

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Final Report

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) held its 21st Session in Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco, on 19-23 Shaaban 1421 A.H., corresponding to 16-20 November 2000 A.D. This Session's proceedings were attended by the Executive Council members, except for the representatives of the following states : Azerbaijan, Suriname, Kazakhstan and Maldives.

(Annex 1, List of Executive Council members or their attending substitutes)

Opening Session : Thursday, 19 Shaaban 1421 A.H./ 16 November 2000 A.D.

Morning :

1. The Opening Session was attended by H.E. Dr. Najib Zerouali, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training in the government of the Kingdom of Morocco, H.E. Dr. Khaled Ibn Mohamed Al-Ankari, Minister of Higher Education in the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President of the Sixth General Conference of ISESCO, H.E. Mr. Mohammad Abdullah Fares, Representative of the State of the United Arab Emirates, Secretary General of the Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Zayed Teacher's Award, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council and H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO. The Session was likewise attended by the members of the Islamic diplomatic corps, the representatives of international organizations accredited to Rabat, and a constellation of personalities concerned with the fields of education, culture and communication.
2. The Opening Session started with a recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an. H.E. Mr. Mohammad Abdullah Fares, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council, delivered afterwards an address in which he first expressed profound thanks and appreciation for His Majesty Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, as well as his honourable government, for the generous care and unstinted support he bestowed upon ISESCO. He also greeted the Executive Council members and hailed H.E. the Director General of ISESCO for his steady, successful efforts aimed to optimize ISESCO's performance and its accomplishments.

In his address, he pointed out the rapid mutations occurring worldwide, highlighting the mounting dependence of mankind on science and technology, which required an optimal, sound harnessing of human, natural and material resources.

He then mentioned that under this trend, the Islamic Organization had convened, in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research, in Riyadh, which adopted the Implementation Mechanisms of the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in Islamic Countries, which strategy had been adopted by the Islamic Summit Conference, at its Eighth Session, held in Tehran, in November 1997.

His Excellency likewise emphasized in his address the hallmarks of the current Session of the Executive Council, indicating that it marked the end of the Fifth Three-Year Action Plan (1998-2000), and the inception of the Sixth Three-Year Action Plan 2001-2003, which ushered ISESCO onto a new era, endowed with a new Action Plan laid down in the light of the Medium-Term Plan 2001-2009.

He then underlined the volume of achievements made by ISESCO as inferred from the report of the Director General on the activities implemented in the period between the 20th and 21st Council Sessions, notwithstanding the meager resources and the dire financial situation of ISESCO. He stated that ISESCO had thus realized an implementation rate exceeding 80% of programmes and activities for the final year of the Action Plan, indicating that such a rate could not have been achieved had it not been for the policy of expenditure rationalization, sound management and rigorous steering of affairs.

*(Annex 2, Address by H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdullah Fares,
Secretary General of Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Zayed Teacher's Award,
Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council)*

3. H.E. Dr. Khaled Ibn Muhammed Al-Ankari, Minister of Higher Education in the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President of the Sixth General Conference of ISESCO, delivered an address in which he first conveyed the greetings of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud and his trustworthy Crown Prince as well as their sincere wishes of success for the proceedings of the 21st Executive Council Session. He also expressed consideration and appreciation for Their Excellencies the Executive Council members, wishing them full success.

His Excellency highlighted the salient aspects of the 21st Session of the Executive Council, indicating that it was the ultimate Council session of the 20th Century, the

last Council Session under the Three-Year Action Plan 1998-2000, which would consider the outcome of the activities carried out under the ending three-year action plan, and, at the same time, the session that would discuss the new draft three-year action plan.

His Excellency also pointed out the considerable accomplishments made in the period spanning the 20th and 21st Council Sessions, and also the period spanning the Sixth and Seventh General Conference Sessions, describing that Session as a conspicuous milestone in the course of ISESCO's action.

His Excellency the Minister commended the services extended by ISESCO to the Islamic world in its fields of competence, praising its contribution to fulfilling the conditions of educational, scientific, cultural development, and showing the impact of such achievement on the advancement of the Muslim Ummah's civilization. He indicated that the resurgence of the Islamic world hinged chiefly on the efforts exerted in the area of educational, scientific and cultural development on the basis of Islamic solidarity, complementarity cooperation and coordination with a view to laying the groundwork for the aspired civilizational renaissance. His Excellency stressed, in this context, the extent of the responsibility shouldered by ISESCO in its fields of competence, underscoring the growing need for its intervention day after day and expressing appreciation for the role played by the Executive Council in that field through planning, follow-up and evaluation.

In conclusion of his address, H.E. the Minister expressed thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the generous support extended by His Majesty's government to ISESCO. He likewise expressed lavish thanks to Their Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses the heads of Member States for their support to the Organization, wishing full success to the Council members.

*(Annex 3, Address by H.E. Dr. Khaled Ibn Muhammed Al-Ankari,
Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
President of the Sixth General Conference)*

4. H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, delivered an address in which he first extended lavish thanks and profound gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the unstinted support granted by the Government of

His Majesty. He likewise conveyed thanks and gratitude to Their Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses the leaders of the Member States in recognition of their commendable support to ISESCO.

His Excellency highlighted, afterwards, the sterling aspects marking the current Session, it being the last session of the Three-Year Action Plan 1998-2000, and the preparatory session for the Three-Year Action Plan 2001-2003. He pointed out that the current session was being held at a critical international and regional juncture, marked by the ruthless aggression and criminal practices perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Palestinian people and the Muslim Ummah's sanctities in Al-Quds Al-Sharif in particular, and in Palestine in general. He then called for pursuing the Islamic civilizational project, and strengthening its educational, scientific and cultural foundations.

As he broached the period spanning the 20th and 21st Council Sessions, His Excellency indicated that it was replete with accomplishments in spite of the considerable efforts dedicated by the Organization to the preparation of the new draft Three-Year Action Plan and the Draft Medium-Term Plan 2001-2009. Talking about the activities carried out in the current year, His Excellency showed that out of the 261 scheduled activities, 182 activities had been implemented, representing 70% of overall activities. He expected that rate to reach by the end of the year 80% to 84%. As for the implementation of the ending Three-Year Action Plan, he stated that 941 activities had been scheduled, of which 390 activities under the first year, 290 under the second year and 261 under the third year, all out of the 1140 of the elapsed Plan.

His Excellency highlighted, then, the increased presence of ISESCO during international symposia in compliance with the cooperation agreements concluded with Arab, Islamic and international organizations, which made it possible to mobilize the bulk of resources of the Muslim Ummah. He stated, in this context, that ISESCO had convened in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the First Islamic Conference of Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministers, in Riyadh in October 2000, which adopted the Implementation Mechanisms of the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in Islamic Countries. Likewise, ISESCO held the first meeting of the Consultative Council on the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, in Rabat, in October 2000. ISESCO also took part in the First International Forum on Environment from an Islamic Perspective, held in Jeddah in October 2000. On the same lines, ISESCO's contribution had been efficient during the proceedings

of the Sixth Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs, held in Dakar, in October 2000, which was conducive to the adoption of the decision of the Second Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers whereby ISESCO was entrusted with follow-up to the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World with the competent authorities in the Member States. The Committee likewise adopted the final report of the Consultative Council on implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World. His Excellency pointed out that those resolutions were crowned with the resolution of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference which adopted them all, and which paid tribute to the Organization and praised its achievements, adopting by the same token the Strategy of Islamic Cultural Action in the West, alongwith its implementation mechanisms. His Excellency concluded that, with such a breakthrough, ISESCO could rightly be said to have succeeded in laying the firm groundwork for joint Islamic action in the fields of education, science, technology, culture and communication, calling for the provision of support and working means to the Organization in order to enable it to buttress the efforts expended by the Muslim Ummah in defense of its civilizational identity.

His Excellency then brought the glad tidings of the donation made by His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, amounting to US\$ 1,000,000 as a contribution to building the permanent headquarters of ISESCO, in addition to the handing over of the building hosting ISESCO's Regional Office in the Sharjah Emirate, donated and fully equipped by His Highness Dr. Sultan Ibn Muhammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council, Governor of the Sharjah, who also allocated a generous annual budget to the Office. On this occasion, His Excellency extended sincere thanks and gratitude to Their Highnesses for their generous donation and gracious patronage of ISESCO.

His Excellency likewise informed the Council members about the joining of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria as new member of ISESCO, thus raising the number of Member States to 45. On this occasion, His Excellency extended his lavish thanks and gratitude to His Excellency the Algerian President Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika for taking that decision.

