

Original: English

RESOLUTIONS
ON
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF
FOREIGN MINISTERS
(SESSION OF PEACE, PROGRESS AND HARMONY)

ISLAMABAD, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
28-30 RABIUL THANI 1428H
(15-17 MAY 2007)

OIC/ICFM/34-2007/ECO/RES/FINAL

<i>SL. No.</i>	<i>SUBJECT</i>	<i>PAGE No.</i>
1.	RESOLUTION No. 1/34-E On the Economic Activities Related to the Implementation of the Ten-Year Programme of Action.	1
2.	RESOLUTION No. 2/34-E On the Activities Related to the Implementation of the Decisions of the COMCEC	9
3.	RESOLUTION No. 3/34-E On the Activities Related to Economic Assistance to Member States and Non-OIC Countries and Muslim Communities	17
4.	RESOLUTION No. 4/34-E On the Activities Related to other Ministerial Conferences in the Economic Sectors.	34
5.	RESOLUTION No. 5/34-E On the Activities of the OIC Institutions.	37
6.	RESOLUTION No. 6/34-E On the Establishment of International Zakat Organization.	47
7.	RESOLUTION No. 7/34-E On World Islamic Economic Forum.	48
8.	RESOLUTION No. 8/34-E On Implementation of the decision of the 3 rd Extraordinary OIC Summit held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah in December, 2005 for the establishment of the OIC Poverty Alleviation Fund for the OIC Member States.	49

**RESOLUTION No. 1/34-E
ON THE
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE OIC TEN-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

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

A. Economic Situation of the Member States:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 1/10-E(IS) and 8/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; Resolutions No. 1/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the report of the SESRTCIC on the matter,

1. **Urges** 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.
2. **Underlines** the need to devise ways and means to minimize the adverse effects of the globalization on the economies of the OIC Member States as well as to enable them to harness opportunities provided by globalization.
3. **Calls on the** international community to adopt appropriate measures to ensure that the benefits of globalization are shared by all countries on an equitable basis so as to ensure balanced advantages and obligations of developing countries including OIC Member States.
4. **Recognizes** that the current phase of globalization and restrictive labour mobility are widening the income disparities between the developed and developing countries and that efficient labour migration management is essential for closing down such disparities and reducing the negative impacts of globalization through facilitating the flow of trade, capital, skills and ideas.

5. **Affirms** 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.

B. Economic Problems of the Least Developed and Land-Locked Member States:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 5/10-E(IS), 6/10-E(IS), 7/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolutions No. 2/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by all development partners including OIC General Secretariat and its Institutions;

Having taken note of the report of the SESRTCIC,

6. **Appeals** to the international community, particularly the developed countries, to fully and expeditiously implement the Programme of Action for 2001-2010 adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May, 2001.
7. **Emphasizes** the importance of achieving reductions in the outstanding debt of the Least Developed Countries to sustainable levels through debt-relief measures, in order to help relieve their financial burdens, enhance their credit-worthiness and improve their external financial prospects.
8. **Expresses** its appreciation for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt relief initiative and **calls** for its accelerated implementation in order to enable more eligible countries to benefit from the initiative.
9. **Urges** that the approach in the debt settlement should cover all types of debt, including multilateral debt, and all indebted developing countries, and incorporate measures aimed at a once-and-for all reduction arrangement to reduce their debt burden to a scale that would allow them to resume their economic growth and development.
10. **Thanks** the Initiative of Turkey on African Development Strategy (ADS) aiming to boost the economic and commercial relations between Turkey and African OIC Member States and help develop their economies.

11. **Recognizes** the necessity to respond effectively to the needs of Land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructure and road network and called on the developed countries to provide the necessary assistance to promote trade among the various parties.

C. Economic Problems of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, of the Syrian Citizens in the Occupied Syrian Golan Heights and of the Lebanese Citizens in Occupied South Lebanon and the Western Bekka Formerly Under Occupation:

Recalling Resolution No. 9/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 5/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Believing in the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter aimed at strengthening Islamic solidarity among the Member States, and conforming with mass international will that rejects arbitrary Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territory which lead to deterioration of the economic and social conditions of Arab citizens under the yoke of Israeli occupation, on the one hand, and that supports the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region based on the (Land-for-Peace principle) UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425, 1397, 1402 and 1403 as well as the authority of the Madrid Peace Conference, on the other;

Underlining the unfailing efforts exerted by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to promote the economic structure; and to renovate what was destroyed by the Israeli aggression and in view of the escalation of the illegal and unlawful expansionist settlement policies of the Israeli government, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the occupied Syrian Golan; and also in view of the serious implications of this escalation on the existing difficult economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan;

Expressing extreme concern over the grave economic impacts, resulting from the expansionist settlement policy of the Israeli government, on the difficult living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and those of the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan as well as the Arab people in the occupied Arab territory;

12. **Invites** all concerned bodies to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people to establish their national economy, consolidation of their national institutions and to enable them to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

13. **Calls upon** the international community to intervene to force Israel to release the Palestinian funds being held up by it and estimated at millions of dollars accruing from taxes and tariffs due to the Palestinian authority and levied by the Israeli government.
14. **Calls on** the Member States to continue to make generous contributions to the Al-Quds Fund, the Al-Quds Waqf and Beit Al-Mal of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, particularly in the light of the current conditions in the occupied territories where the infrastructure is being systematically destroyed.
15. **Urges** the private sector and investors of the Member States to undertake the execution of the economic, industrial, agricultural and housing programmes in the territories of the Palestinian National Authority with a view to supporting and strengthening the Palestinian national economy.
16. **Urges** the OIC Member States to carry all necessary actions at the international level to exert pressure on Israel to desist from resorting to imposition of the brutal blockades on the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif which result in extremely painful economic effects on the Palestinian people and raise the level of unemployment among the Palestinians. It also hampers international efforts aimed at realizing development in the occupied Palestinian territory and the territory of the Palestinian National Authority.
17. **Calls on** Member States and the international community to compel Israel to pay the Government of Lebanon reparations for the plight of the Lebanese citizens in Southern Lebanon and the Western Beqaa who suffered Israeli aggressions throughout the occupation that has induced substantial losses and social complications and caused a quasi-permanent paralysis of economic activities in the region.
18. **Calls on** Member States and the international community to extend necessary assistance to the Lebanese citizens in South Lebanon and the Western Beqaa who have been constantly and every day the targets of Israeli aggression throughout the occupation period, thus entailing huge material losses and social hardships leading to a quasi permanent paralysis of the economic activities in the area.

D. Economic and Social Losses for Great Jamahiriya as a Result of the Security Council Resolution Nos. 748/92 and 883/93:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 11/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolutions No. 6/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the various fora of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States and the Non-Aligned Movement;

19. **Reaffirms** the importance of paying due attention to this issue with a view to definitively pay reparations to the Libyan Arab people for the losses they have suffered as a result of the sanctions imposed on them pursuant to Security Council Resolutions No. 748/1992 and 883/1993.

E. Capacity Building for Poverty Alleviation in the OIC Member States:

Recalling Resolution No. 6/10-E (IS) adopted by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also Resolution No. 25/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Welcoming the initiative of Malaysia to establish a Capacity Building Programme in the OIC Countries aimed at poverty alleviation in less developed and low income OIC countries;

Stressing the need to identify projects aimed at strengthening capacity-building in human resources development and the development of infrastructures particularly in the areas of health, education, agriculture, science and technology;

20. **Thanks** the Governments of Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam and the IDB for hosting the series of senior officials meetings of the Steering Committee to Establish a Capacity Building Programme for OIC Countries to consider the Programme's contents and its appropriate mechanism.
21. **Welcomes** the launching of the Capacity-building Programme for OIC countries on 29 March, 2005 in Kuala Lumpur by Dato Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia, with three pilot projects in Bangladesh, Mauritania and Sierra Leone.

22. **Calls on** IDB to expedite the preparation for launching of other projects that have been identified for implementation in the next phases.
23. **Understands** that participation in the Programme is on a voluntary basis and it is not intended to set up any new fund or institutional structure.
24. **Calls upon** the Member States to extend all support to the Programme in the spirit of progress and development of the Islamic Ummah.

