



Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION MINISTERS



CAIRO, ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT 7-8 MAHARRAM 1424H (10-11 MARCH 2003)

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Resolution No. 1/6-ICIM

On Upgrading the mechanisms of Islamic Information Strategy of the OIC Member States

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003),

Having considered the recommendations of the Committee of Experts mandated by the First Ministerial Follow-up Committee (Tehran: November 2001) to review and update the mechanisms for joint Islamic information action adopted by the follow-up committee during its meetings in Jeddah (May 2002),

Taking note of the review by the Committee of Experts on the principles, elements, functions and mechanism developed for the Islamic information strategy by the Committee of Experts on the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (Jeddah, October 1988), approved by the Third Islamic Information Ministers (Damascus 1995) and also approved by the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee (Dakar, March 1996), in document no. ICFM/FC-4/99-STARJ-J-Final reckoned to contain all directions requested for inclusion by the Ministerial Follow-up Committee;

Taking note that the Committee of Experts considers same to be case with the Islamic Information plan, and the Islamic Information Code of Ethics,

Guided by the elements considered by the Committee of Experts as essential for updating the mechanism and its components to suit the demands of contemporary information age,

Recalling the directions and terms of reference of this strategy and their compatibility with the requirements of the world situation at the beginning of the 21st Century in terms of gaining and concentrating civilizational gains by various mass media in OIC member countries,

Recalling the objectives of the Member States' Information Strategy;

Decides:

I. Concerning implementation of Strategy

1- That Islamic information should strive to achieve elements of Islamic Information Strategy of Member States.

2- To update the media in Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to enable them to play the roles assigned to them in this strategy.

3- To deploy various specialized mechanisms for the implementation of these strategies.

These mechanisms are:

3.1. National Media in Member States which shall:

3.2. Other National and International Mechanisms (Universities, Research Centres, Cultural Organizations, etc.):

3.3. Specialized and Subsidiary Institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which are the Islamic International News Agency (IINA), Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO), the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and Research Centre on Islamic History, Arts and Culture (IRCICA).

3.4. Cinema Industry.

3.5. Press and Publishers' Unions, Federation of Arab, African and Asian Radio.

II. Concerning Implementation of Information Plan of Member States:

1. That the session adopts the programme derived from the Information plan for Member States (annexed).

2. That the programme be implemented by focusing on the following mechanisms:

(a) Satellite Channels.

(b) External Information.

(c) Islamic Societies:

(d) Databases:

(e) The Internet:

- (f) Cinema Industry:

III. Concerning Ethics and Principles of Islamic Information Action:

That the term "Islamic Information Code of Ethics" be changed to "Ethics and Principles of Islamic Information action for Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference". The principles are as follows:

- (a) Honesty in investigating the truth.
- (b) Objectivity, logic and academic approach.
- (c) Dialogue, respect for others' opinions and renunciation of bigotry.
- (d) Invitation to peace (peace is the Islamic mode of greeting).
- (e) Non-belligerence towards other monotheistic religion; and respect for all religions and others' beliefs.
- (f) Moderation without excesses.

IV. Concerning Coordination between News and Programming Officials at Television Stations

To call on news and programming officials in Member States to produce news and technical content dealing with:

1. Familiarity with issues in the Islamic Ummah through joint production of programmes, as well as technical and news material in English, French and Spanish in order to be acquainted with:
 - a) Issues of the Islamic Ummah.
 - b) Islamic teachings, moderation and freeing Islam from adverse campaigns.
 - c) The Islamic stand on terrorism and implementation of the OIC treaty on combating international terrorism; resolutions adopted by the Extraordinary Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held at Doha in October 2001 and the Emergency Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Kuala Lumpur at the beginning of April 2002; as well as relevant resolutions of Conferences of Foreign Ministers.
2. Best presentation of positions of Member States on issues in the international arena (dialogue among civilizations and globalization), through television programmes outlining the stand of the Islamic Ummah on the issues.

