



**FINAL REPORT OF
THE 26TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
OF THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

Rabat: 12 – 14 December 2005

Final Report

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO- convened, with the Grace of Allah, its 26th Session in Rabat, capital-city of the Kingdom of Morocco, between 10 and 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H./12-14 December 2005. The proceedings of this Session were attended by the honourable members of the Executive Council and their accompanying assistants, except for representatives of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Lebanon, the Republic of Suriname and the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Annex 1: List of Executive Council members or their attending substitutes*).

1. The opening session was held in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Habib El Malki, Minister of National Education, Higher Education, Executive Staff Training and Scientific Research and President of the Moroccan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science; H.E. Eng. Mahmoud Farshidi, Minister of Education in the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the Eighth General Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO-; H.E. Dr. Mabrouk Ali Ghaid, Secretary General of the Libyan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science and Chairman of the Executive Council of ISESCO; H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO-; the Secretaries General of National Commissions and the officials in charge of the competent authorities in Member States; their Excellencies the Ambassadors of Member States accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco, the seat country, and a number of representatives of international and regional organizations as well as a host of intellectuals and personalities from the fields of culture and media.
2. The session was opened by a recitation of Verses from the Holy Quran. Then, H.E. Dr. Habib El Malki, Minister of National Education, Higher Education, Executive Staff Training and Scientific Research and President of the Moroccan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science, held the floor and welcomed the members of the Executive Council, hailing their efforts towards putting ideas into action and implementing scientific meaningful projects in line with the founding principles of the Islamic Organization. He also appreciated the earnest endeavour of the General Directorate of the Islamic Organization to implement the different resolutions and recommendations of its General Conferences as well as the specialized conferences it has held. H.E. the Minister stated that such an endeavour establishes the credibility of the Islamic Organization and grants it more vitality, high standing and radiance, as justified by the content and quality of the reports presented to the 26th session of the Executive Council. In fact, these reports illustrate

the scope of efforts and earnest action of the Organization and its engagement with the fields of education, scientific knowledge, cultural and communicative practice and outreach both in its Islamic surroundings and at the international and universal levels. He also considered that the Islamic Organization, like the other Arab and Islamic organizations, is invited to respond constantly to the needs of coming generations and come up to the expectations for the promotion of the society of knowledge, science and technology that rests on the noble human values. These values are those of equity, justice and quality of opportunities in education, knowledge and participation in all development-related fields. H.E. the Minister underlined that these expectations are entirely consistent with the founding principles and Charter of this leading and credible Organization, as well as its ongoing and prospective achievements, thanks to the willingness of its Director General and the competence of its staff in addition to the diversity of the contents of its programmes as well as the policy of coordination, dialogue and consultancy with regional and international organizations and bodies.

At the end of his address, H.E. the Minister congratulated the Director General of the Islamic Organization for the honour conferred on him by the Euro-Mediterranean Forum which granted him the Prize of Crans Montana, in appreciation of his role in promoting dialogue among cultures and civilizations.

3. Then, H.E. Eng. Mahmoud Farshidi, Minister of Education in the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the Eighth General Conference of the Islamic Organization, held the floor and welcomed, at the outset of his address, the members of the Executive Council, wishing them success in debating and examining the agenda for the 26th Session. He also expressed his appreciation and admiration for the outstanding achievements of the Organization in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, hailing the wise leadership of H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri at the head of the Organization. Moreover, H.E. the Minister highlighted in his address that the aggressive campaign waged by the West against Islam and Muslims aims at distorting the cultural identity, values and traditions of the Ummah and the Islamic civilization at large. In this regard, he called for the protection and preservation of identity, through the implementation of educational, cultural, scientific and media-related programmes and activities to fend off this biased smear campaign and fortify the edifice and identity of the Ummah. Reviewing the crises faced by the Islamic world, he focused on scientific progress and technological development as a requisite for resurgence and prosperity.

At the end of his address, H.E. the Minister reaffirmed the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to put its expertise in the fields of education, science and culture at the disposal of all Member States.

4. His Excellency Dr. Mabrouk Ali Ghaid, the Chairman of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Executive Council, delivered an address wherein he welcomed the Council members, wishing them success in their proceedings aimed at enhancing the Islamic Organization's action and allowing the Ummah to restore its status among nations. He also commended ISESCO's efforts in laying the foundations for a unified action in scientific, educational and cultural fields among Islamic countries. Moreover, he hailed the distinguished role played by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Islamic Organization's Director General. In addition, he underscored the intellectual, political, economic and social challenges facing the Member States. This requires responding to them via a meticulous and objective reading of the living reality, the ultimate aim being to save the Ummah and restore its leading civilizational position in the world. He also called for pursuing efforts in order to meet the increasing demands of Member States, which fall within the Organization's fields of competence, and come up to their aspirations for progress and development.

At the conclusion of his address, the Chairman of the Executive Council called upon the Council members to earnestly study and follow up the Organization's programmes and projects, and to put forward proposals with a view to developing and improving its performance.

