

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF PEACE AND PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT)

OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO

15-18 RABIUL AWAL 1420H (28 JUNE - 01 JULY 1999)

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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The Cultural Affairs Committee of the 26th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development) met on Monday, 15 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June, 1999), to study the Session's agenda items pertaining to Cultural and Social Affairs.

H. E. Asmisi Kwanda, Burkina Faso Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, Chairman of the Committee, opened the meeting. He welcomed the participating delegations and wished them a pleasant stay and success in the mission entrusted to them. His Excellency advocated a realistic approach in dealing with the items on the agenda, and expressed his confidence that the fraternal cooperation, the constructive Islamic spirit and mutual respect among the honourable delegates will ensure the success of the Committee deliberations. The Committee approved its work programme.

On the pattern of the election to the Bureau of the Plenary, the Bureau of the Committee was composed of the following States:

- Burkina Faso Chairman
- Iran Deputy Chairman
- Egypt Deputy Chairman
- Qatar Rapporteur

The General Secretariat was represented by H. E. Ambassador Ibrahim Ouf, Assistant Secretary General for Cultural and Social Affairs and for Information and by H. E. Ambassador Ahmad Ali Ghazali, Director of the Cultural and Social Affairs Department. The deliberations covered items 65 to 69 on the session agenda. The draft resolutions were approved unanimously with the exception of Resolution 18/26-C on the unified calendar for the beginning of lunar months and Islamic festivals, about which the Sultanate of Oman expressed its reservations.

Special attention was paid to the financial difficulties faced by the Islamic universities and cultural institutions in the performance of their duties. It was agreed that a new urgent appeal should be made to Member States, to find a rapid solution to the crisis.

At the close of the meeting, the Committee expressed its appreciation of the outstanding way in which H. E. the Chairman steered the deliberations, which greatly contributed to the optimal and timely completion of the Committee's work.

H. E. the Chairman expressed his thanks to all the Committee members for the spirit of brotherhood and the seriousness which prevailed throughout the meeting and for their command of the topics discussed, which enabled the Committee to achieve positive results

within the time allotted. He also expressed his thanks to H. E. the Assistant Secretary General for his participation and assistance in steering the Committee deliberations. He further extended his thanks to the General Secretariat staff and the translation and interpretation teams which carried out the tasks assigned to them in an optimal manner.



RESOLUTION NO. 1/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development) held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Niger;

Expressing its thanks to Member States, in particular, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the ISF, Al-Azhar Al-Shareef, the Islamic Development Bank, Rabitah Al-Alam Al-Islami, the International Islamic Charitable Organisation, World Islamic Da'wa Society, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Iqra Charitable Organization and the Sheikh Zayed Institution for Humanitarian and Charitable Works and to all those who extended support and assistance for the establishment and functioning of the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Niger;

Recognizing the need to provide the University with regular financial resources and the necessary educational and material support.

1. Expresses its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts for the good running of the University. It also expresses its appreciation for the meaningful cooperation of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in supervising the pedagogical and cultural aspects of the teaching process of the University.

2. Commends the consistent support extended by the ISF to finance the major part of the University's annual budget and appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, and Islamic Philanthropic organizations to extend financial and material support to this important Islamic institution, considering the annual deficit in the modest budget of this university due to the lack of resources.

3. Also underlines the need of contributing to the establishment of a Waqf, whose assets are composed of donations, grants and gifts, the proceeds of which would be sufficient to ensure a stable income and urging donors to step up their efforts to achieve this objective and requests the University Board of Trustees to act in this direction with a view to reaching a durable solution to the financial problems of the University.

4. Expresses appreciation to the Government of Niger for allocating a piece of land in central Niamey as a Waqf for the Islamic University in Sai.

5. Welcomes the decision of the University Board of Trustees to open a Women's College of Islamic Studies and expresses thanks to the Islamic Development Bank for agreeing to meet the relevant costs and to the Kuwaiti Ministry of Waqfs for building a Health Centre at the University.

6. Commissions the General Secretariat to inform all Member States about the needs of the university in terms of teachers, curricula, books and financial support.

7. Approves the Draft Statute of the Waqf of the Islamic University in Niger which has been submitted to it during this Session.

8. Approves the appointment of the undernamed as new members of the Board of Trustees of the University:

The Islamic Development Bank,

Dr. Ibrahim Abu Aba'ah, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Dr. Abdul Rahman Bin Ali Al-Jurwan Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Abdul Qadir Dhahi Al-'Ujayl Kuwait, State of Kuwait

Dr Abu Bakr Dukuri, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

9. Expresses thanks to His Highness Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohamed Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the State of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharja, for his donation to build the second part of the University library.

10. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 2/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Uganda;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda for all assistance extended to the University;

Expressing its thanks to Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation (Kuwait), the International Islamic Da'wah Society (Libya), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, and other Islamic institutions for their support to the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Uganda;

1. Invites the Board of Trustees to continue its endeavours to ensure appropriate conditions for the University to fulfill its tasks in accordance with its Statute and the Headquarters Agreement signed by the Government of Uganda and the OIC General Secretariat.

2. Appeals to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic charitable institutions, to contribute material and financial assistance to the annual operational budget of the Islamic University in Uganda.

3. Expresses its satisfaction with the involvement of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the supervision of the educational and cultural aspects of the teaching process in the University, the elaboration of appropriate curricula, the adoption of the necessary books and reference material and assistance to strengthen the teaching of the Arabic language in the University.

4. Commends the generous financial support extended by the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques through the establishment of a Waqf for the University. Also expresses its thanks to the Government of the Republic of Uganda for having donated a plot

of land in central Kampala to the Islamic University in Uganda, as a contribution towards the setting up of the Waqf. Commends further the financial assistance extended by the Islamic Solidarity Fund to the Islamic University in Uganda for the past academic years, which enabled the University to continue assuming its tasks throughout the difficult circumstances it had experienced.

5. Appeals to Member States and the Islamic Development Bank to make donations for the construction of the faculties of the University.

6. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Board of Trustees of the Islamic University in Uganda.

7. Commissions the General Secretariat to inform all Member States about the needs of the university in terms of teachers, curricula, books and financial support.

8. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Government of the State of Kuwait for donating US\$1,800,000 in favour of the Waqf of the Islamic Universities in Niger and Uganda.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 3/26-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the Recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Islamic University in Malaysia;

Having taken note of the continuing satisfactory progress of this University;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for its continued material and financial support aimed at covering the operational expenses of the University and the construction of its new campus;

Also expressing appreciation to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions which have extended moral and material assistance to the University;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Renews the request of the OIC General Secretariat to Member States to contribute to the progress and development of the Islamic University in Malaysia with the aim of enhancing its capacity and enabling it to operate with its full potential to achieve its objectives.

2. Notes with great satisfaction the progress achieved by the University in the fields of research and learning, thanks to its enlightened management and the support extended by the Malaysian Government to all its activities.

3. Appeals to all Member States which have not yet concluded Agreements of Co-sponsorship of this University, within the framework of their bilateral cooperation with Malaysia, to do so at an early date.

4. Reiterates its request to all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, ISESCO and other Islamic institutions to continue supporting this University by providing it with financial aid, academic references and books to enrich its library, and other assistance such as curricula, teachers and scholarships so as to enable more students to enroll in this University.

5. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Board of Trustees of the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers..



RESOLUTION NO.4/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Bangladesh;

Noting with satisfaction the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the realization of other necessary objectives;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended assistance to the University.

2. Urges all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Muslim World League and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the University so that it can achieve its objectives.

3. Calls upon the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh to ensure continued financial and moral support to the University.

4. Also calls upon the General Secretariat to continue cooperation with ISESCO, to provide academic assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh, from Member States Universities, through secondment of teachers and provision of scholarships and books.

5. Commends the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the development of the University, bearing its operational costs and the building of the new University Campus so as to accommodate a larger number of students.

6. Decides that ISESCO be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Islamic University in Bangladesh.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 5/26-C

ON KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on King Faisal Mosque in Ndjamen, Republic of Chad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Emphasizes the pressing need for the Islamic and educational services provided by this Islamic institution, and the need to consider King Faisal Mosque as one of the Islamic educational institutions that require special attention on the part of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and ISESCO.
2. Invites the Government of the Republic of Chad and the General Secretariat to prepare the technical study and cost estimates needed for the rehabilitation of the Mosque and its annexes and to communicate them to Member States.
3. Urges all Member States to make financial contributions towards the restoration and furnishing of the Mosque and its annexes.
4. Requests all Member States and Islamic financial institutions to contribute to this institution by providing it with curricula, teachers and scholarships for graduate students so as to enable them to pursue their higher studies in other Islamic Universities
5. Entrusts the Secretary General to take all necessary steps in coordination with the relevant authorities in Chad to examine the present condition of the Mosque and its educational and cultural institutions.
6. Expresses thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for providing support to the King Faisal Mosque and its educational institutions.
7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 6/26-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH, TIMBUCTU, MALI.

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal (28 June to 01 July, 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu (Mali);

Welcoming the efforts being made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for the development of the Institute;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Joma'a Majed Foundation in the Arab United Emirates, and other Islamic institutions to continue providing material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu so that it may achieve its objectives.
2. Appeals to the Member States which have technical capabilities in the fields of conservation and processing of manuscripts to provide scholarships to the officials of the Institute to enhance their competence in these fields.
3. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) and invites them to pay greater attention to the Institute and provide it with the necessary technical assistance so that it may continue to carry out its functions.

