

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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RESOLUTIONS
ON
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF
FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF ENHANCING ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY)

DAMASCUS, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
(28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H)
(23-25 MAY 2009)

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RESOLUTION No. 1/36-E
ON THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE OIC TEN-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming all previous resolutions of the Islamic Summit Conference (ISC) and the Islamic Council of Foreign Affairs (ICFM) on the Economic Activities related to the Implementation of the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action;

Having taken note of the SESRIC and IDB reports on the Matter;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the matters;

A. ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE MEMBER STATES:

1. **Emphasizes** that further efforts should be made by the member countries to decrease their vulnerability to the adverse shocks in the world economy through, *inter alia*, creating an environment more conducive for sustainable development, pursuing more coherent and practical development strategies and enhancing sectoral diversification and structural reforms with the active participation of the private sector, maximising the complementarities between their economies, increasing the volume of intra-trade and investments, improving the quality and increasing the value-added of their products and rapidly developing the required conditions for attracting larger and continued flows of foreign investment.

2. **Underlines** the necessity of making use of the potential benefits associated with the collaboration and cooperation of the OIC member countries in their efforts to mitigate the expected negative impacts of the ongoing global financial crisis on their economies, particularly the efforts of the central banks, ministries of finance and banking regulation bodies through designing and implementing timely economic policies to hinder the adverse impacts of economic recessions and unemployment, and **commends** the efforts of COMCEC and SESRIC to organise, in collaboration with the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, a Meeting of the Heads of the Central Banks of the Member States on 3rd October 2009 to discuss possible means and ways of cooperation with a view to strengthening economies of the Member States in the face of the global financial crises.

3. **Emphasizes** the need for alleviating the effects of fluctuating food prices on the most vulnerable population, particularly in the low-income food-deficit member countries through various direct transfers under concerted actions within the OIC Member States in cooperation with the national governments, NGOs, and international organisations while implementing

appropriate policies or programmes to support agricultural development in the OIC member countries.

4. **Expresses** concern at the adverse impact of the global financial and economic crisis on the economies of OIC Member States and **calls upon** the international community, specially the international financial institutions to help OIC Member States face the challenges posed by the crisis in an efficient manner.

5. **Commends** the Arab Economic, Development and Social Summit held in the State of Kuwait on 19-20 January 2009 and its outcomes which contribute to supporting and helping the national workforce in Arab States, in particular the establishment of a fund aiming at supporting and financing small and medium-sized projects with a capital of US\$ 2 billion, and the declaration of the State of Kuwait to make a donation of US\$ 500 million to the Fund.

6. **Entrusts** the OIC General Secretariat and the SESRIC to continue to monitor the world economic developments and their implications for the OIC Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the Islamic Commission.

B. ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND LAND-LOCKED MEMBER STATES:

7. **Emphasizes** that further efforts should be made by both the international community and the least-developed countries themselves towards the achievement of the MDGs through, *inter alia*, providing the necessary financial and technical assistance and support to mitigate the vulnerability of their economies to the fluctuations in the world economy and increasing their involvement and benefit from the services and programmes provided by the international financial institutions and other multilateral development organisations.

8. **Underlines** that further efforts should be made by both the OIC Institutions and the Member States, particularly the least-developed members towards the implementation of the recommendations of the 1st Meeting of the OIC Task Force on the ways and means of implementing the UN Programme of Action for 2001-2010 in respect of the OIC least-developed countries, which was held in Jeddah in March 2006; and **calls upon** the said Task Force to convene in the nearest convenient date to discuss and deliberate on the possible ways and means of supporting the efforts of the OIC least-developed member countries towards achieving the MDGs.

9. **Notes** that infrastructure development contributes to the economic growth by reducing production costs, contributing to the diversification of the economy and opening up corridors of development in Land Locked areas; and **appreciates** the efforts of the General Secretariat of OIC to speedily implement the OIC Dakar/Port-Sudan Railways Lines to enhance the transport system of concerned Member States into the World Economy.

10. **Hails** the decision of the Kingdom of Morocco to cancel the debts of African Least-Developed Countries and its initiative to abolish customs duties on the products of African Least-Developed Countries to enable them to access Moroccan market.
11. **Expresses** thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for writing off more than 6 billions of debts on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in order to alleviate the burden of debt and to help them realize their development plans.
12. **Emphasizes** that the development of private sector in the sphere of transport and development of efficient and secure transport and communications networks operations will considerably affect the increase of the freight transportation volume within the OIC region.
13. **Acknowledges** the apparent necessity for coordination of OIC transport related activities with the Transport Corridor Europe - Caucasus - Asia (TRACECA) and UN Special Programme for Central Asia (SPECA) and promotion of their cooperation with OIC.
14. **Entrusts** the OIC General Secretariat and the SESRIC to continue to monitor and examine the economic problems of the least-developed and land-locked OIC Member States and to report thereon to the annual sessions of the Islamic Commission.

