

OIC/34-ICFM/2007/FC/FINAL

**FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ**  
**OF THE**  
**THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF**  
**FOREIGN MINISTERS**

**(SESSION OF PEACE, PROGRESS AND HARMONY)**

**ISLAMABAD, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN**  
**28-30 Rabi Al-Thani 1428H**  
**(15-17 May 2007)**

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1. At the kind invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Progress and Harmony), held in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, from 28 to 30 Rabi Al-Thani 1428 H (15-17 May 2007).
2. The Conference was opened with a recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. The Conference listened to the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency General Pervez Musharraf, who delivered an inspiring inaugural address. The President noted that the 34<sup>th</sup> ICFM was taking place at a defining moment and a period of profound transition in world affairs. The Islamic world faced many challenges, internally and externally. It was imperative to address the vulnerabilities and weaknesses of the Ummah and work collectively to change its descendent course with an ascendant course. The OIC Member States had tremendous natural and human resources, which must be effectively utilized to realize the full potential of the Ummah. President Pervez Musharraf stressed the need to focus on three specific areas: (i) addressing socio-economic disparities through greater attention to enhanced education and science & technology thus creating knowledge-based economies and societies; (ii) addressing the internal religious upheaval by neutralizing the challenges posed by obscurantist, extremist and sectarian elements and strengthening the forces of moderation and enlightenment; and (iii) resolving political disputes facing the Islamic Ummah, including Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon and Kashmir. President Musharraf emphasized that the OIC must have a conflict resolution mechanism. The President also underscored the importance of fighting misperceptions about Islam, both within the Muslim world and outside. President Pervez Musharraf stressed that the OIC must play a central role in the emancipation of Muslim Ummah. He appreciated the efforts of the Secretary General to turn the OIC into a dynamic organization. In this context, President Musharraf underlined the need for accelerating the pace of reform and restructuring of the OIC, including the revision of its Charter, and increased financing for the Organization by Member States to enable it to undertake its activities more effectively.
3. His Excellency Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Chairman of the 33<sup>rd</sup> ICFM delivered a speech in which he highlighted that sweeping changes around the political landscape of the world demand OIC Member States to be united in meeting the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah. Towards this end, OIC Member States need to reaffirm their commitment to Islamic solidarity, including support to the Member States who are facing threats, as mandated by the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action and should continue their efforts to reach conflict resolutions and dispute settlements in the Islamic world on the basis of the norms and principles of international law. He expressed Azerbaijan's sincere gratitude to the Islamic Ummah and the OIC Secretary General for continued support to the just cause of Azerbaijan to eliminate the consequences of the armed aggression by Armenia. He also referred to the most outstanding efforts exerted during Azerbaijan's Chairmanship of the 33<sup>rd</sup> ICFM and expressed his confidence that such positive efforts will continue in the forthcoming phase. In conclusion he expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all OIC Member States and the OIC Secretary General for cooperation and support extended to Azerbaijan throughout the whole period of Chairmanship and conveyed best wishes of success to the incoming Pakistani Chairmanship.
4. Addressing the opening session, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, began by thanking H.E. Mr. Pervez Musharraf, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting the 34<sup>th</sup> session and for gracing the opening session of the meeting with his personal presence, which is a clear evidence of the interest he shows to OIC affairs. He then addressed the various initiatives and reforms introduced in the internal work of the General Secretariat, the revision process of the OIC Charter and the relationships of the Organization with the world. The Secretary General referred to the Programme of Action which will empower the Islamic world to turn the challenges it is facing to an opportunity to act.

He pointed out that Member States should seize this moment and define their destiny rather than leaving the others to define it according to their agenda. The Secretary General reviewed the actions undertaken by the General Secretariat in the major political issues, such as Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Nagorno-Karabakh, Cyprus, etc., in addition to the conditions of Muslim communities in non-member states, in particular Philippines and Thailand. He addressed to the OIC efforts in the field of information and the media especially to promote the true image of Islam and defend Muslims in the face of the hate campaign waged against Islam and its followers. Addressing also OIC initiative in Economic and Cultural field, the Secretary General pointed out that strengthening economic bonds among Member States is the most effective way to foster real solidarity and unity.

