



OIC/CFM-49/2023/IPHRC/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTION

ON

**MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE WORK OF THE
OIC INDEPENDENT PERMANENT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**ADOPTED BY THE
49TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS**

(MODERATION: KEY TO SECURITY AND STABILITY)

NOUAKCHOTT, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

**16-17 MARCH 2023
(24 - 25 SHABAAN 1444H)**

**RESOLUTION No. 1/49-IPHRC
ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE WORK OF THE
OIC INDEPENDENT PERMANENT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

The Forty-Ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Moderation: Key to Security and Stability) held in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on 16 – 17 March 2023 (24-25 Shaaban 1444H).

Recalling articles 5 and 15 of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation unanimously adopted by the 11th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held at Dakar, Republic of Senegal on 13-14 March 2008;

Recalling resolution 2/38-LEG, which adopted the statute of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC);

Recalling resolution 2/39-LEG, which endorsed the Rules of Procedure of IPHRC;

Recalling resolution 1/41-IPHRC, which decided to establish the IPHRC Headquarters in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA);

Recalling final communiqué of the 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 14-15 April 2016, which reaffirmed the Member States' full support to the Commission to enable it to function in accordance with the mandate as provided in its Statute;

Cognizant of the importance of promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, rule of law, democracy and accountability in Member States, in accordance with the OIC Charter and the Ten-Year Program of Action (TYPOA) 2015-2025;

1. **Taking note** of the report of the Secretary General included in Document No. OIC/CFM-49/2023/IPHRC/SG-Rep;
2. **Requests** the IPHRC to continue its work towards fulfilling its objectives as stipulated in its Statute and to continue providing the CFM with its expert advisory opinion on all human rights issues of concern / interest to the OIC;
3. **Takes note** of the reports of the 19th & 20th IPHRC Regular Sessions which include Outcome Documents on the topics of (a) 'The Role of NHRIs in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the OIC Countries'; and (b) 'Right to Family Life: Islamic and Human Rights Perspectives to Counter Challenges to the Institution of Marriage' as contained in document Nos. OIC/ IPHRC-19/2022 Rep. Final and OIC/ IPHRC-20/2022 Rep. Final respectively;
4. **Also takes note** of the detailed deliberations and their outcomes that took place within IPHRC's four Working Groups on: Palestine; Rights of Women and of the Child; Islamophobia and Muslim minorities; Right to Development; and the Standing

Mechanism on monitoring human rights situation in the Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IOJK);

5. **Recalls** comprehensive report of the OIC-IPHRC field visit to Palestine in 2016, which included first-hand information on appalling human rights violations against innocent Palestinians, witnessed during the visit. **Urges** the Member States and the General Secretariat to incorporate relevant recommendations of this report in their Al-Quds policy. **Further Urges** the Commission to continue to engage with the General Secretariat, relevant Palestinian Authorities, UN Special Procedures, UN United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) to gather information on human rights violations committed by the Israel occupying power and accordingly issue press statements and reports and support humanitarian actions; and **requests** the Al-Quds Department of the OIC General Secretariat to closely coordinate with the Commission to facilitate their second visit to Palestine including Gaza, as soon as possible;
6. **Further recalls** the comprehensive report of OIC-IPHRC field visit to Rohingya Refugee Camps in Bangladesh in 2018, which provided first-hand information on the human rights violations committed by the Myanmar authorities with concrete recommendations to different stakeholders to alleviate the sufferings and ensure the rights of Rohingya Muslims at all levels. **Urges** the Member States and the General Secretariat to incorporate relevant recommendations of this report in their efforts to protect and promote the human rights of the Rohingya Muslims as well as to raise the issue at all relevant forums. **Appreciates** contributions of the IPHRC to the OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability and Justice for Rohingya and requests it to continue to assist the Committee in the ongoing legal case in the International Court of Justice. Also **requests** the Commission to continue to sensitize the international community on human rights and humanitarian aspects of the prevailing Rohingya Muslims crisis, including intensifying cooperation with the UN Special Envoy on Myanmar and Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to establish humanitarian corridor to alleviate the sufferings of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar and those in refugee camps in the neighboring countries.
7. **Further recalls** the Second visit of the OIC-IPHRC to the State of Azad Jammu and Kashmir from 4-8th August 2021 to investigate and report upon the allegations of human rights violations and assess the current human rights and humanitarian situation in the IOJK, particularly after the illegal and unilateral Indian actions of stripping the IOJK of its constitutional protections and imposing communication blockade. **Took note** of the comprehensive 2nd fact finding report on the human rights situation in the IOJK, which provides useful updates on its earlier Report of March 2017; endorses its recommendations and urges the Member States and the General Secretariat to take necessary measures for their implementation. Also, **requests** OIC-IPHRC to continue to impress upon the Indian Government to provide access to the OIC-IPHRC fact finding visit to objectively report on the human rights situation in IOJK.
8. **Further recalls** the findings of the report of the OIC-IPHRC fact-finding visit to Azerbaijan from 23-25 September 2021 to investigate the allegations of the