4. Entrusts the Secretary General, in cooperation with the relevant authorities in Mali, with updating the information relating to the Institute.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 7/26-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN)

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute for Complementary Education in Islamabad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends to 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 No.7/8-C(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9 to 11 Shaban 14198H (9-11 December 1997);

2. Emphasizes once again, the importance of establishing 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.

3. Expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to establish this Institute and ensure its operation and extends its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has extended to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the secondment of a number of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

4. 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.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 8/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the implementation of phase I of the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.
2. Requests the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat to continue their coordination with a view to completing the ongoing construction of the Great Mosque in Bissau, within the limits of the financial resources currently available.
3. Calls on all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.
4. Expresses sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the State of the United Arab Emirates and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the financial support and assistance they have extended to the Centre.
5. Entrusts the Secretary General to take the necessary steps to examine the present condition of the Centre, in coordination and cooperation with the relevant authorities in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.
6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 9/26-C

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE IN MORONI, ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF COMOROS

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the establishment of an Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;

Taking into consideration the need of the Muslim people in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros for such a centre;

1. Calls on the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the Government of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros with a view to overcoming the difficulties that hinder the establishment of the Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni and expediting the establishment of the Centre given its benefits for the Comorian and the neighbouring peoples.
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Indonesia, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Islamic Dawa Society (Libya) which have given first financial assistance to the Centre.
3. Urges all Member States and Islamic institutions to provide every possible assistance to this project.
4. Expresses thanks to High Highness Dr. Sheikh Sultan Ben Mohammed Al Kassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharja for meeting the costs of completing the construction of the great mosque in Moroni.
5. Entrusts the Secretary General to take the necessary steps with the relevant authorities in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros to assess the present situation of the project of the Cultural Centre in Moroni.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 10/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum;

Having considered the report submitted by the Republic of Sudan on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum;

Appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government so as to enhance this Institute and to ensure its continuity;

Further appreciating the important mission fulfilled by the Institute in the field of translation from and into Arabic that serves to propagate Islam in furtherance of the objectives of the Organization;

Considering the financial difficulties faced by the Institute which impede the fulfillment of its Islamic mission;

1. Urges the Member States to extend assistance to the Institute so as to enable it to fulfill the mission entrusted to it.

2. Urges the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and Islamic financial institutions to extend necessary financial assistance to support the efforts of the Institute to enable it to continue functioning in the best way.

Urges the Institute of Translation in Khartoum to cooperate with King Fahd Institute of Translation in Tangier and the other similar institutions.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 11/26-C

ON STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE CULTURAL STRATEGY AND THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world;

Recalling the Declaration of Makkah Al-Mukarramah issued by the Third Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and the various resolutions adopted by other Islamic Conferences and particularly Resolution 1/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Session of the Islamic

Summit Conference held in Dakar and in accordance with which the Islamic Summit Conference adopted the Islamic World's Cultural Strategy and Plan of Action;

Having considered the Final Communiqué of the Second Islamic Conference of the Ministers of Culture;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world;

1. Recommends to the Member States and the General Secretariat to follow-up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution of the Second Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture.

2. Entrusts the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, in its capacity as the body specialized in the field of culture and communication within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, with the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and following up its implementation with the competent parties in the Member States, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

3. Appeals to the Member States to adopt the fundamental concepts of a culture that shapes man, civilization and progress, builds on the principles of Islamic fraternity, and calls for cohesion, complementarity, mutual solidarity and cooperation, and to attach special importance to education on all levels in order to guarantee the continuity of cultural action throughout generations, in addition to teaching Islamic civilization and culture in all Islamic institutions, providing all the relevant teaching aids, and activating the role of women through the different teaching and awareness-raising means;

4. Affirms the importance of the unity of the Muslim Ummah and the coherence of its cultural orientations, the importance of coordinating its field efforts in the various fields of public action, observing all the while the national and local cultural specificities of the Muslim peoples, and the importance of supporting scientific research institutions in such a way as to guarantee the implementation of projects in the field of Islamic culture and civilization;

5. Invites the Member States to incorporate the objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World within their cultural plans according to their national policies, and to attach the deserved paramount importance to cultural action in their economic and social development plans on the grounds that culture is a fundamental element in the civilization building process;

6. Appeals to the Member States, wherein there are no national councils for culture, to set up such institutions in order to coordinate cultural activities therein in prospect for the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic world;

7. Appeals to the Member States to establish national funds for financing cultural projects therein, and to encourage the national governmental or non-governmental institutions operating in this field;

8. Adopts the recommendations contained in the Report of the five-member Committee, which held its meeting on 15-17 June, 1998, and which emanated from the Coordination Meeting of Culture Ministers in the Muslim countries, convened in Stockholm, on 30 March 1998;

9. Approves the setting up of the Consultative Council on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy, as mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Recommendations of the Five-Member Committee, from the following Member States:

- 1- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 2- Kingdom of Morocco
- 3- Arab Republic of Egypt
- 4- Islamic Republic of Iran
- 5- Malaysia

- 6- Republic of Indonesia
- 7- Republic of Senegal
- 8- Republic of Mali
- 9- Burkina Faso.

10. Calls upon the Member States desirous to implement cultural projects to submit them in collaborate and exhaustive form to the Consultative Council on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the purpose of studying them, estimating their financial cost and endeavouring to implement them, all in consultation with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Islamic Development Bank, provided that ISESCO circulate the projects concerned to the Member States and other donor parties with a view to collecting the necessary funds for their implementation under the supervision of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization;

11. Commends the role of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the role of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs it being a supreme body that charts the broad lines of cultural development in the Islamic world, and the role of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in its capacity as the specialized body in charge of coordinating joint Islamic cultural action and following up its course, and emphasize the importance of its mobilizing the awareness of the Member States regarding the support of the implementation programmes of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World;

12. Opens a special account for backing up the joint cultural actions falling within the framework of implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and entrust its management to the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization;

13. Appeals to the Member States to allocate additional financial resources to support the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization;

14. Commends the important and active role played by ISESCO in implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and strengthening its contacts with relevant international organizations.

15. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 12/26-C

ON THE ADOPTION OF A UNIFIED STAND ON THE BELITTLING OF ISLAMIC SANCTITIES AND VALUES

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Adoption of a Unified Stand on the Belittling of Islamic Sanctities and Values;

Emphasizing the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on coordinating efforts to protect the sacred values and places;

Expressing deep concern at the aggression whether verbal, physical or in the form of publications, by the spoken and written words as well as by action against Muslims in many

parts of the world targeting their values, sanctities, selves, properties and religious and cultural heritage, in addition to the violation, curtailment and denial of their basic rights and freedoms relating to their belief and the exercise of rituals;

Recalling the resolutions and statements of the previous Islamic Conferences on the Adoption of a Unified Stand on the Belittling of Islamic Sanctities and Values, especially Resolution No. 17/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its deep concern over the killing of Muslims and the aggression against their shrines in occupied Palestine, India, and Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the world;

Taking note of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the legal and procedural aspects relating the conclusion of an international legal document that ensures respect for Islamic values and sanctities;

Resolving to put an end to the spreading of false information insulting to Islam through the Internet.

1. Condemns once again these aggressions and violations wherever they may occur and whatever their source, means or manifestation.

2. Strongly reaffirms all the provisions of the statements and resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences in this respect.

3. Appeals to all Member States to stand resolutely against these challenges and to confront them with every available means so that the values, shrines and rights of Muslim minorities and communities in non-Islamic States may not be subject to humiliation, aggression, profanation, demolition or confiscation.

4. Welcomes the circulation by the Secretary General to all Member States of the legal and procedural memorandum prepared by the General Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an international legal document so as to ensure observance of the Islamic values and sanctities, in order to elicit their opinions and observations concerning the substance and form of the document; in preparation for the setting up of a Governmental Expert Group to examine the issue and draw up a legal document thereon, in the light of the observations that may be put forward by the Member States, and on the basis of relevant international instruments, and to submit the results of the work of the Group to COMIAC and the 26th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

5. Requests the Member States that have not, as yet, done so, to speedily despatch, to the General Secretariat, their views and observations regarding the aforesaid Document so that a meeting of the Governmental Experts Group be held at the appropriate time for drafting the proposed Draft Document.

6. Strongly condemns the destruction of historical and cultural Islamic sanctities and antiquities in Azeri territory as a result of Armenian aggression.

7. Commends the efforts by ISESCO and Al-Azhar Al-Sharif to prepare appreciate replies in the Internet to stop falsehoods against Islamic values and calls on them to continue these blessed efforts.

8. Invites competent Islamic bodies and organs as well as leaders of Islamic thought, each in his or its own domain, to intensify their efforts to counter these falsehoods.

9. Entrusts the General Secretariat with adding this subject to the legal instrument, which will be prepared, to take into consideration the legal circumstances of electronic trade and submit the matter, as soon as possible, to the Member States.