5. On the basis of the recommendation of the Senior Officials Meeting, the Conference unanimously elected H.E. Mr. Khurshid Kasuri, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, as Chairman of the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. It approved the composition of the Bureau as follows: Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Gambia and the State of Palestine as Vice-Chairs, and Republic of Azerbaijan as Rapporteur.
6. The Conference listened to a welcome address by His Excellency Mr. Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan who reaffirmed continued support to all Muslim causes, particularly the right of self-determination and liberation from colonial and foreign domination. He noted that hosting of the 34<sup>th</sup> ICFM in Islamabad and similar sessions in the past was a manifestation of Pakistan's abiding commitment to the Ummah. Foreign Minister Kasuri urged Member States to concentrate on collectively addressing challenges confronting the Muslim world, including revitalization and reform of the OIC. This, he emphasized, would receive his priority attention as Chairman of the ICFM.
7. The inaugural session was addressed by H.E. Hamid Albar, Foreign Minister of Malaysia, representing the Chair of the 10th Islamic Summit. He pointed out that it is imperative for the Organization to continue addressing the challenges faced by the Ummah, collectively and in unison. Member States must have the political will to rid themselves of conflicts and discourse that will weaken the unity of the Ummah. He further mentioned the need for Member States to address internal weaknesses so as to prevent external interference from undermining our solidarity. H.E. the Foreign minister also mentioned the need for the organization to strive towards enhancing the economic and social development of Member States and the Ummah. In this regard he highlighted some of the programmes initiated by Malaysia such as the Capacity Building Program, the World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF), proposal for the establishment of the International Zakat Organization and Cooperation in fighting corruption.
8. In response to the speech of the President of Pakistan, the representatives of the three geographic groups, the Foreign Minister of Brunei Darussalam, for the Asian Group, the Foreign Minister of Guinea, for the African Group and the Minister of Sudan, for the Arab Group, thanked Pakistan for hosting the Conference and stressed that the implementation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action constitutes the appropriate means for the Islamic Ummah to confront the current challenges.
9. The Conference adopted the report of the preparatory Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for the current session, held in Jeddah from 26 to 28 Rabiul Awwal 1428H (14-16 April 2007). The Conference adopted the Draft Agenda and Work Program submitted to it by the SOM as well as the reports of the Islamic Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs and the Permanent Finance Committee.
10. After considering the reports of the Secretary-General and in light of the brilliant statements made and the constructive discussions that took place among the Ministers and Heads of Delegation, the Conference adopted a number of resolutions.
11. The Conference affirmed the necessity of reaching a just solution to the Palestinian cause in all its aspects on the basis of international law and legitimacy and the right of the Palestinian people to self determination and establishing an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. It reaffirmed the necessity of finding a just solution to the problem of Palestinian refugees in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy, particularly UN General Assembly resolution 194 (1948), It welcomed the Resolution of the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Arab Summit

to activate the Arab Peace Initiative and reiterates its commitment to supporting the Arab Peace Initiative.

12. The Conference reaffirmed its support of the Palestinian National Unity Government and undertakes to provide it with assistance, and to break the unjust siege imposed on the Palestinian people. It commended the Mecca Agreement on Palestinian National Reconciliation which was reached under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and expressed its deep appreciation of the efforts made by the Member States and the OIC Secretary-General in order to reach this Agreement.
13. The Conference strongly condemned Israel for its persistent aggressions on Islamic and Christian holy places, and reaffirms that the Israeli practices are aggressive, hostile, and illegal and constitute a flagrant violation of international law and the Fourth Geneva Convention. It condemned Israel for destroying Al-Maghariba Gate Hill, for carrying out the excavations around and beneath Al-Aqsa Mosque, for the deliberate destruction of the archeological and heritage sites in the occupied city of Al-Quds. It called upon the UNESCO to take the necessary steps in order to preserve the historical heritage of Al-Quds (Jerusalem).
14. The Conference affirmed its determined support and backing for the Syrian Arab Republic's demand and right to restore the totality of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan to the line of 4 June 1967, on the basis of the peace process and the resolutions of international legitimacy, building on what has been accomplished in post-1991 Madrid Conference negotiations. It reaffirmed the previous Islamic resolutions which reject all the actions taken by the Israeli occupation authorities aimed at changing the legal, natural and demographic status of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, considering these actions null and void and a violation to international agreements and to UN Charter and resolutions.
15. The Conference reiterated its support for Lebanon in its efforts to complete the liberation of all its territories up to the internationally recognized borders, and in its demands to release Lebanese prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons. Also demanded the UN Security Council to act toward preventing the repeated Israeli violations of Lebanon's sovereignty in land, air and sea, and to force Israel to pay damages for all the losses sustained by the Lebanese territories as a result of its continuous aggressions against Lebanon. It supported Lebanon in its demands for the removal of the mines left behind by the Israeli occupation, as Israel is responsible for laying and removing these mines, and for the need to hand over full mine location maps. It also supported the inalienable rights of Lebanon to utilize its waters in accordance with the international law, condemned Israel's designs on these waters, and held Israel responsible for any action that would infringe upon Lebanon's sovereignty, political independence, safety of its people and integrity of its territories.
16. The Conference called on the Member States to uphold and implement the principles and provisions of the Islamic Boycott against Israel, and to issue the necessary internal regulations to regulate the said boycott. In this regard, the Conference also paid tribute to the existing cooperation between the OIC General Secretariat and the Arab Office at the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States.
17. The Conference strongly affirmed its respect for Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national unity. It also affirmed its respect for the will of the Iraqi people to decide their political future and that the realization of security and stability is the responsibility of the Government of National Unity, the Iraqi constitutional institutions and political leadership and dependent on the support of Islamic and neighboring states. The Conference stressed the importance of international support for security and stability in Iraq and welcomed the communiqué issued by the meetings of Iraq's neighboring States in Baghdad and Sharm Al-Sheikh in March and May 2007 respectively. It strongly condemned the terrorist acts that were carried out and continue to be carried out against the Iraqi people and the official and civil institutions in Iraq, and called for the necessary assistance to curb violence and dry out the sources of terrorism. The Conference emphasized the need for the OIC to form a Contact Group on Iraq and welcomed the decision of the General Secretariat and emphasized the expedition of protection steps to open an OIC Coordination Office in Baghdad.
18. The Conference reaffirmed its support to the people of Jammu & Kashmir for their legitimate right to self-determination, in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions. Welcoming the visit of the OIC Mission led by Ambassador Ezzat Kamel Mufti, Secretary General's Special Representative on Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan and Azad Kashmir it called for full

implementation of the recommendations contained in the Mission's report. Calling for respect of the human rights of the Kashmiri people and an end to their continuing violations, it urged India to allow the visit of an OIC Fact Finding Mission to the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir as well as other International Human Rights Organizations with a view to verifying the condition of human rights in Indian occupied Kashmir.

