

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

OF THE TWENTY-SECOND ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
CASABLANCA, KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
8-10 RAJAB, 1415H (10-12 DECEMBER, 1994)

1. At the kind invitation of the Kingdom of Morocco, the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 8 to 10 Rajab, 1415H, corresponding to 10 - 12 December 1994.

2. A. The following Member States attended the Conference:

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Islamic State of Afghanistan
4. Republic of Albania
5. State of United Arab Emirates
6. Republic of Indonesia
7. Republic of Uganda
8. Islamic Republic of Iran
9. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
10. State of Bahrain
11. Brunei Darussalam
12. Burkina Faso
13. People's Republic of Bangladesh
14. Republic of Benin
15. Republic of Turkey
16. Republic of Chad
17. Republic of Turkmenistan
18. Republic of Tunisia
19. Republic of Tajikistan
20. Republic of Gabon
21. Republic of the Gambia
22. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
23. Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros
24. Republic of Djibouti
25. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
26. Republic of Senegal
27. Republic of Sudan
28. Syrian Arab Republic
29. Republic of Sierra Leone
30. Somali Republic
31. Republic of Iraq
32. Sultanate of Oman

33. Republic of Guinea
34. Republic of Guinea-Bissau
35. State of Palestine
36. Republic of Kyrgyzstan
37. State of Qatar
38. Republic of Cameroun
39. State of Kuwait
40. Republic of Lebanon
41. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
42. Republic of Maldives
43. Republic of Mali
44. Malaysia
45. Arab Republic of Egypt
46. Kingdom of Morocco
47. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
48. Republic of Mozambique
49. Republic of Niger
50. Federal Republic of Nigeria
51. Republic of Yemen

B. The following Subsidiary Organs of the OIC attended the Conference:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre, for Islamic Countries, Ankara.
- Research Centre on Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul.
- The Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research, Dhaka.
- The Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade, Casablanca.
- The Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, Jeddah.
- The Islamic Fiqh Academy, Jeddah.
- International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage, Istanbul.
- Islamic Solidarity Fund, Jeddah.
- The Islamic University of Niger.
- The Islamic University of Uganda.

C. The following Specialized Institutions of the OIC:

- Islamic Development Bank, Jeddah.
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Rabat.
- International Islamic News Agency, Jeddah.
- Islamic States Broadcasting Organization, Jeddah.

D. Following Affiliated Institutions:

- Organization of the Islamic Capitals and Cities, Makkah Al-Mukarramah.
- Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, Benghazi.
- The Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange, Karachi
- The Islamic Shipowners Association, Jeddah.
- World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools, Jeddah.
- International Association of Islamic Banks, Cairo.

E. Following Islamic Foundations and Societies attended as Invitees:

- Muslim World League, Makkah Al Mukarramah.
- World Islamic Call Society, Tripoli.
- World Muslim Congress, Karachi.
- World Assembly of Muslim Youth, Riyadh.
- League of Islamic Universities, Riyadh.
- International Islamic Council for Da'wa and Relief, Cairo.
- International Islamic Charitable Foundation, Kuwait.
- International Islamic Relief Organization, Jeddah.

F. Observers.

i) States:

- Republic of Kazakhstan.

ii) Muslim Communities and Minorities:

- Turkish Muslim Community of Kibris
- Moro National Liberation Front

iii) International and Regional Organizations:

- United Nations.
- Non-Aligned Movement.
- League of Arab States.
- Arab Maghreb Union.

G. Invitees:

- Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Republic of Uzbekistan
- Republic of Croatia
- Republic of Slovenia
- Republic of Macedonia
- Kosovo
- The Sanjak
- The True Representatives of the Kashmiri People.
- Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO).
- U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
- U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF).
- U.N. Development Programme (UNDP).
- Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).
- U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- World Health Organization (WHO).
- U.N. Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights and of the Palestinian people.
- Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).
- UK Action Committee on Islamic Affairs.

3. The Conference was opened by H.E. Dr. Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco.

H.E. the Prime Minister welcomed the delegations and recalled that Morocco which hosts today the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, was also the land which witnessed the birth of the OIC following the burning of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. He then reviewed the different agenda items and urged the OIC to examine its working methods in order to increase its efficiency and strengthen its credibility in the light of the realities imposed by international changes in the political, economic and social fields.

4. The Conference thereafter heard the statements made by Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Mali, the Republic of Lebanon and the Republic of Maldives respectively on behalf of African, Arab and Asian Groups.

5. His Excellency Sardar Aseff Ahmad Ali, Foreign Minister of Pakistan and Chairman of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers made a statement in which he highlighted the salient issues including the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Jammu and Kashmir dispute and Afghanistan which have been the focus of OIC's attention and efforts. He paid a warm tribute to the Secretary General H.E. Dr. Hamid Al-Gabid for his devoted service to the OIC and thanked him for the cooperation he received during his tenure as the Chairman of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

6. In his address, H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General laid emphasis on the concept of solidarity which must characterize the Islamic Ummah, for, he added, without this solidarity no action, no matter how just it may be, can achieve success. He therefore invited Member States to redouble their efforts to make Islamic solidarity instrument in the service of the Ummah. The Secretary General also deplored the conflicts of which the Islamic world is the victim, whether these are instigated from abroad or of entirely endogenous origin and result from belonging to different legal cum theological schools.

7. His Excellency Dr. Abdel Latif Al-Fillali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, of the Kingdom of Morocco was unanimously elected as the Chairman.

8. The Conference elected Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Indonesia, Burkina Faso and the State of Palestine as Vice Chairmen. His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was elected as the Rapporteur-General.

9. The Conference listened with interest to the message of H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal to the Seventh Islamic Summit, which was read out by H.E. Moustapha Niasse, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Senegalese Expatriates. President Diouf expressed satisfaction at the work done by the OIC in the political, economic and social fields. He expressed particular satisfaction at the significant progress made in the Middle East Peace Process and in the Iraq-Kuwait dispute. He also stressed the commendable efforts made to rationalize the working of the OIC System while pointing out the persistence of major problem: that of the rehabilitation of the Organisation's financial situation. He expressed the wish that the Seventh Summit take appropriate decisions to provide the OIC with the necessary resources to help it fulfill its mission.

