ANNEX IV OIC/ACM-2010/SL-REP.FINAL

REPORT OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP MEETING ON SIERRA LEONE

NEW YORK

22nd September 2010

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The OIC Contact Group on Sierra Leone met at the Ministerial level on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting of the OIC Foreign Ministers in New York on the 22nd of September 2010 and reviewed the latest situation in the country.

- 1. The meeting expressed its satisfaction at the progress made by democracy, the rule of law and good governance in Sierra Leone and urged its political leaders and people to shun violence and political intolerance, and to develop a national culture of peace, dialogue and participation.
- 2. The meeting acknowledged the important progress made by Sierra Leone in the areas of infrastructure development, education and agriculture throughout the country under the able leadership of H.E. President Ernest Bai Koroma, despite the economic challenges facing Sierra Leone.
- 3. The meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to the State of Qatar, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the financial support extended to the OIC Assistance Fund for Sierra Leone.
- 4. The meeting invited all stakeholders to come up with concrete proposals aimed at giving a new lease of life to the OIC Assistance Fund for Sierra Leone which has been unable to cope with the pressing socioeconomic needs due to its scant financial resources exhausted since December 2006.
- 5. The meeting expressed its thanks to the international community, to DFID/UK and the OIC Member States and financial institutions which played an important role during the OIC-DFID international donors' conference held in London in November 2009.
- 6. The Meeting took note of the progress of the Capacity Building Program for Oil Palm Plantation Project in Sierra Leone and the vigorous efforts undertaken by the Sierra Leone Government to overcome the 9 issues identified by the Malaysia IDB Assessment Mission undertaken on 1 10 November 2009, to facilitate the implementation of the Rescue Plans of the project.