10 Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 13/26-C

on The Dialogue Among Contemporary Civilizations

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 15 to 18 Rabi'ul Awal 1420H (June 28 - July 01, 1999),

Reaffirming its deep faith in the commonness of the human fate and in full equality among individuals and peoples, regardless of their colours, languages, dialects, ethnicities, cultures and creeds;

Renewing its faith in that the diversity of cultures and civilizations of the human race was and still is its effective vehicle conducing to welfare and progress towards a better future for the humankind;

Expressing its absolute respect and appreciation of those sublime principles and high morals produced by all those human civilizations through their profound evolution from the dawn of history to our present day;

Expressing its unshakeable faith in those high principles and morals combined to constitute a solid ground for constructive cooperation among the peoples of the world and their adequacy for becoming a moral reference (or code) for international behaviour in the third millennium;

Proclaiming its absolute rejection of the suspicious theories and doctrines that call for accepting the conflict of civilizations as a scientific fact; and warning against the obnoxious consequences of following such ideas detrimental to peace among nations and jeopardizing peoples' security, human rights as well as the values of tolerance and compassion between the powerful and the weak, and the rich and the poor;

Rejecting as well the attempts, on the part of one civilization, to impose cultural, economic, political or military hegemony on others, for all the severe trampling on the notions of justice, equality, tolerance, cooperation and mutual confidence which such attitudes is conducive to; along with the reactions emanating from peoples' feelings of injustice and oppression and deprivation of their natural right to defend their distinct cultural identities, independent will and equitable share of overall development it generates;

Expressing its deep anxiety over the failure by the international community and its institutions, so far, to have peace and justice replace wars and injustice, nay the escalation of individual and collective violence and the mounting ratios of conventional and mass (destruction) armament, the aggravation of economic problems, the decreasing development rates, the deterioration of the Environment, the spread of terrorism, the increase in organized crime and the pandemic of narcotics and drug abuse -- all because of people being confined to purely material researches and consequent thinking as well as the admission of notions such as the balance of power, the areas of influence, the hegemony and the policies of egoistic interests on the pretext of realism and pragmatism;

Welcoming the positive results of the « Symposium on the Dialogue Among Civilizations, » held in Tehran, from Muharram 17 to 19, 1420H (May 3-5, 1999), particularly the document titled « The Tehran Declaration on Dialogue Among Civilizations; »

Having reviewed, with greater appreciation, the report of the OIC Secretary-General on the issue of the « Dialogue Among Contemporary Civilizations; »

The Conference:

1 - Declares that dialogue among contemporary civilizations is the only available outlet for humanity to join hands in the quest for a New World Order based on their sublime « common ethical values. »

2 - Highly prizes the decision by the UN General Assembly to proclaim 2001 as The Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations.

3 - Urges member states to work closely with the OIC Secretariat General to harness the intellectual potentialities inside and outside the Islamic world and in coordination with the UN Secretary-General and the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to prepare a Draft Universal Declaration on Dialogue Among Contemporary Civilizations sanctioning their shared principles and ethical values to be adopted as a term of reference for international conduct in the 21st century. Stemming from such a Declaration would be an implementing ten (10) year work program. Subsequently, negotiations would be held about the above two documents within the framework of the United Nations, with a view to their ratification by the 56th General Assembly in 2001, the UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations.

4 - Expresses to His Excellency and Eminence Muhammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Chairman of the Eighth (8th) Islamic Summit, its deep appreciation for His Excellency's initiative proposing that the OIC call for a dialogue among civilizations. It also expresses its sincere thanks to His Excellency for his high patronage of the Symposium on Dialogue Among Civilizations, hosted by his Government in Tehran, from 17 to 19 Muharram 1420H (May 3-5, 1999).

5 - Decides to ratify the Tehran Declaration on Dialogue Among Civilizations, issued by the aforementioned symposium, together with the recommendations therein. It also endorses the report of the said symposium and requests the Secretary-General to add those two documents to the documents of the Conference.

6- Decides to set-up a high level open-ended inter-governmental experts' group and calls on the group to meet as soon as possible to prepare the above mentioned two draft universal documents and to that effect, to cooperate and co-ordinate action with utmost transparency, on all matters pertaining to the dialogue among civilizations, with relevant Non-Governmental Organizations and Institutions, and in close cooperation with the permanent representatives of OIC member states at the UN Headquarters in New York.

7 - Charges the Secretary-General to appoint a focal point at the Secretariat-General for a strict monitoring of the dialogue among contemporary civilizations.

8 - Also charges the Secretary-General to convey the present resolution to the UN Secretary-General and the Director General of UNESCO and to kindly circulate it to Member States of those two organizations.

9 - Last but not least, charges the Secretary-General to submit a report to the 27th ICFM on the latest development in regard to the issue under consideration.



RESOLUTION NO. 14/26-C

ON THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE MUSLIMS IN KOSOVO AND SANJAK

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the provision of Assistance to the Muslims in Kosovo and Sanjak;

Noting the total and terrible destruction by the Serbs of economic life and cultural heritage pursuant to their objective of ethnic cleansing;

Strongly condemns the recent massacres perpetrated by the Serbs against the Muslims of Kosovo.

Considering the great difficulties faced by the citizens of Kosovo and denial of the exercise of their cultural and economic rights;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Strongly condemns the Serb aggression against the Muslim Albanian population of Kosovo and Tushnak population of Sanjak, aimed at depriving this population of their Islamic identity and culture.

2. Appreciates the efforts of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo and calls on them to pursue their efforts, draw the attention of UN Secretary General to the need to follow the situation in Kosovo and urge the Security Council to guarantee the safe return of the Kosovo refugees as well as mobilise humanitarian aid to the victims and provide assistance for the reconstruction of Kosovo.

3. Urges all OIC Member States and the relevant OIC organizations to help the Muslims in Kosovo and Sanjak to preserve their cultural heritage and Islamic identity against the Serb aggression.

4. Requests the IDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to undertake the study of cultural and economic projects with a view to implementing them to consolidate the links between the populations of these regions and their cultural heritage, identity and cultural roots and ward off the dangers threatening their Islamic identity.

5. Extends its thanks to all member states which provided help and assistance to the people of Kosovo during its ordeal in confronting the Serbian aggression.

6. Also requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 15/26-C

ON WOMEN AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on Women and their Role in the Development of Islamic Society;

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

Convinced that these noble objectives can only be achieved through the participation of all Muslims, including Muslim Women who constitute half of the Islamic Ummah;

Having taken note of the statement of the report of the Secretary General on the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;

Expressing appreciation for the good preparation and coordination among the OIC Member States thereon;

Having taken note of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society held, at the expert level, at the kind invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran from 17 to 19 Zul Qadah 1415H (17-19 April 1995) in implementation of Resolution No. 10/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

1. Expresses its support for the consultations on women issues made at the two conferences of Women Parliamentarians in Islamic Countries held in 1995 in Islamabad, Pakistan, and 1996 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
2. Reaffirms the position of Islamic States at the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing and reasserts that the implementation of the documents adopted by that Conference will be carried out by Member States in accordance with their constitutions, their laws and their religious and moral values consistent with the principles of the true Islamic religion.
3. Requests Member States to take the appropriate steps to organize Women's activities at national and international levels and in different fields consistent with the nature of women and the precepts of the Shariah.
4. Also requests the General Secretariat to coordinate with the governments of Member States to support direct and sustainable relationships among Muslim Women Associations in Member States and cooperate with the existing International Women Organizations in Islamic Countries.
5. Declares its intention to set up a temporary governmental working group to harmonize the positions of all Member States on issues relating to women at international fora, particularly the UN and requests the General Secretariat to take the necessary measures to hold sessions of this group.
6. Urges the Islamic Fiqh Academy to submit to the forthcoming Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the study referred to it by the relevant resolution of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and dealing with the results achieved by the Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society held in Tehran from 17-19 April, 1995.
7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 16/26-C

ON CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World;

Bearing in mind the Declaration issued by the World Summit on the Child and the Plan of Action which called for the preparation of national programmes for children, the equal treatment of male and female children and the provision of equal opportunities.

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic countries die as a result of diseases from which they may be protected or because of malnutrition; and that other millions suffer from the same circumstances because of famines, drought and armed conflicts;

Underlining the basic role of the family in the guidance and moral and material education of children.

Realizing the important role of the mass media in education, information and entertainment of children and expressing deep concern over the programmes designed for children which encourage violence, disobedience and spirit of consumption.

Stressing the importance of establishing Islamic schools for Muslim minorities living in non-Islamic countries.

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World and listened to the views of the representatives of Member States, bodies and organizations;

1. Commends the Declaration on the Rights and Protection of the Child in Islam which was drawn up by the expert-level Meeting held at the General Secretariat headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 and which clearly focused on the Islamic teachings and the lofty values enjoined by the Holy Quran and the tradition of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and by which the Muslim Ummah is distinguished from all other peoples of the world which are to serve as a reference by which the peoples and governments of this Ummah will be guided in drawing up their child care programmes. They will also serve as a notification to all other peoples of the world of Islam's stand on children's affairs.

2. Supports the concept of "debt relief for developing countries in exchange for the implementation of the programme for child survival and development" as a basic consideration for alleviating the debt burden on developing countries.

3. Welcomes the concept of 20/20, whereby 20 per cent of national budgets should be devoted to basic social services and the same percentage of Official Development Assistance should be assigned to the same sectors and recommends it to the governments of member states for appropriate implementation.

4. Calls upon Member States to adopt every necessary measure to prevent any further armed conflicts while considering measures for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and to pay special attention to the needs of children and women, who have been the major victims in recent wars, in particular by allowing, in time of conflict, periods of truce and corridors of peace, for the passage of relief supplies, immunization against diseases and the provision of health services; and by banning the manufacture, stockpiling, import, export and use of land mines, weapons whose main victims are among women, children and other civilians and whose devastating effects go on for a long period of time after the conflict is over.