10. Thereafter, the Conference approved the Report of the meeting of Senior Officials which was presented by the Chairman of the Meeting, His Excellency Salah Zaimi, Head of the Moroccan Delegation to the Senior Officials Meeting.

11. The Conference adopted the draft Agenda submitted by the meeting of Senior Officials.

12. The Conference unanimously admitted the Republic of Mozambique as full member of the OIC.

13. The Conference noted with appreciation the Report of His Excellency Sardar Aseff Ahmad Ali, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Chairman of the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.
14. The Conference noted with appreciation the Reports submitted by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on various items of the agenda and on the activities of the General Secretariat between the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers.
15. The Conference heard with fraternal sentiments the moving statement of His Excellency, Irfan Ljubljanic, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina who expressed the gratitude of the Government of his country for the firm support of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and strongly appealed to increase this assistance at this critical juncture of the history of Bosnia-Herzegovina.
16. The Conference also heard with fraternal sentiments the statement of His Excellency Atay A. Rasit who voiced the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus.
17. The Conference also heard a statement made by His Excellency Mr. Nur Missuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, regarding the problems of the Muslims of Southern Philippines.
18. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Reports of the Secretary General on Organic, Statutory and General Questions. In this context, it expressed its appreciation for the Report of the Secretary General in the implementation of Resolution 1/6-ORG (IS) and 1/21-ORG adopted respectively by the Sixth Islamic Summit and the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the functioning of the OIC, its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions. It expressed its satisfaction for the measures taken by the Secretary General to implement these important resolutions and requested that he continue his efforts in this direction.
19. The Conference approved the regulations governing the Observer status at the OIC.
20. The Conference took note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary General on the cooperation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations, and other international and regional organizations. It welcomed the ongoing cooperation between the OIC and these organizations and expressed the hope that the mechanisms of coordination between them will be strengthened.
21. The Conference also welcomed the consolidation of cooperation between the OIC and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).
22. The Conference invited the Secretary General to establish close cooperation links with the World Muslim Scout Union and to authorize it to carry out its activities under the banner of the OIC.
23. The Conference expressed its determination to project the correct image of Islam, resorting in this regard to the spirit of "Ijtihad" in Islam based on general principles of Islamic Sharia. It condemned the evil intention of the quarters that seize every opportunity to discredit Islam or present it as contrary to progress and development or as a threat to the foundations of modern civilization. It rejected the use of this distorted image of Islam to justify aggression and occupation against Muslim countries and peoples. It denounced the double standard approach adopted by anti-Islamic quarters whenever a just cause of interest to the Islamic Ummah is at stake. It affirmed the readiness of the Islamic Ummah stemming from the teachings of Islam to engage in a constructive dialogue with the revealed religions in a spirit of tolerance and respect for international legality.
24. The Conference welcomed the contribution made by the Organization in the cause of Islamic solidarity and cooperation over the last 25 years. It recognized that the profound changes taking place in the World today such as the trend towards economic globalization

and the formation of regional economic groupings constitute a strong encouragement for safeguarding the interests of Islamic Ummah by strengthening their cooperation and joint action. It also recognized the important role of the Organization in galvanizing cooperation among member states to meet these challenges. It realized the importance of taking stock of the Organization's past achievement and of reviewing its existing capabilities to meet the challenges in order to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of the Organization. It decided to establish immediately an Eminent Persons Group comprising a select number of outstanding individuals from various disciplines drawn from member states to take stock of the achievement of the Organization over the past 25 years, identify its strength and weaknesses, review its objectives in the light of changing circumstances and submit to the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers recommendations on appropriate measures that should be taken to enhance the Organization's effectiveness and relevance as the promoter of Islamic solidarity and cooperation and an overall perspective plan to expand and strengthen development cooperation among member countries for the progress of the Ummah.

Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers:

25. The Conference decided that the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers shall be held in the Republic of Guinea at a date to be fixed after consultations.

Question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif:

26. The Conference reaffirmed that the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expressed its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its just struggle for removing the effects of Israeli occupation and building the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine. It called upon Member States to continue supporting the PLO and its positions in the forthcoming negotiations for the transfer of all powers and responsibilities in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to the Palestinian National Authority, and to emphasize the return of the Holy City to Palestinian sovereignty. It affirmed that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region can only be achieved through complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and the occupied Lebanese territories.

27. It expressed its support for the peace process in the Middle East, and welcomed the agreements concluded in its framework and noted that the success of the peace process hinges on the implementation of resolutions of international legitimacy, including resolutions 242, 338 and 425 of the Security Council, on the basis of Arab and international understanding of these resolutions, and the "land for peace" formula and the need to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their national and political rights.

28. It stressed that Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and to it apply all the provisions applicable to the other occupied territories and reiterated the necessity of its return to Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine. It invited all States in the world to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted in any way by those authorities as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. It called for compliance with Security Council resolution 478 (1980) which invites Member States not to transfer their diplomatic missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It called on Member States to face up to the serious developments ensuing from the continued Israeli expansionist policy in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to confront this policy to provide material resources for the preservation of Islamic Shrines, and to support the steadfastness of the city's inhabitants. It invited the international community, and in particular the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference,

to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographical changes in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif during the transitional period, that might affect the outcome of the negotiations on the final status of the City.

29. It expressed its strong condemnation of the decision taken by the Israeli Supreme Court to consider the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque as part of the territory of the State of Israel.

30. It called upon Member States to honour their commitment to cover the budgets of the Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf.

31. It called for the dismantling of the settlements already established since they are unlawful, and to halt further Jewish settlements in occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Syrian Golan, as required under the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy.

