

**REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN
MINISTERS**

(SESSION OF FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION)

JAKARTA, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

28 RAJAB - 3 SHABAN 1417H (9-13 DECEMBER, 1996)

1- The Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) met in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417-H corresponding to December 9-13, 1996 in order to examine the agenda items pertaining to Cultural and Islamic Affairs.

2- The deliberations of the Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee were opened by His Excellency Ambassador Boer Mauna of the Republic of Indonesia, host to The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. His Excellency started the meeting by welcoming the delegates present and wishing them a pleasant stay in their second home. His Excellency emphasized the need for the Committee's deliberations to be characterized by realism. He added that, despite the huge responsibility that lies with us, we are convinced that fraternal cooperation, mutual understanding among the august members and projecting an Islamic spirit will ensure the success of the Committee's proceedings. His Excellency also proposed a work programme which was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3- According to the decision of the General Assembly, the Bureau of the Committee was made up of the following member countries:

- The Republic of Indonesia - Chairman
- The Republic of Gabon - Vice-Chairman.
- The Republic of Yemen - Vice-Chairman.
- The State of Palestine - Vice-Chairman.
- The Republic of Guinea - Rapporteur.

4- The General Secretariat was represented by Ambassador Mohammed Mohsin, Assistant Secretary General for Cultural, Muslim Minorities and Communities Affairs and Mr. Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Director of Cultural and Social Affairs.

5- The Committee's deliberations considered the agenda Items 56 to 61. The Committee's deliberations on each item were preceded by a background presentation made by the Assistant Secretary General for Cultural Affairs and the draft resolutions were adopted unanimously by the participants.

6- A special emphasis was put on the financial difficulties faced by the subsidiary Organs, Universities and Islamic Cultural Institutions, in their functioning. It was maintained to renew an urgent appeal to the Member Countries for a quick solution to this crisis.

7- The Committee adopted the report on its deliberations and approved the draft resolutions relating to the items on its agenda annexed to this report.

8- The Committee commended the Chairman for his excellent conduct of the deliberations and for his good performance which contributed to the conclusion of the deliberations in an optimal manner.

9- The Committee's Chairman expressed his very sincere thanks to all the members for the brotherly atmosphere which prevailed during the meeting and for their thorough

knowledge of the issues examined which enabled the Committee to achieve positive results within the specified time.

10. The Chairman also expressed his thanks to the Assistant Secretary General for his excellent assistance in conducting the Committee's proceedings. He also extended his sincere thanks to the technical staff and translators and interpreters for the competent performance of their tasks.



RESOLUTION NO.1 /24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the Government of Niger, the OIC General Secretariat, the Board of Trustees of the University, the IDB and the ISF for the continuation of the University's action and smooth functioning of the Islamic University of Niger.

Expressing its thanks to Member States, in particular, the United Arab Emirates, the ISF, Al-Azhar Al-Shareef, the Islamic Development Bank, Rabitah Al-Alam Al-Islami, the International Islamic Charitable Organization, World Islamic Da'wa Association, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the Iqra Charitable Organization and the Sheikh Zayed Institution for Humanitarian and charitable Works and to all those who extended support and assistance for the establishment and functioning of the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Niger;

Recognizing the need to provide the University with regular financial resources and the necessary educational and material support.

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 1/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Expresses its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Government of Niger and the University Board of Trustees for their fruitful cooperation and persistent efforts which led to the reopening of the University and the resumption of its activity. It also expresses its appreciation for the positive cooperation of the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in supervising the academic and cultural aspects of the educational action of the University.

(b) Commends to the consistent support extended by the ISF to meet to the major part of the University's annual budget and appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, and Islamic Charity Organizations to give financial and material support to this important Islamic institution, considering the annual deficit the modest budget of this university is faced with due to the lack of resources.

(c) Also reaffirms the need of establishing a Waqf whose proceeds would be sufficient to ensure steady resources for the University as is the case for the Islamic University in

Uganda, urges donors to step up their efforts to achieve this objective and requests the University Board of Trustees to act in this direction with a view to securing a final solution to the long-term financial problems of the University.

(d) Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Niger for having donated a plot of land in central Niamey as a Waqf for the Islamic University of Say.

2. Requests the Member States and financial and charitable institutions to consider the possibility of opening a woman section and a health centre inside the University after obtaining the approval of the Board of Trustees of the University.

3. Commissions the General Secretariat to publicize the needs of the university in academic personnel, curricula, books and financial support to all the Member States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 2/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic University in Uganda;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Uganda for having ratified the University Statute and its submission of instruments of ratification at the OIC General Secretariat;

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as to the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the International Islamic Charitable Foundation (Kuwait), the International Islamic Da'wah Association (Libya), the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, and other Islamic institutions for their generous support to the University;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Islamic University in Uganda;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 2/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Invites the Board of Trustees to continue its action to ensure appropriate conditions for the University to fulfill its tasks in accordance with its Statute and the Headquarters Agreement signed by the Government of Uganda and the OIC General Secretariat.

(b) Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic Charity Institutions, to contribute material and financial assistance for the annual operating budget of the Islamic University in Uganda and which is faced with an annual deficit due to the lack of financial resources.

(c) Expresses its satisfaction with the involvement of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the supervision of the educational and cultural aspects of the

teaching process in the University, the elaboration of appropriate curriculums, the adoption of the necessary books and reference material and assistance to strengthen the teaching of the Arabic language in the University.

(d) Commends the generous financial support extended by the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques through the establishment of a Waqf for the University. It also expresses its thanks to the Government of the Republic of Uganda for having donated a plot of land in central Kampala to the Islamic University in Uganda, as a contribution towards the setting up of the Waqf. The Conference also commends the provision by the Islamic Solidarity Fund, of financial assistance to the Islamic University in Uganda for the past academic years, which enabled the University to continue assuming its tasks throughout the difficult circumstances it had experienced.

(e) Appeals to Member States and the IDB to make donations for the construction of faculty buildings for the University.

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Uganda.

3. Commissions the General Secretariat to publicize the needs of the university in academic personnel, curricula, books and financial support to all the Member States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 3/24-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the Recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Islamic University in Malaysia;

Also taking note of the continuing satisfactory progress of this University;

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for its continued material and financial and other support towards covering the operating expenses of the University and the construction of its new campus;

Also expressing appreciation to Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions which have extended moral and material assistance to the University;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 3/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Requests anew that the OIC General Secretariat and the Member States further contribute to the progress and development of the International Islamic University in Malaysia so that it can further increase its capacity and use all its potential to achieve its objectives.

(b) Notes with great satisfaction the progress achieved by the University in the fields of research and learning, thanks to its enlightened management and to the support extended by the Malaysian Government to all its activities.

(c) Appeals to all Member States which have not yet concluded Agreements of Co-sponsorship of this University, within the framework of their bilateral cooperation with Malaysia to do so at an early date.

(d) Reiterates its request of all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, ISESCO and other Islamic institutions to continue supporting this University by extending financial aid, supplying the University with academic reference books and manuals to enrich its library and giving it of any other relevant assistance such as curricula, teachers and scholarships to enable more students to enrol in this University.

2. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 4/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences on the Islamic University of Bangladesh;

Noting the progress so far achieved towards the establishment of this University, and the execution of other necessary works;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 4/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Expresses its appreciation to the Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended assistance to the University.

(b) Urges all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the Muslim World League and other Islamic financial institutions to provide adequate academic and financial assistance to the University so that it can achieve its objectives.