widespread human rights violations of socio-cultural and religious rights by Armenia against the Azeri population in the previously occupied territories of Nagorno Karabagh. While endorsing the recommendations contained in the said report, urges the Member States and General Secretariat to raise the matter with relevant authorities in coordination with OIC Missions in Geneva and New York to implement the recommendations of the report.

9. **Regrets** the worsening human rights situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) where the Muslim minority continue to face serious violations of their human rights. Urges the Commission to: (a) report on the human rights and humanitarian crisis in CAR and work with the IsDB, Islamic Solidarity Fund and other multilateral agencies to establish a humanitarian corridor to provide relief to the population; (b) work closely with the OIC General Secretariat for second fact finding visit to CAR to carry out an evaluation of the human rights situation.
10. **Urges** the Commission to continue to collaborate with UN and international entities to prevent negative stereotyping of religions and religious personalities as well as corresponding incitement to hatred, discrimination and violence based on one's religion; To this end, encourages: (a) meaningful participation of OIC-IPHRC in relevant meetings of the Istanbul process and encourages it to continue to actively participate in these meetings; (b) holding of Symposium/Dialogue on tolerance and peaceful coexistence among religions, in coordination with the General Secretariat, as earlier agreed in 5th Annual Coordination Meeting of the OIC Institutions of General Secretariat on 4-5 December 2019;
11. **Acknowledges** successful holding of the 8th IPHRC Annual International Seminar on 'Islamic Perspectives on Protection of Refugees: Rights and Access to Education' in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 5-6 October 2022 and welcomes its comprehensive Outcome Document that contains useful recommendations on the subject. **Urges** the Commission to coordinate with the General Secretariat, Islamic Development Bank and other multilateral development institutions to realize the right to education of the refugees. **Also urges** to coordinate with the OIC Groups in New York and Geneva to disseminate the recommendations of the Seminar to all relevant UN offices and mechanisms.
12. **Welcomes** the signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) of technical Cooperation with the NHRIs of Azerbaijan, Malaysia and Uzbekistan in order to strengthen the cooperation between the Commission and two institutions in various areas of mutual interest.
13. **Appreciates** the valuable contributions made by the OIC-PHRC to finalize '*The Cairo Declaration of the OIC on Human Rights (CDOHR)*' and urges the General Secretariat to organize a high-profile event to launch/showcase the CDOHR to the international human rights community;
14. **Further acknowledges and appreciates** the Commission's valuable work to review and finalize a revised text of the '*OIC Covenant on the Rights of the Child in Islam*' in accordance with the universal human rights standards on the Rights of the child.

Also **requests** the Secretary General to expedite the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the subject to finalize the revised text entitled “**OIC Convention on the Rights of the Child**”, prepared by the IPHRC, for consideration by the next CFM;

