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RESOLUTION

ON

HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

SUBMITTED TO THE

43rd SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

**(SESSION OF EDUCATIONAL AND ENLIGHTENMENT:
PATH TO PEACE AND CREATIVITY)**

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RESOLUTION No. 1/43-ICHAD
ON THE HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES OF THE OIC

The Forty-third Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Education and Enlightenment: Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on 18-19 October, 2016 (17 – 18 Muharram 1438H)

Proceeding from the provisions of the OIC Charter;

In light of the adoption of the OIC-2025 by the 13th Islamic Summit held in Istanbul in April 2016, which reiterated its commitment to work together for a better tomorrow, and enhance the well-being of the Ummah, building on the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action (POA) adopted by the 3rd Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in Makkah-Al-Mukarramah in December 2005, which calls for the strengthening of the role of the Organization in confronting disasters;

Referring to the provisions of the final communiqué of the 13th Islamic Summit held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, in April 2016; which called upon the Member States, the OIC organs and institutions, international partners as well as other stakeholders to undertake all necessary measures to effectively implement and achieve the objectives defined in the OIC-2025 in the humanitarian domain;

Noting the deteriorating humanitarian situation in OIC Member States;

Recalling its previous resolutions regarding humanitarian affairs;

Having examined the report of the Secretary General on Humanitarian Affairs (OIC/43-CFM/2016/ICHAD/SG-REP)

1. **Commends** the work undertaken by the General Secretariat, the OIC Representative Offices and the Humanitarian Coordination Offices in the humanitarian domain, to alleviate the sufferings of people in need within various OIC Member States affected by disasters and calamities. *Calls upon* Member States to channel a portion of their generous humanitarian assistance through the OIC in order to demonstrate the spirit of solidarity and enhance joint Islamic action.
2. **Commends** the considerable effort rendered by the OIC Developmental Office in Somalia and welcomes the steps undertaken by the Secretary General to transform the OIC humanitarian office in Mogadishu into a developmental office including the appointment of the Director of the Office. *Expresses* appreciation to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the generous assistance offered under the Saudi National Campaign, as well as various partners who contributed towards the implementation of these projects. *Further calls upon* Member States and humanitarian partners to avail the necessary assistance towards the recovery phase

and resettlement of repatriated refugees in Somalia, as well as provide humanitarian and development assistance to those affected by the drought in Somali Land.

3. **Welcomes** enhanced humanitarian cooperation between the OIC and other partners and humanitarian organizations including ICRC, UNHCR, WFP, the African Union, the League of Arab States, USAID, the EU, SDC, the UK, Switzerland, Australia and other partners. *Further welcomes* the joining of the OIC General Secretariat to the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative, which is an important vehicle for addressing humanitarian policy issues of interest to the OIC General Secretariat, its Member States, major donors and the humanitarian community at large.
4. **Notes** the convening of a meeting to address Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016 in New York, which provides an opportunity to identify the deficiencies in the current humanitarian system and start discussions on ways and means to address and rectify the deficiencies.
5. **Recognizes** the generosity and contributions of the refugee hosting countries especially those hosting large refugee populations.
6. **Also recognizes** that the refugee hosting countries have been inequitably shouldering the burden of providing assistance and protection to millions of refugees, as well as the need to assess the adverse impact on development of these countries, especially in protracted situations.
7. **Reiterates** that voluntary repatriation remains the most preferable durable solution to refugee situations, as well as reaffirming the need to assist host countries and communities in the interim through humanitarian and development assistance.
8. **Stresses** the need for increased investment in countries of origin, aimed primarily at reducing reasons of flight and creating an environment conducive to sustainable return and reintegration.
9. **Highlights** the importance of increased resettlement places for refugees, without discrimination, respecting their dignity and keeping in view their vulnerabilities.
10. **Expresses** concern on the increased incidence of Islamophobia targeting refugees.
11. **Expresses its appreciation** for the efforts exerted by all OIC Member States which extended humanitarian and development support for the State of Palestine, **in the entire land of Palestine**, and particularly to Gaza, and calls for such support to be further consolidated at all

levels in the context of the decisions of the extraordinary OIC Summit that took place in Indonesia to empower the Palestinian people, as the complementarity between humanitarian and development efforts will be crucial in the foreseeable future.