32. It stressed the need to secure international protection for the Palestinian people in the Occupied Territories; and to halt all Israel's terrorist and repressive practices against the Palestinian people. It invited Member States to work for compelling Israel to release the detainees, bring back the deportees, put an end to the method of collective punishment, and desist from any works that may endanger life and the environment in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

33. It called for the support of the international programme of economic, social and cultural development in the occupied Palestinian areas, and for the support of the Palestinian National Authority so that it can establish its control and start the process of reconstruction and development of the Occupied Territories.

34. It strongly condemned the aggressive Israeli scheme to partition the Ibrahimi Enclosure in the city of Al-Khalil, and called on Member States to continue their coordination and intensive efforts to prevent the implementation of this scheme and preserve the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a mosque solely for Muslims as it has been through the ages.

35. It called on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to proclaim Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

36. The Conference commended the steadfastness of the Arab-Syrian citizens in the Golan against Israeli occupation, strongly condemned Israel for not complying with Security Council resolution 497 (1981), and affirmed that Israel's decision to impose its jurisdiction, its law and its administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void. It also declared that the Knesset resolution of 11 November 1991 confirming the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and without legal effect and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981). It expressed strong condemnation of Israel for continuing to alter the legal status and demographic set up of the occupied Syrian Golan. It affirmed that Israel's continuing occupation of the Syrian Golan constitutes a permanent threat to peace and security in the region. It demanded that Israel withdraw totally from Lebanon to the lines of 4 June 1967.

37. The Conference saluted the heroism and steadfastness of the Lebanese people against Israeli occupation and strongly condemned Israel's continuing occupation of Lebanese territories, and its persistence in deporting Lebanese citizens from their villages and lands, as well as all the inhuman practices of the Israeli enemy in those areas. It called for efforts to prevent Israel from continuing those practices and compel it to release

Lebanese detainees. It also called for action to force Israel to implement the UN Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 425 (1978) which calls for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Lebanese territory, and for helping the legitimate authorities to establish their control over all Lebanese territories. It invited all countries to increase their assistance to Lebanon in order to consolidate the political gains of the National Reconciliation Government.

Bosnia-Herzegovina:

38. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the safeguarding of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia- Herzegovina and reaffirmed all previous OIC Resolutions and Declarations relating to the Situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

39. It strongly condemned the continuing Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serb non-compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council as well as the Serb rejection of the Five-Nation Peace Plan. It also strongly condemned the Serb attacks on the Bihac Safe area and expressed its concern over the lack of effective measures by UNPROFOR Command to deter attacks against UN designated safe areas in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

40. It reiterated its call on the Five Nation Contact Group for establishing an action oriented relationship with the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina that should give a fair and balanced consideration of the views, concerns and interests of the Governments of the Republic and the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It called for an urgent Ministerial Meeting between the Five Nation Contact Group and the OIC Contact Group to consider ways and means to deal with the deteriorating situation in Bosnia- Herzegovina.

41. It called for effective deployment of international monitors/forces on the borders of the Republic of Bosnia- Herzegovina with Serbia and Montenegro; recognition by Serbia and Montenegro of the internationally recognized borders of the Republics of Bosnia- Herzegovina, Croatia and other States in the region; suspension of the implementation of Security Council Resolution 943(1994) and vigorous enforcement of the sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro; strengthening of UNPROFOR by including troops pledged by OIC member states; enhancing participation of OIC troop contributors within UNPROFOR Command, as well as political decision making process; expansion of UNPROFOR mandate; effective protection and expansion of Safe Areas to cover all the territories allocated in the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina; establishment of effective UNPROFOR presence in Serb occupied areas; simplifying and streamlining of procedures to enable NATO to provide effective and immediate military support to UNPROFOR and the Bosnian population including air strikes to deter and reverse Serb aggression; demilitarization of Sarajevo; and adoption of appropriate measures to facilitate the return of refugees; and reaffirmation of the status of Sarajevo as the undivided and united capital of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It requested the OIC Contact Group and troop contributing states to establish a Working Group in New York to evaluate current and future contributions to the UN mandated forces.

42. It demanded that the Government of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina must be provided with all necessary means for self defense to exercise individually or collectively its inherent right recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter. It expressed its readiness to cooperate with all UN member states who exhibit a willingness on their own initiative to provide the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the means for self defense. It reiterated that Security Council Resolution 713 paragraph 6 does not legally and cannot morally apply to the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and indicated its commitment to act accordingly.

43. It welcomed the call of the President of Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina for unilateral response by members of the international community in the event that the compromise proposal is not effected by members of the Five-Nation Contact Group and regarded in the same vein the call made by the General Assembly to the Security Council to give due consideration to exempting the Governments of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina from the embargo on deliveries of weapons and military equipment.

44. It condemned the tendency on the part of some to appease the Serbian aggressor and reminded the international community, particularly the major powers of the imperative need for establishing peace with justice in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

45. It regretted the direct material and diplomatic support offered to the Serbian aggressors and the recent veto within the Security Council of a resolution designed to cut off fuel supplies to the Serb forces.

46. It decided to request the convening of a Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Bosnia-Herzegovina in case the Security Council continues to be unable to deal effectively with the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

47. It warned once again the Serb and Montenegren authorities as well as all persons who commit or order the commission of breaches of international humanitarian law in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina that they are individually responsible in respect of such breaches and will be punished for war crimes in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and requested in this context the International Tribunal established pursuant to Security Council Resolution 829 to expeditiously try and punish those responsible for the perpetration of crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia.

48. It appealed to the international community to mobilize resources for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in coordination and cooperation with the Agency for Reconstruction and Development (AICRED) and emphasized the need to aid the efforts of the Special Coordinator for Sarajevo in conjunction with Security Council Resolution 900.

49. It approved the establishment of a special OIC-IDB Programme of Assistance for Bosnia-Herzegovina, as recommended by the Secretary General and keeping in view the national mechanism that already exist in some Member States for mobilising financial support.

50. It condemned the denial of human, civil and national rights of Albanians in Kosova. It also condemned human rights violations against non-Serbs in the Sanjak and Vojvodina and reaffirmed the national rights of Muslims of the Sanjak.

