



**SECRETARY-GENERAL'S DRAFT REPORT**

**ON THE**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS ISSUED BY THE SEVENTH SESSION**

**OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN**

**DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEMBER STATES**

**SUBMITTED TO THE**

**EIGHTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN,**

**CAIRO, ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**

**JULY 6-8, 2021**

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RESOLUTIONS ISSUED BY THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL  
CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEMBER  
STATES SUBMITTED TO THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL  
CONFERENCE ON WOMEN,  
CAIRO, ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, JULY 6-8, 2021**

**FIRST: INTRODUCTION**

1. The Seventh Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in Development in the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on November 30 - December 01, 2018, under the slogan: "**Women Empowerment in the Member States: Challenges and Prospects**," and issued eighteen resolutions:

No.	Subject
1.	Resolution No. 1/7-W on Development of Palestinian Women
2.	Resolution No. 2/7-W on Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education for Women
3.	Resolution No. 3/7-W on OIC Awards on Women Achievement
4.	Resolution No. 4/7-W on Joint Action to Support and Empower Refugee and Displaced Women
5.	Resolution No. 5/7-W on Initiatives and Activities on Women Advancement and Women Role Promotion under the Republic of Turkey's Chairship of the Sixth Islamic Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in Development in the Member States
6.	Resolution No. 6/7-W on Principles and Procedures to be applied to the OIC Award on Women Achievement
7.	Resolution No.7/7-W on Guidelines for Preparing, Drafting, and Submitting Progress Reports on Implementing OPAAW
8.	Resolution No.8/7-W on Women Consultative Council to the Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in Developing in the OIC Member States
9.	Resolution No.9/7-W on Women's Role in Conflict Resolution and Social Peace Promotion
10.	Resolution No.10/7-W on Popularizing the Family Bank within the OIC Member States
11.	Resolution No.11/7-W on Establishing a Permanent Market to Support Jordanian Women's Products and Ensure their Economic Empowerment
12.	Resolution No. 12/7-W on Changing the Name of the Ministerial Conference to "OIC Ministerial Conference on Women"
13.	Resolution No. 13/7-W on Women's Political Empowerment and Women's Leadership Role Promotion
14.	Resolution No. 14/7-W on Women's Economic Empowerment
15.	Resolution No. 15/7-W on the Social Empowerment of Women
16.	Resolution No. 16/7-W on the Protection of Women

17.	Resolution No.17/7-W on Establishing a Group of Work to Prepare the Draft Internal Regulations of the Organization for Women Advancement
18.	Resolution No.18/7-W on "The Venue and Date of the Eighth Ministerial Conference on Women"

2. Under Resolution No. 4/46-CUL issued at its forty-sixth session held on March 01-02, 2019 in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, and Resolution No. 47/47-CUL issued at its forty-seventh session held on November 27-28, 2020 in Niamey, Republic of Niger, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) welcomed the resolutions issued by the Seventh Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in Development in the Member States hosted by Burkina Faso on December 30-November 01, 2018 in Ouagadougou and called for their implementation.

**Second: Activities carried out by the General Secretariat in coordination with the relevant OIC's organs and institutions to follow up on the implementation of those resolutions:**

3. The General Secretariat has taken steps to follow up on the implementation of the resolutions issued by the Seventh Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in development in the Member States. This report includes the activities carried out by the General Secretariat in coordination with the relevant organs and institutions to follow up on the implementation of the said resolutions issued in December 2018.

**Resolution No. 1/7-Won Development of Palestinian Women**

4. The Department contacted the OIC's office in Ramallah to shed light on the issues faced by Palestinian women in the media. As a result, it was agreed to hold a cultural festival and an exhibition of Palestinian handicrafts and food products in Germany. Still, the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic and the repercussions imposed on travel prevented this. Nevertheless, coordination with the concerned authorities in Palestine is underway to hold the event in parallel with bilateral consultations between the General Secretariat and Germany after the global health conditions become stable.

**Resolution No. 2/7-W on Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education for Women**

5. The General Secretariat periodically issued press releases on the International Day for Women and Girls in Science on February 11 and the International Day for Young Women in Information and Communication Technology on April 26. It urged the Member States to take legislative and executive measures to provide STEM programs for women to bridge the gap between women's education and labor market requirements and cooperate and coordinate their policies and programs in this field. The General Secretariat also launched an electronic platform on the OIC's website to publish pictures of some model girls in science and technology from some Member States for a month to intensify efforts to promote and encourage the participation of girls and women in the fields of information and communication technology to motivate them to pursue educational attainment and work in the STEM fields.
6. On the other hand, the General Secretariat, in coordination with COMSTECH, organized a virtual symposium on strengthening STEM teaching for women and girls on September

10, 2020, in coordination with Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in Development in the Member States, with the participation of senior officials from the ministries of women in the Member States and experts from the relevant OIC's organs and institutions, especially the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Islamic Development Bank.