(c) Calls upon the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh to ensure continued financial and moral support to the University.

(d) Also calls upon the General Secretariat, in cooperation with ISESCO, to provide academic assistance to the Islamic University in Bangladesh, from Member States Universities through secondment of teachers and provision of scholarships and books.

2. Commends the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the development of the University, bearing its operational costs and the building of the new University Campus so as to accommodate a larger number of students.

3. Decides that ISESCO be represented on the Governing Board of the Islamic University in Bangladesh.
4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 5/24-C

ON KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, REPUBLIC OF CHAD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on King Faisal Mosque in Ndjamen, Republic of Chad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 5/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Emphasizes the pressing need for the Islamic and educational services provided by this Islamic institution, King Faisal Mosque as one of the Islamic educational institutions that needs special attention on the part of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and ISESCO.

(b) Requests the Government of the Republic of Chad and the General Secretariat to prepare the technical study and cost estimates needed for the rehabilitation of the Mosque and its annexes and to communicate them to Member States.

(c) Urges all Member States to make financial contributions towards the restoration (and furnishing) of the Mosque and its annexes.

(d) Requests all Member States and Islamic financial institutions to contribute to this institution by providing it with curricula, teachers and scholarships for graduate students so as to enable them to pursue their higher studies in other Islamic Universities

2. Charges the Secretary General to take all necessary steps in coordination with the relevant authorities in Chad to determine the present condition of the Mosque and its educational and cultural annexes.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 6/24-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH, TIMBUCTU, MALI.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu (Mali);

Welcoming the efforts being made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for the development of the Institute;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 6/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic institutions to continue providing material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu so that it may achieve its objectives.

(b) Appeals to the Member States which have technical facilities in the fields of conservation and processing of manuscripts to provide scholarships to the officials of the Institute to enhance their competence in these fields.

(c) Expresses its thanks to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) and invites them to pay greater attention to the Institute and provide it with the necessary technical assistance so that it may continue to carry out its functions.

2. Charges the Secretary General, in cooperation with the relevant authorities in Mali, with updating the information relating to the Institute.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 7/24-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE), ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Regional Institute for Complementary Education in Islamabad;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 7/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Emphasizes once again, the importance of establishing the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and promoting the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries.

(b) Expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to establish this Institute and ensure its operation and extends its thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the financial support it has extended to the Institute and to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the secondment of Arabic and religious affairs teachers. It also expresses appreciation to the ISF for its financial assistance to the Institute.

(c) Appeals to the Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arab-Islamic Schools to contribute generously to this project.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 8/24-C ON THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations made by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 8/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Expresses its satisfaction at the implementation of phase I of the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

(b) Requests the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat to continue their coordination with a view to completing the ongoing construction of the Great Mosque in Bissau, within the limits of the financial resources currently available.

(c) Calls on all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to provide financial and material assistance to the project of the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.

2. Expresses sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the State of the United Arab Emirates and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the moral support and financial assistance they have extended to the Centre.

3. Charges the Secretary General with taking the necessary steps to determine the present condition of the Centre, in coordination with the competent authorities in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 9/24-C

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE IN MORONI, ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF COMOROS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the establishment of an Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;

Taking into consideration the need of the Muslim people in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros for such a centre;

Having considered the Report submitted by the Secretary General on the Centre in question;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 9/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Calls on the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the Government of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros with a view to overcoming the difficulties that hinder the establishment of the Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni and expediting the establishment of the Centre given its benefits for the Comorian and the neighbouring peoples.

(b) Expresses its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Indonesia, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Islamic Dawa Association (Libya) which have been the first to give financial assistance to the Centre.

(c) Urges all Member States and Islamic institutions to render every possible assistance to this project.

2. Charges the Secretary General with taking the necessary steps with the relevant authorities in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros to assess the present status of the project of the Cultural Centre in Moroni.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 10/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATION IN KHARTOUM (REPUBLIC OF SUDAN)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the relevant paragraph of the Twenty-First ICFM on the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken Note of the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organization on the said Institute;

And appreciating the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government so as to enhance this Institute and to ensure its continuity;

1. Urges the Member States to extend assistance to the Institute so as to enable it to continue to play its important role in teaching and training the students.
2. Urges the OIC Subsidiary organs as well as the relevant centres and quarters to extend financial and technical support to the Institute and to cooperate with it in the fields of common interest to them.
3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.11/24-C

ON STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING AND EXECUTING THE CULTURAL STRATEGY AND THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Declaration of Makkah Al-Mukarramah issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference and the various resolutions adopted by other Islamic Conferences and particularly Resolution 1/6-C(IS) by virtue of which the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference held in Dakar adopted the Islamic World's Cultural Strategy and the attendance Plan of Action;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the Cultural Strategy and the Plan of Action for the Islamic world as well as the report prepared by the First Meeting of Officials of OIC Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Organs and Islamic Universities concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 15/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following:
(The Conference)
 - (a) Reiterates the importance of this strategy in ensuring a wider propagation of learning, eradicating ignorance, raising the level of Islamic education and culture in the Islamic world and enhancing Joint Islamic Action.
 - (b) Recommends the continuation of the remarkable efforts being exerted for the implementation of the strategy through a programme of action already approved by the

21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi in April 1993, and the early convening to that effect, of a meeting of Ministers of Culture.

(c) Requests Member States to take the necessary steps to incorporate the strategy into their cultural and educational policies.

2. Recommends that preparations for this Conference be made by the OIC General Secretariat in cooperation with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 12/24-C

ON THE ADOPTION OF A UNIFIED STAND ON THE BELITTLING OF ISLAMIC SANCTITIES AND VALUES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Emphasizing the objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on coordinating efforts to protect the sacred values and places;

Expressing deep concern at the aggressions, by the spoken and written words as well as by action against Muslims in many parts of the world targeting their values, sanctities, selves, properties and religious and cultural heritage, in addition to the violation, curtailment and denial of their basic rights and freedoms relating to their belief and the exercise of rituals;

Recalling the resolutions and statements of the various and successive Islamic Conferences on the Adoption of a Unified Stand on the Belittling of Islamic Sanctities and Values, especially Resolution No. 17/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Expressing its deep concern at the killing of Muslims and the aggression against their shrines in Palestine, India, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the world;

Taking note of the legal study prepared by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the legal and procedural aspects relating the conclusion of an international legal document that ensures respect for Islamic values and sanctities;

1. Condemns anew these aggressions and violations wherever they may occur and whatever their source, means or manifestation.

2. Strongly reaffirms all the provisions of the statements and resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers and the Sixth and Seventh Islamic Conferences in this respect.

3. Appeals to all Member States to stand resolutely against these challenges and to confront them with every available means so that the values, shrines and rights of Muslim minorities and communities in non-Islamic States may not be subject to profanation, demolition or confiscation.

4. Welcomes the circulation by the Secretary General to circulate to all Member States of the legal and procedural memorandum prepared by the General Secretariat concerning the conclusion of an international legal document so as to ensure observance of the Islamic values and sanctities, in order to elicit their opinions and observations concerning the

substance and form of the document; in preparation for the setting up of a Governmental Expert Group to examine the issue and conceive a legal document thereon, in the light of the observations that may be put forward by the Member States, and on the basis of relevant international instruments, and to submit the results of the work of the Group to the next Session of COMIAC and the Islamic Conference of foreign Ministers.

