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ISTANBUL DECLARATION

ADOPTED BY THE

(51st) SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(UNDER THE THEME: THE OIC IN A TRANSFORMING WORLD)

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE

21st – 22nd JUNE, 2025

(25th – 26th DHU'L-HIJJAH 1446H)

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We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), participating in the 51st Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), held in Istanbul, Türkiye, on 21-22 June 2025,

Reaffirming our firm commitment to the purposes, objectives and principles of our Organization as well as to all the resolutions adopted by the OIC Summits and the Council of Foreign Ministers,

Determined to further strengthen the bonds of unity and solidarity among the Islamic Ummah,

1. **Express** the aspiration of OIC, the second largest international organization after the UN, to play an increasing role in an environment of international fragmentation, weakened international institutions and transforming world, and, the need of accelerating reforms to scale up OIC as a major international actor in terms of regional and global stability, shifting geostrategic balances, multilateralism, rule based international system,
2. **Reaffirm** the centrality of the Palestinian cause for the OIC, established in 1969 following the arson attack on Masjid Al Aqsa, firm support for the establishment of a sovereign, independent, contiguous Palestinian state on the 1967 lines with East Jerusalem as its capital and that two-State solution is the only viable solution to reach peace and stability in the region for all,
3. **Reaffirm** the importance of convening, as soon as possible, the United Nations High-Level Conference on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution and relevant United Nations resolutions, under the co-chairmanship of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the French Republic; resuming the work of the working groups established pursuant to the conference; and redoubling efforts to ensure its success; and call all UN Member States to participate actively in the conference once its new date is announced,
4. **Condemn** the ongoing Israeli campaign of genocide against the Gaza Strip, which has continued for over 19 months, as well as the systematic campaigns of destruction and killing in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, aimed at eliminating the Palestinian cause, including the Palestinian people’s right to self-determination; reaffirm the importance of achieving a permanent and sustainable ceasefire and of implementing Security Council Resolution 2735, with a view to ending the aggression, advancing the Arab-Islamic recovery and reconstruction plan for the Gaza Strip, and ensuring the provision of political and financial support to the Palestinian Government to enable it to assume its responsibilities in the Gaza Strip, as it does in the West Bank, including Eastern Al-Quds,
5. **Support** the intensive diplomatic efforts of the Ministerial Committee established by the Joint Arab-Islamic Summit on Gaza to press for an immediate ceasefire, the delivery of humanitarian aid to all areas of the Gaza Strip, and the initiation of practical steps toward the implementation of the two-State solution,
6. **Condemn** the actions of Israel, the occupying Power, in using starvation as a method of genocide by obstructing the entry of humanitarian assistance and preventing United Nations humanitarian agencies from carrying out their mandates, with the aim of forcibly displacing the Palestinian population. In this regard, we call for the rejection of all forms of forced displacement of the Palestinian people, the urgent opening of crossings and borders, the unimpeded and adequate delivery of humanitarian aid, and the provision of protection for the Palestinian civilian population,

7. **Express** support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Near East for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) which plays an irreplaceable role in providing services to Palestine refugees and **call on** the international community to continue their support to UNRWA both politically and financially in the face of worsening humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian lands, including al-Quds,
8. **Express** our unequivocal rejection of any schemes aimed at forcibly displacing Palestinians from their land, as such action constitutes a liquidation of the Palestinian Cause and a grave violation of international law; and **also** reject Israel's systematic targeting of the essential life necessities in Gaza with the deliberate intention of creating impossible living conditions and thus forcing Palestinians to leave their land,
9. **Affirm** our support for the Arab-Islamic Plan for Early Recovery and Reconstruction of the Gaza Strip, which demonstrates that it is possible to reconstruct the Strip without the need to displace Palestinians; and **commend** Egypt's humanitarian efforts to ensure the delivery of humanitarian and relief aid to the Strip.
10. **Express** our deep concern over the Israeli attempts to alter the civilizational features of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, distort its Arab and Islamic character, and undermine its legal status—particularly efforts aimed at changing the status quo at Al-Aqsa Mosque, and **stress** the need to preserve the identity of the Holy City as a symbol of tolerance and coexistence among the three monotheistic religions, and to support its steadfast inhabitants. In this regard, we commend the efforts of Al-Quds Committee and its executive arm, the Bayt Mal Al-Quds Al-Sharif Agency,
11. **Condemn** destabilization policies of Israel in the region and its recent attacks on Iran, Syria, and Lebanon, constituting flagrant violation of sovereignty and security of these countries and international law; **call on** the international community to take deterrent measures to stop this aggression and make Israel accountable for crimes committed; **decides** to establish an open ended Ministerial Contact group, which will be tasked with establishing regular contacts with the relevant regional and international parties, in order to support Descalation efforts, stop the aggression against Iran and to achieve a peaceful settlement,
12. **Condemn** firmly the aggression of Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran, **stress** the urgent need to stop Israeli attacks and their great concern regarding this dangerous escalation, threatening human, economic and environmental situation in the region.
13. **Express** solidarity with the government and people of Pakistan, express our deep concern over the recent military escalation in the South Asia region, including the unjustified strikes carried out on multiple locations in Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and stress the need to exercise maximum restraint and avoid actions that would destabilize the region,
14. **Emphasize** that the ceasefire, announced on 10 May 2025, must be faithfully adhered to, in the interest of regional peace and stability; Acknowledge, with appreciation, the efforts made by various Member States for de-escalation of tensions;
15. **Call** for strict adherence to bilateral agreements, including Indus Waters Treaty; and stress the importance of a broad-based dialogue for peaceful settlement of all outstanding disputes between Pakistan and India;
16. **Recall** the two reports of the UN Security Council Panel of Experts (No. S/2024/65), dated 15 January 2024, and (No. 2025 / 239), dated 14 January 2025,
17. **Express** deep concern over growing Islamophobia, a form of racism and discrimination, condemn all acts of violence based on religion or belief, hate speech and extremism motivated by discrimination on the grounds of religion, as well as efforts fueling intercultural divisions and tensions; call on the international community to take effective measures to combat extremism, hate speech, defamation of religions, negative stereotyping and the stigmatization of people on the basis of religion, belief or ethnicity at the national and global level,

