

## FINAL DECLARATION

1. In accordance with the decision of the Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Tripoli, and at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Senegal, the Ninth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was convened in Dakar, Republic of Senegal from 17 to 22 Jumad Al Awal 1398 H (corresponding to 24 to 28 April, 1978 AD).

2. The Conference was preceded by a meeting of the Preparatory Committee consisting of the Senior officials of the Member States.

3. The following Member States took part in the Conference: Republic of Afghanistan, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, State of Bahrain, People's Republic of Bangladesh, United Republic of Cameroun, Republic of Chad, Republic of Comoro Islands, Republic of Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Gabon, Republic of the Gambia, Republic of Guinea, Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Republic of Indonesia, Empire of Iran, Republic of Iraq, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, State of Kuwait, Republic of Lebanon, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives Islands Republic, Republic of Mali, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of Niger, Sultanate of Oman, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Palestine, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, Democratic Republic of Somalia, Democratic Republic of Sudan, Syria Arab Republic, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Turkey, Republic of Uganda, State of the United Arab Emirates, Republic of Upper Volta, Yemen Arab Republic, and Yemen People's Democratic Republic.

4. The following States and Organizations attended the Conference as observers/ guests:

STATE: NIGERIA

INTERNATIONAL AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:

The United Nations, Organization of African Unity, League of Arab States, Group of Non-Aligned Countries, Islamic Development Bank.

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS:

International Islamic News Agency (IINA) Islamic States Broadcasting Organization (ISBO), Statistical, Economic and Social research and training center for Islamic countries in Ankara.

ASSOCIATIONS AND ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS:

Rabitah Al Alam Al Islami (Mecca)

Muslim World Congress (Karachi)

Jamiat Al Dawa Al Islamiah (Tripoli)

Higher Council of Islamic Affairs, Egypt (Cairo)

Islamic Council of Europe (London)

Federation of international Arabo Islamic Schools (Riyadh)

World Assembly of Muslim Youth (Riyadh)

Moro National Liberation Front.

5. The Conference was opened by His Excellency Dr. Ali Abdessalam Al-Treiki, Foreign Secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, in his capacity as outgoing

Chairman of the Eighth Islamic Conference.

6. The Conference unanimously elected His Excellency the Minister of State Babacar Ba, Foreign Minister of Senegal as its Chairman, His Excellency Farrouk Kaddoumi, Head of the Political Department of the PLO and His Excellency Agha Shahi, Adviser for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as Vice-Chairman and His Excellency Ambassador Ahmed Al-Atrash of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as its Rapporteur. His Excellency Professor Mohammed Shamsul Haq, Member, President's Council of Advisers in Charge of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

7. His Excellency Abdou Diouf, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal inaugurated the Conference. Welcoming the delegates in his inaugural address, the Prime Minister underscored the following important points: Palestine problem, the problem of Muslim minorities in the world, racism and apartheid in the continent of Africa, the need for cooperation among Islamic countries in all fields and Senegal's endeavour to cultivate and develop understanding and a sense of brotherhood among all faiths through the teaching of Islam.

8. On behalf of the Conference, the Foreign Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and Malaysia representing their respective regions expressed their thanks and appreciation for the inspiring and valuable inaugural address of His Excellency Abdou Diouf, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal. The Foreign Minister of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya also addressed the Conference as the outgoing Chairman of the Eighth Islamic Conference.

9. The Conference received congratulatory messages from President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit of the Republic of Turkey, Colonel Muammar EI-Gaddafi of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Colonel Gashmit of the Republic of Yemen. Messages were also received from the UN Secretary General, Secretary General of the Arab League, Secretary General of the OAU and the Director General of the UNESCO.

10. The Conference admitted by acclamation the Republic of Djibouti as the forty-second member of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and heartily welcomed Djibouti as a member.

11. After adoption of the Agenda by the Conference, the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference submitted his Annual Report reviewing the wide ranging activities of the Organization during the previous year in the political, economic, Islamic and Cultural fields received appreciation of his report.

12. The Conference listened with fraternal feelings to the statement of President Rauf Denktash, leader of the Muslim Turkish Community of Cyprus who recalled, inter alia, the struggle of his gallant people aimed at finding a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem, on the basis of a bicomunal, bi-zonal, federal system. He expressed his appreciation for the support extended to them by member countries of the Islamic Conference in their just struggle. Mr. Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front also addressed the Conference and described the struggle of his people.