19. The Conference expressed its strong support to the ongoing Peace Process between Pakistan and India and appreciating the flexibility shown by President Musharraf in moving forward to the resolution of Kashmir dispute through out of the box thinking, sincerity, flexibility and courage as well as his four point constructive proposals called upon India to reciprocate positively to these proposals. It recognized that implementation of recommendations of the OIC Secretary General's Special Representative to Pakistan and Azad Kashmir would facilitate Peace Process between Indian and Pakistan. It appreciated Pakistan's commitment to the ongoing composite dialogue with India. It emphasized that a just and final settlement of Jammu and Kashmir dispute being the core issue must lie at the heart of the dialogue process with a view to making it result oriented and ensuring durable peace in the region.
20. The Conference endorsed the recommendations of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. It also took note of the memorandum presented by the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people and reaffirmed the OIC's commitment to promote a just and peaceful solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the Kashmiri people.
21. The Conference emphasized the importance of maintaining the unity, stability and the integrity of the territory of Somalia. It called upon all OIC Member States to provide financial assistance to the National Reconciliation Congress to be held in Somalia in mid-June 2007. The Conference also urged OIC Member States to consider the possibility of providing support and assistance to the peace keeping forces in Somalia. It further decided to commence the establishment of an OIC Liaison Office in Somalia. The Conference appealed to all OIC Member States to support the reconstruction efforts in Somalia, at all levels.
22. The Conference emphasized its full solidarity with the Republic of the Sudan in firmly establishing the foundations of peace and stability all over the country, to achieve national reconciliation, and to defend its sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity.
23. The Conference appealed to the international community to honor its commitments agreed to in the Oslo Conference for Reconstruction of the Sudan and to the enforcement of the peace agreement in Darfur, with a view to firmly establishing the foundations of peace in the country. It called for the constitution of a ministerial committee on the Sudan in order to follow up the issue of providing financial contributions by the Member States to support the Sudan in its efforts to develop the Sudanese south and war-battered areas. The Conference also called on Member States to provide urgent assistance to the Sudan in order to support its efforts aimed at addressing the humanitarian situation in Darfur.
24. The Conference commended the agreement that was signed in Abuja in May 2006 between the Government of the Republic of the Sudan and the military organizations in Darfur and the Eastern Agreement which was concluded in October 2006 and asked all sides, particularly, military groups, to renounce military escalation and to work towards strengthening stability in Darfur. It also welcomed the Quartet Summit held in Tripoli in February 2007 dedicated to finding a negotiated and peaceful solution to the dispute in Darfur. The Conference commended the initiative of the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, to put an end to the conflict between Sudan and Chad. The Conference reaffirmed its support for Sudan in its position of the presence of international Peacekeeping Forces in Darfur.
25. The Conference expressed its firm support for the just cause of the Muslim Turkish people of Cyprus and, within the context of the call made by the UN Secretary General in his Report of 28 May 2004 and of the previous OIC resolutions, reiterated its decision to put an end to the unjust isolation of the Turkish Cypriots. It strongly called on the international community to take, without further delay, concrete steps to end this isolation. Recalling the UN Comprehensive Settlement Plan aimed at establishing a new state of affairs in Cyprus in the form of a new bi-zonal partnership with two equal constituent states, the Conference acknowledged that neither side may claim authority or jurisdiction over the other and that the Greek Cypriots do not represent the Turkish Cypriots. The Conference expressed its deep disappointment about the unwillingness on the part of the Greek Cypriot side to find a comprehensive settlement to the

Cyprus issue on the basis of the UN plan. It called on the international community to urge the leadership of the Greek Cypriots to this end. Through a unanimously adopted resolution, the Conference once again requested the Member States to closely associate with the Turkish Cypriots and to increase and expand their relations in all fields; and encouraged the Member States to exchange high-level visits and business delegations, develop cultural relations and sports contacts with the Turkish Cypriot side. The Conference took note of the proposal made by Turkish Cypriot people to host a workshop on tourism in the Muslim world, in 2007. The Conference also urged the Member States to inform the Secretariat of the actions taken regarding the implementation of the OIC resolutions, in particular resolution 2-31/P.