5. Calls upon all Member States to endeavour with the assistance of the international community to improve the condition of children, particularly those living under difficult circumstances, including children residing in zones of violent and persistent conflicts, as well as refugee and displaced children by meeting their physical and moral needs, paying attention to their education and helping restore them to normal living. It commends the efforts made by several Islamic States in this respect.

6. Calls on Member States to collaborate among themselves and to act collectively and individually in order to play a leading role in the international arena and thus serve as a model for what can be achieved for the benefit of children.

7.. Commends the role played by UNICEF since its establishment for the survival, protection and development of children worldwide, particularly in the developing countries; and specially the ongoing cooperation between the OIC and the UNICEF relating to the child care and protection in the OIC countries;

8. Calls upon the international community, particularly the donor countries to provide increased assistance to the developing OIC countries to enable them to continue their child care and protection efforts;

9. Expresses deep concern over the plight of child refugees and requests all parties concerned to exert their maximum efforts in order to assist these child refugees, expedite their return and reunion with their families. It also calls for the non-involvement of these children in any armed conflict and not to enlist them in the armed forces or for any other actions which may expose their personal safety and security to danger;

10. Calls for the convening, at the earliest possible date of the Ministerial Conference on the Child and Social Affairs, and commissions the Secretary General to make the necessary consultations with the Member States in this connection, particularly those which have outstanding expertise in this field;

11. Calls on Member States to continue to endeavour for guaranteeing the human rights of children of both sexes as they constitute the best means to achieve social justice. Also calls for the organization of a sensitizing campaign on issues of interest to them and with a view to integrating them in the national curricula of Member States in accordance with their conditions;

12. Requests Member States to take the necessary measures to protect children from the dangers resulting from harmful mass media programmes and to support programmes which lead to the promotion of the cultural, moral and ethical values of children;

13. Also requests Member States, in order to ensure the safety of the paid working children and their morals, to forbid any form of dangerous employments and to assist them to enjoy social security benefits;

14. Entrusts the Secretary General to study the conditions of the schools of Muslim minorities living in non-Islamic countries in coordination with the government concerned and to submit to the next ICFM a report on the possible means to increase their numbers and to rationalize their management after receiving the views of Member States thereon.

15. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 17/26-C

ON THE EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF MUSLIM YOUTH

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Education and Rehabilitation of Muslim Youth;

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youth, given the crucial role of youth in the field of the development of the Islamic societies;

Emphasizing the need of the Islamic youth for efforts to be exerted and a comprehensive mechanism to be launched to boost their potential whilst preserving all the time their Islamic values;

Underlining the necessity of finding appropriate methods to educate and rehabilitate the Muslim youth with a view to achieving the best global cooperation and coordination among Islamic countries with the aim of ensuring progress for all the youth of the Islamic Ummah;

Given the necessity of promoting the youth's awareness of their Islamic individual and collective rights and obligations, and providing favourable conditions for the realization of these rights and the fulfillment of these obligations, and recalling Resolution No. 25/15-C of the Fifteenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on preventing moral corruption;

Having taken note of the resolutions of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs and the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the subject;

1. Urges again Member States to pursue their efforts to institutionalize Islamic values and the cultural activities stemming therefrom among Muslim youth as a whole.
2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made with regard to the spread of Islam among the various categories of youth in many countries.
3. Requests all Member States, in addition to their efforts to promote general awareness of the special importance of the status of youth, to endeavour to meet the latter's basic needs in order to provide them with the appropriate ground for their full participation in the society's political, cultural and economic affairs;
4. Requests Member States to endeavour to provide appropriate moral, ethical and cultural atmosphere based on Islamic teachings which encourages comprehensive and sustainable development of the character of the Muslim youth and to pursue their assiduous efforts to eradicate immorality from the facade of the society especially among the youth through the required coordination to combat factors and means of moral corruption.
5. Recommends Member States to exert maximum efforts to promote their youth programmes in the fields of education, employment, housing, ecology, health and social services. Also recommends them to mobilize all necessary and all other social services to implement these policies and programmes;
6. Earnestly requests Member States to continue to seek the promotion of the civil, political, social and economic rights for girls and young women as they constitute a basic capital for a sound Islamic society. Also encourages these states to institutionalize policies and programmes commensurate with the objective of improving the status of girls and young women in society consistent with the Islamic Shariah principles, and their nature.
7. Welcomes enhancement of cooperation among Member States to achieve better exchange of ideas and experience between Muslim youth and youth organisations in different societies, and underlines the need to provide youth with sound entertainment and sport with the aim of developing the academic and cultural capacity of youth.
8. Supports the important role of the mass media in the education and protection of young generations and expresses at the same times deep concern over the programmes which lead to increased violence and moral degradation and particularly among the youth; And requests Member States to act coordination for the production of appropriate programmes and the protection of youth against the influence of harmful media programmes.
9. Expresses its satisfaction with the results reached at the First Meeting of Experts held from 17 to 19 Muharram 1418H (24-26 May 1997) in preparation for the Ist Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports, while welcoming the decision of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the First Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports in collaboration with the Sports Federation of the Islamic Solidarity Games.
10. Commends the activities of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth in Riyadh aimed at raising the cultural and religious standards of Muslim youth all over the world.
11. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 18/26-C

ON THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNINGS OF LUNAR MONTHS AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC HOLIDAYS

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, for the establishment of a Unified Hijri Calendar for the beginning of Lunar months and the Unification of Islamic Holidays;

Having examined the report and resolutions of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Committee on Establishing a Unified Hijri Calendar for the Beginnings of the Lunar Months and Islamic Festivals;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of the recommendations of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Committee on Establishing a Unified Hijri Calendar for the Beginnings of the Lunar Months and Islamic Festivals which states the follows:

1. Preparation by a Specialized Committee, of a unified Hijri Calendar to be adhered to by the Islamic States based on the appearance of the new moon before sunset and its disappearance after sunset according to Makkah Al-Mukarramah time or to the any Islamic country that shares upon the Holy City a sufficient part of the night.

2. Observance of Friday as an Islamic festival and a weekly holiday for Muslims in all countries.

3. Ascertaining the beginning and end of month of Ramadan as well as the beginning of the month of Dhul Hijjah through Shariah sighting that is irrefutable by scientific sensory or mental proof, pursuant to the Hadith of the Prophet (Peace be upon him): "Fast and break your fast as a result of sighting the crescent. However, if the sky is overcast calculate it" or "consider the month of Shaaban to be thirty days", and to the Hadith: "Do not fast until you sight the new moon".

3. Publication in Arabic, English and French, of a quarterly scientific journal on astronomy with articles to be contributed by eminent Shariah scholars and astronomers. Cooperation for such publication may be considered among the following institutions: the Islamic Fiqh Academy, the Muslim World League, the Astronomical Research Institute of King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology, the Science to permit University of Science, Penang (Malaysia). Fiqh Academies, universities and scientific institutes in the Islamic countries.

5. Adoption of the unanimous view held by the twelve astronomers members of delegations representing the participating States, that the first sighting of the new moon is categorical and not conjectural and that it must be taken into consideration in ascertaining the visibility of the crescent.

6. Establishment, by the OIC General Secretariat, of a specialized scientific committee to deepen the study of the Islamic Satellite Project submitted by His Eminence the Mufti of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Dr. Sheikh Nasr Farid Muhammad Wasil.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 19/26-C

ON DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Destruction of the Babri Masjid and Protection of Islamic Holy Places;

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;

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

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

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;

Expressing deep concern over acts of vandalism and violence perpetrated by Hindu extremists in India against the Muslim minority aimed at uprooting the Islamic culture and heritage in India. Also expressing deep anger and indignation at the destruction of the Babri Mosque, resulting in killing of thousands of innocent Muslims and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes;

Recalling the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of Sacred Muslim Places;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends to the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to follow-up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution No.7/8-C(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9-11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997)

2. Strongly condemns the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodha, India, by Hindu extremists and holds them responsible for this outrageous act of desecration and sabotage.

3. Expresses deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.

4. Strongly Condemns the systematic killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in various parts of India and expresses deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.

5. Welcomes, in this respect, the decision made by the Supreme Court of India on 24 October 1994 that "the settlement of disputes were outside its jurisdiction".

6. 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 Mosque 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 religious symbol of the Islamic world.

c) Remove the makeshift Hindu temple, put together on the site of the Babri Mosque which is a continuation of the acts of desecration and an affront to the feelings of the Muslims in India and all parts of the Muslim world.

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.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 20/26-C

ON DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on Destruction of Mosques and Islamic Monuments in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter concerning the safeguarding of Islamic identity;

Recalling the cultural and architectural history of Bosnia-Herzegovina which shows the harmonious diversity that shapes the identity of Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Noting that the total and horrifying destruction of mosques and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbs aimed at achieving ethnic cleansing constitutes a crime of genocide;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference and UNESCO adopted many resolutions on saving the antiquities, libraries and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Having considered the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Calls upon the relevant subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to conduct a study aimed at drawing up a programme for rebuilding the libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the assistance of OIC Member States.

2. Urges Member States to assist in the rebuilding of the national and university libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

3. Strongly condemns the destruction of the cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

4. Calls upon the Secretary General in coordination with the relevant UN bodies and other international institutions to take urgent steps to ensure the safety and the protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina which are the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

5. Calls upon the Member States to condemn the Serbian aggression, to help the restoration of the Islamic heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, to support the initiatives of the Secretary General on this important issue.

