

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION FOR A BETTER FUTURE FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE ISLAMIC UMMAH)

HELD IN DOHA, STATE OF QATAR

17 TO 19 DHUL QUIDA 1418H, (15-17 MARCH 1998)

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION FOR A BETTER FUTURE FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE ISLAMIC UMMAH)

DOHA, THE STATE OF QATAR

17-19 DHUL QUIDA 1418H

15-17 MARCH 1998

1-The Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee of the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah) met in Doha, The State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998), to examine the agenda items pertaining to Cultural and Islamic Affairs.

2-The deliberations of the Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee were opened by His Excellency Ali Abdallah Al Mahmoud, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Permanent Representative to the Organization of the Islamic Conference. His Excellency started the meeting by welcoming the delegates present and wishing them a pleasant stay in their second home. His Excellency emphasized the need for the Committee's deliberations to be characterized by realism. He added that, despite the huge responsibility that lies with us, we are convinced that fraternal cooperation, mutual understanding among the august members and projecting an Islamic spirit will ensure the success of the Committee's proceedings. His Excellency also proposed a work programme which was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3-According to the decision of the General Assembly, the bureau of the Committee was made up of the following member countries:

- The State of Qatar - Chairman
- Burkina Faso Vice - Chairman
- Bangladesh Vice - Chairman
- The State of Palestine Vice-Chairman
- The Republic of Indonesia Rapporteur

4-The General Secretariat was represented by His Excellency Ambassador Ibrahim Awf, Assistant Secretary General for Cultural Affairs and Information, and Mr. Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Director of Cultural and Social Affairs.

5-The Committee's deliberations considered agenda items 56 to 70. The draft resolutions were adopted unanimously by the participants.

6-A special emphasis was put on the financial difficulties faced by the Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutions in their functioning. It was agreed to renew an urgent appeal to the Member States for a quick solution to this crisis.

7-The Committee adopted the report on its deliberations and approved the draft resolutions relating to the items on its agenda annexed to this report.

8-The Committee commended the Chairman for his excellent conduct of the deliberations and for his good performance which contributed to the conclusion of the deliberations in the desired manner.

9-The Committee's Chairman expressed his thanks to all the members for the brotherly atmosphere which prevailed during the meetings and for their thorough knowledge of the issues examined which enabled the Committee to achieve positive results within the allotted time.

10-The Chairman also expressed his thanks to the Assistant Secretary General for his excellent assistance in conducting the Committee's proceedings. He also extended his sincere thanks to the General Secretariat and translation staff for their competent performance.



RESOLUTION NO. 1/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

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 Organization, 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 1/8-C (IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997) which, inter-alia, states the following:

(a) Expresses its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts which enabled the University to pursue its activity. 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.

(b) 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.

(c) Also underlines the need of establishing a Waqf, 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.

2. 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.

3. Decides to set up a Committee for the study of the draft statute of the Waqf of the Islamic University in Niger to be composed of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Niger, the representative of the OIC General Secretariat and the Director of the Islamic University of Niger, provided that the Committee is convened upon the invitation of the OIC General Secretariat and the conclusions of its proceedings are submitted to the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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

5. 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. 2/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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 having ratified the University Statute and deposited the instruments of ratification at the OIC General Secretariat;

Expressing its gratitude 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. Recommends Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 2/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997) which states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) 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.

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

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Uganda.

3. Approves the following as new members of the University Board of Trustees:

- i) Dr. Ibrahim Abu Abaa,
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- ii) Dr. Abdul Aziz Bin Abdullah Turki Al Sibii,
Doha, State of Qatar.
- iii) Dr. Mohammad Abdul Rahman Al Bakr,
Abu Dhabi, State of the United Arab Emirates.
- iv) A representative of the IDB.

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

5. 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. 3/25-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the Recommendations of the 21st 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution 3/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) 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.

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

3. 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. 4/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on the Islamic University of Bangladesh;

Noting the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the execution of other necessary works;

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

1. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 4/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran,

Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Sha'ban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which, inter-alia, states the following:

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

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) Also calls upon the General Secretariat, in 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.

2. 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.

3. Decides that ISESCO be a member on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Bangladesh.

4. 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. 5/25-C

ON KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 5/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) Urges all Member States to make financial contributions towards the restoration and furnishing of the Mosque and its annexes.

(d) 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

2. 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 annexes.

3. Expresses thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for providing support to the King Faisal Mosque and its educational annexes.

