RESOLUTIONS

ON

INFORMATION AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE

THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

OF THE

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF

FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF

INTEGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT)

SANA'A -REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
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<u>23 JUMADA AL-AWWAL 1426H</u> 28-30 JUNE, 2005

OIC/ICFM-32/2005/INF/RES/Final

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RESOLUTION No. 1/32-INF ON THE

ROLE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION IN PROMOTING THE JUST CAUSES AND IMAGE OF ISLAM

The Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers ((Session of Integration and Development), held in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, from 21-23 Jumada Al Awwal 1426H (28-30 June, 2005),

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. 1/31-INF adopted by the 31st Session of the ICFM held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from 26 to 28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004) on the Role of Information and Communication in Promoting the Just Causes of Islam;

<u>Considering</u> all the resolutions of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003);

<u>Commending</u> 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;

<u>Having considered</u> 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. <u>Condemns</u> anew the persistent and erroneous linkage between Islam and terrorism, such as changing the designation of "war against terrorists" to that of "war against Islamists" in some Western print, audio-visual, and electronic media; and **calls again on** the Member States to undertake information activities to counter these propaganda.

- **Requests** the Secretary-General to highlight, through his activities and visits, the concern of Member States over the propaganda waged by some media organs around the world to distort the image of Islam and Muslims.
- **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.
- **Requests** the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), at its Fifty-first Session, to extend 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. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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RESOLUTION No. 2/32-INF ON THE

ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED INFORMATION INSTITUTIONS:

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

The Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Integration and Development), held in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, from 21-23 Jumada Al-Awwal 1426H (28-30 June, 2005),

<u>Having considered</u> the 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);

<u>Taking note with satisfaction of</u> 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;

<u>Having noted with satisfaction</u> 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 defence of Islamic causes;

<u>Having Considered</u> the efforts of the International Islamic News Agency (IINA) se agencies to extend and diversify the scope of its activities by publishing books and bulletins on current events in the Islamic world, or by publishing journalistic reports and investigations on Member States—despite the financial, technical, and journalism-related difficulties facing them through regular reporting on their website: www.islamicnews.org;

<u>Expressing its deep concern over</u> the lack of commitment of some Member States to paying their contributions to IINA and ISBO's budgets;

<u>Having noted</u> the resolutions of the 6th Session of COMIAC held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10 and 11 March 2003),

1. <u>Reiterates its calls</u> to the Member States to pay their annual contributions and arrears to IINA and ISBO's budgets to enable them to fulfill their responsibilities.

- 2. <u>Urges</u> Member States to support IINA through the following:
 - 2.1 By providing it with staff in editorial and technical fields to enable it to achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information;
 - **2.2 By** supplying it with news and information on Islamic activities and development programs.
 - 2.3 By enriching its daily newsletters published on the Internet.
 - **2.4** By urging national agencies and radio and television networks to benefit from IINA's newscasts.
- **Renews** its calls on radio and television establishments in Member States to coordinate and cooperate with the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization to ensure a successful holding of the 2nd Edition of the Islamic Meeting of Radio and television programmes Producers.
- 4. <u>Calls</u> on ISBO to publish the Islamic States' "Television Production Guide" in collaboration with them.
- **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. 3/32-INF ON THE MEMBER STATES' PARTICIPATION IN STAGE II OF THE WORLD SUMMIT OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY IN THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA IN 2005

The Thirty-second Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Integration and Development), held in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, from 21-23 Jumada Al-Awwal 1426H (28-30 June, 2005),

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 Resolution No.75/28-P adopted by the 28th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Bamako, Republic of Mali, on 25-27 June 2001 as well as Resolution No. 6/29-INF of the 29th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Khartoum, Republic of Sudan, on 14-16 Rabiul Thani 1423H (25-27 June 2002), and Resolution No. 6/30-INF adopted by the 30th Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 27-29 Rabiul Awwal 1424H (28-30 May 2003) and resolution 6/31 adopted by the 31st Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey from 26-28 Rabiul Thani 1425H (14-16 June 2004);

<u>Recalling also</u> Resolution No. 3/7-INF (COMIAC) of the 7th Session of COMIAC held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 14-15 Shawwal 1423H (18-19 December 2002);

Recalling further Resolution No. 4/6-ICIM issued by the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003) on the Information Society;

<u>Underlining</u> the importance of Stage II of the World Summit on the Information Society, which is to be held in Tunis (on 16-18 November 2005) and the importance of integrating the two phases of this Summit as interrelated stages in the examination of optimal ways to bridge the digital divide between the developing countries and industrial ones, given the impact of the information society on economic, social, and cultural development;

- 1. <u>Invites</u> again all the OIC Member States to participate actively in the preparatory work for the second stage of this Summit in order to ensure that its proceedings will be crowned with an effective partnership plan to establish a balanced and shared information society.
- 2. <u>Affirms</u> the importance of the General Secretariat's continued coordination among OIC Member States in order to make good preparation for and participate extensively and efficiently in the preparatory work for the Tunis Summit.
- 3. <u>Urges</u> the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the 6th ICIM to prepare, at its next meeting at the end of July 2005, a vision of an information society charter, and a plan of action to be presented on behalf of Member States at the second phase of the World Summit on Information Society (Tunis, 16-18 November 2005). Delegations of this Committee's members should include experts in new ICTS and internet systems.
- 4. <u>Affirms</u> the pivotal role played by the private sector and civil society in formulating visions and developing practical resolutions in order to bridge the digital divide, and **urges** all governmental and civil parties in the Member States to contribute actively in defining the trends and axes of the Tunis Summit.
- 5. Notes with satisfaction the launching on 14 March 2005 of the "Digital Solidarity Fund", through the initiative of H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal and the Chairman of the Sanding Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC), to collect financial means to close the wide digital gap between the North and the South, pending the proposal of appropriate solutions by the UN Secretary General to the World Summit on Information scheduled in November 2005 in Tunis, and requests Member States to support this initiative through voluntary donations to the "Digital Solidarity Fund" to enable it carry out the task for which it was established.
- **6.** Calls on the OIC Member States to make the Tunis Summit a significant stage in the construction of a balanced and equitable information society, and to work to crown their proceedings with a declaration with a practical content and a solidarity dimension, as well as with practicable mechanisms and tools that would achieve a real international and regional digital partnership capable of strengthening the noble goals of the Millennium Declaration.

7. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the Thirty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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