15. **Further Appreciates** the Commission’s activities in the year 2022, which included participation in the: (i) Baku Conference of Ombudsmen and NHRIs organized under the theme: ‘*Role of Ombudsman and NHRIs in addressing Business and Human Rights*’ on 19-20 October 2022 in Baku to integrate role of NHRIs and Ombudspersons to work with businesses in protecting and promoting human rights, ensuring corporate accountability against business malpractices; (ii) ‘*Regional meeting for the Middle East on the International Decade for People of African Descent*’ held in Geneva on 31 October-01 November 2022; (iii) *EU-OIC Technical Workshop on Eliminating Gender Based Violence* on 7th December 2022 which highlighted human rights and Islamic perspective in eliminating the violence against women and other traditional harmful practices; (iv) International Workshop of Regional Human Rights Mechanisms on the theme of Business and Human Rights held in Geneva on 18-19 October 2022 which stressed the need to effectively implement the UN guidelines in conflict areas to avoid exploitation of the people in these vulnerable situations by the businesses; (v) Global Forum on Human Rights Education held in Samarkand on 5-6 December 2022, on the invitation of the National Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights;
16. **Urges** the Commission to work with the General Secretariat to create an ‘*OIC Child and Family Protection Core Group*’ at the UN, both in NY and Geneva, to proactively advocate pro-family policies and reinforce well established universal human rights, including by developing series of HRC Family Protection Resolutions in Geneva, maintaining voting consensus within OIC Member States, proposing family oriented Universal Periodic Review recommendations, celebration of the International Day of Families on 15 May and organizing UN side events in partnership with like-minded countries and NGOs to counter the SOGI agenda;
17. **Further Urges** the Commission to (a) conclude the Method of Interaction with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and Civil Society/Community Based Organizations (CBO) that defines the scope of possible collaboration between OIC-IPHRC and any of the interested and accredited NGO/CBO of the OIC Member and Observer States; (b) formulate OIC-IPHRC Strategic Plan of Action with specific goals and deliverables to provide a road map in line with the human rights objectives and principles of the OIC Charter and OIC TYPOA-2025;
18. **Takes note** of the studies adopted by the Commission during its 20th Regular Session held in December 2022 titled: (a) ‘*Protecting the rights of children during armed conflicts from an Islamic perspective*’; and b) ‘*Right to Development from IPHRC perspective*’, identifying challenges and suggesting a way forward;
19. **Urges** Member States and relevant OIC Organs, including IsDB, to take full advantage of the Commission’s advisory expertise, including by enhancing

interaction and exploring avenues for developing joint projects and cooperation; as well as to support the work and activities of OIC-IPHRC;

20. **Encourages** OIC-IPHRC to establish cooperation with the parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States with a view to strengthening and enhancement of the promotion and protection of human rights in Member States in consistence with the Charter of the OIC and the Statute of IPHRC;
21. **Welcomes** the election of the nine Members of the Commission (Annex-1) held during the 49th Session of CFM, for a period of three years starting from February 2024;
22. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government of KSA for its continued support to the IPHRC Secretariat in Jeddah, and for its provision of required logistics and services. Also **requests** all Member States to continue to extend their support to the OIC-IPHRC enabling it to conduct its mandated tasks and activities with optimum facilitation;
23. **Expresses** its thanks to the Secretary General for his valuable efforts to facilitate the work of OIC-IPHRC and requests him to continue extending support to the Commission from the General Secretariat to enable OIC-IPHRC to carry out its mandate in an organized and efficient manner;
24. **Requests** further the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this Resolution and to submit a report thereon to the 50th Session of the CFM.

Annex-1

Election of Nine Members of the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) for a Period of Three Years

The Forty-Ninth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, (Moderation: Key to Security and Stability), held in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on 25-26 Shaban 1444. (Corresponding to 16-17 March 2023), proceeded to the election of nine Members of IPHRC for a term of three (3) years, starting from February 2024, pursuant to Article 3 of the IPHRC Statute as well as Rule 4 and 66 of the IPHRC Rules of Procedure.

The outcome of the election is the following:

African Group:

- Mr. Aboudou Ramanou Ali (Republic of Benin)
- Dr. Oumar Abou ABBA (Republic of Cameroon)
- Mr. Saidou Dogon Guida (Republic of Niger)

Arab Group:

- Dr. Arwa Hassan Al-Sayed (Kingdom of Bahrain)
- Amb. Dr. Mahy Hassan Abdellatif (Arab Republic of Egypt)
- Amb. Omer Ahmad AlBerzinji (Republic of Iraq)

Asian Group:

- Ms. Sheepa Hafiza (People's Republic of Bangladesh)
- Amb. Forouzandeh Vadiati (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Dr. Hacı Ali Açıkgül (Republic of Türkiye)