5. The floor was then held by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Islamic Organization's Director General, who expressed his heartfelt thanks and deep gratitude to their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies Heads of Member States for the trust they invest in the Islamic Organization and for the support their governments extend to ISESCO, in particular His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, the seat country, who has been manifesting his unflagging solicitude and support for the Islamic Organization.

The Director General also stated that the Islamic Organization has proceeded during the current year to preparing the draft of the forthcoming three- year Action Plan for the years 2007-2009. For this, it has taken into consideration future prospects and the current developments taking place at the international arena as well as the contents of the Medium-Term Plan for the years 2001-2009. This draft will be submitted to the Council during this Session to debate it, review it and deepen its content prior to its adoption and submission, for approval, to the Ninth General Conference of ISESCO, which will be held in December 2006.

Moreover, the Director General underscored that the rate of the programmes and activities implemented by ISESCO under the running year confirms the Organization's efficient action which is significantly increasing. In this regard, its specialized directorates and departments have implemented 415 activities out of a total of 500 scheduled for this year, thus accounting for 83%. It is, indeed, an

outstanding achievement compared to the second year of the previous three-year Action Plan (2001-2003).

In addition, the Director General noted that ISESCO efforts have been focused, in a balanced way, on the top priority issues and topics pertaining to education, science and culture such as strengthening the efficiency of original education, promoting literacy programmes, disseminating the principles of human rights, justice and peace, shoring up Member States' action in building biotechnological capacities disseminating scientific and electronic education, fostering culture for all to establish the knowledge-based society, furthering dialogue as well as mutual entente, understanding and coexistence among cultures, civilizations and religions. Furthermore, he stated that as a result of the expanding volume of the Organization's action, ISESCO has managed to open up further onto international organizations and to discuss the issues of concern to the international community with a view to carrying the voice of the Member States to international forums and highlighting their positions on contemporary issues and challenges.

At the conclusion of his address, the Director General pointed out that the present critical situation which the Islamic world is going through requires combining efforts in joint Islamic action and heading towards a corporate planning aimed more at meeting present and future needs than at addressing circumstantial matters in order to renovate the civilizational edifice of the Islamic world.

6. At the end of the opening session, Mr. Mohammed bin Jumaa bin Hindi, Deputy Secretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs at the Ministry of Education and Youth in the State of United Arab Emirates, received from the Organization's Director General ISESCO's Literacy Prize for local community associations in Member States for the year 2005. This prize was awarded to the Association of *Nahdat al-Maraa Dabianiya* in the State of United Arab Emirates as a token of consideration from ISESCO for the outstanding efforts deployed by this association in the field of literacy. Mr. bin Hindi announced that the Association would offer the prize money to one of the Member States' organizations operating in this field.
7. The members of the Organization's Executive Council, the Secretaries General of the National Commissions, the officials in charge of the competent authorities in Member States and Member States' Ambassadors accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco paid a visit then to the new headquarters of the Islamic Organization.
8. At the beginning of the first working session, the Chairman of the Executive Council welcomed the new members representing the Islamic Republic of Iran, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Niger. Likewise, the Director General

congratulated Dr. Mabrouk Ali Ghaid on his appointment as a new member of the Executive Council and his accession to the chairmanship of the Council.

Afterwards, the Chairman of the Executive Council presented the draft agenda and draft programme of the 26th Session of the Executive Council. After discussing them, the Council adopted the said agenda and programme as appended to the present report (*Annexes 2 and 3*).

9. The Director General delivered **his Report on the Activities of the Organization between the 25th and 26th Sessions of the Executive Council**. At the beginning of his presentation, he pointed out to the methodology followed by the General Directorate in presenting data about the quantitative and qualitative implementation of the activities of the Organization, in accordance with the recommendations of the Executive Council in this regard. ISESCO Director General further explained that the number of activities scheduled by ISESCO, under the current year, was set at 500 activities of which 415 (accounting for 83% of the overall number) have been implemented. They were broken down as follows: 119 activities implemented in the area of education; 122 activities in the field of science; 104 activities in the field of culture and communication; as well as 37 activities designed for external relations and cooperation; 7 activities towards information and documentation; 22 activities in planning, studies and evaluation; and 4 activities directed towards the press. It is indeed an outstanding achievement as compared to the second year of the three-year Action Plan (2001-2003) of which the number of programmes that were conducted did not exceed 367.