26. The Conference reiterated its condemnation of the continuing aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which constitutes a blatant violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law. It called for total, unconditional, and immediate withdrawal of the Armenian forces from all the occupied Azerbaijani territories.
27. The Conference reiterated its determination to support the efforts of the Government of Azerbaijan aimed at removing the obstacles to the peace process, such as the transfer of settlers of Armenian nationality, practices of artificial geographic, cultural, and demographic alterations, unlawful economic activity, and exploitation of natural resources in those occupied territories. The Conference condemned Armenia and demanded to stop these activities as well as the continued destruction of Azerbaijan's cultural and historical heritage including Islamic monuments. The Conference urged all Member States to further strengthen their solidarity with Azerbaijan and to extend their full support to its endeavors to achieve soon the restoration of complete sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.
28. The Conference appreciated the generous donations of some Member States to the Assistance Fund for the Afghan People and appealed to all Member States to further donate in order to enhance the capacity of the Fund so as to achieve its noble objective of assisting the Afghan people.
29. The Conference appealed to the international community to speedily provide the assistance it pledged to Afghanistan during the Tokyo Donor Conference held in January 2002 and the Berlin Donor Conference held on 31 March 2004, as well as in the London Conference held on 31 January-1 February 2006.
30. The Conference welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to holding an International Conference of the Ulema and the Muslim Scholars in Kabul, by Spring 2008, to discuss the noble principles of Islam and the fight against International Terrorism, under the auspices of the Organization of Islamic Conference.
31. The Conference hailed the peace agreement signed on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Ouagadougou by President Laurent Gbagbo and Mr. Guillaume Kigbafori Sori and encouraged the signatories of the peace agreement and the new government of national unity to continue to the effective implementation of the agreement's provisions. It also invited Member States, Islamic financial institutions and donors to extend their assistance for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire and reiterated the decision to establish a Special Fund for this purpose and decided on convening a donor conference for the reconstruction of Cote d' Ivoire.
32. The Conference appealed to the Member States, Islamic financial institutions, as well as the donor and humanitarian assistance bodies of the Islamic Ummah to provide soonest appropriate food assistance to assist the Government of Niger in achieving food self-sufficiency. It invited all Member States, the civil society and charitable organizations of the Muslim World as well as financial institutions to participate in the Donors Conference for Niger, to be organized in Doha on 12-13 June 2007 and to make substantial contributions to the financing of the development projects that will be submitted to the meeting, as requested by the Government of Niger.
33. The Conference reaffirmed its condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and emphasized that terrorism contradicts the teachings of Islam, which urge tolerance, mercy and non-violence. It also condemned any connection between terrorism, race, religion and culture. It emphasized that measures to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism must also address the root causes of terrorism. It renewed the call for an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations to set a legal definition for the concept of terrorism and distinguish it from the people's national liberation struggle against foreign occupation and alien domination.

34. The Conference invited the OIC Ministerial Committee on Combating International Terrorism, comprised of 13 Members, headed by Malaysia, to convene a meeting as soon as possible in order to make the necessary recommendations with regard to fighting international terrorism, to engender the ideal understanding of Islam and its principles, and to coordinate the activities between the OIC and other international and regional organizations concerned with fighting terrorism.
35. The Conference welcomed the Pakistani government's decision to host the Ministerial Conference on Refugees in the Muslim World which will be held in collaboration with the UN High Commission for Refugees. It urged Member States, humanitarian organizations and specialized institutions to contribute to cover the costs of the conference.
36. The Conference reiterated its rejection of unilateral economic measures and attempts to impose unilateral economic sanctions on Member States. It expressed solidarity with Member States that are affected by such unilateral sanctions and requested that they be lifted without delay.
37. The Conference emphasized that the question of reform and expansion of the UN Security Council continues to be the primary preoccupation of the UN membership, including all OIC Member States. It, therefore, called on its Member States to actively and constructively take part in the UN reform process, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and statements issued by the OIC. It emphasized the importance of enhancing the transparency, accountability, representativeness and democratization of the Security Council through the improvement of its working methods and legitimacy of its decision-making process.
38. The Conference reaffirmed the need for general and complete nuclear disarmament and for the destruction of weapons of mass destruction. It called on Member States to actively take part in all related international initiatives and conferences. It called on all Member States to ratify fair and non-discriminatory international conventions and to encourage the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones freely arrived at. It strongly condemned Israel for possession of nuclear capability to develop nuclear arsenals and persistently refusing to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency access to its nuclear facilities in violation of all international agreements on nuclear proliferation and called upon Israel to adhere to the NPT.
39. The Conference proposed the convening of a special session of the United Nations General Assembly as soon as possible with a view to evolving a new and balanced consensus, taking into account the existing and emerging challenges in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.
40. The Conference reaffirmed the inalienable rights of Member States to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, as enshrined in the NPT and the Statute of the IAEA. It called and supported firmly that Iran's nuclear issue should be settled exclusively by peaceful means and through negotiation without precondition, in the framework of the IAEA and in accordance with the NPT and the Statute of the IAEA. It expressed concern over the pressure being mounted on Iran and its potential consequences for peace and security in and outside the region.
41. The Conference reiterated its gratitude to all Member States and charitable institutions that donated to the OIC Project for the Assistance of Child Victims of the Tsunami and requested all Member States and philanthropists in the Islamic world to donate generously to this important humanitarian project. It expressed its appreciation to the Islamic Development Bank for its support to ensure the success of the OIC Alliance to Assist Child Victims of the Tsunami Project, and called for strengthened coordination and cooperation between the General Secretariat, the Islamic Development Bank and civil society organizations in order to ensure the success and progress of the project.
42. The Conference called upon Member States to provide full political, moral and financial support for the implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action. It encouraged Member States in coordination with OIC General Secretariat and OIC institutions to consider bringing their various existing initiatives, projects and programs, in areas where they have comparatively higher interest or capability, in line with the objectives of the OIC Ten Year Programme of Action. The Conference recalled the convening in 2008 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, of a regional meeting for West

Africa on the follow-up implementation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action. It invited Member States, the General Secretariat and the Specialized Institutions to actively take part.

