

Final Report
of the Fifteenth Session of
the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO-
Damascus, 16-21 Jumada II, 1415H
19-24 November, 1994

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization held its 15th session in Damascus, capital city of the Syrian Arab Republic, from 16 to 21 Jumada II 1415H (19-24 November 1994) under the aegis of H.E. President Hafez Al-Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic. The representatives of the following Member States were absent: Indonesia, Tajikistan, Oman, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives and Malaysia (the list of attending members of the Executive Council is attached as *Annex 1*).

**Opening Session: Saturday 16 Jumada II, 1415H
(19 November 1994)**

1- The opening session was held under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council. It was attended by H.E. Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of the Islamic Organization. The session was likewise attended by several representatives of Member States' embassies accredited in Damascus, senior officials of the Ministry of Education in the Syrian Arab Republic and a host of intellectuals and scholars.

2- The opening session started with a recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an. H.E. Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council and representative of the Republic of Guinea, delivered an address in which he first expressed thanks to the Syrian Arab Republic for hosting this session and for the facilities provided to ensure its success. He then welcomed the members of the Executive Council and thanked them for the efforts exerted at the previous session to enrich the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997. He commended the significant progress in the preparation of the Organization's reports on its achievements and the evaluation of the positive and negative aspects of its work. He stressed the necessity for the prevalence of the spirit of Islamic brotherhood among the personnel of the Organization which is playing a distinct civilizational role. He praised the efforts of the Director General in collecting Member States' contributions and seeking external resources through concluding cooperation agreements with similar Islamic and international organizations. (The address delivered by H.E. Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council, is attached as *Annex 2*).

3- H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, ISESCO Director General, then delivered an address in which he first thanked the Syrian Arab Republic, its President, Government and people for their full response, cooperation and readiness to ensure optimal conditions for holding the session.

He also welcomed the members of the Executive Council and proceeded to review the most important accomplishments of the Organization in the fields of education, science and culture in the period between the 14th and 15th sessions of the Executive Council.

He stressed the importance of the 15th session in which the members of the Executive Council would consider the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the Financial years 1995-1997, which he described as a comprehensive and detailed programme of the activities to be carried out by the Organization at this crucial stage on the eve of the 21st century.

At the end of his address, the Director General pointed out the Organization's endeavour to meet, through its plans and programmes, the civilizational challenges that face the Islamic World in ISESCO's fields of competence; he emphasized that this could be achieved through Member States' support for the Organization to help it discharge its noble

mission. (The address delivered by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is attached as *Annex 3*).

4- H.E. Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, delivered an address in which he first welcomed the members of the Executive Council, wishing them a fruitful and successful session. He stressed the important role played by education in terms of building man's personality, disseminating culture, keeping abreast of the developments witnessed in knowledge and consolidating the role of education in international understanding. He indicated that Syria attached paramount importance to education under the leadership of President Hafez Al-Assad. He emphasized the need to conciliate between the patrimony of the past and the requirements of the present in order to meet the challenges of the modern epoch which is characterized by boom of knowledge and rapid scientific and technical development. He also stressed the necessity to draw inspiration from the experiment of the Islamic civilization in all these undertakings and underlined that development plans should tackle problems of the rampant illiteracy, the failure to take advantage of education and knowledge, the cultural, scientific and cultural dependence, the growing marginalization and seclusion, and the irrational management of the environmental resources. He called on the Organization to promote international relations and cooperation among its Member States and with other countries of the world, the aim being to establish more balanced and just relations.

He lauded the efforts made by the Islamic Organization to close the ranks of the Muslim family in the interest of Arabs and Muslims alike, indicating that the present age is one of bloc-building and that the current challenges facing the Ummah could be met only through pooling efforts and political wills in a way which turns weakness into strength. At the end of his address, he stressed that Syria took boundless pride in Islam and that the banner of Islam would fly ever high in Syria. He quoted H.E. the President of the Republic Hafez Al-Assad saying: "*Syria has always been and will ever remain a lighthouse of Islam.*" (The address delivered by H.E. Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic is attached as *Annex 4*).

The addresses delivered at the opening session were adopted as part of the working documents of this session.

5- At the end of the opening session, the members of delegations and guests attended a tea reception, offered in their honour by H.E. the Education Minister in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

First Working Session: Saturday 16 Jumada II, 1415H (19 November 1994)

Afternoon

Agenda Item 1.1: Adoption of the Agenda (Document CE 15/94/1.1 Prov./Rev. 2)

6- The Council considered the proposed draft agenda (*Document CE15/94/1.1 Prov./Rev. 2*).

During discussion, the representative of the Republic of Iraq requested to place on the agenda of this session an item on the educational, scientific and cultural siege imposed on his country. The representative of the State of Kuwait objected as he considered this matter to be political and did not fall within the framework of the Organization's competence. Some Council members proposed postponement of consideration of this subject. The proposal was

put to vote. Vote results concerning the insertion of this issue were as follows: Four (4) members approved the proposal, nineteen (19) opposed it, and seven (7) abstained.

- It was also proposed to add two new items on the role of ISESCO in supporting cultural and educational institutions both in Azerbaijan and Somalia, under *Items 5.2* and *5.3*.

In this respect, the Council took the following decision:

**Decision on Item 1.1 of the Agenda:
(Adoption of the Agenda)**

The Executive Council,

- Considering *Articles 23* and *24* of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Having considered the draft agenda included in *Doc. CE15/94/1.1 Prov. (Rev.2)*;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Adopts its agenda as contained in *Doc. CE15/94/1.1 Adopted*, which is annexe to the Final Report of the 15th Council session.

(*Document CE15/94/1.1 Adopted* is attached to *Annex 5*).

**Agenda Item 1.2: Adoption of the Programme
(Document CE 15/94/1.2 Provisional/Rev. 2)**

7- The Council considered the proposed draft programme (*Document CE15/94/1.2 Prov./Rev.2*). After discussion, the Council decided to adopt this proposed programme and took the following decision on this connection:

**Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda:
(Adoption of the Session's Programme)**

The Executive Council,

- Referring to Decision N° *CE14/93/D. 6.1* which was adopted by the Council at its 14th session on the date and venue of the 15th Council session;
- Taking into consideration Decision N° *CE15/94/D. 1.1* by virtue of which it adopted its agenda for this session in *Doc. CE15/94/1.1 Adopted*;
- Having considered the draft Programme of this session's proceedings contained in *Doc. CE15/94/1.2 Prov. (Rev.2)*;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Adopts the Programme organizing the proceedings of this session as contained in *Doc. CE15/94/1.2 Adopted*, which is annexed to the Final Report of the 15th Council session.

(*Document CE15/94/1.2 Adopted* is attached as *Annex 6*).

**Agenda Item 2.1: Report of the Director General on
the Organization's activities between the 14th and 15th Council sessions
(Doc. CE 15/94/2.1 and Addendum)**

8- The Director General of the Organization gave a brief summary of his report, reviewing his visits to some Member States and his contacts with similar international organizations to consolidate cooperation relations with them. He briefly addressed the programmes and activities carried out by the Organization in the past year, in the light of the needs expressed by Member States in the various educational, scientific and cultural fields.

