

**Resolution No .2/1-S**  
**on**  
**Encouraging National Family Social Support Centres for Refugees**

*The First OIC Ministerial Conference on Social Development, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 7-9 December 2019 (10-12 Rabi al-akhir 1441 A.H.) on the theme "Social Equality and Welfare for all in the Member States: Opportunities and Challenges";*

**Recalling** the Article 1 of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which sets two objectives of the Organization as to promote and to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the preservation of Islamic family values, and to emphasize, protect, and promote the role of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society;

**Recalling** the Final Communiqué adopted by the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 14-15 April 2016 in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey underlining the need to promote coordination and joint action with the non-governmental organizations, active in the field of family in the Member States;

**Recalling** the Final Communiqué adopted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 31 May 2019 in Mecca, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia welcoming the development and implementation of the OIC Strategy for Empowerment of Marriage and Family Institution and Preservation of its Values in the Muslim World;

**Recalling** the Resolution 1/1-F on Developing the OIC Strategy for Empowerment of Marriage and Family Institution and Preservation of its Values in the Muslim World, adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Marriage and Family Institution and Preservation of its Values in the Muslim World held on 8-9 February 2017, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

**Recalling** the Resolution No. 1/46-ICHAD on the Humanitarian Activities of the OIC, which calls upon humanitarian stakeholders in Member States to develop and strengthen comprehensive refugee response policies, which seek to explore opportunities that benefit both refugees and the communities that host them, and bridge the gap between humanitarian and development interventions;

**Referring** to the priority area of the OIC 2025: Programme of Action on Advancement and Empowerment of Women, Family Welfare, and Social Security, which encourages policies for promotion of family and development of effective and reliable social services for family;

**Welcoming** the adoption of the “OIC Strategy to Empower the Marriage and Family Institution and Preserving its Values in the Muslim World”;

**Recalling** the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants in 2016 and the Global Compact on Refugees in 2018 by the United Nations General Assembly;

**Taking note of** Resolution (A/HRC/26/11) of the UN Human Rights Council on the “Protection of the Family” and other UNHRC resolutions on the matter;

**Acknowledging** the role of family as the natural, elementary and fundamental social unit in modern societies and particularly its traditionally central role in Muslim societies;

**Desirous of** increasing national family support institutions and programmes in the Member States and **expressing its appreciation** to the Republic of Turkey for its efforts in establishing a diversified portfolio of national institutions and programmes including Family Support Centres, Social Solidarity Centres, Social Service Centres, and Family Social Support Programme;

**Welcoming** the efforts of the host Member States to provide protection, access to shelter, delivery of food and other basic services for the displaced and refugee people, **recognizing** that the refugee hosting countries have been disproportionately shouldering a large portion of the burden of providing assistance and protection to millions of refugees;

1. **Recommends** that the willing refugee-hosting member states consider the possibility of establishing family social support centres to provide essential social, educational and psychological services to refugee families in refugee-hosting member states, in line with their national legislation and international commitments.
2. **Requests** the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to consider the possibility of developing and supporting projects for the establishment of centres, in coordination with willing member states.
3. **Requests** the Secretary General to notify this resolution to the relevant OIC institutions.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

### **On the Draft Resolution on Promotion of National Family Social Support Centers for Refugees**

**(Submitted to the First OIC Ministerial Conference on Social Development)**

1. The preservation of Islamic family values and the role of the family are among the objectives of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, whereas the central role of the family is under threat of contemporary challenges and trends. The refugee families, in addition to these challenges and trends, have to face social hurdles, adaptation barriers and problems in access to basic services. The returning refugees' challenges to their host countries continue in many other respects in terms of reintegration, employment and cohesion and they still need special assistance.
2. Accounting % 61,5 of those displaced and % 67 of the refugees globally, the OIC Member States are particularly in urgent need to develop new policies and mechanisms to address the problems of the refugee families. The refugee families need and deserve special support for their livelihoods, cohesion and development.
3. The OIC in its Resolution No. 1/46-ICHAD on the Humanitarian Activities of the OIC has already underscored the need to develop and strengthen comprehensive refugee response policies. The family in light of its traditional central role must be given particular emphasis in these policies.
4. The "OIC Strategy to Empower the Marriage and Family Institution and Preserving its Values in the Muslim World", with this understanding, has already highlighted, among its strategic areas of cooperation, the provision of support to migrant and refugee families. Under this strategic area, the Strategy envisages to provide them with the necessary needs and services such as financial, health care, education, social care, family counselling and guidance.
5. The OIC Member States have already introduced some mechanisms and services for the refugee families. Among them are success stories and best practices, which are needed to be adapted in refugee response programs. With a view to supplementing and institutionalizing these efforts of the host Member States and disseminating these best practices at the OIC level, the Family Social Support Services are proposed to be established, at national level by relevant governments with the support of Member States and OIC institutions.
6. The Resolution aims at providing a framework and direction to this goal at OIC level as a policy.
7. The Centers would mainly provide essential social, educational and psychological services to refugee families in refugee-hosting Member States and refugee returnees in the Member States of their original residence.