5. Requests the Member States that has not, as yet, done so, to speedily despatch, to the General Secretariat, their views and observations regarding the aforesaid Document so that a meeting of the Governmental Experts Group be held at the appropriate time for drafting the proposed Draft Document.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 13/24-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION AND ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the International Islamic Women's Organization;

Conscious of the growing need for Muslims throughout the world to promote Islamic revival and to create societies based on the Islamic principles of peace, justice and equality for all human beings;

Convinced that these noble objectives can only be achieved through the participation of all Muslims, including Muslim Women who constitute half of the Islamic Ummah;

Having taken note of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society held, at the expert level, at the kind invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran on 17 to 19 Zul Qaadah 1415H (17-19 April 1995) in implementation of Resolution No. 10/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference;

Having taken note of the provision of the report of the Secretary General on the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;

Expressing its appreciation for the good preparation and coordination among the OIC Member States in this respect;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Confirms the decision of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to submit the results of the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society, held in Tehran on 17-18 April 1995 to the Islamic Fiqh Academy for review and comments to be submitted to The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers through the General Secretariat, and expresses thanks to the Islamic Republic of Iran for having hosted the Symposium.

2. Expresses its support for the consultations on women's issues at the Muslim Women Parliamentarians Conference held on 1-3 August 1995 in Islamabad (Pakistan).

3. Reaffirms the position of the Islamic States at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and that the implementation of the documents of the Conference by the Member States will be in accordance with their national constitutions and laws as well as their

religious and moral values in such a way so as not to contravene the principles of the true Islamic religion.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.14/24-C

ON CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the Declaration issued by the World Summit on the Child and the Plan of Action which urge the development of national programmes for children;

Recalling resolution 2/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recognizing that millions of children in the Islamic countries die as a result of diseases from which they may be protected or because of malnutrition; and that other millions suffer from the same circumstances because of famines, drought and armed conflicts;

Having taken note of the report of the Experts Symposium held at the OIC Headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 to prepare a Draft Document on the Rights and Care of the Child in Islam;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World and listened to the views of the representatives of the Member States, bodies and organizations;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 16/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which, inter-alia, states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Commends the Declaration on the Rights and Protection of the Child in Islam which was drawn up by the expert-level Meeting held at the General Secretariat headquarters from 28 to 30 June 1994 and which clearly focused on the teachings of the Islamic faith and the noble values enjoined on us by the Holy Quran and the tradition of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and by which the Muslim Ummah is distinguished from all other peoples of the world. The Declaration is to serve as a reference by which the peoples and governments of this Ummah will be guided in drawing up their child care programmes. It will also serve as a notification to all other peoples of the world of Islam's stand on children's affairs.

(b) Requests those Member States which have ratified the Convention to take the necessary steps to bring their constitutions, laws and practices in line with the provisions of the Convention.

(c) Supports the concept of "debt relief for developing countries for the sake of child survival and development" as a basic consideration for alleviating the debt burden on developing countries.

(d) Welcomes the concept of 20/20, whereby 20 per cent of national budgets should be devoted to basic social services and the same percentage of Official Development

Assistance should be assigned to the same sectors and recommends it to the Member-governments for appropriate implementation.

(e) Calls upon Member States to adopt every necessary measure to prevent any further armed conflicts while considering measures for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and to pay special attention to the needs of children and women, who have been the major victims in recent wars, in particular by allowing, in time of conflict, periods of truce and corridors of peace, for the passage of relief supplies, immunization against diseases and the provision of health services; and by banning the manufacture, stockpiling, import, export and use of land mines. These are weapons whose main victims are among women, children and other civilians and whose devastating effects go on for a long period of time after the conflict is over.

(f) Calls upon Member States to collaborate among themselves and to act individually and collectively, to play a leading role in the international arena and thus serve as a model for what can be achieved for the benefit of children.

2. Also commends the role played by UNICEF since its establishment for the survival, protection and development of children worldwide, particularly in the developing countries; and specially the ongoing cooperation between the OIC and the UNICEF relating to the child care and protection in the OIC countries;

3. Calls upon the international community, particularly the donor countries to provide increased resources to it and to the developing OIC countries to enable them to continue their child care and protection efforts.

4. Expresses deep concern over the plight of Sudanese child refugees and requests all bodies to exert their maximum efforts in order to assist these child refugees, expedite their return and reuniting them with their families. It also calls for the non-involvement of these children in any armed conflict and not to enlist them in the armed forces or for any other actions which may place their personal safety and security at risk.

5. Decides to convene, at the earliest possible date, the Ministerial Conference on Child and Social Affairs, and assigns the Secretary General to make the necessary consultations with the Member States in this connection, particularly those which have outstanding expertise in this field.

6. Calls on all OIC Member States in cooperation with UNICEF, to undertake a Mid-Decade Review on progress made towards achievement of the World Summit for Children Goals set for the year 2000, to be presented to the OIC Summit scheduled for 1997.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.15/24-C

ON THE EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION OF MUSLIM YOUTH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering the importance attached by Islam to the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youth;

Fearing the negative influences to which Muslim youth is subjected in general during the various stages of its growth;

Emphasizing the need of Muslim youth for an effort and a comprehensive mechanism to release its energies and develop its capacities in accordance with the noble Islamic values relating to youth;

Having taken note of the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and the Fifth Session of COMIAC on the subject:

1. Urges Member States to pursue their efforts to firmly establish Islamic values and the cultural activities stemming therefrom among Muslim youth as a whole.
2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in the spread of Islam among the various categories of youth in many countries.
3. Recommends anew the OIC Secretary General to set up an Expert Group from Member States to ponder the question and make preparations for the first Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers, in coordination with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation.
4. Requests the Secretary General to submit a report to the Twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers reviewing the fields and identifying the practical mechanisms to put into effect this responsibility towards Muslim youth of the Islamic world.
5. Urges the Member States, which have not done so, to expedite response to the Note of the General Secretariat on nominating their representatives at the meeting of the Group of Experts which has been entrusted with pondering the question and preparing for the First Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers, in cooperation with the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation.
6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.16/24-C

ON THE UNIFIED HIJRI CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNING OF LUNAR MONTH AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC HOLIDAYS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the OIC and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, for the establishment of a Unified Hijri Calendar for the beginning of Lunar months and the Unification of Islamic Holidays;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 13/7-C (IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Appeals to all Member States and Islamic institutions to use the time schedules prepared by the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar as a basis for their own calendar.

(b) Calls upon the Member States which do not observe Friday as the weekly holiday and to use the Hijri date to proceed to do so.

(c) Calls upon the member States, the General Secretariat and the Islamic Fiqh Academy to seek the assistance of Islamic jurists and astronomers with a view to reaching an agreement on the unification of the Hijri Calendar.

(d) Reiterates the importance of convening a meeting of the Committee on the Unified Hijri Calendar and of the other States appropriately joining the Committee to maximize coordination for unifying the beginnings of lunar months and Islamic Holidays in all Islamic countries.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.17/24-C

ON DESTRUCTION OF THE BABRI MASJID AND PROTECTION OF ISLAMIC HOLY PLACES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the objectives of the OIC which stress the need for coordinated effort to safeguard the Islamic Holy Places and strengthen the struggle of Islamic peoples for the preservation of their dignity, independence and national rights;

Also recalling the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the unified stand against the desecration of Islamic Holy Places, specially Resolution No. 3/6-C (IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference;

Noting that the Babri Mosque with its history spanning five centuries was the subject of veneration and respect of Muslims all over the world;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference made several appeals to the Indian Government to prevent any violation of the sanctity of the Mosque and emphasized the responsibility of the Government of India for safeguarding the inviolability of the Mosque and protecting its building against attacks by Hindu extremists;

Expressing deep concern at acts of vandalism and violence perpetrated by Hindu extremists in India against the Muslim minority aimed at uprooting the Islamic culture and heritage in India. Also expressing deep anger and indignation at the destruction of the Babri Mosque and resulting killing of thousands of innocent Muslims and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes;

Recalling also the resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the unified stand against the violations of the sanctity of Sacred Muslim Places;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 18/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 TO 13 Rajab, 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference):

(a) Strongly condemns the destruction of the historic Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by Hindu extremists and holds them responsible for this outrageous act of desecration and sabotage.