The members of the Executive Council lauded the Director General and his assistants for the clarity as well as the high quality of the report at preparation and drafting levels. Discussions focused, at first, on the introduction of the Report and the part dealing with the activities of the Director General outside the seat country. A number of observations were then made, such as:

- The introduction should be analytical and evaluation-bound reflecting the content of the report and paving the way for its remaining parts;
- Cooperation relations with the Organization of the Islamic Conference and Islamic welfare organizations should be further developed;
- Cooperation with specialized international agencies, the Organization of African Unity and the Federation of African Universities should be sought;
- Increased participation in meetings of United Nations organizations should be encouraged;
- Additional financial sources should be found and Member States should be urged to settle their contributions to the Organization's budget;
- The Director General should pursue his visits to Member States to encourage them to be more responsive to the Organization.

9- The Executive Council then heard the clarifications of H.E. the Ambassador of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the situation in his country, in general, and in the enclave of Bihac, in particular, as a result of the Serbian aggression in violation of all international laws, regulations and norms. In this context, the Council issued the following appeal, which was adopted by acclamation, and addressed it to the permanent members of the Security Council, the OIC Secretary General, the United Nations Secretary General, the NATO Secretary General, and to ISESCO Member States.

APPEAL

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), meeting at its 15th session in Damascus, capital city of the Syrian Arab Republic, from 19-24 November 1994;

- Having taken cognizance of the odious aggression perpetrated against the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the violations which affected all human rights, the repeated, unchecked violations of All Security Council resolutions, the genocide to which the Bosnian people are subjected on the part of the Serbs on the whole;

- *Makes* a pressing appeal to the international community in order to put an end immediately and without delay to this massacre and to inflict the harshest sanctions on the Serb aggressors;

- *Invites* the Security Council to request urgently NATO to take all the necessary measures in order to take a large-scale military action with a view to saving the Bosnian people who are threatened by extermination and sheer elimination, particularly in the area of Bihac which is a UN-protected zone;

- *Requests* insistently that the arms embargo imposed on the Bosnian people be lifted;

- *Appeals* to the Muslim Ummah to discharge its duty in terms of extending assistance to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, supporting them and providing them with all means.

Damascus, 19 November 1994
Executive Council of the Islamic
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization (ISESCO)

**Second Working Session: Sunday 17 Jumada II, 1415H
(20 November 1994)**

Morning

Agenda Item 2.1: (Continued)

(Document CE 15/94/2.1 and Addendum)

10- The Deputy Director General in charge of Programme took the floor and reviewed the main axes of the activities and programmes implemented by the Education, Science and Culture and Communication Directorates. The members of the Executive Council continued their discussion of the Report; their observations and proposals may be summed up as follows:

- Determine criteria and bases for the allocation of activities and programmes among Member States, according to needs and priorities;
- Carry out surveys on the potentialities and technical abilities for implementation of activities;
- Increase Member States' participation in the implementation of activities;
- Reduce missions related to activities implemented outside the seat country, by delegating members of the Executive Council to represent the Organization in the activity being implemented in their countries;
- Attach importance to historical and cultural reference books issued by other specialized organizations and participated in the preparation of these reference books and publications to ensure that they are not prejudicial to the Islamic faith nor to the Islamic heritage;
- Mitigate the backwardness suffered by the Islamic World in respect of publishing and issue publications dealing comprehensively with Islamic history and culture and emphasizing the contribution of all Muslim peoples to the Islamic civilization;
- Create "ISESCO Awards" in education, science and culture and seek to finance them, as far as possible, by donations from affluent States, institutions and personalities;
- Give priority to literacy, basic education, teaching the Qur'an and setting up a special mechanism for these activities;
- Encourage teaching the languages of Muslim peoples and invite the countries that speak these languages to provide scholarships in this regard;

- Remove restrictions on cultural books;
- Earmark educational programmes for Muslim refugees, consolidate their Islamic identity and eliminate the negative effects of the refugee situation;
- Set up a committee to identify the educational and scientific potentialities in the Islamic republics of Asia and to promote cooperation relations with them in order to benefit from their expertise in promoting the educational and scientific process in the other countries;
- Set up councils specializing in education, science and culture with membership from the various countries and call upon Member States to host these councils.

11- The Director General took the floor to reply to the observations and queries of the Council members. He indicated that the participation of the Organization in international conferences, seminars and meetings had never been ceremonial for it served practical purposes. He states that ISESCO's participation, which always bore an academic character, was meant to secure the presence of the Islamic World in these meetings through its specialized Organization in the educational, scientific and cultural fields and to defend Muslims.

He also welcomed the idea of associating the thinkers of the Islamic World in the implementation of programmes of the Organization through their studies, researches and knowledge as well as their proposals in this regard. The Director General pointed out that the General Directorate was endeavouring to implement as many activities and programmes as possible and diversify them for the benefit of the greatest number of Member States and of Muslim communities.

The Director General stated that the achievements accomplished during this period, despite the scarcity of the resources of the Organization, reflected the faith of the General Directorate in the civilizational mission of the Organization and entailed the necessity to put at its disposal the resources needed to pursue these accomplishments.

In conclusion of his presentation, the Director General appealed to the Council to urge Member States to better respond to the mission of the Organization and to its action plans and programmes, to help it take up the civilizational challenges facing the Muslim Ummah and meet the requirements of Member States in terms of developing education, science and culture.

**Third Working Session: Sunday 17 Jumada II, 1415H
(20 November 1994)**

Afternoon

Agenda Item 2.1: (Continued)
(Document CE 15/94/2.1 and Addendum)

12- The Council discussed the Draft Decision concerning the report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the 14th and 15th Council sessions and adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda:
(Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities)

between the 14th and 15th Council sessions)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with *Article 20*, paragraph “d” of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;
- Having considered the report of the Director General on the Organization’s activities between the 14th and 15th Council sessions, which is included in Documents *CE15/94/2.1* and *CE15/94/2.1 Addendum*;
- Having heard the presentations made by the Director General and his assistants;
- Noting that the present report of the Director General has taken into consideration the remarks made by the Council members on his previous reports, particularly those regarding the continuation of improvement of report drafting techniques and the description of programme implementation costs;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the report of the Director General on the Organization’s activities between the 14th and 15th Council sessions contained in Documents *CE15/94/2.1* and *CE15/94/2.1 Addendum*;
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their extensive efforts to develop the Organization’s performance, control programme expenditure and improve report drafting techniques;
- 3- Invites the Director General to pursue and promote these efforts;
- 4- Recommends to the General Conference to adopt the report of the Director General on the Organization’s activities between the 14th and 15th Executive Council sessions contained in Documents *CE15/94/2.1* and *CE15/94/2.1 Addendum*.

**Agenda Item 3.4: Evaluation of the Organization’s action
(Document *CE15/94/3.4*)**

13- The Director General made a brief presentation on the report of “Evaluation of the Organization’s action”, indicating that evaluation had been one of the main concerns of the Executive Council since its 11th session when it requested the General Directorate to carry out an evaluation of the action of the Organization, a Resolution calling for conducting an internal and external evaluation of the Organization’s action to be submitted to the Executive Council sessions preceding those of the General Conference. The Director General indicated that in compliance with this Resolution, the Organization submitted to the Council members the evaluation report which had been prepared in accordance with the criteria, standards and rules applied in similar organizations. He also indicated that there were some changes in the results indicated in the report, given that the activities implemented over the past five months were not covered by the evaluation process.