Resolution No. 2/6-ICIM

On Islamic Information, New Information and Communication Technologies and Cyberspace

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003),

Having considered the recommendations of the ministerial follow-up committee of the Fifth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, adopted by the committee at its first meeting held in Tehran from 6-7 November 2001 (document no. FC-ICIM/1-5/2001/REP/FINAL),

Having also considered the recommendations of the Committee of Experts mandated by the ministerial follow-up committee to review the mechanisms for joint Islamic information action, in particular the recommendation concerning the coordination committee between news and programming officials at public and private satellite television stations in Member States, and those concerning the committee of expert engineers on new radio and television technologies regarding the plan for changing over to digital systems, adopted by the ministerial follow-up committee at its meeting held in Jeddah from 4-7 May 2002 (document no. REP/EXP.COM.MTGH-JIIA/2002),

Decides:

I- Plan for changing over to digital systems at the following levels:

- (a) Infrastructure:

- To call upon Member States to construct new infrastructure and develop the in their communication networks the capability to operate and integrate with various digital systems.

(b) Equipment:

- i) To introduce digital equipment in accordance with appropriate specifications for various uses, provided their introduction into studios are done in phases, in accordance with the comprehensive updating plan set out by each country on the basis of available budget and their ability to quickly train their human resources.
- ii) To install or update digital programme transmission networks, using microwaves, or optic fibers or earth stations for satellite transmission.
- iii) To commence, as a matter of urgency, the introduction of digital transmission using available satellites.
- iv) To introduce electronic archiving systems to broadcasting libraries and transfer electronic data to and from studios, by establishing internal computer networks (INTRANET) in radio and television stations to link the studios and the libraries.
- v) To study optimal and safest ways of linking radio networks in interested Members States with the (INTERNET), so as achieve radio exchanges and to benefit from broadcast materials internationally and to use them for internet transmission.
- vi) To study the feasibility of introducing base digital radio transmission for audio or visual broadcasting.

(c) Training specialized staff and equipping them to operate digital systems:

- i) To organize regular courses for training engineering and technical staff on how to use personal computers so as to become conversant with the operating systems, programs and applications.
- ii) To train programmers on how to operate with digital technology and systems in use, to assist their integration with the information society and to enable them benefit from the operational capabilities and advantages of modern systems.
- iii) To train engineering and technical staff through specialized courses in various radio-engineering fields, according to work requirements to enable them operate and maintain modern systems.

(d) Coordination between Member States and "ISBO":

- i) That radio and television institutions in Member States should send their answers on the attached questionnaire to the Islamic Broadcasting Organization to enable the Organization process the answers and derive a clear picture of the technological situation of these institutions.
- ii) That radio and television institutions in Member States that have changed to digital systems should declare whether they are prepared to donate the analog equipment they no longer require to radio and television institutions in Member States that still use analog systems, and notify ISBO about their decision sending along a list of those equipment.
- iii) That radio and television institutions in Member States that posses training centres should declare the facilities they could offer to receive trainees from Member States institutions who require training and notify ISBO about their decisions not later 31 August 2003 to enable ISBO include same in the training courses programmes, as part of the annual training programme.
- iv) That the Islamic Broadcasting Organization should communicate Member States about digital systems training centers they have and whether they are prepared to contribute to the training of technical staff from Member States.

v) That "ISBO" should conduct a survey about the possibility of benefiting from the training courses offered by the Arab Radio and Television Training Centre, Damascus, or other training Centres.

(e) Satellites:

i) To appeal to the Member States that own fixed orbit stations to maintain them and to accelerate making use of them in launching satellites that would serve Islamic information activities and meet its growing needs in terms of broadcasting channels.

ii) To urge Member States that own satellites to assist Member States with limited means by providing for them the opportunity to link satellite channels at preferential rates.

(f) Financing of the Transition to Digital Systems Process for the Benefit of Serving Member States:

i) To call on radio and television stations in Member States to communicate "ISBO" with a list of what is required of them to transit to digital systems in the form of integrated and well-considered projects, prepared in such a way as to include the phases of financing and implementation of their plans, stating the areas of self-financing, the purpose being for presentation to the Islamic programme for the Development of Information and Communication, as part of the projects selected for this purpose, once they are appraised and examined; and to ascertain their importance to the institutions that forwarded them.

ii) To call on ISBO to study the projects received from radio and television institutions in Member States and present the priority ones among them to the next meeting of the ministerial follow-up committee part of whose remit is to implement the work of the Islamic programme for the Development of Information and Communication.