(b) Expresses deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this important Muslim holy site.

(c) Strongly condemns the systematic killing of thousands of innocent Muslims in various parts of India and expresses deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India.

(d) Welcomes, in this respect, the decision made by the Supreme Court of India on 24 October 1994 that "the settlement of disputes were outside its jurisdiction".

(e) Calls upon the Government of India to:

(i) Ensure the safety and protection of the Muslims and all Islamic Holy Sites throughout India in accordance with its responsibilities and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

(ii) Take immediate steps to implement its solemn commitment to reconstruct the Babri Mosque on its original site, to restore it as a holy place for Muslims, and to punish those guilty of the sacrilegious act of destroying a revered religious symbol of the Islamic world.

(iii) Remove the makeshift Hindu temple, put together on the site of the Babri Mosque which is a continuation of the acts of desecration and an affront to the feelings of the Muslims in India and all parts of the Muslim world.

(iv) Take immediate steps to ensure the protection of about 3,000 other Mosques especially those at Mathura and Varanasi, which have been the targets of threats and destruction attempts by Hindu extremists.

2. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO. 18/24-C

ON DESTRUCTION OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Bearing in mind the objectives of the OIC Charter concerning the safeguarding of Islamic identity;

Recalling the cultural and architectural history of Bosnia-Herzegovina which shows the harmonious diversity that shapes the identity of Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Noting that the total and horrifying destruction of mosques and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbs aimed at achieving ethnic cleansing constitutes a crime of genocide;

Recalling that the Organization of the Islamic Conference and UNESCO adopted many resolutions on saving the antiquities, libraries and other Sacred Islamic Places in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Having considered the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 19/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Calls upon the relevant subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to conduct a study aimed at drawing up a programme for rebuilding the libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the assistance of the member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

(b) Urges Member States to assist in the rebuilding of the national and university libraries in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

(c) Strongly condemns the destruction of the cultural entities and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

(d) Calls upon the Secretary General of the OIC in coordination with the relevant UN bodies and other international institutions to take urgent steps to ensure the safety and the protection of Islamic monuments, educational institutions, libraries and other cultural entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina which are the common cultural heritage of all mankind.

(e) Calls upon the OIC Member States to condemn the Serbian aggression, to help the restoration of the Islamic heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, to support the initiatives of the OIC Secretary General on this important issue and to set up a Committee which will start immediately the necessary planning.

2. Commissions the Secretary General to form an Expert Committee which will proceed immediately to make the necessary plans and estimates to preserve Islamic heritage in this country and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.19/24-C

ON THE INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITIES IN THE BALKANS AND THE CAUCASUS IN THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY TEXT BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Considering that the emergence of new independent States in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia, with Muslim populations possessing a valuable Islamic cultural heritage which had been concealed from the rest of the world for many years, has opened new vistas for cooperation among the OIC Member States and enlarged also the OIC field of interest and scope of activities;

Believing in this fact and desiring to promote contact between these Muslim peoples and the rest of the Islamic World, formulate programmes to strengthen the links of these peoples with their Islamic culture and at the same time inform the other Muslim peoples of

the great contributions made by the peoples of these new states towards the building of the Islamic civilization;

Taking note of the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 25/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Calls upon the OIC Member States to incorporate into the geography and history textbooks of their schools and other relevant publications information concerning Muslim Communities in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

(b) Also calls upon the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre to carry out a preliminary study and draw up a work programme on this issue with a view to convening an expert meeting in the near future.

2. Calls on Member States to assist Caucasian peoples in general, particularly the Chechen people, in the field of Arabic language teaching and the teaching of Islamic culture, civilization and history.

3. Supports the envisaged organization by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools of annual training sessions for schoolteachers from the national Arab Islamic Schools of Balkan peoples so as to assist and encourage these schools, and calls on concerned states and national organizations to assist the Federation in implementing this project.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.20/24-C

ON THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE MUSLIMS IN KOSOVA AND SANJAK

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Noting the total and terrible destruction by the Serbs of economic life and cultural heritage pursuant to their objective of ethnic cleansing;

Considering the great difficulties faced by the citizens of Kosovo and denial of the exercise of their cultural and economic rights;

Referring to the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Economic Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on the subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 26/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

(a) Strongly condemns the Serb aggression against the Muslim Albanian population of Kosovo and Sanjak, aimed at depriving this population of their Islamic identity and culture.

(b) Urges all OIC Member States and the relevant OIC organizations to help the Albanians in Kosovo and Sanjak to preserve their cultural heritage and Islamic identity against the Serb aggression.

2. Requests the IDB and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to undertake the study of cultural and economic projects with a view to implementing them to consolidate the links between the populations of these regions and their cultural heritage and identity and ward off the dangers threatening their Islamic identity.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.21/24-C

ON THE PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ISLAMIC CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the Centre and the recommendation of the 20th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the proposal for the establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research in Bangladesh;

Having taken note of the clarifications made by the People's Republic of Bangladesh;

Recognizing the need for the Muslim Ummah to have an Advanced Medical Training and Research Centre;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Recommends that the Member States and the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should follow up the implementation of the operative paragraphs of resolution 14/7-C(IS) of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca from 11 to 13 Rajab 1415H (13-15 December 1994), which states the following: (The Conference)

Requests the General Secretariat to intensify its on-going contacts with Member States aimed at obtaining their views and comments on the subject and to conduct further research on the technical and financial requirements of the project.

2. Requests all Member States to quickly forward their positive views on the proposal to establish the Centre to the General Secretariat and also request the Secretariat to expedite their efforts in this connection.

3. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.22/24-C

ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR A NEW CAMPUS FOR THE ZEITOUNA UNIVERSITY IN TUNISIA

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences regarding this project and the recommendations of the 20th Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Underlining the importance of the role being played by this educational institution which is celebrating this year its thirteenth centennial in the service of Islam and Muslims;

Expressing satisfaction over and appreciation of the efforts rendered by the Government of Tunisia aimed at developing and supporting this University by building a new campus adjacent to Al-Zeitouna Mosque;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General on this subject;

1. Commends the allocation of one million U.S. dollars made by the Islamic Development Bank for the project and recommends that the Bank transfer the said amount in accordance with the mechanism stipulated in the Agreement signed by the Republic of Tunisia and the Bank in 1992.

2. Reiterates its support for the construction of a new campus so as to enable the University to consolidate its educational and cultural role, and its commitment in favour of the implementation of the project.

3. Urges the Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Islamic institutions to continue extending every financial, material and moral support so that the University can raise the amount of 4,595,000 US Dollars needed in order to speed up the completion of the new campus.