4. 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. 6/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations adopted by the 21st 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 6/8(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

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

3. 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. 7/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 21st 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 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 7/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

2. 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. 8/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 21st 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 8/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which, inter-alia, states the following:

(a) Expresses its satisfaction at the implementation of phase I of the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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. 9/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 21st 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. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 9/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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 been the first to give financial assistance to the Centre.

(c) Urges all Member States and Islamic institutions to provide every possible assistance to this project.

2. Calls on the Member States and the General Secretariat to support the institutions created by ISESCO to propagate the Islamic culture and the Arabic language in the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros which have so far achieved a great deal of what was expected of them.

3. Expresses thanks to Sheikh Sultan Ben Mohammed Al Kassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Governor of Sharja for meeting the costs of completing the construction of the great mosque in Moroni.

4. 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.

5. 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. 10/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM (REPUBLIC OF SUDAN)

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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

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 OIC Organs as well as the relevant Centres and quarters to cooperate with the Institute in the fields of common interest to them and to extend material and technical assistance to it.

3. 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. 11/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 report of the Secretary General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world as well as the report prepared by the First Meeting of Officials of OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Organs and Islamic Universities concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy;

1. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 11/8-C (IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which, inter-alia, states the following:

(a) Reaffirms the importance of this strategy in ensuring a wider propagation of learning, eradicating ignorance, raising the level of Islamic education and culture in the Islamic world and enhancing Joint Islamic Action.

(b) Decides to continue the continuation of the remarkable efforts being exerted for the implementation of the strategy through the programme of action already approved by the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi in April 1993, and the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs. The Conference instructs the General Secretariat to submit the plan to the next Conference of Ministers of Culture and to submit the report thereon to the Twenty-sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers..

(c) Requests Member States to take the necessary steps to incorporate the strategy into their cultural and educational policies.

2. Recommends that preparations for this Conference be made by the General Secretariat in cooperation with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and highly appreciates the efforts made by ISESCO for this field. It commends ISESCO for its positive initiative to hold a coordination meeting for Ministers of Cultural Affairs in Islamic countries in order to discuss views on the implementation of the cultural strategy of the Islamic world and the unification of Member States' positions thereon. The meeting is to be held on the sidelines of the International Governmental Conference on cultural policies for development to be organised by UNESCO in collaboration with the Swedish government in Stockholm at the end of March 1998.

3. Expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, the sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his Government's kind offer to host the next meeting of Ministers of Culture in Islamic Countries in 1998 in Morocco in order to discuss the implementation of the cultural strategy of the Islamic world.

4. 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. 12/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 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;

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 profanation, demolition or confiscation.

4. Welcomes the decision by the Secretary General to circulate to all Member States 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. 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. 13/25-C

ON WOMEN AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 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 Qaadah 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 Sharia.

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 regular 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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 14/25-C

ON CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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.

Recalling resolution 14/8-C(IS) on the Child in Islamic Countries adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997);

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;

1. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 14/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which, inter-alia, states the following:

(a) 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) 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.

(e) 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.

(f) 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.

2. 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;

3. 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;

4. 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;
5. 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;
6. 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;
7. 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;
8. 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;
9. 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.
10. 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. 15/25-C

ON THE EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF MUSLIM YOUTH

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 recommendsthem to mobilize all necessary and all other social services, and to place these programmes among their developmental priorities;

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 Sharia principles.

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. Also welcomes the recommendations of the Experts Group which underlined the importance of convening the said Conference in cooperation with the Sports Federation of the Islamic Solidarity Games and requested the Secretary General to conduct the necessary consultations in this respect with Member States.

10.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. 16/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 21st 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 considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 16/8-C (IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) Appeals to all Member States and Islamic institutions to use the time schedules prepared by the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar as a basis for their own calendar.

(b) Calls upon the Member States which do not observe Friday as the weekly holiday and to use the Hijri date to proceed to do so.

(c) Calls upon the Member States, the General Secretariat and the Islamic Fiqh Academy to seek the assistance of Islamic jurists and astronomers with a view to reaching an agreement on the unification of the Hijri Calendar.

(d) Reiterates the importance of convening a meeting of the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar and of the other States appropriately joining the Committee to maximize coordination for unifying the beginnings of lunar months and Islamic Holidays in all Islamic countries.

2. Expresses its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its offer to host the Eighth Session of the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar for Islamic Holidays.

3. 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. 17/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 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 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 17/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

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

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

(c) Condemns the continued 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.

(d) 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".

(e) Calls upon the Government of India to:

i) 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.

ii) 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.

iii) 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.

iv) Take immediate steps to ensure the protection of all Mosques, especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

2. 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. 18/25-C

ON DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 18/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9 -11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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 Member States.