C. OIC INTRA-TRADE:

15. **Expresses** thanks to the Government of Turkey for organizing the OIC Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade in July, 2008 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey, and making some concrete and specific recommendations in the form of a road-map aiming to achieve the objective of increase the intra-OIC trade level from 16.67% in 2008 to 20% by 2015.
16. **Expresses thanks** to the OIC General Secretariat, the COMCEC, the ICDT, the SESRIC, the IDB/ITFC, the ICCI and the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchange (TOBB) of Turkey, for taking action to prepare the Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade which was approved by 24th Session of the COMCEC, in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey in October 2008, and **invites** the Member States to support this initiative.
17. **Commends** that sixteen Member States have signed and seven have ratified the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme for TPS-OIC (PRETAS) and also, **notes** that only three more ratification are needed to have PRETAS enter into force.
18. **Urges** the Member States, who have not signed or ratified the PRETAS and the TPS-OIC Rules of Origin yet, to do so as soon as possible that TPS-OIC system could become effective in 2009.

D. ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT:

19. **Commends** the efforts made by all development partners for mobilizing resources and implementing program and projects under the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development.

20. **Expresses** appreciation to the 36 Member States which have announced their contributions to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development as follows: the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (1 billion US dollars); the State of Kuwait (300 million US dollars); the Islamic Republic of Iran (100 million US dollars); the Democratic Republic of Algeria; the State of Qatar (50 million US dollars); the Republic of Sudan (15 million US dollars) and the Republic of Senegal (10 million US dollars).

21. **Notes** that the total contribution announced both by Member States and the IDB represents US\$ 2.611, which is only 26% of the principal target capital of the Fund.

22. **Urges** the Member States to make substantial contributions to the Fund in the bid to reach its full US\$ 10 billion target, and at least US\$6 billion by the end of 2009, in order to enable the Fund to implement its projects and programmes effectively.

23. **Calls upon** the Member States, which have not done so, to pledge and pay their contribution in the Fund, at earliest convenience, to support poverty alleviation programs in the least developed Member States.

E. SPECIAL PROGRAMME ON DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA:

24. **Reiterates** the pressing need for the OIC Member States and Institutions as well as the donor Community, to further contribute to the fight against poverty in Africa and to the development of this continent.

25. **Welcomes** the setting up by the IDB of a Special Program for the Development of Africa (SPDA) which is a 5-year programme for the period 2008-2012, with the level of funding that is set at US \$4 billion for the mentioned period.

26. **Urges** Donor Member States of the OIC to take measures for debt relief in favour of African Countries, taking in to account the heavy burden this debt constitutes for African economies.

F. DAKAR/PORT-SUDAN RAILWAY LINE PROJECT

27. **Notes** with appreciation the initiative of the OIC General Secretariat to implement the Railways Project by convening the First Meeting of the Committee for Implementing the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Line Project on 19-20 July 2008 at the OIC Headquarters in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

28. **Expresses thanks** to Member States that have submitted their countries national data, and the Project Executive Committee for finalization of the Project Document.

29. **Welcomes** the request of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to be Member of the Project Committee.

30. **Welcomes** the offer of the Republic of Sudan to host the Expert Group and Ministerial Meetings of all concerned Member States and OIC Institutions in 2009, and **invites**, in this regard, all concerned Member States, OIC Institutions and other interested in this project parties to actively participate in these meetings.

G. COOPERATION IN ENERGIZING TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN COTTON PROGRAMME:

31. **Thanks** the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Nazilli Cotton Research Institute of Turkey, in its capacity as the Coordinator of the Centers of Excellence, for hosting and organization the First Meeting of Cotton Research Centers/Centers of Excellence and the First Project Committee Meeting on Cotton in collaboration and contribution with the OIC General Secretariat and the IDB, which was held in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on 2-5 February 2009.

32. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee for the implementation of the OIC Five Year Cotton Plan of Action, which was held in Izmir, Republic of Turkey, on 4 February 2009.

33. **Welcomes** the initiative of the Republic of Turkey for organizing the Third Meeting of the Steering Committee and Second Meeting of the Project Committee in Izmir, Republic of Turkey on 11th May, 2009, prior to the 25th COMCEC Follow-up Meeting.

34. **Welcomes** the initiative of the OIC General Secretariat and the ICDT to organize a Forum on "Trade and Investment in Cotton Sector among the OIC Member States" which will include a buyer-seller meeting on cotton and sectoral fair on cotton-related equipment, on the sidelines of the 12th Edition of the OIC Trade Fair of the OIC Countries, to be held in Cairo, Egypt, on 11-16 October 2009 and **calls all** concerned OIC Member States to actively participate in this Forum.

35. **Welcomes** also the offer of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt to organize the Forum on "Trade and Investment in Cotton Sector among the OIC Member States" in Cairo, in October 2009.