(g) Information Industry:

That Member States should cooperate and coordinate with each other to establish advanced information related industries in the following fields:

- i) Satellites, as well as infrastructures and digital transmission equipment.
- ii) Television production.
- iii) Cinema production.

Resolution No. 3/6-ICIM

On the Islamic Programme for the Development of Information and Communication

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003),

Having considered Resolution 2/7-INF(COMIAC) adopted by the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs,

Guided by resolution of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs on the Islamic Programme for the Development of Information and Communication (Document No. ICIM/PIDIC-1/Final),

Recalling resolution No. 2/3-ICIM adopted by the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers,

Having taken note of the Report of the Secretary General, in particular the paragraphs on the Islamic Programme for Development of Information and Communication,

Decides:

1. **Regarding the two projects submitted by the Republics of Sierra Leone and Mali respectively:**
 - a) To re-present the projects to the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund to appropriate a sum of \$50,000 as assistance towards implementation and accomplishment of the projects.
 - b) To urge Member States with the means to extend assistance to Sierra Leone with equipment that it could present to the Sierra Leone Television.
 - c) To welcome the offer made by the Ministry of Information of the Kingdom of Morocco which endorsed, during the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs in Dakar, to put TV and Cinema production information laboratory at the service of Member States that require them, which would enable Mali Television to utilize this offer to produce series on "Islam in Africa".
2. **To call upon** Member States to pay their monetary contributions to the Islamic Programme for the Development of Information and Communication Fund to finance the equipment required by Member States with limited resources, for changing to digital systems for changing spare parts in their analog equipment.
3. **To appeal** to Member States to encourage their public and private bodies, as well as individuals to donate to the programme Fund, with a Ministerial Committee to supervise disbursements from the Fund.
4. **To call upon** Member States to present the programmes they wanted to finance to the Ministerial Follow-up Committee through the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization ISBO.
5. **To call upon** the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) to liaise with Member States to receive information projects that emanated from them and which relate to transition to digital system, with a view to presenting them – with ISBO's opinion – to the Ministerial follow-up Committee of the Sixth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers at its next meeting in 2004.
6. **To constitute** a Group of Experts to cooperate with the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) in undertaking a comprehensive study of the current conditions and capabilities of information infrastructure in Member States and to propose means and ways of updating them.

Resolution No. 4/6-ICIM On the Information Society

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 7-8 Muharram 1424H (10-11 March 2003),

Recalling resolution No. 9/14-(IS) adopted by the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Session on Peace, Development and Al-Aqsa Intifadah), held in Doha, Qatar, on 16 and 17 Shaaban 1421H (12 and 13 November 2000) concerning support for the nomination of the Republic of Tunisia for hosting the World Summit of the Information Society,

Recalling also resolution No. 6/29-INF adopted by the Twenty-ninth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Solidarity and Dialogue) held in Khartoum, Sudan, on 14-16 Rabiul Aakher 1423H (25-27 June 2002), concerning the participation of the Islamic States in the World Summit on the Information Community,

Referring to resolution No. 3/7-IM(COMIAC) adopted by the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs, held in Dakar, Senegal, on 13 and 14 Shawal 1424H (17 and 18 December, 2002),

Referring also to the participation of the General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference Organization in the first and second preparatory meetings for the World Summit of Information

Society, both held in Geneva, 1-5 July 2002 and 17-27 February 2003 respectively (items 25 and 30 of document WSIS 03/PREP-1/11/Rev.1-A),

Referring as well to the Declaration of Bamako issued by the African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Summit of the Information Society held in Bamako, Mali, 28-30 May 2002, and to the Tokyo Declaration issued by the Asian Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Summit of Information Society held in Tokyo (January 2003), and to the meeting of the Arab League States on the World Summit of the Information Society held in Beirut (February 2002),