13. The Conference reviewed the present world situation with particular emphasis on the questions concerning the Islamic countries and Muslim minorities and communities elsewhere and underlined the need for reinforcement of unity and solidarity among the

member states. The Conference discussed various agenda items concerning political, legal information, economic, social, cultural, administrative and financial affairs. The deliberations of the Conference were marked by a spirit of Islamic brotherhood, accommodation and deep commitment to the cause of Islam.

#### IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE:

The Conference affirmed the commitment of Islamic States to support the Arab cause, and their pledge to extend political, material and military support to the Arab-front-line states and to the Palestine Liberation Organization in their legitimate struggle to recover all their occupied territories and national rights.

It also affirmed that just and permanent peace in the Middle East can be only based on:

- a) Israel's complete and unconditional withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and
- b) restoration of the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and their exercise of these rights, and foremost the right to repatriation, to self determination and the establishment of an independent State in Palestine.

The Conference strongly condemned Israel for its aggression on and occupation of South Lebanon. It called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli forces; and in case this immediate withdrawal is delayed, invites the Security Council to take measures and impose sanctions as are provided for in Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. It called upon states and peoples all over the world to adopt a decisive stand against Israeli intransigence; its attempts to perpetuate its policy of aggression and expansion; its continued refusal to implement United Nations resolutions and its obstruction of efforts to establish just and permanent peace; and considers that such an attitude on the part of Israel constitutes a dire threat to world peace and security and to urge states and peoples exposed to Israeli aggression in their struggle to put an end to this aggression.

The Conference called upon all States and peoples of the World to refrain from extending any military, human or material support that would encourage the continuation of Israeli occupation of Arab territories, and declared that continued support to Israel from those States will oblige Member States to adopt the appropriate attitude against these States. It condemned the position taken by those States that provide Israel with assistance and arms, and considers that the real purpose of submerging Israel with such huge quantities of means of death and destruction is to consolidate Israel as a base of colonialism and racism in the Third World in general, and in Africa and Asia in particular.

The Conference condemned the complicity of Israel and South Africa, which confirm the identity of their aggressive and racist policies and their cooperation in all fields to threaten the security and independence of African and Arab countries. It also strongly condemned Israel for the continuation of its policies and practices applied in the occupied territories, the establishment of settlements to which outsiders are moved, the destruction of houses, confiscation of property, evacuation, deportation expulsion, banishment and removal of Arab inhabitants and denying them the right to return, as well as mass detention, maltreatment and torture of those inhabitants, the obliteration of archaeological, spiritual and cultural features, obstructing the exercise of liberties, creeds, and religious rites, denial of individual rights and illegitimate exploitation of wealth and natural resources of occupied territories and their inhabitants.

The Conference declared that these Israeli policies and practices constitute serious

violations to the United Nations Charter, and particularly to the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the principles and provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians at the Time of War, and further constitute a major barrier to the establishment of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East.

It reaffirmed that all measures taken by Israel to change the political, demographic, geographical, economic, cultural and religious features of the occupied territories, or any part thereof, are illegal, null and void; and demands that Israel promptly revoke all such measures and put an end to their implementation; and calls on all states to abstain from any act that could be exploited by Israel, or could help Israel, to apply such policies and practices.

It declared that Israel is responsible for all its measures of changing, exploiting, destroying or confiscating Arab States and peoples whose territories are under Israeli occupation, to maintain permanent and complete sovereignty on and to have full control over their natural and other resources, wealth and economic activities; and affirms their right to recover these resources, wealth and activities, and to obtain full compensation for any exploitation, depletion, damage or losses.

It reaffirmed that all kinds of diplomatic, consular, economic, cultural, artistic, sport, tourist and communication links with the Zionist entity should be severed on all official and other levels. It considers such measures as a collective obligation on all Member States, and should be implemented as soon as possible and requests the Secretary General to submit to the Tenth Islamic Conference a report on its implementation guided by the resolutions of the Conference of Islamic Kings and Heads of State and Government and those of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Palestine question.

The Conference reaffirmed that support of the efforts of the Palestine people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to regain their lands and to establish their inalienable national rights, is both a responsibility and duty made imperative by Islamic solidarity, to which concrete and practical expression should be given. It strongly regretted the failure of the Security Council to give concrete expression to the UN Resolutions concerning the national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. It reaffirmed the national, inalienable and inviolable rights of the Palestinian people as provided for in General Assembly Resolution No. 3236 (A-20), and their right to establish an independent state in Palestine.

