



OIC/SOM(WMC-7)/2018/REPORT/FINAL

**REPORT OF  
THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING PREPARATORY TO THE  
7<sup>TH</sup>SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE  
OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT OIC MEMBER STATES.**

**“SESSION OF WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN THE OIC  
MEMBER STATES: STAKES, CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES”**

**OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO**

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**NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

**Report of**  
**The Senior Officials Meeting Preparatory to the**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role**  
**Of Women in the Development OIC Member States.**

1. The Seniors officials meeting preparatory to the Seventh Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (22 Rabiul Awal, 1440 H)

**Opening Session**

2. The meeting was opened by the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Dr. Ilboudo Boulo Haguirato, followed by a statement made by H.E. Zeineb Cilgug Zoumrut, minister of Labor, Social Services and the Family in the Republic of Turkey, Chairperson of the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of OIC Member States.
3. In her statement, the honorable minister reviewed the activities carried out during Turkey's chairmanship of the past session in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat and the relevant OIC organs and institutions. She also thanked the Member States' Governments, the OIC General Secretariat and the relevant OIC organs and institutions as well as the Women's Consultative Council for their contributions towards the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference.
4. H.E. Ambassador Hesham Youssef, the Assistant Secretary General, for Humanitarian, Cultural and Social Affairs, took the floor on behalf of the OIC General Secretariat. He congratulated Burkina Faso for the pertinent theme chosen for the Conference, and underlined that Women's empowerment in the Member States is indeed faced with certain challenges in terms of the observance of Women's rights. The Assistant Secretary General launched thus an appeal to all the participants to put in greater efforts to turn Women's rights into a concrete reality, particularly in the case of women living in war situations or in displacement; with the entailing violence and sufferings they endure. To conclude, the Assistant Secretary General urged the Member States to increase their efforts towards women's empowerment, noting that there can be no development in any country without women's proper emancipation.

### **Election of the Bureau**

5. The meeting unanimously elected Burkina Faso as chair of the senior officials meeting. The other members of the bureau were elected as follows:

- |                                                                                                                                                                  |   |                                                        |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• United Arab Emirates</li><li>• Republic of Indonesia</li><li>• State of Palestine</li><li>• Republic of Turkey</li></ul> | } | <p><b>Vice – Chairman</b></p> <p><b>Rapporteur</b></p> |
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6. The Minister of Women, National Solidarity and the Family in Burkina Faso, Madam H el ene Marie Laurence Iboudo/Marchal, then delivered an opening speech in which she invoked once again the pertinent choice of the theme for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session, namely: “Women’s Empowerment in the OIC Member States: Challenges and Perspectives” and expressed her country’s gratitude to the Member States for accepting its offer to host the session but also for benefiting it of their technical and financial assistance.
7. She also noted that the current session offered a platform to discuss issues related to the gender’s promotion and women’s empowerment. She expressed satisfaction with the better access of girls to primary education and voiced the country’s support for the adoption of gender friendly national policies in many Member States. Besides, she underlined the fact that ten years after the adoption of the first OIC Plan of Action for the advancement of Women (OPAAW) in Cairo, the Member States had created a legal and institutional environment conducive to the revival of women’s fundamental rights. In concluding, the Honorable Minister hailed the presence of the various delegations in Ouagadougou and invited them to see to the meeting’s optimal progress and full access.
8. The meeting then adopted its agenda and work program (annexed to the present report).
9. The meeting expressed its gratitude to the Honorable Minister of National Solidarity and Women for her attendance, thus testifying to her attachment to the success of the present session.

### **Presentations**

10. The Meeting followed with interest a series of presentations on various aspects of the theme of the session, as follows:
- a) General Secretariat’s presentation on the implementation of resolutions issued by the ministerial conference on the role of women in the development of Member States.
  - b) Presentation of the report of the Women’s Consultative Council emanated from the ministerial conference on the role of women in the development of Member States.
  - c) Presentation on the policy of the Islamic Development Bank Group in terms of women’s empowerment in the Member States.
  - d) Presentation on ISESCO’s efforts in support of Member States in the area of women’s empowerment.