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

(c) Strongly condemns the destruction of the cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

(d) 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.

(e) 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.

2. 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.



RESOLUTION NO. 19/25-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-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of Resolution 19/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which 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 project.

4. 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. 20/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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

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

Referring to the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Economic Affairs;

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

1. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 20/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

(a) 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.

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

2. 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.

3. Also 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. 21/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Centre and the recommendation of the 21st 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. Recommends the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow up the implementation of the operative paragraph of Resolution 21/8-C(IS) of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997), which states the following:

- 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 project.

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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 22/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

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 new 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.

5. 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. 23/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

The Commission,

Having considered the report presented by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on this matter, noting with 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 at 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 at Safapur in Baramula district was desecrated by the troops in January 1998;

1. Strongly deploras 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. Regrets that appeals of the OIC Secretary General for the lifting of the blockade of Charar-e-Sharif were not heeded.

3. Expresses its concern over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civil residents of Charar-e-Sharif.

4. Strongly condemns the burning of the Shrine of Shah-e-Hamadan and the desecration of the Jamia Mosque at Safapur.

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 also other Islamic religious sites.

6. Decides to remain seized of the issue and recommends its consideration by the next ICFM.

7. 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. 24/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Referring to the report of the Cultural Affairs Committee of the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 9 to 11 Shaban 1418H (9-11 December 1997);

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 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-Sixth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

4. Invites 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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 25/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the various previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 26 /25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences, and the recommendations of the 21st 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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 27/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences, the most recent being Resolution No. 26/8-C (IS) issued by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Tehran in December 1997 and the recommendation of the 21st 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 Arabo-Islamic environment.

5. Condemns the practices and exactions 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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 28/25-C

ON

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the previous Islamic Resolutions and the recommendation of the 21st session of the Islamic Commission for Economic Cultural and Social Affairs on the preservation of the Islamic character and human heritage of Al Quds Al Sharif:

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 so-called 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.

8. 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. 29/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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 next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.



RESOLUTION NO. 30/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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 Thirteenth meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre (Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 23-24 November 1996);

Commending the First Islamic International Festival of Artisans at Work (Islamabad, October 1994) and the Bosnia Herzegovina Exhibition organized by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul;

Having taken 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 thirteenth session, as well as the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre at the 21st 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.

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. Commends the successful organization of an international Symposium on "Islamic Civilization in Western Africa" under the patronage of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in Dakar, in the period from 26 to 30 December 1996, in cooperation with the Fundamental Institute for Black Africa (IFAN) and expresses thanks to the Republic of Senegal for hosting and organizing this important academic event.

4. Commends the first international seminar on "Arabesque in the Islamic handicrafts", held in Damascus, from 4 to 11 January 1997 under the high patronage of His Excellency President Hafez Al Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture in Syria, UNESCO and the international Middle East Foundation.

5. Commends also the organization of a series of successful international workshops on architectural heritage today, which continued through the third 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 2 to 3 July 1997.

6. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country, the Republic of Turkey, for material and moral support to the Centre and for providing the headquarters and necessary facilities consistent with the pledge it gave at the time of the Centre's establishment, requests to meet future needs to enlarge the Centre's headquarters resulting from the regular and commendable increase in the Centres' activities 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.

7. Welcomes the Centre's projected organization of an international symposium on Islamic civilization in the Caucasus, to be held under the patronage of His Excellency President Heydar Aliiev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the autumn of 1998 in the City of Baku, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Science Academy of Azerbaijan.

8. Also welcomes the project of the Centre to organize an international Conference on "Education and Instruction in the Muslim World during the Ottoman Period" on the occasion of the Celebrations marking the 700th anniversary of the rise of the Ottoman State, in Istanbul, in April in 1999 under the patronage of His Excellency Mr. Sulleiman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey.

9. Approves the appointment of Sheikh Salman Daoud Al-Salman Al Sabah of the State of Kuwait a member of the Governing Board of the Centre in the vacant position left by Sheikha Husa Al Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah.

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. 31/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the earlier Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations of the 21st 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 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 to the governments of the Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the State of the United Arab Emirates 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. Expresses also 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 efforts to preserve and publicize the Islamic artistic heritage, encourage artists and specialists and consolidate international cooperation in this field.

5. Also Expresses satisfaction with the announcement of the Organisation of the Fourth International Calligraphy contest in 1997 and 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 Commission.

7. 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. 32/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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 twenty-seventh 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. Requests the Islamic Fiqh Academy to take care of the Waqfs issue at Sharia 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. Also 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. 33/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling Resolution No.32/8-C(IS) adopted by the Eighth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, in 1997 which urged the Member States to make annual donations -according to their means - to the budget of the Islamic Solidarity Fund as well as contributions to the capital of the ISF Waqf.