43. The Conference underscored the special needs of the LDC Member States towards implementing the POA on poverty alleviation programme and called on the General Secretariat to coordinate its efforts with the relevant OIC and international institutions with a view to achieving the objectives of the Programme in this domain with particular reference to the need to ensure new support to the development and poverty alleviation in Africa.
44. The Conference urged the Human Rights Council to adopt a Universal Declaration to criminalize the defamation of religions, and stressed the need to establish an effective cooperation and undertake ongoing consultations among the OIC Member States to face up to abuse against any religion and against Islam and Muslims in particular and to counter the rising phenomenon of Islamophobia.
45. The Conference warned of the dangers arising from anti-Islamic smear campaigns hostile to Muslims and the spread of Islamophobia in all its forms, which leads to a high incidence of blatant discrimination against Muslim communities or citizens of the OIC Member States, and requested the Secretary General to work through his activities and visits to highlight the deep concerns of the Member States over these issues.
46. The Conference welcomed and strongly supported the Secretary General for initiating the interactive thematic session on countering discrimination and intolerance against Muslims and defamation of Islam (Islamophobia) and were unanimous that similar interactive sessions on major issues of concern and urgency to the Muslim World, should take place in all future ICFM sessions and endorsed the recommendations presented in the General Secretariat's working paper on the subject. It expressed its strong support to the Secretary General in strengthening the Observatory of the General Secretariat and urged the Observatory to establish an action-oriented proactive strategy and roadmap involving all Member states.
47. The Conference expressed its support to Alliance of civilizations initiative which is co-sponsored by Turkey and Spain under aegis of the UN Secretary General, aiming at facilitating harmony and dialogue by emphasizing the common values of different cultures and religions and urges all members of the international community to support the initiative.
48. The Conference welcomed the proposal of the Republic of Kazakhstan to promote dialogue between Muslim world and the West and to convene, in this regard, a forum at the ministerial level in Kazakhstan in 2008.
49. The Conference encouraged the initiative undertaken by the Member States to engage the media in their efforts to promote tolerance and mutual understanding as well as social responsibility of the media professionals in their reportage.
50. The Conference reaffirmed the commitment of the Member States to preserve the unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty and international personality of Bosnia-Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders. The Conference took note of the decision of the International Court of Justice and called upon the international community to ensure that the decisions of the Court are fully implemented.
51. The Conference called upon all Member States and other non-Member States which receive full support from the OIC, to support the draft resolutions and common positions taken by the OIC in the international fora, in particular the United Nations.
52. The Conference recognized that the Kosovo issue has entered into a new and crucial phase of the negotiations in the UN Security Council. It also recognized Mr. Ahtisaari's efforts and other contributions and considered that the outcome in this regard would contribute to the maintenance of the stability in Kosovo. The Conference expressed its hope that the international community work together constructively on the issue of Kosovo, and called upon UNSC to address, on equal footing, all other issues pertaining to the maintenance of international peace and security.
53. The Conference stressed the need to find fair and just solutions to the problems facing Muslim minorities and communities in the world, including in particular the denial of their right to exercise their political, civil and cultural rights. It also condemned the gross human rights violations and religious and ethnic cleansing faced by the Muslim communities and minorities, in addition to religious and sectarian segregation, socio-economic backwardness and exclusion from effective political involvement in their countries.