Under these programmes, ISESCO has conducted 139 national and regional training sessions and workshops, benefiting 2271 teachers, trainers, experts, and educational and administrative officials from the Member States and among Muslims in non-Member States. Besides, the Organization assigned 35 teachers to teach Arabic language and Islamic education in the universities and educational institutions in Africa, Asia and Latin America. ISESCO's training activities also benefited 500 secondary education graduate teachers at ISESCO's Educational Centre in the Republic of Chad. And as part of its activities aimed at promoting high-quality scientific research in the Member States, the Organization implemented 16 activities within the framework of ISESCO Centre for Promotion of Scientific Research (ICPSR). Being aware of the considerable impact of environment, health and population factors on sustainable development, the Islamic Organization organized and participated in the organization of 34 activities aimed at addressing environment, health and population issues from an Islamic perspective. And infused with the belief that the children of the Islamic world constitute the creative energy in the future, the Islamic Organization held "*The First Islamic Ministerial Conference on the Child*", which issued a groundwork document for joint Islamic action in this area, under the title: "*Rabat Declaration on Child Issues in the*

Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference". The Islamic Organization further held meetings of the heads of Islamic associations and cultural centres in Europe, Asia and Latin America, as part of implementation of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action in the West. In the same vein, the number of activities designed for Muslim minorities and Muslims in the West reached 27. And in the furtherance of the resolutions as well as decisions and recommendations of the General Conference and the Executive Council on pooling efforts together to support educational, scientific and cultural institutions damaged by wars in the Member States, the Islamic Organization dedicated a number of its programmes to these institutions in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia. The number of activities conducted in this area reached 34.

The Director General also mentioned that ISESCO concluded, in line with the Islamic teachings on cooperative action and conjoint efforts, as well as in consideration of the high status it has reached among the other international organizations, 9 new cooperation agreements, thus scaling the number of agreements with regional and international organizations and bodies up to 142. And as part of its efforts aimed at energizing action of ISESCO Regional Office in Sharjah and its Regional Office in Tehran, the General Directorate involved them in the implementation of the activities programmed for 2005. These activities, which were generally encouraging, came as follows: 20 activities implemented by ISESCO's Regional Office in Sharjah, and 30 other activities carried out by that of Tehran.

At the end of his presentation, the Director General apprised the Executive Council of the Islamic Organization's participation in the proceedings of the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Makkah Al-Mukarramah, 7-8 December 2005), and of his meetings with a number of the Islamic world leaders participating in the Summit, who conveyed to him their satisfaction and appreciation for the outstanding role played by ISESCO with a view to developing Islamic joint action, particularly in the fields of education, science, culture and communication in Member States. They also emphasized their confidence in the ability of ISESCO to follow up and implement the projects and activities that come within its competence as a part of "the draft Ten-Year Action Programme to Face the Challenges of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century" which was adopted by this Summit.

- 10. Before starting discussions on the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 25th and 26th Executive Council Sessions,** the Executive Council members asked God to have mercy upon the late Jihad Ismael Qarasholi, the representative of the State of Palestine in the Executive Council.

11. During the deliberations and discussions, the Executive Council Members' observations centred on the following points:

- To gear further programmes and activities toward promoting the culture of tolerance and acceptance of the other, conducive to attaining the objectives of the Message of Amman on tolerance and moderation in Islam, and the Makkah Declaration which has been issued by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference;
- To dedicate more training programmes and activities for trainers in the fields of competence of the Organization for the benefit of Member States;
- To convene a regional conference on the challenges posed to Muslims in Africa, and to highlight the importance of cultural diversity in the continent, with a view to strengthening the culture of justice and peace;
- To invite the Director General to go on-site visits to a number of African Member States in order to take stock of the state of affairs of their educational, scientific and cultural institutions;
- To call for promoting Islamic solidarity with the countries struck by extremism and natural catastrophes, through gearing special programmes and activities that fall within the scope of competence of the Organization;
- To direct more activities towards addressing environmental issues and managing natural resources;
- To further strengthen capacities of National Commissions in the Member States, assist non-Arabic speaking Member States in training Arabic language teachers, and dedicate more activities relative to the use of technology in educational fields;
- To gear the activities of the Organization towards better serving and meeting the needs and priorities of the Member States;
- To prepare a methodical guide for integrating the scientific values of Islam into curricula;
- To call upon the Islamic Organization to publish the research works the Director General contributes with to international symposiums, distribute them, in the three languages, among Member States' specialized institutions and put them on the Internet to disseminate benefit;
- To provide Member States with books on Islam authored by unbiased non-Muslim intellectuals;
- To work towards assessing the extent to which the Islamic Organization's grants have availed the Member States.

12. The members of the Council expressed their utmost thanks and appreciation to the Director General and his assistants for their outstanding efforts in the implementation of programmes and activities. They lauded the steady endeavours deployed by the Director General in the international gatherings to redress the offensive stereotypical image of Islam in the West and broaden the areas of cooperation with international and regional organizations as well as with Arab and Islamic institutions as part of the execution of programmes and rationalizing expenditure thereon, taking into consideration the fulfilment of the needs of Member States and Muslim communities. In this respect, the representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina affirmed that the administrative and procedural obstacles which proved a hindrance to the implementation by the Organization of the activities geared to Bosnia-Herzegovina for 2005, have been removed.