**Resolution No. 4/7-W on Joint Action to Support and Empower Refugee and Displaced Women**

7. As part of its endeavors to follow up on the implementation of the resolution above and achieve the goals in the OIC's appropriate action plan and strategies, especially in light of the social and economic repercussions of the Corona pandemic, the Directorate General of Cultural, Social, and Family Affairs has prepared a project on empowering women in places of refuge and displacement in the least developed and the neediest Member States, especially in Sudan, which hosts a large number of refugees from neighboring countries and displaced people due to internal conflicts, Jordan due to the number of Syrian and Palestinian refugees, and Burkina Faso, which has an increase in the number of displaced people due to the terrorist attacks in the north and east of the country, in addition to hosting refugees from neighboring Mali. The General Secretariat presented the project to the IsDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to request support for its financing. The ISF expressed its willingness to contribute to its implementation. The General Secretariat coordinates with the ISF to implement the project in coordination with the concerned countries.

**Resolution No. 6/7-W on Principles and Procedures to be applied to the OIC Award on Women Achievement**

8. The Women Advisory Council (WAC), as the selection committee for the award, chose the topic "Innovative Initiatives to Empower Rural Women" as the theme for the award's second session. The General Secretariat circulated the nomination form and criteria for the award to the Member States and received nine (9) nominations: two for the Asian group (Azerbaijan and Pakistan), three (3) for the African group (Burkina Faso, Chad, and Nigeria), and four (4) for the African group (Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Tunisia, and Sudan).
9. The WAC examined the nomination files at its sixth meeting held on December 14-15, 2020. Per the criteria set out in this resolution and in the concept paper on the award adopted by the Permanent Representative's Committee (PRC), the WAC came up with the following nominations for the award at its second session:
  - Center for Research, Studies, Documentation, and Information on Women, Republic of Tunisia, for the Arab Group.
  - Association for the Advancement of Rural Women in Gao, Burkina Faso, for the African group.
  - Ms. Shamim Chol Kashmir, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for the Asian group.
  - The Palestinian Monetary Fund (State of Palestine).

10. The Member States received a report on the WAC's meeting and the shortlist of proposed candidates. However, considering the lack of financial resources at the General Secretariat because of the economic and social repercussions of the Corona pandemic on the Member States and the measures imposed on travel to confront its outbreak, the award has been postponed to the next Ministerial Conference for Women.

#### **Resolution No.7/7-W on Guidelines for Preparing, Drafting, and Submitting Progress Reports on Implementing OPAAW**

11. In coordination with SESRIC, the General Secretariat held a training course on the use of guidelines for preparing, drafting, and reporting on the implementation of the OPAAW on September 17-18, 2019, in Ankara at SESRIC headquarters with the participation of national institutions concerned with women's empowerment in the Member States and experts from the OIC's relevant organs. In addition, the General Secretariat is working with SESRIC for the Member States to fill out the survey form so that SESRIC can use the results and national reports to prepare the OIC's Report on Women and Development for the year 2020, which would include a comprehensive review of the progress made by the Member States in implementing the OPAAW and in field of women's empowerment.
12. The General Secretariat received national reports on the implementation of the OPAAW from many Member States. In coordination with Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Session of the Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in Development in the Member States, it held a coordination meeting with the WAC and the relevant OIC's organs and institutions on December 15, 2020, to study ways to form a steering committee to review those reports and present them to the Eighth Ministerial Conference for Women. Given the financial obligations that will result from the WAC's work, the meeting recommended that the issue be studied by the meeting of senior officials preparatory to the ministerial meeting in preparation for a decision regarding the committee's formation by the conference.

#### **Resolution No.8/7-W on Women Consultative Council to the Ministerial Conference on Women's Role in Developing in the OIC Member States**

13. The WAC held its fourth, fifth, and sixth meetings, respectively, on May 12, 2019, November 3-4, 2019, and December 14-15, 2020 (virtually) at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in the presence of the Minister of Women of Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Women. In addition, the WAC also held a virtual meeting via Zoom in June 2020 on the repercussions of the coronavirus pandemic on women and girls in the Member States, in the presence of the Minister of Women of Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Women, who issued a statement in this regard.
14. The Member States received reports on those meetings.