At the end of his address, His Excellency reiterated thanks to the honourable Council, wishing full success for its proceedings.

*(Annex 4, Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri,
Director General of ISESCO)*

5. H.E. Dr. Najib Zerouali, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training in the Kingdom of Morocco, delivered an address in which he addressed the phenomenon of globalization in its economic, scientific, technological and cultural dimensions and the formidable challenges it levelled at the Islamic world. He stated that a large number of Member States were still plagued by the problems of illiteracy, the hard-to-reach generalization of education and the obstacles impeding the improvement of its image, notwithstanding the tremendous efforts exerted in this area. He indicated that the Muslim countries had grown aware, more than ever before, that they could no longer live aloof from one another, and that an undertaking that could not be fulfilled on an individual-basis, would certainly become accessible with the collective pooling of efforts. He stated that such was the spirit that infused the Muslim countries and rallied them under the banner of ISESCO for the purpose of promoting the Muslim Ummah's status in the fields of education, science, technology, culture and communication.

His Excellency the Minister carried on stating that, ever since its inception, ISESCO had been discharging that responsibility in an optimal way, thus rendering tremendous services to the Islamic world and achieving important results in its fields of competence. He said that ISESCO had become, therefore, an efficient interlocutor on the international stage, and had spread far and wide the radiance of Islamic culture by correcting the image of Islam through its multilingual intellectual publications.

His Excellency commended the distinct efforts exerted by the Organization, strengthened as it was by Member States' responsiveness and support, with a view to discharging its responsibility under the leadership of its Director General Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri.

The Moroccan Higher Education Minister praised the efforts expended by the Director General of ISESCO to fulfill his mission, stating that Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri had conferred upon ISESCO such a measure of his own enthusiasm, dynamism and deep faith in its mission as enabled it to proceed resolutely on the path of progress.

In conclusion of his address, he commended the Medium-Term Plan 2001-2009 and the Three-Year Action Plan 2001-2003, highlighting the tremendous responsibility shouldered by the Executive Council members in this area, namely the responsibility of

promoting the Muslim Ummah's generations and that of charting the way ahead for the full development of the Ummah's identity and culture during an entire decade.

*(Annex 5, Address by H.E. Dr. Najib Zerouali Ouarithi,
Minister of Higher Education, Executive Training
and Scientific Research in the Kingdom of Morocco)*

6. At the end of the Opening Session, the participating Council members and the guests attended the reception offered in their honour by the Director General.

First Working Session : Thursday, 19 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 16 November 2000 A.D.

Afternoon :

**Item 1.1 of the Agenda : Adoption of the Agenda
(Document C.E. 21/2000/1.1 Provisional)**

7. The Council Chairman submitted the proposed draft agenda (Document C.E. 21/2000/1.1 Provisional). It was approved by the members in its proposed version, taking into account the following remarks :

- delete item 4.1 at the proposal of the Director General
- add an item on the establishment of an Islamic satellite channel at the proposal of the representative of the State of Qatar
- add an item on the dire conditions of the Republic of Guinea at the request of the representative of the Republic of Senegal.

The Council passed thereafter the following decision :

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

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Articles (23-25) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Draft Agenda of its 21st Session contained in document (CE 21/2000/1.1 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Agenda of its current 21st Session as contained in the document (CE 21/2000/1.1 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of the said Session.

**Item 1.2 of the Agenda : Adoption of the Programme
(Document C.E. 21/2000/1.2 Provisional)**

8. The Council examined the Draft Programme proposed in Document C.E. 21/2000/1.2 Provisional, and resolved, after discussions, to reorganize the programme taking into account the following matters :

- adhere to the proposed programme for Thursday and Friday
- work on a continuous-basis on Sunday, 19 November 2000.

The Council passed thereafter the following decision :

**Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda
(Adoption of the Programme)**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the Decision (CE 20/99/D 6.1) adopted by the Executive Council in its 20th Session (Rabat, 22-26 November 1999), whereby the Council decided to hold its 21st Session in Rabat in November 2000, unless one of the Member States volunteers to host the seventh session of the General Conference,
- Considering Decision (CE 21/2000/D 1.1) adopted by the Council in connection with the Agenda of its current 21st Session,
- Having considered the Draft Programme of this Session contained in document (CE 21/2000/1.2 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Programme of its current 21st Session as contained in the document (CE 21/2000/1.2 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of this Session.

**Item 2.1 of the Agenda : Report of the Director General on the
Organization's Activities between the 20th and 21st Council Sessions
(Document C.E. 21/2000/2.1 Addendum)**

9. The Director General made a brief presentation of his report. He indicated at the outset, that the current year was the third and final year of the Three-Year Action Plan 1998-2000, a year marked by ISESCO's efforts focusing on two areas, first continuation of implementation of the Plan's activities, and second completion of preparations for the next draft three-year Plan.

He mentioned that in spite of all that, and notwithstanding the limited financial resources, ISESCO had managed to carry out the programmes and activities scheduled in the Action Plan, thus contributing to boosting the educational, scientific and cultural thrust at the level of the Islamic world. He stated, in this connection, that ISESCO had implemented by October 2000 a total of 182 activities out of 261 scheduled activities, representing an implementation rate of 70%, a rate expected to reach 80 to 84% by the end of the year. Credit for this, said the Director General, went to the perseverance, diligence and indefatigable work within the framework of the policy of rationalization of expenditures.

The Director General indicated, afterwards, that the Islamic Organization had managed to gain a vanguard position amidst similar organizations, as reflected in the resolutions passed by the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, the 27th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, and the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC). He pointed out that the current year was marked by the consolidation of ISESCO's relations with the Member States through the visits he had undertaken and the meetings he had held with the Member States' leaders and officials, in addition to the increased activation of cooperation agreements between the Organization and 106 international and regional organizations.

10. The Council members conveyed their thanks and appreciation for the Director General and his aides for the efforts they exerted to achieve the Organization's objectives. Discussions centered mainly on the following points :
- Necessity to mention the financing difficulties as well as the impact of donations and of the contribution of cooperative partners on the implementation of activities so that it would not be construed that ISESCO is capable of attaining such a high rate of implementation despite the failure of certain Member States to settle their contributions;
 - Need to attach further importance to Muslim minorities in the activities of ISESCO;

- Necessity to mention the amounts disbursed on each implemented activity upon presentation of the reports in the following sessions;
- Assessment of the impact of the working visits paid by the Director General on the improvement of ISESCO's resources and the increase of the rate of expenditure on activities and programmes;
- Continuing to take into account the needs of Member States and the proposals of Council members;
- Increasing interest in Arab-Islamic education;
- Stepping up ISESCO's efforts on the information level, particularly in the satellite channels;
- Encouraging the exchange of professors amongst the universities of Muslim countries.

11. The Director General expressed thanks to the Council members for their accurate observations, indicating that the General Directorate would take them into account in the implementation of its following plan. He emphasized that an accurate analysis of the impact of the working visits paid by the Director General to the Member States would be beneficial for the implementation of activities and the increase of ISESCO's resources.

Following deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda
(Report of the Director General on the Organization's
Activities between the 20th and 21st Council Sessions)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 21, paragraph (a), of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 20th and 21st Council Sessions, which is contained in documents (CE 21/2000/2.1) and (CE 21/2000/2.1 Addendum),
- Having heard the presentation delivered by the Director General of the Islamic Organization in this connection,
- Noting that if the implemented activities were to be financed chiefly through the contributions of Member States, the current implementation rate estimated at

70%, and which is expected to reach 84% by the end of the financial year would not exceed 35% to 40%.

- This required the Director General to undertake several trips and contacts in search for extra-budgetary aid in order to ensure the current implementation rates of 70 to 84%;
- The Council expresses its concern over this predicament, the more so since the persistent failure of Member states to settle their contributions is casting serious shadows on the future of ISESCO and is likely to debilitate the ability of ISESCO to discharge its civilizational and cultural mission, and fulfill the needs of Member States in its fields of competence;
- Conveying thanks to the Member States which regularly honour their obligations and settle their contributions in full; thanking also the organizations, states and personalities of the Islamic world for the solidarity shown towards ISESCO, thus enabling it to carry on implementing its programmes and activities;
- Reiterating its pressing appeal to the governments of Member States to settle urgently their currently due contributions as well as their accumulating arrears;
- 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 20th and 21st Council Sessions as contained in documents (CE 21/2000/2.1) and (CE 21/2000/2.1 Addendum), taking into account the observations made by the Executive Council members;
- 2-** Expresses thanks to the Director General and his assistants for their outstanding efforts in pursuing the implementation of programmes and rationalizing expenditure thereon, while taking into account the fulfilment of the pressing needs of the Member States and the Muslim communities in non-member states;
- 3-** Thanks the Director General for the steady efforts he expends to broaden the areas of cooperation with international and regional organizations as well as Arab and Islamic institutions within the framework of programme implementation;
- 4-** Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt this report as submitted to it in documents CG7/2000/2.2.P.2 and CG7/2000/2.2.P.2 addendum, which make up the second part of the Director General's report on ISESCO's activities between the sixth and seventh sessions of the Conference.