54. The Conference commended the diligent efforts of the Secretary General in following up the conditions of Muslims in the southern provinces of Thailand, and expressed its complete satisfaction with the positive and encouraging outcome of the OIC Secretary General's official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 30 April to 1 May 2007 and his meetings with senior Thai officials, notably Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont and the Islamic leadership. It also welcomed and supported the Joint Communiqué issued at the end of the visit, particularly concerning the problems of the Muslims in the South, which is not regarded as a religious problem as much as a problem related to political, civil, cultural and economic rights, as well as the aspirations of the inhabitant to assume their own affairs through a centralized system that will enable them to express their cultural and linguistic specificities, enable them to choose their local representatives and to manage their natural resources, while fully respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Thailand. The Conference also welcomed the agreement concluded with the Secretary General for expanding the areas of cooperation with the OIC in order to assist the people of the Southern Provinces of Thailand to realize these objectives. The Conference welcomed the fruitful cooperation between Thailand and its neighbouring countries with a view to achieving rapid socio-economic development in Southern Thailand.
55. The Conference welcomed the positive steps taken by the Government of Thailand in the area of confidence-building, foremost of which the public apology made by the Prime Minister to Muslims in Southern Thailand regarding violations perpetrated against them in the past, and the determination to bring to account, in full transparency, those who committed those violations and to provide reparations for the victims along with his decision to release the detainees among the Southerners against whom no criminal charges have been made, as well as the other steps taken by the Government with respect to the application of Islamic Shariah in family issues and the start of the process of introducing the local Malay language in school curricula in the South. The Conference called for the end of acts of violence against innocent civilians in order to allow the local population to live in peace and harmony with different religious faiths and within a common heritage.
56. The Conference called on the Secretary-General to pursue his constructive efforts in order to reach a lasting and just peaceful solution to the problem of Muslims in southern Thailand and to submit a report thereon to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference.
57. The Conference expressed concerned over the out break of hostilities between the Armed Forces of Philippines (AFP) and MNLF forces in the Island of Sulu in Southern Philippines and commended the good offices of the Secretary General in order to restore calm to Southern Philippines and his efforts to secure the full implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The Conference called for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Sulu and return to the Status Quo Ante of all AFP MNLF forces for the acceleration of the comprehensive security arrangements between the two parties which was under review. The Conference called for the convening of the tripartite meeting as soon as possible. Providing urgent humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of the victims and help in the rehabilitation of the displaced people.
58. The Conference called on Greece once again to take all necessary measures to ensure the respect of the rights and identity of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace under the bilateral and international treaties and to recognize the elected Muftis of Xanthi and Komotini as the official Muftis and also called on Greece to allow elections for the administrative councils of Islamic Awqafs by the Turkish Muslim Minority to take place.
59. The Conference called on the Government of Myanmar to put an end to the persistent displacement, deportation, and exile which it practices against Muslims of Arakan and to put an end also to its continuing attempts to eradicate their Islamic culture and identity. It also called for the respect of the relevant international treaties and conventions and human rights.
60. The Conference expressed deep concern over the condition of the Muslim minority in India. It urged the Government of India to take effective and immediate measures to end all violence and policies of discrimination against Muslims. The Conference mandated the General Secretariat to monitor the situation of Muslims in India and to collect further information on the challenges and difficulties they are facing, politically, socially and culturally. It also mandated the Secretary General to report on the situation of Muslim minority in India to the next ICFM.
61. The Conference emphasized that the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam must be followed up and that human rights by their nature are universal and should be treated by the international community objectively and on the basis of indivisibility. It called for the preparation of

the “Islamic Charter on Human Rights”, the “Convention on Women’s Rights in Islam”, for the “study of the possibility of establishing an independent body for the promotion of human rights in the Member States”, and for drafting the “Islamic Covenant against racial Discrimination”.

62. The Conference commended the valuable efforts of the Secretary General during his visit to Geneva, Switzerland, from 12 to 15 March 2007, and his speech to the Human Rights Council as well as his intensive consultations with senior officials of States and international organizations regarding Human Rights, and the valuable contribution of the open ended Working Group on Human Rights and Humanitarian issues at the United Nations Office in Geneva towards safeguarding the interests of the Islamic Countries.
63. The Conference endorsed the setting up of an open ended committee on non-Governmental Organizations made up of representatives of Member States to study the applications submitted by non-governmental organizations with a view to obtain observer status at the OIC and to present them to the ministerial conference for adoption.
64. The Conference urged Member States to sign/ratify the various agreements concluded in the framework of the OIC and urged the Secretary General to sign more cooperation agreements with regional and international agreements.
65. The Conference took note of, and decided to endorse the resolutions of the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM); and the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the OIC Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) and called on the Member States to implement them in keeping with the new vision and methodology of joint Islamic action.
66. The Conference welcomed the decision of the Republic of Senegal to establish a Permanent National Secretariat in Dakar to follow up the activities of COMIAC and implement its resolutions, and urged the Member States to provide moral and financial assistance to this Secretariat on a voluntary basis.
67. The Conference commended the initiatives and intensive activities undertaken by the Secretary-General in the field of information as well as his interest in this area, which is clearly reflected in the OIC’s position on the international stage.
68. The Conference took note of the formation of the new Boards of Directors of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic Broadcasting Union (ISBU), which convened their first meetings respectively on 27 and 28 February 2007 in Riyadh in order to implement the restructuring and development process of IINA and ISBU.
69. The Conference called on the Member States to continue their efforts in lending all forms of support aimed at completing the restructuring and development process of both IINA and ISBU and hailed the efforts made by the Chairmanship of IINA’s and ISBU’s Boards of Directors, by the OIC General Secretariat, and by the Member States represented in the two new Boards of Directors. The Conference also reiterated its appeal to the Member States to settle their mandatory contributions and arrears to the budgets of IINA and ISBU. The Conference also commended the approval granted by the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to finance the two studies on the restructuring of IINA and ISBU.
70. The Conference urged the Member States to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic and commercial cooperation as well as economic policy coordination among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.
71. The Conference commended the valuable efforts of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) in strengthening economic and commercial cooperation among the Member States.
72. The Conference affirmed that the private sector in the Member States should play a prominent role in giving impetus to intra-OIC economic and trade relations and invites the Governments of Member States to encourage their businessmen and representatives of the Private Sector to undertake a proactive role in this sphere.