14- The members of the Executive Council commended the efforts exerted by the Director General in the preparation of the evaluation report and for the clarity of the data and statistics provided as well as the new approach adopted by the Organization towards its

achievements, both quantitatively and qualitatively, whether positive or negative. The Council requested the General Directorate to proceed in this direction.

Discussions then took place and observations and proposals were made to the effect that the Report submitted by the Organization fell within the framework of internal evaluation and that it was necessary to undertake an external evaluation so that it may be integrated and comprehensive. The members of the Executive Council pointed out the need to determine criteria and set up an external evaluation mechanism. In this regard, it was proposed that the Organization should take the necessary measures to formulate a perception of external evaluation for submission to the Executive Council later on.

The Director General indicated that the evaluation report includes some important aspects of external evaluation and that the General Directorate had requested from National Commissions to make observations on the activities implemented in their countries through a technical questionnaire designed for this purpose. He pointed out that some Member States had acceded to the request of the General Directorate and sent out the information requested.

Following deliberations, the Executive Council adopted the following decision:

**Decision on Item 3.4 of the Agenda:
Evaluation of the Organization's action**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the second operative paragraph of Resolution *CG4/91/R. 2.6* adopted by the General Conference at its 4th session; also recalling the second paragraph of Decision *CE12/91/D 2.5* adopted by the Executive Council at its 12th session, which both invite the Director General to submit a periodical report on the evaluation of the Organization's action to the Executive Council session which immediately precedes the ordinary session of the General Conference;

- Taking into account the initiative of the Director General to set up a unit in charge of evaluation, control and follow-up in accordance with the Organization Chart of the General Directorate adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session;

- Having considered the evaluation of the Organization's action contained in document *CE15/94/3.4*;

Decides the following:

1- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they exerted to carry out a most satisfactory evaluation of the Organization's action in compliance with the resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and Executive Council;

2- Invites the Director General to take it into account in planning and implementation and to look into the vistas opened by external evaluation for the development of the Organization's work.

**Agenda Item 2.2: Financial Report of the Director General and
Closing Accounts for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994
(Document CE15/94/2.2 and Addendum)**

15- The Director General made a detailed presentation on his report and reviewed its various sections. He indicated that income in the period between January 1st, 1993, and June 30th, 1994, had amounted to \$4,631,402.95. and in the period between July 1st 1994 and October 31st had risen to \$5,789,650.50

The Director General pointed out that despite the apparent improvement of income, it was still below expectations, and arrears had amounted to \$47,863,351.28 by June 30th, 1994, while expenditures in the period between January 1st, 1993, and June 30th, 1994, amounted to \$7,750,531.33. In conclusion of his presentation, he said that the programme and support activities implementation expenses accounted for 80% of total expenditure.

16- The members of the Executive Council expressed their thanks to the Director General for the efforts exerted in preparing this Report. Discussions ensued in which the members of the Council expressed the following:

- Concern over the decline of contributions collected from Member States and the danger it posed to the future of the Organization and to the fulfilment of its civilizational mission.
- The importance of collecting and settling the stipulated contributions and warning against the decline of contributions collection.
- Praise for the Financial Report and Closing Account of the Director General.
- The need to implement programmes according to the effectively collected contributions and not on theoretical assumptions.

After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

**Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda:
Financial Report of the Director General and
Closing Accounts for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with *Articles 18 and 19* of the Charter, *Article 29* of the Financial Regulations and *Article 20*, paragraphs “e” and “d” of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,

- Considering Decision *CE14/93/D. 2.2* adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, inviting, in its operative paragraph 3, the Director General to take account of the following in the financial report to be submitted to the present 15th Council session:

- Closing the accounts at the end of financial year 1993, namely on 31 December 1993, in compliance with Decision *CE13/92/D. 2.2* adopted by the Council at its 13th session, and in accordance with the views expressed by Member States on adopting a financial year corresponding to the Gregorian year;
- Finally closing the accounts on 30 June 1994 to complete the Plan and the Budget for the years 1991-1994 adopted by the General Conference at its fourth session;

- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1993 and the First Semester of 1994 in Document *CE15/94/2.2*

and its *Addendum*, which represents the second part of the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Years 1991-1994 submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference in Document *CG5/94/2.3 P.1, P.2 and Addendum*;

- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1- Adopts the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1993 and the First Semester of 1994 contained in Document *CE15/94/2.2* and its *Addendum*, and recommends that the 5th Session of the General Conference adopt it,

2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts exerted to apply a new financial year, corresponding to the Gregorian year, and for their success in ensuring transition to a new financial year,

3- Invites the Director General to take into account the observations made by the Council members;

4- Invites the Director General to draw up the financial reports of the financial year according to the following schedule:

- Earmark the months of January, February and March of the year following the financial year for closing the accounts and preparing the financial report;
- Earmark the months of April and May for drawing up the report of the audit company;
- Convene the Financial Control Committee meeting at the beginning of July to draw up its report;

5- Invites the Director General to submit these reports to the Executive Council at its ordinary session, held before the end of the year following the financial year, and to submit the statements of the Organization's accounts and a comprehensive statement on expenditures until the end of September of the current financial year.

6- Recommends that the General Conference amend, at its 5th session, the Charter, the Financial Regulations and the other internal regulations of the Organization in consonance with paragraph 4 of this decision.

**Fourth Working Session: Monday 18 Jumada II, 1415H
(21 November 1994)**

Morning

**Agenda Item 2.3: Reports of the Financial Control
Committee and of the Audit Company for
financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994
(Document *CE15/94/2.3 and Addendum*)**

17- The meeting convened in camera and after deliberations, the Council took the following two decisions:

**Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda:
Reports of the Financial Control Committee and of
The Audit Company for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with *Article 19* of the Charter, *Articles 20* and *26* of the Financial Regulations and *Article 20*, paragraphs “*b*” and “*g*” of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;

- Referring to Decision *CE14/93/D. 2.3* adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, requesting the Director General to convene a meeting of the Financial Control Committee to draw up its report for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994;

- Having considered the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994 in Document *CE15/94/2.3* and its *Addendum*, which represents the second part of the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for the years 1991-1994 submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference under n° *CG5/94/2.4 P.1, P. 2* and *Addendum*;

- Having heard the Report of the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee;

- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General;

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1- Thanks the Financial Control Committee for its work;

2- Adopts the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994 in Document *CE15/94/2.3* and its *Addendum*;

3- Invites the Director General to demand that the Audit Company complete its work, draw up its report and submit it to the Director General by the end of May of each year at the latest;

4- Invites the Director General to draw up the financial reports within the time-limit indicated in Decision *CE51/94D. 2.2* and invites the Financial Control Committee to meet, each year, beginning July to draw up its report;

5- Invites the Director General to take into consideration the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee and the observations of the members of the Executive Council;

6- Recommends that the 5th session of the General Conference adopt the contents of this decision.

**Decision in support of the Director General of the Islamic
Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)**

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance, with regret and bitterness, of the irresponsible campaign waged against the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the person of

its Director General, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, a campaign all the more dangerous as it might divert the Organization from its essential mission and objectives, at a time when the Ummah is in need, more than ever before, of its full energy, unity and solidarity in order to withstand all the challenges levelled at it,

1- Strongly denounces these perfidious manœuvres and vigourously condemns their instigators;

2- Expresses its total support to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, its confidence in its Director General and its full, unshakable support to him, and, in this connection, hails the Director General, for the stand he took, which reflects a lofty attitude and a high sense of responsibility, and commends the laudable manner in which he fulfils his mission;

3- Appreciates ISESCO's accomplishments despite the extremely difficult conditions and notwithstanding the paucity of resources and the multitude of burdens it shoulders;

4- Expresses its confidence in the ability of the Director General to guide the Organization respecting all the while the norms in force, and appeals to all ISESCO staff members to rally around the Director General and support the general policy and objectives of the Organization, abiding by a sense of discipline, respect for hierarchy and adherence to the duty of discretion in both speech and action and observance of the requirements for confidentiality in work.