Item 2.2 of the Agenda : Evaluation of ISESCO's Action
(Document C.E. 21/2000/2.2 Addendum)

12. The Director General underlined ISESCO's adherence to the enforcement of the guidelines of the Executive Council in connection with the evaluation of ISESCO's action, and its endeavour to include an internal and external evaluation in the related report both on quantitative and qualitative levels with a view to reflecting the results achieved against the objectives set forth, mentioning all the while the unimplemented activities and the reasons for that. He expressed the satisfaction of the General Directorate with the growing response of external partners to convey their opinion on ISESCO's activities.

He showed that the implementation rate during the Three-Year Action Plan had reached 84%, describing it as a high rate in comparison with the financial resources emanating from the Member States' contributions. He emphasized the necessity to distinguish between the annual implementation rate and the overall implementation rate of the Action Plan, pointing out that approximately 15% of the activities scheduled during the Three-Year Action Plan had not been implemented due to the failure of cooperative partners to honour their obligations, the lack of response of certain Member States, or the inadequacy of financial resources. He concluded that if the non-scheduled activities, amounting to 16%, were added to that rate the overall implementation rate would almost reach 70%, and that if ISESCO had capitalized chiefly on the financial resources emanating from the Member States' contributions, the implementation rate would not have exceeded 35 to 40% of the total activities included in the Action Plan.

The Director General mentioned that in compliance with the recommendations of the General Conference and the Executive Council, the Organization had focused, during implementation, on the activities geared to human resource development, executive training, in addition to editorial activities and elaboration of curricula. He also stated that the Organization had attached much importance to activities related to the preparation and translation of studies and researches in many fields, in addition to the special attention paid to activities pertaining to the support of educational, scientific, cultural and communication institutions, the provision of technical assistance, the assignment of professors, the supply of laboratory equipment and learning packages, the facilitation of access to internet, etc.

The Director General pointed out that the evaluation results had confirmed the necessity to pursue the approach already adopted by the General Directorate in terms of sound preparation for activities from the academic and technical points of view in order to guarantee performance. He stated that there was mention of some shortcomings relating to the academic content of certain activities, the inappropriateness of certain implementation tools, or the inadequacy of the duration of the activity, which required reconsideration of such activities upon planning. The Director General emphasized that the General Directorate would spare no effort to enhance the efficiency of evaluation.

13. During discussion of this document, the Council members expressed appreciation for the qualitative leap achieved by the Organization in the execution of activities and upgrading of implementation mechanisms. They commended, in particular, the document on evaluation of ISESCO's action, and made accurate and relevant observations, notably :

- Necessity to adopt an analytical approach in the presentation of evaluation results, coupled with the budget details pertaining to each activity, in addition to the number of participants in order to determine the extent of benefit from these activities;
- Determination of the extent to which Member States benefit from each activity;
- Need to be cautious and extremely vigilant about the compatibility of ISESCO's objectives with cooperation with certain organizations;
- Necessity to foster interest in the Internet project, extend assistance in the computerization field and promote education and education technology applications;
- Attaching importance to balance amongst the Islamic geographical regions in terms of benefit from realized activities;
- Taking into account the relative weight of each implemented activity at evaluation;
- Attach more importance to ISESCO's presence in the satellite channels.

Second Working Session : Friday, 20 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 17 November 2000 A.D.

14. The Director General thanked all the members of the Executive Council for the valuable observations they had made on the document, and made the following clarifications :

- The Organization always makes sure that cooperation with any organization or institution is in consonance with the objectives pursued by the Organization and meets the needs of the Member States.

- The Organization has extended support to several Member States in the field of informatics and computerization and will keep on its efforts in this connection.
- The Organization is actively engaged in the information action; the Director General and a number of his assistants have taken part in several information meetings and events. The Organization also signed a cooperation agreement with ART for the purpose of producing and presenting information programmes relevant to the Organization's fields of action.
- Itemized expenditure on the Organization's fields of action is detailed in the Financial Report.
- The Organization is cooperating within the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for the implementation of the Arabic Language Programme.
- The new Action Plan enshrines a perception of the future school.
- The Organization will highlight, in the future, the details of programmes in terms of size and distribution over the Islamic geographical zones.

After deliberations, the Executive Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda :
(Evaluation of ISESCO's work)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the second operative paragraph of decision CE 12/91/D 2.5, adopted by the Executive Council at its twelfth session, which calls upon the Director General to present a report on the evaluation of ISESCO's work in a regular manner to the session of the Executive Council which precedes the regular session of the General Conference,
- Taking into account, after having considered the evaluation of ISESCO's work in document CE 21/2000/2.2, the fact that the Director General has implemented the Council's decisions in the required way, by incorporating within this document the data concerning the external evaluation of implemented programmes and activities under the action plan for the years 1998-2000,
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Adopts the evaluation of ISESCO's work as contained in document CE 21/2000/2.2;
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts made in order to enhance the evaluation methods of ISESCO's work, and invites him to pursue the consolidation of internal and external evaluation mechanisms, in such a way as to further enhance ISESCO's work;
- 3- Invites the Member States to be more interactive with the external evaluation operations conducted by ISESCO within the framework of the implementation of the action plan's programmes and activities.

**Item 2.3 of the Agenda : Financial Report of the Director General,
Closing accounts for Financial Year 1999, and Overall Statements
on accounts and expenditures up to the end of September 2000
(Document C.E. 21/2000/2.3)**

15. The Director General made a succinct presentation on the financial report and closing accounts for the period from January 1st up to December 31st, 1999, in addition to the overall statements on the Organization's accounts and expenditures from January 1st up to the end of September 2000. He pointed out that the Islamic Organization had received in 1999 a total of US\$ 5,877,177, of which US\$ 3,465,835 concerned the contributions under financial year 1999, representing 27% of the Organization's scheduled budget, and constituting a meagre portion compared with the sizeable programmes and activities scheduled for implementation. He added that the external income had totalled in the same year US\$ 420,209.

He then explained that the Organization had received donations from His Highness Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud, Second Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Defence and Aviation, General Inspector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the World Islamic Call Society in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. These additional resources were obtained thanks to the intensive contacts made by the Director General.

The Director General pointed out that the total arrears accumulated ever since the founding of ISESCO up to December 31st, 1999 had reached US\$ 66,220,239. He

added that the actual expenditures made in 1999 were made from the perspective of expenditure rationalization according to available resources, emphasizing that ISESCO acted according to an order of priorities in the implementation of activities in the light of the observations of the Executive Council and the needs of Member States.

The Director General presented the details of expenditures for the year 1999, showing their rate in each field of action of ISESCO.

16. The Council members discussed the contents of the report and made important observations, such as :

- The existing sound balance bears testimony to the endeavour of the General Directorate to achieve the Organization's objectives as inferred from the allocation of 63% of funds to programme implementation;
- This report contains numerous positive aspects in comparison with previous reports;
- Some projects bear the names of the donors;
- Need for the General Directorate to submit the priority order pertaining to activity implementation to the Executive Council;
- Instead of presenting mere figures and statistics, the report should give an idea about the activities themselves.
- As it concerns the final year of the three-year Plan, the report of the current year must be supplemented with a summary of the report of the previous two years.