F. The World Fund for Solidarity and Poverty Eradication:

Recalling Resolution No. 21/10-P (IS) adopted by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 26/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Referring to Resolution 265/57 adopted by the 57th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on establishing the World Fund for Solidarity and Poverty Eradication;

25. **Extends** thanks to the Republic of Tunisia for its initiative to make a financial donation to the Fund.
26. **Reiterates its call** on OIC Member States to work for ensuring support to the World Fund for Solidarity and Poverty Eradication by contributing to the mobilization of the resources necessary to the launching of its operations and the achievement of its noble objectives.
27. **Calls on** the governments of the OIC Member States to urge the civil society, the private sector and individuals to contribute effectively to financing the Fund as a mechanism for combating poverty in the most needy states.
28. **Calls on** the governments of the OIC Member States to promote in international and regional for a the lofty objectives for which the World Fund for Solidarity and Poverty Eradication has been created and encourage all parties - governmental and non-governmental to contribute to it.

G. Cooperation in Energizing Trade and Investment in Cotton Sector:

Recalling Resolution No. 24/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into account the appeal made by the OIC to the international community to assist the Least-Developed Countries to be progressively integrated into the world economy and to strengthen their capabilities to participate in international trade;

Noting with regret that the policy of subsidy practiced by certain developed countries to support their cotton producers results in the fall of the commodity price of cotton in the international market penalizing the poorest cotton producer countries by drastically reducing their export revenues;

29. **Underlines** the necessity of taking all possible measures within the OIC to support the least-developed cotton-producer countries in their legitimate demand of securing greater added value in the processing of this product.
30. **Express its appreciation** to the Government of the Republic of Turkey, the OIC General Secretariat, the IDB and ICDT for successfully organizing the Second Experts Group Meeting (EGM) on Enhancing Production Efficiency and International Competitiveness in OIC Cotton Producing Countries, held in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on 28-30 March 2006, and the Third EGM on Cotton, held in Antalya, Turkey, on 9-12 October 2006.
31. **Endorses** the Action Plan for OIC Cotton Producing Countries' Cooperation Development Strategy (2007-2011), which was adopted at the Third Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Production Efficiency and International Competitiveness in OIC Cotton Producing Countries, held in Antalya, Turkey, on 9-12 October 2006, and approved by the 22nd Session of the COMCEC.
32. **Urges** the participating OIC Member States to take active part in the timely implementation of the Action Plan.
33. **Requests** the Member States concerned to nominate their focal points for the implementation of the Action Plan.
34. **Invites** the General Secretariat of the OIC, IDB, ICDT, SESRTIC and ICCI to organize, in collaboration with international and regional organizations concerned, an investment forum comprising the OIC cotton producing countries, financial institutions, textile industries, and research centers with a view to working out concrete projects and proposals for the implementation of the OIC Five Year Cotton Programme.

35. **Also requests** the OIC General Secretariat in collaboration with the IDB, SESRTCIC, ICCI and ICDT to monitor the implementation of Action Plan and report on them to the annual sessions of the COMCEC and other OIC fora concerned.
 36. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Turkey to host the Investment Forum in the Cotton Sector in OIC Member Countries, to be held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 10-12 November 2007.
 37. **Recommends** that the cotton sector should be included in the programme of capacity-building of OIC adopted at the initiative of Malaysia.
- 38. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to G to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.**

**RESOLUTION No. 2/34-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE DECISIONS OF THE COMCEC**

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Recalling also the Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among the Member States of the OIC, approved by the Tenth Session of the COMCEC and endorsed by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference.

Noting with appreciation the decision to establish, and to make operational, the Trade Preferential System among the OIC member countries (TPS-OIC) as of January 1st, 2009, taken at the First Meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of The Trade Negotiating Committee on November 24th, 2006, in Istanbul.

Recalling the resolutions adopted at the twenty two previous sessions of the COMCEC initiating effective action in economic cooperation among the Member States;

Also recalling the resolutions of the Ministerial level meetings in different areas of cooperation held under the auspices of the COMCEC;

A. Activities of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC):

Recalling Resolution No. 30/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 16/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also Resolution No. 8/7-E(IS) of the Seventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994) which endorsed the Strategy and the Plan of Action;

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the General Secretariat, subsidiary organs, affiliated and specialized institutions of OIC, working in the field of economy and trade, to implement the resolutions of the COMCEC;

Noting with appreciation that the Strategy for Economic and Commercial Cooperation adopted by the COMCEC allows for cooperation among sub-groups of Member States and is based on the principles giving emphasis to private sector, economic liberalization, integration with the world economy, sanctity of the economic, political, legal and constitutional structures of the Member States and their international obligations;

Appreciating that, starting with its Eleventh Session, COMCEC serves as a platform where the Ministers of Economy of the Member States could exchange views on current world economic issues;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

1. **Stresses** the need for COMCEC to continue to pay utmost attention to coordination and cooperation among Member States with regard to the membership of new countries that wish to join the World Trade Organization, and to the clarification of positions on the new issues and agreements under consideration within the framework of the WTO with a view to strengthening the negotiating position of these countries at the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations especially with respect to the built-in agenda and to the new ones.
2. **Emphasizes** the need to urgently implement the revised Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States the OIC, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the Strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on Follow-up and Implementation.
3. **Invites** 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".
4. **Notes with appreciation** the results of the First Round of the Trade Negotiations held in Antalya, Turkey, from April 2004 to April 2005.
5. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Second Round of Trade Negotiations for establishing the Trade Preferential System among the member states of OIC (TPS-OIC) after hosting successfully and conducting efficiently the first round of trade negotiations.

6. **Welcomes** with appreciation that the Second Round of Trade Negotiations under TPS-OIC has been inaugurated at the First Meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of the Trade Negotiating Committee on November 24th, 2006, in Istanbul in order to demonstrate the political will to establish the Trade Preferential System among the Member States of OIC, and to design a road map for the second round.
7. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Second Meeting of the Second Round of Trade Negotiations for Establishing the Trade Preferential Scheme Among OIC Member States (TPS-OIC) in Ankara, Republic of Turkey, on 27-30 March 2007.
8. **Welcomes** the target date of January 1st, 2009, for establishing and making operational the Trade Preferential System among the member states of OIC (TPS-OIC), as stated in the Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of the Trade Negotiating Committee, and endorses the road map and the political will outlined in the same document.
9. **Endorses** that the prospective Trade Preferential System among the member states of OIC (TPS-OIC) to be established on January 1st, 2009, and its legal instruments, i.e. the Framework Agreement and the PRETAS, are the basis in reaching the 20% intra-OIC trade target set by the Ten-Year Program of Action and in establishing a free trade area among the OIC Member States.
10. **Recommends** that the Second Meeting of the Ministers of Commerce of the Member States of The Trade Negotiating Committee be held on the sidelines of the 23rd COMCEC Session in order to review the work of the Trade Negotiating Committee, sign the outcome of the second round, and evaluate the progress towards a fully operational TPS-OIC.
11. **Expresses its appreciation** to the COMCEC Coordination Office and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade for the excellent performance of their role as the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiating Committee.
12. **Thanks** the Islamic Development Bank for contributing to the financing of the Second Round of the Trade Negotiations launched on November 24th, 2006.
13. **Calls upon** all the OIC Member States to take part in the ongoing trade negotiations, and urges the Member States of the Trade Negotiating Committee to expedite the ratification of the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) as well as the prospective outcome of the second

round in order to achieve the target date of January 1st, 2009, for establishing the Trade Preferential System among the Member States of OIC.

14. **Expresses its deep appreciation** to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the steps it has taken in favour of the ratification of the Framework Agreement on Trade Preferential System (TPS-OIC) and for its declared intention to sign the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS), soon.
15. **Notes with appreciation** that the 23rd Session of the COMCEC will be held from 13-16 November 2007, in Istanbul under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Turkey and calls upon the Member States to effectively and actively participate in the meeting.
16. **The Committee notes with appreciation** the progress report submitted by ICDT on the preparation of the 11th Trade Fair of Islamic Countries to be held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal from 21st to 25th November 2007, **and urges** the OIC Member States to actively participate in this Fair.
17. **Invites** the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of Guinea to confirm the hosting of the 12th and the 13th Trade Fairs of Islamic Countries before the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in order to allow ICDT to organize those fairs as planned.
18. **Thanks** the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Experts Group Meeting on Tourism Development in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 9-11 May 2007.