36. **Requests** the IDB to provide possible financial contributions to the project proposals on cotton and textile which were adopted by the First Project Committee Meeting on Cotton and

approved by the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee on Cotton, as well as all OIC cotton meetings organizing by the concerned Member States and the General Secretariat of the OIC.

37. **Urges** the participating OIC Member States to take active part in the timely implementation of the OIC Five Year Cotton Plan of Action.

Requests the Secretary General of the OIC to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to G to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 2/36-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE DECISIONS OF THE COMCEC

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming its strong support to the resolutions of the previous sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, Council of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC on these matters;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

A. ACTIVITIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION (COMCEC):

1. **Notes with appreciation** that the 24th Session of the COMCEC was held from 20-24 October 2008, in Istanbul under the Chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Turkey and **calls upon** Member States to actively participate at the highest possible level to the 25th COMCEC **Economic Summit**, to be held on 5-9 November 2009, celebrating its silver anniversary.
2. **Expresses** its thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Turkey for hosting the TNC Review Meeting on 17-19 June 2008 in Ankara, Turkey, with a view to discussing the progress achieved in respect of the Establishment of the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States and **requests** ICDT, in collaboration with the COMCEC Coordination Office, to prepare explanatory notes on the interpretation of TPS-OIC agreements, distribute them to OIC member states and have them submitted to COMCEC for consideration/required action.
3. **Welcomes** the recommendations and the Executive Programme of the Road Map for Enhancing Intra-OIC Trade made by the Consultative Meeting of the OIC Institutions on Enhancing intra-OIC Trade, held in Casablanca, on February 11-12, 2009.
4. **Notes with appreciation** the most recent Ratifications of the Protocol on the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) by the Sultanate of Oman, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Turkey and the United Arab Emirates and **strongly calls upon** all Member States who have not done so, to sign and/or ratify the TPS-OIC Agreements, namely: the Framework Agreement, the PRETAS and the Rules of Origin, with a view to operationalizing the TPS-OIC system before the 25th Session of COMCEC.
5. **Decides** to designate “The Impact of Food Crisis on the Economies of OIC Countries” as the theme for the Exchange of Views at the 25th Session of the COMCEC and requests

IDB/ICDT in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat, SESRIC and relevant OIC institutions and other related international organisations to organise a workshop on this topic prior to the Twenty-Fifth Session of the COMCEC and submit its report to the said COMCEC Session.

6. **Requests** the OIC General Secretariat, COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) and the IDB, in collaboration with FAO and relevant UN Agencies, to initiate food security programmes in selected OIC Member States and report to the 25th Session of the COMCEC.

7. **Takes note with appreciation** of the summary report submitted by the ICDT on the impact of high oil and commodity prices on the economies of the member states and entrusts the ICDT, in cooperation with SESRIC and IDB, to prepare a detailed study on fluctuating oil and high commodity prices and their impact on the economies of the member states which will include recommendations to be put forward to the 25th Session of the COMCEC.

8. **Pays tribute** to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for donating 300 million dollars to establish a special fund for research in the areas of energy, environment and climate change, and for its positive role in stabilizing oil prices; **expresses its appreciation** for the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz titled: 'Energy for the Poor', which aims to help developing countries meet energy expenses and for allocating 500 million dollars in the form of concessional loans from the Saudi Development Fund to finance energy projects in developing countries.

9. **Welcomes** the joint initiative of COMCEC Coordination Office and SESRIC to conduct a study on "New Potential Areas for Economic and Commercial Cooperation among the OIC Member States" to enrich the agenda and substance of the COMCEC and **calls upon** relevant OIC Institutions to extend every possible support to the conduct of the study.

10. **Thanks** Syrian Arab Republic for organizing the 6th ICTM in Damascus from 29 June to 2 July 2008 and for hosting the 1st Coordination Committee Meeting for the Implementation of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism among OIC Member States held in March 18-19, 2009, in Damascus, Syria.

11. **Urges** the Member States to support the "Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism among OIC Member States" which was adopted by the 6th ICTM.

12. **Welcomes** the progress being made in the Implementation of the Action Plan for OIC Cotton Producing Countries' Cooperation Development Strategy and **encourages** cotton producing/exporting OIC Member States to actively participate in the activities to be held in this respect.

13. **Thanks** the Turkish Standards Institution for hosting the First Session of the 10th Meeting of OIC Standardization Expert Group (SEG) in Ankara, the Republic of Turkey, from 28 to 30 April, 2009 with the task of studying and developing the OIC Halal Food Standards prior to the 25th session of COMCEC. The Second Session of the 10th Meeting of OIC-SEG will be held on 28 September – 2 October 2009 in Istanbul.

14. **Requests** Member States to actively participate in the Meeting of Heads of Central Banks of Member States, to be held on 3rd October, 2009 in Istanbul, to discuss possible means and ways of cooperation, in light of the global financial and economic crisis.

15. **Welcomes** the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the 12th edition of the Trade Fair of Islamic Countries, 11 to 16 October 2009 and **calls upon** the Member States to effectively and actively participate in this event.