17. The Director General extended thanks to the Council members and explained that the drafting of that document built on the same methodology followed by ISESCO ever since its inception, indicating that it was not possible to give details on the current year as it had not expired yet. He pointed out that the distributed document contained a comparison between expenditures and income over the successive plans of action.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda
(Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts
for Financial Year 1999 and General Statements of Accounts
and Expenditure up to the end of September 2000)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 16 of the Charter,
- In compliance with Articles 19 and 29 of the Financial Regulations,
- In compliance with Article 21, paragraph “d” of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Pursuant to Resolution CG 5/94/R 2.3 of the 5th General Conference and considering operative paragraphs (4) and (5) of the Decision CE 15/94/D 2.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session (Damascus, 19-24/11/1994) on the dates of the Financial Reports,
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1999 as well as the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 2000, contained respectively in documents (CE 21/2000/2.3) and (CE 21/2000/2.3. Addendum),
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations made,

Decides the following :

- 1-** Adopts the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1999 and the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 2000, as contained respectively in documents (CE 21/2000/2.3) and (CE 21/2000/2.3 Addendum);
- 2-** Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they exerted in this respect;
- 3-** Extends thanks to all the persons and institutions that made donations in support of the Organization;

- 4- Stresses the necessity for the Director General to continue his moves and contacts with donors with a view to obtaining maximum support for the Organization's activities;
- 5- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt this report submitted to it in documents CG 7/2000/2.3 P.2 and CG 7/2000/2.3 P.2 Addendum, which make up the second part of the Director General's financial report and the closing accounts for the years 1997-1999, the general statements and expenditure up to the end of September 2000.

**Item 2.4 of the Agenda : Reports of the Financial Control Committee
and of the Audit Company for financial year 1999
(Document CE 21/2000/2.4)**

18. The representative of the company auditing ISESCO's accounts for financial year 1999 presented the report of his company on the auditing of the balance sheet and operating account as well as the closing accounts of the same financial year. He indicated that in accordance with the acknowledged procedures and after having considered the administrative, financial and accounting procedures used and verified their accuracy, his company conducted the necessary comparisons and checks, first to make sure that ISESCO's resources had been used in a sound manner and, second, to verify the accuracy of the closing accounts.

The report dealt with the auditing of ISESCO's administrative, financial and accounting procedures as well as the evaluation of internal control procedures. As concerns the auditing of ISESCO's administrative and accounting procedures, he indicated that according to the accounting procedures usually in force, the Audit Company held meetings with the officials in charge of the services concerned with the elaboration and checking of accounts, and took stock of the administrative and financial procedures as well as the book-keeping methods used in ISESCO, including fixed assets, stocks, personnel and programmes expenditure, bank accounts and accounting system.

With regard to the evaluation of internal control procedures, he pointed out that the examination of those procedures and choices conducted by his Company and enabled them to verify the accuracy and consistency of those procedures with the fundamental principles of a sound control system. Thereupon, he recommended the following :

- purchase a suitable software for the management of fixed assets and amortization account;
- prepare accounting statements for each type of fixed assets on the basis of the actual inventory results;
- develop more suitable means of improving communication among the various services concerned in ISESCO; and
- train the staff and officials of directorates and services concerned with the implementation of programmes and activities in accounting in order to upgrade their performance.

At the end of his report, he stressed that according to the books, records and vouchers, the closing account reflected faithfully and accurately ISESCO's financial situation, and that the operating account showed the consistency of ISESCO's actions with its records. He further indicated that he had noticed no breach of the regulations and decisions governing ISESCO's work, and that the accounts had been kept according to the acknowledged accounting principles as well as ISESCO's financial regulations.

- 19.** H.E. the rapporteur of the Council presented the report of the Financial Control Committee (on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee) for financial year 1999. After indicating that the Committee had expressed its satisfaction with the General Directorate's enforcement of the recommendations issued by the previous meeting, notably the continuation of the clear and detailed methodology of presenting statements of expenditure on programmes, their good implementation and the rational utilization of its financial and human resources in the light of the available resources. After the Committee had noted the active efforts of the Director General in involving as many cooperation organizations as possible with ISESCO in implementing the programmes of the action plan, it expressed its appreciation for all ISESCO's staff in recognition of their outstanding efforts in the implementation of ISESCO's programmes with the best means available.

After considering the report on the auditing of ISESCO's accounts for financial year 1999, the Committee registered the following :

- Commends the sound use of ISESCO's financial resources and the control and rationalization of expenditure;

- Necessity to prepare a detailed annual report specifying the number of scheduled programmes, the amounts allocated for each programme, and the rates of implementation in order to evaluate the Organization's performance;
- Need to give more details about ISESCO's collection of contributions;
- Stressing the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Audit Company;
- Praising the administrative and financial development witnessed by the Organization, and the good responsiveness of the General Directorate to the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee and those of the Audit Company.

The Committee also examined the financial report of the Director General and the closing accounts for financial year 1999 and took stock of ISESCO's working methods. It therefore affirmed the soundness of ISESCO's financial and administrative situation as well as the accuracy of accounts.

The Committee likewise commended the outstanding role played by the Director General through the personal contacts and efforts he had undertaken to secure additional resources outside the contributions with a view to backing up ISESCO's financial resources.

At the end of its report, the Committee paid tribute to ISESCO for the tremendous efforts it expended to implement its programmes notwithstanding the current shortage of financial resources, and expressed its appreciation to the Director General and his assistants for all they have done to facilitate the work of the Committee.

Following deliberations on this item, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda
(Reports of the Financial Control Committee and
the Audit Company for Financial Year 1999)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 19 of the Charter, Article 20 and Articles 24 through 29 of the Financial Regulations, and Article 21, paragraphs "b" and "c" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,

- Taking note of the meeting held by the Financial Control Committee at ISESCO's headquarters, at the invitation of the General Directorate in accordance with the provisions of operative paragraphs (4) and (5) of Decision CE 15/94/D.2.2. adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session in connection with the dates of the Financial Reports and the invitation of the Financial Control Committee to meet at the beginning of July each year to prepare its report,
- Recalling Decision (CE 19/98/D.2.3) adopted by the 19th Executive Council Session (Rabat, 19-24 November 1998) whereby the Council approved the nomination of "Audit International" group as auditor of the Organization's accounts,
- Having considered document (CE 21/2000/2.4) which contains the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company for Financial Year 1999,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Adopts the Report of the Financial Control Committee and the Report of the Audit Company for Financial Year 1999, as contained both in document (CE 21/2000/2.4);
- 2- Thanks the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee and its members for their work;
- 3- Commends the Director General's compliance with the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee adopted by the Council;
- 4- Commends the great efforts made by the Director General to continue the implementation of programmes and management by relying on the rationalization of expenditures;
- 5- Thanks the personalities and bodies that made donations to the Organization, thus enabling it to secure maximum support for its activities;
- 6- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt these two reports contained in document (C.G 7/2000/2.4 P.2).

Third Working Session : Friday, 20 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 17 November 2000 A.D.

Afternoon

**Item 2.5 of the Agenda : Report of the Director General
on Member States' contributions to ISESCO's Budget and
on redressing the Financial Situation of ISESCO
(Document C.E. 21/2000/2.5 and Document
C.E. 21/2000/2.5 Addendum)**

20. The Director General made a presentation on the contributions of the Member States to the Organization's budget. In his report, he addressed two aspects, namely the contributions and the arrears. He stated that the contributions settled during the period between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 1999 totalled US\$ 5,877,177, including US\$ 3,465,835 for financial year 1999, which represents 27% only of the overall budget for the year. He enumerated the Member States which had settled their contributions totally or partially for 1999, then pointed out that the contributions of the Member States to the Organization's budget, settled between 1982 and 31 December 1999, had totalled US\$ 70,561,016, i.e. 43% of the estimated budgets.

This situation forced the Organization to adopt a stringent austerity policy at the levels of operation, expenditure rationalization and support programmes and activities implementation.

Regarding the arrears, they had been increasing steadily till they reached US\$ 66,220,237, i.e. 40% of the estimated budget. The arrears for financial year 1999 reached 66% of this year's budget.

21. A large number of Executive Council members took the floor and expressed their concern about the situation of contributions. They proposed practical measures to overcome this crisis, notably :

- Invite the Director General to take certain measures and decisions aimed to encourage states to settle their contributions and arrears;
- Invite the Director General to pay visits to heads of state and high-ranking officials to achieve this goal;
- Urge the General Conference to renew its appeal for the settlement of contributions and arrears and set up relevant mechanisms;

- Re-consider the increase in the amount of contributions despite their constant percentages;
- Set up an internal committee to examine the situation of contributions and ways to improve it;
- Invite the Executive Council members to exert steady efforts to ensure the settlement of contributions;
- Seek new mechanisms and explore all ways to ensure the settlement of contributions;
- Consider the possibility of taking advantage of the Dakar Decision to settle 50% of arrears.

22. Some members of the Executive Council expressed the willingness of their states to settle their contributions. In this respect, the representative of the Sultanate of Oman in the Executive Council stated that an agreement had been reached with the General Directorate to settle the arrears of the Sultanate of Oman according to an agreed plan due to start at the end of this year or the beginning of financial year 2001.