B. Strengthening the Multilateral Trading System:

Recalling Resolution No. 3/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 3/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling the related decisions of the COMCEC which have the subject on its agenda as a permanent item;

Appreciating the efforts of IDB and ICDT in assisting and appraising the Member States on matters related to WTO.

Recognising that the effective functioning of the multilateral trading system is pivotal in contributing towards enhancing growth and development;

Taking note with appreciation of the reports submitted by SESRTCIC and ICDT;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

19. **Calls** on OIC Member States who have acceded to the WTO to support and facilitate negotiations for the accession of the other Member States which have not yet joined the WTO.
20. **Urges** the WTO and its Member States to:
 - i. **facilitate** the accession of all States to the WTO to ensure its universality in decision-making, emphasize the importance of clarity and transparency of membership procedure, and avoid requiring states wishing to adhere to meet unfair requirements or conditions beyond the commitments of member states with equal status on the development scale;
 - ii. **ensure** that the agenda for further negotiations remains focused, balanced and manageable, taking into account the limited resources and the level of development of many developing countries, in particular the LDCs;
 - iii. **reject** the inclusion of non-trade issues, such as labour and environmental standards, into the work programme of the WTO, given its detrimental effects to the evolution of a just, free and fair trading environment as reiterated by most WTO members;
 - iv. **ensure** the availability of sufficient resources for technical cooperation activities to assist developing countries implement WTO agreements and decisions
 - v. **review** the structure of the decision making process of the WTO to ensure greater transparency of the WTO process and ensuring effective participation of WTO members in this process;
 - vi. **ensure** that technical assistance by WTO shall also contribute to capacity building in developing countries, in particular the LDCs.
21. **Commends** the IDB and ICDT for its sincere efforts in raising awareness among OIC Member States of the wide-ranging impact of the Uruguay Round agreements on their economies, and in reinforcing the capabilities of Member States, including its negotiating capabilities, preparing them fully for the negotiations in the context of the WTO, and calls on IDB and ICDT to continue in this efforts.

22. **Appreciates** also the technical assistance programmes of the Islamic Development Bank to assist Member States which are either members of the WTO or in the process of accession to the Organization.
23. **Requests** IDB and ICDT to continue their efforts and submit periodic reports to the COMCEC and related OIC fora.

C. Promotion of Cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Countries:

Recalling Resolution No. 38/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 22/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting that in the context of current world economic situation the OIC member states require to develop their economic structures and consolidate economic relations among themselves and with other countries by creating the appropriate climate to attract and stabilize investments;

Taking note with appreciation the study prepared by SESRTCIC on the establishment of an Islamic Stock Exchange Union;

24. **Urges Member States** to continue to take the necessary steps to mobilize internal resources in the form of stocks and shares and to facilitate the optimal utilization of such resources in profitable investment projects both in public and private sectors.
25. **Invites Member States** to press on with undertaking the necessary steps to develop their stock markets through appropriate legislations so as to enable their markets to be open to the outside world facilitating the in-flow of capital available in foreign markets, while taking into consideration the economic and monetary interests of these States.
26. **Urges** Member States to make every possible effort to expand the establishment of private companies facilitating wide subscription of shares among large numbers of individuals;
27. **Invites Member States** to set up a comprehensive database on their respective stock exchange and investment regimes and to explore the possibility of concluding regional agreements among themselves to establish links among their stock exchanges;

28. **Notes with appreciation** the creation of a platform for cooperation among the OIC stock exchanges called “Islamic stock exchange forum” as an outcome of the Round Table Meeting on “Promotion of Cooperation among the Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States” and **calls upon** the Member States to inform their Stock Exchanges about the Forum and **invite** them to join it.

D. Establishment of an Islamic Common Market:

Recalling all resolution of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conference, the most recent of which were resolutions No. 36/10-E(IS) and No. 21/33-E;

Also recalling the provision of the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States;

Taking into account that the formation of Islamic Common Market is a long-run process and requires comprehensive studies and at the same time requires its own implementation and follow up arrangements;

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

29. **Emphasizes** also the need to reinforce economic cooperation establishing free trade zones and common markets among the Member States through their regional groupings as a positive stage towards the ultimate goal of creating an Islamic Common Market.
30. **Takes note** of the recommendations contained in the report of the Second Meeting of the Experts Group, in particular setting up of a working group, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 5-6 July 2004.
31. **Requests** the COMCEC to examine the recommendations contained in the report of the experts group meeting, particularly convening the meeting of the relevant working group in 2007.
32. **Requests** the COMCEC to coordinate the efforts and studies undertaken or to be undertaken in this regard by ICDT or the other relevant OIC institutions and centres with a view to taking necessary practical steps to reach the objectives related the establishment of an Islamic Common Market.

33. **Welcomes** the efforts undertaken by the COMCEC for the establishment of the Trade Preferential System among the member states of OIC (TPS-OIC) as of January 1st, 2009, as a very concrete and important step for the liberalization of trade among the OIC member countries as well as the ultimate goal of the Islamic Common Market.

34. **Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to D to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.**

RESOLUTION No. 3/34-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO MEMBER STATES AND NON-OIC COUNTRIES AND MUSLIM
COMMUNITIES

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

A. Economic Assistance to Palestine:

Recalling Resolution No. 25/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 7/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with great interest the efforts by the Palestinian National Authority in Gaza Strip and West Bank to improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people and to reconstruct the Palestinian national economy;

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

1. **Expresses deep concern** at the embargo that has been placed on the Palestinian people for a year, which has brought monumental economic losses and led to increased unemployment and poverty. **Calls on** Member States to urgently break this embargo and provide financial assistance to confront it.
2. **Expresses** its deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Palestinian people and Authority by some Member States and relevant bodies of the OIC; and **calls upon** all Member States to continue their support and assistance for their Palestinian brothers to enable them face the difficult conditions they are passing through due to continuous Israeli aggression.
3. **Commends the** efforts of the Palestinian National Authority in the Palestinian territories to reconstruct what has been destroyed during three consecutive years of Israeli aggression, and **calls upon** the international community, and monetary and economic institutions to come to the aid of the Palestinian people and assist them to rebuild the destruction caused by the Israeli occupation.

4. **Reaffirms** the previous resolutions aimed at extending all forms of moral, material, technical and economic support to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian National Authority; and at giving preference to importation of Palestinian products and exempting them from taxes and custom duties.
5. **Urges** business men and investors in Member States to contribute in executing economic, industrial, agricultural and housing projects in the Palestinian territories in order to build the Palestinian national economy and to support the Palestinian National and institutions in the implementation of the coming phases of their development programmes in the economic, social and health fields.
6. **Urges** Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in view of the obstacles placed by Israel, to facilitate employment opportunities for the Palestinian labour force, in order to enhance the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people and to eradicate unemployment.
7. **Also urges** the Member States to conclude bilateral agreements with the Palestinian National Authority in the economic, commercial and social fields in order to improve the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and **expresses** its deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Palestinian people by some Member States to build their national economy in the self rule regions of West Bank and Gaza Strip.

B. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Lebanon:

Recalling Resolution No. 13/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 8/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling the Israeli aggression on Lebanon in the summer of 2006, its consequent damages and losses of life and property, and its repercussions for the political and economic conditions in Lebanon;

Appreciating the efforts exerted by the Government of Lebanon in order to achieve security and stability, extend its sovereignty, under resolution No. 1701(2006) of the UN Security Council, over its territories, complete the reconstruction process, and provide the needs of Lebanese citizens in the regions hit by the Israeli aggression;

Taking into account the difficulties faced by the Lebanese citizens resident in the regions hit by the Israeli aggression;

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

8. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Member States which promptly provided urgent assistance to Lebanon during the Israeli aggression and **welcomes** the readiness of these countries to continue to provide relief assistance to the victims of the aggression, achieve the reconstruction, and support and develop the Lebanese economy.

