



Final Report

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) held its 33rd session, with the help and grace of Allah, in Riyadh, capital-city of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 14-15 Muharram 1434 A.H./28-29 November 2012, under the high patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, may Allah preserve him. Attending and taking part in this session were the members of the Council and their accompanying delegations, except for the representatives of the Republic of Lebanon, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, the Republic of Somalia, the Republic of Suriname and the Syrian Arab Republic whose membership in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation was suspended.

1. The opening session was presided over by H.E. Dr Boubakar Doukouré, Chairman of ISESCO Executive Council, in the presence of H.E Dr Ahmed bin Mohamed Al-Saif, Deputy Minister of Higher Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).
2. After recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, H.E. Dr Ahmed bin Mohamed Al-Saif, Deputy Minister of Higher Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, made an address in which he welcomed the members of the Executive Council, reaffirming the support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ISESCO. He also commended its leading role in the international and regional fora in the field of dialogue of civilizations and cultures as well as its achievements which enhance joint Islamic action and achieve its sought-after objectives. Besides, Dr Al-Saif expressed his wishes that the proceedings of this session will come up with a set of decisions and recommendations in such a way as to comply with the requirements of development in the areas of education, science, culture and communication in

the Muslim world. At the close of his address, Dr Al-Saif wished the participants a pleasant stay and tremendous success in achieving the desired objectives.

3. The floor was then held by H.E. Dr Boubakar Doukouré, Chairman of the Executive Council of ISESCO. He started by expressing his deep thanks, gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in his name and on behalf of the Council members, for all the support ISESCO receives from the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also commended the achievements made by ISESCO, while highlighting the importance of this session which coincided with ISESCO's 30th anniversary and lauding the message addressed by His Majesty King Mohammed VI to ISESCO on that occasion. In addition, Dr Doukouré pointed out to the key importance of the documents and reports to be examined by this session, most notably the Draft Action Plan and Budget for the Years 2013-2015, the progress reports on the projects and programmes implemented under the 2010-2012 action plan, and the preparation for the 11th session of ISESCO's General Conference. At the close of his address, he expressed his wishes for full success to this session.
4. In his address, H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, ISESCO Director General, extended his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, may Allah protect him, for bestowing his patronage on this session of ISESCO Executive Council as well as on the 11th session of the General Conference, while congratulating His Majesty for his recovery and imploring Allah to grant him full health and long life. He also conveyed his thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, the Crown Prince, and to H.E. Dr Khalid bin Mohammad Al-Anqary, Minister of Higher Education, and his assistants for their earnest efforts to ensure a successful conclusion to the proceedings of the Executive Council. Besides, he pointed out that the current Council session will lay the ground for a qualitative leap forward and give the Organization a good standing among prestigious organizations through the documents submitted to the Council, particularly the Draft Action Plan for 2013-2015 which actually constitutes a revival-oriented project that is sensitive to the requirements of this particular juncture. In addition, Dr Altwaijri welcomed the accession of the Republic of Uganda to ISESCO and expressed his hope that the Organization and Uganda will promote good cooperation, while imploring Allah the almighty to crown the Council's proceedings with success.

5. At the beginning of the first working session, the Chairman of the Executive Council welcomed the new Council members, namely the representatives of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Republic of the Sudan, the Republic of Senegal, the Republic of Gabon, the Republic of the Gambia, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, the Republic of Maldives and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Thereafter, he presented the Draft Agenda and Draft Programme of the 33rd session of the Executive Council which were discussed and adopted.

6. The Director General then presented the reports and documents placed on the agenda of the 33rd session of the Executive Council. In this regard, he reviewed the major achievements made by ISESCO during the second year of the Three-year Action Plan for 2010-2012 as well as the programmes and activities dedicated to Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine. He also presented the **final** quantitative and qualitative evaluation of all activities and programmes implemented under the 2007-2009 action plan and the **progress** evaluations of the activities and programmes carried out over the period from 1 January 2010 through 30 September 2012. Besides, the Director General presented the financial data regarding the Closing Accounts for the year 2011 as well as the data concerning the Member States' Contributions to the Budget and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation of the Organization for the same year. In his turn, the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee presented the Report of the Audit Company and Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Year 2011. In addition, the Director General reviewed the Draft Three-year Action Plan and Budget for 2013-2015, explaining their new distinctive characteristics in terms of form and content. Then, he, **in an in-camera session**, presented to the honourable Council a set of proposals on the amendment to ISESCO's Personnel Regulations and Internal Regulations, the situation of ISESCO Regional Offices and harmonizing ISESCO's Charter, international regulations and logo with the new appellation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

7. Having heard the presentations made by the Director General and after examination and discussion of the relevant reports and documents placed on the agenda of the 33rd session of the Council, the members put forward a number of observations and proposals which can be summarized as follows:

8. Report of the Director General on ISESCO's Activities for the Year 2011 (Document EC 33/2012/2.1).

- To hail the outstanding achievements made in the Organization's fields of action which are contained in the report and to commend the efforts exerted by the Director General and his assistants;
- To stress the necessity to pursue the attention devoted to the development of Arabic curricula and teaching to non-Arabic speakers;
- To devote further care to the activities geared to the youth, children and women;
- To generalize and enhance the support dedicated to the National Commissions and to provide them with the necessary working means;
- To award further attention to the programmes on civilizational dialogue and religious tolerance while focusing on the conflict spots in the Muslim world;
- To call for extending support to the establishment of schools and clubs associated with ISESCO to reinvigorate the role of the National Commissions in the Member States.

