

Chair's Summary
of the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Foreign Ministers
of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
United Nations Headquarters – New York
October 1st, 2015

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation held their Annual Coordination Meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on the 1st of October 2015, 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 reiterated the OIC's full support for the just cause of Palestine and for the legitimate national aspirations and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and return in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

The Meeting also reiterated the OIC's grave concern about the continuing plight of the Palestinian people and condemned the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, 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 colonial settlement activities; the isolation and Judaization of Occupied East Jerusalem and all attempts to alter its demographic composition, character and history, provocations and incitement at Al-Haram Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque. It called for urgent measures, particularly by 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, including to self-determination and independence in their State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The Meeting welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution (A/RES/69/320) on the raising of flags of non-member observer States to the United Nations and the flag raising ceremony of the Palestinian flag that took place at the United Nations headquarters on the 30th of September 2015. The Meeting also welcomed the efforts of the Kingdom of Morocco – whose Sovereign chairs the Al-Quds Committee – and its favorable response to host an Extraordinary Islamic Summit on Palestine and Jerusalem in the near future. It

also welcomed the efforts of the OIC Ministerial Contact Group on 'Defending the Cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and called for continuing the implementation of its approved Action Plan.

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 resolutions and declaration adopted during the 42nd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in the State of Kuwait 27 – 28 May 2015 and reiterated the need for these conflicts to be resolved in accordance with international law and legitimacy, and relevant Security Council resolutions. The Meeting stressed the necessity of alleviating the suffering incurred as a result of the humanitarian situation caused by those conflicts, and called on Member States to provide humanitarian and development assistance. The Meeting called upon the Security Council to assume its responsibility to bring an end to those conflicts. The Meeting emphasized the need to preserve the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Member States and stressed the importance of realizing the legitimate aspirations of the citizens of those Member States.

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 adopted the Secretary General's reports of the Contact Groups on Somalia, Sierra Leone, Jammu and Kashmir, Palestine, Myanmar/Rohinga, Bosnia Herzegovina, Mali and Yemen (Annexed herewith).

The Meeting condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations and denounced those groups that undertake terrorist acts in the name of Islam. 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 these terrorists groups; whilst noting 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 to combat terrorism and those who finance it, in accordance with international law and legitimacy and pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Meeting welcomed the outcome of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Organization held at the ministerial level in Jeddah in February 2015, on the subject of confronting international terrorism and violent extremism, as well as the outcome of the ministerial brain-storming session held in Kuwait in May 2015, and the high-level meeting of the Organization's institutions held in its

headquarters in August 2015, to coordinate the activities of the Organization's institutions in combatting terrorism and extremism, and called upon the Secretary General to continue his efforts to implement the recommendations of all these meetings fully. Furthermore, the Meeting also called for greater efforts to combat religious intolerance and Islamophobia as well as to engage in interfaith dialogue, and applauded the efforts of the Secretariat in this regard.

The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the United Nations Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda held during the period 25 – 27 September 2015. The Meeting reaffirmed the commitment of Member States to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets set out by the Agenda for the prosperity of their peoples and to improve their social, economic and living conditions, in line with the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the OIC; whilst also reaffirming that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over its wealth, natural resources and economic activity.

The Meeting also welcomed the adoption of the General Assembly resolution (A/RES/69/317) regarding Cooperation between the United Nations and the OIC. The Meeting reaffirmed the deep-rooted cooperation between the OIC and the United Nations, and noted that this year marks the 40th year of that cooperation. In this regard, the Meeting emphasized the need for greater joint political will and effort between the two organizations to foster peaceful and political solutions to conflicts.

The Meeting took note of the work carried out by the intergovernmental group of experts in drafting an OIC Program of Action 2025, and requested the Secretary General to continue facilitating its completion as soon as possible, to confront the challenges facing the “Ummah” in the 21st century.

The Meeting urged the OIC Group in New York to continue its efforts to deepen and strengthen their cooperation, coordination and consultations towards the issues inscribed in the agenda of the United Nations.

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 and for its leadership and efforts in reinforcing Islamic solidarity.