9. **Expresses also its appreciation** to the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and its Subsidiary Organs for promptly providing their assistance to Lebanon in the areas of relief of victims and reconstruction, and **welcomes** the Putrajaya Declaration on the Situation in Lebanon, which was adopted on 3/8/2006 by the Special Meeting of the OIC Expanded Executive Meeting at the Ministerial Level.

10. **Hails** the International Conference to support Lebanon (Paris III) held on 25 December 2007, which was graciously hosted by the French Government; the important results reached there, and the paper on the economic and social reform and development programme submitted by the Lebanese Government to modernize and develop the Lebanese economy, strengthen sustainable development growth rates, and improve the living conditions of all Lebanese people; and **expresses its appreciation** of the support pledged for Lebanon by the OIC Member States and specialized funds during the conference (Paris III).

11. **Condemns** the deliberate Israeli assaults on public facilities and infrastructures in Lebanon and **charges Israel with the full responsibility** of this aggression and its consequences. It **charges Israel also with the responsibility** of compensating the Republic of Lebanon and Lebanese citizens for the heavy losses inflicted on the Lebanese economy. It **condemns also** the persistent Israeli refusal to withdraw from parts of the Lebanese territories, including the Shebaa farms, behind the internationally-recognized Lebanese borders.

12. **Condemns also** Israel's refusal to hand over the maps of landmines it planted in the different agricultural and vital areas in the south of Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley as well as its refusal to hand over the maps of cluster bombs it dropped during its aggression in the summer of 2006, which constitute a major threat to the life of citizens and prevent them from going on with their daily lives. It **also condemns** Israel for its continued detention of Lebanese people in its prisons.

13. **Reiterates** previous resolutions on the need to provide all forms of financial, material, and humanitarian assistance to Lebanon in order to meet its economic, technical, and training needs; and **renews its call on** the OIC Member States and all

international and regional organizations to undertake urgent and effective initiatives for the reconstruction of Lebanon in the aftermath of the devastation wreaked by the Israeli occupation.

14. **Encourages** Member States to consider ways and means for trade facilitation for Lebanese products.

C. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Afghanistan:

Recalling Resolution No. 19/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolution No. 9/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Taking into account that Afghanistan is currently faced by serious constraints due to more than two decades of war;

Taking also into account the participation of the Member States and the Secretary General of the OIC in the Donors Conference held in on 21-22 January 2002 in Tokyo; and in March 2004 in Berlin;

Noting that about 70% to 80% of its economic and social infrastructures have been destroyed during the two decades of war;

Bearing in mind the importance of the voluntary and sustainable repatriation and reintegration of the Afghan refugees and displaced people to their homeland and place of origin;

Aware that over 1.5 million Afghans were killed, about 1.5 million disabled and more than 5 million displaced and took refuge in the neighbouring countries. Recognizing that about 10 million mines were planted in different parts of the country, Taking cognizance of the OIC Trust Fund for the assistance of the people of Afghanistan and the commencement of its operation;

Noting also that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan needs critical international support and assistance in its efforts at stabilization and reconstruction of the war-ravaged country;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

15. Calls for a major international effort to provide humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people.

- 16. Urges** the Member States who have pledged to contribute to the OIC Trust Fund for the assistance of the people of Afghanistan to remit their donations and further urges all other Member States to donate to this Fund in order to strengthen its operation and enhance its capacity.
- 17. Urges** the OIC Trust Fund for the assistance of the people of Afghanistan to expeditiously implement its commitment to the people of Afghanistan.
- 18. Urges** Member States, Islamic institutions and international organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and to the internally displaced Afghans as well as to the Afghan refugees in neighbouring countries, particularly the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure their voluntary and sustainable repatriation, reintegration and resettlement in their homeland.
- 19. Appreciates** also the contributions made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Islamic Republic of Iran, State of Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, State of Qatar, United Arab Emirates and other Member States for the reconstruction of Afghanistan. **Further welcomes** the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference held in New Delhi from 18-19 November 2006, for the promotion of the Regional Economic Cooperation among the countries of the region including neighbours of Afghanistan, which preceded by the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference held in Kabul in 2005.

D. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan:

Recalling Resolution No. 21/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 10/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this very critical time of the country's history;

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict;

Deploring the Armenia-backed aggressive separatism instigated in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, followed by aggression and occupation by Armenia of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territories and resulted in violent displacement of almost one million Azerbaijani people from their homes, which, as such, resembles the terrible concept of ethnic cleansing;

Conscious of the fact that economic damage inflicted upon Azerbaijan in its territories currently by Armenia already exceeds US\$ 60 billion;

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

20. Appeals to the Member States, International Community and Islamic Institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the economic and humanitarian assistance with a view of alleviating the suffering of the Azerbaijani people.

21. Calls upon the international organizations to continue to grant humanitarian, financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

E. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Guinea:

Recalling earlier resolutions of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference, 33rd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the 22nd Session of the COMCEC;

Considering the role played by the Republic of Guinea, within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to establish peace and ensure stability in some Member States, victims of armed conflicts;

Considering that the presence of a huge number of refugees from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire constitutes an unbearable burden for the economy of the Republic of Guinea;

Considering the need for the Republic of Guinea to reconstruct its country and ensure the survival of the refugees and their return to their respective countries;

22. Calls urgently the international community and Member States to provide substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Guinea so as to enable it to face this situation created by the aggressions which victimized her and by the presence on its territory of hundred of thousands of refugees most of whom are Muslims.

23. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its assistance to the Republic of Guinea so that it may create the social infrastructures needed for the displaced population and the refugees, and overcome the deterioration of the environment brought about by this massive presence of refugees.

24. Appeals to the international community and the Member States to provide substantial economic and financial support to the programme of reconstruction of refugees' countries of origin to ensure their effective return to their countries.

F. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire:

Recalling Resolution (2/D) adopted by the 22nd Session of the COMCEC;

Considering particularly the decision to create a Special Fund to assist in the reconstruction efforts of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire;

Considering also the role played by the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to establish peace and security in some member countries, and economic stability in the sub-region;

25. Expresses its support and solidarity to the people and government of Cote d'Ivoire;

26. Requests the OIC Secretary General to take appropriate measures required to urgently establish the Special Fund to bring about disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants in the socio-economic fabric as well as enhance post-reconstruction efforts in Cote d'Ivoire;

27. Appeals to the Member States and the international community to provide the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire with substantial financial and economic support to enable it to redress current difficulties faced by the country;

28. Requests the OIC Secretary General to establish as soon as possible the Contact Group on Cote d'Ivoire;

G. Economic Assistance to the Republic of Chad:

Recalling Resolution (2/U) adopted by the 22nd Session of the COMCEC;

Considers the massive presence of refugees on the Chadian territories on the one hand, and the continued situation of the displaced Chadian population who are living under drastically deplorable conditions on the other hand;

Takes note of the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter and the commitment of the member states to the strengthening of international peace and security.

29. Invites Member States, Islamic institutions and the international organizations to extend urgent financial and economic assistance to Chad in order to face the multiple problems of refugees and the displaced who are living on its territory and to implement its socio-economic programs.

30. Appeals to Member States, Islamic institutions and humanitarian organizations to provide the necessary assistance to the population of East Chad.

H. Economic Assistance to Member States Stricken by Drought and Natural Calamities:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 10/10-E (IS), 28/10-E(IS) and 26/10-E (IS) adopted by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference and Resolutions No. 12/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern the grave situation caused by natural disasters, drought and desertification, with their damaging effects on economic and social conditions of the affected countries especially in the sectors of agriculture and food, economic and social infrastructures as well as public services and utilities;

Fully aware that afflicted Member States, belonging as they do to the category of the Least-Developed, cannot by themselves bear the growing burden of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction work;

Recognizing the importance of disaster preparedness and management for mitigating the impacts of natural calamities and the need for continued efforts by the international community to enhance awareness in this regard.

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

a) **The Republic of Djibouti**

Deeply concerned at the recent floods in Djibouti causing an important loss in livestock, as well as serious damage to roads and health establishments thus causing cholera and malaria epidemics;

31. Appeals to the Member States to provide substantial financial and material support to the Republic of Djibouti for the consolidation of peace, the reconstruction of the country and the implementation of its structural adjustment programme.