Recalling also the relevant resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences;

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 55% 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;

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:

1. Stresses the importance of the ISF noble purposes as an honourable symbol of the Member States common Islamic will and deep interest in 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, especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the State of Kuwait and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahriyah, which have extended generous and regular donations to the Fund and its Waqf 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. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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. 34/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and the resolutions adopted by the 24th session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Minister (Jakarta 1996) concerning ISESCO;

Having taken cognizance with high appreciation of the 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 having followed the valuable presentation made by its representative:

1. Commends the pioneering accomplishments and objective activities made by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) in the fields of education, science, culture and communication which benefited most Member States. And requests ISESCO to carry on its efforts for the achievement of its lofty goals. Commends also the accomplishments of ISESCO in the field of cooperation with international and regional organizations which contributed towards supporting its mission at the international level and in getting important financial resources, as well as in illiteracy eradication and the Quranic Script programmes and ISESCO's role in supporting Islamic Universities and educational institutes in Palestine and Bosnia and in protecting the Islamic heritage therein. Underlines the efforts it exerts in conducting studies on the future of the Islamic world at the educational, scientific and cultural levels. Commends the strategy drawn up by ISESCO with the aim of developing science and technology in the Islamic countries as well as its intensive and diversified activities aimed at providing sons of Muslim communities with adequate care and the constructive dialogue it has established among different cultures and civilizations and for preserving and managing the natural resources of the Member States.

2. Commends the resolution of the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference adopting the strategy for Developing Science and Technology in Islamic Countries, prepared by the Islamic Education Scientific and Cultural organisation in cooperation with the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), and Commends this pioneering civilizational achievement. Calls on ISESCO to maintain contact with the Member States in order to implement the strategy.

3. Highly appreciates the efforts of the Director General of ISESCO aimed at developing its action and raising it to the level of action of similar big international organizations and institutions. Welcomes and expresses great happiness for the reelection of Dr. Abdul Aziz Bin Othman Al-Twajri to head the general administration of ISESCO, in an exceptional capacity, for a period of six years. Lauds ISESCO's new Plan of Action for the years 1998-2000 approved by its Sixth General Conference (Riyadh, December 1997) and approves the latter's decision to open a bureau for ISESCO at UNESCO in Paris which will strengthen the presence of the Organisation at the regional and international levels, promotes the position and mission of Islam, contribute towards correcting the image of Islam in the West, and support joint Islamic action.

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

5. Commends the accomplishments of ISESCO in the following fields: training staff for the teaching of Islamic education and the Arabic language in Member States, providing support for the teaching of Islamic education and the Arabic language in the universities and institutions of Member States, rehabilitating the handicapped, developing unified curricula for basic education, supporting research and publication in the Islamic approach to education, and the granting of scholarships in the various educational fields.

6. Lauds the report drawn up by ISESCO on educational institutions in Palestine, the support to Palestinian self-rule institutions and the development of scientific laboratories in the schools of Member States and the training of technical staff in laboratory maintenance.

7. Commends ISESCO for the efforts made in the field of education in favour of the newly independent Islamic republics and communities and expresses its appreciation of the initiative taken by ISESCO's Director General to open an ISESCO department in the University of Moscow for the teaching of the Arabic language and the Islamic culture.

8. Commends the positive results achieved by the Programme of His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar for the dissemination of the Islamic culture and the Arabic language, the implementation and supervision of which His Highness has entrusted to ISESCO, and expresses to His Highness its deep appreciation and gratitude for his kind approval for the expansion of this pioneering project to maximize the number of Islamic countries and communities benefiting from it.

9. Invites ISESCO as an OIC institution specialized in education, science and culture and in laying down the implementation mechanisms of a cultural strategy for the Islamic world, to draw up an integrated plan for these mechanisms so that they may be implemented, and to submit this plan to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers and to the institutions concerned with cultural affairs in Member States for study and approval and to coordinate with the Member States to take the necessary steps for including this strategy within their national cultural policies.

10. Commends the effective contribution made by ISESCO towards organizing and patronizing (the World Conference on the Globalisation of Knowledge 97), held in Toronto, Canada in June 1997, which was organized by the World Bank in collaboration with a number of international and regional organizations. Welcomes the initiative of ISESCO to participate in organizing and sponsoring the World Conference on Higher Education which will be held in Paris, in cooperation with UNESCO in September 1998.