Commending the Speech of H.E. President Abdoulaye Wade delivered before the UN General Assembly at its meeting on Technology of Information and Communication for purposes of Development, held in June 2002 (document: A/57/280) and also the gist of his intervention before the second preparatory meeting (Precom 2) for the World Summit of the Information Society (held in Geneva, 17-27 February 2003),

Having considered the recommendations of the meeting of the Committee of Experts concerned with revising and updating mechanisms of the joint Islamic information action held in Jeddah on May 4-7, 2002 (particularly the recommendations of the Committee on New Technologies in Radio and TV and the recommendations of the Co-coordinating Committee between Officials of News and Programs of T.V. Satellite Channels – both private and public – in Member States),

Having also considered the two drafts of the "Summit Declaration" (WSIS/PC-2/3021/TD/GEN/002) and the "Summit Plan of Action" (WSIS/PC-2/30217/GEN/0003) issued by the WSIS Second Preparatory Committee (Geneva – February 17-27, 2002),

Taking due account of the Report of the Secretary General on issues related to the information society;

1. Reaffirms that the progress of information and communication technology in Member States should be considered a key priority for the achievement of comprehensive and sustained development. This may be attained by:

1.1. Shaping the features of an information society through specialized information and communication institutions and all other related services.

1.2. Adequately recording the requirements and aspirations of the Member States at forthcoming Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers to enable them to effectively contribute to the WSIS in its two phases: Geneva (March 3-5, 2003 and Tunis (November 16-18, 2005).

2. Requests the General Secretariat to contribute effectively at the regional and world preparatory meetings of the WSIS in its two phases (Geneva and Tunis), and to coordinate the participation of Member States particularly during the second phase of the World Summit in Tunis (November 16-18, 2005) with a view to:

2.1. Ensuring that Member States reach comparable views regarding the Summit agenda items,

2.2. Ensuring cooperation among Member States for the purpose of bridging the digital gap between them and the advanced States.

3. Requests the Ministerial Follow-up Committee to meet in October 2003 in one of the Member States with the attendance of Ministry representatives concerned with information and communication technology in order to prepare a document to be submitted by Member States at the WSIS in its first phase in Geneva (December 3-5, 2003).

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

Resolution No. 5/6-ICIM on Islamic Information and the Cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine

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The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter and referring to the Islamic resolutions affirming that the cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif constitutes the core of the Palestine issue and the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that a comprehensive and just peace will not be achieved without restoring Al-Quds Al-Sharif to Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the State of Palestine;

Referring to the resolutions of international legitimacy and the strong condemnations issued by the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers throughout its previous five sessions against Israel's persistence in its repressive and terrorist practices and measures as well as its continuous violation of the resolutions of international legitimacy and peace agreements, its continued application of the internationally rejected policy of settlements, its expansion of existing settlements, its confiscation of Palestinian and Arab properties, its desecration of holy places, and its vandalization of Islamic and Christian shrines;

Referring to resolutions No. 12/4-ICIM and No. 12/5-ICIM adopted respectively by the Fourth and Fifth Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers (ICIM) on the cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Palestine, and the occupied Arab territories and referring also to the recommendations of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee (Tehran 6-7 November 2001);

Taking into cognizance the need to support the organs and institutions of the Palestinian Authority in the field of information and communication, in the wake of Israel's bombardment and destruction of equipment of Palestinian information facilities and buildings;

Reaffirming that information and communication media are the most effective means that can be used by governments and institutions to express their national political and cultural positions and identity;

1- Strongly condemns Israel for its arbitrary practices and measures and brutal crimes perpetrated on a daily basis in the form of aggressions against journalists and constraints imposed on the media, including killing of civilians, destruction of houses, the occupation of towns, blockading of Palestinian areas, sieging the Palestinian President, confiscating Palestinian lands, and building settlements on them.

2- To urge the Member States once again to extend all forms of assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of information and communication.

3- To launch an urgent appeal to the Member States to extend assistance to the Palestinian Authority to support and develop its radio and television corporation, and to exchange programmes and expertise with it in this field.