23. Some members of the Executive Council mentioned the difficult circumstances experienced by their countries as a result of embargo, war, internal conflict, dire economic conditions or transient problems. They pledged to spare no effort to urge their countries to settle their contributions.

24. H.E. the Director General thanked the Council members for their interest in the financial situation of the Organization and for their constructive proposals to find a solution to the problem of arrears and contribution settlement, which bore testimony to the care bestowed by the Council upon the Organization to help it fulfil its tasks. The Director General suggested to approach His Highness Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani, President of the State of Qatar and Chairman of the 9th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, with a view to requesting him to urge Member States to settle their arrears and call upon the non-member states to join ISESCO.

Following deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 2.5 of the Agenda
(Director General's Report on the Situation of Member
States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget
and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 17 of the Charter and Article 6 of the Financial Regulations,
- Recalling the decisions adopted by the previous sessions of the Executive Council and the resolutions of the General Conference of ISESCO in this connection, in particular the following :
 - * Decision C.E. 15/94/D. 2.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session (Damascus, 19-24/11/1994), whereby it adopted, in the third operative paragraph, the report of the Committee set up by the Council at its 14th Session to examine the situation of Member States' contributions to the Organization's budgets,
 - * Resolution C.G. 5/94/R. 2.5 adopted by the 5th General Conference (Damascus, 27-30/11/1994), whereby it invited in the third operative paragraph the representatives of Member States in the General Conference, and the members of the Executive Council to contact the relevant parties in their countries so as to stress the paramount importance of their commitment to a regular settlement of their contributions and to paying up their arrears in order to sustain the Organization's action,
 - * Resolution CG 6/97/R 2.5 of the 6th General Conference (Riyadh 6-9/12/1997) which affirmed the provisions of the Resolution of the 5th General Conference and the necessity for the Member States to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears in order to help the Organization fulfill its civilizational mission,
 - * Decision CE 19/98/ D. 2.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 19th Session (Rabat,19-24 November 1998) whereby the Council invited the Member States to settle regularly their contributions and to clarify the reasons for non payment of their contributions in case of arrears.
 - * Decision C.E. 20/99/D. 2.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 20th session (Rabat 22-26/11/1999).

- Considering the presentation made by the Director General in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1-** Adopts the Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization, as contained in Document C.E. 21/2000/2.5 and its addendum;
- 2-** Affirms the above-mentioned resolutions and decisions previously taken by the General Conference and the Executive Council in this respect;
- 3-** Expresses thanks and appreciation for the Director General in consideration of his efforts to intensify contacts with the Member States in order to collect a maximum of contributions, as well as for his efforts to promote cooperation with international organizations to secure further support to the Organization's activities and programmes;
- 4-** Approves the proposal of the Director General whereby he would approach His Highness Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, Chairman of the 9th Islamic Summit to request him to write to the Kings, Emirs and Presidents of the Member States with arrears to ensure settlement thereof, and to write to the OIC Member States which are not yet members of ISESCO to join ISESCO's membership;
- 5-** Invites the Director General to arrange for special visits to the Member States with arrears in order to meet with the competent officials therein, and requests him to inform the representatives of those States in the Executive Council about the matter in order to ensure an excellent preparation for these visits and guarantee their success;
- 6-** Requests the Chairman of the Executive Council to present to the Seventh Session of the General Conference the situation of contributions and its serious consequences for ISESCO;
- 7-** Agrees to submit this Report to the Seventh Session of the General Conference, and recommends its adoption in document CG7 /2000/2.5 and its addendum.

**Item 3.1 of the Agenda : Draft Three-Year Action Plan
an Budget of the Organization for the Years 2001-2003
(Document C.E. 21/2000/3.1)**

25. The Director General presented the Draft Plan and Budget for the years 2001-2003, pointing out that the preparation of the Plan was based on the Broad Lines approved by the honourable Council in the previous session. He indicated that the Draft Action Plan was based on two new elements approved by the Council : the first is devoting a special section to the interdisciplinary fields of action; the second is dispensing with the activities of a fragmentary nature. The presentation of each field of action also included a statement on its background, the reasons for its choice, a reference to whether it was a continuation or a newly-created field of activity, based on the evaluation results and the requirements of the Member States. The goals of the field of action were also identified, along with the general objectives expected to be realized through the implementation of the programmes and projects contained therein.

The Director General pointed out that the General Directorate had incorporated the amendments proposed by the honourable Council in its previous session. Activities relating to distance learning and open education, science-popularization activities, actions aimed to encourage the setting up of scientific-research teams, and a programme aimed at supporting biotechnology applications were thus integrated. The Director General added that due account had been taken of the problems that hindered the women scientific development and the integration of a project of setting up a centre of strategic studies for the Islamic world. The General Directorate was keen to provide a minute description of the axes, programmes and projects of the Draft Action Plan, mention the main results and accomplishments achieved or yet to be achieved. A separate paragraph was reserved to each programme, giving a general description of all the activities to be implemented within its framework, the nature of such activities and the targeted objectives, the number of beneficiary states, individuals and categories, the cooperative partners which will contribute to their implementation, the concerned geographical areas, the means of implementation and the expected results. The General Directorate also inserted a number of new projects, while firmly determined to continue implementation of the remaining phases of the projects pertaining to the previous plan of action.

The Director General stated that the contents of the Draft Three-Year Action Plan reflected to a large extent the orientations of the Medium-Term Action Plan for the Years 2001-2009, and responded to the concerns of the Member States and Muslim communities. They included, said the Director General, 21 fields of action, 65 axes and 206 programmes and projects. He then gave a detailed presentation of the fields of action in each area and the programmes contained therein.

As for the budget, the Director General stated that the General Directorate had defined the budget of the Three-Year Action Plan 2001-2003 within the limits of the budget of the ending Action Plan in line with the proposals of the honourable Council. Compliance with that budget ceiling required the review of a number of expenditure headings, in addition to further austerity and rationalization of expenditure in the implementation of programmes and projects, limited employment and continued search for extra-budgetary financial resources. The Director General also surveyed the measures taken to reduce the budgets of certain fields, such as the General Policy, Joint Expenditures and Directorate of External Relations and Cooperation, while increasing appropriations for programmes and support activities, which showed the General Directorate's adherence to further achievement.

The Director General said that the Organization had achieved highly satisfactory results thanks to the participatory approach adopted, which consisted in the persistent search for extra-budgetary financial resources to make up for the deficit due to the poor collection of Member States' contributions. He expressed the Organization's firm determination to intensify efforts in this connection.

Fourth Working Session : Sunday, 22 Shaaban 1421 A.H/ 19 November 2000 A.D.

Morning :

26. The Council members examined and analysed the document, commending its deep vision and valuable contents. They took note of the progressive improvement of the Organization's documents year by year and made several observations that could be summarized as follows :

- Proposal to set up a special committee for studying the programmes and budget, and preparing a report thereon to be submitted to the Council.
- Identifying priorities in terms of implementation of programmes and activities and attaching special importance to the countries with special needs.

- Laying emphasis on literacy, pre-school education, basic education, adult education and women education.
- Focussing on the promotion and updating of education and teachers' training.
- Attaching further importance to educational planning, learning and computer technology, education funding, re-training and the fields of environment, population and health.
- Expanding the network of contacts with the civil society's actors to generalize benefit, and enhance confidence in the Organization's mission and programmes.
- Attaching further importance to the teaching of Arabic language and setting up of centers for its dissemination far and wide in non-Arabic speaking countries.
- Specifying the role of the Organization in the implementation of the strategies, and specifying as well as assessing the role of countries in this connection.
- Assigning numbers to paragraphs to facilitate easy reference.
- Adopting a universal, comprehensive vision, because the problems faced by the Ummah are indivisible.
- Emphasizing the need to renew the strategic vision, rather than the mere consolidation of strategies.
- Endeavouring to gear efforts toward developing humans, men and women alike, and improving their life.
- Promoting Islamic solidarity in the fields of education, science and culture and encouraging exchange.
- Expanding the activities of the Organization in the Central Asian States and benefiting from their potentialities.
- Designing programmes for women and children in precarious conditions, in particular in Al-Quds and in states ridden with conflicts.
- Giving the name of (Al-Quds Session) to the present session as a token of moral support to the struggle of the Palestinian people, in general, and the inhabitants of Al-Quds, in particular.