6.. Commissions the Secretary General to form an Expert Committee which will proceed immediately to make the necessary plans and estimates to preserve mosques and the Islamic heritage in this country and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 21/26-C

ON THE INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITIES IN THE BALKANS AND THE CAUCASUS IN THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY TEXT BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Inclusion of Information on the Islamic Communities in the Balkans and the Caucasus in the History and Geography Text Books and Other Publications;

Considering that the emergence of newly independent States in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia, with Muslim populations possessing a valuable Islamic cultural heritage which had been concealed from the rest of the world for many years, has opened new vistas for cooperation among the OIC Member States and enlarged also the OIC field of interest and scope of activities;

Believing in this fact and desiring to promote contact between these Muslim peoples and the rest of the Islamic World, formulate programmes to strengthen the links of these peoples with their Islamic culture and at the same time inform the other Muslim peoples of the great contributions made by the peoples of these new states towards the building of the Islamic civilization;

Taking note of the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Calls for the incorporation of information concerning Muslim communities and peoples in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia into their geography and history school books of their schools and other relevant publications.
2. Calls on Member States to assist Caucasian peoples in general, particularly the Chechen people, in the field of Arabic language teaching and the teaching of Islamic culture, civilization and history.
3. Supports the envisaged organization by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools of annual training sessions for school teachers from the national Arab Islamic Schools of Balkan peoples so as to assist and encourage these schools, and calls on concerned states and national organizations to assist the Federation in implementing this plan.
4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 22/26-C

ON THE PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Centre and the recommendation of the 22nd Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the proposed establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research in Bangladesh;

Having taken note of the clarifications made by the People's Republic of Bangladesh in that respect;

Recognizing the need for the Muslim Ummah to have an Advanced Medical Training and Research Centre;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Requests the General Secretariat to intensify its on-going contacts with Member States aimed at obtaining their views and comments on the subject and to conduct further research on the technical and financial requirements of the proposal.

2. Requests all Member States to quickly forward their positive views on the proposal to establish the Centre to the General Secretariat and also request the Secretariat to expedite their efforts in this connection.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 23/26-C

ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR A NEW CAMPUS FOR THE ZEITOUNA UNIVERSITY IN TUNISIA

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Proposed Project for a New Campus for the Zeitouna University in Tunisia;

Underlining the importance of the role played by this educational institution for more than thirteen centuries in the service of Islam and Muslims;

Expressing satisfaction over and appreciation of the efforts rendered by the Government of Tunisia aimed at developing and supporting this University by building a new campus adjacent to Al-Zeitouna Mosque;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Thanks the Islamic Development Bank for allocating US\$ 1 million to the project and notes with great satisfaction the progress made in the works.

2. Reiterates its support for the construction of a new campus so as to enable the University to consolidate its educational and cultural role, and for the implementation of the project.

3. Urges the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to continue extending total financial, material and moral support to enable the University to raise the amount of US Dollars 4,595,000 needed to speed up completion of the entire campus.

4. Calls on the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank to consider including the project of the new campus of the Zeitouna University among the institutions that benefit from the Bank's Islamic Universities Waqf.

Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 24/26-C

ON THE DESTRUCTION OF CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX, THE SHRINE OF SHAH-E-HAMADAN AND OTHER ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS SITES

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on destruction of Charar-e-Sharif Islamic Complex the Shrine of Shah-e-Hamadan and other religious sites in Kashmir.

Having considered the report presented by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on this matter;

Expresses deep concern 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, the Shrine of the Shah-e-Hamadan was burnt to ashes by the Security forces in the town of Karal in December 1997 and the Jamia Mosque of Safapur in Baromula district was desecrated by the troops in January 1998;

1. Strongly deplores the destruction of the 536 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.
4. 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 UN resolutions) as well as to safeguard their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.
5. Requests the Secretary General to establish necessary contacts urgently for evaluating the damage and providing emergency assistance for reconstruction of the Mosque and the Islamic Complex at Charar-e-Sharif and submit a report thereon to the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference.
6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 25/26-C

ON PROMOTING WAQFS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETIES.

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on Promoting Waqfs and Their Role in the Development of Islamic Societies;

Cognizant of the pioneering role of Islamic Waqfs System in enriching Islamic civilization and their effective contribution to the establishing of economic and social institutions of society as well as their notable contribution to the educational and health fields and to combat poverty;

Being convinced that paying attention to, protecting and supporting Waqfs in the legislative and administrative fields and paving the way for them to grow and develop will further their contribution to the development of Islamic societies, achievement of public participation in supporting the plan and programmes of development and fulfilling the needs of the underprivileged categories of society;

Having considered the resolution of the Sixth Conference of Ministers of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs, held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia, from 29 October to 1 November 1997 on preserving and investing Waqfs;

Taking note of the efforts of the State of Kuwait to coordinate between ministries and bodies concerned with waqfs affairs in Islamic States aimed at exchanging expertise and information, holding workshops and conducting the study entitled "Strategic Vision for Promoting the Developmental Role of Waqf" as well as carrying out the implementation projects attached to it, as commissioned by the Executive Council of the Conference of Ministers of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs:

1. Urges Islamic Member States to pay further attention to Waqfs in the legislative and administrative fields and pave the way for them to develop their societies.
2. Invites the Member States and the concerned organs in them to coordinate with the State of Kuwait with a view to exchanging expertise, information and experiences as well as holding workshops in order to boost the functioning of national Waqf institutions and develop them.
3. Requests with appreciation the State of Kuwait to prepare a comprehensive strategy for promoting and developing Waqfs and enhancing their role in the development of Islamic societies, to be submitted to the Twenty-seventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.
4. Invites the competent authorities in the State of Kuwait, in its implementation of these recommendations to coordinate with the Executive Council of the Conference of Ministers of Waqf and Islamic Affairs based in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which is the competent body in this respect.
5. Expresses satisfaction for the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank to pay attention to Waqfs, hold seminars and meaningfully contribute towards investing and developing Waqf assets.
6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 26/26-C

ON THE TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WITH UNIVERSITIES IN OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the various previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, on the Twinning of Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories with universities in OIC Member States:

1. Calls on the Member States to implement operative paragraph (1) of Resolution No. 5/19-C on the twinning of Palestinian universities with universities in OIC Member States, adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. Approves the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs which call for the necessity of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people and students of Palestine through establishing brotherly relations between universities in OIC Member States and Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories to enable the latter to overcome their difficulties, confront Israeli designs aimed at impeding their functioning, fulfil their educational mission in the best manner and contribute to the reinforcement of the Palestinian national authority.

3. Recommends to extend every kind of financial and academic support and assistance to the universities in the occupied territories so that they may be able to play their national and educational role, and support in particular the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its great part in upholding the steadfastness of its people and preserving the Arab and Islamic heritage of the Holy City.

4. Calls upon Member States to see to it that their universities receive delegations of trainees and academics from the Universities of the occupied Palestinian territories in order to offer them work.

5. Calls upon the Member States to contribute towards training Palestinian youth in their Universities and exchanging educational delegations with the Universities of the Palestinian territories in various academic fields, so as to assist the Palestinian Universities in performing their tasks within the framework of overall reconstruction by the Palestinian National Authority and lessen the material and academic difficulties which may emerge.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 27/26-C

ON THE TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences, and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine:

1. Commends the efforts made by the Commission entrusted with elaborating curricula for the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine and calls on the General Secretariat and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to expeditiously print and communicate the curricula to the Member States in implementation of relevant Islamic Resolutions.

2. Calls upon all educational organisations and institutions in Member States to contribute effectively to the teaching of the subject of the History and Geography of Palestine approved for the three levels of education so as to inform the young generations of Muslims about the land of Palestine and the rights of its Arab and Muslim people, and safeguard the Islamic and historic heritage of Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

3. Appeals to the Member States and the IDB to contribute to financing the printing of the approved curricula in the three OIC languages as well as in the national languages of non-Arabic-speaking States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 28/26-C

ON THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, AND OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN.

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the educational situation in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the occupied Syrian Golan;

Taking into consideration the policy 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, culture, nation and Ummah, the Israeli practice of a policy geared towards 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 by claims of Israeli superiority over the citizens of the occupied Arab territories and in violation of their fundamental rights;

1. Condemns the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural organizations and institutions in the occupied Palestinian territories aimed at denying the Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity and sever them from their culture and history, and distort their civilization to serve the designs of occupation.

2. Appeals to Member States to support the efforts of the Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at promoting the educational process in the occupied Palestinian territories during the transitional period, and to provide it with all technical and financial means to develop curricula for all educational levels.

3. Calls upon Member States to promptly extend every kind of academic and financial assistance and support to the educational sector in the occupied Palestinian territories so that it may fulfill its mission in the reconstruction of the Palestinian national institutions and so that the educational institutions may contribute to the establishment of the Palestinian people's national authority on their homeland, and thus further enhance Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestinian.

4. Calls upon Member States to extend every necessary financial assistance to provide the funding required for the promotion of education in the occupied territories in general and in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in particular, in view of the great difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities aimed at the judaization of the Holy City and at severing it from its Arab-Islamic environment.

5. Condemns the practices and actions of the Israeli occupation authorities against educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, their cancellation of the Syrian educational syllabus in the villages of the Golan and its substitution by an Israeli one, their imposition of the teaching of Hebrew instead of Arabic, their replacement of the teaching staff to serve the goals and designs of Israeli policy, their taking measures to deny Syrian Arab citizens access to higher education in Syrian universities and their denying a number of those who manage to get education in those universities the right to return to their homes.