12. **Expresses deep concern** on the deteriorating situation in Syria, the increasing number of IDPs and refugees in neighbouring countries; and the inhumane and dreadful situation of Syrians denied access to humanitarian assistance. **Reiterates** its appreciation to Member States and NGOs that contributed generously towards the alleviation of the plight of Syrian refugees and displaced persons. **Further calls upon** Member States and NGOs for their continued assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and to countries hosting Syrian refugees. **Expresses concern** over discriminatory policies adopted by a number of European countries towards Syrian refugees.
13. **Commends** the huge efforts by the State of Kuwait to host three international donors conferences to support the humanitarian situation in Syria in 2013, 2014 and 2015, its co-chairing the 4th donors conference held in London on 4th February 2016, in partnership with the United Kingdom, Germany, Norway and the United Nations in response to the humanitarian crisis facing the innocent, brotherly Syrian people.
14. **Expresses deep concern** on the humanitarian situation in Yemen and **appeals** to Member States and NGOs to generously extend the necessary humanitarian assistance to the people of Yemen to ease the plight of the affected people, as the country continues to experience a large-scale humanitarian crisis. **Commends** the major humanitarian role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the State of Kuwait and other Member States through their humanitarian efforts and programmes to address the humanitarian situation in Yemen. **Calls upon** UN agencies and other partners working in the humanitarian field to exert further efforts to alleviate the humanitarian plight faced by the people of Yemeni. **Requests** the Secretary General to expedite convening an international conference to mobilize the needed resources in order to provide humanitarian and development assistance to Yemen.
15. **Expresses appreciation** to the King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian actions, for organizing a convoy from Riyadh on 16 May 2016, in cooperation with the OIC, carrying medicines and food supplies to Aden to be distributed to the neediest provinces. *Also expresses appreciation* to the IDB and the ISF, respectively for their donations towards the procurement of these medical supplies.
16. **Appreciates** highly the efforts of the State of Qatar and the Republic of Turkey for hosting the Doha and Istanbul conferences for Non-governmental Organisations to support the Yemeni government in its efforts to alleviate the effects of the humanitarian crises and **calls**

on the General Secretariat to follow up those pledges amounting US\$400 million as soon as possible, in coordination with the Yemeni government.

17. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Djibouti for the kind efforts it had made and continues to make in receiving Yemeni and Somali refugees and other nationals from West Africa. **Calls on** Member States and the international community to provide the necessary support to the Government of the Republic of Djibouti in its humanitarian efforts in receiving and hosting these refugees.

18. **Expresses its appreciation** to Qatar for organizing a meeting in Doha on 21 December 2015 with the participation of Qatar, Sudan, the OIC and the IDB to discuss the way forward to establish the Darfur Development Bank, and to discuss the necessary steps to prepare the technical and financial documents to be presented to the meeting of the follow-up committee, of the Darfur Development Bank to be held in Doha in the near future in preparation for the meeting of the share-holders due to be held at the OIC General Secretariat.

19. **Expresses its concern** over the humanitarian situation resulting from the flows of refugees from South Sudan and other neighbouring states to Sudan, and requests Member States and Non-governmental Organisations to support Sudan's efforts in providing the needs for the refugees' inflow into its soil.

20. **Calls for** reinvigorated international efforts to assist Chad to meet the challenges resulting from the influx of refugees from neighbouring countries, since Chad hosts refugees and returnees from CAR and Libya, as well as Sudanese refugees who fled violence in Darfur, people who escaped violence in areas affected by Boko Haram attacks in Nigeria, as well as challenges resulting from limited access to water, education, health care and nutrition.

21. **Expresses appreciation** for the efforts undertaken by countries bordering Lake Chad following the deadly attacks of Boko Haram terrorist group, and **urges** that assistance efforts cover the whole Lake Chad Basin, *further calls* on Member States, NGOs and other stakeholders to give priority to the issue of grassroots development in an effort to bring back normality into the rural areas of Lake Chad Basin, and deal with the humanitarian situation following the terrorist attacks affecting this region.

22. **Urges** all OIC Member States and relevant institutions to extend all necessary humanitarian and financial assistance to the refugees and the internally displaced persons occasioned by the activities of Boko Haram terrorist group in Nigeria and other affected countries of the Lake-Chad Basin.