Afghanistan:

51. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan and appealed to the Afghan leadership to spare no effort to bring the hostilities to an immediate end and emphasized the urgent need for a political consensus among the Afghan parties.

52. It affirmed the need for the launching of a credible intra-Afghan process for restoring peace and stability in Afghanistan and for reviving the political, economic, social and institutional infrastructure of the Afghan society. It emphasized the need for promoting national reconciliation and rapprochement among all political parties and segments of the Afghan society as well as for demobilization of armed groups and formation of national army and police force. It expressed its appreciation and support for the initiatives taken by the Secretary General to promote a credible intra-Afghan peace process. It called upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative with a view to advancing the progress made in the Proximity Talks held in Islamabad and Tehran and the objectives of peace and national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

53. It also expressed its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute economic and political problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and encouraged the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the United Nations Special Mission.

54. It appealed to the international community in particular Member States to respond to the humanitarian exigencies of the situation in Afghanistan by extending generous assistance. It also urged Member States and Islamic financial institutions to provide assistance for the Afghan refugees in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran and called for the speedy and voluntary repatriation and rehabilitation of Afghan refugees.

Jammu and Kashmir:

55. The Conference called for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions. It condemned the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and called for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination. It called upon Member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the massive human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. It also called upon India to allow International Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

56. It supported the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and called upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts. It affirmed that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.

57. It expressed its deep concern at the prevailing tension that threatens security and peace in the region. It called upon India and Pakistan to redeploy their forces to peacetime locations.

58. It requested the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.

59. It requested the Secretary General to establish contact with the Governments of India and Pakistan and the True Representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute and to take necessary steps for enabling the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora. It also requested the Secretary General to send a three member OIC Fact Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir and requested the Government of India to allow the OIC Fact-Finding Mission to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

60. It recommended that member states continue to coordinate their positions and to take joint action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It welcomed the establishment of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir at the United Nations comprising of Niger, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Pakistan and the OIC Secretary General and requested the Contact Group to continue its efforts for promoting the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

61. It appealed to the Member States, OIC and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.

Somalia:

62. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia. It noted with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the suffering of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and requested the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to Somalia to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.

63. It called for the convening of the International Conference for Peace and National Reconstruction in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution adopted by the 47th Session of the UN General Assembly with the participation of all the Somali parties. It also called upon all Somali factions to enter into negotiations for a constructive dialogue for a peaceful settlement of the problem.

64. It welcomed the signing of the Addis Ababa Agreement for establishing Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia and called upon all Somali political factions to facilitate the work of United Nations Operations in Somalia (UNOSOM II) until its termination and to cooperate fully with the United Nations to ensure the safe and orderly withdrawal of the UN forces from Somalia. It called upon all states, in particular the neighbouring states, to cooperate in the implementation of the arms embargo established by Security Council Resolution 733 (1992).

65. It expressed its appreciation to those Member States which have contributed troops to UN operation in Somalia as well as those which have provided relief and humanitarian assistance to the Somali people. It called upon the international community especially the Member States to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Somalia.

Iraqi Aggression against Kuwait:

66. The Conference welcomed the recognition, by Iraq, of the sovereignty of the State of Kuwait, its national security and political independence as well as its international borders in compliance with Resolution No.833 (1993) of the Security Council. It urged Iraq to pursue efforts and thoroughly fulfill its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

67. It called on Iraq to co-operate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para.2C and Para.3C of resolutions No.686 (1991) and (30) of resolution No.687 (1991) pertaining to urgent release of prisoners and hostages from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any others from other countries' citizens, especially following the agreement between Iraq and Kuwait and the other concerned parties on December 8, 1994 to set up a Subsidiary Committee to facilitate their task.

68. It affirmed that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed accountable for implementing Para 2-6 of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which involve the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss or direct prejudice, including the losses inflicted on the environment, the depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.

69. It reaffirmed Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq. It reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty,

territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq, expressed its sympathy with the Iraqi people and called on Iraq to promptly implement the relevant resolutions of international legality. It emphasized that Iraq must commit itself to implementing all the resolutions of the Security Council regarding the elimination of weapons of mass destruction.

:Armenia - Azerbaijan

70. The Conference strongly condemned the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijan Republic. It considered the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri population in occupied Azeri territory as crimes against humanity and strongly demanded the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories inter alia Lachin and Shusha regions and strongly urged Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic.

71. It called on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Azerbaijan Republic; take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic and decided to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.

72. It called for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers. It urged both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states member of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing CSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.

73. It reaffirmed its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country. It called for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity. It expressed its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic and requested the member states, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Azerbaijan Republic.

US Aggression against Libya:

74. The Conference condemned the continuing United States aggression and threats and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It supported the right of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the physical and human losses sustained as a result of aggression as well as the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.

75. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the economic boycott measures which seek to undermine its plans for development.

76. It condemned the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and called for their cancellation forthwith as they violate international law and conventions. It called upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Crisis between Libya, United States and United Kingdom:

77. The Conference considered the current crisis between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the one hand, and both the United States of America and the United Kingdom, on the other. It expressed satisfaction with the positive initiative undertaken by the Great Jamahiriya for the solution of this crisis in accordance with international law and in such a manner that does not contradict the respect for its sovereignty; its acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 731 (1992) and its request to the UN Secretary General to find out the mechanism for the implementation of this resolution while expressing its full cooperation within the context of the initiatives it has taken and the proposals it has put forward.

78. It called on all parties to exert greater efforts to reach a solution of the crisis thereby ending the plight to which the Libyan people are subjected as a result of the embargo imposed on them. It declared its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States (Doc. 5373-DA,(101)-G 3) on 27 March 1994 calling for the holding of just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and for urging the Security Council to take into consideration this constructive proposal in order to seek a peaceful solution to avoid any escalation of the crisis, which would exacerbate tension in the region. It called upon the Security Council to review its two resolutions Nos. 748 and 883 on the crisis.

Cyprus:

79. The Conference reaffirmed the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus who constitute an integral part of the Islamic world. It reiterated its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides. It welcomed in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues.