27. The Director General then took the floor and thanked the members of the Council for their proposals aiming at improving and renewing the Organization's action. He indicated that those proposals constituted a qualitative supplement that would be taken into consideration by the Organization during the elaboration of implementation

programmes. He also apprised the Council members of the following :

- Proposal to give the name of “Al-Quds Intifada” to the 7th Session of the General Conference.
- The order of priorities will be observed in the elaboration of the annual programming.
- The Organization cannot stand as a substitute for the States; it is rather a centre of expertise. The States design their own strategies and policies and then the Organization provides them with assistance.
- The project for the setting up of educational centres constitutes a response to the request of the previous session of the Council, in the light of the success of Chad Centre.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 3.1 of the Agenda
(ISESCO’s Draft Action Plan and Budget
for the years 2001-2003)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of Article 21, paragraph (e) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Recalling Decision CE 19/98/ D. 3.1 adopted by the 19th Executive Council Session, which mandates the Director General, in its fifth operative paragraph, to prepare the broad lines of the draft three-year Action Plan for the years 2001-2003 based on ISESCO’s draft Medium-Term Plan for the years 2001-2009,
- In accordance with Decision CE 20/99/D 3.1 of the 20th Executive Council Session, whereby the Council endorsed the broad lines of the draft three-year Action Plan for the years 2001-2003 and mandated the Director General to take all the necessary measures to prepare the draft three-year action plan and the budget for the years 2001-2003,
- Considering the deliberations of the Executive Council, its opinions and orientations,

Decides the following :

- 1- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their outstanding efforts in preparing the draft three-year action plan and budget for the years 2001-2003;
- 2- Commends the novel approach adopted by the General Directorate based on a strategic, comprehensive, wise and integrated vision, an approach characterized by a pluridisciplinary, integrated nature;
- 3- Adopts ISESCO's draft three-year action plan and budget for the years 2001-2003 as contained in document CE 21/2000/3.1, taking into consideration the Council's observations and proposals as well as the priorities and needs of the Member States when implementing;
- 4- Recommends that the General Conference adopt the above-mentioned draft action plan.

**Item 4.1 of the Agenda : Project of establishing ISESCO's
regional offices in the Member States
(Document C.E. 21/2000/4.1)**

28. The Director General presented a succinct report on this document, which is made up of two sections; the first one is about the elaboration of a comprehensive study on the subject, and the second one is about the results of the contacts undertaken with the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the opening of ISESCO's regional office in Tehran.

He indicated that the General Directorate had sent the study to the Member States for opinion, and received their observations in this respect. In the light of those observations, the study was reformulated so as to constitute a legal reference framework when considering the possibility of opening new regional offices of ISESCO.

With regard to the results of the contacts initiated with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Director General indicated that the relevant parties in that honourable country had kindly provided several facilities for the said office, and that there were still some additional requirements necessary for opening the Office, in order to ensure the smooth running of the Office without ISESCO having to bear additional financial burdens.

29. The Council member from the Islamic Republic of Iran extended thanks to the Director General and to the Council members, and indicated that the Council had, at its previous session, approved in principle the opening of the Office, that the latter would be in the service of all the Member States and that as soon as its establishment was approved, it would be equipped with all the requirements.
30. The Council members discussed the matter objectively and concluded that it was necessary to secure the establishment of ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran. Thereupon, they put forward some proposals about the document relating to the conditions for opening new regional offices. Those proposals may be summarized as follows :
- Determine the number of regional offices and the regions where those offices are to be established;
 - Define the regional offices' obligations, tasks as well as their administrative, financial and academic dependence;
 - Determine the considerations in the light of which regional offices may be opened;
 - Comply, with respect to the conditions for opening regional offices, with the same criteria under which the Sharjah Office was established.
31. Thereupon, the Council member representing the Islamic Republic of Iran requested the Council members to approve the opening of the Office, and to submit a recommendation in this respect to the General Conference. The Council members agreed, and the following decision was passed :

**Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda :
(Project of Setting up ISESCO's
Regional Offices in the Member States)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of article (2) of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the Decision CE 20/99/D 4.1 of the Executive Council at its 20th Session, notably operative paragraph 5 which provides for "placing this item on the agenda of the Council's twenty-first session",
- Having considered the study contained in document CE 21/2000/4.1,

- Having been informed that His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Ibn Mohammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the Federation of the United Arab Emirates, Governor of Sharjah, has kindly offered furnished and equipped headquarters for ISESCO's Regional Office and allocated a generous annual budget for it,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Adopts the first part of document CE 21/2000/4.1 concerning the study on opening ISESCO's regional offices in the Member States, as an organizational framework that would guide the action of the General Directorate in this respect after introducing the proposals and amendments put forward by the Council members;
- 2- Thanks His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Ibn Mohammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council, Governor of Sharjah for having kindly offered furnished and equipped headquarters for ISESCO's Regional Office and allocated a generous annual budget for it;
- 3- Affirms the approval in principle of opening ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran, and invites the competent authorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide the facilities and services necessary for the Office, in accordance with the above-mentioned study;
- 4- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their efforts in preparing the comprehensive study concerning the implementation of this project;
- 5- Mandates the Director General to finalize the implementation procedures to open the Regional Office in the Islamic Republic of Iran;
- 6- Recommends that the Seventh General Conference adopt this decision.

**Item 4.2 of the Agenda : Construction of ISESCO's headquarters
(Document C.E. 21/2000/4.2)**

32. The Director General presented the document pertaining to the construction of the headquarters. He started by thanking the Kingdom of Morocco for having responded to the request to exchange the plot of land that it had previously donated to ISESCO

to construct the headquarters, for another more suitable plot of land situated in a better location. He also thanked His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates for having kindly contributed to financing the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters with an amount of US\$ 1,000,000.

The Director General reviewed the official procedures taken to register the plot of land and to obtain an exemption from the registration tax. He then proposed that the Council Members approve the launching of the headquarters construction at the beginning of 2001.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 4.2 of the Agenda
(Construction of ISESCO's Headquarters)**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling Decision CE 18/97/D 3.2 on the construction of ISESCO's headquarters, which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 18th Session (Riyadh, 29/11/-4/12/1997) and approved by the Sixth General Conference in its Resolution CG 6/97/R 3.2,
- In accordance with the previous decisions of the Executive Council and resolutions of the General Conference of the Organization in this respect, in particular Decision CE 20/99/D. 4.3 of the Council's twentieth session,
- Having considered the report of the Director General on the construction of ISESCO's headquarters contained in document CE 21/2000/4.2,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Thanks His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, for donating the amount of US\$ 1,000,000 for the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters;
- 2- Thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for facilitating the procedures relating to the exchange of the plot of land reserved for the permanent headquarters;

- 3- Extends most sincere thanks and deepest appreciation to the Director General for his efforts in this respect and approves his proposal to start construction of the permanent headquarters with the amount of money donated by His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan as well as a loan of US\$ 1,000,000 from the Reserve Fund of ISESCO to be reimbursed to the Fund after selling the current headquarters;
- 4- Places this item on the agenda of the twenty-second session of the Council;
- 5- Submits the matter to the Seventh General Conference for consideration and action.

Fifth Working Session : Sunday, 22 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 19 November 2000 A.D.

Afternoon :

**Item 5.1 of the Agenda : Director General's Report
on the programmes and activities designed
for the benefit of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to preserve
its Islamic identity against obliteration and judaization
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.1)**

33. The Director General presented a report on the activities carried out by ISESCO during 2000. He indicated that the Organization had concluded an agreement with Bayt Mal Al-Quds to implement activities designed to preserve the Arab-Islamic identity of Al-Quds, and proposed that coordination be established between ISESCO, the Palestinian National Commission for Education, Culture and Science and Bayt Mal Al-Quds in order to reach an integrated agreement that would guarantee the harnessing of all possibilities to extend as much support as possible to Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 5.1 of the Agenda
(Director General's Report on the programmes
and activities designed for the benefit of Al-Quds Al-Sharif
to preserve its Islamic identity against obliteration and judaization)**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the previous resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and the Executive Council about "the Preservation of the Islamic identity of