4- Requests the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to organize in London next June an information seminar on Al-Quds Al-Sharif to expose the Israeli practices intended at Judaizing it. The seminar is to be held in coordination with the Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the UNESCO, ISESCO and regional as well as international organizations.

5- Requests the General Secretariat to organize in Washington next November an information seminar on the Israeli settlement colonialization in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Seminar is to be held in Coordination with the Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

6- Calls on the media in the Member States:

a. **To focus** on the condemnation of all legislative, administrative, and settlement procedures and measures aimed at altering the legal status of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to emphasize that they are null and void and stand in contradiction with the resolutions of international legitimacy and international covenants and conventions.

b. **To highlight** the daily crimes, massacres, and violations of human rights perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people and to focus on condemning Israeli settlements, the confiscation of Palestinian lands, and all illegitimate measures and practices perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including the harsh conditions suffered by detainees and prisoners inside Israeli occupation prisons.

- c. **To focus** on the question of the Palestinian refugees and emphasize Israel's historical responsibility in the creation of the tragedy of the Palestinian refugees; and to call on the international community to assume its responsibility in securing their return to their homeland in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy, particularly the United Nations General Assembly resolution No. 194.
- d. **To intensify** the production and exchange of media programmes with the Palestinian media and to refer to Palestinian sources as authoritative reference in following up political events and developments.
- e. **To coordinate** with western media organs to show available information material of Israeli aggression, including killings and destruction, and violation of human rights; and to use foreign media organs to address world opinion and highlight the truth of the Palestinian cause and the suffering of the Palestinian people, and to correct the image projected by the Israeli media;

7- Calls on the Member States which have adequate means:

- f. **To assist** the Palestinian Ministry of Information in producing the second fictional and documentary film on "Al-Quds Al-Sharif" as a follow-up of the experience of the film "Behind the Fences", which received great interest by the world media, and also to capitalize on the film material gleaned by the director of the film.
- g. **To contribute** to the production of the CD-ROM on Al-Quds in accordance with the study prepared by the OIC General Secretariat.
- h. **To contribute** to the establishment of a permanent website for Al-Quds on the internet in coordination with the General Secretariat.

8- Hails the production of the film "Al-Quds on Another Day", which won several Arab and international awards, particularly the Award of Cannes Cinema Festival in 2002.

9- Welcomes the resolution of the international conference on the documentation of war crimes organized by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) in Rabat, on 27-28 February 2003 to establish an international observatory for the documentation of Israeli crimes, and appeals to Member States and regional and international organizations to extend all forms of assistance to this observatory to enable it carry out its duty in the best manner possible.

10- Requests the OIC Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

Resolution No. 6/6-ICIM

On Islamic States Broadcasting organization (ISBO)

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Recalling Resolution No. 10/5-ICIM on the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO) adopted by the Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 1-2 December 1999;

Recalling resolution No. 5/7-INF (COMIAC) adopted by the Seventh Session of COMIAC, held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal from 17 to 18 December 2002 on the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization;

Having taking note of the recommendation of the Session of the First Meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee derived from the Fifth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 6 and 7 November 2001 on the Islamic States Broadcasting organization;

Having taken note of the Reports of the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Secretary General of ISBO on the various activities of ISBO;

Bearing in mind the efforts and the continued support of H.E. the Chairman of ISBO Executive Council;

Commending the efforts exerted by ISBO to continue implementing and developing its programmes and plans to broadcast its radio and television programmes on the internet through its website WWW.ISBO.ORG;

1- **Reiterates** the importance of Member States' support to programme exchanges among themselves by providing ISBO with radio, television and documentary programmes produced in Member States. Such programmes should have good quality content and should be in Arabic, English, French and, if available in other languages.

2- **Urges** the Member States of the importance of the Second Edition of the International Fair of Television Production of the Member States scheduled to be held in Islamabad in 2003 and requests the Pakistani Radio and Television Corporation to expedite the necessary preparations to hold this Edition of the Fair at the specified time.