80. It also expressed its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement.

81. It reaffirmed the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other. It urged the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports. It decided to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.

82. It considered that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question. It called on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement on the modalities for implementing the confidence building measures at the earliest possible time. It also decided to remain seized of the request of the Turkish

Muslim Community of Cyprus for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Comorian Island of Mayotte:

83. The Conference reaffirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte. It expressed its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supported the Comorian Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity. It rejected any idea of dividing the Comorian Island of Mayotte into departments, as this would be contrary to all international resolutions.

84. It urged the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Comoros. It called upon the Member States to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

Sudan:

85. The Conference reaffirmed its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs, and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability. It commended Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem of Southern Sudan through negotiations and dialogue between various Sudanese parties for achieving its stability and national development.

86. It appealed to Member States to continue to support Sudan's efforts to safeguard its unity, territorial integrity and identity, in conformity with the principles embodied in the Charter and resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Mali:

87. The Conference expressed its gratitude to the General Secretariat, IGATHA, RABITA and ISF for their contribution to the efforts of the Government of Mali for the rehabilitation and development of the northern regions. It requested the Member States and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency projects programme for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and for the social, economic and cultural development of the northern regions of Mali.

Niger:

88. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the signing of the Peace Agreement in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on October 9, 1994 between the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Coordination of the Armed Resistance. It requested Member States, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its regional development objectives within the framework of the implementation of this Agreement.

Eastern and Central Europe:

89. The Conference reaffirmed the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interests and expressed the hope that strengthening of economic

relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third world countries. It also expressed the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language and religion.

Security and Solidarity:

90. The Conference reiterated that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries. It firmly resolved to strengthen the security of Member States, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration. It also reaffirmed the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples over their natural resources and economic activities.

91. The Conference emphasized the importance of the establishment and maintenance of security, peace and stability throughout the Islamic World and of strengthening the climate of mutual confidence and solidarity among Islamic Countries and cooperation in all fields between them. It reiterated the resolve of Member States to encourage, wherever appropriate, the initiation of confidence and security building measures, bilaterally or at the sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration.

92. The Conference recognized that small States are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs. It called upon the Member States to provide assistance, when requested by small Member States, for the strengthening of their security in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC.

Disarmament:

93. The Conference called for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons. It also emphasized the need to conduct negotiations within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the priorities specified in the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session. It also emphasized that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

94. It called upon all States, particularly the States of the regions concerned, to respond positively to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and South East Asia and requested all member States to cooperate at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of such Nuclear Weapon Free Zones.

95. It requested the members of the Conference on Disarmament to work urgently towards an agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context. It also urged all States especially the nuclear weapons states to engage in serious

negotiations in competent international fora for the early conclusion of a comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty preferably before 1995 NPT Review Conference.

96. It affirmed that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued to promote regional and international peace and security and encouraged the conclusion of equitable and non-discriminatory agreements for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building at regional and sub-regional levels.

97. It also recognized the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels.

Consultation and Coordination among Member States:

98. The Conference called upon Member States to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other Member States. It decided that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State, and reaffirmed the necessity of consolidating coordination among Member States so as to control the phenomenon of intellectual terrorism and extremism. It stressed the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among Member States at all levels, and to deepen their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

Sahel:

99. The Conference noted with satisfaction that the Islamic Committee of Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel met during the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait. It also noted that the Committee examined the issues relating to the OIC-CILSS-IDB Programme in favour of the Sahel. It underlined the necessity to expedite the implementation of the said programme which reflects the effective solidarity of the Ummah in favour of this important area of the Islamic world. It welcomed Kuwait's proposal to host an experts meeting entrusted with examining the programme and for determining the modalities of its implementation.

Critical Economic Situation in Africa:

100. The Conference welcomed the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Treaty of Abuja concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa. It stressed the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and called upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

101. It also called upon the international community, particularly the developed countries and the concerned international financial agencies, to make a substantial contribution to the objectives of African Economic Recovery and Development inter-alia by increasing financial flows, especially concessional flows, to Africa, particularly to sub-Saharan countries as well as through measures for an increase in Africa's export earnings and a reduction in the adverse impact on African economies of fluctuations in those earnings and through measures to limit and reduce the burden that external debt imposes on African recovery, reform and development.

Reparations for damages from colonialism:

102. The Conference reaffirmed its condemnation of colonialism, in all its forms, as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law. It recognized that the effects of colonialism have impeded economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries. It also reaffirmed the right of the developing countries to obtain fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism. It affirmed the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion and colonization of the Libyan territories. It also affirmed the right of the developing countries to recover their cultural property which was looted during the period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents.

Right to use of science and technology:

103. The Conference affirmed the inalienable right of the Islamic Ummah to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields. It called upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering this process. It called upon Member States to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

Dumping of Toxic Wastes:

104. The Conference affirmed that the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes in Member States is a crime against humanity. It called upon all States which produce dangerous and toxic waste to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling this waste in their own countries. It urged all the Member States to ban all the illegal trans-border movements of dangerous and toxic waste, transported without the necessary safeguards and the prior consent of the importing country.

Refugees:

105. The Conference noted with satisfaction the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General to further enhance the capacity of the OIC to provide humanitarian assistance to the refugees in cooperation with the UNHCR and expressed appreciation to Member States, donor countries, the UNHCR, the U.N. specialized agencies, and other humanitarian institutions for the valuable assistance they extend to refugees in Islamic countries.

Muslim Communities and Minorities:

106. The Conference urged the Member States to continue to pay due attention to the problems faced by Muslim communities and minorities in non-Member States and requested them to make the necessary contacts, individually and collectively, with the governments of non-OIC Member States so as to ensure the safety and non-violation of the values and rights of Muslim communities and minorities.

107. It invited the member states to carry out consultations among themselves regarding the action to be taken in cases of violations, aggressions and occupation against Muslim communities and minorities.