**Fifth Working Session: Monday 18 Jumada II, 1415H
(21 November 1994)**

Afternoon

Agenda Item 2.4: Report of the Director General on the situation of Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing the Organization's financial situation for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994

(Document CE15/94/2.4)

18- The Director General submitted his Report on Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing the Organization's financial situation for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994. He indicated that the report was divided into two parts, the first part showing Member States' contributions for 1992-1993 and the second covering the period 1993-1994. He said that the report included the contributions settled for the financial year 1993-1994 and previous years and showed the Member States which had paid their contributions, either in full or in part, during the financial year 1993-1994, in addition to those Member States which paid their contributions after June 30th, 1994. He further stated that the report surveyed the arrears of Member States to the Organization's budget, which amounted to US\$ 47,863,351.28 on June 30th, 1994, and invited the Executive Council to consider the matter and take the necessary measures to redress the Organization's financial situation.

19- The members of the Executive Council then proceeded to discuss the report and commended the outstanding efforts exerted by the Director General in this regard.

They made the following observations:

- Non-commitment of some Member States to settling contributions according to the rates stipulated in the Organization's budget, which may induce other States to reconsider their contribution rates;
- Revitalization of the Committee set up by the 14th Executive Council session to consider the situation of Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget;
- Necessity to refrain from encouraging some Member States to settle their contributions in local currency;
- Necessity not to apply UNESCO's experiment of inflicting sanctions on States which fail to settle their contributions, in view of the special spiritual and civilizational ties binding the Muslim Ummah;
- Inviting the Director General to pay more visits to the Member States in order to shed light on the Organization and its noble objectives, and urge them to settle their contributions to the Organization's budget.

The representative of the Republic of the Sudan then took the floor and stressed that the Sudanese competent authorities had transferred to the account of the Islamic Organization part of the contribution of the Republic of the Sudan for the previous year. The representative of the Republic of Senegal advised the Council, in turn, that the Senegalese competent authorities had transferred to the Islamic Organization's account the contribution of the Republic of Senegal. The representative of the Republic of Yemen emphasized, for his part, that the contributions of his country for the previous period are deposited, in local currency, at the Central Bank of Yemen, and they would be transferred to ISESCO's account as soon as some bank obstacles are lifted.

20- Commenting on the views expressed, the Chairman of the Executive Council proposed to attach to the Report of the Committee set up to study Member States' contributions to the Organization's budgets, an appeal from the Executive Council urging Member States to settle their contributions.

The Director General thanked the Council members, for their serious discussions that reflected their keen interest in the Organization and their support for its mission. He indicated that the Organization had carried out a comparative study of its revenues over the three-year action plans 1985-1988, 1988-1991 and 1991-1994. He pointed out the significant improvement in the pace of payment of contributions and said that the General Directorate would circulate, at a later session, a document annexed to the Report, showing the countries that paid their contributions after June 1994. He proposed to set up a Committee from the Executive Council members that would meet concurrently with the fifth General Conference to consider this issue. He concluded by inviting the countries that contested their contributions to hasten to settle what they deemed to be appropriate until the General Conference rules the matter.

After discussions, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda:

Report of the Director General on the situation of Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing the Organization's financial situation for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 16 of the Charter and Article 6 of the Financial Regulations;

- Referring to Decision *CE14/94//D. 2.4* which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, particularly the sixth operative paragraph in which it requests the General Conference to take effective measures in order to redress the Organization's financial situation in keeping with the principle of Islamic solidarity expressed by Member States upon their signature of the Organization's Charter, by having recourse, of the General Conference so desires, to the comprehensive and practical study which was prepared by the ad-hoc committee set up by the Executive Council at its 14th session and which was circulated to the Council members in view of its usefulness;

- Recalling Decision *CE13/92/D. 2.4* which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 13th session, particularly the ninth operative paragraph thereof, in which the Executive Council calls on the Member States which contest their contribution rates to continue settling their contributions according to the very rates adopted by the Organization's General Conferences, and invites the Director General to place this item on the agenda of the 5th General Conference session for consideration and to cooperate with the ad-hoc Committee in order to reach a satisfactory solution to this problem;;

- Having examined the Director General's report on Member States contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing its financial situation for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994, which is included in Document *CE15/94/2.4* which constitutes the second part of the Director General's report on Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget for 1991-1994, submitted to the 5th General Conference session under n° *CG5/94/2.5 P.2*;

- Noting that the pace of Member States' settlement of their contributions to the Organization's budget is still below the acceptable standards, a fact which affects directly the implementation of the Organization's various programmes and activities;

- Having also examined the report of the above-mentioned Committee which was set up by the Executive Council at its 14th session;

- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General;

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1- Adopts the Director General's Report on Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing its financial situation for financial year 1993 and the first semester of 1994, which is included in Document *CE 15/94/2.4*, and recommends to the General Conference to adopt it;

2- Congratulates the Director General for the outstanding efforts he has exerted in this respect;

3- Endorses the report of the Committee set up by the Executive Council at its 14th session, entitled the report of the Committee in charge of considering the situation of Member States' contributions to ISESCO's budgets, and recommends to the 5th session of the General Conference to endorse it;

4- Thanks the Committee for its efforts and invites it to cooperation with the Director General in providing a practical and specific proposal for solving all problems resulting from some Member States' delay or failure to settle their contributions, in addition to the problem of contribution rates of the States which contest their rates, and calls for submitting this proposal to the General Conference;

5- Recommends to the 5th General Conference session to consider and adopt these proposals;

6- Invites the Executive Council members to urge their States to be committed to settling their contributions, and to ensure follow-up to this issues with them.

**Sixth Working Session: Tuesday 19 Jumada II, 1415H
(22 November 1994)**

Morning

**Agenda Item 3.1: Draft Action Plan and
Budget for the years 1995-1997
(Document CE15/94/3.1)**

21- The Director General introduced the project, stressing that the General Directorate had taken into consideration the observations made by the Council, at its previous session, on the Draft Action Plan, and had sorted them in 50 proposals, some of which dealt with educational, scientific and cultural programmes and others with support programmes, the general policy and functioning. He pointed out that they were all included in the Draft Action Plan after their in-depth examination by an ad-hoc committee set up by the Director General for this purpose.

The General Director then proceeded to sum up the most important proposals as follows:

- Keep the budgets of sectors and services unchanged for the three years 1995-1997;
- Set up the Sarajevo Unit and earmark assistance and support programmes for Azerbaijan and India-occupied Kashmir;
- Review the expenditure rates concerning the general policy, programmes, activities and joint expenditures, in order to allocate the major share of appropriations to the implementation of programmes.

