

5th Executive Council Session
Islamic Azad University - Tehran, Iran
26-28 April 2000

Final Report

The Executive Council of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) held its fifth regular session at the Islamic Azad University, in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. It was generously hosted by the Islamic Azad University from 26 to 28 April 2000.

The proceedings of this session were attended by the members of the Executive Council, under the chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Tengku Dahril, Rector of Riau Islamic University in Indonesia, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council of the FUIW, and in the presence of H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), Secretary General of the FUIW.

Opening Session: Wednesday, 26 April 2000 (Morning)

1. The opening session was held under the chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Khaled Al-Omari, President of Jerash Private University in Jordan, Rapporteur of the Executive Council of the FUIW, and in the presence of H.E. Dr. Mostafa Moein, Minister of Sciences, Research and Technology in the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Secretary General of the FUIW, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Jassbi, Rector of the Islamic Azad University of Tehran, in addition to a number of senior officials in the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and a constellation of personalities in the realm of thought and culture and Information.
2. Following a recitation of verses from the Holy Koran, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Jassbi, Rector of the Islamic Azad University of Tehran, delivered an address in which he welcomed the participants, expressing profound thanks to H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Secretary General of the FUIW, for the efforts he was expending to fulfill the Islamic civilisational mission. He likewise praised the actions undertaken by the Islamic Organization (ISESCO) and by the FUIW to bring about the educational, scientific and cultural development of the Islamic societies. He then reviewed the major accomplishments achieved by the Islamic Azad University in the recent period, pointing out the importance of educational and scientific cooperation amongst universities for the achievement of development.
3. Afterwards, H.E. Dr. Khaled Al-Omari, President of Jerash Private University in Jordan, Rapporteur of the Executive Council of the FUIW, delivered an address on behalf of H.E. Dr. Abdelouahed Belkiz, Rector of Mohamed V-Agdal University, Chairman of the First General Conference, Chairman of the Executive Council of the FUIW, in which he first welcomed the members of the Executive Council participating in that Session, expressing his happiness to meet with them, once again, on the occasion of the Fifth Session of the FUIW

Executive Council, convened at the Islamic Azad University, which was generously hosting the meeting. He highlighted the symbolic dimension of the Council meeting, as it coincided with the inception of the third millennium, and underlined the paramount importance of solidarity among the universities of the Islamic world for the dissemination of sound knowledge, the forging of learned generations, and the consolidation of the national identity, while entrenching the values of dialogue, open-mindedness and tolerance. He mainly underscored the importance of the contribution of Member Universities to supporting the Federation to help it pursue its developmental mission. He also commended the role of the FUIW General Secretariat and the tremendous actions it was taking to give substance to the aspired solidarity among the universities of the Islamic world. In this connection, he conveyed thanks to H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Secretary General of the FUIW, for the outstanding efforts he was exerting to promote FUIW action, and discharge its civilisational mission.

4. H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Secretary General of the FUIW, delivered an address in which he expressed his happiness to be attending the session, and the pride he took in the fact that the Islamic Azad University should be the patron of such an important meeting of the FUIW. He likewise extended his heartfelt thanks to the Iranian Government for its unflinching support to the Islamic Organization (ISESCO) and to the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World. He conveyed his appreciation for the tremendous efforts expended by H.E. Dr. Abdullah Jassbi, Rector of the Islamic Azad University, to arrange for the organization of the Council's session, and thanked him for the warm welcome and generous hospitality, praising by the same token his earnest will and resolve to strengthen the Islamic solidarity. He indicated that the session was being held amidst a new climate, marked in particular by the preparation of the Draft Action Plan of the the FUIW for the Years 2001-2003, and the examination of the project on the equivalence of degrees awarded by the Member Universities of the FUIW, both of which will generate results of paramount importance in terms of enhancement of the educational, scientific and cultural action, promotion of the endogenous capacities of the Muslim Ummah, and harnessing of modern values so as to meet the requirements of the new century.

5. In his speech H.E. Dr. Mostafa Moein, Minister of Sciences, Research and Technology expressed his profound thanks to the General Secretariat of the FUIW for holding this session in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also welcomed the members of the Executive Council and the personalities attending the ceremony. He then emphasized the role of the university in developing the society and the importance of Education in Islam, pointing out the necessity to push forward cooperation between the Scientific Institutions in the Islamic World and to enroot the complementarity between the cultural capacities, within a framework of a constructive partnership between the institutional and regional specialized organizations. In this regard, he confirmed the readiness and willingness of his country, with its official organs and governmental institutions to support this great civilizational edifice. At the end of his address, he renewed his welcome to the participants, wishing this session every success.

