in this regard;
- 12. Takes note** of the plan of IRCICA to organize an International Congress on Maghreb and the Western Mediterranean during the Ottoman Era planned to be held in Rabat, Morocco in cooperation with the Royal Institute for Research on the History of Morocco, on 12-14 November 2009;
- 13. Takes note with appreciation** of the project to organize, jointly with the Ministry of Information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, an exhibition of historical photographs of Mecca and Medina to be chosen from IRCICA archive collections comprising the Yikliz Palace albums;

14. **Notes with appreciation** the publication by IRCICA of a historical album of AlQuds and Palestine which includes annotated reproductions of historical photographs from the late 1gth and early century;
15. **Notes with appreciation** the efforts made by IRCICA to organise an International Congress on Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era planned to be held in Damascus on 22-25 June 2009 in cooperation with the Syrian Ministry of Culture;
16. **Commends** the successful organization of the Seminar on the “Role of Cultural Exchanges in Promoting International Relations” which took place at the Center’s premises on 9-10 April 2008;
17. **Commends** the plan of’ the Centre to organize the second International Symposium on Islamic Civilization in West Africa, planned to be held in Mali in 2010;
18. **Takes note** of the plan of IRCICA to coordinate a comprehensive publication on the history and civilization of Islam and the history of Muslim nations;
19. **Commends** the initiative of the Centre to organize an International Symposium on Yemen during the Ottoman Era planned to be held in cooperation with the Yemeni National Center for Archive which will be held in Sana’a in the beginning of 2010;
20. **Expresses its thanks and appreciation** to all the Member States for the moral and material support they are extending to IRCICA, thus enabling it to fulfil its mission, in particular the host country of IRCICA, the Republic of Turkey, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country of the OIC; notes with gratitude the support and patronage extended by the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of the Member States,
21. **Expresses its thanks** to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions to IRCIC As budget and invites the other countries to do so and settle their arrears to IRCICA’s budget.

B) INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY (IIFA):

1. **Expresses** sincere appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for his appeal to the Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), during the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah on 4-8 December 2005, to assume an effective role in combating extremism and spreading moderation; and **emphasizes** the importance of the Islamic Fiqh Academy as a reference of Fiqh for the Muslim Ummah.

2. **Extends** thanks to H.E. the OIC Secretary General for the due attention he gives to the IIFA in implementation of the resolution of the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah.
3. **Commends** the management of Dr. Abdussalam Daoud Al-Abady of the IIFA and his effective role in developing administrative and scientific work (through adopting a new organizational structure and establishing new specialized departments in accordance with the provisions of the IIFA Statutes, in addition to the several projects he is working on. The ICECS also **thanks** Dr. Abdussalam Daoud Al-Abady for his efforts, in particular the development plan and great projects therein), and recommends taking the necessary action to submit this plan to the Permanent Finance Committee for its further study and adoption.
4. **Praises** the efforts made by the IIFA to organize the Consultative Meeting on the Global Financial Crisis and Islamic Economic Thought that was called for by many of the concerned institutions. The meeting addressed the implications of the current global financial crisis and what the Islamic thought offers to address it and alleviate its impact.
5. **Commends** the efforts and work made by the personnel at the Secretariat of the IIFA since the Thirty-First Session of the ICECS.
6. **Thanks** the Zayed Charitable Foundation for its support to the work of the IIFA through financing Fiqh Rules Teaching project.
7. **Thanks** the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Islamic Institute for Research and Training for their continuous support to the Economic Fiqh Encyclopedia.
8. **Thanks** the Member States that hosted the annual IIFA sessions namely the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (7 sessions), the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (2 sessions), The United Arab Emirates (2 sessions: in Abu Dhabi and Dubai), the State of Kuwait (2 sessions) Brunei Darussalam, Bahrain, the State of Qatar, the Sultanate of Oman, and Malaysia (one session each). This is deemed a real contribution from these countries to the support the IIFA. ISECS calls upon the OIC Member States to host IIFA future sessions, which will help achieve its goals and objectives.
9. **Thanks** the Emirate of Sharjah of the UAE for accepting to host the Nineteenth Session of the IIFA held in April 2009.

10. Also thanks the Member States which paid their contributions to the budget of the IIFA, and **renews** its call to the Member States which have not yet paid their dues to do so soon as convenient. It also **recommends** that all the Member States continue their support to the IIFA so as to enable it to serve Islam and Muslims, in particular in issues of vitality to the Ummah.