108. It requested the Secretary General to take the necessary measures to ensure protection of the basic rights of Muslim immigrants living in Europe and preservation of their Islamic identity and heritage as well as to problems facing them.

109. It urged the Member States and Islamic institutions and organisations to extend every support and assistance to the General Secretariat so as to enable it to perform the tasks entrusted to it in the best manner.

110. It noted with concern that the rights and fundamental freedoms of the Turkish Muslim minority in Western Thrace continue to be denied and violated and urged that all their rights and freedoms, individual and collective, be fully respected.

Southern Philippines:

111. The Conference confirmed its previous resolutions on solidarity with the Muslims of the Southern Philippines in their legitimate aspirations within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Philippines.

112. It welcomed the agreement between the participants in the official peace negotiations between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General to make the subject of their talks focusing on the necessary means to fully implement the 1976 Tripoli Agreement, in letter and spirit and that this should include:-

(a) Those parts of the Agreement left for further subsequent talks.

(b) The Transitional Implementing Structure and Mechanism.

113. It hailed the spirit of goodwill which prevailed during the First and Second Phases of the Formal Peace Talks which facilitated the achievement of positive results reflected in the signing of a group of agreements.

114. It welcomed the Memorandum of Agreements which crowned the First Phase of the Formal Peace Talks, held in Jakarta on 25 October to 7 November 1993. It also welcomed the 1994 Transitional Agreement which crowned the Second Phase of the Formal Peace Talks held in Jakarta on 1 to 5 September, 1994.

115. It welcomed the 1993 Interim Ceasefire Agreement as well as the Joint Guidelines and Ground Rules for implementing the Ceasefire Agreement concluded between the (GRP) and the (MNLF) with the participation of the OIC Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General.

116. It welcomed the determination of the Government of the Philippines to strengthen the process of confidence building with the MNLF so as to ensure success of the Third Round of Formal Peace Negotiations which it hoped will lead to reaching a just, comprehensive and final political solution to the issue of Muslims of Southern Philippines.

117. It also urged the Member States and all Muslim Charitable Societies, individuals as well as humanitarian organizations in the Islamic world to extend financial assistance to the MNLF so as to boost its potential for pushing the peace process forward.

118. It hailed the role played by the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in reaching the 1976 Tripoli Agreement and hosting the first preparatory talks in Tripoli on 2 to 4 October, 1992.

119. It also hailed the role played by the Government of Indonesia in hosting and facilitating the work of both rounds of the 1993 and 1994 Peace Talks and warmly welcomed Indonesia's offer to host the Third Round of the Peace Talks in the middle of 1995.

Legal issues:

120. The Conference urged Member States that have not yet ratified the Statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice to accelerate the completion of the ratification procedures so that the quorum necessary for the Court to become operational may be reached. It also urged signature/ratification of various other agreements concluded in the framework of the OIC.

121. It also emphasized the importance of following-up the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and expressed appreciation for the contribution made by the Member States in the World Conference of Human Rights in Vienna in 1993. It also reiterated the need for more regular consultation and coordination among Member States in the field of human rights especially at the United Nations.

122. It reiterated its support for convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define terrorism and to distinguish it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation.

123. The Conference approved the Code of Conduct for the Member States of the OIC on Combatting international terrorism.

124. It condemned all forms of international terrorism including the crime of hijacking aircraft and unlawful acts against the safety and security of civil aviation.

Information issues:

125. The Conference noted with satisfaction the constructive efforts made in the field of information thanks to the directives of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC); and also through those of the First and Second Islamic Conferences of Information Ministers and Follow-up Committees and meetings of groups of experts set up by higher bodies. These efforts have made it possible to build a true system of Islamic information; a system comprising a Strategy of Information, a Code of Conduct of Islamic Information, a Plan of Information and an Islamic Programme for Information and Communication Development (PIDIC), an organ which will see to it that the first three components are properly implemented. Ongoing projects include Islamvision, the reduction of telecommunication tariffs applicable to information organs of the Islamic world, the distribution of Radio electromagnetic frequencies as well as the making of a documentary film on Al-Quds Al-Sharif and a programme devoted to the teaching of Arabic on radio to non-Arabic-speakers.

126. It urged Member States to assist and support the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Second Islamic Conference of Information Ministers to enable it to play the full role assigned to it.

127. It expressed its profound gratitude to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf for the positive role of COMIAC in strengthening cooperation among Member States in the field of information and recommended the continuation of efforts until the above projects are implemented with a view to making the specific personality of the Islamic world known through the tolerant concepts of Islam and the defence of its just causes while correcting the false image given it by ill-intentioned people.

128. It expressed its profound gratitude to the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the Second Session of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Second Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

129. It noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary General on the recommendations of the Second Session of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Second Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

130. It approved the activities and programmes submitted by the General Secretariat within the framework of the implementation of the Plan of Information for the 1994-95 period.

131. It noted with appreciation the renewed offer of the Syrian Arab Republic to host the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

132. It took note with appreciation of the efforts made the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation (ISBO) for carrying out their mission and urged Member States to support these efforts.

Economic Affairs:

133. The Conference examined the economic problems facing the Islamic countries which are still grappling with the heavy burden of debt, the inadequacy of development financing resources, the limited access to technology in the developed world, and the sharp drop in commodity prices, as well as a high degree of trade protectionism practised by the North.

134. It expressed its deep concern over the imbalance in the prevailing international economic relations and the lack of progress for the institution of a New International Economic Order due to the reluctance of the developed countries.

135. It emphasized that the prevailing situation of the world economy urgently calls for dialogue between the developed and the developing countries and demanded a constant follow up of the world economic situation and all international trade negotiations. It strongly recommended that Islamic countries should be invited to coordinate their stands within the different negotiating groups set up in the framework of the GATT agreements with a view to safeguarding the economic interests of the Islamic world during those negotiations.

136. It expressed the hope that the strengthening of economic relations between East and West would not affect the order of priorities in economic cooperation and trade exchanges between these countries and the Islamic States, and would not have any negative repercussions on the flow of financial resources devoted by the developed countries, eastern or western, to the financing of development efforts in the Islamic States and the Third World in general.