32. Calls on the Member States to assist the Republic of Djibouti in its struggle against the disastrous consequences of the recent drought at both the social and economic levels.

b) **The Republic of Mozambique**

Appreciating the efforts being made by the Government of Mozambique in the implementation programme for eradication of poverty and for economic development;

Regrets the natural disasters which have taken place recently in Mozambique;

33. Appeals to the Islamic Development Bank, all Islamic Institutions and the International community in general to continue rendering their assistance in order to ensure the socio-economic development of Mozambique.

34. Urges the developed countries to write off the external debt of Mozambique in the light of its current effort to eradication of poverty.

35. Calls upon all Member States to continue their support to the implementation of the programme of reconstruction of Mozambique.

36. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member States and relevant OIC institutions.

37. Urges the international community to render assistance for setting up national, sub-regional, regional and international disaster prevention, preparedness and management mechanisms, including early warning systems.

I. Economic Assistance to Member States Affected by Regional War, Civil Insurgence, or Political Crises:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 13/10-E (IS), 27/10-E (IS), 24/10-(IS), 15/10-E(IS), 16/10-E (IS), 17/10-E (IS), 18/10-E (IS), 22/10-E (IS), 21/10-E (IS) and 20/10-E (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolutions No. 13/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and Resolution No.2 adopted by the 22nd Session of the COMCEC;

Taking into account the objectives and principles of the OIC Charter as well as members' commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of the affected countries at this very critical time of the country's history;

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

a) The Republic of Tajikistan

Deeply concerned at critical situation which Tajikistan has faced in the light of 5 years of bloody civil war resulted in the death, injury spread of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and diarrhoea and displacement of thousands of people as well as destruction of its economic and social infrastructures;

Noting the return of about 200 thousands Tajik refugees to their homeland which necessitates a great financial and technical support;

38. Appeals to all members and Islamic financial institutions to make their generous contributions to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties experienced by Tajikistan either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organisations so as to enable Tajikistan to fulfil its rehabilitation programmes.

39. Urges the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Tajikistan.

b) The Republic of Yemen

Taking into consideration the economic difficulties faced by the Republic of Yemen and the losses incurred in the tourism sector in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001 in New York.

Appreciating the efforts made and success achieved by the Government of the Republic of Yemen in implementing the Economic Reforms Policy and the Fight-Against-Poverty Programme;

Taking into consideration the heavy burdens borne by the Yemeni Government to provide shelter for groups of refugees from neighbouring African countries;

40. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts of Yemeni Government in overcoming its economic difficulties and the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Administrative and Financial Reform and the Fight-Against-Poverty Programme.

41. Reiterates its call to the Member States as well as other international and regional organizations to provide all forms of economic assistance to the Yemeni Government to support its efforts in implementing administrative and financial reform programmes with a view to alleviating the heavy burden resulting from hosting refugees from poor neighbouring states; thanks the states that fulfilled their pledges to donate to the Republic of Yemen at the Donor's Conference in London, at the forefront of which is the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other states of the Gulf Cooperation.

c) The Republic of Somalia

Deeply concerned at the critical situation in Somalia and expressing the desire for early restoration of peace and order in that sister Member country;

Concerned at the adverse economic effects of the serious drought being experienced by the Republic of Somalia;

42. Urges OIC Member States, to provide material and other assistance on an emergency basis to Somalia to end the human suffering in this Muslim country.

d) The Republic of Sierra Leone

Expressing appreciation for the sustained concern and interest of the leaders of the West African Sub-region, for peace to prevail in the Republic of Sierra Leone;

Expressing appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Arab Republic of Egypt and other friendly nations for the donations of food items, clothing and medicines for the refugees and displaced inhabitants of Sierra Leone;

Considering that the armed conflict in Sierra Leone caused considerable damage to life and property and for several years disrupted all economic activities particularly in the Mining, Agriculture and Industrial sectors, resulting in substantial loss of revenue to Government and the private sector;

43. **Appeals** to the Member States and the international community to urgently extend substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Sierra Leone so as to enable its people to undertake the much needed process of rehabilitation, reconstruction and resettlement of returnees and displaced inhabitants of about 1.5 million.
44. **Urges** the OIC Trust Fund for Sierra Leone to continue to facilitate the flow of much-needed financial assistance to Sierra Leone in order to expedite its post-conflict recovery.
45. **Requests** the Secretary-General to use his good offices to accelerate the process of approval for projects already identified for Sierra Leone.

e) **The Republic of Albania**

46. **Expresses** its strong support to the people of Albania beset by major economic difficulties at the present phase of their transition towards a market economy.
47. **Urges** OIC Member States, Islamic Institutions and International Organizations to grant generous economic assistance to Albania so that the Government of Albania may successfully implement its development programme.

f) **The Kyrgyz Republic**

Expressing its understanding of the situation which has arisen in the Kyrgyz Republic after attainment of independence and sovereignty and taking into consideration the economic difficulties of the transitional period to the free market economy;

48. **Appeals** to all Muslims and Islamic financial institutions to be generous and to contribute to the process of overcoming the economic difficulties

experienced by Kyrgyz Republic either on bilateral basis or through multilateral and regional organizations so as to enable Kyrgyz Republic to fulfil its economic programme.

49. Appeals also to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its financial and technical assistance to Kyrgyz Republic.

g) The Republic of Uganda

Aware that the Government of the Republic of Uganda is currently experiencing serious strain on its meagre resources as a result of the presence of refugees from neighbouring countries who flock into the country; and recognizing that Uganda is offering asylum to large numbers of refugees whose number will increase if the state of unrest continues to escalate; and also to assist in alleviating the suffering of the internally displaced people in response to the joint appeal by the World Food Programme and the Government of Uganda.

50. Invites Member States, Islamic institutions and international organizations to grant urgent financial and economic assistance to Uganda so that it may cope with the refugee problems and other related consequences. **Also stresses** the need to enable Uganda to implement its relevant economic and cultural programmes in an urgent and effective manner.

51. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance extended by some Member States and relevant OIC institutions.

h) The Republic of Guinea Bissau

Noting the political and social disorders that have recently erupted in Guinea Bissau and their consequences on the economic activities of the country, namely the loss of agricultural and export products, the mass displacement of the population and the devastation of the basic socio-economic infrastructure, such as schools, dispensaries, hospitals, markets, residential areas, etc;

52. Urges Member States and the International Community to provide Guinea Bissau with urgent aid to facilitate the reintegration of its people in active life.

53. Appeals to Member States and to OIC institutions to participate in the rehabilitation and economic revival programme of Guinea Bissau.

J. Continuous Assistance to the Sahelian Member States

Recalling Resolution No. 23/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Noting with concern the difficult situation of the Sahelian Member States affected by drought;

Expressing its appreciation to the OIC Member States that have contributed to the financing of the first programme of assistance to the Sahelian Member States;

Having also taken note of the special emergency aid programme of US\$50 million which was initiated by the Islamic Development Bank in favour of the Sahelian Member States;

Recalling the Resolution of the 6th Islamic Summit Conference deciding to establish a special OIC/IDB/CILSS Programme for Sahel;

Expressing appreciation for the mission undertaken by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to visit African countries affected by drought, namely Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Gambia, Senegal and Niger during 24-31 March, 2005;

Expresses its appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its continuous support to the Sahelian Member States affected by drought;

54. Calls for the effective implementation of the OIC/IDB/CILSS Programme for the Sahel.

55. Urges Member States, that could do so and that have not yet contributed to this programme and have not initiated a separate programme, to contribute to the financing of the Programme.

56. Reaffirms the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah with the peoples of the Sahel.

K. Economic Assistance to the People of Jammu and Kashmir:

Recalling Resolution No.30/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No.15/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Recalling also previous resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Conference on assistance to the Kashmiri people, particularly Resolution 23/30-E of the Thirtieth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing deep sympathy to the victims, their families and people of Jammu and Kashmir who suffered huge losses of life and socio-economic and environment damage from the massive earthquake that struck South Asian on 8 October 2005;

Expressing gratitude for the assistance, contributions and pledges of the international community, particularly the Member States for the relief and rehabilitation efforts for the earthquake victims, which reflect the spirit of Islamic solidarity and cooperation to meet the challenges of unprecedented natural disasters;

Welcoming the appointment of Ambassador Ezzat Kamel Mufti as Special Representative of OIC Secretary General on Jammu and Kashmir and hoping that this appointment would also facilitate implementation of OICs decision regarding economic assistance to the people of Jammu and Kashmir;

Expressing deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Kashmiris by some Member States and relevant OIC bodies;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General,

57. Appeals to Member States and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, Islamic Development Bank and Charitable Institutions, to grant generous humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people whose plight has been aggravated by the devastating earthquake of October 2005.