16. **Takes note** of the report of the Sessional Committee and **requests** the COMCEC Coordination Office to be in contact with project coordinators regarding projects that have not achieved any progress to decide which will be maintained or not in the agenda of the Committee and report to the 25th session of the COMCEC.

17. **Invites** the Member States who are interested in the current projects of the COMCEC Sessional Committee to actively participate in the future Meetings.

18. **Takes note** with satisfaction and appreciation the approval by COMCEC of the implementation mechanism of the Vocational Education and Training Programme for the OIC Member States (OIC-VET) which has been initiated by the SESRIC and calls upon the Member States and OIC institutions, particularly the IDB, to support the SESRIC in the preparations for and implementation of the Programme and incorporate their vocational training programmes into the OIC-VET Programme, thereby, generating a common OIC platform for the benefit of the Member States in this important area.

19. **Calls upon** the OIC General Secretariat, Institutions, and Member States to invite the Secretariats of the OIC Standing Committees (COMCEC, COMSTECH, and COMIAC) to all OIC Conferences and meetings in their respective fields of competence and **requests** the OIC General Secretariat to make necessary arrangements to that end.

B. STRENGTHENING THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM:

20. **Requests** the ICDDT, in collaboration with IDB and other OIC institutions, to examine the impact of the slow progress of the Doha Round on the External Trade of OIC Member States and to suggest policy recommendations and report to the 25th Session of the COMCEC.

C. PROMOTION OF COOPERATION AMONG THE STOCK EXCHANGES OF THE OIC COUNTRIES:

21. **Expresses its thanks** and appreciation to the Istanbul Stock Exchange, Republic of Turkey for hosting the Second Meeting of the OIC Member States' Stock Exchanges Forum on 18-19 October 2008, and **takes note** of the recommendations of the Meeting, and **entrusts** the COMCEC Coordination Office in cooperation with Istanbul Stock Exchange to work on the implementation of the recommendations in collaboration with the other Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States and report the developments to the 25th Session of the COMCEC.

22. **Encourages** the capital market Regulatory Bodies of the OIC Member States to develop cooperation to establish a similar forum among themselves.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to C to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 3/36-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO MEMBER STATES, NON-OIC COUNTRIES AND MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming its strong support to the resolutions of the previous sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, Council of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC on this matter;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

A. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOME MEMBER STATES AND MUSLIM COMMUNITIES IN NON-OIC COUNTRIES:

1. **Commends** the United Arab Emirates for extending humanitarian assistance amounted to 135.52 million USD to OIC Member States as follows: i) OIC Arab Member States in amount of 82.76 million USD; ii) OIC African Member States – 29.82 million USD; iii) OIC Asian Member States – 22.61 million USD and iv) OIC Member States in Europe – 0.33 million USD.
2. **Lauds** the economic assistance provided by the Arab Republic of Egypt to OIC Asian Member States and to OIC African Member States in the form of medicines, food supply, medical equipment and logistics in total about 15.2 million Egyptian Pound.
3. **Appreciates** the efforts of the State of Qatar to allocate ten million Qatari riyals as contribution to the Project on the promotion of Food Self-Sufficiency in Niger.
4. **Expresses** its deep gratitude to the Republic of Turkey for providing economic assistance to OIC Member States, as well as to Muslims in Non Member States: i) African countries in amount of 30.97 million USD; ii) Middle East countries – 109.1 million USD; iii) Asian countries – 430.61 million USD and iv) European countries – 80.8 million USD.
5. **Commends** the humanitarian relief and development aid provided by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to many OIC Member States.
6. **Tenders** its appreciation to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for providing various kind of assistance to some OIC Member States in Africa and Arab regions amounting more than 33 millions dinars and 64 million US dollars.
7. **Commends** the financial, humanitarian and development assistance provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in a number of humanitarian and development programmes all over the world.

8. **Also invites** all Member States to continue extending economic assistance to other Member States and report it to the OIC General Secretariat.

B. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN:

Confirming full solidarity of the Member States of the OIC with the Government and people of Azerbaijan at this very critical time of the country's history;

Referring to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions regarding this conflict;

Deploring the Armenia-backed aggressive separatism instigated in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, followed by aggression and occupation by Armenia of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territories and resulted in violent displacement of almost one million Azerbaijani people from their homes, which, as such, resembles the terrible concept of ethnic cleansing;

Conscious of the fact that economic damage inflicted upon Azerbaijan in its territories currently occupied by Armenia already exceeds US\$ 60 billion;

Welcoming and appreciating the assistance extended by some Member States and OIC relevant bodies, United Nations institutions and international organizations;

9. **Appeals** to the Member States, International Community and Islamic Institutions to make available to the Government of Azerbaijan the economic and humanitarian assistance with a view of alleviating the suffering of the Azerbaijani people.