The Conference called on all Member States to provide the Palestinian people with all forms of support in their legitimate struggle against Zionist and racist colonialism in order to regain their national and inalienable rights, the restoration of which constitutes a basic condition for establishing a just peace in the Middle East.

The Conference reaffirmed the fact that the Palestine problem is the core of the conflict in the Middle East, that any denial of this fact does not serve the cause of world peace and that all efforts attempting to maintain the Zionist racist presence in occupied Palestine either through sponsoring bilateral solutions or bypassing the core of the problem, will not lead to a just solution. The Conference, therefore, condemns and rejects these attempts and calls for resisting them in every way and manner, and condemns all policies and practices infringing on or deviating from the resolutions of the Conference of the Islamic States. It also reaffirmed the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people to work for the rejection of all forms of defeatist settlement and liquidationist schemes, and for defeating any settlement that would affect

the inalienable right of the Palestinian people in Palestine. The Conference emphasized the solidarity of Member States with the organization and urged all peace-loving countries in the world to support it. (Some countries expressed reservation on these paragraphs).

The Conference reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to continue the struggle in all its military and political forms for reestablishing their national and inalienable rights; particularly their right to return to Palestine and their right to self-determination and to establish their national independent state on their national soil. It called upon the United States of America to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization. It also reaffirmed the attachment of Muslims to Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) and the determination of all governments of Member States to work for its liberation and reestablish Arab Jurisdiction there, and their determination that the city should not be subject to bargaining or concessions. The Conference decided to give the required financial support to restore Arab and Muslim presence in the Holy City.

The Conference strongly condemned the Zionist entity's repeated violation of Palestinian and Arab human rights in the territories occupied since 1948 and 1967, its refusal to apply the Geneva Conventions of 1949 concerning the protection of civilians in a state of war, and its continued policies of land seizures, deportation of Palestinian citizens as well as its attempts to destroy the cultural heritage of Palestinian cities.

The Conference considers such policies and practices as war crimes and a challenge to all humanity. It strongly condemned Israel's aggression and occupation of Southern Lebanon, the shelling of refugee camps and Lebanese villages, the killing and destitution of women and children with all means including the use of cluster-bombs which stirred the indignation of the international community. The Conference called for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

The Conference strongly condemned all states that support Israel militarily, economically or in terms of manpower and urges them to cease such support immediately.

The Conference reaffirmed its resolutions on the Question of Cyprus adopted at its Seventh and Eighth Sessions held in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

The Conference recalling the agreement reached between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities in February 1977, welcomed the concrete and substantial proposals of the Turkish Muslim side for the resumption of the Inter-Communal talks, and expressed the hope that the inter-communal talks should be resumed, without further delay, in a constructive and meaningful way.

The Conference, supporting the principle of equality for the two Cypriot communities in an independent, sovereign, non-aligned, territorial, integral, bi-communal, federal republic, urged the members of the Conference to take all necessary measures for further strengthening effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

The Conference reiterated:

- i) its commitment to the complete and total elimination of all forms of colonialism, Apartheid and racial discrimination, and
- ii) its condemnation of Zionism, its policy and its oppressive activities against the people of Palestine, and

iii) its condemnation of the racist policies and oppressive activities against the peoples of Southern Africa.

It reaffirmed the general declaration that Zionism and Apartheid are twin forces of racism adopted by the World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa held in Lisbon, Portugal in June 1977.

The Conference strongly condemned the activities of Zionism which pose a serious and ever-increasing threat to international peace and security. It also condemned the existence of racist and colonial regimes in South Africa and Palestine and the devious attempts of the governments of South Africa and Rhodesia to deprive the people of Zimbabwe and Namibia of their legitimate right to freedom and independence.

It urged the Islamic States to redouble their efforts individually and collectively to assist in the elimination of the evils of Zionism, Apartheid and Racism.

The Conference decided to send a message of solidarity with the people of Namibia to the Secretary General of the UN on the occasion of the Special UN Session on Namibia.

The Conference expressed its profound concern over the situation prevailing in the Horn of Africa, called upon all powers foreign to Africa to refrain from all acts of interference and military intervention in the internal affairs of African peoples and invited the two parties to the conflict to seek a just, peaceful and negotiated settlement to their disputes, under the auspices of the OAU, and praises the latter for its efforts designed to achieve that objective.