6. Reiterates its full support for the inhabitants of 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 the specialized international bodies and institutions to counter those Israeli policies which violate international laws and conventions.

7. Calls upon the international community to shoulder its full responsibility in forcing Israel to abide by the principles of the World Declaration on Human Rights and of all international conventions on human rights, particularly the Geneva Convention of 20.8.1949 on the protection of civilians in time of war, as well as the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

8. Invites Member States to extend all necessary facilities to Palestinian students to enable them to enroll in their universities and specialized institutes and thus help them complete their university studies and also stresses the need to increase the number of scholarships and seats for the Palestinian youth in the Islamic States, particularly in higher education, technical and technological training and teacher training.

9. Calls for extending support to the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its vital importance in strengthening the resistance of the Palestinian people and enabling them to continue their university education and also calls for extending the technical and financial assistance necessary for the development of the university and for solving its problems so that it may open new branches and thoroughly fulfil its educational mission.

10. Expresses its high appreciation for the role played by Palestinian schools and universities in the preservation of the Palestinian culture and heritage and in confronting the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organizations in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

11. Reaffirms the need to implement the recommendation addressed to the administrators of Islamic Universities to receive trainees and academics from the universities of the occupied territories to work in their universities for short periods .

12. Recommends to provide all kinds of financial and academic assistance and support to the universities of the occupied territories in implementation of the resolutions of successive Islamic Conferences, and to work for the establishment of a Centre of higher studies in the occupied Palestinian territories.

13. 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 maintenance of Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of educational and cultural material.

14. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 29/26-C

ON THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER, HUMAN HERITAGE AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of Islamic Conferences and the Seventeenth Session of Al-Quds Committee on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al Quds Al Sharif:

Condemning the recent actions by Israel for the expansion of the borders of Al-Quds Al-Sharif Municipality.

1. Reiterates all previous Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al-Quds.

2. Condemns the aggressive and expansionist Zionist policies and particularly the policy seeking to establish further settlements and to transfer and resettle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which policies are aimed at seriously altering the demographic and historic status of these territories by judaizing them, and may jeopardize the current peace process as they represent a flagrant violation of international law and of relevant U.N. and Security Council Resolutions.

3. Calls for continued action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to forcing 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, pursuant to the relevant resolutions of international legality, and particularly UN Security Council Resolutions No. 465 and 478.

4. Requests the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with international agencies and institutions and particularly with UNESCO to prevent the Israeli authorities from demolishing buildings in the vicinity of the Al-Quds Holy Enclosure and demand that they close the tunnel and stop their excavation works especially on the south side of the Holy Enclosure which actions aimed at destroying the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and erecting their alleged temple on its site.

5. Recommends that an information seminar on the City of Al-Quds be organized specially at the present juncture, in order to inform public opinion of imminent threats to the City, and the need to safeguard the Islamic and Christian holy places and guarantee the freedom of worship for all believers.

6. Urges the General Secretariat and Member States to provide material assistance to enable the Palestinian people to face Israeli challenges and schemes aimed at obliterating religious features in the Holy City of Al-Quds, and reaffirms the need for extending all sorts of support and assistance to the residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to enable them to refurbish their houses, support their steadfastness and protect Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif from demolition and waste.

7. Commends, in this context, the efforts exerted by Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco.

Welcomes the establishment of the Baitulmal Quds Agency for which His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco has appointed a Director General and

provided it with headquarters in Casablanca, and appeals to the Member States to support this Agency by extending donations in its favour.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 30/26-C

ON THE ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC SHRINES IN THE CITY AL-KHALIL (HEBRON)

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous Islamic Resolutions and the recommendation of the 22nd session of the Islamic Commission for Economic Cultural and Social Affairs on the Israeli Aggression Against the Islamic Shrines in the City of Al-Khalil (Hebron):

Reaffirming the objectives of the OIC Charter aimed at ensuring coordination for the safeguard and liberation of the Holy places;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences on the Unified Stand Against the Profanation of Islamic Holy Places and Values, in particular resolution 3/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and 17/21-C of the twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing deep concern at the schemes being devised against the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in the occupied city of Al-Khalil with the aim of judaizing it, seizing part of it and preventing worshippers from entering it;

Recalling Security Council resolution number 904 (1994) on the Massacre in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil:

1. Strongly condemns the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, in particular, the massacre perpetrated by the settlers against Palestinian worshippers in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Ramadan 1414H killing tens of martyrs.

2. Strongly condemns also the aggressive Israeli scheme for the partition of the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and building a Synagogue therein, which constitutes an aggression against Islamic Holy Places and feelings and a violation of all international Conventions and Charters, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

3. Requests Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international fora 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 Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only as it has been through the ages; and warns Member States against any slackness in this regard as this would encourage Israel to undermine the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines.

4. Calls on Member States to ensure the restoration of the old town in Al-Khalil, to safeguard the heritage and culture of this historic city and its resident Palestinian families in an effort to counter Jewish colonization.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 31/26-C

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

The Twenty-Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Republic of Burkina Faso, from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awwal, 1420H. (28 June – 1 July 1999),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) in Istanbul, and the recommendations of the Fourteenth meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre (Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, 1-3 Sha'ban 1419H / 20-22 November 1998);

Having taking note of the report submitted by the Centre on its activities and future plans of action; and the report and recommendations adopted by the Centre's Board at its Fourteenth session, as well as the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre at the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic Social and Cultural Affairs:

1. Adopts the Report submitted by the Director General. Commends the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of Culture and Islamic Heritage in an optimal way, and highlights the efforts exerted by its Director General in this respect.

2. Expresses its appreciation for the diverse activities carried out by the Centre with the aim of raising the awareness of world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and for the efforts it exerts for the maintenance and preservation of that heritage.

3. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country, the Republic of Turkey, for extending material and moral support to the Centre and for providing the headquarters and necessary facilities especially, granting another building for the Centre for the extension of the Library and the Archives and highlights the efforts of H.E. the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Turkey, in this regard and also expresses thanks to the other Member States for the material and moral support they are extending to the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.

4. Welcomes the successful organization of the international symposium on "Islamic Civilization in the Caucasus" held under the patronage of His Excellency President Heydar Aliiev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the period from 9 to 12 December 1998 in the City of Baku, in cooperation with the Government of Azerbaijan and expresses thanks to the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting and organizing this important academic event.

5. Commends also the organization of a series of successful international workshops on architectural heritage today which continued through the fourth workshop on architecture "Mostar 2004" held in Mostar under the patronage of His Excellency President Ali Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 20 to 31 July 1998.

6. Also welcomes the successful organization of the International Congress on "Learning and Education in the Ottoman World" on the occasion of the Celebration marking the 700th Anniversary of the rise of the Ottoman State, in Istanbul in the period from 12 to 15 April 1999 under the patronage of His Excellency Mr. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, and the support and the participation of a great number of eminent Islamic personalities.

7. Expressing its appreciation of the fact that the symposia, conferences and workshops organized by the centre about the history and culture of Muslim nations and communities and held in different countries have developed the studies in these fields and raised

awareness in the world on these subjects, requests the Centre to further expand these activities to cover other topics and regions of the Muslim world.

8. Expresses its appreciation of the Centre's efforts to contribute to inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue and projects a true image of Islam around the world and requests the Centre to pursue its activities in this field in cooperation with the working group created for this purpose.

9. Also welcomes the project of the Centre to hold the first International seminar on "Traditional Carpet (al-Zarbiya) and Kleem in the Islamic World" during the period from 19 to 25 November 1999, in Tunis, in collaboration with the National Department for Traditional Industries of the Ministry of Tourism and Traditional Artifacts, in the framework of the Centre's project aiming at developing traditional professions in the Islamic States.

10. Appeals to the Member States to regularly pay their contributions and settle their arrears to the budget of the Centre.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 32/26-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Republic of Burkina Faso, from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awwal, 1420H. (28 June – 1 July 1999),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH);

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) and including its Plan of Action:

1. Addresses its thanks to the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, for their moral and material support to the Commission and sponsoring its projects as well as the governments of the member states for paying their arrears to the budget of the Commission.

2. Expresses its appreciation of the efforts exerted by the Chairman of the Commission, HRH Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz in order to realize its objectives.

3. Expresses its satisfaction with the efforts of the Commission that contribute to promoting general awareness of the preservation of the Islamic cultural, artistic and architectural Heritage and in particular its cooperation with IRCICA in Istanbul in organizing working sessions on the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. Also expresses its appreciation of the opportunities provided to upgrade skills in the Islamic arts and of the diplomas awarded to calligraphers from Member States and other countries and requests the Commission to pursue its programmes to preserve and publicize the Islamic artistic heritage, encourage artists and specialists and consolidate international cooperation in this field.

5. Commends the programme of the Special Contest Committee which draws the attention of the whole world to the arts of Islamic heritage.

6. Appeals to the Member States to regularly pay their contributions and settle their arrears to the budget of the Committee.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 33/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the Islamic Fiqh Academy;

Recalling again the Statute of the Islamic Fiqh Academy, its goals and objectives, and the general plan adopted by the Academy Council at its first session held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah for unifying the Muslim Ummah and aligning its ranks so that it may remain glorious and impregnable through its faith, enlightened by its Shari'ah, constantly strong and able to meet present-day challenges and face contemporary problems;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General of the Islamic Fiqh Academy:

1. Commends the efforts of the Secretary General and the staff of the General Secretariat of the Academy and the books and documents it has published, particularly the Academy's Journal which is now at its thirtieth volume.