4. Calls on the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank to consider including the project of the new building of the Zeitouna University among the institutions that benefit from the Bank's Islamic Universities Waqf.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.23/24-C

ON THE DESTRUCTION OF CHARAR-E-SHARIF ISLAMIC COMPLEX IN KASHMIR

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Having considered the presentation of the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; Expresses its deep concern over the Indian armed action on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha of 1415H, which resulted in damages to over 1500 houses and shops and the destruction of holy relics including the Mosque and Islamic Complex at Charar-e-Sharif which was razed to the ground.

1. Strongly deplore the destruction of the 536 years old Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif which constitutes a serious attack against the Islamic heritage of the Muslim people of Kashmir.
2. Expresses its concern over the loss of life and the burning of over 1500 houses of the civilian residents of Charar-e-Sharif.
3. Urges the international community particularly OIC member states to spare no effort to ensure protection of the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people including their right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions as well as safeguarding their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.
4. Requests the Secretary General to establish necessary contacts urgently for evaluating the damage and providing emergency assistance for the reconstruction of the Mosque and the Islamic complex at Charar-e-Sharif and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.24/24-C

ON THE TWINNING OF PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE OIC MEMBER STATES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various previous Resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, on the Twinning of Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories with Member States' universities;

1. Calls on Member States to implement operative paragraph (1) of Resolution 5/19-C on twinning of Palestinian universities with the universities of Member States, adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. Approves the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs which call for the necessity of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people and students of Palestine through establishing twinning relations between universities in Member States and Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories to enable the latter to overcome their difficulties, confront the Israeli designs aimed at impeding their functioning, fulfil their educational mission in the best manner and contribute to the reinforcement of the Palestinian national authority.

3. Recommends to extend every kind of financial and academic support and assistance to the universities in the occupied territories so that they may be able to play their national and educational role, and supports in particular the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its great importance in supporting the steadfastness of its people and the preservation of the Arab and Islamic heritage of the Al-Quds.

4. Calls upon the Member States to see to it that their universities receive training and academic delegations from the Universities of the occupied Palestinian territories to work in their Universities.

5. Calls upon the Member States to contribute towards training the Palestinian youth in their Universities and exchanging educational delegations in various academic fields, so as to assist the Palestinian Universities in performing their tasks during the overall reconstruction of the Palestinian National Authority and alleviate the material and academic difficulties which may emerge.

6. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next Session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.25/24-C

ON THE TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conferences, and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the teaching of the history and geography of Palestine;

1. Commends the efforts made by the Commission Entrusted with the Elaboration of Curricula for the Teaching of the History and Geography of Palestine and calls on the General Secretariat and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

(ISESCO) to expeditiously print and communicate the curricula to the Member States in implementation of the relevant Islamic Resolutions.

2. Calls upon all educational organs and institutions in the Member States to contribute effectively to the teaching of the approved subject of the History and Geography of Palestine for the three levels of education so as to educate the young generations of the Islamic Ummah about the Palestinian territories and the rights of their Arab and Muslim people, and safeguard the Islamic and historic heritage of Palestine and particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

3. Appeals to the Member States and the IDB to contribute to financing the costs of printing the approved curricula in the three OIC languages as well as in the national languages of non-Arabic-speaking States.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.26/24-C

ON THE EDUCATIONAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES, AND OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation issued by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, concerning educational situation in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and Occupied Syrian Golan;

1. Condemns the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural organs and institutions in the occupied Palestinian territories aimed at denying the Palestinians access to education, so as to obliterate their national identity and sever their relation with their education and history, and distort their culture to serve the designs of occupation.

2. Appeals to the Member States to support the efforts of the Palestine Liberation Organization aimed at promoting the educational process in the occupied Palestinian territories over the transitional period, and to provide it with technical and financial means for the development of the necessary curricula for all educational levels.

3. Calls upon Member States to promptly extend every kind of academic and financial assistance and support to the educational sector in the occupied Palestinian territories so that it may fulfill its mission in the reconstruction of the Palestinian national institutions and so that the educational institutions may contribute to the establishment of the Palestinian people's national authority on their homeland, and as a further enhancement to Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people.

4. Calls upon Member States to extend every necessary assistance to provide the financial requirements for the promotion of the educational process in the occupied territories in general and in the City of Al-Quds in particular, in view of the great difficulties faced by education in the holy City on account of the practices of the Israeli occupation authority aimed at the judaization of the City and at severing it from its Arabo-Islamic environment.

5. Condemns the Israeli acts of repression against and the closure of educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, and in particular the banning of the Syrian textbooks and educational system, barring Syrian students from pursuing their studies in Syrian universities, depriving the Syrian students who pursue their higher education in the Arab Republic of Syria of their right to return, imposing the Hebrew Language on the Syrian students, imposing curricula which incite to hatred, hostility and religious fanaticism, laying off Syrian teachers, all of which constitute acts which flagrantly violate the Fourth Geneva Convention signed on 12 August 1949, on the protection of citizens in times of war, and which in fact but give further staying power to the resistance of the Syrian Arab people in the face of the Israeli practices aimed at the obliteration of their Arab cultural identity; it condemns the continuation of settlement expansion in the occupied Syrian Golan and the measures against the population whereby Israel is practising intellectual and cultural terrorism against Syrian nationals, and declares its support for the maintenance of the Syrian Arab educational curricula and the provision of educational and cultural requirements.

6. Appeals to the international specialized organs and institutions to oppose this Israeli policy which violates international law and conventions and the Universal Human Rights Declaration.

7. Recommends the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly the UN and its specialized agencies, mainly the UNESCO and UNRWA with the purpose of giving assistance to the PLO and providing the necessary support for the development and updating of curricula at all educational levels. This is to be done within the framework of the establishment of the Palestinian national authority which is impeded by financial difficulties resulting from a deficit in terms of currently available resources to meet the requirements for the development of academic life in the occupied Palestinian territories.

8. Invites the Member States to extend all necessary facilities to the Palestinian students so as to enable them to enroll in their universities and specialized institutes and thus help them complete their university studies and also underlines the need to increase the number of scholarships and seats for the benefit of the Palestinian youth in the Islamic States and particularly in the fields of higher studies, technical, technological and teacher training.

9. Calls for extending support to the Open University of Al-Quds in view of its vital importance in strengthening the resistance of the Palestinian people and enabling them to continue their university studies and also calls for extending all the technical and financial assistance necessary for the university to develop and settle its problems so that it may open new branches and discharge its educational mission in an optimal manner.

10. Expresses its high appreciation for the role played by the Palestinian schools and universities in the preservation of the Palestinian culture and heritage and in confronting the measures adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities against the educational and cultural institutions and organs in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

11. Reaffirms the need to implement the recommendation addressed to Islamic Universities' managements to receive training and academic missions from the universities of the occupied territories to work in their universities for short periods .

12. Recommends to provide all kinds of financial and academic assistance and support to the universities of the occupied territories in implementation of the successive Islamic Conferences, and to work for the establishment of a Centre for Higher Studies in the occupied Palestinian territories.

13. Calls for support to the steadfastness of the Syrian people in the occupied Golan against the Israeli practices aimed at obliterating their Arab cultural identity and proclaims its support for the maintenance of Syrian Arab educational programmes and the provision of educational and cultural requisites.

14. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.27/24-C

ON THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CHARACTER OF AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND ITS HUMAN HERITAGE AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the earlier resolutions of the Islamic Conferences and the recommendation of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the preservation of the Islamic character of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its human heritage;

1. Reiterates all earlier Islamic resolutions on the preservation of the Islamic character of Al-Quds and its human heritage.