10. **Calls upon** the international organizations to continue to grant humanitarian and financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

C. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR:

Expressing deep sympathy to the victims, their families and people of Jammu and Kashmir who suffered huge losses of life and socio-economic and environment damage from the massive earthquake that struck South Asia on 8 October 2005;

Expressing gratitude for the assistance, contributions and pledges of the international community, particularly the Member States for the relief and rehabilitation efforts for the earthquake victims, which reflect the spirit of Islamic solidarity and cooperation to meet the challenges of unprecedented natural disasters;

Expressing deep appreciation for the assistance extended to the Kashmiris by some Member States and relevant OIC bodies;

11. **Calls** for expeditiously implementing the recommendations contained in the report of OIC Secretary General's Special Representative for Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the establishment of a Special Trust Fund for the assistance of Kashmiris and focus upon the higher educational needs of the Kashmiri youth through the provision of scholarships to the Kashmiri youth in professional colleges, vocational training and employment generation opportunities.

12. **Appeals** to Member States and Islamic Institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, Islamic Development Bank and Charitable Institutions, to grant generous humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people whose plight has been aggravated by the devastating earthquake of October 2005.

13. **Encourages** the international community, particularly donor countries, international financial institutions and relevant international organizations from the Islamic World to continue to provide necessary funds and assistance to support the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction work, in the affected areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

14. **Appeals** to Member States to contribute, whenever possible, to the rehabilitation of people affected by the earthquake disaster in order to facilitate the economic and social well-being since many means of livelihood has been damaged or destroyed.

15. **Also appeals** to Member States and the Islamic Institutions to grant scholarships to the Kashmiri students in different universities and institutions in the OIC countries.

D. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE:

16. **Invites** OIC Member States and the international community to provide essential economic and financial assistance to Cote d'Ivoire to assist it in facing current difficulties.

17. **Invites** the OIC Secretary General to take appropriate measures to organise a donors' conference for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire.

18. **Requests** the Secretary General to take necessary measures to provide additional resources to assist in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former fighters into the socio-economic fabric and post-crisis reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire.

E. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA:

Underlining the importance of providing material and the financial support to the Republic of Guinea with the view of ensuring smooth transition while strengthening democracy, peace and security in the country.

19. **Calls** urgently the international community and Member States to provide substantial financial and material assistance to the Republic of Guinea, enabling it to address a situation created by the aggressions which victimized it as well as due to the presence on its territory of hundred of thousands of refugees, mostly Muslims.

20. **Appeals** to the Islamic Development Bank to increase its assistance to the Republic of Guinea so that it may create the social infrastructures needed for the displaced population and the refugees, and curb the deterioration of the environment largely attributed to the refugee influx.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to E to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION No. 4/36-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OTHER
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES AND FORA IN THE ECONOMIC SECTORS

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming its strong support to the resolutions of the previous sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, Council of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC on these matters;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

A. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM:

1. **Thanks** the Syrian Arab Republic for hosting the Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, on 29 June - 2 July 2008.

2. **Invites** Member States and OIC Institutions to fully implement the Resolutions and the “Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism between OIC Member States” of the Sixth Session of the ICTM.

3. **Commends** the Syrian Arab Republic for hosting the First Coordination Committee Meeting for the implementation of the “Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism between OIC Member States” in Damascus, on 18-19 March 2009, and **invites** the Member States to actively participate in the implementation of the decisions of this Meeting.

4. **Appreciates** the efforts of the ICDT to organize a Tourism Fair, in cooperation with the IDB and the ICCI, in Member States, once every two years, and **welcomes** in this connection the offers of the Republic of Lebanon, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Syrian Arab Republic and Islamic Republic of Iran to host the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Tourism Fairs in 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2014, respectively and **calls upon** the Member States to actively participate in the Tourism Fairs.

B. REGIONAL PROJECT “ON SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN A CROSS-BORDER NETWORK AND PROTECTED AREAS IN WEST AFRICA”:

5. **Calls upon** Member States and OIC institutions to render financial and technical support to the regional project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa” concerning nine OIC Member States.

6. **Decides** to set up a Steering Committee consisting of all the West African countries concerned with the project in order to validate the programme of activities of the project and **calls** upon the ICDDT to organize the first meeting of this Steering Committee;

7. **Thanks** the UNWTO for organizing the Meeting in the framework of the Regional Project on “Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa”, held in UNWTO Headquarters in Madrid, on 6 February 2009.

C. FOOD SECURITY OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES:

8. **Welcomes** with appreciation the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait to establish the Fund for Decent Living in the Islamic States during the 4th World Islamic Economic Forum, hosted by Kuwait in the period from 29 April – 1 May 2008 during which the States of Kuwait announced a donation of US\$ 100 Million to the Fund in order to support this initiative aimed at providing needy people with basic food products to contribute to the programme of promoting agricultural production and cooperate with similar initiatives worldwide, and **calls on** OIC Member States and other donor bodies to contribute to the Fund.