73. The Conference endorsed the Action Plan for OIC Cotton Producing Countries' Cooperation Development Strategy (2007-2011) adopted by the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of COMCEC, and it invited the General Secretariat of the OIC, IDB, ICDT, SESRTIC and ICCI to organize an investment forum with a view to working out concrete projects and proposals for the implementation of the OIC Five Year Cotton Programme.
74. The Conference invited the Member States to host sectoral Expert Group Meetings in priority areas of cooperation in the Plan of Action, such as "Transport and Communications", "Food, Agriculture and Rural Development", "Health and Sanitary Issues", "Energy and Mining" and "Human Resources Development".
75. The Conference also welcomed the target date of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, for establishing and making operational the Trade Preferential System among the member states of OIC (TPS-OIC). It called on all the OIC Member States to take part in the ongoing trade negotiations organized by COMCEC, and urges the Member States of the Trade Negotiating Committee to expedite the ratification of the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS).
76. The Conference called upon Member States and OIC institutions to render financial and technical support to the regional project on "Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa".
77. The Conference thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's for hosting and organizing the International Conference on Tourism and Traditional Crafts in Islamic Countries and associated activities in collaboration between the Supreme Commission for Tourism of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Research Center for Islamic History, Arts and Culture (IRCICA).
78. The Conference commended the IDB on the steps taken to implement the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action concerning the establishment of the OIC Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF), the Increase in the Bank's capital and the establishment of the Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC).
79. The Conference commended the States which contributed to the OIC Poverty Alleviation Fund, in particular the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which contributed one billion dollars, and the State of Kuwait, which contributed three hundred million dollars and called upon all Member States to contribute to the Fund.
80. The Conference welcomed the establishment of the Bakkah Shipping Company and calls on the shipping companies, private sector and individuals in the Member States to support the Company in its effort to serve the Muslim Ummah.
81. The Conference thanked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for extending its support to the Islamic P&I Club and it invited Member States and their maritime companies to register their ships with the Islamic P&I in Qeshm Island in Islamic Republic of Iran.
82. The Conference commended Malaysia, in collaboration with ICCI and IDB, for hosting the International Zakat Conference in Kuala Lumpur on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2006 leading to the proposal for the establishment of the International Zakat Organization.
83. The Conference underlined the importance of the free movement of the business community for the promotion of trade and investment and noted ICCI's contacts with some Member States for the Open Visa.
84. The Conference called upon the OIC member states to contribute at least 1% of their GDP to the promotion of science and technology and to take practical steps to speed up transformation of their cultural traditional economies to knowledge-based economy and to promote integration of information and communication technologies in various fields in order to bridge the digital divide and better prepare themselves to meet international standards;
85. The Conference welcomed the annual convening of the World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF), which evolved from the OIC Business Forum, with the aim to strengthen business collaboration among Muslim Businessmen throughout the world where ideas and business opportunities could

be exchanged. In this regard, the Conference urged Member States to participate in the forthcoming Third WIFE which will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 27-29 May 2007.

86. The Conference welcomed the decision of the OIC Task Force for the Vision 1441 on Science and Technology to initiate Early Harvest Programme and to implement projects that would render some initial results by the mid 2008; called upon the OIC member states and all the OIC Institutions to give full support for the implementation of the First Phase of the Early Harvest Programme and invited the IDB to consider providing the necessary financial resources, on request by the Member States, to fully implement the Early Harvest Programme.
87. The Conference invited all OIC Member States to participate in the First Session of the Islamic Conference of Ministers of Health in Kuala Lumpur on 12–15 June 2007 and further invited the Secretary-General of the OIC and the Director-General of the ISESCO to constitute an Inter-governmental Experts Group composed of medical and pharmaceutical specialists of Member States to meet and prepare a working programme to fight pandemic diseases in the Member States.
88. The Conference approved the criteria, procedures and mechanisms for ranking of universities from the OIC region, the basis for the selection of the 20 universities to be elevated to the rank of Top 500 World Universities and requested the OIC Member States to take the necessary organizational measures, within the framework of their national policies to effectively improve and reform their educational institutions and curricula at all levels, to link postgraduate studies to comprehensive development plans of the Islamic World, to give priority to science and technology, facilitating academic interaction and exchange of knowledge among academic institutions of member states, and to strive for quality education that promotes creativity, innovation, and research and development to remedy the diagnosed gaps found in their Higher Education in order attain and sustain national quality in higher education.
89. The Conference called on the OIC General Secretariat, UNESCO, and ISESCO to continue organizing interactive dialogues to further advance intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue through sustainable and concrete initiatives, and appealed to all the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to extend every moral and material support for the success of these dialogues.
90. The Conference welcomed the recommendations issued by the First Islamic Conference of Ministers in Charge of Women's Affairs in Member States through which a working plan has been proposed for the enhancement of women's role in the development of the Islamic society and the opening of increased opportunities before them in the various fields of public life.
91. The Conference urged the Member States to implement the Rabat Declaration on the issues of childhood in the Islamic world as issued by the First Islamic Conference of Ministers in Charge of Child Affairs.
92. The Conference called on the Member States to evolve appropriate approaches for the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youth so as to consolidate their role in their society in facing up to the challenges of the future.
93. The Conference urged Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, Islamic charitable institutions and private individuals to contribute to the endowments of the two Islamic Universities in Niger and Uganda, and to assist these universities through financial and moral support such as to enable them to accommodate the requirements of the increasing numbers of students.
94. The Conference called on the Member States to extend the necessary support to secure the financial requirements for the advancement of the educational process in the occupied territories in general and in Al-Quds Al Sharif in particular in view of the severe difficulties faced by the educational process in the Holy City as a result of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities which impose their educational programmes and proceed to the closure of schools that do not submit to their imposed rule.
95. The Conference welcomed the lifting of the unilateral sanctions which were imposed on Libya and recognized Libya's right to be compensated for damages suffered as a result of those sanctions. It confirmed the OIC's previous positions reiterating its deep regret over the ruling against the Libyan citizen Abdelbasit El Magrehi and called for his immediate release as his indictment was based on political grounds and had no legal justification as confirmed by UN Observers and a number of