11. Appeals to the Member States which have not yet joined the IIFA to do so as soon as possible in order to enable it to achieve its sublime goals in serving Islam at the level of the Ummah.

C) THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND (ISF) AND ITS WAQF:

1. Expresses its resolve to preserve this important Islamic organ.

2. Adopts the budget for the fiscal year 2009, approved by the Fund's Permanent Council in its extraordinary meeting recently held in Jeddah, as follows:

(a) The operating budget for the Fund is One Million and Two Hundred Thousand U.S. Dollars; and

(b) The budget for the projects is Twenty Million U.S. Dollars.

3. Calls upon all the Member States to provide their voluntary and mandatory contributions according to the shares defined in the budget so as to enable the Fund to achieve its noble tasks.

4. Calls upon the Fund's Permanent Council to convene its regular meeting as soon as possible.

RESOLUTION No. 7/36-C
ON
SPECIALISED INSTITUTIONS

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal -01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other Islamic Conferences, in particular the 11th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 35th Session of the Islamic Council of Foreign Ministers (ICFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

A) THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO):

1. Commends the efforts exerted by ISESCO in holding several workshops, training sessions, as well as international and Islamic conferences and symposia in the area of promoting education, training, higher education, literacy, and spreading the Arabic language and Islamic culture; **also hails** ISESCO's efforts towards supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia, Afghanistan and Palestine, enhancing dialogue among cultures, civilizations and religions, bringing Muslim schools of thought (madhahib) closer together, highlighting the true image of Islam and Muslims across the world, addressing Islamophobia and countering terrorism, catering for women, children and the youth, spreading the culture of human rights, consultation and democracy, and the values of tolerance and middle stance, promoting research in scientific, technological and information fields, preserving the environment and fostering water and renewable energy resources' management, and reducing natural disasters.

2. Commends the innovative and creative activities and programmes carried out by ISESCO in various fields relating to education, science, culture and communication under the active leadership of its Director General Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri; **lauds** the remarkable part ISESCO played in implementing the Ten-Year Action Programme endorsed by the 3rd Extraordinary Islamic Summit Session; and expresses appreciation for the activities undertaken by ISESCO under this programme.

3. Praises ISESCO's efforts in preserving the identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its sanctities, as well as in supporting Palestinian educational, scientific and cultural institutions and protecting them against attempts at obliteration and judaization; and **highly commends** the outstanding contribution that has been made in laying down and funding the programme on the celebration of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as Arab Culture Capital for the year 2009. it also **hails** the endeavours made by ISESCO and its concrete actions aiming to support the victims of the brutal Israeli offensive on Gaza, and supports its efforts directed towards calling to account those Israelis responsible for the crimes inflicted on Gaza; and **voices** support for the resolutions of the International conference held by ISESCO on "Israel: War Crimes and Genocide" (Rabat, 14-15 February 2009).

- 4. Commends** ISESCO's efforts aiming to reconstruct Iraq through supporting its educational, scientific and cultural institutions and contributing towards the preservation of the Iraqi heritage; supports ISESCO's efforts to hold the international conference on higher education in Iraq in June 2009; **reiterates** its support for the programme of ISESCO Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations, expresses its endorsement to increase the number of ISESCO Goodwill Ambassadors and extend their mission to achieve the sought-after goals and objectives; and **praises** ISESCO programme on Islamic Culture Capitals and the results attained in publicizing the Islamic cultural heritage across the world and highlighting the Islamic civilization's role in building human civilization.
- 5. Expresses** thanks and gratitude to the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the 4th Islamic Conference of the Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Baku, October 2008), the Kingdom of Morocco for playing host to the 3rd Islamic Conference of the Environment Ministers (Rabat, October 2008), and the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the 3rd Islamic Conference of the Ministers in Charge of Childhood (Khartoum, February 2009); and **highly commends** the remarkable efforts deployed by ISESCO to hold those conferences in the best conditions possible.
- 6. Commends** the valuable personal initiatives led by ISESCO Director General and his effective leadership in establishing various relations of international and regional cooperation that fostered numerous Islamic and international specialized conferences which were organized by ISESCO in association with parallel international organizations, contributing thus to highlighting the positive image of the Islamic world; and invites him to pursue such outstanding efforts.
- 7. Commends** the hosting by Tunisia of a number of international conferences and symposia held by ISESCO to promote dialogue among cultures, civilizations and religions; **reiterates** its deep acknowledgement and gratitude to Mr. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the President of the Tunisian Republic, for his generous patronage and hosting of the international conference held by ISESCO on the theme "Muslim World Youth Issue: Present and Future Challenges" (November 2008); and **approves** its resolutions and recommendations; and also endorses His Excellency's leading initiative to proclaim the year 2010 as International Year for the Youth as well as his call to convene an international conference on the youth in 2010 under the auspices of the United Nations and in association between ISESCO and relevant international and regional organizations.
- 8. Supports** the initiative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to nominate His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajiri for another term of office at the head of the General Directorate of ISESCO during the 10th session of ISESCO's General Conference due to be held in the Tunisian Republic from 2 through 4 July 2009; and **thanks** the Member States for supporting this nomination, as a token of appreciation for the high calibre of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajiri and his successful efforts in raising ISESCO

