

**RESOLUTIONS ON INFORMATION AFFAIRS
ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC
CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS**

**(SESSION ON HARMONY OF RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND
JUSTICE)**

**BAKU, REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
23 – 25 JUMADA AL-AWWAL 1427H 19-21 JUNE, 2006**

**RESOLUTION No. 1/33-INF
ON THE ROLE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION IN
PROMOTING THE JUST CAUSES AND IMAGE OF ISLAM**

The Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Harmony of Rights, Freedoms and Justice), held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from 23 to 25 Jumada Awal, 1427H (19-21 June 2006),

Recalling Resolutions No. 69/9-P (IS) and No. 1/10-INF (IS) on COMIAC adopted by the Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the Islamic Summit Conference respectively, which approved the resolutions of the Sixth and Seventh Sessions of COMIAC;

Recalling Resolution No. 1/32-INF adopted by the 32nd Session of the ICFM held in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, from 21 to 23 Jumadal Awal 1426H (23-30 June 2005) on the Role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of Islam;

Considering all the resolutions of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee issued from the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 19-20 Jumad Al Akhir 1426H (10-11 March 2005);

Commending the views and measures proposed by the Secretary-General to introduce new dynamism to activate the information and communication sector so that it may conduct some media activities with a view to tackling anti-Islam and anti-Muslim campaigns in various Western media, and his efforts during his visits within and outside Islamic States to highlight the deep concern of Member

States about the hate campaign against Islam and Muslims and citizens of Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the pretext of fighting terrorism;

Emphasizing that the dangers of such media campaigns are further exacerbated by certain political quarters which openly discriminate against Muslim communities or citizens of OIC Member States;

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the role of information and communication in promoting the just causes and image of Islam, through updating the mechanisms of the information strategy and of the Islamic States' Information Plan,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to highlight, through his activities and visits, the deep concern of Member States over the smear campaigns waged by some media organs around the world to tarnish the image of Islam, and the rising phenomenon of Islamophobia in the world, generally.

3. Calls again on Member States—according to their respective means—to contribute the resources of the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC) which is aimed at upgrading the media of countries in need of such modernization so that these media can assume their role in promoting the just causes of the Islamic Ummah by allocating funds to finance projects submitted by information institutions, particularly those approved for funding by the 6th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) and its Ministerial Follow-up Committee.

4. Requests the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), at its Fifty-second Session, to consider extending financial assistance to projects submitted under the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication (PIDIC) to upgrade the Islamic media, particularly the two projects submitted by Sierra Leone and Mali respectively, in pursuance of Resolution No. 3/6-ICIM adopted by the Sixth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

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

RESOLUTION No. 2/33-INF

ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED INFORMATION INSTITUTIONS:

- **THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY (IINA), AND**
- **THE ISLAMIC STATES BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION (ISBO)**

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The Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Harmony of Rights, Freedoms and Justice), held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from 23 to 25 Jumada Awal, 1427H (19-21 June 2006),

Having considered the substance of the Ten-year Programme to meet the challenges facing the Islamic Ummah in the 21st century, as approved by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December 2005;

Having considered the preliminary Report of the OIC Secretary-General on the Role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of the Islamic Ummah and Projecting the True Image of Islam, and his report on the OIC institutions specialized in the field of information, and the Report of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO);

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Taking note with satisfaction of the Resolution of the Seventh Session of COMIAC, which calls for the need to support IINA and ISBO as a specialized institutions and as mechanisms entrusted with implementing joint Islamic information action programs;

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Having noted with satisfaction the achievements recorded by the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) in the service of Islamic dawa, the spreading of Arab League, the exchange of programmes and defense of Islamic causes;

Having Considered the efforts of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) to extend and diversify the scope of their activities on current events in the Islamic world by publishing press reports and promoting programme exchanges between Member States — despite the financial, technical, and human resource difficulties they are facing;

- **Expressing its deep concern over** the lack of commitment of some Member States to paying their contributions to IINA and ISBO's budgets;

- **Having noted** the resolutions of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee issued from the 6th Session of COMIAC held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 19-20 Jumad Al Awal 1426H (25 and 26 July 2005),

- **1. Requests** the Secretary General to prepare a study and evaluation of the current status of the Islamic Information Work Mechanisms of the OIC, particularly ISBO and IINA, in accordance with the stipulations of article 7 of the Ten-year Programme issued by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference, with the understanding that the said report and evaluation would be submitted for the consideration of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

- **2. Reiterates its call** to the Member States to settle their annual contributions and arrears to IINA and ISBO's budgets to enable them to fulfill their responsibilities, pending the completion of the study and assessment relevant to them.

3. Calls on ISBO to coordinate and cooperate with the Radio and TV Broadcasting institutions in the Member States to ensure the early convening of the 2nd Edition of the Islamic Meeting of Radio and television programmes Producers.

4. Calls on ISBO to intensify and diversify programme exchanges among the Member States and to publish the Islamic States' "Television Production Guide" in collaboration with them.

5. Calls on the Secretary General of ISBO and the Director-General of IINA to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 3/33-INF

ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION, SOCIETY HELD IN TUNISIA IN 2005

The Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Harmony of Rights, Freedoms and Justice), held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from 23 to 25 Jumada Awal, 1427H (19-21 June 2006),

Referring to the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 56th and 57th Sessions on the holding of a World Summit on the Information Society in two stages: Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005 and to resolution No. 4/10-INF (IS) adopted by the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the World Summit on the Information Society and the participation in the Second Phase (Tunis 2005);

Recalling the relevant Resolutions adopted by the various Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, particularly the one issued by the 32nd Session held in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen on 21-25 Jumada Al Awwal 1426H (28-30 June 2005);

Recalling also the provisions of the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference, particularly with regard to Member States' support to the Digital Solidarity Fund and participation in the campaign to bridge the digital divide;

Recalling further Resolution No.4/6-ICFM issued by the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-25 March

2003) on the Information Society as well as the recommendations adopted on the subject by the Ministerial Follow-up Committee issued from the Sixth ICFM held in Cairo on 25-26 July, 2005;

Recalling also the resolution adopted by the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly resolution on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society hosted by Tunisia from 16 to 18 November 2005, which represents an integral part of the United Nations comprehensive follow-up process of its economic and social conferences in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

1. **Calls upon** all Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to work together in order to benefit from the important approach derived from the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society to participate in building a balanced and equitable information society which responds to the aspirations of the Islamic peoples and achieves regional and international partnership through involvement in knowledge society.

2. **Calls again upon** all Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to urge and sensitize various constituents of the international community, including Governments, the private sector and the civil society at national, regional and international levels to follow-up the implementation of the "Tunis Commitment" and "Tunis Agenda" adopted by the Tunis phase of the Summit in order to close the digital divide between the advanced world and the developing world and support the cause of development in Islamic States.

3. **Reaffirms** the central role of the private sector and the civil society in developing ideas and evolving practical solutions to bridge the digital divide and urges all governmental and civil parties in the Member States to contribute efficiently in order to implement the orientations and themes of the Tunis Summit.

4. **Notes with satisfaction** the commencement of the work of the Digital Solidarity Fund on 14 March 2005 through the initiative of H.E. President Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal

and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), meant to collect financial means in order to bridge the huge digital divide between the North and the South, and requests Member States to support this initiative by contributing voluntarily to the Digital Solidarity Fund to enable it perform the role for which it was established.

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