Then, the Council adopted the Report of the Director General on ISESCO's Activities for the Year 2011 as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.2.1).

9. Report of the Director General for the Years 2009-2011 on the Programmes and Activities Dedicated to Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine (Document EC 33/2012/2.2).

- To commend the ongoing efforts to implement educational, scientific, cultural and communication activities dedicated to Palestinian institutions in general and Al-Quds Al-Sharif in particular;
- To call for pursuing the support given to Palestinian educational, scientific and cultural institutions as part of the 2013-2015 action plan;
- To announce the Director General's intention to make a working visit to the Palestinian territories to take stock of the needs of Palestinian educational, scientific and cultural institutions and to dedicate activities in response to these needs;

- To step up the efforts of Palestinian authorities aimed at raising the status of the State of Palestine as a “Non-Member Observer State” in the General Assembly of the United Nations;
- To commend the technical documented report drawn up by ISESCO on the illegality of the excavations conducted by the Israeli occupation authorities in the precinct of Al-Aqsa Mosque;
- To submit a recommendation to the General Conference to pay tribute to ISESCO Director General on the commendable efforts he has exerted in the Organization’s fields of competence and for the benefit of Palestine in particular and the Member States in general.

Then, the Council adopted the Report of the Director General for the Years 2009-2011 on the Programmes and Activities Dedicated to Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.2.2).

10. Director General’s Report for the Years 2007-2009 and Progress Report for the Years 2010-2012 on the Evaluation of the Organization’s Action (Document EC33/2012/2.3).

The Council adopted the report as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.2.3).

11. Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts, Report of the Audit Company and Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Year 2011 (Document EC33/2012/2.4).

- To call for presenting data on programme expenditure along with performance indicators;
- To call for presenting a detailed report on the additional financial resources required for ISESCO’s budget.

Then, the Council adopted the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts, Report of the Audit Company and Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Year 2011, as contained in Decision (EC33/2012/D.2.4).

12. Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization for the Year 2011 (Document EC 33/2012/2.5).

- To call for cancelling all arrears accrued up to 2002 for the Member States that are able to settle all their arrears in full for the period from 2003 through 2011, provided that they pay up these arrears as of 2012 until 2014.

Then, the Council adopted the Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization for the Year 2011, as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.2.5).

13. Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for 2013-2015 (Document EC33/2012/3.1).

- To commend the Draft Three-Year Action Plan for 2013-2015 which responds to the Member States' needs and keeps abreast of international and regional developments in the Organization's fields of competence, and to thank the Director General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in this connection;
- To call for giving greater focus on staff training programmes, particularly in technical and vocational education, and supporting concerned institutions while giving special care to girls, women and categories with special needs in the most needy countries;
- To benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization in spreading Islam's universal values;
- To give further care to the integration of educational systems through conducting regional field studies to achieve the Education for All goal by 2015;
- To call for dedicating more programmes aimed at empowering Muslim women, effectively involving them in socio-economic and political development and promoting production culture and development-oriented projects among women;
- To devote further attention to programmes on management of water resources and supply of fresh water to most needy countries, particularly within the framework of ISESCO's Strategy for Management of Water Resources in the Islamic World;

- To extend further support to the institutions of Arabic teaching to non-Arabic speakers in the Member States and among Muslims outside the Islamic world;
- To call for benefiting from youth promising potential in redressing the image of Islam and Muslims;
- To call for developing national scientific research policies to identify the needs and enhance the Member States' scientific and technological base through establishing centres of excellence in research and independent bodies to spread successful experiences;
- To call for setting up businesses for marketing research findings, establishing research parks to carry out major multi-disciplinary scientific projects in the Member States, and setting up an institution for fostering scientific cooperation at the international level;
- To call for increasing the budget allocated to scientific research to at least 1% of Member States' GDP and of waqf funds' profits and offering incentives to private businesses to allocate a major part of their budgets to the promotion of scientific research;
- To call for developing a new vision to counter smear campaigns against Islam and Muslims through moving from their moral to the legal rejection and incriminating the instigators of such campaigns;
- To work towards expanding and diversifying the Organization's financial resources by adopting investment-oriented projects;
- To activate partnership with the National Commissions, including ISESCO's Schools and Clubs, through allocating a budget to contribution programmes proposed and implemented by such commissions;
- To draw on the private sector in supporting the Organization's budget through utilizing the Organization's expertise in devising the productive projects carried out by the private sector to address the Member States' development needs.

Thereafter, the Council adopted the Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for 2013-2015, as contained in Decision (EC33/2012/D.3.1).

14. Harmonizing ISESCO's Charter and Internal Regulations with the New Appellation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Document EC 33/2012/4.1).

The Council adopted the document as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.4.1).

15. Slight Amendments to ISESCO's Personnel Regulations and Internal Regulations (Document EC 33/2012/4.2).

The Council adopted the document as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.4.2).

16. Situation of ISESCO Regional Offices (Document EC 33/2012/4.3).

The Council adopted the document as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.4.3).

17. Modification of ISESCO's Logo (Document EC 33/2012/4.4).

The Council adopted the modification of the logo as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.4.4).

18. Preparation for the 11th General Conference Session (Document EC 33/2012/5.1).

The Council adopted the document as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.5.1).

19. Date and Venue for the 34th Executive Council Session (Document EC 33/2012/5.2).

- Pursuant to the kind invitation extended by the member of the Executive Council representing the State of Iraq, the Council decided to hold its 34th session in Baghdad, in the first half of October 2013.

Thereafter, the Council adopted the document as contained in Decision (EC 33/2012/D.5.2).