

OIC/ACM-2012/SL/REP Annex IV

REPORT OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP MEETING ON SIERRA LEONE

SUBMITTED TO THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF THE OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS

UN HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

28 September 2012

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The OIC Contact Group on Sierra Leone met at the Ministerial level on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting of the OIC Foreign Ministers in New York on 25 September 2012 and reviewed the latest situation in the country.

- 1. The meeting commended the efforts being deployed by the OIC General Secretariat in giving a high profile to the causes of Sierra Leone.
- 2. The meeting urged all Member States to provide diligent humanitarian, including financial and material assistance, to the people of Sierra Leone following the cholera outbreak which has sadly claimed over 200 lives, and welcomed the initiatives taken by the OIC General Secretariat to that end.
- 3. The meeting expressed concern about the dire financial situation of the Sierra Leone Trust Fund and commended the actions undertaken by the OIC General Secretariat to salvage it, and expressed its gratitude to the Government of the State of Qatar which has decided to extend a meaningful administrative and financial support to all OIC Funds by putting them under one secretariat based in Doha.

- 4. The meeting requested all Member States to support the Sierra Leone Trust Fund so as to alleviate the suffering of Sierra Leoneans who are still recovering from the aftermath of a long and bloody civil war which eroded the very social fabric of the country and its infrastructure.
- 5. The meeting urged all Sierra Leone's political leaders and people to continue shunning violence and political intolerance, and to develop a national culture of peace, dialogue and participation ahead of the next Presidential elections scheduled for November 2012.
- 6. The meeting acknowledged the important progress made by Sierra Leone in the areas of infrastructural development, education and agriculture under the able leadership of H.E. President Ernest Bai Koroma, and invited all OIC Member States and their private sector to extend further economic and financial assistance to Sierra Leone.
- 7. The meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to all member States and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the financial support extended to the OIC Trust Fund for Sierra Leone, since its inception, and requested a detailed report on its activities.