137. It appealed to the developed countries to establish a more practical, more equitable and more transparent environment so that developing countries may be able to implement their structural adjustment programmes aimed at achieving continued development.

138. It examined the consequences of the establishment of the Single European Market and economic groupings worldwide for the Islamic States and called on the Member States to make the efforts necessary for promoting global economic and commercial cooperation in favour of the Islamic States, and urged them to boost trade exchanges and investments among them and to remove any obstacles thereto.

External Debts:

139. It expressed its concern at the external debt of Member States, which has continued to rise in an alarming way over the last few years, and also at the increasingly high interest rates, the unstable exchange rates and the increase in the average rate of debt service.

140. It noted with appreciation that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had taken measures aimed at writing off the public debt of the least developed countries.

141. It also welcomed the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait who, as Chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, stated in the address he delivered at the United Nations General Assembly on 27 September 1990, that, in order to alleviate the debt burden of the developing countries, the State of Kuwait had decided to write off the interests accrued on the loans made to developing countries.

142. It also noted with satisfaction that the Government of the State of Qatar had also written off the official debt of least developed countries.

143. It expressed its appreciation of the efforts being exerted by the Chairman of the Sixth Islamic Summit and the OIC Secretary General to ensure implementation of the relevant Dakar Summit resolution on the indebtedness of OIC Member States.

144. It recommended that an appeal be made to the Member States which have not yet done so, the industrialized countries and the International organizations to implement the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference on the external debt of OIC Member States.

Aid for Development:

145. It expressed its deep concern over the economic problems of the least-developed Member States and noted with regret the slow implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations and the decrease in the Official Development Assistance.

146. It noted with deep concern the slow implementation of the New Programme of Action in support of the poorest countries, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference in 1990.

147. It stressed the need to increase the Official Development Assistance granted by the developed countries to the developing countries in general, and to the least developed, landlocked and/or Sahelian countries in particular.

Drought:

148. It noted with concern the serious situation caused by drought, desertification, natural disasters and their harmful effects on man, living conditions, food availability, and economic and social structures as well as public utilities and facilities.

149. It appealed to all Member States to contribute generously, at bilateral level or through OIC specialized agencies or any other regional organizations, to the fight against drought, the effects of desertification and natural disasters.

Economic Cooperation:

150. It noted with satisfaction that COMCEC under the leadership of its Chairman, the President of the Republic of Turkey, has played an important role in strengthening and expanding cooperation and collaboration among Member States in the economic and commercial fields.

151. It also noted with satisfaction the work contributed by the General Secretariat, its subsidiary organs, and the OIC specialized and affiliated institutions in implementing the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States, and in formulating new strategies for the first Plan of Action, in conformity with the directives of the Sixth Islamic Summit, and urged them to continue this work.

152. It noted with satisfaction that the Tenth Session of COMCEC held in Istanbul on 22-25 October, 1994 approved the new Plan of Action aimed at strengthening economic and trade cooperation among the OIC Member States.

153. It urged the Member States to implement the new Plan of Action in conformity with the principles and the modalities of implementations of the strategy and the procedures as defined by its mechanisms for follow up and implementation.

154. It invited the Member States to host the Expert Group intersectoral meeting envisaged by the mechanism for the follow-up implementation, and urged Islamic Centre for Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training (SESRTCIC), the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the other OIC institutions to extend their technical assistance and expertise to ensure the success of the said meeting.

155. It invited Member States to participate in the various projects recently initiated by the Islamic Development Bank, and to take advantage of the Longer-Term Trade Financing Scheme, the Islamic Banks Portfolio, the IDB Investment Funds, the Export Credit

Insurance and Investment Guarantee Corporation, in parallel with other ongoing projects, programmes and operations at the IDB level.

156. It examined the progress made in regard to the signature and/or ratification of the various OIC Agreements and Statutes, and expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the General Secretariat to ensure the signature and ratification of such agreements and statutes. The Conference also invited Member States to speed up implementation of the agreements negotiated under the auspices of COMCEC.

157. It emphasized the increasingly important role played by the private sector in the economic cooperation among Member States, and recommended that the Member States should extend their support and assistance to the Islamic Shipowners Association, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Commodity Exchange, and the International Association of Islamic Banks.

158. It noted with satisfaction that the first meeting of the private sector of the OIC Member States was held on 18-19 October, 1994 in Istanbul, and expressed thanks and appreciation for the efforts made by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and the Turkish Federation of Chambers of Commerce to ensure the success of the said meeting.

159. It took note of the recommendations contained in the report of the First Meeting of the Private Sector and encouraged the Islamic Chamber to continue holding such annual meetings before the COMCEC sessions or in conjunction with the Islamic Trade fairs, under any form that may be deemed appropriate by the representatives of the private sector in the Member States.

Food Security:

160. The Conference recognized the importance of agriculture and its vital role in socio-economic development of the countries of the Islamic Ummah and appreciated the close cooperation between the OIC on the one hand and the FAO and IFAD on the other. It also requested member states to closely cooperate with these institutions in the implementation of their programmes. It expressed support for the proposal of FAO to organize a World Summit on Food Security in 1996. It urged the member states to participate in it actively.

161. The Conference emphasized the importance of inter-Islamic cooperation in the field of tourism, which is a vital sector for development of member states and for the strengthening of cultural exchanges and rapprochement among peoples and requested the OIC institutions to make a comprehensive study on tourism potentials of member states.

162. The Conference expressed its appreciation for the role played by the Subsidiary Organs of the OIC in strengthening inter-Islamic cooperation and launched an appeal to member states to increase their support to these organs and to regularly pay contributions to their budgets. It encouraged the Subsidiary Organs to continue their activities for the development of the Islamic Ummah. It approved the recommendation aimed at changing the Dhaka Center to Islamic Institute of Technology.