It also noted with satisfaction the prompt reaction of the Director General to the events and changes concerning the Islamic world and his proven ability to take the appropriate decisions regarding them. The Council highly appreciated the outstanding contribution of the Director General to the third Extraordinary Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and expressed its pride in the trust put by the leaders of the Islamic world in ISESCO, by entrusting it with the follow-up of the implementation of activities and programmes that fall within the scope of its competence under the “Draft ten-year Action Plan Programme to Face the Challenges of the Islamic Ummah in the 21st Century”, adopted by the Summit. The Council also reiterated the commitment of the Member States to supporting the Action Plan with a view to carrying out these missions. The Council approved then the Report of the Director General on the Activities of the Organization between the 25th and 26th Sessions of the Executive Council, taking account of the observations and proposals of the Council members. It recommended to the Ninth General Conference of ISESCO to adopt this report.

13. After that, the Director General presented **the Financial Report and Closing Accounts of the Financial Year 2004**, which are the accounts of the first financial year of the three-year Action Plan 2004-2006. He said that ISESCO’s contributions received during the year 2004 totalled **US\$ 6,253,746**, of which **US\$ 5,474,126** represent the contributions paid for the year 2004. The overall amount of these contributions constitutes 40% of the total annual budget, estimated at **US\$ 13,700,151**. This rate is moderate in view of the volume of programmes and activities that are scheduled in the Organization’s three-year Action Plan and that require execution, whereas the off-budget financial resources do not exceed **US\$ 859.125**.

Regarding the actual expenditure on programmes and activities in the year 2004, the Director General reported that the expenses incurred by the Organization in 2004 totalled **US \$ 7,498,745**, of which 14% were spent on the General Policy, 70% on programmes and support activities and 16% on joint expenditures.

The Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts of the Financial Year 2004 included also the balance sheet and operating account, until 31 December 2004, of both the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Medical Insurance Fund for ISESCO Staff.

14. The representative of the audit company presented the Audit Company Report on ISESCO's Financial Year 2004. He commended the accuracy of the accounting system of the Organization and the soundness of the Organization's accounts.

The report showed also that the operating account is fully consistent with the books of the Organization and that there is no breach of the regulations that govern the operations of the Organization.

15. Then, the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee delivered the report of the Committee for the financial year 2004. He said that the Committee examined the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts of the Financial Year 2004 which gives thorough and clear image on the financial and administrative operations of the Organization as well as on its smooth administrative and financial running. He commended the increase in the qualitative programmes and projects carried out by ISESCO this year. He thanked the Member States which have paid their contributions to the Organization's budget for the year 2004, and urged Member States that have not settled their contributions to benefit from the exemptions offered and pay up their contributions and arrears. The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee expressed the appreciation of the Committee for the administrative and financial measures relative to the construction of the permanent headquarters of the Organization. He added that the Committee was satisfied also with the method of keeping the accounts pertaining to the programmes of cooperation with regional and international organizations.

16. During the deliberations, the Council members expressed their satisfaction with the allocation of a high rate of the Organization's budget to the implementation of programmes and activities, which reached 70% of the overall budget. They thanked the personalities and parties that made donations to support the Organization, and hailed the efforts of the Director General to rationalize expenditure and adhere to the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company. After deliberations, the Council adopted the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts of the Financial Year 2004 from 1st January to 31st December 2004, the Report of the Audit Company and the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Financial Year 2004. It agreed to submit these reports to the forthcoming General Conference and recommended to it to adopt it.

17. Then, the Director General gave his **Report on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the**

Organization. This report is composed of three chapters, the first and second of which describe the situation of Member States' contributions and arrears both in the financial year 2004 and throughout the previous years. On the other hand, the third chapter deals with the interest that the Executive Council has been taking, at its successive Sessions, in this issue and its efforts to solve the question of arrears. The report points also to the efforts exerted by the Director General to urge a number of Member States to settle their arrears as part of benefiting from the Resolution of the 8th General Conference on the exemption from payment of arrears.

18. The Director General presented later his **report on the implementation of the Decision of the Executive Council and the Resolution of the General Conference with respect to the exemption of Member States from their financial arrears.** The report contains the situation of Member States' arrears in the years 2004 and 2005, and reviews the efforts deployed by the Director General to prompt Member States to pay their contributions and settle their arrears to benefit from the opportunity offered to them by the Resolution of the 8th General Conference n° C.G. 8/2003/3.2. The report includes also details about the contributions and arrears of Member States for the years 2004 and 2005.

The Director General said that the contributions received during the years 2004 and 2005 from the Member States that benefited from the said Resolution totalled **US\$ 10.559.529**. As for the exempted financial arrears, they reached until November 2005 **US\$ 11.580.568**. He presented a list of states fully exempted until 2002 and a list of states exempted from the payment of 50% of their arrears until 2002.

19. After deliberations, the Council decided to approve the Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization and his Report on the implementation of the Decision of the Executive Council and the Resolution of the General Conference with regard to the exemption of Member States from paying their financial arrears. The Council extended its thanks and appreciation to the Director General for his efforts to intensify contact with Member States to procure maximum contributions. It also called upon him to pursue coordination and consultation with Member States that have arrears, through the National Commissions and the members of the General Conference and the Executive Council, with the aim of recovering these arrears. The Council agreed to submit the said reports to the upcoming General Conference along with a recommendation to adopt them.
20. The Director General presented his Report on the Project of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters for the period between the 25th and 26th Sessions of the Executive Council. He stated that the remainder of works pertaining to the equipment of the Conference Hall, decoration and audio-visual fittings are

ongoing. He also pointed out that all necessary contracts have been concluded with the executing firms at adequate rates.