6. At the end of the opening session, H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Secretary General of the FUIW, offered FUIW's Emblem to H.E. Dr. Mostafa Moein, Minister of Sciences, Research and Technology, and to H.E. Dr. Abdullah Jassbi, Rector of Islamic Azad University, in appreciation for their outstanding accomplishments in the field of higher education as well as in the promotion of the values of Islamic solidarity among the Member Universities of the FUIW, in addition to the kind support to the success of Fifth Session of the Executive Council of the FUIW hosted by the Islamic Azad University.

First Working Session: Wednesday, 26 April 2000

**Item 1 of the Agenda:
Adoption of the Agenda
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/1**

7. After examining the Draft Agenda, the Council adopted it as per the version (Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/1 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 1 of the Agenda
(The Agenda)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.1**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 12, operative paragraph "a" of the Statute;
- Having examined the Draft Agenda of the current Fifth Council Session;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Adopts the Agenda of its Fifth Session as contained in Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/1 Adopted, annexed to the Final Report.

**Item 2 of the Agenda:
Adoption of the Programme
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/2**

8. Following consideration of the Draft Programme organising the Council's proceedings, the Executive Council decided to proceed according to the time frame contained in Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/2 Adopted, annexed to the Final Report. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 2 of the Agenda
(The Programme)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.2**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Decision FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.1 adopted by the Executive Council in connection with the Agenda of its current Fifth Session;
- Having examined the Draft Programme of the present Session, as contained in the Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/2;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Adopts the Programme of its Fifth Session's proceedings as contained in Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/2 Adopted, annexed to the Final Report.

**Item 3 of the Agenda:
Secretary General's Report on the FUIW Activities
between the Fourth and Fifth Sessions of the Council
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/3**

9. The Secretary General presented his report on the activities on FUIW between the 4th and 5th Executive Council sessions, citing the major achievements and outstanding contributions made by the FUIW in its fields of competence during implementation of the programmes of 1999 under the Action Plan of FUIW for the years 1998-2000. The Secretary General appreciated the initiative taken by certain Member Universities, which cooperated with FUIW to carry out its activities, highlighting the importance of the activity pertaining to the summer camp hosted by the Jerash Private University, in Jordan, in addition to the activity on the "symposium on university scientific research and production and development sectors," hosted by the Zaituna University, in Tunis, and the publication of "Al Jamiaa" journal and "Al Ittihad" newsletter. The report of the Secretary General of FUIW highlighted the importance of the scholarships awarded by the Member Universities to students, and appealed to the Member Universities to continue granting scholarships and to improve their quality.

In addition, the report of the Secretary General on the activities of FUIW addressed other axes of the FUIW Action Plan, such as:

1. Directory of university scientific research journals (activity 2.2)
2. FUIW periodical journal (activity 3.1)
3. Equivalence of degrees conferred by the FUIW Member Universities (activity 5.1)
4. FUIW newsletter (activity 7.1)

The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 3 of the Agenda
(Secretary General's Report on the Federation's Activities
between the Fifth and Sixth Council Sessions)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.3**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 4 and Article 12, in particular paragraph "e" thereof, of the Statute;
- Having listened to the presentation made by the Secretary General of the Federation;
- Noting the evolution that marked the activities of the General Secretariat of FUIW;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place, and the proposals and the observations put forward by the Executive Council members ;

Decides the following:

1. Adopts the Secretary General's Report on the Federation's Activities as contained in Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/3.
2. Thanks the Secretary General of the Federation for the tremendous efforts he has exerted to develop the Federation's action and raise the number of Member Universities.
3. Commends the efforts exerted by the Secretary General of the Federation and his assistants to implement the Federation's activities programmed for 1999.
4. Agrees to submit this report to the Second Session of the General Conference and recommends its adoption.

Item 4 of the Agenda:

**Deciding on the applications for membership in the FUIW
submitted by universities and higher institutes
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/4**

10. Following consideration of the list of universities that applied for membership in the FUIW, totaling thirty five universities, and pursuant to the recommendation of the General Secretariat of FUIW to admit those universities in view of their eligibility for membership, the Executive Council adopted the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/4, and passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 4 of the Agenda
(Deciding on the Applications for Membership in the
Federation submitted by Universities and Higher Institutes)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.4**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 5, paragraphs "a" and "b", and Article 10, paragraph "e", of the Statute;
- Considering the recommendation of the Executive Council of the Federation enshrined in operative paragraph 3 of Decision FUIW/E.C.4/99/D.4, adopted by the Executive Council at its Fourth Session (Tishreen University, Lattakia, Syria, 21-23 February, 1999);
- Having considered the document containing the list of universities that applied for membership in the Federation, totaling 35 universities;
- Taking into account the General Secretariat's recommendation to admit those universities as members in the Federation on grounds of their eligibility for membership;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Endorses the membership of the said universities in the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World as contained in Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/4 amended, annexed to the Final Report.
2. Recommends that the General Secretariat of the Federation pursue its efforts to invite other universities in the Muslim world to join the Federation.
3. Places this item on the Agenda of the Second Session of the General Conference of the Federation, and recommends that the Conference adopt the document listed under code FUIW/E.C.5/2000/4.