3- **Pays tribute** to the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for its patronage and material support for the Organization, and commends it for its donation of \$100,000 dollars of which the Organization has already received the first installment of \$50,000.

3- **Expresses** thanks and appreciation to Member States which have settled their contributions fully or partially to the budgets of the Organization, and urges Member States anew to settle, on a regular basis, their financial obligations and to settle their arrears toward ISBO in order to enable it to implement its plans and programmes particularly at this time when biased media campaigns are being launched against Islam and its noble ideas..

4- **Requests** the Secretary General of ISBO to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Sixth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers and to the Seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, in coordination with the General Secretariat.

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Resolution No. 7/6-ICIM
On International Islamic News Agency (IINA)

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Recalling Res. ICIM 5/11 issued by the Fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Teheran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 1st and 2nd December, 1999 on the International Islamic News Agency (IINA).

Recalling also Res. INF(COMIAC) 5/12 issued by the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 27 and 28 March 1996 on the International Islamic News Agency (IINA).

Recalling also Res. 7/16 INF(COMIAC) issued by the Seventh Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 17 and 18 December 2002.

Having taken note too of the reports of the OIC Secretary General and the Director General of the International Islamic News Agency on the latter's activities and needs.

Mindful of the importance of extending every necessary support to promote IINA and boost its capacity in broadcasting updates on Information activities, defending Islamic causes and clarifying them, reporting on achievements in the Islamic States and bonding Muslim minorities across the world.

Referring to the need for IINA to enhance its cooperation with the national Islamic news agencies in the Islamic world:

1- **Invites** the Member States to settle their contributions to the 2003 budget of the Islamic International News Agency (IINA).

- 2- **Invites** the Member States to settle their arrears in terms of contributions for the previous years, whether in part or in full.
- 3- **Urges** the Member States to second writers and translators to work at IINA, with their salaries being covered by their respective states, and to instruct their national news agencies and information institutions, to provide IINA with news, reports and information reports and feature articles on development, Islamic affairs and cultural issues.

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Resolution No. 8/6-ICIM

On Islamic Organization for Education, Science and Culture (ISESCO)

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Recalling the resolutions issued by the Islamic Summit and other Conferences as well as those of the relevant Standing Committees, particularly the Seventh Session of COMIAC;

Having taken note of the report of ISESCO's Director General on the excellent activities which ISESCO carried out for the benefit of Member States and Islamic societies and which contributed to the promotion of educational, scientific, cultural and information-related action in the Member States;

A- Invites ISESCO to:

- 1- **Step up** activities its carried out around the world for the redress of the Islamic image in the west and to face up to the campaigns orchestrated by various international media aimed at maligning the Islamic faith and sanctities, particularly after the events of 11 September 2001.
- 2- **Continue to organize** successful international seminars as it has been convening on dialogue among civilization, all within the framework of the implementation of the ten-year programme for inter-civilizational dialogue which was entrusted to it.
- 3- **Follow up** the implementation of the Islamic TV satellite project, in collaboration with the Member States and to report thereon to the Seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.
- 4- **Continue** the production of high-quality documentary films, information material, pamphlets and books containing subjects, scientific and educational researches such as to meet the Islamic Ummah's needs and aspirations to achieve its comprehensive promotion, and such as to make a contribution towards educating others about the noble Islamic faith and to disseminate its lofty principles and values and face up to the deliberate smear-campaigns against Islam and Muslims.
- 5- **Continue** establishing effective cooperation relations with the major international and regional organizations, for the implementation of additional joint-programs that would contribute to ISESCO's international radiance and educate the world about Islamic civilization.

B- Requests the information media in the Member States to define the diverse activities of ISESCO, its programmes and projects and to bring up to date the educational, scientific, cultural, civilizational and informational trends in the Islamic World

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Resolution No.9/6-ICIM

on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Taking into consideration the Report submitted by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art And Culture (IRCICA), a subsidiary organ of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, **commend** the efforts of the Centre in the field of scientific information as it provides an important means to introduce issues on Islamic civilisation and encourages studies about them in order to raise more awareness among our communities. It also provides opportunities for increasing activities of cultural dialogue among people and nations and encouraging studies and documentary operations in this field in a way that will allow a full awareness of the common issues of the Ummah and contribute efforts towards advancing development issues for our countries.