58. Encourages the international community, particularly donor countries, international financial institutions and relevant international organizations from the Islamic World to continue to provide necessary funds and assistance to support the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction work, in the affected areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

59. Appeals to Member States to contribute whenever possible to the rehabilitation of people affected by the earthquake disaster in order to facilitate the economic and social well-being since many means of livelihood has been damaged or destroyed.

60. Also appeals to Member States and the Islamic Institutions to grant scholarships to the Kashmiri students in different universities and institutions in the OIC countries.

L. Economic Assistance to Non-OIC Countries and Muslim Communities:

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 14/10-E (IS) and 29/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolutions No. 14/33-E adopted by the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Guided by the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter which lay stress on the common objectives and destiny of the peoples of the Ummah, as well as their commitment to consolidate international peace and security;

Having examined the report of the Secretary General:

(a) **Bosnia and Herzegovina:**

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC expressing full solidarity of the Member States with the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- 61. Appeals** to Member States, Islamic institutions and other donors to make generous donations to enable full implementation of the IDB programme aimed at providing humanitarian assistance to the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the reconstruction of the country and to work for the preservation of the Islamic identity of the Muslim inhabitants of Bosnia.
- 62. Urges upon** the International Community to take efficient measures to ensure the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina and humanitarian assistance relating to return of the refugees and displaced people to their homes by means of OIC Trust Fund for Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 63. Requests** the OIC Member States to direct the biggest part of their assistance for reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the regions inhabited by Muslims of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 64. Commends** the building of several houses and the provision of support to farmers by the Bosnia Reconstruction Fund and thanks the States that have provided assistance to the Fund namely, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Malaysia.

(b) Chechnian People:

Recalling the concerns and support expressed at the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca (Kingdom of Morocco) in December 1994 regarding the situation in Chechnya which has deteriorated again in 1999;

Referring to the call to all Member States made by His Excellency S. Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chairman of the Eighth Islamic Summit for a rapid humanitarian assistance to the people and refugees and displaced people of Chechnya and its readiness to assist in coordination of this effort;

Expressing deep concern over the plight of Muslim refugees and displaced people of Chechnya and humanitarian and material losses resulting from the Chechnya Crisis in 1999;

65. Calls on all Member States, Islamic Philanthropist Institutions and appeals to the international community to urgently provide generous humanitarian assistance to the people and refugees of Chechnya.

66. Recommends to all Member States to encourage their relevant institutions, NGOs and individuals to provide humanitarian assistance for people and refugees of Chechnya.

67. Expresses deep appreciation for the assistance provided by Member States and relevant OIC bodies.

(c) Kosovo

Expressing concerns over the Muslim community in Kosovo;

68. Appeals to the Member States to pay attention to the aggravated economic situation in Kosovo, while this exhausted community is in the delicate moment of independence.

69. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to L to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION No. 4/34-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OTHER
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES IN THE ECONOMIC SECTORS**

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Cooperation in the field of Tourism:

Recalling relevant resolutions of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conference, the most recent of which were resolutions No. 32/10-E (IS) and No. 17/33-E;

Also recalling the provision of the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among Member States in which tourism identified as a priority area for cooperation;

Taking note of the resolutions on “Tourism Development” adopted by the Second Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), held in Kuala Lumpur on October 10-13, 2001; the Third ICTM, held in Riyadh on 6-9 October 2002; the 4th ICTM, held in Dakar, on 28-30 March 2005, and the Fifth ICTM, held in Baku, on 11-12 September 2006.

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

1. **Thanks** the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers in Baku on 9-12 September 2006.
2. **Invites** Member States and OIC Institutions to fully implement the Resolutions and Decisions of the Fifth Session of the ICTM.
3. **Appreciates** the offer of the Syrian Arab Republic to host the Sixth Session of the ICTM in 2008, and invites the Member States to actively participate in the Conference.
4. **Welcomes** the offer of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran to host ministerial-level tourism related events in their countries in 2007 and 2009, respectively.

5. **Taking notes** of the offer made by Brunei Darussalam to host the Seventh Session of the ICTM in 2010.
6. **Thanks** the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Experts Group Meeting on Tourism Development in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 9-11 May 2007.
7. **Notes with appreciation** the offer of the Republic of Azerbaijan to hold the International Scientific Conference on “Role of Tourism in the Economies of OIC Countries” in Baku, on 21-22 June 2007 and **urges** the Member States to take active part at the mentioned event.
8. **Thanks** the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade for its efforts to organize a Tourism Fair, in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in Member States once every two years and **welcomes** in this connection the offers of the Republic of Lebanon, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Syrian Arab Republic and Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Tourism Fairs in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013, respectively and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in the Tourism Fairs.
9. **Calls 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”.
10. **Takes note** of the proposal of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry to organize in future on a regular basis Private Sector Forum on Tourism.
11. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Mali to host the Second Private Sector Forum on Tourism in 2007.
12. **Thanks** the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia’s for hosting and organizing the International Conference on Tourism and Traditional Crafts in Islamic Countries and associated activities, held in Riyadh, from 16 to 23 Shawwal 1427 H (7-14 November 2006), 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).

13. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION No. 5/34-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OIC INSTITUTIONS**

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

A. Activities of the OIC Subsidiary Organs in the field of Economic and Trade:

Recalling Resolution No. 33/10-E(IS) of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling Resolution No. 18/38-E adopted by the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the activities of the Subsidiary Organs of the OIC, namely, the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), Ankara, and the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT), Casablanca;

Having taken note with satisfaction of the activity reports submitted by the representatives of the above-mentioned subsidiary organs;

Expressing its appreciation at the role played by the subsidiary organs in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

1. **Commends** the role which the SESRTCIC and ICDT are playing each in their respective fields.
2. **Lauds** the SESRTCIC and ICDT for the highly instructive technical reports and studies they presented on the most prominent items of the economic agenda of the Commission and encourages them keep on their excellent performance in this respect.
3. **Commends** the SESRTCIC and ICDT for the quality and relevance of the training workshops and seminars they organize on various subjects of current interest to the Member Countries.

4. **Expresses** its appreciation for the usefulness of the statistical publications produced by the SESRTCIC and ICDT, and **calls upon** all Member States to respond to the statistical questionnaires they circulate to them to collect the official and up-to-date information and data.
5. **Takes note with satisfaction** the active contributions made by the SESRTCIC and ICDT to the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action as well as the various resolutions of the COMCEC and various Ministerial Conferences.
6. **Urges** the Member States to actively and effectively participate in the work of these organs and expeditiously respond to the questionnaires circulated by them, and closely follow up their documents and studies so as to achieve maximum benefit from these organs in the area of economic cooperation among the Member States.
7. **Encourages** these organs to intensify contacts with international and regional institutions particularly those working in the framework of the United Nations and others, such as Bretton Woods institutions and to benefit from the studies and reports produced by these institutions.
8. **Urges** the Member States, which have not done so thus far, to settle their regular mandatory contributions to the budgets of these bodies, and to act for the settlement of their arrears, if any, at the earliest in view of the current financial difficulties being faced by these organs.
9. **Notes that** the Member States are to benefit from the special services offered by the subsidiary organs, above and beyond the tasks assigned to them in their work programmes, on a contractual basis.
10. **Calls upon** OIC institutions to participate actively in the Sessional Committee Meetings for consultation on a regular basis concurrently with the annual sessions of the COMCEC and Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, in order to enhance the existing collaboration among OIC institutions, avoid duplication and monitor the progress of the programs assigned to each institution and learn from their respective experiences.
11. **Urges** Member States to consider, when nominating their representatives to the Board of Directors of these organs, persons who are experienced in the activities of the organs, and **expresses** the strong desirability of setting up conditions for selection of such representative to those meetings.

B. Activities of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB):

Recalling Resolutions Nos. 34/10-E(IS), 37/10-E(IS) of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference; and Resolutions No. 19/33-E of the Thirty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken note with appreciation of the report on the activities and operations of the Islamic Development Bank Group;

Noting with satisfaction that the IDB Group continues to expand its field of operation and activity concerning project financing, import and export trade financing, technical assistance, technical cooperation, special assistance, scholarship programme, Islamic research & training, science and technology, capacity building, programme on WTO related activities, cooperation and collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat and its Affiliated Institutions and Organs, cooperation and coordination with regional and international financial institutions, including NDFIs, and other fields of cooperation in the Member States and the Muslim communities in OIC non-member countries;

Noting with appreciation that the IDB has played an active role in the implementation of the OIC Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the Member States as well as the various resolutions of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC);

Also noting with satisfaction that within the framework of its mandate and commitments aimed at meeting the needs of the Member States, the IDB has developed innovative financing instruments, technical and financial assistance programmes, various new schemes, funds and other entities, some of which were initiative under the auspices of the COMCEC for financing of projects in priority sectors and for promotion of Intra-OIC trade;

Having taken note also of the report of the Secretary General in this regard:

12. **Expresses** its satisfaction at the devotion and efficiency with which the IDB President and his staff are running this institution to ensure its good performance, as it continues to make an invaluable contribution for fostering economic development and social progress of member countries and communities.
13. **Commends** the IDB on the steps taken to implement the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held at Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005 concerning: the establishment of the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF), the Increase in the Bank's capital; and the establishment of the ITFC.

14. **Notes with satisfaction** that the 31st Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank held in Kuwait on 30-31 May 2006 witnessed the signing of the Agreement on the establishment of the Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) with a declared capital of US\$3 billion and a subscribed capital of US\$500,000,000.
15. **Appreciates** the signing of the Agreement on the establishment of the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) by 47 Member States, as well as by 6 financial institutions, and **appeals** to the signatory States and the financial institutions to expeditiously ratify the Agreement to benefit from its services and programmes.
16. **Notes with satisfaction** the holding of the First Meeting of the General Assembly of the ITFC on 24th February 2007, which was chaired by H.E Dr. Ibrahim Al-Assaf, Minister of Finance, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the subsequent election of its Board of Directors.
17. **Welcomes** the decision taken by the Board of Governors of the IDB at its 31st meeting (Kuwait, 30-31 May 2006) to achieve a substantial increase in the authorized and subscribed capital of the IDB in accordance with a decision taken at the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Makkah, 7-8 December 2005) and **Invites** the Member States which have not yet done so to subscribe to the second general capital increase of the IDB.
18. **Thanks** the IDB, the OIC Secretary General and the Republic of Senegal for conducting high level missions to OIC member states for resource mobilization for the Fund.
19. **Extends** thanks to the Member States which have announced their contributions to the resources of the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF), with special appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia for the generous contribution of 1 billion US Dollars in favor of this Fund; and the state of Kuwait which has announced a contribution of US\$ 300 million to the Fund and other countries which have contributed to the Fund, and **urges** all the Member States, which have not yet done so, to announce their generous financial contributions in favor of this Fund.
20. **Appeals** to the Member States that have pledged contributions to this Fund to consider increasing their donations to the PRF, according to their financial and economic capacities.

21. **Expresses** its appreciation of the efforts made by the IDB in the related Task Forces on Intra-OIC Trade, Training, Health and Illiteracy Eradication and **urges** the Member States and relevant bodies to combine their efforts with those of the Task Forces concerned.
22. **Welcomes** the decision taken by the IDB's Board of Governors at its 27th Meeting held in Ouagadougou (October 2002) for issuing a Declaration on IDB Group Cooperation with Africa, and **takes notes** that the Declaration reaffirmed the Bank's commitment to the least developed African member countries (LDAMCs), within the framework of New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
23. **Further takes notes** that under this Declaration the Bank has pledged a development assistance financing package for Sub-Saharan member countries of US\$ 2 billion over the 5-year period, starting from 1424H (2003/2004) in areas such as social sector, transport, trade, micro-finance and related capacity building measures; the total utilized amount reached US\$ 1.7 billion (i.e., 85% of the targeted amount) by the end of the Year 1427H (4th Year of the Declaration).
24. **Calls on** the IDB to develop in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat and concerned OIC institutions as well as other development, agencies, a special programme for Africa within the framework of the Poverty Reduction Fund.
25. **Thanks** the IDB for its initiative to provide debt relief to the Member States in the framework of the international initiative to alleviate the debt burden of the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC).
26. **Appreciates** the efforts made by the IDB with respect to the programme to reinforce trade among member states and the IDB's allocation of US\$ 1 billion from its special funds and **urges** Member States and their relevant bodies as well as their private economic actors to take the necessary measures in order to support the efforts of the Bank to secure the necessary additional funds which amount to \$1 billion from the collective murabaha and the two-phased murabaha.
27. **Notes with satisfaction** the efforts taken by the Bank's towards the promotion of Intra-OIC trade, including signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the Government of Malaysia (in its capacity as Chairman of the 10th Session of the Islamic Summit) and Turkey (within the framework of the Turkish Government's Africa Development Strategy launched in 2003).

28. **Thanks** IDB for contributing to the financing of the First Round of the Trade Negotiations and First Meeting of the Second Round within the framework of the Agreement on Trade Preferential System among Islamic Countries.
29. **Appreciates** the technical assistance programmes of the IDB to assist Member States which are either members of the WTO or in the process of accession to the Organization, and the role of the Bank in organizing consultative meetings; and **also appreciates** IDB's efforts in providing technical assistance to enhance the capacity-building of OIC Member States in human resources development and institutional sectors such as organizing trade policy courses, seminars, symposiums and workshops on the main topics and providing specific direct technical assistance to the OIC Member States.
30. **Expresses satisfaction** that the IDB has successfully carried out since 1996 the mandate given by COMCEC in organizing Consultative Meetings for Member States to enable them to exchange views and coordinate their positions on issues of common interest in order to prepare for the WTO ministerial meetings and coordinate their positions regarding the issues raised in the Agenda items.
31. **Expresses** appreciation for efforts of IDB to make arrangements for preparatory meetings prior to WTO ministerial meetings for consultations and exchange of views among Member States, and **commends** IDB's support to Member States in their efforts to effectively participate in multilateral trade negotiations and its continued provision of technical and financial assistance to Member States in the matters related to WTO.
32. **Thanks** the IDB for organizing in Geneva on 25th February 2007, a consultative meeting for exchange of views on the status of the Doha Round on Trade Negotiations, and to discuss possible ways forward.
33. **Expresses** appreciation for IDB efforts to accord preferential treatment to companies and contractors from Member States in the implementation of projects financed by the Bank and calls upon IDB to intensify its efforts in this field.
34. **Expresses its appreciation** for the efforts in the establishment of the World Waqf Foundation, and **urges** the Member States to cooperate with it for advancing the Waqf affairs towards enhancing its economic and social role.
35. **Notes with satisfaction** the efforts of the IDB in providing support to the member states facing natural disasters, drought and desertification, especially in the areas of agriculture and food, rehabilitation, economic and social infrastructures as well as public services and utilities.

36. **Thanks** the IDB for initiating a programme for the development of Cotton and Textiles industries in its member countries, as well as incorporating the cotton issue within its technical assistance programmes on WTO related matters.
37. **Commends** the IDB and the OIC General Secretariat for establishing a joint Inter-organizational Technical Working Group (ITWG) to follow-up the implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held at Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005, and **urges** IDB and OIC General Secretariat to collaborate with other OIC Institutions and Organs to further facilitate the implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action.

C. Activities of the OIC Affiliated Institutions in the field of Economic and Trade Cooperation:

Recalling Resolution No. 35/10-E(IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and Resolution No. 20/33-E of the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having taken note of the activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and the Organization of the Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA);

Expressing its appreciation for the role played by the affiliated institutions in the elaboration and implementation of the Plan of Action to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation Among Member States;

Appreciating the role played by these two institutions in their respective fields of action;

a. Activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).