22- The Council congratulated the Director General and his assistants for the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997, and thanked the Director General for his responsiveness and for taking into account the observations made by the Executive Council at its 14th session, thus bringing about a diversified, detailed and ambitious Action Plan. An extensive discussion followed on the sections and sub-sections of the Draft Action Plan and Budget. Proposals and observations focused on the following:

- Devise a mechanism to determine the way in which the General Directorate should establish an order of priority for implementation of programmes, in the light of the effectively collected budget;
- Enlarge the scope of distance education and in-service training programmes, as they are less costly, of greater impact and could be widely disseminated much more than short-term courses;

- Set-up, within the General Directorate, an organ catering for basic education, literacy, vocational and technical education, on the basis of the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training in Islamic Countries and Communities;
- Draw up a plan that would enable the General Directorate to benefit from donor parties, within the framework of the resolutions of the Jomtien Conference on "Education for All";
- Give priority in implementation, whenever possible, to programmes that are related to preventive and environmental education and the use of computers in Qur'anic and *Hadith* studies;
- Attach greater importance to scholarships and training programmes, widen their scope to comprise all sciences and knowledge and strive not to limit them to teaching the Arabic language and Islamic education;
- Give priority in implementation to the neediest countries, taking into account geographic distribution;
- Give priority in implementation, whenever possible, to scientific programmes that deal with the problems of the environment, the management of water resources and energy sources;
- Set up a Unit for prospective studies, strategic and geographic analysis, which takes into account the new changes and orientations that resulted from recent world conferences and agreements;
- Attach importance to the Islamic encyclopedia project and look into the possibility of participation of some ISESCO Executive Council members in the project's editorial board;
- Attach importance to programmes concerned with strengthening and asserting the Islamic identity through positive, dynamic initiatives rather than defensive, introvert attitudes;
- Draw up a programme that focuses on Islamic monuments and works of art and try to recover those that have been taken away to foreign museums;
- Look into the possibility of raising the budget of the Documentation and Information Centre so that it could take up the contemporary challenges levelled at the Muslim Ummah.

Some representatives of Member States submitted written proposals on the draft Action Plan and Budget to the effect of merging some programmes, raising or reducing the budgets appropriated thereto, which would be taken into account by the General Directorate when it starts implementing the Action Plan, particularly with regard to the proposals submitted by the representative of the State of Qatar.

At the end discussions, the Council Chairman thanked the members for their interest and cooperation in enriching the Draft Action Plan and Budget. His thanks and appreciation went in particular to the representatives of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of the Sudan for kindly announcing the readiness of their countries to provide annual scholarships in the various scientific fields for the benefit of students of Member States. He invited the Council to urge the other Member States to follow their example.

**Seventh Working Session: Tuesday 19 Jumada II, 1415H
(22 November 1994)**

Afternoon

**Agenda Item 3.1: Draft Action Plan and
Budget for the years 1995-1997 (cont'd)
(Document CE15/94/3.1)**

23- The Director General took the floor to reply to the queries, proposals and observations of Council members. He indicated, in this context, that the Organization would endeavour to coordinate with Member States' National Commissions to set priorities according to needs and ascertain the readiness to host the activities. Referring to some activities and programmes included in the Draft Action Plan, he said that they conformed to a great number of proposals made by the Executive Council members. In conclusion of his presentation, he emphasized that the Organization, when carrying out activities, endeavours to coordinate with similar institutions to avoid duplication and dispersion of efforts.

The Director General's presentation was followed by that of the Deputy Director General in Charge of Programmes and Directors of Directorates, who addressed the technical aspects of the preparation of the Draft Action Plan and its implementation means, and answered some of the queries raised by Council members.

After deliberations, the Council approved the budget of the Three-Year Action Plan 1995-1997, amounting to US\$ 39,827,522. The representatives of the State of Qatar and the State of Kuwait expressed reservations on the increase in the budget, as compared to the budget of the 1991-1994 Action Plan. After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 7 of the Financial Regulations and Article 20, paragraphs "h" and "I" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;

- Referring to Decision CE 14/93/D. 3.1 adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, in particular:

1- Inviting the Director General, the first operative paragraph of this decision, to prepare the final version of the Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 after introducing the amendments proposed by the Executive Council members

2- Calling upon the Director General, in the second operative paragraph of the same decision, to limit any budget increases to the Expenditure resulting from the Enlarged membership of the Executive council, the changed financial year, the setting up of Sarajevo Unit, and the support programmes in favour of Azerbaijan and the India-occupied Kashmir

3- Recommending, the third operative paragraph of the same decision, that the 5th session of the General Conference approve the increase of the Budget by One-sixth to cover the six month transition period, starting on July 1st, 1994 and ending on December 31st, 1994, which represents the period falling between the end of the previous plan on June 30, 1994 and the beginning of the Action Plan under consideration on January 1st, 1995

_ Noting, with satisfaction, after consideration of the final draft Action plan and Budget for the years 1995- 1997 (Document CE 15/94/3.1) submitted to the General conference under the symbol CG 5/94/3.1 that this project has taken into consideration the views expressed by the Executive council members and reflected strictly and transparently the requirements for the transition to a new financial year corresponding to the the Gregorian year

- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants
- Considering deliberations wich have taken place

Decides the following :

- 1- Adopts the Action Plan of the Organisation as comprised in the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 (Document CE 15/94/3.1)
- 2- Approves the proposed budget amounting to US 39,827,522 to cover the period between January 1st, 1995 and December 31st, 1997, and approves the proposed additional budget amounting to US 5,104,834 to cover the transition period from July 1st, 1994 to December 31st, 1994 and recommends that the 5th session of the General Conference adopt them
- 3- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they exerted in the preparation of this document

Agenda Item 3.2 : Implementation Mechanisms of the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for all in Islamic countries and communities

Referring to Decision CE 14/93/D. 3.1 adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session in particular :

- 1- Inviting the Director General, in the first operative paragraph of this decision, to prepare the final version of the Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997, after introducing the amendments proposed by the Executive Council members
 - 2- Calling upon the Director General, in the second operative paragraph of the same decision, to limit any budget increases to the expenditure resulting from the enlarged membership of the Executive council , the changed financial year, the setting up of the Sarajevo unit, and the support programmes in favour of Azerbaijan and the India-occupied Kashmir
 - 3- Recommending, in the third operative paragraph of the same decision, that the 5th session of the General conference approve the increase of the budget by one-sixth to cover the six month transition period , starting on July 1st, 1994 and ending on December 31st, 1994 wich represents the period falling between the end of previous plan on june 30th, 1994and the beginning of the Action plan under consideration on January 1st, 1995
- Noting, with satisfaction, after consideration of the final Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 (Document CE 15/94/3.1) submitted to the General Conference under the symbol CG 5/94/3.1, that this project has taken into consideration the views expressed by the Executive Council members and reflected strictly and transparently the requirements for the transition to a new financial year corresponding to the Gregorian year
 - Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Action Plan of the organisation as comprised in the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 (document CE 15/94/3.1)
- Approves the proposed budget amounting to US 39,827,522 to cover the period between January 1st, 1995 and December 31st, 1997, and approves the proposed additional budget amounting to US 5,104,834 to cover the transition period from July 1st, 1994 to December 31st, 1994 and recommends that the 5th session of the General Conference adopt them
- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they exerted in the preparation of this document

Agenda item 3.2 : Implementation Mechanisms of the special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for All in Islamic countries and communities.

