



**Address by**

**His Excellency Dr. Salim M. AlMalik**

Director General of the Islamic, Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization  
(ISESCO)

At the close of

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers**

“Toward the Development of Current Cultural Policies in the Islamic World”

**17-18 December 2019**

**Tunis, Republic of Tunisia**

*Praise be to Allah and peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad,  
his kith and kin*

**Excellencies, distinguished guests,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

**Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatu Allah wa barakatuhu,**

It is my pleasure to address you at the close of the 11<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of H.E. Mr. Kaïs Saïed, President of the Republic of Tunisia.

Praise be to Allah, we have achieved the goals set for this conference, through your and ISESCO General Directorate's concerted efforts to promote joint Islamic cultural heritage, embodied in the resolutions issued by this esteemed conference. Our shared will to develop our working methods to reach these concrete outcomes has clearly, praise be to Allah, taken shape during the proceedings of this session during which we broke with our usual methods, thus ushering in a new phase in the field of cultural action that has tangible impact on addressing the real needs of our Member States.

**At the close of our proceedings, what are the ultimate requirements for developing our cultural policies to keep up with the challenges of digital changes, address issues of parallel funding for cultural projects, safeguard cultural heritage, and promote the culture of dialogue and peace?**

I sum up my answer to this complex question in:

**First:** Work on managing culture in a decentralized way and following a participatory approach between the central governmental sector, the rest of actors in regions, decision makers from among innovators and professionals, civil society bodies, and the benefiting audience.

**Second:** Ensure the possibility of training and educating citizens through digital services accessible to all, while upholding the protection of the intellectual and literary copyrights of cultural contents.

**Third:** Innovation in laying the foundations of cultural solidarity economy through finding new sources of parallel funding of cultural projects such as patronage, sponsorship, marketing and crowd-funding.

**Fourth:** Expedite the inscription of our tangible, intangible, natural and industrial heritage on the Islamic World Heritage List and the building of the capacities of the professionals working in its fields.

**Fifth:** Export our enlightening Islamic culture as embodied by the Programme of the Capitals of Culture in the Islamic World; promote the values of dialogue, the culture of respecting cultural diversity, and empowerment in the field of cultural rights; and reject violence, extremism, sectarianism and terrorism.

**Excellencies,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Before we leave this conference, we must all undertake to make this date a real push towards implementing the resolutions and cultural projects to which we are committed, while ensuring the submission of relevant achievement reports to the next session.

**Wassalamu alaikum wa rahmatu Allah, wa barakatuhu.**