As for the estimated financial cost of this project which amounts to **US\$ 6,000,000**, the Director General's efforts allowed to collect **US\$ 3,020,000** as donations by prominent Muslim personalities. In addition, he stated that he would pursue his efforts and endeavours to secure supplementary donations, calling upon the members of the Executive Council to give their care for this project and support its completion.

- 21.** During deliberations, the Council proposed to consecrate a place inside the new permanent headquarters of the Organization for the staging of periodic exhibitions of some models of the hallmarks of heritage and culture in the Member States, to dedicate an appropriate space for the commemoration of the achievement of this pioneering project under the term of office of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri as Director General of the Organization, and to invite the competent authorities in the Kingdom of Morocco to issue a special postage stamp commemorative of the construction of this civilizational edifice. The Council reiterated its thanks and gratitude to the prominent personalities who have made donations towards the building of the permanent headquarters of the Organization, to the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the facilitations offered in the implementation of this project, and to the Director General and his assistants for their strenuous efforts, earnest action and constant follow-up of the high-quality implementation of the project with rationalized expenditure. The Council approved the Report of the Director General on the Project of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters, and agreed to put this item on the agenda of the 27th Session of the Council, and to refer the subject to the upcoming General Conference to examine it and take the appropriate resolution thereon.
- 22.** The Director General gave a presentation on the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009, wherein he pointed out that this draft seeks to ensure continuity, consistency and complementarity between the two previous Action Plans and the current Action Plan, while defining priorities and developing contents and implementation mechanisms. He also underlined that the General Directorate of the Organization relied, in the orientations of this draft, on the observations and guidelines of the General Conference and the Executive Council, the outcome of the reports of the Director General on the evaluation of the Organization's action, the proposals and views of the National Commissions on the implemented activities, the needs expressed by Member States and commitments contained in cooperation agreements as well as the resolutions and recommendations of relevant specialized conferences. The draft aimed at achieving four strategies objectives, namely: developing the educational system, promoting scientific research, activating cultural

action in Member States and contributing to bridging the digital divide between Member States and developed countries.

As to the contents of the Draft Action Plan, the Director General reviewed its fields of action and axes pertaining to the fields of education, culture, communication, external relations and cooperation, as well as the various support and operating services.

As for the financial resources of the Draft Action Plan for the years 2007-2009, the Director General stated that the general budget for this Action Plan has not increased as it amounts, like the previous one, to **US\$ 41.100,453**. It is worth noting that this draft plan contains newly emerging needs as a result of the expanding trend in the Organization's action inside and outside the Islamic world.

23. During the deliberations on the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009, the observations of the Council members have been centered on the following:

- To devote a special care, within the framework of the Organization's annual programmes and as part of the 2007-2009 Action Plan, to the Member States that are suffering from disasters, conflicts and wars, such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and Pakistan, as well as the countries affected by Tsunami;
- To gear more activities to the field of the education of categories with special needs, including early childhood;
- To focus on human resources' training programmes in the Member States in the different fields of the Organization's competence;
- To include in the Organization's Action Plan priority programmes aiming at fulfilling Member States' needs, in coordination with their competent authorities;
- To devote further attention to the follow-up and implementation of activities and programmes implemented in the Member States with a view to assessing their impact;
- To enhance the working mechanisms relative to consultation and coordination with the competent authorities in the Member States when drawing up and implementing the Action Plan;
- To encourage the creation of excellence centres in the fields of scientific research in higher education institutions in the Member States as well as regional centres of trainers' training in the Organization's fields of competence;
- To bring the project for ISESCO Clubs and Associated Schools at the service of educational issues into effect under the 2007-2009 three-year Action Plan;

- To dedicate more activities to the applications of bio-technology in agriculture, medicine and pharmacy;
- To dedicate activities in the field of social and human sciences to the promotion of the values of democracy, social justice and good governance;
- To give increased attention to the activities pertaining to the education of the gifted and the brilliant by focusing on the training of specialized trainers, drawing up relevant curricula and organizing activities gathering the gifted and the brilliant in the Member States;
- To amend the formulation of some of the objectives included in the introduction of the Action Plan to ensure more clarity and accuracy;
- To increase the budget allocated to the maintenance of the Organization's new headquarters in the overall budget of the forthcoming Action Plan;
- To foster cooperation relations with the International Centre of Bantou Civilizations (CICIBA), in the capital of Gabon, through the Department of Arabic Language and Bantou Civilization which was set up by ISESCO at the Centre;
- To dedicate further activities to the field of literacy using the standardized Quranic script as well as the information and communication technology, and to devising relevant educational material and supplying Member States therewith;
- To increase the budget allotted to educational, scientific, cultural and informational programmes geared to Al-Quds Al-Sharif within the general budget of the forthcoming three-year Action Plan;
- To pursue extending support to needy Member States in the area of preparing educational curricula and benefit by Member States' experiences in this field;
- To enhance cooperation and coordination between the Islamic Organization and the other regional and international organizations, in particular UNESCO and ALECSO, with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts and rationalizing expenditure;
- To prolong the duration of training sessions and workshops organized within the framework of the Organization's fields of action, and to follow up the implementation of recommendations issued thereby in such a way as to achieve the expected objectives.