24- The Director General introduced the Document, indicating that it had been prepared in accordance with the directives and guidelines contained in the document of the Islamic programme endorsed by the General Conference at its second extraordinary session held in 1990 in Jomtien. He underlined that the implementation mechanisms provided for a varied set of programmes and activities covering all fields of action pertaining to literacy according to the needs, requests and specific characteristics of each Member State.

The Members of the Executive Council proceeded to discuss the various aspects of the Document. Their observations and proposals focused on the following:

- Non-satisfaction with the remedies proposed to solve the illiteracy problem within the framework of the World Declaration on "Education for All" issued in Jomtien, from which stemmed the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for All in Islamic Countries and Communities;
- Necessity to proceed from standardized model programmes which take into consideration the national programmes of Member States, provide them with advanced educational methods that transcend conventional systems, and take interest in training educational cadres at a first stage, on the understanding that this experiment be launched, at a first phase, in one or two Member States within a specific period of time;
- Consider setting up an Islamic Literacy Mechanism similar to the Arab one, to be supervised by the Organization and financed from a fund established for this purpose;
- Importance of grassroots participation through non-governmental organizations.

25- The Director General then took the floor and expressed appreciation for the views and proposals of the members of the Executive Council. He expressed his determination to give a new impetus to the Islamic Programme by convening, at the Organization's headquarters, a meeting of literacy programme officials in the Islamic world to discuss the experience of their respective countries and come up with an approach to the implementation of this programme.

After discussion, the Executive Council issued the following decision:

Decision on Item 3.2 of the Agenda:

Implementation Mechanisms of the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for All in Islamic Countries and Communities

The Executive Council,

- Recalling Decision CE 12/91/D. 4.1 adopted by the Executive Council at its 12th session on the "implementation Mechanisms of the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for All in Islamic countries and Communities", in which it requested to be informed, in each session, of the developments in the implementation of this Programme;
- Considering that the Executive Council, at its 13th and 14th sessions, had deferred consideration of this item to the 15th session;
- Having considered Document CE 15/94/3.2 on this topic;
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their efforts in this regard;
- Invites the Director General to prepare a practical plan for the Islamic Literacy Programme for the Islamic World and mobilize the necessary resources for this purpose.

Agenda Item 3.3: Proposed Establishment of ISESCO Education Centres

(Document CE 15/94/3.3)

26- The Director General introduced the Document, referring to the experience acquired by the Islamic Organization through the implement educational programmes, particularly those relating to curricula, teacher training and modernization of teaching methods. He indicated that, during the evaluation process, the General Directorate had noted the inability of these programmes to assimilate additional trained technical cadres, in addition to the insufficient follow-up and the limited efficiency of direct central supervision, in view of administrative procedures and on-site visits required, etc. as a result of this evaluation, the General Directorate submitted the project of setting up education centres that would directly supervise the in-service training of teachers as well as other educational aspects.

The Council proceeded then to discuss the project and endorsed it. The Council made the following proposals:

- Change the title of the project to "Project of ISESCO Education Centres" and review its objectives, programmes and other details;
- Benefit from the experience of similar organizations in this field;

- Start this project on a pilot experimental basis in some Member States. This experience would be carried out in other States in the light of the results obtained.
- Contact the States concerned to consult them on the establishment of ISESCO Education Centres.

The representatives of Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Chad and the Comoros expressed the desire of their countries to host these centres. The Council then adopted the following decision:

**Decision on Item 3.3 of the Agenda:
Proposed Establishment of ISESCO Education Centres**

The Executive Council,

- Referring to Article 2 of the Charter;
- Considering that the Executive Council had decided, at its 14th session, to defer consideration of the "Proposed Establishment of ISESCO Education Centres" to its 15th session;
- Having considered this project in Document CE 15/94/3.3;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Approves, in principle, the establishment of ISESCO Education Centres (Document CE 15/94/3.3) submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference under the symbol CG 5/94/3.2 and recommends that the General Conference approve it;
- Invites the Director General to reconsider the details of the project taking into consideration the observations of the Executive Council members.

Eight Working Session: Wednesday, 20 Jumada II, 1415H (23 November 1994)

Morning

**Agenda Item 3.5: Draft Islamic Convention
for the Protection of Copyright**

(Document CE 15/94/3.5)

27- The session started with a presentation of the project by the Director General who indicated that the protection of Copyright was a prerequisite of cultural development and a basic condition for the encouragement of literacy and artistic creativity and the dissemination of cultural radiance. He stated that the General Directorate, being conscious of the importance of this issue, prepared the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright, in cooperation with UNESCO, and addressed it to its Member States for comments. The Director General pointed out that ISESCO had received, in this connection, observations and proposals from the relevant parties in some Member States, and that the observations and proposals were taken into consideration during the final drafting of the project submitted to the Council.

The remarks made by the Council members on the various aspects of the document concerned both form and content and considered that this document, in general and in its present version, could hinder the dissemination of Islamic thought and culture among Islamic countries, a fact which is unprecedented in the history of the Muslim Ummah, particularly that all aspects of Islamic knowledge, including the Holy Qur'an, the pure Sunnah, the Sirah, the biographies and the stories, were bequeathed from generation to generation and moved from one country to another, without being shackled by legal constraints or Copyright claims. They were of the view that it would be advisable, in this case, to submit this document after an in-depth study of all aspects of the issue, and after recourse to the competent parties as well as the fiqh and legal jurisprudence. They also called for proceeding unhurriedly with the issues until national and regional experiences become full-fledged and until the Muslim Ummah becomes endowed, at this epoch, with richer intellectual and cultural contributions likely to restore its glory.

28- The Director General replied to the remarks made by the Executive Council members and indicated that the document had been addressed to the Member States, but the General Directorate received limited response from some Member states which sent their observations and proposals. He indicated that the interest taken by the General Directorate in laying down this project stemmed from its endeavour to implement a programme of the 1991-1994 Action Plan which was adopted by the Organization's General Conference. The Director General stated that, in spite of all that, the general Directorate was not in a hurry and could wait until everything materializes.

Following deliberations, the Council took the following decision:

Decision on Item 3.5 of the Agenda:

**Draft Islamic Convention
for the Protection of Copyright**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of the Organization's Charter, in particular Article 4, paragraph "b", encouraging cooperation among Member States in educational, scientific and cultural fields;
- Having considered the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright contained in Document CE 15/94/3.5;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Defers consideration of the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright (Document CE 15/94/3.5) to the next session of the Executive Council order to make it possible for the Director General to take into account the new views expressed by the Executive Council members, and to enable him to consult the experts in Islamic Shariah matters with a view to ascertaining its consistency with the Islamic outlook on copyright and with the free exchange of ideas within the Muslim Ummah.

Agenda Item 4.1: Draft Amendments to the Financial Regulations

(Document CE 15/94/4.1)

Agenda Item 4.2: Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council

(Document CE 15/94/4.2)

29- The Director General introduced item 4.1 concerning the draft amendments to the Financial Regulations and Regulations and underlined the reasons which led the General Directorate to propose the amendments contained in the document.

A number of Council members took the floor and made observations which generally focused on the procedural aspect relating to the competence of the Council to consider the proposed amendments to the Financial Regulations. In this respect, the Council Chairman indicated that the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 11 of the Charter restrict this competence to the General Conference. During discussions, it became clear that item 4.2 concerning the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council fell within the same framework. In view of the foregoing, the Executive Council decided to defer consideration of the amendments until the 5th General Conference adopts the proposed amendments to the Charter. The Council decided to set up a committee composed of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Republic of Senegal and the Arab Republic of Egypt to ensure that the articles of the internal regulations of the Organization conform to those of the Charter. The Committee would submit a report on its activities to the next session of the Executive Council.