2. Stresses the need to complete the study of the results of the Symposium held in Tehran on the Role of Women in social development in light of the amendments and additions introduced by the Fetwa branch of the Academy and proposed at the Tenth Session of its Council for submission to the Conference of Foreign Ministers.

3. Requests Member States which have not paid their contributions to the budget of the Academy to do so and to continue supporting it so as to enable it to accomplish its tasks as required in the service of Islam and the vital causes of the Islamic Ummah.

4. Calls upon the Islamic Fiqh Academy to take care of the Waqfs issue at Shariah level, establish its legal foundations in jurisprudence and study its new aspects considering the paramount importance of Waqfs in the life of Islamic societies and their development, and to coordinate with the Conference of the Ministers of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs in this regard.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 34/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf;

Recalling Resolution No.32/8-C(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 9-11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997) which emphasized the importance of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its objectives aimed at promoting the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah through contributing to religious, cultural, scientific and social projects and programmes in the Member States or in favour of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States;

Noting with appreciation the achievements of the Fund over the past two decades which created and extended support to official and popular institutions in charge of cultural, higher education, Islamic guidance and youth welfare affairs in all parts of the Islamic World;

Noting with satisfaction the realization of 56% of the capital of the ISF Waqf and stressing the need to make every effort to complete the financing of the US\$ 100 million - capital so that the Waqf can provide the Fund with adequate proceeds to ensure the self-financing of its annual budgets;

Expressing its interest in preserving this important Islamic organ which is really considered a shining symbol of Islamic solidarity;

Having considered the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF on the financial constraints and obstacles faced by the Fund in financing its budgets and executing its annual programmes, resulting from paucity of its resources and resulting in curbing many of its activities;

Confirms the noble aims of the ISF which is an honourable symbol of joint Islamic will among the Member States and its utmost attention to Islamic solidarity.

2. Appeals to the Member States to pledge annual donations, according to their means to the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the Waqf's Fund.

3. Expresses deep thanks and appreciation to the Member States, which have made generous and regular donations to the Fund and its Waqf in particular the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates without which it would have been impossible for the Fund to carry out its tasks in favour of the Islamic Ummah.

4. Approves the report of the Chairman of the ISF Permanent Council.

5. Adopts the approval of the Permanent Council of the ISF Closing Accounts for the Financial Year 1997/98 and the Budget Estimates for the Financial Years 1998/99 and 1999-2000.

6. Calls upon the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue extending assistance to cultural, social and educational projects in the Islamic world while paying priority attention to projects approved by the Islamic Summit Conferences and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

7. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council and its Chairman, to the Waqf Board of Trustees and its Chairman, and to the Executive Bureau of the Fund, for the efforts they exert in order to realize the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 35/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning ISESCO;

Having taken cognizance with high appreciation of the outstanding report submitted to the Commission by the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) on the activities of the Organization, and listened to the valuable presentation made by its delegate to the Commission in this respect.

1. Commends the pioneering accomplishments made by ISESCO in the fields of education, science, culture and communication in favour of the member states and Islamic communities, especially those relating to developing illiteracy eradication programmes, spreading Arabic language and Islamic culture, supporting educational institutions, protecting Islamic heritage, consolidating Islamic culture, encouraging dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions and caring for the sons of Muslim communities in places of emigration.

2. Commends ISESCO's efforts to encourage scientific research; develop scientific curricula; keep abreast of scientific and technological advance; develop scientific laboratories; assist the Islamic states to preserve and manage their natural resources, as well as ISESCO's programmes in the fields of information, communication and the Internet. Requests it to continue to exert its pioneering efforts in order to achieve its exalted objectives.

3. Expresses appreciation to the role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Somalia.

4. Commends ISESCO for the efforts made in the field of its competence in favour of the independent republics of former Soviet Union. Lauds establishing by ISESCO of a department of Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Moscow University to train teachers and calls on it to spread this experience to other universities in Europe and America. 5. Endorses the adoption by officials of Islamic cultures and societies in Europe (Croatia, 18-21 November 1998) of the Draft Strategy of Islamic Cultural Action in the West, prepared by ISESCO in consultation and coordination with the member states and bodies responsible for cultural centres in Europe, and calls on ISESCO to submit the Draft Strategy to the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers for adoption.

6. Lauds the resolution of the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture, held in Rabat, from 12 to 14 November 1998, on charging ISESCO with implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and following up its implementation with the competent authorities in the member states, and constituting an Advisory council for Implementing the Strategy. Invites the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to approve this resolution.

7. Highly appreciates the outstanding efforts exerted by the Director General of ISESCO and his assistance to hold the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture in the best of conditions and highlights the good and meticulous organization which made the Conference successful in accomplishing its objectives, and led to results which reflected the collective and consistent Islamic will and unanimity.

8. Commends the distinguished contribution of ISESCO, together with UNESCO, towards organizing the World Conference on Cultural Strategies (Stockholm, 1998) and the World Conference on Higher Education (Paris, October 1998). Underscores its effective participation in the various academic committees of these Conferences, as well as its precise coordination of the participation of the member states therein; and the reports submitted by ISESCO on the conditions of culture and higher education in the Islamic world, and the means to develop them with a view to counteracting world cultural, scientific and technological changes and challenges.

9. Lauds the outstanding performance of ISESCO's Director General and the effective role played by the Organization under his guidance, urges ISESCO to find additional financial

resources, seek the assistance of the private sector and look for extra-budgetary financing to implement its great civilizational projects.

10. Endorses the establishment by ISESCO of a Representative Mission and Educational Centre in Njamena (Chad) for teacher training in Africa; and invites concerned Islamic institutions, foremost among them is the Islamic Development Bank, to unify and coordinate efforts with ISESCO in order to develop the areas of action of the centres; commends the resolution of the recent session of the Executive Council of ISESCO, held in Rabat (November 1998) on giving a tentative approval to open a regional ISESCO office in Sharjah (State of the United Arab Emirates).

11. Expresses pride for the outstanding position occupied by ISESCO in the international arena through establishing effective relations of cooperation with great similar international and regional organizations which resulted in the implementation of hundreds of joint programmes which in turn contributed to the expansion of its action strengthening of its credibility and international radiance and enabling it to gain important additional financial resources, thus being qualifying by virtue of this new position to effectively contribute to the cultural building of the Islamic Ummah and the achievement of its comprehensive renaissance.

12. Commends the action carried out by ISESCO in publicizing Islam through the Internet in the official languages of the OIC.

13. Commends the great civilizational projects prepared by ISESCO aimed at developing the fields of education, science, culture and communication in the Islamic World, and invites the member states as well as international Islamic and Arab institutions to participate in implementing these projects. Expresses profound thanks and gratitude to Their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies, Kings, Emirs and Heads of Member States, for kindly financing and implementing a number of these projects, especially those aimed at propagating the Arabic language and Islamic Culture, and correcting the image of Islam in the West.

14 Expresses profound appreciation for the agreement signed between ISESCO and UNESCO (Paris, November 11, 1998) on their participation in organizing the following world activities:

- a) World Conference on Technological and Vocational Education (Korea, 26-30 April 1999);
- b) World Conference on Science (Hungary, 26-30 June 1999);
- c) World Conference on Communication (Paris, 2000).

ISESCO's organizational and academic contribution towards holding and patronizing these conferences will ensure the presence of the Islamic World in the international scene and underscoring its views on the issues under consideration.

15. Expresses extreme pride in the distinguished role played by ISESCO, in collaboration with UNESCO, to organize an Internet International Exhibition for Arab-Islamic Science and Technology each, in 2000, aimed at projecting the important contributions of Arab-Islamic civilization to the heritage of the West and the entire humanity, and establishing a permanent culture of peace and dialogue, and invites the member states and Islamic institutions to extend all forms of support to make this important world event a success.

16. Appeals to those Member States which have not yet joined ISESCO to do so and participate effectively in its projects and programs and calls on the General Secretariat, in coordination with ISESCO, to exert its good offices for realizing this objective and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

17 Invites Member States which have not yet settled their contributions to the ISESCO budget to honour their financial obligations to enable it to implement its programmes and educational, scientific and cultural projects which are highly important for joint Islamic action in these vital fields for the preservation of the identity of the Islamic Ummah in the face of

the great cultural challenges which confront the Ummah with ushering of the Twenty-first century.

18. Expresses thanks, appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, the seat country, for his lofty patronage of ISESCO and continuous support as well as for kindly hosting the Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture; also expresses thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz, for his unflagging support for ISESCO; and also expresses thanks and gratitude to H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of COMIAC aimed at boosting the process of cultural development in the Islamic world.

19. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 36/26-C

ON THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent;

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Committee's Fourteenth Meeting held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 9-10 Safar 1419H (3-4 June 1998);

Having considered the Report of the Chairman of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent on the activities of the Committee submitted to the Meeting;

Stressing the importance of cooperation among the Member States during the forthcoming International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, scheduled to be held in Geneva, in November 1999;

1. Urges Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives.

2. Invites all Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the Committee so that it may implement its programmes.

3. Calls for exerting efforts regarding refugees and detainees and provide for their care and protection in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner's Office for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant regional and international organizations;

4. Expresses profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for extending support and facilities to the Committee at its inception.