- Al-Quds Al-Sharif against obliteration and judaization”, in particular resolution CG6/97/R.4.1 adopted by the sixth General Conference,
- Having considered document CE 21/2000/5.1 concerning “the Director General’s report on the programmes and activities designed for the benefit of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in order to preserve its Islamic identity against obliteration and judaization”,
 - Having taken stock of the difficult situation being experienced by the Palestinian citizens in Al-Quds Al-Sharif under the criminal aggressions being perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Palestinian people in the holy city and their attempts to obliterate and judaize the Islamic identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
 - Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Pays tribute to the *Intifada* of the Palestinian people in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and calls for a stronger solidarity of Member States with them;
- 2- Condemns the Israeli aggressions, their desecration of Islamic sanctities and the havoc they wreaked on educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
- 3- Reaffirms that Al-Quds is the capital of the Independent State of Palestine, rejects any attempt at reducing the Palestinian sovereignty over it, and reaffirms that all the settlement measures and practices therein are null and void in accordance with the resolutions of the international legitimacy as well as the international conventions and accords which consider that all the legal and administrative arrangements and measures of the Israeli settlements designed to alter the legal, demographic, architectural, historical and civilizational status of the holy city are null and void and violate the resolutions of the international legitimacy and international conventions and accords and run counter to the agreements concluded by the Palestinian and Israeli parties;
- 4- Adopts the Director General’s report on the programmes and activities designed for the benefit of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to preserve its Islamic identity against obliteration and judaization;

- 5- Invites the Director General to pursue implementation of the programmes and activities designed for the benefit of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif in order to protect its cultural identity and civilizational hallmarks;
- 6- Invites the Member States to give an overriding priority to Al-Quds Al-Sharif in international meetings in defense of its Islamic civilizational character and to protect its identity,
- 7- Thanks the Director General for the good implementation of the previous decisions concerning Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as for his relentless efforts in this respect;
- 8- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt the document mentioned above.

**Item 5.2 of the Agenda : ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Palestine
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.2)**

34. The Director General made a presentation on the activities implemented by ISESCO in 2000 in support of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine.
35. The Council member from the State of Palestine took the floor, and expressed thanks to the Director General, pointing out that the difficult situation experienced by Al-Quds and Palestine made it necessary to initiate coordination between the Islamic Organization and the Palestinian National Commission in order to determine activities and set the priorities.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 5.2 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Palestine)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the Declaration on Solidarity with the Palestinian People, issued by the

- General Conference of ISESCO, at its Fourth Session, called Al-Quds Al-Sharif Session (Rabat, 28-30 November, 1991) as well as the previous decisions of the Executive Council and the resolutions of the General Conference since 1982 pertaining to the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine,
- In accordance with Decision CE 20/99/D 5.1 on the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine as well as on inviting the Director General to direct some programmes of the Action Plan 1998-2000 in such a way as to ensure the support of those institutions,
 - Having considered the report presented by the Director General in this respect (Document CE 21/2000/5.2),
 - Having taken cognizance of the severe conditions that the Palestinian people is going through, compounded by the criminal aggressions perpetrated by the aggressive Israeli occupation authorities and the blockade imposed on the Palestinian towns and their educational, scientific and cultural institutions,
 - Having heard the presentation made by the representative of the State of Palestine.
 - Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Hails the *Intifada* of the Palestinian people and calls for stronger solidarity of Member States with the *Intifada*;
- 2- Denounces the Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian people and the destruction of its educational, scientific and cultural institutions;
- 3- Reaffirms the necessity to act in such a way as to halt the settlement activities, curb the Israeli measures and practises which run counter to the international legitimacy decisions, and endeavour to put an end to those measures and remove the Israeli settlements in accordance with Security Council Resolution 465;
- 4- Adopts the Document CE 21/2000/5.2 on “ISESCO’s role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine”;
- 5- Thanks the Director General for his endeavour to implement the programmes geared to buttressing educational, scientific and cultural institutions in

Palestine and protecting its heritage, and invites him to continue his efforts in this connection;

6- Invites the Member States and the institutions concerned to pool their efforts in order to support the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine;

7- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.

36. The Council members proposed to issue a statement to express the Council's support of the brave *Intifada* of the Palestinian people and to condemn Israel's barbarous acts of aggression. The Council issued the following statement :

Statement

While the 21st Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is convening, the unarmed Palestinian people, children, women, elderly and men alike, are subjected to the most barbaric forms of aggression ever perpetrated against humans and property. The Palestinian people are facing the brutal Israeli military machine with naked chests, armed only with faith and emboldened by the Might of God and by their full conviction in victory and belief in the true stance of peace lovers. The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strongly condemns this blatant aggression against lives, property, sanctities, educational institutions and hospitals. The Council considers this aggression a continuation of tyranny and oppression perpetrated against the combatant Palestinian people for over half a century, and a consecration of the spirit of abhorred discrimination which Israel practises against non-Jews all over the world.

In view of all the foregoing, the Executive Council condemns these criminal acts which stand out as stark evidence of abominable racism that is humanly unacceptable. The Council calls upon all the forces of peace and justice, both states and institutions, to open their eyes to what the Israelis are doing to a defenseless people who, with their bare chests, face tanks and helicopters that do not distinguish between a child, a woman and an elderly and which intentionally tinker with humans whom God has honoured, with the intention of forcing them to give up their right which the international community has guaranteed for them.

While it expresses its complete and effective solidarity with the Palestinian people who have set the most shining example of steadfastness, sacrifice and unselfishness in defence of the holy places and sanctities, the Executive Council calls upon Islamic Governments responding to the aspirations of their own people to hold fast to the undisputable right and to enable the Palestinian people to recover their usurped rights with all their force until stark victory which will preserve Palestine as an Arab-Islamic State with Al-Quds as its capital.

Item 5.3 of the Agenda :
**ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina**
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.3)

37. The Director General made a presentation on the activities which the Organization carried out in 2000 in Bosnia and Herzegovina in its various fields of competence.
38. The member of the Executive Council representing Bosnia and Herzegovina extended lavish thanks to the Director General and to his aides for the constant support, continuous assistance and generous help which the Organization provided to Bosnia and Herzegovina under the ending plan and lauded the continuous support to be granted under the new plan to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

After deliberations, the Executive Council passed the following decision :

Decision on Item 5.3 of the Agenda
**(ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the previous decisions adopted by the Executive Council on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina", including the last Decision CE 20/99/D 5.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its twentieth Session (Rabat, 22-26/11/1999),
- Having considered document CE 21/2000/5.3 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina" as well as the assistance extended by ISESCO to Bosnia and Herzegovina in this respect,

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Thanks the Director General for his steady efforts in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- 2- Invites the Director General to continue implementation of the programmes geared to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina under ISESCO's three-year Action Plan for the years 2001-2003;
- 3- Invites the Member States and the specialized institutions to extend assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the fields of education, science and culture;
- 4- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.

**Item 5.4 of the Agenda :
(ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Somalia)
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.4)**

39. The Director General made a review of the activities which the Organization carried out in 2000 for the benefit of the Republic of Somalia, pointing out that the Organization would intensify and directly implement the programmes and activities in Somalia when stability is attained in this country.
40. The member of the Executive Council for the Republic of Somalia extended his thanks and appreciation to the Director General and his aides and seconded the Director General's intent to carry out the programmes and activities within Somalia.

After deliberations, the Executive Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 5.4 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Referring to Decision CE 18/97/D 4.1 adopted by the Executive Council at its Eighteenth Session (Riyadh, 29/11/-4/12/1997) and approved by the Sixth

General Conference by virtue of Resolution CG 6/97/R 4.4, and referring also to Decision CE 19/98/D.5.3 of the 19th Executive Council Session, and to Decision C.E. 20/99/D 5.3 adopted by the Executive Council at its twentieth Session on ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia,

- Having considered the report presented by the Director General in this respect in document CE 21/2000/5.4,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Thanks the Director General for his efforts in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;
- 2- Invites the Director General to continue implementation of the programmes geared to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia, scheduled in ISESCO's three-year Action Plan 2001-2003;
- 3- Invites the Member States and the specialized institutions to extend assistance to Somalia in the fields of education, science and culture;
- 4- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.

**Item 5.5 of the Agenda : Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Azerbaijan
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.5)**

41. The Director General informed the Executive Council of the special situation for implementing the activities in Azerbaijan. He informed the Council that the Organization had implemented many activities in that Member State in the previous years; however, in the last two years, Azerbaijan has stopped answering the letters addressed to it by the Organization. It did not appoint a representative in the Financial Control Committee, or in the sessions to which it had been invited to take part in, nor did it nominate the institution to benefit from the material and technical support which the Organization allocated. Nevertheless, the Organization will continue planning activities in Azerbaijan.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 5.5 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Azerbaijan)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Referring to previous Decisions adopted by the Executive Council on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan", as well as the relevant resolutions of ISESCO's General Conference, the last of which was resolution CG 6/97/R. 4.3 adopted by the Sixth General Conference,
- Having considered document CE 21/2000/5.5 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan" and having taken note of the assistance extended by ISESCO to Azerbaijan in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Thanks the Director General for his steady efforts in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan;
- 2- Invites the Director General to continue implementation of the programmes geared for the benefit of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan, scheduled in ISESCO's three-year Action Plan for the years 2001-2003;
- 3- Invites the Member States and the specialized institutions to extend material and moral assistance to Azerbaijan in the fields of education, science and culture;
- 4- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.