The following two decisions were adopted:

Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda:

Draft Amendments to the Financial Regulations

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 30 of the Financial Regulations;
- Taking into consideration Decision n°: 13/92/D 3.7 cancelling the 3rd Special General Conference, which was adopted by the Organization's 13th Executive Council Session, and the approval of this canceling by two-thirds of Member States;
- Taking into account that the Executive Council had decided, at its 13th and 14th sessions, to defer consideration of the "Draft Amendments to the Financial Regulations" of the Organization until its 15th session;
- Having studied the draft amendments to the Financial Regulations contained in document CE 15/94/4.1, submitted to the 5th General Conference session in Document CG 5/94/4.3;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Agrees to refer the Draft amendments to the Financial Regulations, as annexed to the Final Report of the 15th Executive Council Session, to the General Conference;
- Recommends to the General Conference to mandate the Executive Council to rule this matter in the light of the amendments adopted by the General Conference with regard to the Charter.

Decision on Item 4.2 of the Agenda:

Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Articles 26 and 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Taking into account Decision n°: 13/92/D 3.7 cancelling the 3rd Special General Conference, which was adopted by the Organization's 13th Executive Council Session, and the fact that two-thirds of Member States approved this cancelling;
- Considering the clarifications provided by the Chairman of the 3rd General Conference Committee in charge of revising the Organization's Charter and internal regulations, with regard to the necessity of submitting the conclusions of the work of this Committee to the Organization's General Conference;
- Considering the close link between the articles of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and the articles of the Charter;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Defers consideration of the draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council until adoption of the Charter by the General Conference.

**Agenda Item 4.3: Draft Document on Distribution
of International Positions among Member States**

(Document CE 15/94/4.3)

30- The Director General introduced the Document, recalling the 10th, 11th and 14th Council sessions which had examined the distribution of international positions among Member states and the Committee set up by the Council to examine ISESCO Organization Chart. He indicated that the Document submitted recalls the important efforts exerted in this regard. He concluded saying that there was consensus on the necessity to apply the principle of just geographic distribution of positions, but there were no definite rules and criteria to allot shares among Member states. He requested the Council to set up a specific mechanism to help the Director General apply the principle of just geographic distribution in the most appropriate manner.

After consideration of the Document, the Executive Council members pointed out the necessity to enrich it and conduct an in-depth study that would take into consideration the regulations in force in similar organizations as well as the principle of rotation in occupying senior positions. The Document was referred to a Committee set up by the Council comprising the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Republic of Senegal and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 4.3 of the Agenda:

**Draft Document on Distribution
of International Positions among Member States**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Articles 22 of the Personnel Regulations, which stipulates that, upon recruiting staff for senior and planning positions, balance among ISESCO Member States should be taken into consideration;
- Taking into account the general orientation of the observations made by the Council members and the members of the Organization Chart Committee;
- Taking into consideration the practice in similar international organizations;
- Having examined document CE 15/94/4.3, submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference under n° CG 5/94/4.6;
- Considering the clarifications provided by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Sets up a Committee composed of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Republic of Senegal and the Arab Republic of Egypt to study this matter in cooperation with the General Directorate.

Ninth Working Session: Wednesday, 20 Jumada II, 1415H (23 November 1994)

Afternoon

Agenda Item 5.1: Report of the Director General on the Role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina

**(Document CE 15/94/5.1)
(CG 5/94/5.2)**

31- The Director General introduced his report, reviewing the programmes and activities carried out last year by the Organization in compliance with a decision adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, on supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He pointed out that the Organization had set up the Sarajevo Unit and mentioned the obstacles which hindered his visit to Sarajevo.

The members of Executive Council expressed their countries' sympathy with the just cause of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina and cited the various forms of support extended by their countries to the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina expressed his thanks and appreciation for the assistance and support extended to his country. He expressed regret over the inability of the Director General to visit Sarajevo and hoped that the visit would take place in the near future. He said that his country was not only in need of scholarships but also of diplomatic efforts and he invited the members of the Council to do their best in this regard. He recalled the priorities included in the Decision approved by the Executive Council at its 14th session, which determined the fields of educational, scientific and cultural support in Sarajevo. He requested the Council to authorize the Director General to change some of the priorities in the light of development.

After discussion, the Executive Council issued the following decision:

Decision on Item 5.1 of the Agenda:

**Report of the Director General on the Role of ISESCO
in supporting educational, scientific and cultural
institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of the Organization's Charter;
- Considering Decision CE 14/93/D 5.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session, in particular:

- 1- The sixth operative paragraph which invites the Director General to set up a unit within the General Directorate called the "Sarajevo Unit";
- 2- The seventh operative paragraph which invites the Director General to earmark funds from the 1991-1994 Action Plan and Budget and the 1995-1997 Action Plan and Budget to finance activities relevant to Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- 3- The ninth operative paragraph which invites the Director General to place this issue on the agenda of the 15th session of the Executive Council and the 5th session of the General Conference and to submit a report on this issue;
 - Having considered the report of the Director General on the role of ISESCO in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in implementation of the Decision referred to above in document CE 15/94/5.1 submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference under the symbol CG 5/94/5.2;
 - Noting that the Director General has implemented that Decision and earmarked funds for this purpose in the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997;
 - Taking into consideration the appeal of the Executive Council at its 15th session;
 - Having heard the report of the representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina;
 - Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1- Thanks the Director General for implementing Decision CE 14/93/D.5.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 14th session and for his report on ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions (Doc. CE 15/94/5.1) submitted to the 5th session of the General Conference under n° CG 5/94/5.2;

2- Thanks the Member States that provided assistance to Bosnia-Herzegovina and invites the other Member States to provide financial and academic support to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, including sponsoring the educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina in terms of bearing the functioning costs of these institutions and granting study scholarships to Muslim Bosnian students who pursue their studies within or outside the country;

3- Recommends that the General Conference back up, at its 5th session, the efforts of the Executive Council and those of the Director General of the Organization in order to implement the decisions relevant to the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

4- Invites the Director General to follow up to the educational, scientific and cultural situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and to place this item on the agenda of the 16th session of the Executive Council;

5- Invites the Director General and the Chairman of the Executive Council to pay a working visit to Sarajevo as soon as possible in order to convey ISESCO's unanimous support to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina and determine priorities in the Action Plan geared by ISESCO to this country.

Agenda Item 5.2: Role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan

(Document CE 15/94/5.2)
(CG 5/94/5.3)

32- The representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan read out a document containing details of the educational, scientific and cultural activities implemented by the Organization in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Some Council members spoke about cooperation activities between their countries and the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this respect, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stressed his country's determination to provide a number of scholarships in favour of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Council members expressed their thanks to ISESCO for the efforts exerted in support of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan. They highlighted the necessity of gearing the support towards linking the Republic with its Islamic roots and asserting its Islamic cultural and civilizational identity. It was proposed, in this respect, that the Republic should benefit from one of ISESCO's education centres.

33- The representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan thanked the Director General and his assistants for the efforts exerted as reflected in the report submitted to the Executive Council. He indicated that the moral support extended by the Organization provided the Azeris with the opportunity to take part in ISESCO's activities and meet with their Muslim brothers, which is an unprecedented, positive achievement.