to the rank of international organisations having a leading, effective role in the area of civilizational edifice.

9. Commends the activities implemented ISESCO regional offices, delegations and regional and national centres in Sharjah, Tehran, N'djamena, Moroni and Moscow; welcomes the opening of an ISESCO permanent delegation respectively at UNESCO and in Vienna, which will enhance ISESCO's role in coordinating joint Islamic action in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, and promoting the action of Islamic communities in the West, Asia and Africa. It also **expresses** its appreciation of and satisfaction with the quality of ISESCO's publications, and **praises** their specialized educational, scientific and cultural researches and studies.

10. Lauds the contents of Islamic joint action strategies and their Implementation mechanisms drawn up by ISESCO, particularly in the fields of developing education and literacy, adult education, developing science and technology, management of water resources in Muslim countries, developing biotechnology, the cultural strategies for the Islamic world, strategies of bringing Muslim Madhahibs closer together, benefiting from Muslim competencies abroad and Islamic cultural action in the West, and **invites** Member States to cooperate with ISESCO in implementing these strategies adopted by the Islamic Summit conferences and relevant Islamic conferences.

11. Notes with appreciation the outcomes of the meetings held by ISESCO for the heads of Islamic cultural centres in Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as the programmes and activities implemented for the benefit of Muslim communities in non-member states, and **expresses** its support for the cooperation programme between ISESCO and the Paris-based Granada Editions aimed at educating and taking care of the children of Muslim communities through pioneering educational programmes and curricula which would further their attachment to the language of the Holy Quran and their belonging to Arab Islamic culture. It also **commends** the outcomes of the First European Forum for the Promotion of the Teaching of Arabic in the West which was co-organized by ISESCO and Granada Edition at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, in January 2009.

12. Expresses its sincerest thanks, appreciation and gratitude for His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali for his unflagging support to ISESCO's activities and for his approval of the patronizing and hosting by the Tunisian Republic of the international conference on "Dialogue of Civilizations and Cultural Diversity" (Tunis, 2-4 June 2009) which will be held in cooperation between ISESCO and the International Organization of the Francophony, the 10th General Conference of ISESCO (2-4 July 2009); "the international conference on adopting education and training to the requirements of international competitiveness and knowledge economies" (November 2009) which will be co-organized by ISESCO and the World Bank; and the international conference on the care for and employment of special categories (Tunis, December 2009) which will be co-organized by ISESCO and the Basma association for the Promotion of

Employment for the Disabled in Tunis. It also **praises** the activities carried out by Tunisia in cooperation with ISESCO as part of its project for the celebration of Islamic culture capitals, **expresses** its appreciation and support for the celebration programme of Kairouan as the Islamic culture capital for the year 2009, and **calls on** Member States to actively participate in these celebrations and support their programmes.

13. Expresses its sincerest thanks, appreciation and gratitude for the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al Saud and Crown Prince His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz for the generous support extended by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to construct the Organization's permanent headquarters and carry out a number of programmes and activities in the field of teaching the Arabic language, Islamic cultural and dialogue of civilizations and religions.

14. Commends the preparations and arrangements made by ISESCO to convene the Islamic conferences, especially the Sixth Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (Azerbaijan 2009), the Fifth Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Malaysia 2010) and the Fourth Islamic Conference of Environment Ministers (Tunisia 2010), and **welcomes** the convening of these conferences in full coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

15. Lauds ISESCO's initiative to proclaim 2010 as the year of dialogue with youth in the Islamic world, **invites** it to coordinate Member States' efforts to hold national and regional youth consultations, to actively participate in the World Youth Conference and to formulate its resolutions and recommendations, and **supports** its efforts to hold an Islamic youth conference in the beginning of 2010 in preparation for the World Youth Conference which President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali called for convening.