18. **Underline** that terrorism and extremism cannot be associated with any religion, race, ethnicity or nationality and should be unequivocally condemned regardless of its forms and manifestations that continue threatening the global peace and security,
19. **Affirm** the experience and capacity acquired by some member countries during decolonization process are granting to the OIC an important capacity for mediation resolving conflicts between the OIC Member States and other UN member states,
20. **Welcome** the progress in the normalization process between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Armenia, including the conclusion of negotiations on the bilateral Agreement on Establishment of Peace and Inter-State Relations, and urge Armenia to address the remaining legal and political obstacles to for its signing, and thus, cease and desist from undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. Reaffirm our full solidarity with the Government and People of Azerbaijan in their efforts to rehabilitate and reconstruct the liberated territories, heavily impacted by Armenian aggression, and call on OIC member states to actively support Azerbaijan's demining efforts, which are vital for ensuring safety, enabling reconstruction, and securing the dignified return of displaced persons;
21. **Express** our support for the tangible and commendable efforts undertaken by the OIC Member States: the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Federal Republic of Somalia and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the context of their non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council and their advocacy in support of Islamic causes,
22. **Welcome** the efforts of the Syrian interim government for the integration of Syria into the regional and international system, **emphasize** to sustain political and financial support to Syria in order to ensure stability and security; **express** support for the initiation of cooperation between the Republic of Türkiye and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group aimed at contributing to early recovery and reconstruction efforts in Syria, **and encourage** the exploration of joint efforts to address priority needs in sectors such as energy and infrastructure,
23. **Affirm** our principled position calling for respecting the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of all the Member States,
24. **Support** the aspirations of the Muslim Turkish Cypriots to secure their inherent rights and stress the importance of finding a negotiated, mutually acceptable, just, lasting and sustainable settlement of the Cyprus issue and emphasize the importance of developing contacts with the Muslim Turkish Cypriots in order to overcome the unjust isolation imposed upon them,
25. **Reiterate** our support for the Turkish Muslim Minority of Western Thrace and Turkish Muslim Population of the Dodecanese in Greece to ensure the full enjoyment of their basic rights and freedoms and affirm that their religious and cultural rights should be duly respected,
26. **Express deep concern** over the destiny of hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis forcibly and systematically expelled from the territory of the present-day Armenia, and condemn the destruction and misappropriation of Islamic cultural heritage therein as a serious violation of international law. Reaffirm the inalienable right of expelled Azerbaijanis to peaceful, safe and dignified return to their places of origin in the territory of the resent-day Armenia in accordance with international law, and deplore Armenia's refusal to engage in dialogue with the Western Azerbaijani Community, non-governmental organizations advocating for the restoration of the violated human right of the Azerbaijanis expelled from the territory of present-day Armenia.
27. **Renew** solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir and express full support for their inalienable right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council and OIC resolutions, and the wishes of the Kashmiri people; and **condemn** the massive human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir,

28. **Express** our concern over the grave human rights violations primarily against the Rohingya Muslim community, as well as other Muslim groups in Myanmar, call for urgent actions to defend the fundamental rights and freedoms of this community, **confirm** our strong commitment to bring to a successful conclusion of the case filed by the Gambia before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar, and speedy repatriation of the forcibly Displaced Rohingyas to Myanmar, their homeland,
29. **Regarding express our deep concern over** the destructive policies pursued by the leadership of the Republika Srpska entity, which have placed undue pressure on the judicial system and institutions, thereby undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina and posing a serious threat to the foundations of the Dayton Peace Agreement and the Constitutional order of Bosnia and Herzegovina's constitutional and institutional order and urge all international partners to collaborate in ensuring adherence to the Dayton Peace Agreement and the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
30. **Commend** the vital role of the COMCEC towards addressing the common development challenges of the Member States through its flagship programs and projects, sectoral working groups and project support programs,
31. **Commend** the efforts of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in protecting and safeguarding the Islamic and Christian holy sites in the city of Al-Quds, and stress the significant role of the historical Hashemite custodianship of these sanctities in protecting and preserving their Arab, Islamic and Christian identity, and maintaining the current historical and legal status quo,
32. **Commend** the UNESCO Resolutions designating *Al-Aqsa Mosque* and *Al-Haram Al Qudsi Al Sharif* as synonymous names, and reaffirm that Bab Al Magharbeh is an integral part of *Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif*, and the right of the "Directorate of Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem Affairs" of the Jordanian Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs and Holy Sites to restore Bab Al Magharbeh and undertake the maintenance and preservation of *Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif*, and regulate entry into it, being the sole legal authority with exclusive jurisdiction over *Al-Aqsa Mosque* with its entire area of 144 dunums, as a place of worship exclusively for Muslims, protected by the international law and the historical and legal status quo,
33. **Welcome** the upcoming Islamic Summit Conference to be convened in Azerbaijan in 2026 and look forward to its contribution to unity, solidarity, and cooperating within the Islamic world,