The Executive Council then took the following decision:

Decision on Item 5.2 of the Agenda:

**Role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific
and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the Charter of the Organization;
- In accordance with the Decision of the 15th session of the Executive Council to place this item on the agenda of this session;
- Considering the deplorable condition of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in this Islamic country, member of the Islamic Organization;
- Having considered Document CG 5/94/5.3 (CE 15/94/5.2);
- Having heard the presentation of the representative of Azerbaijan;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

**Agenda Item 5.3: Role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific
and cultural institutions in Somalia**

(Document CE 15/94/5.3)

34- A document was read out showing the reasons underlying the problems plaguing Somalia and the background of the intestine war raging in Somalia and its aftermath. The document concluded by requesting the Executive Council to issue a recommendation asking the Organization to implement some educational, scientific and cultural projects in the Republic of Somalia, within the framework of the coming three-year Action Plan.

The Executive Council members pointed out the difficulties that might confront the Organization in the fulfilment of the expected objectives and the carrying out of activities, should the intestine war not abate. The Council appealed to the warring factions to seek reconciliation and desist from tribal fanaticism which is rejected by Islam in order to enable the Organization to implement its programmes in Somalia.

The Executive Council appealed to Member States to provide further educational, scientific and cultural support in favour of the Somali people.

Following deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 5.3 of the Agenda:

Role of ISESCO in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the Charter of the Organization;
- In accordance with the Decision of the 15th session of the Executive Council to place this item on the agenda of this session;
- Considering the deplorable condition of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;
- Having taken cognizance of the memorandum submitted by the representative of Somalia (Document CE 15/94/5.3);
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1-** Expresses its deep concern over the deplorable conditions of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;
- 2-** Appeals to all Somali factions to seek national reconciliation and to facilitate the implementation of the programme drawn up by ISESCO;
- 3-** Invites the Director General to gear some programmes in the 1995-1997 Action Plan and Budget to activities likely to support the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in this country;
- 4-** Invites the Member States to support the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somali through granting scholarships for higher studies and all educational levels to the largest number of Somali students and pupils and providing them with the facilities required; that this support takes the form of technical and material assistance to the Somali National Commission, a support destined to

consolidate Qu'ranic schools and the study courses system in mosques, and to contribute to re-building the schools damaged by the war;

- 5- Invites the Director General to follow up this question and report to the Executive Council at its 15th session and to the General Conference.

Agenda Item 6.1: Date and Venue of the Sixteenth Session of the Executive Council

- 35- The Executive Council decided to hold its sixteenth session in Rabat during the first week of December 1995.

The following decision was adopted in this respect:

Decision on Item 6.1 of the Agenda: Date and Venue of the 16th Session of the Executive Council

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Convenes its 16th session in Rabat during the first week of December 1995.

Agenda Item 6.2: Preparation for the Fifth Session of the General Conference

(Document CG 5/94/1.1 Provisional/Rev.2)

(Document CG 5/94/1.2 Provisional/Rev.2)

- 36- The Council studied the two above-mentioned documents concerning the draft agenda and programme of the 5th General Conference session. After amendment of some items as included in the annexed version (Annexes 7 and 8), the following decisions was adopted;

Decision on Item 6.2 of the Agenda:

Preparation for the 5th General Conference

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 20, paragraph "j" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;

- Having considered the following documents of the 5th session of the General Conference:
 - * Draft Agenda of the 5th session of the General Conference session (Doc. CG 5/94/1.1/ Provisional/Rev.2);
 - * Draft Programme of the General Conference (Doc. CG 5/94/1.2/ Provisional/Rev.2);
- Taking into account the recommendations of the Executive Council to the General Conference to refer in internal regulations to the Council for conforming them to the Charter after its adoption;
- Desirous to facilitate the work of the 5th session of the General Conference;
- Considering the clarifications provided by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Recommends that the 5th session of the General Conference adopt its agenda as contained in Doc. CG 5/94/1.1 Provisional (Rev. 2) attached to the Final Report of the 15th session of the Council, and its programme as contained in Doc. CG 5/94/1.2 Provisional (Rev. 2) also attached to the Final Report of the 15th session of the Council;
 - 2- Sets up a Committee made up of Pakistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt and Senegal in order to consider the conformity of the articles of ISESCO's internal regulations to those of the charter, and to refer a report on its proceedings to the following Executive Council session.
- 37- The Executive Council addressed a message of thanks and congratulations to H.E. President Hafez Al-Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic for hosting the 15th Session of the Executive Council under his auspices as well as for the efforts exerted by his esteemed Government to insure the success of this session (Annex 9).
- 38- The Executive Council also addressed a message of thanks to the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, His Majesty King Hassan II, for his sustained support to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as well as to its Director General (Annex 10).
- 39- Following the disaster which beset the Republic of Djibouti as a result of the recent floods, the Executive Council addressed a message of condolences and sympathy to His Excellency Hadj Hassan Goulid Aptidon, President of the Republic of Djibouti (Annex 11).

Tenth Working Session (Closing): Thursday, 21 Jumada II, 1415H (24 November 1994)

Afternoon

- 40- At the beginning of the session, the Closing reviewed the Draft Final Report, paragraph by paragraph. After the Council members made some observations and

amendments to the Draft Final Report, it was adopted and the General Directorate was requested to take these observations into consideration upon finalizing the Report.

- 41-** The representative of the Republic of Mali put forward a proposal for re-election of the Director General for a new term of office in view of the progress, development and prosperity witnessed in the Islamic Organization during this first term of office, which enabled the Organization to occupy a prominent position among the similar international organizations. The Council approved his proposal unanimously and addressed a message to the 5th session of the General Conference in this respect (Annex 12).

The Director General then took the floor and said that he was deeply moved by such unanimity and such an initiative which would give him impetus to further develop the Organization, bring through its mission and enable it to achieve its noble goals.

- 42-** The executive Council addressed a message of condolence to H.E. Hussain Kamel Bahauddine, Minister of Education of the Arab Republic of Egypt, following the passing away of the late Professor Dr. Abu Al-Wafa Al-Taftazani, ex-representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt in the Executive Council. The message paid tribute to the late Professor for his efficient role and worthy contribution in the previous Council sessions (Annex 13).

The Council likewise invited the Director General to advise an "ISESCO Medal", to be offered to all those who contribute to supporting and developing the Islamic Organization, starting with the family of the late professor.

- 43-** In an address to the Executive Council, the Director General stressed the importance of the 15th session of the Council stating that it was an outstanding session which highlighted the advance potentialities and working means which have become available to the Organization, thus entitling it to be at the forefront of the influential, efficient regional and international organizations in its sphere of action. He commended the spirit of open-mindedness, straightforwardness and transparency which prevailed throughout the session's proceeding. (Annex 14, Address by the Director General at the Closing Session).

- 44-** Mr. Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the executive Council, took the floor and expressed deep satisfaction for the positive results reached by the Council's session. He praised the efforts expressed by the Council members in discharging the duties assigned to them in such a way as to achieve optimal results.

- 45-** At the end of the session, the Executive Council addressed a statement of thanks and appreciation to H.E. the Chairman of the Executive Council for conducting the Council's proceedings as well as for his wisdom, patience and vast experience (Annex 15).