9. **Expresses its gratitude** to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for donating 500 million dollars to the World Food Programme to help developing countries face the increase in the prices of basic food commodities.

10. **Thanks** the Government of the Republic of Mali and the OIC General Secretariat for the organization of the Forum on Food Industry Development in Africa, held in Bamako, Mali, on 25-27 February 2009, and the IDB for its financial contribution for the organization of this Forum.

11. **Takes** note of the offer made by the Government of the Republic of Mali to organize a Ministerial forum on the Development of Agro-Industries in Africa in June 2009 in Bamako and invites the Member States to participate actively in this event.

12. **Welcomes** the offer of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan to organize the OIC meeting of Islamic Ministers of Agriculture and Food in 2009 to discuss the world food crisis in order to achieve food security in the Member States and calls on the OIC Member States and institutions to make a contribution by participating actively in this conference.

13. **Urges** Muslim financing institutions, particularly the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), to step up their contributions to the funding of agricultural projects in the Member States.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to C to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Affairs.

RESOLUTION No. 5/36-E
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OIC INSTITUTIONS

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming its strong support to the resolutions of the previous sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences and Council of Foreign Ministers on the matter;

Having taken note of the activities report the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC); the Islamic Center for the Development of Trade (ICDT); the Islamic Development Bank (IDB); the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and the Organization of Islamic Shipowners Association (OISA).

Having taken note of the Report of the OIC Secretary General;

A. STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SESRIC):

1. **Notes** with appreciation the various activities carried out by SESRIC in the areas of Statistics and Information; Economic and Social Research; Training and Technical Cooperation; and Publications.
2. **Appreciates** the preparation of the Statistical Yearbook of the OIC Member States for the year 2008, the elaboration of the Special Poverty Index for OIC Member States, the organization of the Meetings of the OIC Statistical Working Group.
3. **Expresses its appreciations** to OIC General Secretariat, the SESRIC and Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) for organizing the First Meeting of Development and Cooperation Institutions (DCIs) of OIC Member States in Istanbul on 13-14 May 2009, welcomes the recommendations adopted by the Meeting, and encourages the efforts towards enhancing cooperation between the development and cooperation institutions.
4. **Commends** the research activities of the Center on social and economic issues which were recorded in the Journals of Economic Cooperation and Development, the Economic Cooperation and Development Review, and the OIC Outlook Series; as well as the reporting on the Economic Problems of the Least-Developed and Land-Locked OIC Member States in 2008.
5. **Lauds** the efforts of the Center in conducting training activities for Member States and providing technical assistance in the form of South-South Cooperation, Twinning Programme

for Statistical Capacity Building in the OIC Member States, Training workshops on Agricultural Statistics and Food Safety in Uganda, on Quality of Statistics in Tajikistan, as well as in the preparation of COMCEC Exchange of Views Sessions, particularly the on Improving the Investment Climate in the OIC Member States during the 24th Session of COMCEC, in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey in October 2008.

6. **Congratulates** SESRIC for the publication on the Microfinance Institutions of the OIC Member States, the International Tourism in the OIC Member States: Prospects and Challenges, as well as the Vocational Education and Training Programme for the OIC Member States.

B. ISLAMIC CENTER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE (ICDT):

7. **Notes** with appreciation the various activities carried out by ICDT in the areas of trade promotion, trade negotiations, seminars and training, meetings and conferences, and studies and publications.

8. **Appreciates** the efforts made by the Center to organize Fairs and Exhibitions, particularly the 13th Food/Hotel/Propac Arabia from 18 to 22 May 2008, the 12th Trade Fair of the OIC Member States (OIC/EXPO) to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt from 11 to 16 October 2009, and the 2nd Tourism Fair of the OIC Member States in Beirut, Republic of Lebanon from 26 to 29 June 2009.

9. **Lauds** the efforts of the Center in ensuring the Secretariat of the Trade Negotiation Committee in collaboration with the COMCEC Coordination Office, and organizing the Training Seminar on the Use by Developing Countries of Flexibilities provided by the TRIPs Agreement in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco from 9 to 12 June 2008.

10. **Expresses** thanks to ICDT for its contribution to various seminars and training sessions held in Member States, particularly the Consultative Meeting of the OIC Institutions on Enhancing intra-OIC Trade in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco; the OIC Business Forum with the Ugandan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in Kampala, Republic of Uganda in June 2008; the Forum on the Development of Food Industries in Africa in Bamako, Republic of Mali from 25 to 27 February 2009; the Fifth World Islamic Economic Forum in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia; and for preparing the First Annual Meeting of the Network of Trade Promotion Organs of the French Speaking countries of the OIC in 2009.

11. **Appreciates** the organization by ICDT of the Follow-up Committee Meeting of the Regional Project of Sustainable Tourism Development in a Cross-Border Network and Protected Areas in West Africa on June 30th 2008 in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, as well as the progress achieved in the implementation of the project, notably the follow up of the accomplishment of the resolutions adopted by the Project Committee Meeting in Madrid, Republic of Spain, on February 6th 2009.