#### **Resolution No.9/7-W on Women's Role in Conflict Resolution and Social Peace Promotion**

15. The General Secretariat, in coordination with the WAC, held an interactive virtual symposium on "The Role of Women in Promoting Peace and Security," with the participation of experts from the OIC's three geographical groups, as part of a series of

cultural activities, on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The participants in the symposium presented their contributions regarding Resolution 1325 Issued by the UN Security Council on the engagement of women in the promotion of peace and security.

#### **Resolution No.10/7-W on Popularizing the Family Bank within the OIC Member States**

16. The resolution called on the Member States and the relevant OIC's organs and institutions, particularly the IsDB, the ISESCO, and the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT), to support the initiative of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (ICCCA), in cooperation with the General Secretariat, to popularize the experience of the family bank in the OIC's Member States, especially in the five Sahel countries. As part of the follow-up to the implementation of the resolution, the General Secretariat, in coordination with the ICCCA, held two workshops to promote the concept of a family bank in the OIC's Member States of the Group of Five for the Sahel and Sahara, the first on January 19-20, 2020 at the headquarters of the General Secretariat. The second was held virtually in June 2020 with the participation of experts from the countries of the group and the relevant OIC's organs and institutions, the Family Bank in Sudan and the regional office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Bahrain, and the presence of Minister of Women in Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Women, and national committees have been formed in the five countries. The General Secretariat works with these committees in coordination with the ICCCA, the IsDB, and the ISF to implement the project in the five Sahel countries.

17. The Member States and the OIC's relevant organs and institutions received reports on the two meetings.

#### **Resolution No. 13/7-W on Women's Political Empowerment and Women's Leadership Role Promotion; Resolution No. 14/7-W on Women's Economic Empowerment; Resolution No. 15/7-W on the Social Empowerment of Women**

18. On June 17, 2019, the Arab Republic of Egypt hosted in Cairo a round table on empowering women in the Islamic world with the participation of several ministers of women in the Member States and representatives from the United Nations Women and the African Union. The participants discussed issues of economic, social, and political empowerment for women.

19. The Member States received a report on the outcome of the meeting.

#### **Resolution No.17/7-W on Establishing a Group of Work to Prepare the Draft Internal Regulations of the Organization for Women Advancement**

20. The General Secretariat, in coordination with the Arab Republic of Egypt, the headquarters country of the Women Development Organization (WDO), and Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Women, held the meetings of the temporary open-ended working group to prepare the WDO's internal and administrative regulations: the first on June 16, 2019, in Cairo and the second on January 12-13, 2020 at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah, with the participation of many OIC's Member States. The meetings reviewed and approved the WDO's draft internal regulations. The

participants also discussed ways to prepare a draft of the administrative and financial regulations and personnel regulations.

21. The WDO's Statute entered into force on July 31, 2021, with the ratification of fifteen countries. In coordination with the Arab Republic of Egypt, the General Secretariat held the first session of the WDO's Ministerial Council on October 21-22, 2020. It adopted the WDO's rules of procedure and modus operandi prepared by the temporary working group. The Council also decided to establish two open-ended committees to formulate the WDO's financial and administrative regulations.
22. The meetings of the two open-ended committees to draft the WDO's financial and administrative regulations were held virtually on March 2-3 and March 9-10, 2021. They considered the draft WDO's internal financial and accounting regulations, which considered the OIC's financial and accounting regulations and similar specialized.
23. The first extraordinary session of the WDO's Ministerial Council was held virtually on March 24, 2021. The meeting adopted the criteria for the nomination of the WDO's Executive Directress. Also, it approved the draft financial and administrative regulations that were drawn up in the meetings of the two working groups is at the expert level.
24. The General Secretariat received comments from the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and the State of Kuwait on the report on the extraordinary meeting of the WDO's Ministerial Council, and the Egyptian side was provided with these comments in its capacity as the chair of the current session of the Council.
25. The OIC's Secretary-General signed a memorandum of understanding with UN Women on the sidelines of the seventy-second session of the United Nations General Assembly, and a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to enhance consultation and promoting cooperation between the OIC and those bodies on issues of common interest and implement the most important recommendations of the Beijing Conference, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals until 2030, the OPAAW, the OIC's Program of Action 2025, and the resolutions of the Ministerial Conference on Women. The General Secretariat, the WAC, the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC), and many of the relevant OIC's organs take part at the annual meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, during which the General Secretariat reviews the OIC's efforts in empowering women and advancing their status in the Member States.