11. Commends the existing coordination between the General Secretariat and ISESCO to hold a meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Islamic World in 1998 with a view to implementing the Cultural Strategy as recommended by the Fifth Session of COMIAC held in Dakar.

12. Commends the programme being implemented by ISESCO, within the framework of cooperation between the OIC-UN systems, regarding the project of Basic Education and Training from the perspective of Human Resource Development in Islamic Countries, and invites the Islamic institutions, in particular the Islamic Development Bank, to co-finance this project. It also commends the efforts and programmes of ISESCO in the field of promoting dialogue among various cultures, civilizations and religions as well as closing the gap between Islamic doctrines.

13. Commends and approves the programme prepared by ISESCO aimed at propagating and entrenching the Arabic language and Islamic culture in the African Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Tchad and Niger) which will be implemented by ISESCO in coordination with the World Association for Islamich Da'wah. And invites ISESCO to submit a report on phases of its implementation to the Twenty-sixth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. Expresses sincere thanks and gratitude to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for financing the programme.

14. Urges the Member States which have not yet ratified the Islamic convention on equivalence of diplomas to do so.

15. Commends the results achieved by the First Conference of the Presidents of the Universities of the Islamic World (Association of the Universities of the Islamic world) held in collaboration with the University of Mohamed V in Rabat under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Hassan II in February 1998, and appreciates the recommendations of the Scientific Symposium organized on the sidelines of the Conference, and calls on the

Universities of the Islamic world which have not yet joined the Association to hasten to do so and to effectively participate in its projects and programmes.

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.

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 and the warding off of external challenges.

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 to it.

19. Expresses thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz, for his unflagging support for ISESCO and for his lofty patronage of ISESCO's Sixth Conference, hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in December 1997.

20. 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. 35/25-C

ON THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st 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 Thirteenth Meeting held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 22-23 Muharram 1418H (28-29 May, 1997):

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. 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. 36/25-C

ON THE SPORTS FEDERATION FOR ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 21st Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF);

Having considered with appreciation the initiative of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and General President of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to organize charity football games between the Sarajevo Team and selected teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aimed at supporting the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the 25th Anniversary of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

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, the Government of Pakistan and its Olympic Committee for the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the Federation in order to organize the First Course on Sports Organisation and Management, Phase II, for English-speaking Islamic States, held in Lahore on 5-13 March 1998. Also expresses its thanks to the Sports Federation for publishing a documentary book on phase I of the Course (in Arabic), held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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. Congratulates Islamic Member States whose national teams have qualified for the World Cup Finals to be held in France in 1998:

- a) Islamic Republic of Iran.
- b) Republic of Tunisia.
- c) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- d) Republic of Cameroon.
- e) Kingdom of Morocco.
- f) Federal Republic of Nigeria.



RESOLUTION NO. 37/25-C

ON THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ARAB ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

Recalling the resolutions of the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 21st 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:

(a) To continue support for holding Training Sessions for Teachers of Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkans.

(b) 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.

(c) To invite the IDB to continue its contribution to printing books for Afghan children.

(d) To support the Open Complementary Studies Institute in Khartoum so that it may continue its activities and also to support the training courses for foreign students in Al-Azhar Al-Sharif which are held by the Federation in collaboration with the World Council For Dawa and Relief which is headed by Sheikh of Al-Azhar.

2. 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;

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its continuous support to the activities of the Federation in the teaching of Arabic and dissemination of the Islamic culture.

6. 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. 38/25-C

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

The Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session for a Better Future for the Peoples of the Islamic Ummah), held in Doha, State of Qatar, from 17 to 19 Dhul Quida 1418H (15-17 March 1998),

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;

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 23rd ICFM 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. Approves the recommendations included in the report of the Meeting of the Committee of Experts Entrusted with Considering and Examining Challenges Facing the Islamic Ummah in the Twenty-first Century (document No. EACFIW/1-98REC2) held in Cairo in February 1998, and calls upon the Member States to cooperate and contribute towards implementing these proposals and recommendations.

4. Entrusts the Group of Experts Concerned with continuing the study of the Challenges Facing the Islamic Ummah in the Twenty-first Century to take further constructive steps to confront these challenges, counteract negative propaganda, remove and correct all forms of misunderstanding, and present the real image of Islam as a religion of peace, love and freedom.

5. 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.

6. Calls for the convening of further Islamic symposia on Islamic Culture and Da'wa following confirmation of the usefulness of the previous symposia.

7. Welcomes the offer made by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Twelfth Meeting of the Committee on Co-ordination of Joint Islamic Action in the field of Da'wa in Tehran on 25 and 26 May 1998.

8. 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.

9. 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.