- international legal experts. In this connection, it called on the international community and Human Rights Organizations to put pressure on the government's concerned to ensure his release.
96. The Conference followed with deep interest the tragedy of the Libyan children who were infected with the AIDS virus by a group of Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor, and the verdict issued by the Libyan judiciary in the matter. While underlining its appreciation and acknowledgement of the efforts of the Great Jamahiriya to resolve the problem and transcend the crisis, the Conference expressed its condemnation of the crime perpetrated against the innocent Libyan children and its solidarity with and support for their families.
  97. The Conference expressed its deep concern at the European Parliament's attempt to politicize the issue despite the fact that it is a purely legal and ethical issue and stresses the need to respect the independence of the judiciary and the principle of non-interference with rulings and calls upon all parties and more particularly the European Union to uphold the principles it has been advocating in this issue, while stressing at the same time the strong character of the relations entertained with the European Union and various Member States, based on the mutual respect and non-interference in domestic affairs of states or casting doubt on their legal or judicial systems.
  98. The Conference commended the role played by the Committee for the Coordination of Joint Islamic Action as to the coordination of the various activities of Islamic public and peoples' organizations and institutions. The Conference also expressed its satisfaction with the positive results achieved by the Committee for the establishment of a common basis and cohesive conception of Islamic action in the service of Muslims in all parts of the world and for the protection of Islam's heritage and radiant image.
  99. The Conference paid tribute to results and resolutions attained by the international conferences and seminars organized by the General Secretariat on Islamic Culture, Dawa and Civilization to redress the civilizational image of Islam in the outside world.
  100. The Conference stressed the importance of incorporating the Islamic Joint Action Strategy in the Field of Dawa, within the national policies followed by the Member States in the field of education, instruction, information, Islamic Dawa, etc. as a guidance to inspire them in the area of Joint Islamic Action.
  101. The Conference took note of the substance of the report submitted by the Chairman of the ISF Permanent Council, regarding the Council's 52<sup>nd</sup> Session. The Conference approved the amendment of articles 4,5,9,10,11 and 12 of the ISF Statute.
  102. The Conference took cognizance of the invitation launched by H.E. the Secretary General for the Member States to extend every possible donation during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, in support of the budget of the ISF and its Waqf to enable them to fulfill their assignments. In this regard, the Conference appreciated the contribution of two million dollars by the United Arab Emirates.
  103. The Conference took note of the invitation launched by the Secretary General for the Member States to donate a plot of land in their major cities as an endowment for the benefit of the ISF and noted with satisfaction that the Government of Burkina Faso has responded to this request.
  104. The Conference took note of the reports of the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the PFC and the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the FCO and adopted the recommendations therein.
  105. The Conference approved the budgets of the General Secretariat and its subsidiary organs for the transitional period between 1<sup>st</sup> July and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.
  106. The Conference adopted the recommendation of 35<sup>th</sup> Session of PFC for an extension of deadline up to 31 December 2007, without having further extension, and urged the defaulting member states to expedite the settlement of their arrears of contributions before the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007, in order to benefit from the concessions offered by Resolutions Nos. 1/10-AF(IS) and 3/30-AF.

107. The Conference accepted the request of 35<sup>th</sup> PFC and authorized the 36<sup>th</sup> PFC to examine and approve on behalf of the Conference, the proposed budgets of 2008 of the General Secretariat and its subsidiary organs.
108. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their donations of one million US Dollars and five hundred thousand US Dollars respectively to the budget of the General Secretariat of the OIC to support its various activities.
109. The Conference decided to hold the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) in Kampala, Republic of Uganda at a date to be determined in coordination between the host country and the OIC General Secretariat.
110. The Conference invited all Member States to attend at the highest level and actively in the 11<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, to be held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008.
111. On behalf of all the participants, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, addressed a cable of thanks to H.E. Pervez Musharraf, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for his country's hosting of the Conference and for the facilities extended to the delegates, which highly contributed to the success of the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

**Islamabad —Islamic Republic of Pakistan**  
**30 Rabi Al-Thani 1428 H.**  
**(17 May 2007)**

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