23. **Expresses appreciation** to the Cameroonian Government for the steps taken to host Central African refugees in the East of the country, Nigerian refugees and IDPS from border areas who have been suffering from the brutal exactions perpetrated by the Boko Haram terrorist group in the Far North of Cameroon and makes an urgent appeal to Member States and to the international community to reinforce their assistance to Cameroon so as to help it to cope with the influx of refugees and IDPs and also for a coordination of programmes aimed at improving their condition of living, strategies of repatriation of refugees and management of the relocation of IDPs.
24. **Commends** the authorities of the Republic of Niger for hosting Malian and Nigerian refugees, and **requests** Member States and the international community to help the authorities of Niger face the flows of refugees and displaced persons.
25. **Expresses its appreciation** for the role played by Mauritania in hosting the largest number of Malian refugees on its soil in refugee camps in the east of the country, in cooperation and coordination with the World Food Programme and the UN High Commission for Refugees.
26. **Expresses satisfaction** on the work undertaken in Niger in the field of access to water that has positively contributed towards the alleviation of suffering of the most vulnerable and needy population. This effort is also a gesture of solidarity and a contribution to the programme established by H.E. the President of Niger to facilitate access to water resources for the people of Niger living in rural areas. **Further requests** Member States and NGOs to provide financial resources to implement the much needed water resources projects, due to be launched in Niger in several rural areas so as to find solutions to their chronic shortages of portable water.
27. **Expresses appreciation** to the OIC Humanitarian Funds in Doha for its fundraising towards the Ramadan humanitarian campaign for 2016 launched by the OIC in CAR. **Requests** Member States and NGOs to offer additional support towards this initiative, and also provide humanitarian assistance to alleviate the plight of the rising number of needy people in CAR and the neighbouring countries, exacerbated by the protracted conflict.
28. **Expresses concern** over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Sahel region and in the lake Chad Basin, and *reiterates* its appeal to Member States and NGOs to support Sahel countries to undertake vital, sustainable development projects, to break the vicious cycle of drought, deprivation and poverty in these countries, and **welcomes** the efforts by the OIC General Secretariat to work out a humanitarian and development strategy for the Sahel region.
29. **Expresses serious concern** on the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Myanmar, particularly the plight of the Muslim Rohingyas, even after the recent elections was

concluded, *and encourages* Member States and NGOs to provide humanitarian assistance to the Rohingyas. **Further calls upon** the government of Myanmar to honour the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the OIC and the government to open a humanitarian coordination office in Myanmar. **Commends** OIC for distributing Ramadan aid for 2016, through its partners HUMANiTi Malaysia, to Rohingyas families in IDP camps in various locations in Sittwe, Rakhine State.

30. **Renews its support** to the Tsunami Orphans Programme in Banda Aceh implemented by the OIC, in coordination with the IDB, under the patronage of the Late Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz, *and requests* the General Secretariat to extend the project to cover other countries, mainly Syria, Somalia, Iraq, Yemen and Palestine. **Invites** Member States, international and regional organizations, NGOs, financial institutions and philanthropists to contribute towards this noble project.
31. **Welcomes** the executive plan for the implementation of the Islamic Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management for OIC countries adopted by the Fourth Islamic Summit in 2010 in collaboration with GFDR of the World Bank. **Expresses appreciation** for the cooperation between the OIC, the World Bank, IDB, ISESCO and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Chair of the Council of Ministers of Environment, in the implementation of a joint project to implement this strategy.
32. **Welcomes** enhanced cooperation between the General Secretariat and the United Nations Office for Cooperation in Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) through the Joint OIC-OCHA Plan of Action (PoA) covering the period 2015-16 which has been developed between the two organizations, and seeks to build on the progress made during the first PoA (2012-2014).
33. **Welcomes** the signing of the headquarters agreement for hosting the secretariat of the OIC Humanitarian Funds, between the Secretary General of the OIC and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, and **welcomes** the effort of the General Secretariat to reform and restructure the OIC funds in cooperation with the head of the funds, and combining all the funds under one fund with windows for different countries, as stipulated by the decision of the 42nd CFM in Kuwait in this regard.
34. The OIC established 3 funds since the year 2000 to support humanitarian situations in Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Bosnia and Herzegovina. These funds are however facing paucity of financial resources. We therefore request Member States to effectively support these funds so that they can discharge their anticipated objectives.
35. **Expresses** the hope that the OIC General Secretariat intensifies its efforts in advancing cooperation with the IDB, SESRIC, the ISF and the Islamic Fiqh Academy on the

humanitarian front, including on issues pertaining to resilience, DDR, and on delivering humanitarian assistance.

36. **Appreciates** the growing cooperation between the General Secretariat and humanitarian NGOs, particularly those enjoying OIC consultative status, and **welcomes** the steps taken to establish the Council of NGOs enjoying consultative status with the OIC in accordance with CFM decisions in this regard. **Urges** Member States to encourage their active humanitarian NGOs to apply for consultative status of the OIC in accordance with the specified rules and regulations.

37. **Congratulates** Turkey on the convening of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) held in Istanbul, Turkey from 23-24 May 2016, and **expresses** its appreciation for the proactive role played by the OIC General Secretariat in its activities, including presenting a document outlining its commitments in this regard, and **calls** on the General Secretariat to convene a meeting of high officials in humanitarian affairs from Member States to examine how to advance issues of interest to OIC Member States in the post-Summit period.

38. **Calls for** the convening of a meeting of Member States at the level of experts to consider the establishment of an OIC mechanism for coordination of humanitarian assistance prior to 44th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

39. **Urges** Member States that are yet to accede to the Convention establishing the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent (ICIC) to do so, as soon as possible, so that the Committee can perform its duties and realize the objectives for which it was established. **Calls** upon States parties to the Convention that are yet to pay their contributions to the Committee's budget to do so to allow the Committee to fulfill its obligations.

40. **Calls upon** Member States and its civil societies to commemorate 15th Ramadan as a day of Orphans.

41. **Requests** the Secretary General to submit a report on the implementation of this resolution to the 44th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

**RESOLUTION No. 2/43-ICHAD
ON THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN SYRIA**

The Forty-third Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Education and Enlightenment: Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on 18-19 October, 2016 (17 – 18 Muharram 1438H)

Recalling the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), particularly those calling for promoting solidarity among Muslims and defending rights of the people;

Referring to the resolutions on the situation in Syria by the 42nd CFM held in Kuwait City on 27-28 May 2015

Emphasizing the grave humanitarian situation in Syria that reached new and horrific dimensions which entail urgent attention and resolute action by the international community, the UN the OIC in particular;

Underlining that a viable solution to the humanitarian crisis could only be found within the borders of Syria;

Noting that more than half of the Syrian population (13.5) is in desperate need of assistance including more than 6.5 million IDPs deprived form sustained humanitarian assistance;

Further highlighting the serious ramifications of the flow of refugees for the neighboring countries and **taking into consideration** the ever increasing burden shouldered by them who are currently hosting more than 4.5 million refugees;

Acknowledging that proper follow-up the World Humanitarian Summit would further contribute to the wellbeing of Syrians;

Reiterating the urgency to allow immediate and unimpeded humanitarian access to all Syrian cities, through all border crossing points, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2191, the need for an increased humanitarian assistance inside Syria and to meet the needs of the internally displaced persons concentrated in certain areas who seek refuge and protection and providing full support for the neighboring the countries to alleviate the humanitarian situation of the displaced Syrians and to facilitate their return;

1. **Commends** the exemplary generosity and hospitality of the neighboring countries, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon and Egypt for hosting Syrians and **calls on** the international community and the UN to support these countries in alleviating the burdens they face.

2. **Commends** the Government of the State of Kuwait for co-hosting the Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syrian in February 2016.
3. **Recognizes** the grave humanitarian situation facing Jordan because of the presence of 1.4 million Syrian refugees, 600,000 of whom escaped to this country beginning from March 2011, in addition to the continued daily inflow to Jordan, the strong impact of which also affects the economic, social, services, infrastructural, environmental, demographic composition and security sector of Jordan, and continues to constitutes serious threat to the security and stability of Jordan; **stressing** that international assistance remains insufficient compared with needs, **Calls upon** the international community the United Nations and OIC Member States to provide extensive support to enable Jordan to continue to shelter this large number of refugees.
4. **Calls** on OIC Member States to continue to assist the neighboring countries in accordance with Islamic solidarity and the principles of responsibility and burden sharing.
5. **Calls** upon the UN Security Council to take further steps in the face of the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Syria and to ensure the immediate and full implementation of the provisions of UN Security Council Resolutions 2254 and 2258 in particular those pertaining to rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access across conflict lines and across borders through the most direct routes, allow immediate, humanitarian assistance to reach all people in need, in particular in all besieged and hard-to reach areas, release any arbitrarily detained persons, particularly women and children, **calls on** International Syria Support Group (ISSG) states to use their influence immediately to these ends.

**RESOLUTION No. 3/43-ICHAD
ON THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN LEBANON**

The Forty-third Session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Session of Education and Enlightenment: Path to Peace and Creativity) held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, on 18-19 October, 2016 (17 – 18 Muharram 1438H)

Recalling Resolution no.6/39-Pol for the establishment of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and Resolution no.1/36-ICHAD on the tasks and duties of the said Department,

Having examined the report of the Secretary General no.OIC/CFM/42/2015/ICHAD/SG-REP on the humanitarian activities of the OIC, particularly the paragraphs pertaining to the humanitarian conditions in the OIC Member States and the alleviation of the sufferings of the Syrian citizens inside Syria and in the neighbouring countries, particularly Lebanon;

1. **Expresses** its deep concern over the rising numbers of Syrian refugees in Lebanon with the attending effects on the country's social, economic, and security-related situation,
2. **Expresses** its appreciation for the efforts made by the Lebanese state despite its meager capacities to receive and cater for the Syrian refugees,
3. **Calls on** the Member States, international organizations and civil society institutions to extend all necessary support to the state of Lebanon to enable it to face up to the burdens resulting for this refugee influx,
4. **Also calls on** international partners to take the necessary steps to put an end to this crisis on the premise that the safe return of the refugees to Syria represents the only lasting solution to the crisis even in the transitional stage.
5. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the items of this resolution and report thereon to the forty fourth session of the CFM.