2. Condemns the aggressive and expansionist policies of the Zionist enemy and particularly its policy which seeks to establish further settlements and to transfer and resettle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which are policies aimed at seriously altering in their demographic and historic nature and judaizing them, which may jeopardize the Peace Process and represents a flagrant violation of international law and of the relevant U.N. and Security Council Resolutions.

3. Calls for the continuation of action at all Islamic and international levels with a view to forcing Israel to abrogate its decision to annex the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, reaffirming the City's Arabo-Islamic character and reject its annexation or judaization, pursuant to the relevant resolutions of international legality, and particularly the UN Security Council's resolutions No. 465 and 478.

4. Requests the General Secretariat to continue its coordination with the international organs and institutions and particularly with the UNESCO to prevent the Israeli authorities from demolishing the buildings around the Al-Quds Holy Shrine demand that they close the tunnel and stop their excavation works especially on the south side of the Holy Shrine whose objective is to destroy the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and erect their alleged temple on its site.

5. Recommends that an information seminar be organized on the City of Al-Quds particularly under the current situation so as to inform public opinion of imminent threats to the City, and the need to safeguard the Islamic and Christian Shrines and guarantee the right of worship for all believers.

6. Urges the General Secretariat and the OIC Member States to extend every material assistance to enable the Palestinian people to face up to the Israeli challenges and schemes aimed at obliterating religious monuments of the Holy City of Al-Quds, and reaffirms the need for extending all sorts of support and assistance to the residents of Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the repairing of their houses, support to their steadfastness and salvaging the Islamic shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

7. Commends, in this context, the efforts being exerted by Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference under the Chairmanship of King Hassan II, the Monarch of the Kingdom of Morocco.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.28/24-C

ON THE ISRAELI AGGRESSIONS AGAINST ISLAMIC SHRINES IN AL-KHALIL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Reaffirming the objectives of the Charter of the OIC aimed at ensuring coordination for the safeguard and liberation of the Holy places;

Recalling the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences on the Unified Stand Against the Profanation of Islamic Sanctities and Values, in particular resolution 3/6-C(IS) of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and 17/21-C of the Twenty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Expressing its grave concern over the schemes being devised against the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil with the aim of Judaizing it, seizing part of it and preventing worshippers from entering it;

Recalling Security Council resolution number 904 (1994) on the Massacre in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil;

1. Strongly condemns the repeated Israeli aggressions against the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, in particular, the massacre perpetrated by the settlers against Palestinian worshippers in the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Ramadan 1414H killing tens of them.

2. Strongly condemns the aggressive Israeli scheme for the partition of the Enclosure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, which aims at seizing and judaizing most of it and building a Jewish Synagogue therein, and which constitutes an aggression against Islamic sanctities and feelings and a violation of all international Conventions and Charters in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

3. Requests Member States to coordinate and intensify their efforts in the various international fora to prevent the implementation of the Israeli scheme for partitioning the Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil, to ensure its access for Muslims and to preserve the integrity of the Ibrahimi Enclosure as a Mosque for Muslims only as it has been through the ages; it warns Member States against any slackness in this regard as this would encourage Israel to undermine the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and other Islamic and Christian shrines.

4. Calls upon Member States to ensure the restoration of the old district in Al-Khalil, to safeguard the heritage and civilization of this historical city and its residents of the Palestinian families in an effort to counter Jewish colonization.

5. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.29/24-C

ON THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul; and the recommendations of the Thirteenth meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre (Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 23-24 November 1996);

Commending the First Islamic International Festival of Artisans at Work (Islamabad, October 1994) and the Bosnia Herzegovina Exhibition organized by the Research Centre

for Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul on the occasion of the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Having considered the Report of the Director General of the Centre on its activities and future plans of action; the Conference:

1. Commends the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of Culture and Islamic Heritage in the optimal way, thus warranting satisfaction with and appreciation of the efforts exerted in this respect.

2. Approves the report submitted by the Centre on its activities and future plan of action as well as the report and recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Board of Directors of the Centre, and the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre made at the Twentieth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

3. Expresses its appreciation for the diverse activities carried out by the Centre with the aim of raising the awareness of world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and for the efforts it exerts for the maintenance and preservation of that heritage.

4. Requests IRCICA in Istanbul to make contacts with Member States to prepare an exhibition on Islamic heritage and culture pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit, aimed at publicizing the different dimensions of that culture and its role in building human civilization and its values and ideals.

5. Expresses thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal for his noble gesture by awarding the General Director of the Centre the First Level Independence Medal in recognition of his efforts and contributions in the service of Islamic culture and in achieving Islamic solidarity.

6. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for generously hosting the Thirteenth Session of the Board of Directors of the Centre in Amman under the high patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan Ibn Talal, the noble Crown Prince of Jordan.

7. Welcomes the Centre's initiative to hold an international Symposium on "Islamic Civilization in Western Africa" under the patronage of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in Dakar, in the period 26-30 December 1996, in cooperation with the Fundamental Institute for Black Africa (IFAN) and the contribution of the Senegalese Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Culture.

8. Welcomes also the Centre's initiative to hold the first international seminar on "Arabesque in the Islamic handicrafts", in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, in the period 4-11 January 1997 in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture in Syria and with the support of UNESCO.

9. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country (The Republic of Turkey) and to the other Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the voluntary

material and moral support they are extending to the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.

10. Approves the appointment of Dr. Mohamed Abdul Hafeth Hilmi, member of the Arabic Language Academy in Cairo, as member of the Board of Directors of the Centre from the Arab Republic of Egypt in replacement of the late Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Issa.

11. Expresses its thanks to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions in the budget of the Centre in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference and calls on the Member States in arrears with their contributions to follow them in compliance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.

12. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.30/24-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH), ISTANBUL

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the earlier Resolutions adopted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH);

Having considered the report submitted by the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage,

1. Approves the report of the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage including its work plan.

2. Addresses its thanks to the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, for their moral and material support to the Commission and sponsoring its projects.

3. Expresses its appreciation to the efforts exerted by the Chairman of the Commission, HRH Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz in order to realize its objectives.

4. Expresses its satisfaction to note that the Commission's activities contribute to promoting general awareness on the preservation of the Islamic cultural, artistic and architectural heritage and its cooperation with IRCICA in implementing the architectural workshops on the reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. Commends the efforts of the Commission to assist calligraphers, artists and archivists from the Member States in upgrading their skills.

6. Appeals to the Member States to pay regularly their contributions and settle their arrears in the budget of the Commission.

7. Expresses thanks to the Member States which have paid their arrears in the budgets of the Commission, in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, particularly the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the State of the United Arab Emirates. It calls on States having arrears to follow suit in this regard.

8. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.31/24-C ON THE ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the Islamic Fiqh Academy;

Recalling again the Statute of the Academy, its goals and objectives, and the general plan adopted by the Academy Council at its first session held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah for unifying the Muslim Ummah and aligning its ranks so that it may remain glorious and impregnable through its faith, enlightened with its Shari'ah, constantly strong and able to meet present-day challenges and face contemporary problems;

Expressing its appreciation of the resolutions, recommendations and interpretations adopted by the Islamic Fiqh Academy at its previous sessions.