Having considered the report on the activities of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry,

Appreciating the practical steps taken by the ICCI for the implementation of the OIC 10-Year Program of Action through its Work Plan.

38. **Appreciates** the establishment of International Zakat Foundation on the initiative of the ICCI and inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, H.E Ahmed Abdullah Badawi, on November 28, 2006, and **thanks** those countries who have given their primary consent for the establishment of local Zakat organization branches and **calls on** Member Countries to participate in this Foundation, who have not yet done so.

39. **Appeals** to the Member States for their support and encourages their National Chambers of Commerce and Industry to actively take part in the ICCI projects which are aimed for strengthening economic cooperation.
 40. **Underlines** the importance of the free movement of the business community for the promotion of trade and investment **and notes** ICCI's contacts with some Member States for the Open Visa.
 41. **Appreciates** ICCI for organizing Annual Private Sector Meetings, Workshops, Training Programs and Investment and Tourism Forums aimed at achieving economic and social development, providing technical training, and transfer of technology among the Member Countries in general and African countries in particular.
 42. **Takes note** of the following activities of the ICCI to be organized in 2007 in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat and other relevant OIC Institutions: the 6th Meeting of the OIC Task Force on SMEs, in Malé - Maldives in June 2007; the Workshop on "Marketing and Packaging of Agro-Products", in Republic of Sudan in August/September 2007; the 3rd Forum for Businesswomen in Islamic Countries, in State of Qatar in October/November 2007; the 12th Private Sector Meeting for the Promotion of Trade and Joint Venture Investment among OIC Countries, in Republic of Senegal, in 21-23 November 2007; and the 3rd International Conference on Investment and Privatization in OIC Countries, Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 2007.
 43. **Commends** ICCI efforts for bridging the gap of information by establishing the "ICCI-DataBank"; providing technical training to the member chambers for National SME Development Programs; and organizing training programs in the core areas of marketing, production, ICT and human resources management.
 44. **Expresses its appreciation** for the pioneering role played by the ICCI with the support of IDB for the socio-economic empowerment of women by organizing annual Businesswomen Forums, workshops and training programs, and **takes note** of the establishment of a Networking Portal (www.oic-bin.net), and **calls upon** ICCI, IDB and other relevant OIC Institutions and Organs to pursue their efforts in providing networking facility for the businesswomen of the Member Countries.
- b. Activities of the Organization of Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA).**
45. **Expresses** thanks to the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for extending consistent support to the Islamic Shipowners' Association, giving donations and hosting its Headquarters.

46. **Also expresses thanks** to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for allowing the setting up of the Headquarters of the Bakkah Shipping Company (BASCO) in Jeddah.
47. **Thanks** the Government of Dubai (State of the United Arab Emirates) for hosting the 28th Joint Meeting of the Executive Committee and the 30th Meeting of the General Assembly in Dubai, for registering the Bakkah Shipping Company without intermediary or local sponsor, for giving the company 100% ownership right, for providing it with a free piece of land at a convenient location, and for registering the branch of the Islamic Protection and Indemnity Club (a non-profit insurance company) in Dubai.
48. **Welcomes** 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.
49. **Appreciates** the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for extending its support to the Islamic P&I Club enabling it to operate and offering adequate coverage within the Iranian jurisdiction with the minimum legal restriction.
50. **Commends** the initiative of the OISA Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees of the Asian P&I Club (Asian Protection and Indemnity Club) and the Iranian Shipping Companies, especially the National Iranian Tanker Company for their joint efforts and contributions in having the Asian P&I Club to be under the umbrella of the Islamic Shipowners Association.
51. **Invites** Member States and their maritime companies to register their ships with the Islamic P&I in Qeshm Island in Islamic Republic of Iran, in order the Club meet the level of the existing International P&I Clubs and also to encourage the treatment of the ships under cover of the Club on equal footing with national ships at the Member States seaports; and **urges** all the ports authorities of the Member States to cooperate and offer all supports and facilities to the acceptance of Islamic P&I Club covers ad certificate of entries issued by the Club, and **further urges** the insurance companies in the Member States to facilitate all kind of services to Islamic P&I Cub in accordance with support of the Club covers.
52. **Welcomes** the creation of the Cooperative Information System at the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA) in Jeddah to serve the shipping companies in OIC Member States.
53. **Urges** the Member States, which have not yet done so, to sign the Statute of the Islamic Shipowners' Association.

54. **Appeals** to the Member States to continue to extend their support and assistance to the OISA.

55. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to C to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6/34-E
ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ZAKAT ORGANIZATION**

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recognizing the significance of Zakat as a tool to reduce poverty among Muslims;

Reaffirms the importance of Muslim countries to cooperate in fighting poverty;

Recalling paragraph 100 of the Final Communiqué of the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on 23-25 Jamadul Awwal 1427H (19-21 June 2006), which calls among others for establishing the World Zakat Authority,

1. **Expresses** its thanks to the Government of Malaysia for organizing in collaboration with Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry the International Zakat Conference in Kuala Lumpur on 28 November 2006, as a step towards the establishment of the International Zakat Organization.
2. **Takes note** that the Malaysian authorities are working on finalizing the format of the establishment of the International Zakat Organization.
3. **Requests the Secretary General to follow up the progress on the establishment of the International Zakat Organization and seek the views of Member States and the International Islamic Fiqh Academy.**

RESOLUTION NO. 7/34-E
ON
WORLD ISLAMIC ECONOMIC FORUM

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the provision of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action to face the challenges of the Twenty-first Century adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al Mukarramah, which called upon Member States to implement the related Chapters of the Plan of Action for Strengthening Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States;

Realizing the need for Government and business leaders as well as eminent thinkers to meet and discuss ideas, brainstorm issues and develop solutions for the betterment of the world in general and the Muslim business community in particular;

Taking note that Malaysia had initiated the World Islamic Economic Forum which had convened twice in 2005 and 2006 in Malaysia and Pakistan, respectively,

1. **Commends the efforts** by private sector in the Islamic World for the establishment of the World Islamic Economic Forum Foundation which seeks to promote business partnerships and economic cooperation among Muslim entrepreneurs and companies within and beyond the OIC Member States as well as to promote understanding and dialogues between Muslims and non-Muslims.
2. **Expresses its appreciation** to the Government of Malaysia for its generous offer in hosting the Third World Islamic Economic Forum in Kuala Lumpur from 27 to 29 May 2007 and **calls upon** all OIC Member States to participate in the Forum.
3. **Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.**

RESOLUTION NO. 8/34-E
ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION OF THE 3RD EXTRA-ORDINARY OIC
SUMMIT HELD IN MAKKAH AL-MUKARRAMAH IN DECEMBER, 2005 FOR
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OIC POVERTY ALLEVIATION FUND FOR
THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Thirty-fourth 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 Rabiul Thani 1428H (15-17 May 2007),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Recalling that the creation of the Fund stems from the wish of the Kings and Heads of State and Government to enhance and consolidate the brotherly ties existing among OIC Member States on the one hand and, on the other hand, to show to the outside world OIC capacity to meet the challenges and issues it is facing.

Having considered (i) the Decision of the 3rd Extraordinary Summit of the OIC held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah (Saudi Arabia) in December 2005; (ii) the Decision of the Board of Governors of the IDB at its 31st Annual Meeting held in the State of Kuwait in May 2006; and (iii) the Progress Report on the Establishment of the Fund as submitted by the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC)—hereby:

1. **Comments** Member States who announced their contributions to the OIC Poverty Alleviation Fund, including Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with US\$ 1 Billion, State of Kuwait with US\$ 300 Million and other member countries.
2. **Urges** the other OIC Member States that have not announced their financial contributions to the Fund to do so expeditiously to enable the Fund commence operations at the soonest possible. They may also utilize the opportunity of the coming Annual Meeting of the IDB B.O.G. to be held in Dakar, Senegal to announce their contribution in the Special Session which will be chaired by H.E. the President of Senegal to launch the Fund.
3. **Calls upon** the OIC General Secretariat and the IDB to vigorously pursue the resource mobilization drive.

- 4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Thirty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.**