16. Expresses its deep thanks, appreciation and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for awarding King Abdulaziz Medal of the Excellence Order to His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, ISESCO Director General, in appreciation of his achievements at the head of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and as the crowning of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's unfailing support to ISESCO.

17. Expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude to the Kingdom of Morocco, (the Seat Country) and King Mohammed VI for the kind patronage he extended to a number of ISESCO's activities held in Morocco, as well as his addressing of messages to participants, and for the constant support ISESCO receives from the Moroccan government to discharge its mission in the most optimal manner.

B. ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT (ICIC):

1. **Welcomes** coming into force of the ICIC establishing agreement after reaching the needed quorum for ratification by OIC member states.
2. **Urges** the Member States, which have not yet ratified the agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives. **Invites** all the Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the Committee so that it may implement its programs.
3. **Calls on** the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to exert efforts regarding refugees and prisoners of war and provide care and protection in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner's Office for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Crescent and other relevant regional and international organizations.
4. **Expresses** its profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (hosting states) for extending support and facilities to the Committee.
5. **Expresses** its utmost thanks to the Republic of Sudan for hosting the 24th Session of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent held in Khartoum on 26-27 January 2009.
6. **Expresses** its profound thanks to the Republic of D Jibouti for its adherence to the ICIC agreement.
7. **Expresses also its sincere thanks** to the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) for extending support in the past to the Committee and **appeals** to the ISF to continue extending further financial support.
8. **Welcomes** the Second Consultation Meeting of the OIC Member States' National Societies of RCRC, in Istanbul and co-hosted by the ICIC and the Turkish Red Crescent on June 10-14, 2008.
9. **Expresses** satisfaction at the successful holding of the above-mentioned meeting and the adoption of the "Istanbul ICIC Declaration on Humanitarian Values" as annexed.
10. **Calls upon** Member States and concerned Islamic institutions to contribute to the realization of the program of the Republic of Senegal to remove landmines in the region of Casamance.

RESOLUTION No. 8/36-C
ON
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal -01 A1Jumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences and other OIC Islamic Conferences, in particular the 10th Ordinary and the 3rd Extraordinary Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the 34th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM), the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM), and the 8th Session of COMIAC;

Having taken note of the decisions adopted by the 5th I.S.S.F General Assembly Meeting, the I.S.S.F Executive Committee Meeting, the 1st Session of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers (ICYSM) held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 24-25 Safar 1426H (3-4 April 2005) and the ICYSM Ministerial Committee as well as the I.S.S.F Activity Report Presented by its Secretary General;

Having considered the reports submitted by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF), the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools;

A) THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY SPORTS FEDERATION (ISSF):

- 1. Hails** the future activities to be organized by the I.S.S.F within its programs for 2008-2009 particularly the organization of the 2nd Islamic Solidarity Games in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2009. It also encourages all the OIC member countries to participate in 2nd Islamic Solidarity Games and exert every effort to guarantee their success as a means of attaining one of the I.S.S.F most important goals.
- 2. Calls** upon Member States to observe their obligations with the I.S.S.F and settle the outstanding annual subscription fees by the respective countries.
- 3. Welcomes** the decisions adopted by the Ministerial Committee formed by the 1st Session of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers, under the chairmanship of HRH Prince Nawaf Bin Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz the Vice President General of Saudi Arabia's Youth Welfare. **Encourages** Member States to take due action for the activation of these decisions and cooperate with the OIC General Secretariat and the I.S.S.F to develop the required plans and strategies as a means of realizing the sought goals.
- 4. Encourages** Member States to pay more attention to the I.S.S.F programs by providing it with every possible support and participating effectively in its activities.

5. Welcomes the decisions adopted by the 5th I.S.S.F General Assembly endorsing the amendments proposed for the I.S.S.F Statute as well as the Basic Regulations of the Islamic Solidarity Games.

6. Welcomes also the cooperation agreement signed between the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (I.S.S.F) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and encourages all the OIC affiliates to conclude similar agreements to serve Muslim communities in all aspects.

7. Congratulates the Republic of Indonesia on the confidence expressed by the I.S.S.F General Assembly as it allocated the right to host the 3rd Islamic Solidarity Games in 2013 to the Indonesian NOC after completing the candidature file.

8. Presents its thanks and appreciation to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, I.S.S.F President, for the great attention he is paying to all the I.S.S.F programs particularly those sports issues of the youths of the Muslim Ummah, the thing that boosted the I.S.S.F status on international sports arena.