The Conference reaffirmed the continuing moral and material support by its Member States in order to enable Mozambique to overcome the difficulties arising from its full application to the United Nations sanctions against the racist regime in Rhodesia and called on its Member States to continue their assistance to Mozambique and requested the Secretary General to remain in touch with the Government of Mozambique and the UN Secretary General in order to coordinate action in this regard.

The Conference solemnly called upon the Member States of the Conference to grant prompt financial assistance to the Republic of Djibouti, either directly or through the General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference or the Islamic Solidarity Fund.

Noting with satisfaction that resolution 32/7 adopted by the 32nd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations investing the UN Secretary General with the mission of mediator between France and the Comores and considering that the occupation by France of the Comorian Isle of Mayotte constitutes an infringement on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a Member State in the Conference Organization, the Islamic Conference authorized the current Chairman of the Islamic Conference to enter into contact with the French authorities so that a process of negotiation would start between both as regards respect for the national unity and territorial integrity of the Comores.

The Conference reaffirmed the necessity of coordinating the activities of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the OAU at the international level in all spheres of common interest. It noted with satisfaction the contacts established between the two Organizations, particularly the working Sessions held in Jeddah, on 9th - 10th - 11th February, 1978, between the two Secretaries General and invited the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference to pursue his efforts aimed at concluding, as soon as possible, an Agreement on co-operation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Organization of

African Unity.

The Conference considered the report of the Secretary General on the situation of the Muslims in the Southern Philippines and expressed concern over the out-break of hostilities and the lack of progress in the solution of the problem. It called on both the Government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front as the legitimate representative of Muslims in the Southern Philippines to end all hostilities, respect the cease-fire agreement and resume negotiations on the basis of the Tripoli Agreement of 23rd December 1976 in order to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Quadripartite Ministerial Committee and the Secretary General for their efforts in trying to bring the two parties together and reconfirmed them in their missions of mediation in pursuance of previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conference. It also invited all Member States to extend their moral and material support to the Moro National Liberation Front and for the institution of internal autonomy on behalf of the Muslim Community in the Southern Philippines.

The Conference recalled its resolutions of previous years on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia as well as the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its Thirty-Second Session. It noted the positive developments including the declarations made at the highest level by governments of Southern Asian States, reaffirming their commitment not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programs exclusively to the economic and social advancement of their peoples.

The Conference urged the States of these regions to continue to make all possible efforts to establish Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. It called upon the nuclear powers to honour their obligations with regard to the de-nuclearization of these regions and requested the Islamic States to concert their positions, particularly at the forthcoming Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament to make these weapons-free-zones.

The Conference welcomed the resolution adopted by the XXXII Session of the United Nation's General Assembly calling on the nuclear powers, as a first step towards a total ban on the employment or threat of nuclear weapons, without infringing on existing treaties among themselves restraining the employment/threat of nuclear arms, to pledge not to resort to the employment of nuclear arms against those states that do not possess nuclear weapons. It also urged the nuclear powers to give serious consideration, during the coming special session of the General Assembly, to enlarge the scope of commitments contained in the UN General Assembly Resolution, mentioned-above, and to adopt the urgent methods, in all forms to reinforce the security of non-nuclear states.

Reaffirming the paramount religious and spiritual importance attached to Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) by all Islamic Countries and Muslims all over the world, the Conference reiterated that no efforts would be spared to ensure that the Arab Islamic Character of Al-Quds is preserved. It strongly condemned Israel for her continuing occupation of the Holy City, for the desecration of the Islamic monuments revered by Muslims throughout the world and for blatant interference in the practice of the Islamic faith. It called on the Member States to form a united front for the Liberation of Al-Quds from the illegal Israeli occupation and to restore Al-Quds to its previous Arab Islamic Status.

Confirming all previous resolutions, recommendations and measures and urging all Member States to implement them as soon as possible, the Conference endorsed the appeal to be

made by the Secretary General to urge Member States to make voluntary contributions, on the basis of the principles of the Charter and previous resolutions, as an expression of Islamic Solidarity towards the issue and the people of Al Quds and Palestine, as well as in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people in Al Quds and other occupied territories in Palestine. It requested the General Secretariat to continue following up the implementation of these resolutions and to take all necessary steps and measures towards this end, in full cooperation with the Governing Board of the Al-Quds Fund and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and to submit a detailed report on the results achieved in this respect to the Islamic Conference at its next session.

The Conference decided to increase the membership of the Al-Quds Committee from 13 to 15 and unanimously elected Bangladesh and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as the two new members of the Committee, in addition to the existing thirteen members all of whom were reelected unanimously for another term of three years.

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Emphasizing the need for frequent meetings at political levels to enable the member states to co-ordinate their governmental policies in an organized and regular manner to present a common front and create a maximum impact on the course of international organizations, the Conference resolved that there should be more periodic meetings at senior officials level to review and exchange views on recent political developments for coordinating the positions and policies of Member States. It also requested the Secretary General to take immediate steps to work out the details to hold such meetings in between the Foreign Ministers Conference in the Secretariat headquarters or any other suitable venue as and when necessary.

The Conference reaffirmed the importance it attaches to the Law of the Sea Conference as one of the most significant undertakings of the UN in the international field and called upon the Member States to take necessary steps with a view to strengthening cooperation and consultation among them at the Law of the Sea Conference which is currently meeting in Geneva and other forums related to it.

The Conference approved the establishment of a new department within the General Secretariat under the name of "Department of Muslim Communities in Non-Member States" to be entrusted with the task of providing information, data and statistics on these communities, organizing contacts between them, sponsoring their affairs within the framework of respecting the links between these communities and the states they belong to.

The Conference noted the candidatures of Bangladesh, Turkey and Tunisia for the Security Council and the candidature of Pakistan for the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and recommended that Member States support these candidatures.

The Conference affirmed the need to preserve the identity and tradition of Islamic cities, and to raise the level of services and public utilities in such cities by holding Conferences and Seminars and through the exchange of experience and studies amongst members. It approved the project to establish the Organization of Islamic cities. It requested the Secretary General to take the necessary measures for convening a preliminary Conference for representatives of Islamic capitals to draw the draft Statutes of the Organization, which would have its permanent headquarters in Holy Mecca.

The Conference appreciated the efforts of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization despite the short time which passed since its establishment and the paucity of its resources,



and reiterated its support for the Organization.

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The Conference agreed that the establishment of a wire service for the Islamic News Agency should remain one of its ultimate objectives in order to help it fulfil its duty.

Having considered the question of devising criteria for granting observer status to international organizations with the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Conference recognized that the matter was of fundamental importance and required careful study. The Conference, therefore, decided to reconsider the whole matter at its Tenth Session.

#### IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE,

The Conference reviewed the current International Economic situation with special emphasis on the relations between the developed and developing countries; and noted with concern the persisting unfavourable international economic and financial situation and growth prospects of the developing countries.

The Conference expressed its disappointment at the deadlock in negotiations for the establishment of an effective Common Fund, the disturbing trends of protectionism in the policies of the industrialized countries, the growing impediments to the trade of developing countries, in the markets of developed countries, the stagnation in the transfer of concessional resources from the developed to the developing countries, particularly the Most Severely Affected (MSA) and least developed among them, the persisting financial gap and deficits in the balance of payment in developing countries particularly the MSA and the least developed among them and the crushing burden of external debt.

The Conference expressed its total solidarity with the developing countries in their efforts to achieve positive and concrete results in economic negotiations with advanced countries. It welcomed the support and assistance given by some Islamic countries to their brother Islamic countries to alleviate their economic difficulties. It urged the developed countries to increase their transfer of resources in real terms to the developing countries and to adopt a positive attitude to revive the momentum of the negotiations in all United Nations forums and particularly in the United Nations Committee of the whole on the NIEO (New International Economic Order).

The Conference emphasized the importance of increasing economic cooperation and coordination among the Islamic countries in order to be able, together with other developing countries, to establish a suitable atmosphere for the North-South Dialogue, and called upon the Islamic States, which are all developing countries, to further strengthen their economic ties and to raise the level of coordination among each other so as to increase their bargaining power in the ongoing negotiations for the establishment of the NIEO. It urged the developing countries to consider the convening of a meeting of the Group of 77 at a high level prior to the first substantive session of the United Nations Committee of the Whole.

The Conference expressed its appreciation for the reports submitted to it by the first meeting of the Governors of Central Banks of Member States and the Group of Experts on: Trade, Planning and Development, Transport and Communications and Technical Cooperation. It approved the recommendations of these meetings of groups of Experts which have been endorsed by the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

The Conference expressed its satisfaction that a large number of Member States have already signed the General Agreement on Economic, Commercial and Technical Cooperation, and emphasized the importance of bringing the General Agreement into force as soon as possible.