24. After the deliberations, the Executive Council adopted the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009, taking the observations of its members into consideration. The Council also thanked the Director General and his assistants for their remarkable efforts in preparing this document in line with the orientations of the Member States and taking into consideration world changes. Furthermore, the

Council recommended to the General Conference to approve the Organization's (2007-2009) Draft Action Plan and Budget.

25. The Director General presented his Report on the Draft Programme on ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations. He explained that he has contacted, in line with the resolution of the Organization's 8th General Conference and the decision of its 25th Executive Council's session in this regard, a number of eminent personalities with outstanding contribution to the promotion of dialogue among cultures and civilizations and enjoying distinguished position in the Member States as well as within international institutions and arenas. His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan Bin Talal, His Excellency Dr. Mahathir Mohammed, and His Excellency Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow granted their consent as to their designation as ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations. This adds, indeed, to the honour of the Organization and further consolidates its part in the field of dialogue among cultures and civilizations. The Director General further proposed to send messages of thanks and appreciation to these personalities for their kind response.
26. After deliberations, the Executive Council expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Director General for his efforts towards implementing the Draft Programme on ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations, and for obtaining the approval of these eminent personalities. The Executive Council called also for putting the necessary means at their disposal so as they can discharge their mission in the best manner, and appointing other Muslim personalities from outside the Member States as ISESCO's Ambassadors in the fields of competence of the Islamic Organization.

Then, the Council approved the report of the Director General on the Draft Programme on ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations and recommended to put this item on the agenda for the next Executive Council and General Conference.

27. The Director General presented the document on the project for establishing an Islamic Youth Parliament and pointed out that the 32nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Sanaa, June 2005) approved a resolution on the setting up of the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation. To avert duplication in this field, the Director General proposed coordination and cooperation with the Forum to support and serve the educational, scientific and cultural issues of common interest. He informed the Council that he has been appointed as a member of the Forum's Administrative Board.
28. After deliberations, the Council welcomed the resolution of the 32nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the establishment of the Islamic Conference

Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation, and invited the Director General to coordinate and cooperate with this forum with a view to supporting and serving the educational, scientific and cultural issues of common interest.

- 29.** In an in-camera session, the Council discussed item 3.2 concerning the draft amendment to ISESCO's Charter, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and the Observer Status Regulations, and item 3.3 concerning the draft amendment to ISESCO's Organizational Chart. After deliberations, it adopted ISESCO's Charter, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the Observer Status Regulations and ISESCO's Organizational Chart in their amended versions annexed hereto. It also recommended to the forthcoming session of the General Conference to adopt them (*Annexes: 4.5*).
- 30.** The Executive Council decided to hold its 27th session in the Islamic Organization's permanent headquarters in Rabat during the first half of December 2006.
- 31.** During the closing session, ISESCO's Director General, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, held the floor to express his thanks and appreciation for the members of the Council for the sound views and fruitful proposals they put forward. He also congratulated them on the successful outcome of their proceedings, stressing that the Organization will further its efforts pursuant to the decisions and recommendations issued by the Council to enlarge the scope of its action with a view to preserving its balanced orientations towards deeply-rooted authenticity and enlightened modernity. Moreover, he commended the fruitful efforts deployed by the Chairman of the Council in running the meetings. At the end of his address, the Director General called upon the members of the Council, who are assuming the role of ISESCO's ambassadors in their respective countries, to pursue their endeavours in extending the necessary support to the Islamic Organization to optimally undertake its civilizational missions.
- 32.** Afterwards, H.E. Dr. Mabrouk Ali Ghaid, the Chairman of the Organization's Executive Council, delivered an address wherein he thanked the members of the Council for their cooperation. He also praised the outstanding role played by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri at the head of the Organization as well as the competence of his assistants and the Organization's staff in successfully organizing the proceedings of the session. In addition, he expressed his gratitude to the Kingdom of Morocco for the hospitable reception.
- 33.** At the close of the proceedings of the 26th session, the Council addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his unstinting support to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and for the significant responsibilities undertaken by the Moroccan government on the Islamic level, on top of all the protection of sanctities in Al-Quds.