Following with increased interest the activities and achievements of the Academy with particular reference to the period following the Twenty-third Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Commending the Academy's sustained efforts to implement its various projects, foremost among which are the Fiqh Encyclopaedia of Economic Affairs and Transactions, the Comprehensive Index of Fiqh Rules, the heritage revival projects, the Glossary of Fiqh terminology, the simplification of Fiqh, as well as its valuable efforts exerted in the exercise of the functions previously assigned to the Islamic International Law Commission;

Expressing satisfaction at the efforts of the Academy in convening scholarly seminars, conferences and meetings jointly with Islamic organizations and institutions of Member States, as well as its sustained endeavours to enhance cooperation with relevant Universities and scientific institutes;

Welcoming the efforts it has exerted in the exchange of scientific information thus making headway towards the desired coordination and complementarity between the Islamic scientific institutions working in the field of Fiqh.

Having considered the report submitted by His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Mohammed Habib Ben Khodja, the Secretary General of the Islamic Fiqh Academy in Jeddah in which he reviewed the various activities and achievements which were accomplished last year as well

as the projects which will be carried out in future in the fiqh, economic, academic and intellectual fields in particular.

1. Commends the efforts of the Secretary General and the staff of the General Secretariat of the Academy and the books and documents it has published, particularly the Academy's Journal which is now at its twenty-third volume.

2. Stresses the need to examine the results achieved by the Symposium on the Role of Women in the Development of Islamic Society, held on 17-18 April 1995 and submit relevant observations thereon to the twenty-fifth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and to the next Islamic Summit Conference.

3. Exhorts the Member States to pay their contributions in the budget of the Academy and to continue supporting it so as to enable it to accomplish its tasks as required in the service of Islam and the vital causes of the Islamic Ummah.

4. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.32/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling Resolution No.31/7-C(IS) adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference (Session of Brotherhood and Revival), held in Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco in 1415H (1994) in which it reiterated the importance of the tasks of the ISF and its objectives which aim at promoting Islamic solidarity through contribution towards religious, cultural and scientific programmes and projects, in the Member States or in favour of Muslim communities and minorities in the Non-Member States;

Recalling Resolution No. 32/23-C adopted by the Twenty-third Session of the ICFM held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea in December 1995, which underlined the important noble objectives of the Fund, which represent a lofty symbol of the joint Islamic determination of the Member States;

Noting with appreciation the achievements of the Fund during the past 21 years, confirming Islamic solidarity extending support to official and popular institutions in charge of the affairs of culture, higher education, Islamic guidance and youth welfare in all parts of the Islamic World;

Noting with satisfaction the mobilization of a significant part of the capital of the ISF Waqf and stressing the necessity of making every effort to complete the Waqf's capital to reach US\$ 100 million in order to provide income which would enable the Fund to realize self-financing of its annual budgets;

Having considered the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF on the financial constraints and obstacles faced by the Fund when financing its

budgets and executing its annual programmes, due to the depletion of its resources, which resulted in halting several of its annual activities;

1. Urges the Member States to pledge annual donations, according to their means, for the ISF budget and contribute to the capital of the Waqf's Fund.

2. Expresses deep thanks and appreciation to the Member States which have extended generous and regular donations to the Fund and its Waqf without which it would have been impossible for the Fund to carry out its missions in favour of the Islamic Ummah.

3 Approves the report of the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the ISF.

4. Endorses the Permanent Council's approval of the closing accounts of the ISF for the financial year 1994/1995 and the budget estimates for the financial year 1996/97.

5. Calls upon the Permanent Council of the Fund to continue extending assistance to the cultural, social and educational projects in the Islamic world and according priority attention to projects approved by the Islamic Summit Conferences and Foreign Ministers Conferences.

6. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council, its Chairman, its Board of Trustees, its Chairman and the Executive Bureau of the Fund for the efforts they exert in order to realize the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

7. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.



RESOLUTION NO.33/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations adopted by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning ISESCO;

Having taken cognizance with appreciation, of the report submitted by the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) on the activities of the Organization;

1. Commends the accomplishments made by ISESCO in the fields of education, science, culture and communication which benefited most Member States. It requests ISESCO to carry on its efforts for the achievement of its lofty goals;

2. Praises also the efforts of the Director General of ISESCO in the field of consolidating and developing relations of cooperation with Islamic, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, which emphasized ISESCO's international radiance and credibility and provided it with more important financial resources which contributed to the implementation of extremely important programmes and activities; it also commends ISESCO's Director General for appointing a Permanent Representative at the OIC General Secretariat to ensure coordination in such a way as to serve the Member States, educationally, scientifically and culturally.

3. Expresses its appreciation of the Special Islamic Programme on Literacy and Basic Training for all in Islamic Countries, and its Quranic script programme, and calls for extending the project to cover the rest of the Islamic countries. It calls for supporting the Organization with a view to realizing this cultural pioneering project.

4. Expresses satisfaction at the efforts of the Organization in supporting the Islamic University in Niger, and requests it to continue its efforts and invites ISESCO to extend this support to cover other Islamic institutes and universities.

5. Emphasizes the importance of the initiative of the Organization to establish Al-Quds Al-Sharif Unit and the activities carried out to safeguard the cultural properties in Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as the support extended to educational, cultural and scientific institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory.

6. Commends the establishment, by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), of the Sarajevo Unit and the activities carried out in the area of supporting the educational, cultural and scientific institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It expresses appreciation to the Director General of the Islamic Organization for his endeavours aimed at supporting the educational, scientific and cultural efforts and objectives of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7. Highlights the commendable efforts of the Organization in the field of perceptive studies at the educational, scientific and cultural levels of the Islamic world aimed at reviewing its medium-term plan for the years (2000-2009) which will take it to the threshold of the Twenty-first Century, and enable it to confront the educational, scientific and cultural challenges which face the Islamic Ummah, and contribute to the flourishing of knowledge and promoting the cultural identity of the Islamic Ummah.

8. Expresses its appreciation of the draft strategy for the development of Science and Technology prepared by ISESCO in cooperation with the Standing Committee for scientific and technological cooperation, and commends the efforts of the Islamic Organization to draw up a strategy for developing science and technology in the Islamic World. It calls upon it to continue its contacts and consultations with Member States to finalise this strateg and submit a detailed report thereon to the next Session of the Conference of Foreign and Islamic Summit.

9. Invites ISESCO as an OIC institution specialised in education, science and culture and in laying down the implementation mechanisms of a cultural strategy for the Islamic world, to draw up an integrated plan for these mechanisms so that they may be implemented, and to submit this plan to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers and to the institutions concerned with cultural affairs in Member States for study and

approval and to coordinate with the Member States to take the necessary steps for including this strategy within their national cultural policies.

10. Highlights the existing coordination between the OIC and the Islamic Organisation to hold a meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Islamic World with a view to implementing the Cultural Strategy as recommended by the Fifth Session of COMiAC under the chairmanship of H.E. President Abdou Diouf.

11. Welcomes the efforts of the Organization to hold Islamic symposia and conferences aimed at caring for the members of Muslim communities overseas as well as paying attention to the conditions of Islamic cultural centres in Europe and notes with appreciation the support and assistance extended by ISESCO to Muslim minorities in the world by sending teachers to educational institutions, supporting the latter by providing them with curricula and Islamic books, as well as holding specialized training courses for teachers and inspectors.

12. Praises the programme being implemented by ISESCO, within the framework of cooperation between the OIC-UN systems, regarding the project of Basic Education and Training from the perspective of Human Resource Development in Islamic Countries, and invites the Islamic institutions, in particular the Islamic Development Bank, to co-finance this project. It also commends the efforts and programmes of the Islamic Organization in the field of promoting dialogue among various cultures, civilizations and religions as well as closing the gap between Islamic doctrines.

13. Urges the Member States which have not yet ratified the Islamic convention on equivalence of diplomas to hasten to do so.

