

OIC/ICIM-9/2012-DEC/FINAL

LIBREVILLE DECLARATION

**THE NINTH SESSION OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF
INFORMATION MINISTERS
(ICIM)**

*(SESSION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES
IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT)*

**LIBREVILLE, REPUBLIC OF GABON
19-20 APRIL 2012
(27-28 JUMADA AL-AWAL 1433H)**

**THE NINTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF
INFOMATION MINISTRS (ICIM)**

**LIBREVILLE, REPUBLIC OF GABON
(19-20 April 2012/27-28 JUMADA AL-AWAL 1433H)**

LIBREVILLE DECLARATION

The Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, assembled in its Ninth Session (Session of Information Technologies in the Service of Peace and Development) at the city of Libreville, Republic of Gabon, on 19-20 April 2012/27-28 Jumada Al-Awal 1433H;

Recognizing the scale of the challenges facing the Muslim world, most notably in the field of information, challenges which must be confronted with responsibility and competence to secure to the peoples of the Member States and Muslim communities their rightful place in a world marked by accelerating developments in the political, cultural, and technological fields and the existence of a wide variety of advanced media;

Well aware of the vital and far-reaching role of information, if properly used, as an effective tool in promoting the advancement of nations and in keeping track of the developmental changes and of the projects of modernization, reform and good governance in the Islamic world;

Convinced of the importance of the played by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and its programs aimed at rehabilitating and upgrading its information system;

Considering that information in all its forms is now one of the most remarkable tools shaping local, regional, and international opinion instantly and effectively;

Conscious of the ever-increasing dangers of the hostile campaigns waged against Islam and Muslims by various international media seeking to tarnish the true image of the sublime religion which is founded on balance, moderation and tolerance;

Mindful of the importance of conveying the civilizational message of the Islamic Ummah built as it is on values , virtue, dialogue and coexistence in an environment of justice, security and stability;

Guided by the principle of consolidating joint Islamic action among the Member States of the OIC particularly in the field of information, and of its constant support for the Palestinian cause and Al-Quds in international forums;

Taking into consideration the resolutions contained in the Final Communiqué of the Ninth Session of Information Ministers calling for the promotion of joint Islamic action in the field of information and for enhancing the presence of the OIC on the information scene;

The Islamic Conference of Information Ministers:

1. **Expresses** its appreciation of the distinct role played by the mass media in the Member States of the OIC in denouncing the wanton Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and Israel's attempts to persevere in executing its plans for judaizing the City of Al-Quds, and of continuing to highlight the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people and to support the establishment of an independent state with Al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital, and to end the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, **calling** on it to support all the efforts made to achieve the national unity of the Palestinian people;
2. **Considers** that development and technological progress in the Member States require the efforts of all parties concerned and that attempts should be made to acquire the most recent information technologies, in a climate of peace and stability, so as to enable the Member States to secure a place in the knowledge and information society, which requires that all requirements be met to achieve this goal;
3. **Stresses** the need to stand up through the media to all kinds of fanaticism, racism and hatred, wherever they come from, in consideration of the important role information can play in supporting democracy, human rights and the principles of good governance and accountability and acceptance of others, which requires the Member States to invest substantially in the development of their information systems infrastructure, including the establishment of a satellite news channel within the framework of the OIC which will enable it to contribute to this role;
4. **Highlights** the role played by Islamic information in facing the media campaigns which attempt to the desecrate Islamic sanctuaries and symbols and spread hatred and discrimination among Muslims, mixing Islam, violence, and terrorism, and supports the role of the representations of the OIC abroad and its press offices, most notably in the West, in dealing with this unhealthy phenomenon, and the contribution of the OIC journalists Forum in this regard, once it has been established;
5. **Commends** the constant efforts and initiatives of the OIC Secretary General and his contacts with the mass media in the Islamic world and outside it contributing thereby to give the Islamic voice a prominent position on the international scene and in international forums; in this connection, supports the reforms currently under way in the OIC information system, calling for their completion in accordance with the new vision of the OIC to enable the system to acquire the effectiveness and efficiency needed, and provide further support for the information department at the OIC in serving the causes of the Islamic world;
6. **Calls** for increased coordination within the OIC information system so as to give a comprehensive image of joint Islamic action, and stresses in this connection, the need to

publicize the program on the African continent to bring out the position of the continent and its role in the Islamic world; the program is expected to be completed during the chairmanship of the Ninth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers by the Gabonese Republic;

7. **Calls** for making information in the Member States an instrument at the service of truth reflecting the genuine concerns and preoccupations of the peoples of the Member States, showing the highest degree of professionalism and objectivity in reporting events and dealing with economic, social and cultural issues with responsibility and impartiality, in a climate of multiplicity of views and diversity of opinion and openness on contemporary living while holding fast to the traditional values of the Ummah and making sure that freedom is enjoyed with a high sense of responsibility.

Libreville – Republic of Gabon
20 April, 2012