Science and Technology:

Environment:

163. The Conference examined general environmental problems especially the environmental problems in the Islamic world, the epidemic diseases affecting human, animal resources and natural life, the problem of drug abuse, psychotropic substances and

their illegal production, processing and trafficking, and the environment, sustainable development and ways and means to deal with the issues of environment and health.

164. It requested Member States to continue to incorporate environmental consideration in their developmental policies and stressed that Member States mobilize national institutional resources for implementing programmes for environmental protection.

165. Noting the potential threat posed by the possible rise in the sea-level, it called upon the International Community to undertake vigorous scientific investigation in this regard so as to protect the people living on the lands and islands of Member States exposed to these dangers.

166. It reaffirmed the determination of Member States to work for the strengthening of international cooperation with a view to seeking solutions to global environmental problems and stressed that multilateral cooperation for the protection of the environment should include the provision of additional resources and access to environmentally sound technologies to the developing countries.

167. It expressed its solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning its position on the question of the minefields remaining in its territory since World War II, their grave effect on the environment and the accidents and grievous damages they cause to thousands of its citizens.

168. It urged all Member States to continue consultation and coordination among them at all international meetings relating to environmental protection.

169. The Conference requested the Islamic countries to continue to extend help and assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan and the Lebanese citizens in South Lebanon and Western Bekaa occupied by Israel, in drawing up of plans deemed necessary for environmental conservation within these territories.

170. It strongly condemned Israel's persistence in changing the legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and its practices aimed at changing its environmental conditions as well as its geographical, demographic and historical characteristics and at imposing Israeli bans, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan.

171. It called for greater coordination among the Member States, the other countries and the World Health Organization to combat epidemic diseases through the use of new vaccines and immunization schedules against contagious diseases.

172. It appealed for greater coordination and cooperation in the field of health and cooperation by applying the international health regulations such as compulsory vaccination of all Pilgrims coming to the Holy Land and the improvement of awareness of sanitary conditions before departure through the appropriate media available in their own countries.

173. It urged the Member States to coordinate their efforts to unify their systems relative to the legal manufacture and importation of Psychotropic substances within the framework of the relevant international organizations.

174. It welcomed the measures taken by some Member States to draw attention to the damaging effects of narcotics and reaffirmed the importance of preventive measures including the need for crop/income substitution and accessibility to international markets for substituted products.

175. It requested Member States to continue to intensify their cooperation and to exchange information and technical expertise to control narcotic drugs.

176. It acknowledged the effective interdisciplinary relation between environment and other sectors of development including health and welcomed the initiative inviting effective cooperation among Member States and with the relevant OIC, regional and international institutions for conducting a comprehensive study of the inter-related issues of

Environment, Health and Sustainable Development from the perspective that would best serve the interests of the Member States.

Cultural and Social Affairs:

177. The Conference noted with appreciation the Reports of the Secretary General on Islamic Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutes and Centres and endorsed the recommendations which were adopted by the Eighteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs. It expressed deep concern that most of these institutions are facing problems due to lack of financial, material and other support from Member States. It urged the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and other Islamic institutions to extend financial and material support to these Universities, Centres and Institutions, specially as they contribute to human resources development essentially required for any developmental activity of the Islamic Ummah.

178. It commended the draft document on the Rights and Protection of the Child in Islam, prepared by the experts symposium which was held at the OIC General Secretariat from 28 to 30 June 1994 and which clearly focussed on the Islamic teachings and lofty principles enjoined in the Holy Quran and the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet and distinguishing the Islamic Ummah from other peoples in the world. These teachings and principles should serve as a source of inspiration to the peoples and governments of the Ummah for their programmes on children, and as a message to all other peoples regarding the attitude of Islam towards the child.

179. It appealed to the Member States to integrate the Cultural Strategy within their cultural and educational projects.

180. It expressed its deep concern over the killing of the Muslims and the aggression against their holy places in Palestine, India, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Jammu and Kashmir and in many other places in the world. It also strongly condemned the repeated aggression by the Zionists on Hebron Mosque and other Islamic sanctuaries in Palestine, and renewed its call upon the Government of India to reconstruct the Babri Mosque at its original site.

181. It also took note with appreciation, of the reports submitted by the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent. It expressed satisfaction at the measures adopted by the Sports Federation of the Islamic Solidarity Games in collaboration with the General Secretariat and particularly for its convening at the Federation's headquarters in Riyadh from 16 to 18 January, 1994, to prepare for the First Conference of Muslims for Youth Sports and the World Federation of the Arab-Islamic International Schools, on the activities in their fields of competence.

182. It expressed its profound appreciation for the work completed by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture; the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage and the Islamic Fiqh Academy.

183. It took note of the Report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the activities of the Fund and its Waqf. It expressed its appreciation to the member States which have made generous donations to the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf. It requested all Member States to commit themselves by extending annual voluntary donations to the Fund, each according to its ability, to enable the Fund to cover the deficit of its annual Budget. It called on all Member States to contribute towards the capital of the Waqf of Islamic Solidarity Fund.

Administrative and Financial Affairs:

184. The Conference expressed particularly its deep concern on the financial difficulties faced by the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs. It urged the Member States to pay their financial contributions in a regular and timely manner. It also requested the Member States which have not settled their arrears of contribution to the General Secretariat and to the Subsidiary Organs to do so before 30th June, 1996 by availing the 50% concession granted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference in Resolution No. 1/6-AF(IS) or by arranging installments. Otherwise sanctions would be applied to the defaulting Member States with effect from 1st July 1996.

CLOSING SESSION:

185. His Excellency Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the Conference, thanked the participating delegations for the spirit of constructive cooperation and for their precious contribution towards the success of the Conference.

Vote of Thanks

186. At the end of the deliberations, His Excellency, the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Albania expressed, on behalf of the participating delegations profound thanks and gratitude to His Excellency Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Government and people of Morocco for the generous hospitality extended to the delegations and for the excellent arrangements which greatly contributed to the success of the Conference. He also expressed his appreciation to His Excellency Abdellatif Filali, Chairman of the Conference for his farsightedness and competence in conducting the deliberations of the Conference, which has been a success.

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