14. Invites the Member States which have not yet joined ISESCO to set to join it and to participate effectively in its projects and programs and calls on the General Secretariat, in coordination with ISESCO, to exert its good offices for realizing this objective.

15. Urges the Member States which have not yet settled their contributions to the Islamic Organisation's budget to honour their financial obligations in order to enable the Organization to implement its programmes and educational, scientific and cultural projects which are highly important for joint Islamic action for the preservation of the Islamic identity and the warding off of the external challenges.

16. Appreciates the compliance of the Director General of ISESCO with the recommendation made by the Islamic Committee for Economic, Culture and Social Affairs at its twentieth session for sending a specialized ISESCO delegation to the areas of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to take stock of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in these areas and for submitting a detailed report in this respect to the Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

17. Praises the content of the report which is realistic and comprehensive in indicating the urgent basis needs of Palestinian educational institutions, and the cooperation and fruitful as well as effective coordination between the ISESCO delegation and the National Palestinian Committee for education, science and culture to implement this report in the best possible manner.

18. Invites Member States to extend assistance and to respond to the basic necessary needs of these educational and scientific institutions in the areas under the Palestinian National Authority.

19. Expresses thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of Kingdom of Morocco, the seat country, for his lofty patronage of ISESCO and continuous support to it and to its activities so as to perform in the best circumstances the great cultural missions entrusted to it.



RESOLUTION NO.34/24-C

ON THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs concerning the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent;

Having considered the Report of the committee's Twelveth Meeting held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

1. Urges the Member States which have not yet signed or ratified the Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as soon as possible so as to enable it to carry out its tasks and realize its noble objectives.
2. Invites all the Member States and Islamic institutions to extend material and moral support to the efforts of the Committee so that it may implement its programmes.
3. Calls for exerting efforts regarding refugees and detainees and provide for their care and protection in collaboration with the UN High Commissioner's Office for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant regional and international organizations;
4. Expresses profound thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for extending support and facilities to the Committee during the period of its establishment.
5. Approves the report of the 12th Session of the ICIC.



RESOLUTION NO.35/24-C

ON THE SPORTS FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the activities of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF);

Having considered with appreciation the initiative of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and General President of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to organize charitable football games between the Sarajevo Team and select teams from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aimed at

supporting the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the 25th Anniversary of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Having considered the report submitted by the General Secretariat of the Federation on this subject;

Having been informed by the ambitious future plan recommended to be implemented by the Experts Committee and approved by the 7th Summit Conference.

1. Urges the Member States to take interest in all the future activities of the Federation as well as the coming tournaments of the Islamic Solidarity Games, in particular the organizing of the first tournament which will be held under the auspices of the Federation.

2. Expresses appreciation and thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, President General of Youth Welfare of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for his great interest in the Sports Federation of Islamic Solidarity Games; his sponsorship of the Federation's activities aimed at realizing its noble objectives; and for graciously hosting the meeting of the Experts Committee on Youth and Sport of the Muslim States at the Federation's Headquarters in Riyadh on 5-7 Shaaban 1414H (16-18 January 1994) to draw up a conception for implementing resolution No.5/6-C (IS);

3. Expresses thanks to the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation for planning to organize the first training course on Sports Organization and Management, in Arabic, at its Headquarters in Riyadh in Shaaban, 1417H (December 1996).

4. Calls on the Member States to fulfill their commitments to the Federation to enable it to perform its activities.



RESOLUTION NO.36/24-C

ON THE WORLD FEDERATION OF ARAB ISLAMIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Recalling the resolutions of the previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendation made by the 20th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs on the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools;

Having considered the report submitted by the World Federation of Arab Islamic International Schools.

1. Recommends to the General Secretariat, Islamic organizations and institutions, Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the Islamic Development Bank to support the Federation's Plans and Projects and to extend to it all possible assistance required for the implementation of these plans and projects, and particularly:

(a) To continue support for the holding of the Training courses for the Teachers of the Arabic language and Islamic Culture in Asia, Africa, Central Asia and Balkans.

(b) To contribute to the printing of the book for teaching Arabic for non-Arabic speakers that had been prepared by the Federation and its distribution among the Muslim children.

(c) To invite the IDB to continue contribution to printing books for Afghan children.

(d) To support the Open Complementary Studies Institute in Khartoum in order that it may continue its activity as well as the Ndjama Teachers Institute in Chad.

2. Recommends to support the project of the Supreme Examinations' Council of the Arab-Islamic Schools that has been established by the Federation, with the participation of the League of the Islamic Universities and Rabitah with a view to placing the examinations of the private Islamic schools under the supervision of well known Islamic universities;

3. Recommends also that the Federation be supported so as to play an effective role in assisting Afghan educational institutions, such as schools and universities, and rebuild schools and higher institutes destroyed by war in Afghanistan;

4. Addresses sincere thanks and appreciation, and also on behalf of the Federation, to the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for its continuous support to the Arab and Islamic education in various parts of the world.



RESOLUTION NO. 37/24-C

ON DAWAH ACTIVITIES AND THE REACTIVATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF ISLAMIC ACTION.

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Session of Fraternity and Cooperation) held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia from 28 Rajab to 3 Shaban 1417H (9-13 December, 1996),

Referring to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference; Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference.

Recalling the Dakar Declaration issued by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, Recalling also of the Casablanca Declaration adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit; Recalling resolution 32/21-C of the Twenty-first Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers approving the development of an Islamic Dawah strategy in keeping with the provisions of the Cultural Strategy Document approved by the Sixth Summit Conference;

Recalling also the various resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences, including Resolution No. 36/7-C(IS), whose para (3) stipulated calling on the Secretary General to finalize the Strategy for Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawah;

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary General of the Organisation;

1. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action develop a mechanism for the accession thereto of Islamic organizations which fulfill membership requirements.

2. Also recommends all Islamic organisations to cooperate with the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action.

3. Requests the Islamic Cultural Centres and the Dawah Centres to educate the Pilgrims regarding the rites and ceremonies of Pilgrimage, prior to their arrival in the Holy Places to perform the Hajj duty.

4. Expresses appreciation to His Eminence, the Sheikh of Al-Azhar, and the Indonesian Government, the Malaysian Government and the International Islamic Call Society in Tripoli for hosting the Eighth, Ninth, the Tenth and the Eleventh meetings of the Committee on Coordination of Joint Islamic Action in the field of Dawah respectively.

5. Also expresses appreciation for the approval by the 23rd ICFM, held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea from 9 to 12 December, 1995, of the Draft Strategy of Joint Islamic Action in the Field of Dawah vide Resolution 37/23-C.

6. Requests the Member States to take the necessary steps for incorporating this Strategy within their implemented national policies in the various educational, information, Islamic Dawah and other fields as a method to be followed concerning Joint Islamic Action.

7 Calls on the Secretary General to convene further Islamic symposia on Islamic Culture and Dawah following confirmation of the usefulness of the previous symposia held in Niamey, Kuala Lumpur, Moscow, Sydney and Toronto.

8. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Islamic Solidarity Fund for its valuable material assistance it provides for the Islamic Symposia held by the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

9. Also express thanks to the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Dawa Society and other Islamic Institutions for supporting the General Secretariat to hold its Islamic Symposia.

10. Recommends that the Committee on Coordination of Islamic Action, in coordination with the competent authorities in Member States, take care of women and pay attention in the field of Dawah instruction.

11. Requests the Secretary General to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next session of the ICFM.