12. **Congratulates** the IDCT for the studies and publications prepared, particularly the 2008 Annual Report on Trade Between OIC Member States, the 2008 Trade Information Network for Islamic Countries (TINIC); the operationalisation of the Arabic version of the Center's website; the technical assistance to some Member States such as the Republic of Guinea; and the cooperation with other institutions in the form of signing of Memoranda of Understanding with the IDB, UN/ITC and Saudi Development Fund.

C. ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB):

13. **Thanks** the Bank for its efforts in economic cooperation with Member States, particularly in contributing to expand the intra-OIC trade by funding workshops and Seminars organized by COMCEC Secretariat, SESRIC and ICDT in Casablanca, Morocco and Istanbul, Turkey.

14. **Appreciates** the efforts made by the IDB to finance development programs and projects under the Special Programme for the Development of Africa and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development, and **notes** also the progress made by the Bank in the area of Women in Development and in the cooperation with the private sector.

15. **Notes** that the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development has only received, from Member States and the IDB, pledges of 26% of its targeted amount of US\$ 10 billion; and **urges** Member States to contribute generously to the Fund to reach the level of US\$ 6 billion by the end of 2009.

16. **Notes** with thanks the growth trend in the IDB Group trade finance approvals that continued to grow and reached in 1428H with total financing of US \$2.6 billion. The cumulative trade financing approvals now stand at US \$ 29.2 billion.

17. **Thanks** the IDB Group (ITFC) for organizing and supporting 27 activities/projects under the four Business Lines, namely: Trade Promotionl Trade Facilitation, Capacity Building and Development of Strategic Products.

18. **Appreciates** the efforts of the IDB Group (ITFC) for providing total direct financing extended to Cotton Sector amounted to US \$121 million in 2008 to the following countries: Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Sudan and Tajikistan.

19. **Welcomes** the announcement by the IDB of the Jeddah Declaration Initiative with an assistance package of US \$ 1.5 billion over a 5-year period aimed at supporting Member States affected by the global food crisis to strengthen their food security and revitalize the agricultural sector.

D. ISLAMIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ICCI):

20. **Notes** with appreciation the various activities carried out by the ICCI in the areas of Projects, Forum and Meetings, capacity development workshops, as well as collection and Dissemination of Statistical Information, and **calls on** ICCI to continue the efforts in this endeavor.

21. **Commends** the efforts of the International Islamic Company for the Exploration of Investments Opportunities and the Promotion of Trade (FORAS) in focusing its activities on the Africa region as most of the OIC Least Developed Member States are located in this region and provide more potential for growth, particularly the Rice Development Programme in West Africa.

22. **Notes** the announcement by the ICCI of its FORAS Tourism Development Project, during the First Coordination Committee Meeting for the implementation of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism between the OIC Member States, in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic on 18-19 March, 2009.

23. **Appreciates** the establishment of International Zakat Organization as a subsidiary body of the ICCI and its regional branches in Benin, Egypt, Mauritania, Senegal and Sudan.

24. **Encourages** the National Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Member States to actively participate in the ICCI projects for promotion and expansion of trade exchange, and **invites** the OIC Member States to welcome the establishment of the FORAS and International Zakat Organisation and their branches, as well as facilitate their operation.

25. **Lauds** the Government of Uganda for hosting the OIC Business Forum / 12th Private Sector Meeting in collaboration with OIC General Secretariat and ICCI under the kind patronage of H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni under the theme of “Discover the Resources & High Potential of the African Market”, from 16 to 18 June, 2008.

26. **Congratulates** the ICCI for undertaking close cooperation with OIC Member States and Institutions in **hosting** regional meetings, particularly “The Sixth and Final OIC Task Force Meeting on SMEs” held in Bangkok-Thailand on August 15-17, 2008.

27. **Expresses** gratitude to the Government of Syrian Arab Republic for hosting the Fourth Forum for Businesswomen in cooperation with ICCI under the kind patronage of First Lady H.E. Asmaa al-Assad on the theme of “Role of Culture, Media and Tourism in developing sustainable economic prosperity” from 2-4 November 2008.

28. **Thanks** the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ICCI for organizing the Second Tourism Forum and the Third Conference of Investment and Privatization held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 28 to 30 April, 2009.

29. **Commends** the Government of Egypt Arab Republic for hosting the Fifth Forum for Businesswomen in December 2009, and **invites** the Member States to encourage their private sector to actively participate.

E. ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION (OISA):

30. **Congratulates** the Islamic Protection & Indemnity (P&I) Club for opening its third office in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia on 26th February 2009; and **thanks** the Fokus Maritime Indonesia for the inauguration of the Islamic P&I Club Branch in Jakarta, to cover the South East Asia Region.

31. **Expresses** its gratitude to His Highness Shiekh Mohammad Bin Rashid al-Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, Emir of Dubai, for hosting the 30th Executive Committee and the 22nd General Assembly Meeting of the OISA held in Dubai from 8-10 June 2008.