The Conference noted with satisfaction the steps taken by the Government of the Republic of Turkey towards the functioning of the Statistical, Economic and Social Research Centre for Islamic countries, which is entrusted with the task of regular collection, collation and dissemination of statistical data and information on all aspects of economic cooperation among Member States and undertaking of the necessary studies.

The Conference welcomed the offer made by the Government of Bangladesh to establish the Islamic Centre for Vocational and Technical Training and Research. It approved the establishment of this Centre in Dacca with a view to catering the needs of the Islamic Countries for trained manpower.

The Conference called upon the General Secretariat to take all the necessary steps, administrative and financial, to render the Centre operational in 1978-79.

The Conference noted with satisfaction that following the meeting of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Islamic countries held at Istanbul, the representatives of these Chambers agreed to institutionalize their efforts for continuing cooperation through holding meetings at regular intervals. It noted with appreciation the offer made by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to establish the headquarters of the proposed Islamic Chamber in Karachi.

It approved the recommendation for the establishment of an Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchanges.

The Conference appreciated the offer of the Pakistan Federation of Chambers of Commerce to host a meeting of Islamic Chambers of Commerce and Industry in 1978, and the offer of Pakistan to establish the headquarters of the proposed Islamic Chamber in Karachi.

The Conference recognized the fundamental importance of industrialization to the process of economic development and recalled the Lima Declaration target of achieving at least 25% share for developing countries in world industrial production by the end of the century. In this connection, the Conference welcomed the proposal made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to convene, under the aegis of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, a high level Round Table Consultation on "Industrial and Technical Cooperation among Islamic Countries", during 1978 in collaboration with UNIDO and the Industrial Development Centre of Arab States.

The Conference noted with concern the continued dependence of most Islamic countries on external sources to meet their food requirements. It welcomed the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host in Cairo a high level meeting during 1979 to discuss cooperation to achieve food security in Islamic countries.

Recognizing the need for continued exchange of labour and know-how among Islamic countries in order to meet their requirements, the Conference emphasized the importance for regular collection and dissemination of information regarding the requirements and availability of manpower and the potentialities of transfer of technology from one Member State to the other through the General Secretariat, the Statistical, Economic and Social

Research and Training Centre in Ankara, and the Islamic Centre for Vocational and Technical Training and Research in Dacca.

Reaffirming its genuine desire to promote the activities of Islamic Banks throughout the Islamic Community and to ensure the necessary and effective coordination between National Islamic Banks and the Islamic Development Bank as well' as the economic institutions in Islamic countries, the Conference expressed its satisfaction at the establishment of the International Association of Islamic Banks and its activities aimed at the development of the economies of Islamic countries in accordance with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia. It called upon the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and International and national Islamic institutions to hold consultations and coordinate activities with the International Association of Islamic Banks with a view to strengthening the Association.

The Conference noted the special economic problems of Islamic land-locked countries and approved a series of measures aimed at finding appropriate solution to these problems.

Reaffirming the resolution adopted by the Seventh and Eighth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the issuing of the Palestine Stamp, the proceeds of which would be used for the benefit of the families of the martyrs and freedom fighters for the cause of Palestine, the Conference requested the Member States to issue the Palestine Stamp on 15th May, 1978, the day on which Palestine was usurped by Zionism thirty years ago.

#### IN THE CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC SPHERES

The Conference endorsed the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and decided to renew its appeal to Member States to provide larger contributions to reinforce the Fund's finance. It also decided to approve the funds budget for the fiscal year 1978-79.

The Conference elected a new Permanent Council of the Fund, consisting of representatives of thirteen Member States. The new Council will hold office for two years with effect from 1st July, 1978.

The Conference endorsed the views expressed in the Report of the Third Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the ability to perform Haj according to the Sharia and requested the General Secretariat to take necessary measures for holding an Islamic seminar of Muslim scholars and experts to discuss the "Ability to perform Haj according to the Sharia" after obtaining the views of Member States on the subject. The conclusions of the seminar should be submitted to the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Reaffirming the commitment of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to set up an Islamic Science Foundation, the Conference approved the establishment of an Advisory Science Council consisting of 14 scientists representing different disciplines and geographic regions and nominated by their respective Governments and a representative of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO).