Express appreciation to the Centre for the successful employment of the available scientific media means such as: the internet; publications; its newsletter; producing documentary films; organizing exhibitions; organizing seminars, conferences, study meetings and lectures; organizing international competitions in the field of Islamic architecture, calligraphy, crafts, and photography; producing media kits and press releases about these activities for distribution to mass media channels in order to make them known to the concerned researchers and students in this field.

Taking note with recognition the various activities taken by the Centre for raising more awareness about the importance of the Islamic cultural heritage in various parts of the Muslim world in addition to the efforts aimed to restore this heritage and preserve it, the Conference:

- 1- **Welcome** the plan of IRCICA to organize the international congress on the role of Islamic civilisation in building universal civilisation planned to be held this year in Sharjah, U.A.E. under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohamad Al-Qasimi, Ruler of Sharjah;
- 2- **Commend** the plans of IRCICA to undertake a series of activities within its program aimed to introduce the Islamic civilization, Namely: international seminar on Islamic civilisation in East Africa" (Kampala, Uganda) to be organised in cooperation with the Islamic University of Uganda on 15-17 October 2003; International Symposium on the calendar and civilisational symbol, in Istanbul this year, in cooperation with the international Islamic call society; the second international Symposium on Islamic civilisation in the Balkans, in Albania, on 4-6 December 2003; and the second Symposium on Islamic History, Arts And Culture in South Asia planned to be held in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh.
- 3- **Commend** the plan of the Centre to undertake the Sixth International Calligraphy Competition which will be dedicated to the memory of the illustrious Iranian calligrapher Mir Imad El-Hassan (961-1024 H / 1554-1615 A.D.).
- 4- **Express** appreciation to IRCICA Crafts Development Program which is organised to raise more awareness about the importance of this field in a way that will encourage the process of its documentation and promotion due to the opportunities it provides, Namely its contribution in promoting aspects of culture, heritage, tourism and economy of the Member States. The Conference also commend the successful organization of the latest activity within this program: the International Congress on Islamic Arts And Crafts held in Isfahan, Iran, on 4-9 October 2002, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Organisation of Culture and Islamic relations of the Ministry. The Conference also called IRCICA to continue promoting this important program through more various activities;
- 5- **Appreciate** the series of architectural workshops called Mostar 2004 which were held on the contemporary architectural heritage which continued along with the Eighth Architectural Workshop held in Mostar between 9 July-02 August 2002;
- 6- **Commend** the plan of IRCICA to organise the fourth IRCICA award for excellence in research and the other award for contribution in the field of patronage and preservation of Islamic heritage;
- 7- **Call the** Mass Media Channels in the Muslim world to introduce the activities of the Centre including the implemented scientific research projects.

Resolution No. 10/6-ICIM on the Composition of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, from 5-8 Muharram 1424H (8-11 March 2003);

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences of Information Ministers on the constitution of Ministerial Follow-up Committee, in particular the Fifth Session held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 1-2 December 1999, which maintained the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Fourth Session derived from the Fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers with the addition of State of Qatar as a new member, and under the chairmanship of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Decides that the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of the Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers shall be constituted as follows:

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|----------|
| 1- | Arab Republic of Egypt | : | Chairman |
| 2- | Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan | : | Member |
| 3- | Islamic Republic of Iran | : | Member |
| 4- | Republic of Chad | : | Member |
| 5- | Republic of Tunisia | : | Member |
| 6- | Kingdom of Saudi Arabia | : | Member |
| 7- | Republic of Senegal | : | Member |
| 8- | Arab Republic of Syria | : | Member |
| 9- | Republic of Sierra Leone | : | Member |
| 10- | State of Palestine | : | Member |
| 11- | Malaysia | : | Member |
| 12- | General Secretariat of OIC | : | Member |

Other members are the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO), International Islamic News Agency (IINA), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA).