

## **FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ**

1 At the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Guinea, the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance) was held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 17 to 20 Rajab, 1416H, corresponding to 9 - 12 December 1995 under the high patronage of His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea.

2. The Conference was attended by:

(a) Member States:

1. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
2. Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Islamic State of Afghanistan
4. Republic of Albania
5. State of United Arab Emirates
6. Republic of Indonesia
7. Republic of Uganda
8. Islamic Republic of Iran
9. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
10. State of Bahrain
11. Brunei Darussalam
12. Burkina Faso
13. People's Republic of Bangladesh
14. Republic of Benin
15. Republic of Turkey
16. Republic of Tunisia
17. Republic of Gabon
18. Republic of the Gambia
19. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
20. Republic of Djibouti
21. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
22. Republic of Senegal
23. Republic of Sudan
24. Syrian Arab Republic
25. Republic of Sierra Leone
26. Republic of Iraq
27. Sultanate of Oman
28. Republic of Guinea
29. Republic of Guinea-Bissau
30. State of Palestine
31. State of Qatar
32. Republic of Cameroon
33. Republic of Kazakhstan
34. State of Kuwait
35. Republic of Lebanon
36. Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
37. Republic of Maldives

38. Republic of Mali
39. Malaysia
40. Arab Republic of Egypt
41. Kingdom of Morocco
42. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
43. Republic of Mozambique
44. Republic of Niger
45. Federal Republic of Nigeria
46. Republic of Yemen

(b) Observers:

i) States:

- Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Republic of Uzbekistan.

ii) Muslim Communities:

- Turkish Muslim Community of Kibris;
- Moro National Liberation Front.

iii) International and Regional Organizations:

- United Nations (UN);
- Organization of African Unity (OAU);
- Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO);
- Arab Maghreb Union.

(c) Subsidiary Organs:

- Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre, for Islamic Countries, Ankara;
- Research Centre on Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul;
- Islamic Institute of Technology, Dhaka;
- Islamic Centre for the Development of Trade, Casablanca;
- Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, Jeddah;
- Islamic Fiqh Academy, Jeddah;
- International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage, Istanbul;
- Islamic Solidarity Fund, Jeddah;
- Islamic University of Niger;
- Islamic University of Uganda.

(d) Specialized Institutions:

- Islamic Development Bank, Jeddah;
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Rabat;
- International Islamic News Agency, Jeddah;

(e) Affiliated Institutions:

- Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, Benghazi;
- Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi;

(f) Islamic Foundations and Societies, as invitees:

- World Islamic League - Makkah Al-Mukarramah;
- World Islamic Call Society, Tripoli;
- World Muslim Congress, Karachi;
- International Islamic Council for Da'wa and Relief, Cairo;
- International Islamic Charitable Foundation, Kuwait;
- International Islamic Relief Organization, Jeddah.

(h) Invitees:

- Republic of Cote D'ivoire;
- Republic of Slovenia;
- Sanjak;
- True Representatives of the Kashmiri People;
- U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR);
- U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);
- United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF);
- U.N. Development Programme (UNDP);
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO);
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- World Health Organization (WHO);
- U.N. Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people;
- Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS);

3. The Conference was opened by His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea.

In his opening speech, President Lansana Conte welcomed the delegates who made the journey to Conakry in great numbers.

After expressing his high appreciation for the commendable efforts exerted by the OIC Secretary General, Dr. Hamid Algabid, as the head of the General Secretariat, His Excellency General Lansana Conte stressed the extremely complicated situation in which the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was being held. In this respect, he declared that the world was facing numerous deep crises and that the spiritual and moral values were being debased. He added that economic imbalances were causing, increasing and spreading endemic poverty and injustice in the distribution of the wealth produced, and persistent racial discrimination, wars, illiteracy and diseases were rife.

While deploring the fratricidal infighting among Muslims, His Excellency General Lansana Conte called on the Islamic community to further mobilize and show more active and more effective solidarity, particularly in the search for peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Somalia, the Syrian Golan and South Lebanon. Among the tragedies witnessed on the African continent, he mentioned the situation in Liberia and Sierra Leone which has resulted in considerable political, economic and social difficulties for Guinea.

The President of the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency General Lansana Conte, recommended that the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers be the appropriate framework for assessing development aid and cooperation programmes, in a spirit of greater solidarity. In particular, he asked the Conference to consider the ways and means likely to ensure a more efficient operation of institutions and universities entrusted with dispensing knowledge and know-how to the Islamic youth who are being approached by all sides, especially by alien religious trends.

4. The Conference then heard the speeches of the Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Mali who took the floor on behalf of the Arab, Asian and African Groups respectively, to thank the President, Government and People of Guinea for the brotherly welcome and generous hospitality extended to them.

5. In his speech, the Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, commended the generous hospitality of the Guinean people whose history is spangled with epic feats and who have, over the years, set an example of determination in their struggle to assert their identity, their sovereignty and genuine African values. He paid a vibrant tribute to His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, for kindly according his high patronage to the Conference.

His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his respectful and deep gratitude to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit, for the unflagging solicitude and continued support shown to the OIC by His Majesty, his Government and People.

Taking up the international situation, His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, while noting with satisfaction the progress made in settling some major issues of concern to the Islamic Ummah, expressed regret at the continuation of a number of disputes and conflicts and the procrastination of the international community in finding solutions for other world crises.

In this context, he evoked the efforts exerted by the OIC within the framework of the Middle East situation, the questions of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and South Lebanon, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Somalia, Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the questions of Cyprus, of Muslims in Southern Philippines, and Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.

He called on member states to show increased solidarity with the drought stricken Sahel countries, and expressed the hope that the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme be quickly implemented for the benefit of the populations of the region.

In the economic field, he stressed the need to promote greater economic cooperation between member states.

In the cultural field, His Excellency the Secretary General commended the work done by the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam set up by the Seventh Islamic Summit. He called on member states to encourage and support the Islamic institutions entrusted with dispensing education in keeping with the precepts of our religion. Finally, His Excellency the Secretary General turned to the precarious financial situation of the General Secretariat and its Subsidiary Organs. He communicated to the Conference the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group set up by the Seventh Islamic Summit with a view to increasing the efficiency and influence of the OIC as an instrument of Islamic solidarity and cooperation.

6. His Excellency Mr. Abdel Kabir Al-Alaoui Al-Mdaghri, Minister of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs and Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco, communicated on behalf of the Chairman of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers the greetings and high appreciation of His Majesty King Hassan II, current Chairman of the OIC, and Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, to his brother His Excellency President Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, and to his honourable Government for the efforts they have exerted to ensure the success of this Conference. His Excellency Minister Al-Madaghri stressed the importance of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which is being held, he said, at a critical juncture of qualitative mutations characterizing the new World Order. He stressed the need for the OIC to undertake the task of correcting the image of Islam in the outside world to counter the deceptive

campaign aiming at smudging Islamic values and accusing Islam of fanaticism, violence and terrorism.

He also mentioned the results achieved by the Group of Eminent Personalities entrusted with the task of evaluating the performance of the Organization with a view to increasing its efficiency and ensuring a better coordination and cooperation between its member states.

7. His Excellency Mr. Kozo Zoumanigui, Minister in the President's Office in charge of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference.
8. The Conference elected the Foreign Ministers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the State of Palestine as Vice-Chairmen. The Kingdom of Morocco was elected Rapporteur General.
9. Following his election as Chairman of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, His Excellency Mr. Kozo Zoumanigui stressed the importance of economic and social cooperation among member states and expressed satisfaction at the results achieved in this area. He expressed his conviction that the human and economic capacities of the countries of the Ummah constitute a reliable basis for the construction of a group of powerful nations capable of withstanding the assaults and boycott of the enemies of Islam.  
His Excellency Kozo Zoumanigui also expressed his confidence that the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers will adopt the relevant resolutions that will contribute to further revitalize our Organization.
10. The Conference listened with interest to the messages of the representatives of the Secretaries General of the United Nations Organization and the Organization of the African Unity, and the statement of the Secretary General of the Economic Cooperation Organization.
11. The Conference decided to adopt the opening speech of His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, as an official document of the Conference.
12. The Conference decided to place the current session under the sign of peace, solidarity and tolerance.
13. The Conference then approved the report of the meeting of the Senior Officials, presented by its Chairman, His Excellency El Haj Mamadou Saliou Sylla, Secretary General of the National Islamic League, member of the Government and Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Guinea at the meeting of Senior Officials.
14. The Conference adopted the draft agenda proposed by the meeting of Senior Officials.
15. The Conference noted with satisfaction the report of His Excellency Dr. Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco, Chairman of the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, on the activities of the Organization during the period between the two sessions.
16. The Conference also noted with satisfaction the reports presented by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on several items of the agenda and on the activities of the General Secretariat between the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers.
17. The Conference heard with fraternal sentiments the statement by His Excellency Atay Rasit who presented the just cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus.
18. The Conference also heard a presentation made by His Excellency Mr. Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, on the negotiations between the Moro National Liberation Front and the Government of the Philippines.

#### A-ORGANIC, STATUTORY AND GENERAL QUESTIONS:

19. The Conference unanimously admitted the Republic of Kazakhstan as a full member of the OIC.
20. The Conference noted with satisfaction the reports of the Secretary General on organic, statutory and general issues. In this respect, the Conference expressed its appreciation of the Secretary General's report on the implementation of resolutions 1/7-ORG (IS) and 1/22-ORG respectively adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit and by the Twenty-second Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and relating to the functioning of the OIC, of its subsidiary organs and of its specialized and affiliated institutions. The Conference expressed satisfaction at the measures taken by the Secretary General for the implementation of these important resolutions and invited him to pursue his efforts in this respect.
21. The Conference took note of the report of the Eminent Persons Group on the evaluation of the work done by the OIC since its inception, twenty-five years ago, and the identification of its needs so as to achieve a qualitative change and discharge its duties in the best possible manner. It also took note of the report of the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam in the Outside World and expressed its deep appreciation for the attention and care given by His Majesty King Hassan II, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and of Al-Quds Committee, to the work of both Groups. It noted with great satisfaction and gratitude the directives and orientation of His Majesty concerning the recommendations of the Group of Government Experts on the Image of Islam as well as the recommendations of the Eminent Persons Group. In this respect the Conference welcomed His Majesty's decision to have this Group continue its work so that it may complete the mission entrusted to it.
22. The Conference welcomed the initiative of His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference and Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee to establish the Bait Al Mal Agency for Al-Quds Al-Sharif, announced during the Fifteenth Session of Al-Quds Committee held in Ifrane in January 1995. It expressed the hope that the Agency will start its work as soon as possible.
23. The Conference elected the following member states as members of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for a two-year period:
  - 1- State of United Arab Emirates;
  - 2- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
  - 3- Republic of Turkey;
  - 4- Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
  - 5- Republic of Tunisia;
  - 6- Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
  - 7- State of Kuwait;
  - 8- Republic of Yemen;
  - 9- Arab Republic of Egypt;
  - 10- Kingdom of Morocco;
  - 11- State of Palestine;
  - 12- Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;
  - 13- Republic of Niger.
24. The Conference also elected the following member states to the Financial Control Organ for a period of two years:
  - 1- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
  - 2- State of United Arab Emirates;
  - 3- Republic of Yemen;
  - 4- Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;

- 5- Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh;
- 6- Islamic Republic of Pakistan;
- 7- Republic of Senegal;
- 8- Republic of Tunisia.

25. The Conference noted with satisfaction the Secretary General's report on cooperation between the OIC, the United Nations and other regional and international organizations. It welcomed such cooperation and expressed the hope that it will develop further.
26. The Conference took note of the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to hold an extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference in Pakistan in March 1997 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of Pakistan in 1947 and recommended that the Heads of State and Government of member states approve the proposal.
27. The Conference welcomed the generous offer made by the Republic of Indonesia to host the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in 1996 and expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

#### **B. POLITICAL AFFAIRS:**

##### Question of Palestine and Al-Quds and Al-Sharif:

28. The Conference reaffirmed that the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the prime cause of all Muslims, and expressed its solidarity with the Palestine Liberation Organization in its just struggle for removing the effects of the Israeli occupation and the building of the Palestinian national institutions on the land of Palestine so as to achieve the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their rights to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent state on the soil of their homeland with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.
29. The Conference called upon member states to continue the consolidation of their solidarity with the Palestinian people; and to continue supporting the positions of the PLO in its negotiations for the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all of the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.
30. The Conference expressed its support for the peace process in the Middle East and welcomed the agreements concluded in its framework. It also welcomed the signing of the agreement on the implementation of the second phase of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles and called for respect of all its components. It noted that the success of the peace process hinges on the implementation of resolutions of international legitimacy, including resolutions 242, 338 and 425 of the Security Council, on the basis of Arab and international understanding of these resolutions, and the "land for peace" formula and the need to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their national and political rights. It affirmed that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region can only be achieved through complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and the occupied Lebanese territories.
31. The Conference reaffirmed that the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and to it apply all the provisions applicable to the other occupied territories; and reiterated the necessity of its return to the Palestinian sovereignty as capital of the State of Palestine. It called upon all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted, in any way, by those authorities as an implicit recognition of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel. It reaffirmed that all legislative, administrative and settlement measures and arrangements that aim at changing the legal status of the Holy city are null and void and are in contradiction with the international agreements and conventions. It called upon all States to comply with Security Council Resolution 478 (1980) which invites member states not to transfer their diplomatic

missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It invited the international community, and in particular, the two co-sponsors of the Peace Conference, to compel Israel not to effect any geographical or demographic changes in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, during the transitional period, that might affect the outcome of the negotiations on the final status of the City.

32. It condemned the Israeli occupation authorities' holding, in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, celebrations for what it calls the "Third Millenary Anniversary of Al-Quds Al-Sharif" which constitutes a fallacious campaign that aims at counterfeiting the historic facts of the City of Al-Quds; and it called upon the States of the World to boycott these celebrations.
33. It strongly condemned the Israeli expansionist settlement policy and called for confronting it with all possible means and regarded all settlements established or to be established by Israel in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and in all other parts of the occupied Palestinian territories and the Syrian Golan as null and void in accordance with international legitimacy, and invited the member states to request the UN Security Council to form an international committee to supervise and monitor the prevention of the settlement process in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.
34. The Conference condemned the continuation of the aggressive Israeli scheme to partition the Ibrahim Mosque Enclosure in the occupied city of Al-Khalil and warned that any slackness in countering this scheme would encourage Israel to undermine the other Islamic and Christian shrines - a state of affairs that would adversely affect the peace process.
35. The Conference urged all States and the quarters concerned to support the international programme on economic, social and cultural development in the occupied Palestinian territories and to extend the stipulated necessary assistance required by the Palestinian people for the building of their national economy and for the support of their national institutions and the protection of the Islamic Holy Places in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.
36. The Conference called upon member states to honour their commitment to cover the budgets of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf and urged them to initiate the settlement of their contributions. It appealed to those states that have not as yet announced their donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to do so as early as possible.
37. It called on the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to comply with U.N. Resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), to accede to the treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to implement the resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for the subjection of all Israeli Atomic facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards System, to proclaim Israel's renunciation of nuclear armament, and to submit a full report on its stockpile of nuclear weapons and materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency as those steps are essential for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.
38. The Conference commended the steadfastness of the Arab-Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan against Israeli occupation; strongly condemned Israel for not complying with Security Council resolution 497 (1981); and affirmed that Israel's decision to impose its jurisdiction, laws and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void. It also declared that the Knesset resolution of 11 November 1991 confirming the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and is without legal effect and constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981). It strongly condemned Israel for continuing to alter the legal status and demographic set-up of the occupied Syrian Golan. It affirmed that Israel's continuing occupation of the Syrian Golan constitutes a permanent threat to peace and security in the region. It demanded that Israel withdraws totally from the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967.



39. The Conference saluted the heroism of the steadfast Lebanese people against the Israeli occupation and strongly condemned Israel for its continuing occupation and annexation of parts of Southern Lebanon and its Western Bikaa. It strongly condemned all the inhuman practices of the Israeli forces in the occupied Lebanese areas. It called for the intensification of the efforts for the release of the Lebanese detainees from the Israeli prisons, the disclosure of the fate of the missing persons and the handing over of the remains of the martyrs. It also called for action to force Israel to implement the UN Security Council resolutions, in particular, resolution 425 (1978) which calls for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Lebanese territories. It invited all States to increase their assistance to Lebanon in order to consolidate the political gains of the Lebanese Government.

Bosnia-Herzegovina:

40. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the safeguarding of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and reaffirmed all previous OIC Resolutions and Declarations relating to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

41. It strongly condemned the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, genocide and acts of terrorism, particularly the overrunning of the safe and demilitarized area of Srebrenica and safe area of Zepa by the Serbs as well as their attacks on other safe areas and the perpetration of acts of genocide, ethnic cleansing and other acts of inhumanity against the civilian population of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in blatant violation of Security Council resolutions and all norms of civilized conduct, law and morality.

42. It condemned the human rights violations by Serbia of the non-Serb population in Kosovo, Sanjak and Vojvodina and stressed the need to protect their basic rights and freedoms and to grant them the status commensurate with that to be granted to the Serbs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

43. It urged that appropriate measures should be taken to ensure effective follow-up on the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague as well as to ensure that those indicted by the Tribunal, including Karadzic and Mladic, are punished for their crimes against humanity, genocide and grave violations of international humanitarian law. It warned once again the Serb and Montenegrin authorities as well as all persons who commit or order the commission of breaches of international humanitarian law in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina that they are individually responsible in respect of such breaches and will be punished for crimes against humanity and genocide in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

44. It reaffirmed that the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has the inherent right to individual and collective self-defence as recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter and should be provided with all necessary means for self-defense to exercise individually or collectively its inherent right recognized by Article 51 of the UN Charter which includes its right to receive defence assistance.

45. It further reaffirmed the position of OIC countries that they do not consider themselves "de jure" obliged to respect the illegal and unjust arms embargo imposed against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of the U.N., which is the victim of Serbian aggression and genocide. It reiterated that consistent with Article 51 of the UN Charter as well as Article 1 of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, all states are under an obligation to provide necessary means to enable the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to defend itself against aggression and genocide.

46. It rejected strongly any suggestion to permit or legalize any special or confederal relationship between the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia and Montenegro, as this would violate and undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It reaffirmed the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by the use of force and emphasized the importance of not taking any measures which would reward aggression or appease the aggressor as this would be detrimental to upholding the principles of the U.N. Charter and International Law.
47. It welcomed the Dayton peace agreement at the initiative of the United States. It reiterated the obligation of the international community to ensure the full implementation of the Dayton peace agreement in order to establish a just and durable peace in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the basis of the principles adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference in this respect.
48. It expressed its outrage over the deliberate and continuing military involvement of Serbia-Montenegro and its assistance to the Bosnian rebel Serbs and emphasized the need for taking effective measures to put an end to such illegal deliveries by strengthening the mechanisms to seal the border between the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia-Montenegro. It also expressed its opposition to the lifting of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro (the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), as well as any easing of sanctions.
49. It reiterated the need for an effective peace implementation mechanism under the mandate of the UN Security Council and reaffirmed the need to ensure adequate representation of the OIC troops in the multi-national force including effective participation in its command structure. It further reiterated that the financing of the operations of the multinational force to implement the peace agreement should be envisaged in a manner which should enable member states of the OIC to participate in the peace implementation force.
50. It appealed to the international community to assist in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and called on the OIC member countries to make special efforts to offer humanitarian, commercial, economic and technical cooperation to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It also called on member states to extend necessary assistance and support to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia on a bilateral, trilateral or multilateral basis with a view to strengthening their economies and to promote mutual respect, firm friendship and cooperation between these two Republics as well as to fortify the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It expressed the urgent need for providing humanitarian assistance for the refugees and displaced persons of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
51. It welcomed and supported the decision of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina to establish an "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in accordance with the Plan of Action adopted at the Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina and Troop Contributing Countries at Kuala Lumpur on 14 September 1995 for mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian, economic, legal and defence assistance in line with the obligations and commitments of the OIC member states under the UN Charter. It urged member states to actively participate in the efforts of the "Assistance Mobilization Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina" in order to mobilize greater assistance in different fields for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
52. It reaffirmed that the direct participation of the OIC Contact Group in the implementation of the peace agreement would be essential to facilitate a just and equitable peace settlement.
53. It welcomed the Joint Meetings of the OIC Contact Group and the Five Nation Contact Group at Paris on 7 September, 1995 and at New York on 28 September, 1995 and underlined that these consultations between the two Contact Groups on a frequent and regular basis are essential for facilitating the realization of a just and durable peace in

Bosnia-Herzegovina. It commended the work of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina and requested it to continue its work.

Jammu and Kashmir:

54. The Conference called for a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions and as agreed upon in the Simla Agreement. It condemned the continuing massive violations of human rights of the Kashmiri people and called for the respect of their human rights including the right of self-determination. It also called upon member states to take all necessary steps to persuade India to cease forthwith the gross and systematic human rights violations of the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination as mandated by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. It further called upon India to allow international Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.
55. It affirmed that any political process/elections held under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by people of Kashmir as is provided in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.
56. It supported the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to initiate a meaningful bilateral dialogue for resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and called upon the Government of India to respond positively to these efforts. It affirmed that a sustained dialogue is essential to address the core of the problems and to remove the basic causes of tension between India and Pakistan.
57. It requested the Government of India, in the interest of regional peace and security, to avail itself of the offer of Good Offices made by the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences. It also requested the Secretary General to establish contact with the governments of India and Pakistan and the true representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to promoting a just and peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute.
58. It appreciated the efforts made by the Secretary General for enabling the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to have their views expressed in OIC and other international fora, and requested him to continue to take all necessary steps in this regard.
59. It appealed to the OIC member states and institutions as well as other Islamic institutions, such as the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and philanthropists to mobilize funds and contribute generously towards providing humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people.
60. It recommended that member states continue to coordinate their positions and to take joint action at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and other international fora to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.
61. It commended the efforts being made by the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. It requested the Contact Group to continue its efforts for promoting the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the UN Resolutions and for safeguarding their fundamental human rights.

Afghanistan:

62. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the fratricidal conflict in Afghanistan and appealed to the Afghan leadership to spare no effort to bring the hostilities to an immediate end.
63. It emphasized the urgent need for a new political consensus among the Afghan parties. It further emphasized the need for the immediate establishment of an enlarged mechanism involving all Afghan parties to deal with all issues relating to the Afghan crisis including that of the transfer of power.

64. It affirmed the need for the launching of a credible intra-Afghan process for restoring peace and stability in Afghanistan and for reviving the political, economic, social and institutional infrastructure of the Afghan society.
65. It called upon the Afghan parties to extend their full cooperation to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary General and his Special Representative for promoting peace in Afghanistan. It reaffirmed the decisions of the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Summit Conferences that the OIC should have an active role in the solution of the Afghanistan problem.
66. It emphasized the need for continued close coordination of efforts between OIC and UN for promoting a peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan by setting up a credible intra-Afghan mechanism. It expressed its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the United Nations to draw the attention of the international community to the acute economic and political problems of Afghanistan, and for promoting peace and mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction and in this regard, it encouraged the continuing cooperation between the efforts of the OIC and the UN Special Mission.

#### Somalia:

67. The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the restoration and preservation of the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia. It noted with appreciation the constant efforts made by the Organization of Islamic Conference to promote peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, as well as for the alleviation of the suffering of the Somali people in cooperation with the regional States, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and Organization of African Unity, in the framework of a joint approach and called for continuation of such efforts and requested the Secretary General to send a Contact Group to urge various Somali parties to resume their dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation.
68. It called for the convening of an international conference on peace and national reconciliation in Somalia in accordance with the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of all the Somali parties and all the concerned international and regional organizations.

#### Iraqi aggression against Kuwait:

69. The Conference called upon Iraq to pursue efforts towards the fulfillment of its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, for the establishment of security, peace and stability in the region.
70. It called on Iraq to cooperate fully and seriously with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Tripartite Committee in Geneva which was established under its sponsorship and supervision, with a view to implementing its engagements pursuant to Para. 2C and Para. 3C of resolutions No. 686 (1991) and (30) of resolution No. 687 (1991) pertaining to urgent release of prisoners and hostages from among Kuwaiti military troops and civilians and any others so as to put an end to this humanitarian issue.
71. It affirmed that Iraq, in accepting resolution 686 (1991) and resolution 687 (1991) is deemed accountable for implementing Para 2-B of resolution 686 and Para 16 of resolution 687 which involve the responsibility of Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions for reparations in respect of any direct loss or direct harm, including any attendant environmental damages, depletion of natural resources or any losses sustained by foreign governments, their nationals or their companies.
72. It reaffirmed Security Council resolution 949 which calls on Iraq not to use again its military or any other forces in an aggressive or provocative manner to threaten its neighbours or the U.N. operations in Iraq. It reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq; expressed its sympathy with the Iraqi people and welcomed, in this respect, Security Council Resolution No. 986 (1995)

and considered it to be a step that should be accepted and implemented by Iraq so as to alleviate this suffering.

Armenia - Azerbaijan:

73. The Conference strongly condemned the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijan Republic. It considered the actions perpetrated against civilian Azeri population in occupied Azeri territory as crimes against humanity and strongly demanded the strict implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884, immediate unconditional and complete withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azeri territories, inter alia, Lachin and Shusha regions, and strongly urged Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic.
74. It called on the Security Council to recognize the existence of aggression against the Azerbaijan Republic; to take the necessary steps under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure compliance with its resolutions; to condemn and reverse aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Azerbaijan Republic and decided to take coordinated action to this end at the United Nations.
75. It called for a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for the principles of territorial integrity of states and inviolability of internationally recognized frontiers. It urged both Armenia and Azerbaijan and all states member of the Minsk Group to engage constructively in the ongoing CSCE peace process and refrain from any action that will make it more difficult to reach a peaceful solution.
76. It reaffirmed its total solidarity and support for the efforts being made by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to defend their country. It called for enabling the displaced persons and refugees to return to their homes in safety, honour and dignity. It expressed its concern over the severity of humanitarian problems concerning the existence of more than one million displaced persons and refugees in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic and requested the member states, the Islamic Development Bank and the other Islamic Institutions to render urgent financial and humanitarian assistance to the Azerbaijan Republic.

US Aggression against Libya:

77. The Conference condemned again the continuing United States aggression and threats and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It supported the right of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to appropriate reparations for the physical and human losses sustained as a result of aggression as well as the right of the Jamahiriya to demand reparations from the United States in conformity with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 38/41.
78. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the economic boycott measures which seek to undermine its plans for development.
79. It condemned the U.S. economic boycott measures against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and called for their cancellation forthwith as they violate international law and conventions. It called upon the United States to desist from all threats, provocations and acts of aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as such practices contravene international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Crisis between Libya and United States, United Kingdom and Republic of France:

80. The Conference expressed appreciation for the readiness of the Libyan Jamahiriya to peacefully settle the dispute between Libya and United States, United Kingdom and France and to cooperate in order to establish a fruitful dialogue among all concerned parties.

81. It expressed concern over the escalation of the crisis and the threat to impose further sanctions or the use of force as a means of interaction among states, including violation of the UN Charter, and international laws and standards.
82. It called on all parties to exert greater efforts to reach a solution of the crisis thereby ending the plight to which the Libyan people are subjected as a result of the embargo imposed on them. It declared its support for the proposal made in the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States (Doc. 5373-DA,(101)-G 3) on 27 March 1994 calling for the holding of a just trial of the two suspects by Scottish Judges in accordance with Scottish law at the seat of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and urged the Security Council to take into consideration this constructive proposal in order to seek a peaceful solution to avoid any escalation of the crisis, which would exacerbate tension in the region.
83. The Conference condemned the continuation of sanctions against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and renewed its call on the Security Council to review its resolutions 731/92, 748/92 and 883/93 so as to lift the sanctions imposed on the Great Jamahiriya.

#### Cyprus:

84. The Conference reaffirmed the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus which constitute an integral part of the Islamic world. It reiterated its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a negotiated settlement mutually acceptable to both sides. It welcomed in this context, the acceptance by the Turkish Cypriot side of the package of confidence building measures suggested by the UN Secretary General following his assessment of November 1992 that it would be difficult to achieve any success in the negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement as long as the current crisis of confidence between the two sides continues. It considered that the rearmament of the Greek Cypriot side deepened further the existing mistrust between the two sides and constituted a threat to peace and stability in the island.
85. It also expressed its solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement.
86. It reaffirmed the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without the one having the ability to exploit, oppress or threaten the other. It urged the member states to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus and to increase and expand their relations in all fields and in particular in the fields of trade, tourism, culture, information, investment and sports. It decided to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.
87. It considered that building of mutual confidence between the two parties in the island is essential to make progress towards an overall settlement of the question. It called on the two parties to cooperate fully with the UN Secretary General to achieve agreement for implementing the confidence building measures and to resume direct talks without any pre-conditions. It also decided to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

#### The Comorian Island of Mayotte:

88. The Conference reaffirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Comorian Island of Mayotte. It expressed its active solidarity with the Comorian people and supported the Comorian

Government in its political and diplomatic efforts to effectively restore the Island to its natural entity. It rejected any idea of dividing the Comorian Island of Mayotte into departments, as this would be contrary to all relevant international resolutions and to solving the issue through negotiations in accordance with the willingness of the French and Comorian Presidents.

89. It urged anew the Government of France to accelerate the process of negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the prompt return of the Island of Mayotte to the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros. It called upon the member states to use their influence with France collectively and individually so as to induce it to accelerate the negotiations with the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity and territorial integrity of that country.

#### Eastern and Central Europe:

90. The Conference reaffirmed the need to maintain and promote ties of friendship and cooperation between the Islamic world and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe on the basis of mutual interest and expressed the hope that strengthening of economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe would not affect the order of priorities in respect of economic cooperation and trade exchanges between those countries and Islamic countries, nor have a negative impact on the flow of financial resources extended by the advanced countries, whether Eastern or Western, for financing development in Muslim and Third world countries. It also expressed the hope that the States of Eastern and Western Europe and other States respect and protect the Islamic identity of the Muslim communities and/or Muslim minorities living in their countries and their right to practice freely their language, religion and culture.

91. It called on the Secretary General to visit the region from time to time to contact the Governments and members of the Muslim communities to ascertain their conditions and enlighten them about the OIC. It also requested that the IDB may in association with international/regional financial institutions draw up a study of the economic circumstances of the region, Western concerns and interests, and the implications for the Muslim countries.

#### Security and Solidarity:

92. The Conference reiterated that the security of each Muslim country is the concern of all Islamic countries. It firmly resolved to strengthen the security of member states, through cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations and as stipulated in the Dakar Declaration. It also reaffirmed the permanent and full sovereignty of the Islamic countries and peoples as well as the other States and peoples of the world, over their natural resources and economic activities. It expressed the resolve of the member states to safeguard and strengthen Islamic values in all areas of life, especially those relating to solidarity and mutual respect.

93. It reiterated the resolve of member states to encourage, wherever appropriate, the initiation of confidence and security building measures, bilaterally or at the sub-regional levels in conformity with the provisions and principles contained in the Dakar Declaration. It called on the member states and the Inter-governmental Experts Group on the Security and Solidarity of Islamic States to draw up and formulate specific proposals on confidence-building measures and submit them to the Inter-governmental Experts Group.

94. The Conference recognized anew that small States are particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs. It called upon the member states to provide assistance, when requested by small member states, for the strengthening of their security in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC.

95. The Conference expressed deep regret and concern at the bloody coup attempt which was carried out by mercenaries against the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros in September 1995. It expressed deep thanks to the international community, the UN and other regional and international organizations which immediately condemned the coup attempt. It expressed special thanks to the Republic of France for its quick intervention to put down the coup attempt and restore stability and security to the Republic of the Comoros.

Disarmament:

96. The Conference called for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction notably nuclear weapons with a view to creating a world free of such weapons and for the intensification of efforts aimed at finding a solution to disarmament issues as a whole, particularly the elimination of nuclear weapons. It also emphasized the need to conduct negotiations within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament according to the priorities specified in the Plan of Action of the Final Document of the Tenth UN General Assembly Special Session. It also emphasized that all States have an inalienable right to develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for their economic and social development and that all States are entitled to have access to the technology and equipment needed for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

97. It called upon all States, particularly the States of the regions concerned, to respond positively to proposals for the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and South East Asia and requested all member states to cooperate at the United Nations and other relevant international fora to promote the establishment of such Nuclear Weapon Free Zones. It affirmed the resolve of the Member States to take measures to preclude the proliferation of nuclear weapons, on a global and non-discriminatory basis.

98. The Conference welcomed the adoption by the OAU, on 23/6/1995, of the BLENDABA agreement concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapons Free zone in Africa. It welcomed anew the decision of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to make the region of South East Asia a nuclear-weapons free zone. It welcomed, in this respect the proposals submitted by the Islamic republic of Pakistan to keep South Asia a nuclear-weapons free zone, including a proposal to conduct five-member consultations to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region.

99. On the Middle East, the Conference urged all States, specially nuclear-weapons States, to exercise pressure on Israel so as to sign the Nuclear-arms Non-Proliferation Treaty. It requested the Security Council and the international community to commit Israel to comply with the UN resolutions, specially Security council resolution 487 (1981); join the Nuclear-arms Non-Proliferation Treaty; implement the decisions of the International Atomic energy Agency to subject all Israeli facilities to the comprehensive system of guarantees of the IAEA; the necessity of Israel's renouncing of nuclear armament and its submitting of a complete statement of its arsenal of nuclear weapons and materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency. This is considered as a necessary step towards establishing a zone free of weapons of mass-destruction, namely nuclear weapons in the Middle East which is an essential matter for establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

100. It requested the members of the Conference on Disarmament to work urgently towards an agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons and to explore all additional means to provide effective assurances to Non-Nuclear Weapon States in the global or regional context. It also urged all States especially the nuclear weapons states to engage in serious negotiations in competent international fora for the early conclusion of a comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.



101. It recognized the need for enhancing regional security and stability through the settlement of outstanding disputes and the establishment of equitable and verifiable balance of armaments at lower levels. It called on the international community and concerned States to take measures that lessen international and regional tensions and lead to achieving a permanent and just solution to existing disputes and conflicts and facilitating the adoption of concrete measures to disarmament and arms control.

102. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the consequences of the use of anti-personnel mines on the security of civilian populations and their economic development and took note with interest of the commitment of international humanitarian organizations, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross to the total elimination of anti-personnel mines. It urged the International Community, particularly the developed countries to provide substantial assistance for the removal of anti-personnel mines and to ensure access by all states, especially mine stricken states, to advanced material, equipment and technology as well as to ensure the removal of all existing restrictions in this regard.

#### Consultation and Coordination among Member States:

103. The Conference called upon member states to observe the principles of good neighbourliness, and to prevent the use of their territories or government bodies by individuals or groups bent on doing harm to other member states. It decided that no movement exploiting the noble Islamic religion should be allowed to carry out any hostile activity against any Member State.

104. It emphasized the necessity of strengthening coordination among the member states to control all images and forms of the phenomenon of terrorism, including intellectual terrorism and extremism. It stressed the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among member states at all levels, and to deepen their consultation so as to remove all causes of dissension and promote understanding among them.

#### Islamic Solidarity with the Peoples of the Sahel:

105. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the OIC General Secretariat, CILSS and the IDB for the elaboration and finalization of the OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahel. It reaffirmed the necessity to devote greater attention to the speedy implementation of the Special OIC/CILSS/IDB Programme for the Sahelian populations. It welcomed the offer made by the State of Kuwait to host the meeting of the Expert Group charged with the task of studying the new programme and expressed its hope that this meeting could be held as soon as possible.

#### Critical Economic Situation in Africa:

106. The Conference welcomed the efforts made by the African countries towards their economic recovery and development in conformity with the Treaty of Abuja concluded in 1991 establishing the African Economic Community aimed at progressive economic integration of Africa. It stressed the importance of the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990's and calls upon the international community to fulfil its commitments on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and full partnership with Africa.

#### Reparations for damages from colonialism:

107. The Conference reaffirmed its condemnation of colonialism, in all its forms, as an act of aggression which violates all international conventions and principles of international law. It recognized that the effects of colonialism have impeded economic and social development plans and programmes in the developing countries and continue to impede their development and progress. It also reaffirmed the right of all the member states, without exceptions, which suffered under the yoke of colonialism, to obtain fair compensation for the human and material losses they have suffered as a result of colonialism or external invasion. It affirmed the right of the Great Socialist People's Libyan

Arab Jamahirya for reparations for all the human and material losses it has sustained as a result of the period of Italian invasion and colonization of the Libyan territories. It also affirmed the right of all the member states, without exceptions, which suffered under colonialism, to recover their cultural property which was looted during the period of colonialism, including antiquities, masterpieces, manuscripts and historical documents. It called on the member states to coordinate among themselves for this end in collaboration with ISESCO. It also called on the international community to take the necessary procedures so that the phenomenon of colonialism may not be repeated and that remaining colonialism should be eliminated.

#### Sudan:

108.The Conference reaffirmed its complete solidarity with Sudan in confronting hostile designs, and defending its unity, territorial integrity and stability. It commended Sudan's continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the problem of Southern Sudan through negotiations and dialogue between various Sudanese parties for achieving its stability and national development. It expressed deep appreciation to the member states which support Sudan's efforts to safeguard its unity, national security and cultural heritage.

#### Niger:

109.The Conference expressed satisfaction at the signing of the Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Niger and the Organization of Armed Assistance. It commended the efforts exerted by mediating countries for their important contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement. It requested member states, the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the other Islamic Institutions to provide Niger with the necessary assistance to enable it to consolidate its national unity and achieve its regional developmental objectives within the framework of the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement.

#### Mali:

110.The Conference requested member states and Islamic institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the emergency programmes and projects for ensuring the return of the refugees, their rehabilitation and the social, economic and cultural development of the Northern Regions of Mali and recommended that the Organization and its financial institutions actively support the implementation of the medium and long term development strategy and of the emergency programme in the regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuctu.

#### Right to use of science and technology:

111.The Conference affirmed the inalienable right of the Islamic Ummah to develop, acquire and make use of science and technology for progress in economic, social and cultural fields. It called upon industrialized States to facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries and remove the restrictions hindering this process. It called upon member states to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of science and technology for peaceful purposes, especially in the framework of the Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

#### Dumping of Toxic Wastes:

112.The Conference affirmed that the dumping of toxic and nuclear wastes in member states is a crime against humanity. It called upon all States which produce dangerous and toxic waste to take all the measures necessary for treating and recycling this waste in their own countries. It urged all the member states to ban all the illegal trans-border movements of dangerous and toxic waste, transported without the necessary safeguards and the prior consent of the importing country.

#### Refugees:

113.The Conference expressed its deep appreciation to countries of asylum for their generous assistance to refugees irrespective of their critical economic situation as well as

presence of large number of displaced persons. It reaffirmed its concern for the security, stability and infrastructure of those Islamic countries whose economic and social development is seriously affected by the presence of refugees.

114.It called on member states, to coordinate their action at international level with a view to determining the main causes behind the exodus of refugees to Islamic and other countries and strive, in cooperation with the UNHCR, to enable those refugees to return to their homes whenever circumstances permit. It requested the General Secretariat to prepare a survey regarding the number and the situation of the refugees in the Islamic World in coordination with the UNHCR.

115.It urged member states and the Islamic Development Bank to increase their assistance to the Islamic countries sheltering refugees given the economic and social difficulties caused by the presence of such refugees. It called on member states to cooperate with the UNHCR to end the downward trend of assistance to refugees and to secure additional resources to alleviate the suffering of those refugees in Islamic countries.

#### Assistance to the Republic of Sudan to shelter refugees and displaced persons:

116.The Conference urged international donors to extend assistance commensurate with the number of the refugees in the Sudan, and also to help in their voluntary repatriation. It invited the Islamic Development Bank to extend financial assistance so as to support the efforts of the Government of the Sudan aimed at resettling returning Sudanese refugees in the areas liberated from the hold of the rebellious movement as well as to provide shelter to the displaced persons who migrated to the North due to the military operations conducted by the rebellious movement.

#### Muslim Communities and Minorities:

117.The Conference urged member states to keep paying due attention to the Muslim communities and minorities living in Non-OIC member states, to play an effective role in protecting them, and to do their utmost to induce the countries where they live to recognize their right to full citizenship, grant them all their civil and religious rights and treat them equitably in accordance with the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms stipulated in international instruments and treaties.

118.It called upon the OIC member states to carry out individual and collective contacts with Governments of non-OIC-member states concerned so as to ensure the safety, dignity and integrity for the values and rights of the Muslim communities and minorities and further called upon the member states to consult among themselves about action to be taken in cases of violation, suppression, aggression and occupation against Muslim communities and minorities.

119.It decided to form an open-ended Inter-governmental Group of Experts which is to commence work in 1996 to consider the situation of Muslim Communities and Minorities in Non-member states of the Organization of the Islamic Conference as well as to consider the problems faced by these communities and minorities so as to find appropriate solutions within the framework of respect for the sovereignty of the states in which they live.

120.It noted with deep concern that human rights including the freedoms of worship and education, of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, guaranteed under international treaties, continue to be denied and violated and urged that all their rights and freedoms, individual and collective, be fully respected.

#### Muslims in Southern Philippines:

121.The Conference reaffirmed the resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on solidarity with the Muslims in Southern Philippines in their just struggle for the realization of their legitimate aspirations within the framework of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Philippines.

122. It paid tributes to the spirit of good will and understanding which prevailed at the rounds of the Formal Peace Talks and the meetings of the various committees held between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General which paved the way for the establishment of a constructive dialogue that facilitated the achievement of understanding and agreement on most of the issues under discussion. It welcomed the substantial progress so far achieved in the negotiation between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front with the participation of the Ministerial Committee of the Six and the OIC Secretary General.
123. It called upon the Philippines Government and the Moro National Liberation Front to do their utmost in consolidating the progress achieved so far towards attainment of a just and comprehensive political solution for the problem of the Muslims in Southern Philippines in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Tripoli Agreement.
124. It expressed its appreciation for the commendable efforts being exerted by the Republic of Indonesia under the wise guidance and patronage of H.E. President Soeharto as well as the Chairman of the OIC Ministerial Committee of the Six. It also paid tribute to the role of the Government of the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in achieving the Tripoli Agreement on 23 December 1976.

#### Legal Affairs:

125. The Conference urged the member states to expeditiously finalize the ratification procedures of agreements concluded under the auspices of the OIC aimed at expanding cooperation among member states with regard to the peaceful settlement of conflicts among member states. The Conference also urged member states to expedite the ratification of the Statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice so as to acquire the quorum needed for the Court to start its proceedings.

With respect to human rights, the Conference decided that the Committee of Experts pursue its follow up meetings on the Cairo Declaration of human rights in Islam which emphasises the need and importance of coordination and cooperation among member states in the field of human rights.

Concerning the fight against international terrorism, the Conference called for follow up of the Code of Conduct pertaining to the fight against international terrorism through publications and more cooperation between member states and the General Secretariat. The Conference also called upon member states to support the holding of an international Conference within the framework of the United Nations in a bid to define terrorism and distinguish it from people's liberation struggle.

#### Information Affairs:

126. The Conference took note of the resolutions of the Third Islamic Conference of Information Ministers which will be submitted to the next session of COMIAC for appropriate decision and expressed thanks to the government of the Republic of Senegal for offering to host the fourth Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.
127. The Conference approved the 1995-96 Action Programme submitted by the General Secretariat and drawn from the Information Plan, this programme having to be implemented in accordance with the recommendations of the 4th Session of COMIAC.
128. The Conference urged member states to extend support to the International Islamic News Agency by providing it with additional editorial and technical staff so that it may achieve its objectives in the service of Islamic information.
129. The Conference called on the concerned member states to regularly settle their full contributions to the annual budget of the Islamic States Broadcasting Organization and arrange for the early settlement of their arrears so that the Organisation can implement

the programmes and projects it has adopted and achieve the objectives of the Islamic Ummah in the service of Dawah and Islamic information.

Nigeria:

130.The Conference expressed its concern over the ongoing campaign against the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It called for a meaningful dialogue with the Government of this country in order to avoid any further escalation. It also urged the present Administration in Nigeria to adhere to the Transition Programme it has announced, to return the country to democratic civilian Government.

Mozambique:

131.The Conference noted with satisfaction that Mozambique has opened a new chapter in its history with the holding of its first multiparty general elections in October last year, which represents an important step for peace, stability and development in that country, and requested the member states and Islamic Institutions to provide necessary financial assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes of Mozambique, particularly those for ensuring the social reintegration of returnees and internal displaced peoples, and demobilized soldiers.

C.ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

132.The Conference urged member states to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening economic cooperation among them so as to maximize the complementarities in their economies and avoid further marginalization.

133.The Conference reiterated the need to take serious steps to ensure economic integration among OIC member states with the ultimate objectives of establishing an Islamic Common Market or any other form of economic integration, on a step by step and regional basis, among OIC Member Countries in order to help overcome difficulties arising from the formation of global economic groupings.

134.The Conference recognized that the effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements would necessitate adjustments in the economic and administrative structures of the member states in order to safeguard their interest and to take maximum advantage from the opportunities to be created thereby.

135.The Conference called on developed countries to create a more practical, equitable and transparent environment enabling developing countries to implement their structural adjustment programmes to enable them to achieve sustainable development.

136.The Conference appealed to the European Union to honour its commitments towards its trade partners, members of the OIC.

137.The Conference stressed the importance of increasing Official Development Assistance (ODA) granted by the developed countries in favour of the developing countries in general and least developed countries in particular.

138.The Conference recognized the necessity of responding to the need of land-locked and transit countries so as to allow them to develop their transport infrastructures.

139.The Conference appealed to the international community and particularly to the developed countries to fully and efficiently implement the 1990 Plan of Action regarding least developed and land-locked countries and the provisions of other resolutions, in particular those contained in UNCTAD VIII.

140.The Conference declared that the complete eradication of poverty in all member states before the end of the next decade constitutes a common objective of the OIC.

141.The Conference appealed to developed countries to increase their aid programme in order to attain 0.7% of the GDP in official aid development, as fixed by the UN.

142.The Conference urged the least developed countries and low-income countries to play in a more coordinative manner, a more active role in the international fora dealing with the eradication of poverty.

143. The Conference appealed to international creditors to continue adopting every necessary measure to cut down the debt of member states in particular, through staggered settlement of debts, deferred amortization, reduced or favourable interest rates and swapping debts for various development projects.
144. The Conference expressed its gratitude to member states which have already responded formally in this regard and appeals to member states to continue the transfer of capital through grants and concessionary loans to member states, especially to the least developed, land-locked and/or Sahelian countries.
145. The Conference hailed the efforts made by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in the occupied Palestinian regions for the reconstruction of what had been destroyed under Israeli occupation, as well as the efforts exerted to rebuild and consolidate the Palestinian national economy made by its National Authority.
146. The Conference urged all member states and those institutions concerned to expedite the extension of the envisaged necessary assistance to help the Palestinian people establish their national economy and consolidate their national institutions in order to establish their independent State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its Capital.
147. The Conference launched an urgent appeal to member states and the International Organizations to also extend every assistance to the Lebanese populations in South Lebanon and Western Bekka which are daily and permanently exposed to Israeli aggression causing material losses and resulting in social hardships which paralyse almost permanently, the economic activities of the region.
148. The Conference urged the International Community to extend assistance to member states struck by drought and natural disasters.
149. The Conference appealed to member states and OIC institutions to extend assistance to OIC countries of Inter-Governmental Authority for Development and Drought Control (IGADD) and the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to enable them to overcome the difficult situation which is threatening them and to extend the same assistance to the Republic of Guinea from where numerous waterways take their source in the campaign against drought.
150. The Conference emphasized the need to urgently implement the new Plan of Action to strengthen economic and commercial cooperation, in compliance with the principles and operational modalities of the strategy and the procedures set forth in its chapter on follow-up and implementation.
151. The Conference called upon member states which have not yet signed and/or ratified the agreement in the field of economic cooperation to do so as soon as possible.
152. The Conference expressed its deep appreciation for the devotion and efficiency with which the President of the IDB and his Assistant are ensuring the good functioning of the institution which continues to make invaluable contributions to the development and progress of Muslim populations.
153. The Conference requested member states to take into account environmental consideration in their development policies.
154. The Conference appealed to the developed countries to honour their commitments in current international Agreements with regard to the transfer of financial resources and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries.
155. The Conference reaffirmed the determination of the member states to work for the strengthening of international cooperation with a view to seeking solutions to global environmental problems.
156. The Conference requested OIC member states to continue to extend assistance to the PLO and the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and the Arab citizens in the

Lebanese occupied territories in the drawing up of plans deemed necessary for environmental consideration within these territories.

157. The Conference called for greater coordination among member states, other States and World Health Organization to combat epidemic diseases which affect human, animal resources and natural life.
158. The Conference also called for greater cooperation among member states in combatting drug abuse, psychotropic substances and their illegal production, processing and trafficking.
159. The Conference stressed the need and importance for member states to preserve the basic necessities of sustainable development and to assess and monitor on a continuous basis their environmental problems and issues including health.

#### D. CULTURAL AFFAIRS:

160. The Conference noted with appreciation the Reports of the Secretary General on Islamic Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutes and Centres and endorsed the recommendations which were adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs. It expressed deep concern that most of these institutions are facing problems due to lack of financial, material and other support from member states. It urged the member states, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and other Islamic institutions to extend financial and material support to these Universities, Centres and Institutions, specially as they contribute to human resources development essentially required for any developmental activity of the Islamic Ummah.
161. The Conference commended the recommendations made by the Symposium of Inter-governmental Experts on the Role of Women in the Development of Muslim Society, held in Tehran in April 1995, and the Draft Declaration prepared by the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Society. It decided to refer these recommendations to the Islamic Fiqh Academy for consideration and making observations thereon to the Twenty-fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers through the General Secretariat. The Conference commended also the excellent contribution of the Organization to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing as well as the good preparation and coordination among the OIC member states during the World Conference and the active participation of the General Secretariat during the Conference.
162. The Conference appealed to the member states to integrate the Cultural Strategy within their cultural and educational projects.
163. The Conference noted with appreciation the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an international legal document to ensure respect for Islamic values and holy places.
164. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the aggression of the Muslims and against their holy places in Palestine, India, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jammu and Kashmir and in many other places in the world. It also strongly condemned the repeated aggression by the Zionists on the Ibrahimi Mosque and other Islamic sanctuaries in Palestine, and renewed its call upon the Government of India to reconstruct the Babri Mosque at its original site.
165. The Conference also took note with appreciation the reports submitted by the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent.
166. The Conference welcomed the initiative of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation to organize football matches between teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Sarajevo International Team on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the OIC whose proceeds will go to the support of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

167.The Conference expressed its profound appreciation for the work completed by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage and the Islamic Fiqh Academy.

168.The Conference took note of the Report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the activities of the Fund and its Waqf. It expressed its appreciation to the member states which have made generous donations to the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf. It requested all member states to commit themselves by extending annual voluntary donations to the Fund, each according to its ability, to enable the Fund to cover the deficit of its annual budget. It called on all member states to contribute towards the capital of the Waqf of Islamic Solidarity Fund.

#### E.ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS:

169.The Conference adopted the budgets of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs for the year 1995-96 and urged member states to pay their contributions to these budgets. It expressed its deep concern over the critical financial situation of the General Secretariat and the Subsidiary Organs resulting from the accumulation of arrears of contributions to these budgets. It called upon member states to settle their arrears in order to enable these institutions to fulfill their tasks.

#### Closing Session:

170.His Excellency Kozo Zoumanigui, Minister in the President's Office incharge of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the Conference, thanked the participating delegations for the spirit of constructive cooperation and for their precious contribution towards the success of the Conference.

#### Vote of Thanks:

171.His Excellency Moustapha Niassé, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Senegalese Expatriates, of the Republic of Senegal expressed, on behalf of the participating delegations profound thanks and gratitude to His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea and the Government and people of Guinea for the generous hospitality extended to the delegations and for the excellent arrangements which greatly contributed to the success of the Conference. He also expressed his appreciation to the Chairman of the Conference for his farsightedness and competence in conducting the deliberations of the Conference, which has been a success.

172.His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea graced with his presence, the closing ceremony of the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. In the speech he delivered on this occasion he expressed thanks to the different delegations who made an invaluable contribution to the success of the Conference. His Excellency General Lansana Conte reiterated the commitment of the Republic of Guinea to make every effort so that the decisions of the Conakry Conference will be translated into concrete action for the benefit of the entire Ummah.

173.The Conference decided to address a Special Motion of Thanks to His Excellency General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea for the solicitude he has shown to the participants and for his effective presence at the opening and closing sessions of the Conference.

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