5. Calls on the Member States to cooperate among themselves during the forthcoming International Conference of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent, especially emblem with regards to preserving the present legal status of the electing the members of the Permanent Committee and coordinating in this regard with their national societies;

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 37/26-C

ON THE SPORTS FEDERATION FOR ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF);

Having taken note with appreciation of the invitation of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Chairman of ISSF and President General of Youth Welfare, to organize charity matches between the Sarajovo football team and selected teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in support of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the OIC;

Having considered the report submitted by the General Secretariat of the Federation on this subject;

Having been informed of the ambitious plan recommended for implementation by the Experts Committee and approved by the 7th Session of the Summit Conference;

1. Urges Member States to take interest in all future activities of the Federation as well as the upcoming tournaments of the Islamic Solidarity Games, in particular the organization of the first tournament which will be held under the auspices of the Federation.

2. Requests the General Secretariat and ISSF to introduce the necessary legal amendments into the Federation's Statute in order to cover youth activities.

3. Expresses appreciation and thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, President General of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for his great interest in the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation; his sponsorship of the Federation's activities to help it realize its noble objectives; and for graciously hosting the meeting of the Experts Committee on Youth and Sports in the Muslim States at the General Secretariat Headquarters in Jeddah from 18 to 20 Muharram 1418H (26-28 May 1997) to prepare for the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports in Member States to be hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

4. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation for organizing the First Course on Sports Organization and Management in Arabic (phase I) held at its headquarters in Riyadh and for publishing a documentary book on the Course, and for organizing phase II of this course in English in Lahore, Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It also expresses its sincere thanks to H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, for his gracious offer to host in Dakar the Third Training Course on Sports Organisation and Management for French speaking countries, and also for planning to organize the next phase in French which will be commendably hosted by the Government of the Republic of Senegal.

5. Calls on Member States who have not yet fulfilled their commitments towards the Federation to do so in order to enable it to carry out its activities.

6. Expresses thanks to the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity Games for representing the OIC in the First World Conference of Ministers of Youth, held in Lisbon, Portugal, and recommends the necessity of cooperation among all states and the Sports Federation for Islamic Solidarity Games in all similar occasions aimed at reaching a united view.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 38/26-C

ON THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ARAB ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the resolutions of the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 22nd Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools;

Having considered the report submitted by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools:

1. Recommends the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the Plans and Projects of the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools and to extend to it all possible assistance for their implementation and particularly:
2. To continue support for holding Training Sessions for Teachers of Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkans.
3. To contribute to printing the manual for teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers which has been prepared by the Federation, and to its distribution among Muslim children.
4. To invite the IDB to continue its contribution to printing books for Afghan children.
5. To support the Open Complementary Studies Institute in Khartoum so that it may continue its activities as well as the Njamena Teachers Institute in Chad.
6. Recommends to support the project of the World Examinations' Council of the Arab-Islamic Schools which has been established by the Federation, in collaboration with the League of Islamic Universities and the Muslim World League, and which aims at placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well known Islamic universities;
7. Recommends also to support the Federation so as to enable it to play an effective role in assisting educational institutions in Afghanistan such as schools and universities, and rebuild schools and institutes of higher education destroyed during the war.
8. Addresses sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for its continuous support to Arab and Islamic education in various parts of the world as well as the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its continuous support of the Union activities.
9. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 39/26-C

ON THE DESTRUCTION AND SABOTAGE OF ISLAMIC HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RELICS AND SHRINES IN THE OCCUPIED AZERI TERRITORIES AS PART OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA'S AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

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

Aware of the fact that the Azeri culture, archaeology and ethnography are part and parcel of the history of Azerbaijan and its people and a source of the Islamic heritage as well;

Reiterating United Nations (UN) Security Council resolutions nos. 822, 853, 874 and 884 on the Armenian forces total withdrawal from all the occupied Azeri territories, including the Lachin and Shousha areas, immediately and without conditions; and strongly urging Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Reaffirming all the relevant decisions of previous conferences, particularly the resolution on the armed conflict between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted by the 7th Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, Rajab 11-12, 1415H (December 13-14, 1994); resolution no. 12/8-P (IS) adopted by the 8th Islamic Summit, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, Sha'ban 9-11, 1418H (December 9-11, 1997) on the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan; and the resolution adopted by the 14th session of the Executive Board of the Islamic States Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) on the destruction of mosques as well as Islamic educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Azeri territories as part of the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Stressing that the mass and barbaric demolition of mosques and other Islamic shrines in Azerbaijan, by Armenia, for ethnic cleansing is one the crimes of genocide;

Realizing the necessity to follow a policy of aligning efforts to safeguard the Islamic heritage;

Noting the tremendous losses inflicted by the Armenian aggressors insofar as the Islamic heritage is concerned in the Azeri territories occupied by the Republic of Armenia, including complete or partial demolition of rare antiquities and places of Islamic civilization, history and architecture, such as mosques and other sanctuaries, mausoleums and tombs, archaeological sites, museums, libraries, artefact exhibition halls, government theatres and conservatories, besides and smuggling, out of the country, and destruction of a large number of precious property and millions of books and historic manuscripts and luminaries;

Having taken cognizance of the report of the OIC Secretary-General on the subject:

1 - Strongly condemns the barbaric acts committed by the Armenian aggressor in the Republic of Azerbaijan aiming at the total annihilation of the Islamic heritage in the occupied Azeri territories;

2 - Vigorously demands the strict and unconditional implementation by the Republic of Armenia of UN Security Council resolutions nos. 822, 853, 874 and 884.

3 - Fully shares the anxiety and alarm felt by the Government and people of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Emphasizes its support of the efforts exerted by Azerbaijan at international organizations designed to put an end to the armed aggression, erase its sequels and honouring the pledges and commitments spelled out in the relevant paragraphs of the Convention reached in the Hague in 1954 on the protection of valuable cultural items in the course of military conflicts. Those paragraphs include a reminder that where an armed conflict erupts, the states undertake to prevent the smuggling of valuable cultural items from the territories under occupation. Likewise, governments are bound to ban theft and looting of whatever type, acts of illegal violations of cultural values [which are tantamount to rape] as well as savage prejudice to the above values. They are committed to prevent such acts or reverse their effects where necessary. The Convention also prohibits the confiscation of cultural assets moved to the territories of other countries.

4 - Asserts that Azerbaijan is entitled to receiving adequate compensation for the damage it sustained and considers that it is the responsibility of the Republic of Armenia to give full compensation for such damage.

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 Azeri territories liberated from occupation with the help of OIC Member States.

6 - Entrusts the Secretary-General to convey the OIC Member States' stance on this issue to the United Nations (UNO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international bodies.

7 - Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 40/26-C

ON DA'WAH ACTIVITIES AND THE REACTIVATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION OF JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June to 01 July 1999),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Dawah Activities and the Reactivation of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action.

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Inspired by the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference;

Also recalling the Dakar Declaration issued by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Further recalling the Casablanca Declaration issued by the Seventh Islamic summit;

Recalling resolution 32/21-C of the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers approving the development of an Islamic Da'wa Strategy in keeping with the provisions of the Cultural Strategy Document approved by the Sixth Summit Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Requests Member States to take the necessary steps to incorporate the Strategy on joint Islamic Action in the field of Da'wa approved by the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers into their national policies in the educational, information, Islamic Da'wa and other fields as a methodology to be followed in Joint Islamic Action.

2. Recommends that the Committee on Co-ordination of Islamic Action develop a mechanism for the admission of Islamic organisations that meet appropriate membership criteria.

3. Requests Islamic Cultural Centres and Da'wa Centres to educate the Pilgrims in the rites and practices of Pilgrimage prior to their arrival in the Holy Places to perform the Hajj duty.

4. Expresses its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Indonesian Government, the Malaysian Government, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the World Society for Islamic Call in Tripoli and the Al-Azhar Al-Sharif for hosting the meetings of the Joint Islamic Action in the field of Dawah.

5. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the World Islamic Call Society and other Islamic institutions for their valuable material assistance to the Islamic symposia held by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

6. Adopts the recommendations included in the Report of the Second Meeting of Experts Group on the Examination of the challenges that face the Islamic Ummah in the Twenty-first Century, held in Bamaku, in December 1998 (Doc. No. EACFIW/2-98/ERC.1) and calls on the Member States to cooperate and contribute towards the implementation of these recommendations.

7. Commissions the Experts Group to continue to finalize the examination of challenges that face the Islamic Ummah in the Twenty-first Century, by taking further practical steps to confront these challenges and counteract the negative propaganda, and to correct any misunderstanding and project the true image of Islam.

8. Calls for the convening of more Islamic symposia on Islamic Dawa and culture in coordination with the Islamic Commission.

9. Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION

ON PARTICIPATION OF THE O.I.C. IN THE WORLD EXPOSITION EXPO 2000

The Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace and Partnership for Development), held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 15 to 18 Rabiul Awal 1420H (28 June - 1 July 1999),

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the Casablanca Declaration issued by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling the Tehran Declaration issued by the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject (Document No.ICFM/26-99/CS/D.6);

Welcomes the initiative of the Secretary General relating to the participation of the OIC in the World Exposition EXPO 2000.

Appeals to Member States and Islamic institutions to provide every possible assistance to OIC in order to participate honourably in EXPO 2000.

Calls upon Member States to support this participation by providing OIC every possible exhibits (such as films, art objects, handicrafts, etc.) and contributing to the programmed Cultural events.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up this matter and submit a report thereon to the Twenty-seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.