Having examined the document submitted by the General Secretariat regarding the progress made towards the establishment of Islamic Universities in the Niger and Uganda, the Conference approved the report of the delegation which visited the Niger and Uganda on behalf of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund. It expressed its appreciation

to the Governments of the Niger and Uganda for the efforts made by them towards the establishment of the two universities and reiterated the appeal to all Member States to donate generously towards the two projects.

Having considered the Report of the General Secretariat on the Establishment of an International Islamic "Red Crescent" Organization, the Conference requested the General Secretariat to convene a meeting of representatives of the Red Crescent Societies and similar Organizations in Member States, to discuss and propose a suitable name for the Organization, as well as define its objectives and organizational structure.

The meeting should be held in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at least two months before the Fourth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

Reemphasizing the importance of the work of Islamic Cultural Centres throughout the world and the need for coordinating their activities, the Conference requested the General Secretariat to expedite the establishment of suitable agencies in Africa, Asia and the two Americas, on the pattern of the Islamic Council of Europe or in any other manner appropriate to conditions in the region concerned and to coordinate the activities of Islamic Cultural Centres and Associations in these regions.

The Conference having taken note of the recommendations adopted by the First International Conference on Islamic Education held in Mecca for the purpose of establishing an educational system inspired by the Quran and the Sunnah and in tune with modern educational developments and concepts, appreciated the importance of establishing an International Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization, to be based in Holy Mecca, which would undertake the task of coordination between Islamic universities, and educational and scientific institutions and of supervising Islamic educational policies. It decided to entrust the General Secretariat with the task of examining this matter in collaboration with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Conference decided to ask the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to pursue its contacts with the Government of Guinea-Bissau with a view to obtaining all necessary details concerning the establishment of an Islamic Centre in that country, including its size and cost and to communicate the information to the Member Countries.

In this connection, the Conference commended the contribution of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and of some Member States to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau to establish the Centre and took note of the readiness expressed by the delegation of Saudi Arabia to consider the provision of assistance, and also by the delegation of the UAE to provide assistance to set up the Centre through the Joint United Arab Emirates/Libyan Authority for the Establishment of Islamic Centres.

The Conference endorsed the recommendations of the First International Islamic Seminar held in Dacca, Bangladesh from 20 to 22 March 1978, (11 to 13 Rabi Al Thani, 1398 H), on "Human and Natural Resources of the Muslim World". It expressed its appreciation to the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for hosting the seminar as well as for the contribution it made to its success. It requested the General Secretariat to effect wide dissemination of the recommendations of the seminar and to initiate suitable action for eliciting the views of member countries on the measures to be adopted for the view to implementation of the recommendations.

It approved the recommendations of the Second Seminar on "Islamic Banks", held in Benghazi, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 26-28 Rabi Al Thani, 1398 H (3-5 April, 1978), and expressed its gratitude and appreciation for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya which hosted the Seminar, and requested the Secretariat General to take the same action taken on the First Seminar.

Having given careful consideration to the study prepared by the General Secretariat regarding the establishment of an International Commission for the preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, the Conference approved in principle the establishment of such an International Commission and authorized the Secretary General to commission a detailed study on the subject by qualified Muslim experts and to submit this study initially to the next session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and to the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for examination before it is presented to the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Noting the two resolutions adopted by the Seventh and Eighth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers as regards the celebrations marking the advent of Fifteenth Hijra Century, as well as the programs and reports by the Preparatory Committee, the Conference decided to hold world wide celebrations, all throughout the years 1400-1401 H marking the advent of the Fifteenth Century Hijra, and to convene a special Islamic Summit for the occasion.

#### IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SPHERE

The Conference approved the budget submitted by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the financial year 1978-79. It also decided to approve the budgets for the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic countries in Ankara and the Islamic Centre for Vocational and Technical Training and Research of Dacca.

The Conference adopted the revised scales of contributions of Member States to the budget of the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Conference welcomed and accepted the invitation extended by the Kingdom of Morocco to host the Tenth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers during 1979. It further decided to accept the invitation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to hold its Eleventh Session during 1980.

The Conference elected the present incumbents of the three posts of Assistant Secretaries General for a fresh term of two years.

The Conference expressed its deep sense of gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Senegal for the cordial and generous hospitality extended to the delegations and the members of the Secretariat and also the excellent arrangements made for holding this Conference in the historic and picturesque city of Dakar.