32. **Urges** the Member States, which have not yet done so, to sign the statute of the Organizing of the Islamic Ship-owners' Association.

Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report on each item appearing from A to E to the Thirty- Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION No. 6/36-E
ON JOINT ISLAMIC ACTION TO FACE THE EFFECTS OF
THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS

The Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity) held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 28 Jumada Al-Awwal to 1 Jumada Al-Thani 1430H (23-25 May 2009),

Recalling the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted by the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 7-8 December, 2005;

Reaffirming its strong support to the resolutions of the previous sessions of the Islamic Summit Conferences, Council of Foreign Ministers and COMCEC on the matter;

Following with deep concern the developments of the global financial crisis with the accompanying slow down and recession of world economy and trade, the resulting negative effects on the economies of developing and Least-Developed Countries (LDCs), particularly the OIC Member States, and the extension of this slowdown on the sectors of real economy including on productions, exports, employment, investments, tourism and the remittances of workers abroad;

Expressing its growing concern about the resort of developed countries to protectionist measures and policies;

Urging the Member States to play a more effective role in international economic relations and to participate in the international efforts aimed at ensuring world financial stability;

Aware of the fact that the frequency and gravity of the economic crises facing the world economy recently, including the food crisis, the energy crisis, and the financial crisis, among others, demonstrate the inadequacy of international decision-making structures in facing these crises and the need for a radical reforms in order to deal with them more effectively in the future;

Emphasizing the recommendations of the Fifth World Islamic Economic Forum hosted by Jakarta on 1-4 March 2009;

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary General;

1. **Expresses** its concern about the long-term negative effects of the current economic and financial crisis on economic growth in the OIC Member States, on their national development plans, on their balance of payments, on their ability to have access to public and private financing, and on direct foreign investments.

2. **Urges** the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for the Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to explore and examine, in coordination with concerned organs in those States and the repercussions of this crisis on OIC Member States' economies, and to conduct independent research and studies, and **encourages** the Centre to intensify its contacts and cooperation with concerned international and regional foundations, in particular those working in the framework of the United Nations Organization and others.
3. **Stresses** the importance of standing against the growing protectionist trends and of the necessity to have developed economies play a leading role in facing these measures and trends.
4. **Calls** for allowing developing countries and LDCs to have the necessary 'policy space' enabling it to implement incentive programmes to energize their economies which are affected by the crisis.
5. **Insists** on the necessity to reduce support measures harmful to trade and grant the products of developing and least-developed countries access to markets of developed countries.
6. **Hails** the existing level of coordination between the delegations of the countries of the Islamic Group in different international arenas such as the United Nations, its organizations and its different organs on addressing the financial crisis.
7. **Commends** the sustained support of OIC Member States to their national financial institutions and the reinforcement of financial control and supervision, and **encourages** the ministers of finance and the governors of central banks and monetary institutions in the OIC Member States to increase coordination and connection among control organs in the Member States, and promoting the exchange of information on financial flows and risk assessments in different banking systems.
8. **Insists** again on the necessity to have the Islamic World adequately represented in all deliberations on the impact of the global financial crisis, and on the need to expand the economic decision-making structures such as the G-20 to be more balanced and to respond to the claims of developing countries in general and OIC Member States in particular.
9. **Takes note** of the participation of three OIC Member States, namely Republic of Indonesia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Republic of Turkey, in the meetings of the G-20 and **calls upon** them to convey the concerns of the other OIC Member States in that Forum and consult with them in this regard.

10. **Emphasizes** the importance of setting up an efficient early-warning system within the IMF to avoid such crises in the future, and on the necessity to provide additional financial resources to the IMF and the World Bank in order to help developing and least-developed countries address the negative effects of the crisis.

11. **Urges** the OIC Member States to strengthen their efforts for the achievement of the New Economic Partnership for the Ummah, and invites the Secretary General to continue his efforts in this domain and to implement the action plan aiming at fostering economic and financial cooperation among the Member States in the framework of the OIC.

12. **Commends** the role played by the Organization through its subsidiary and affiliated institutions, especially the IDB, the ICDT, the ICCI, and the General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (GCIBFI), as well as through the activities of the COMCEC and the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the effective role of these institutions in increasing financial flows and intra-OIC investments, in particular the complementary projects launched in the framework of the Organization; and **urges** the Member States to participate actively in the work of these organs in this field.

13. **Requests** the OIC Secretary General to form an open-ended task-force under the umbrella of COMCEC with a view to suggest appropriate policy recommendations for the benefit of Member States and develop a comprehensive vision, including applications of the various economic models to address the present financial crisis, in cooperation with relevant OIC subsidiary, specialised and affiliated organs as well as international and regional organisations, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the UNCTAD, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank and Arab Bank for Development of Africa.

Requests the Secretary General of the OIC to submit a report on the matter to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the CFM.