**DECISIONS OF THE 26TH SESSION
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

(RABAT, 12-14 DECEMBER 2005)



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 26th Session

Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005

Decision on Item 1.1 of the Draft Agenda :
(Draft 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 26th Session contained in document (CE26/2005/1.1 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Agenda of its current 26th Session as contained in document (CE26/2005/1.1 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of this Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 26th Session

Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005

Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda:
(Draft Programme of the Session)

The Executive Council,

- Recalling Decision (CE 25/2004/D.4.1) adopted by the Executive Council at its 25th Session (Rabat, 24-27/12/2004), whereby the Council decided to hold its 26th Session in December 2005 in Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco,
- Considering Decision (CE 26/2005/D.1.1) adopted by the Council regarding the Agenda of its current 26th Session,
- Having considered the Draft Programme of this Session contained in document (CE26/2005/1.2 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following:

- Adopts the Programme of its current 26th Session as contained in document (CE26/2005/1.2 amended, adopted) annexed to the Final Report of this Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 26th Session

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda:

**(Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities
between the 25th and the 26th Executive 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 25th and 26th Council Sessions, contained in documents (CE 26/2005/2.1) and (CE 26/2005/2.1 Addendum),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General of ISESCO in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations and views put forward by the Executive Council members,

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 25th and 26th Council Sessions as contained in documents (CE 25/2004/2.1) and (CE 25/2004/2.1 Addendum), taking into account the observations made by the Executive Council members.
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their outstanding efforts in pursuing the implementation of programmes, rationalizing expenditure thereon, and fulfilling as much as possible the needs of Member States and Muslim communities and minorities.
- 3- Hails the continuous efforts deployed by the Director General to broaden the areas of cooperation with international and regional organizations as well as with Islamic and Arab institutions, within the framework of programmes' implementation.
- 4- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference, and recommends to it to adopt the report.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda:

**(Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts
for Financial Year 2004, Report of the Audit Company and
Report of the Financial Control Committee
for Financial Year 2004)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with :
 - * Articles (16) and (19) of the Charter,
 - * Articles (19), (20), (24) and (29) of the Financial Regulations,
 - * Articles (21), paragraphs (b, c and d), of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Pursuant to Resolution CG 8/2003/R.2.3 of the 8th General Conference and considering Decision CE 24/2003/D.2.3 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003),
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2004, the Report of the Audit Company and the Report of the Financial Control Committee for Financial Year 2004 contained in document (CE 26/2005/2.2),
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants in this regard,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views put forward,

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2004, the Report of the Audit Company and the Report of the Financial Control Committee for Financial Year 2004 as contained in document (CE26/2005/2.2),

- 2- Extends thanks to all personalities and parties that made donations in support of the Organization;
- 3- Invites the Director General to continue his endeavours and efforts to contact donor parties with a view to obtaining maximum support for the Organization's activities;
- 4- Lauds the efforts deployed by the Director General to procure additional off-budget resources, as well as the practical measures that he and his assistants have taken to gear the bulk of the Organization's financial resources to programmes' implementation, and to rationalize expenditure and improve its methods, while complying with the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee adopted by the Council;
- 5- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference, and recommends to it to adopt the report.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1425 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda:

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

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with 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 in this regard, in particular :
 - * Resolution CG 7/2000/R.2.5 adopted by the 7th General Conference (Rabat, 22-24/11/2000) inviting the Director General to arrange special visits to the Member States with arrears to meet with their officials, and to step up efforts with a view to urging Member States to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears,
 - * Decision CE 24/2003/D.3.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003), whereby it adopted the report of the Executive Council on the criteria and modalities for writing off Member States' arrears,
 - * Resolution CG 8/2003/R.3.2 adopted by the 8th General Conference (Tehran, 27-29/12/2003),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views expressed,

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 CE 26/2005/2.3;
- 2- Affirms the above-mentioned resolutions and decisions previously adopted by the General Conference and the Executive Council in this respect;
- 3- Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Director General for his efforts to intensify contacts with the Member States in order to procure maximum contributions, as well as for his efforts to promote cooperation with international organizations to secure further support for the Organization's activities and programmes;
- 4- Thanks the Member States which have complied with the Decision of the Executive Council and the Resolution of the General Conference relative to facilitations regarding the settlement of arrears of contributions due, and calls upon the Member States which have not acceded yet to the said Decision and Resolution to do so at the earliest convenience in order to benefit from their provisions before the expiry of the deadline;
- 5- Invites the Director General to carry on coordination, consultations and contacts with the Member States with arrears, through the National Commissions and members of the General Conference and Executive Council, with a view to collecting arrears and agreeing on the practical mechanisms to settle them, in accordance with the General Conference and Executive Council Resolutions and Decisions in this regard;
- 6- Calls upon the Director General to benefit from Islamic funding mechanisms, particularly the Zakat and the Waqf, with a view to raising the Organization's financial resources for the profit of educational, scientific and cultural programmes;
- 7- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference, and recommends to it to adopt the report.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12-14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda:

**(Report of the Director General on the Project
of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters)**

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the previous decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Council and the General Conference in this respect, in particular the Decision (CE 25/2004/D.2.4) adopted by the Executive Council at its 25th session
- Having considered the "Report of the Director General on the Project of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters" contained in document (CE 26/2005/2.4),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Report of the Director General on the project of construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters as contained in document (CE 26/2005/2.4).
- 2- Reiterates thanks and gratitude to the eminent personalities who have made donations to the construction of the permanent headquarters.
- 3- Thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the procedural facilitations provided for the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters.
- 4- Praises the Director General's intense efforts and continuous contacts to procure financial support for the construction of the permanent headquarters of the Organization, and thanks the Director General and his assistants for their diligent efforts and continuous supervision to expedite the construction works, ensure their efforts quality and rationalize expenditure thereon.
- 5- Places this item on the Agenda of the 27th Council Session.
- 6- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference to consider it and adopt the appropriate resolution thereon.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 26th Session

Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005

Decision on Item 2.5 of the Agenda:

**(Director General's Report concerning the Draft Programme on ISESCO's
Ambassadors for
Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having examined the document (CE 26/2005/2.5) presented by the Director General in this connection,
- After hearing the presentation made by the Director General,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views expressed,

Decides the following:

- 1- Welcomes the consent of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan bin Talal, His Excellency Dr. Mahathir Mohamad and His Excellency Mr. Amadou Mahtar M'Bow for their nomination as ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations;
- 2- Thanks the above-mentioned personalities for accepting their nomination as ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations;
- 3- Calls upon the Director General to prepare high-level working programmes as well as coordination and consultation activities for ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations ;
- 4- Thanks the Director General for the efforts he has been deploying to implement this project and calls upon him to carry on coordination and consultation with the competent authorities in this respect ;
- 5- Invites the Director General to prepare regular reports in this connection;
- 6- Puts this item on the agenda for the forthcoming session of the Executive Council and of the General Conference.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 – 14 December 2005**

**Decision on Item 3.1 of the Agenda:
(Project for establishing an Islamic Youth Parliament)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Recalling Decision (CE 25/2004/D.3.1) adopted by the Executive Council in its 25th Session (Rabat, 24-27/12/2004), inviting the Director General to continue examining the project and the ways to implement it, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the competent Iranian authorities and present a report in this respect to the current Council session,
- Having considered the report as contained in document (CE 26/2005/3.1),
- Having considered the resolution taken by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, in its 32nd session (Sanaa, Republic of Yemen, 28-30 June 2005), concerning the establishment of **the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation** ;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views expressed,

Decides the following:

- 1- Welcomes the Resolution taken by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in its 32nd Session (Sanaa, Republic of Yemen, 28-30 June 2005) on the establishment of **the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation**.
- 2- Invites the Director General to coordinate and cooperate with the Forum with a view to supporting and serving educational, scientific and cultural issues of common interest.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 26th Session

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

**Decision on Item 3.2 of the Agenda:
(Draft Amendment to ISESCO's Charter,
The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
The Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
And the Observer Status Regulations)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the following:
 - Article (20) of the Charter,
 - Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
 - Decision of the Executive Council in its 25th Session (Decision CE25/2004/3.4),
- Having considered the document (CE 26/2005/3.2) in its new version presented by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations and views put forward by the Executive Council Members,

Decides the following:

1. Approves the proposed amendments to ISESCO's Charter, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and the Observer Status Regulations as contained in Document (CE26/2005/3.2) annexed to the final report, taking into consideration the observations of the Council members thereon;
2. Thanks the Member States which have forwarded their observations and views on the proposed amendments to ISESCO's Charter, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and the Observer Status Regulations ;

3. Thanks the Director General and his assistants for having prepared this document ;
4. Agrees to submit this Draft to the forthcoming General Conference Session and recommends that it adopts it.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 3.3 of the Agenda:

(Draft Amendment to ISESCO's Organizational Chart)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the following :
 - Article (12) of the Charter,
 - Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
 - Decision of the Executive Council in its 25th session, (Decision CE.25/2004/D.3.4),
- Having examined the document (CE26/2005/3.3) presented by the Director General in this regard,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place as well as the views and observations put forward by the Executive Council Members,

Decides the following :

1. Approves the proposed amendments to ISESCO's Organizational Chart as contained in Document (CE26/2005/3.3) annexed to the final report ;
2. Thanks the Director General and his assistants for preparing this document ;
3. Agrees to submit this Draft to the forthcoming General Conference session and recommends its adoption.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 – 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda:

(Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the Years 2007-2009)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article (11), paragraphs (2) and (8) of the Charter, Article (14) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, and Article (21) paragraphs (e) and (f) of the Rules of Procedures of the Executive Council,
- Having examined the Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009,
 - as contained in Document (CE26/2005/4.1),
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General thereon,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under

- 1- Approves the Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009, as contained in Document (CE26/2005/4.1), taking into consideration the observations made by the Council's Members ;
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the outstanding efforts they have deployed in the early preparation of this important document according to the orientations of Member States and in deference to international changes ;
- 3 – Recommends the adoption by the forthcoming General Conference of the Organization's Draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 2007-2009.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-
Executive Council / 26th Session**

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
10 – 12 Zhul Qida 1426 A.H. / 12 - 14 December 2005**

Decision on Item 5.1 of the Agenda:

(Venue and Date of the 27th 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 following session,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following:

- Convenes the Twenty-seventh Session of the Executive Council in the first half of December 2006 at ISESCO's permanent Headquarters in Rabat.