



**Chair's Summary**  
**of the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers**  
**of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation**  
**United Nations Headquarters – New York**  
**22 September 2016**

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held their Annual Coordination Meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait.

The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment of the Member States to the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the OIC, particularly enhancing and strengthening the bond of unity and solidarity among the Muslim peoples and Member States; upholding the principles in the United Nations Charter and International Law; respecting the national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all Member States as well as the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs; improving brotherly relations and enhancing unity and solidarity among the Member States of the OIC;

The Meeting reemphasized the centrality of the cause of Palestine and Al Quds Sharif for the Muslim Ummah. It reaffirmed its principled support for the right of the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable national rights, including the right to self-determination, and to the independence and sovereignty of the State of Palestine on the pre-1967 borders, with Al Quds Sharif as its capital, as well as the right of Palestine refugees to return to their homes in accordance with international law and UN General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

The Meeting condemned the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. It called for the complete cessation of all Israeli violations of international law, including an immediate end to the blockade of the Gaza Strip; all illegal colonial settlement activities; demolition of Palestinian homes, killing, injuring and detention of Palestinian civilians, including children, the illegal annexation and Judaization of Occupied East Jerusalem and all attempts to alter its demographic composition, character and history; and provocations and incitement at Al-Haram Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque by the Israeli occupying force and

extremist Israeli settlers. The meeting called for the immediate release of all Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and detention centers.

The Meeting reaffirmed the need for the early convening of an International Peace Conference to set mechanisms to provide international protection for the Palestinian people and to end the Israeli colonial occupation of the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with international law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid Principles and the Arab Peace Initiative. It called for urgent measures by the international community, particularly the Security Council, aimed at bringing an end without delay to the Israeli occupation and achieving a peaceful settlement that will guarantee the fulfillment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The Meeting expressed deep concern over the enduring, ongoing and emerging conflicts in many of the Member States. In this regard, the Meeting reaffirmed the outcomes adopted during the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and reiterated the need for these conflicts to be resolved in accordance with international law and legitimacy, and relevant Security Council resolutions. The meeting discussed the humanitarian challenges facing the Islamic world, particularly that of displaced people and refugees as a result of these conflicts. It expressed concern at the dire humanitarian situation and the unbearable sufferings of millions of Muslim refugees and stressed the necessity of alleviating their humanitarian situation. In this context, the Meeting urged Member States to continue coordination for humanitarian relief efforts in the affected areas.

The Meeting expressed strong support to the efforts and initiatives of the H.E. Iyad Ameen Madani, Secretary General of the OIC, and the Secretariat, namely in prevention and resolution of conflicts, and encouraged the Secretary General to continue his efforts and initiatives in this regard. The Meeting welcomed the new OIC mechanism for conflict resolution and peace-building.

The Meeting reaffirmed its strong condemnation of the atrocious and deliberate terrorist attacks that have occurred against Member States of the OIC and in various parts of the world. The Meeting stressed that Islam is a religion of peace and does not, in any way, legitimize the barbarous acts of violence and murder undertaken by terrorist groups. The Meeting noted that terrorism and violent extremism are threats to every society, as well as to international peace and security as a whole. In this regard, the Meeting called for greater cooperation between Member States to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and renewed its unwavering commitment to strengthening cooperation between the OIC and other international organizations in this field.

The Meeting condemned all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on ethnicity, race, color, religion and belief and emphasized the importance of nurturing tolerance, respecting dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and people as the most effective way to combat against the scourges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and Islamophobia.

The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the OIC-2025: Program of Action during the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit Conference held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, from the 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2016. It called upon the Secretary General to coordinate with the Member States for the effective implementation of this Program of Action which forms a strategic vision in addressing vital issues, including peace and security; combatting terrorism and extremism; humanitarian issues; human rights; development; poverty reduction; women's rights; youth, children and the family; higher education; cultural exchanges.

The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reaffirmed its commitment to the successful implementation of the 17 goals and 169 targets, in line with the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the OIC. The Meeting also welcomed the Paris Agreement on climate change and underscored the need for robust global cooperation in climate change action, especially for countries vulnerable to adverse consequences of climate change; including adequate financing, transfer of technology, and capacity building support from developed to developing countries. The Meeting reaffirmed that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over its wealth, natural resources and economic activity.

The Meeting commended the efforts of the Secretary General aimed at bolstering cooperation with the United Nations. It urged the OIC Group in New York to continue its efforts to strengthen their coordination, cooperation, and consultations towards the issues on the agenda of the United Nations that are of relevance to the OIC Member States for the promotion of joint Islamic action and Islamic solidarity. The meeting called on the Member States to coordinate their positions in international fora, especially the United Nations. The Meeting also called on Member States to be committed to the resolutions issued by the Organization and to vote in favor of resolutions that are put forth in the name of the OIC.

The Meeting adopted the Secretary General's reports of the Contact Groups on Somalia, Sierra Leone, Jammu and Kashmir, Palestine, Bosnia Herzegovina, Mali and Yemen, and Aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan (Annexed herewith).

The Chair expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the participants for their cooperation and on their spirit of fraternity. The Meeting commended the State of Kuwait's Chairmanship of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers and two Annual Coordination Meetings held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, and for its leadership and efforts in reinforcing Islamic solidarity throughout its Chairmanship. The Meeting expressed its full support to the Republic of Uzbekistan in its upcoming Chairmanship and called on Member States to participate at the highest level at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers to be convened in the Republic of Uzbekistan in October 2016. The Meeting welcomed the decision to convene an OIC Summit on science and technology to be held in the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2017 and urged Member States to participate at the highest level.