**Item 5.6 of the Agenda :
Setting up an Islamic Satellite Channel
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.6)**

42. The representative of the State of Qatar in the Executive Council made a presentation on the project, in which he said that the channel aimed at addressing Muslim

expatriates in the West as well as Westerners, through an advanced and original approach of television broadcasting.

Enumerating the objectives of the channel, he stated that it was designed to link Muslim expatriates to their Islamic identity and culture, raise awareness about the teachings of Islam, teach the Arabic language, and present a true image of Islam. The channel also aims to attract the Muslim young people alienated by foreign media, serve purposes of Islamic family and disseminate the fundamentals of the code of ethics. The Representative of the State of Qatar also presented the elements of the study which included a technical sheet on the European broadcasting centre, broadcasting and reception, technical data about the broadcasting satellites, classifying the viewing categories in Europe, programmes plan and the offices.

43. The Director General extended thanks to the Representative of the State of Qatar, and expressed his support to this very important project. He pointed out that up to date, there was no TV channel specializing in the issues relating to Islam, Muslims and Islamic civilization in modern languages, and defending the rights of Muslims. The Director General proposed to the Council to approve the submission of the project by the General Directorate to the General Conference before referring it to the commissions and competent parties in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

Decision on Item 5.6 of the Agenda
(Project of establishing an Islamic satellite channel)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Considering the proposal tabled by the State of Qatar concerning the examination by the Council of the project of establishing an Islamic satellite channel,
- Following the Council's approval to place the present document as an item on its agenda at the twenty-first Session,
- Having considered the document on establishing an Islamic satellite channel,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Stresses the importance of establishing an Islamic satellite channel, in the modern languages, to introduce the Islamic culture and civilization and to highlight the image of Islam worldwide;
- 2- Agrees to submit this project to the Seventh Session of the General Conference.

**Item 5.7 of the Agenda :
Examination of the special Circumstances
of the Republic of Guinea
(Document C.E. 21/2000/5.7)**

44. The representative of the Republic of Guinea in the Executive Council made a presentation on the dire circumstances experienced by Guinea and pointed out that since the beginning of the 90's, unrest had prevailed in the surrounding region, which resulted in the exodus of thousands of refugees towards Guinea which opened its frontiers to them in full respect of Islamic traditions. The number of refugees reached 1/7 of Guinea's actual population. Furthermore, armed groups and guerrillas have destroyed villages, crops, infrastructure and educational institutions. The Guinean delegate stressed the need to rehabilitate the infrastructure of the country and thanked ISESCO for implementing a number of activities in Guinea despite its failure to settle its contributions on a regular basis. He also called on ISESCO to undertake special activities in Guinea in view of its circumstances.

After deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 5.7 of the Agenda
Examination of the special Circumstances
of the Republic of Guinea**

The Executive Council,

- Having been informed of the situation prevailing in the Republic of Guinea, a Member State of ISESCO and of OIC in which it has always played a significant role,
- Being deeply moved by the painful events taking place in that sister country, a peace-loving nation that has always been tolerant and supportive of Islamic solidarity,
- Considering the commitment of the Republic of Guinea to the principle of good neighbourliness which has always characterized its regional, and African policy,

Decides the following :

- 1- Condemns the unjust aggressions perpetrated against the brotherly people of Guinea and demands that they be stopped immediately;
- 2- Expresses its effective solidarity with the brotherly people of Guinea, and calls upon the Muslim Ummah to show solidarity to the Republic of Guinea through a multifaceted aid in order to safeguard its independence and preserve its territorial integrity and the security of its population.

**Item 6.1 of the Agenda : Date and Venue of
the 22nd Session of the Executive Council
(Document C.E. 21/2000/6.1)**

45. The Director General conveyed to the honourable Executive Council the strong wish expressed by the Sharjah Emirate to host the 22nd Session in the regional office of the Organization in Sharjah. The Director General invited the Executive Council to take a decision on this point and set a date for convening the session keeping in mind the month of Ramadan.

Following deliberations, the Council passed the following decision :

**Decision on Item 6.1 of the Agenda :
(Date and Venue of the Twenty-Second
Session of the Executive Council)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of article (10) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, whereby the Council sets, during each one of its sessions, the date and venue of the next session,
- Having considered document CE 21/2000/6.1,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Convenes the twenty-second session of the Executive Council in the second half of December 2001, at ISESCO's Regional Office in Sharjah, State of the United Arab Emirates.

Item 6.2 of the Agenda :
Preparation for the 7th Session of the General Conference
(Document C.G. 7/2000/1.2 Provisional
Draft Agenda of the General Conference)
(Document C.G. 7/2000/1.3 Provisional
Draft Programme of the General Conference)

46. The Director General informed the members of the Executive Council that the General Directorate had reshuffled the order of items on the Draft Agenda and on the Draft Programme of the General Conference in the light of the decisions taken by the Council at the beginning of its meetings.

After deliberations, the Executive Council passed the following decision :

Decision on Item 6.2 of the Agenda :
(Preparation for the Seventh Session
of the General Conference)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of article (21) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the following documents of the Seventh Session of the General Conference:
 - * Document CG 7/2000/1.2 revised on “Adoption of the Conference Agenda”,
 - * Document CG 7/2000/1.3 revised on “Adoption of the Conference Programme”
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- 1- Recommends that the Seventh Session of the General Conference adopt document CG7/2000/1.2 revised on “Adoption of the Conference Agenda” as well as document CG7/2000/1.3 revised on “Adoption of the Conference Programme”;
- 2- Recommends that the General Conference call its Seventh Session the “Al-Quds *Intifada*” Session.

Closing Session : Sunday, 23 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 20 November 2000 A.D.

47. The Council reviewed, at the beginning of this session, the Draft Final Report and adopted it after the members of the Executive Council had made their observations.
48. The Executive Council addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco for the lavish care he bestowed on the Organization and for his unflinching support thereto.

*(Annex 10 : Message addressed to His Majesty King Mohammed VI,
Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco)*

49. His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, took, then, the floor and extended thanks to the honourable Council members for their sustained support, expressing his gratification with the cooperation relations existing between the General Directorate and the Executive Council as well as their mutual trust.

His Excellency pointed out the positive results achieved by this Session, considering them a natural outcome of the steady efforts exerted by the Council members with utmost harmony, full cooperation and shared conviction of the Organization's mission and objectives.

His Excellency appealed, through the honourable Council members, to the governments of the Member States to pursue their financial and moral support to the Organization.

He concluded by expressing his thanks and gratitude to the Government of His Majesty the Sovereign of Morocco, represented in His Excellency the Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training, and to His Excellency the President of the Sixth General Conference, to His Excellency the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council, to the honourable Council members and to all who contributed to the success met by the proceedings of the session.

*(Annex 11 : Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri,
Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization at the Closing
of the 21st Session of the Executive Council)*

50. His Excellency Mohamed Abdellah Faris, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council delivered an address in which he commended the success met by the twenty-first

Council Session and the momentous achievements that were realized thanks to the high qualification, wisdom and extensive experience of His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, recalling that the success achieved by the General Directorate was a result of the pooling of efforts of the Executive Council and the General Directorate, a success worth, indeed, of all commendation and appreciation.

*(Annex 12 : Address by H.E. Mohamed Abdellah Faris,
Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council at the Closing of
the 21st Session of the Executive Council)*

Procedural Session : Friday, 27 Shaaban 1421 A.H. / 24 November 2000 A.D.

Morning :

Following the close of the Seventh Session of the General Conference, the Executive Council held a procedural session, to elect its new bureau.

After deliberations, the Council took the following decision :

**Decision on :
(Election of the Bureau of the Executive Council)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the provisions of article (11) of the Council's Rules of Procedure,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place at the Fifth Procedural Session, held in Rabat on Friday 24/11/2000 after the close of the Seventh Session of the General Conference (Rabat, 22-24/11/2000),

Decides the following :

Elects its Bureau as follows :

- Chairman : State of the United Arab Emirates
- Vice-Chairmen :
 - Burkina Faso
 - Malaysia
 - Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- Rapporteur : People's Republic of Bangladesh.