9. Welcomes the decision of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, I.S.S.F. President confirming the participation of the I.S.S.F. in OIC celebration of its 40th Anniversary this year.

10. Presents its thanks to the General Secretariat of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation for its efforts towards the successful implementation of all the I.S.S.F plans and programs.

11. Presents its thanks to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, led by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz and the Crown Prince HRH Sultan Bin Abdulaziz for the permanent financial and material support provided for the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and hosting its headquarter and for such great attention they pay to the cause of Muslim youths.

B. THE WORLD FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL ARAB-ISLAMIC SCHOOLS (WF-IAIS):

1. Recommends to the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and bodies, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the plans and projects of the World Federation of International Arab Islamic Schools in spreading the Arabic language and the Islamic culture and to provide all possible assistance for their implementation.

2. Recommends continued support for the organization of training courses for teachers of Arabic and Islamic culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkans.

3. **Also Recommends** contribution towards the printing of textbooks for teaching Arabic to Non-Arabic speakers, which has been prepared by the Federation, as well as for its distribution among Muslim children and students, by establishing a printing press for the Federation at its headquarters as well as other printing presses in central locations in the Islamic States in order to facilitate its distribution and utilization in those States and among Muslim communities.

4. **Invites** the IDB to continue its contribution towards the printing of school books for Afghan children and Arabic language books for non-Arab native beginners in needy countries.

5. **Urges** support for the open institute for continuing studies in Khartoum to continue its activities and the N'djamena Teachers Institute in Chad by providing each of them with a printing press to provide them with the required textbooks and other publications.

6. **Recommends** support for the project of the World Examinations' Council for the Arab-Islamic Schools established by the Federation, in collaboration with the League of Islamic Universities and the Muslim World League, which aims at placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well-known Islamic Universities, as well as enhancing this Council, and establishing regional branches for it.

7. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the activities of the Federation and to submit a report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

8. **Recommends** support for the project of the Federation to set up an Arabic language centre and forum of civilizations in London and to establish a training centre in Cairo.

9. **Recommends** support for the activities of the World Federation of International Arab Islamic Schools to establish examinations council in Uganda in cooperation with the Islamic University in Uganda and to establish examinations council in Malaysia in collaboration with the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

C. The Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation

1. **Expresses its satisfaction** on the official opening of the ICYF-DC Head-Quarters in Istanbul hosted by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey and start of the ICYFDC Secretariat functioning in its permanent Headquarters.

2. **Appreciates** the financial contribution made by the Government of Azerbaijan to the Forum; and **Calls upon** the Member States, the OIC subsidiary organs, specialized

and affiliated institutions as well as other Islamic institutions to support the activities of the ICYF-DC, to provide financial contribution toward the ICYF-DC's annual budget and to coordinate, their work in the field of youth with the ICYF-DC.

3. **Endorses** cooperation between the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and ICYF-DC; **appreciates** contribution by the ICCI toward implementation of youth projects, in particular "Iqra" comprehensive leadership training program aimed at multi-faceted intellectual development of Muslim youth; **endorses** also Memorandum of Understanding between the ICYF-DC and IDB contribution towards the establishment of the ICYF-DC regional Youth Center.

4. **Welcomes** the concept of Youth Waqf developed by the ICYF-DC in order to provide sustainable financing toward different projects aimed at through development of youth in the Members States and Muslim minority communities worldwide,

5. **Expresses** the assurance that cooperation between the ICYF-DC and the United Nations Organization and its appropriate organs and agencies, especially the United Nations Children Fund, the UN Special Unit for South-South Cooperation and UNESCO will have the effect of further strengthening the capacities of the ICYF-DC.

6. **Endorses** cooperation between ISESCO and ICYF-DC in the areas of promoting OIC intellectual youth development and dialogue among civilizations; as well as cooperation between the government of Kuwait, IDB and ICYF-DC in the fields of Youth capacity building and promotion of Youth tourism in the OIC countries.

7. **Appreciates** the activities held by the ICYF-DC to disseminate historic truth on the "Humanitarian catastrophes in the OIC Countries" in a special publishing series in particular, the first Arabic publication on the mass massacre by Armenian forces of Azerbaijani civilians in the town of Khojaly, as well as international campaign entitled "justice for Khojaly – Freedom for Karabakh" launched under this issue; invites the Member States to support and actively participate in the events of the Campaign aimed at recognition and commemoration of Khojaly mass massacre on national and international levels; **welcomes** the results of the OIC intergovernmental meeting of experts organized by ICYF-DC in partnership with ISESCO, in particular establishment of the memorial day for commemoration of humanitarian catastrophes of Muslim communities throughout the twentieth century and adoption of the joint program of action to be implemented within the framework of the memorial day commemoration in the member states; **calls upon** the member states and OIC institutions to actively take part in activities under the program.