- e) Presentation by SESRIC of the OIC 2018 report on women and development: Enhancing female entrepreneurship for development.
- f) Presentation of the Islamic Centre for Trade and Development on the training program in e-marketing for the benefit of women heads of enterprises.
- g) Presentation by IRCICA on its efforts in the area of women's empowerment.
- h) Presentation of the Islamic Fiqh Academy on the fight on violence against women and girls and on strengthening justice and gender equality.
- i) Presentation on the Family Bank project by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture.
- j) Presentation on the efforts of the Islamic Independent and Permanent Human Rights Commission (IIPHRC) in the area of women's promotion.

**11.** The meeting also followed with interest the presentations made by 15 OIC Member States on women's empowerment and the implementation of OPAAW.

**12.** The participants expressed their appreciation for the presentations and underlined the pertinence of the addressed themes as well as the programs and activities undertaken by the various concerned OIC organs and institutions in order to support and promote women's empowerment in the Member States. They also invited the Member States to broaden their exchange of experience and good practices developed in their respective countries in the area of women's empowerment.

**13.** The meeting was briefed on the state of progress of the ratification of the Statute of the OIC Organization for Women's Development, and noted that twenty two (22) countries had already signed the said statute and that eleven (11) of them had ratified it, out of the fifteen (15) that are required for its entry in force.

**14.** The meeting felt satisfied with the documents to be submitted to the conference, namely:

- a) The conceptual document on the gender policy; presented by SESRIC.
- b) The national strategy as to women's economic empowerment; presented by the Republic of Niger.
- c) The working document on the role of women in the development of Member States; presented by the Republic of Iraq.
- d) Provisional directives for the elaboration of national reports on the implementation of OPAAW, presented by SESRIC.
- e) The strategy for women's promotion, presented by Burkina Faso.

## **Draft Resolutions**

15. The drafting committee as established by the senior officials meeting reviewed and amended the document on the rules and procedures of the Women's Consultative Council. It also examined and adopted the following draft resolutions and recommended their submission to the ministerial conference for approval (Annex 2)
1. Draft Resolution No. 1/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the promotion of Palestinian Women.
  2. Draft Resolution No. 2/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the promotion of the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (stem) to young women.
  3. Draft Resolution No. 3/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the OIC Award for women's achievements.
  4. Draft Resolution No. 4/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on joint action in support of the empowerment of refugee and displaced women.
  5. Draft Resolution No. 5/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the initiatives and activities carried out under the Republic of Turkey's chairmanship of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the ministerial conference on women.
  6. Draft Resolution No. 6/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the principles and procedures applicable to the OIC Award for women's achievements.
  7. Draft Resolution No. 7/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the preparation, drafting and submission of the reports on the implementation of OPAAW.
  8. Draft Resolution No. 8/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the Women's Consultative Committee issued from the ministerial conference on the role of women in the development of Member States.
  9. Draft Resolution No. 9/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the women's role in the resolution of conflicts and the promotion of social peace, in connection with UN Resolution No. 1325.
  10. Draft Resolution No. 10/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the promoting of the concept of the Family Bank in the OIC Member States.
  11. Draft Resolution No. 11/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the creation of the e-market market in support of Jordanian women's economic empowerment.
  12. Draft Resolution No. 12/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on changing the name of the ministerial conference to "OIC Ministerial Conference on Women".
  13. Draft Resolution No. 13/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on women's political empowerment and leadership promotion.
  14. Draft Resolution No. 14/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on women's economic empowerment.
  15. Draft Resolution No. 15/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on women's social empowerment.
  16. Draft Resolution No. 16/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on women's protection.
  17. Draft Resolution No. 17/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the establishment of a select committee to steer the OIC's action for women's development.
  18. Draft Resolution No. 18/7-F (7<sup>th</sup> Women's Conference) on the date and venue of the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Ministerial Conference on Women.

### **Draft Agenda and Work Program of the Ministerial Conference**

16. The meeting adopted the draft agenda and work program for the 7<sup>th</sup> ministerial conference and recommended their submission to the ministerial conference (Annex 3).

### **Date and Venue of the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference**

17. The meeting welcomed the offer made by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference in the course of the year 2020 and mandated the Secretary General to follow up the matter for the setting of the definitive date for the conference in coordination with Egypt and to inform the Member States.
18. The meeting took note of the offers made successively, by the Republic of Mali and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the OIC ministerial conference on women in 2022.
19. The meeting addressed its thanks and gratitude to the Government and people of Burkina Faso for the excellent arrangements for the conference and for their distinct hospitality. The meeting also hailed the professionalism with which the deliberations were conducted, as well as the role played by the OIC Secretary General for the smooth process and successful results of the session.