8. **Welcomes** the Youth for the "Alliance of Civilizations" initiative developed by the ICYF-DC together with international partners; **supports** the Global Youth Movement for the Alliance of Civilizations established as the UN Alliance of Civilizations' youth

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platform and being one of the major results of the UN AoC Second Annual Forum held on 6-7 April 2009 in Istanbul; **commends** ICYF-DC as one of major stakeholders of GYMAoC for strong efforts aimed at promoting this global youth movement; **calls upon** the Member States to provide voluntary financial and other contribution toward development of the Movement and actively participate in the First Global Convention of the Movement to be held in Baku in 2010.

9. **Welcomes** the cooperation of the Forum with the OIC General Secretariat on youth issues and as a major partner vis-à-vis implementation of the OIC 10-Year Programme of Action in the field of youth related activities and to submit annual reports on the Forum's activities to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers taking into account the coordination with the sub-committee of the 1st OIC Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports.

RESOLUTION No. 9/36-C
ON
THE 8TH SESSION OF COMIAC

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 AlJumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling Resolution No. 13/3-P(IS) adopted by the Third Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah/Taif (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) in June 1981, in favor of establishing a Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) as well as all the subsequent resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conference on COMIAC;

Recalling the recommendations contained in the 10-Year Program of Action adopted by the Third Extra-ordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

Taking note of the important recommendations issued by the Eighth Session of COMIAC, held in Dakar (Republic of Senegal) on 14-15 November, 2006:

- 1. Notes with appreciation** the establishment of the COMIAC Permanent National Secretariat and the Follow-up Committee.
- 2. Expresses satisfaction** with the efforts put in by the Republic of Senegal to re-energize COMIAC.
- 3. Encourages and supports** the cooperation between COMIAC and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to explore ways and means that may be mobilized for the financing of the COMIAC activities.
- 4. Invites** the Member States and concerned institutions to bring their financial support to the COMIAC Programs and Activities through the expeditious payment of voluntary contributions.

RESOLUTION No. 10/36-C
ON
PROMOTING THE POSITION OF THE YOUTH IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 28 Jumadi Al Awwal – 01 Al Jumadi Al Thani 1430H (23-25) May, 2009),

Recalling the resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, the 35th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, the 5th Session of the Islamic Conference of the Ministers of Culture and the 8th Session of the Islamic Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) on youth care and training in the Islamic World,

Emphasizing the role of the youth in the Islamic World in promoting dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, in highlighting the true image of Islam and in the dissemination of its eternal values which call for moderation, dialogue, tolerance and the respect of the other,

Having considered (with appreciation) the conclusions of the International Conference on ‘Youth Issues in the Islamic World: Today’s Stakes and Tomorrow’s Challenges’ held by the ISESCO in the Republic of Tunisia under the High Patronage of His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali (Tunis, 24-26 November 2008),

1. HAILS the hosting by the Republic of Tunisia of the International Conference on ‘Youth Issues in the Islamic World: Today’s Stakes and Tomorrow’s Challenges’ held by the ISESCO in Tunis on 24-26 November 2008; **reiterates** its gratitude and highest consideration to the President of the Republic of Tunisia Zine El Abidine Ben Ali for hosting and giving his high patronage to the Conference; **commends** the results of the Conference and **expresses** its support to its resolutions and conclusions as included in the Tunis Declaration for the promotion of the youth’s position in the Islamic World,

2. SUPPORTS and backs the initiative of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to declare the year 2010 an International Youth Year and supports his invitation to hold, under the supervision of the United Nations Organization, a world youth conference in 2010 co-organized by the ISESCO and international Islamic organizations concerned with the issues of the youth,

3. WELCOMES the initiative of the ISESCO to declare 2009 a ‘Year of Dialogue with youth in the Islamic World’, **supports** its efforts to organize the Islamic preparatory meeting of the international youth conference early in 2010, and **invites** OIC Member States to contribute to the success of this consultation and participate in the activities of the International Youth Conference at the highest level.

Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the issues incorporated in this resolution and report thereon to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.