**Item 5 of the Agenda:
Draft Amendment to Article 5 of the FUIW Statute
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/5**

11. Following consideration of the said document, and after examination of the observations made by some Member Universities regarding the eligibility for membership in the FUIW, the Executive Council adopted the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/5, and recommended the adoption of this document by the Second General Conference and its insertion in the FUIW Statute. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 5 of the Agenda
(Draft Amendment to Article 5 of the Statute of the Federation)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.5**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 1, operative paragraph "c", of the Statute of the Federation;
- Considering Decision FUIW/E.C.4/99/D.4, passed by the Executive Council at its Fourth Session (Tishreen University, Lattakia, Syria, 21-23 February, 1999);
- Having considered document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/5 containing the proposals of the General Secretariat and the observations of the Federation's Member Universities thereon;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Adopts the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/5 *as per* the version endorsed by the Executive Council and annexed to the Final Report.
2. Thanks the Secretary General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in the preparation of this document.
3. Thanks the Member Universities that studied the project and made observations thereon.
4. Recommends the adoption of the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/5 by the Second General Conference of the Federation.

**Item 6 of the Agenda:
Draft Principles for Diploma Equivalence
among FUIW Member Universities
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/6**

12. Following examination of the said document, and after consideration of the observations and proposals made by the Member Universities of FUIW with regard to the draft principals of equivalence of degrees, the Executive Council adopted the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/6, and recommended the adoption of this document by the Second General Conference. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 6 of the Agenda
(Draft Principles for Diploma Equivalence
among FUIW Member Universities)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.6**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 1, operative paragraph "c", of the Statute of the Federation;
- Considering Decision FUIW/E.C.4/99/D.4, passed by the Executive Council at its Fourth Session (Tishreen University, Lattakia, Syria, 21-23 February, 1999);
- Having considered the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/6 containing the General Secretariat's proposals and the observations of the Member Universities thereon;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1.** Adopts the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/6 as contained in the Final Report.
- 2.** Thanks the Secretary General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in the preparation of this document.
- 3.** Thanks the Member Universities which made observations on this document.
- 4.** Recommends the adoption of document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/6 by the Second General Conference of the Federation.

**Item 7 of the Agenda:
Consideration of Ways of Financing the FUIW Activities
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/7**

13. The Executive Council examined the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/7, and noted that the majority of Member Universities of FUIW did not settle the contributions to FUIW on a regular basis, which made it difficult to implement the activities pertaining to the Action Plan of FUIW for the Years 1998-2000. The General Secretariat of FUIW received the contributions of barely 47 universities out of the 147 Member Universities, notwithstanding the letter addressed by the Chairman of the First General Conference and of the Executive

Council to the Member Universities in this connection, in addition to the continued reminders of the General Secretariat inducing the Member Universities to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears with a view to preserving the smooth running of the Federation and supporting its civilisational mission. Following deliberations, the Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 7 of the Agenda
(Consideration of Ways of Financing FUIW's Activities)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.7**

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 10, operative paragraph "c", of the Statute of the Federation;
- Considering Decision FUIW/E.C.4/99/D.5, adopted by the Executive Council of the Federation at its Fourth Session (Tishreen University, Lattakia, Syria, 21-23 February, 1999);
- Taking into account the fact that the majority of Member Universities did not settle their financial contributions to the Federation under the financial year 1999, nor under the preceding financial years;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Thanks the Member Universities which settled their financial contributions for the financial year 1999, and urges the other Member Universities to honour their financial obligations and pay up their arrears.
2. Thanks the Chairman of the General Conference and of the Executive Council of the FUIW for kindly sending letters to the universities which did not settle their annual contributions for the year 1998 and preceding years, and for urging them to observe the regular settlement of their contributions to give stronger impetus to the FUIW's activities, and invites him to send similar letters in connection with the 1999 contributions.
3. Commends the efforts of the FUIW Secretary General in terms of intensifying contacts with the Member Universities, and thanks him for his sound implementation of the decisions of the successive Executive Council sessions as well as for his rationalization of expenditures.
4. Invites the FUIW Secretary General to carry on efforts to induce non member universities to join FUIW with a view to strengthening the Federation and procuring new resources, through endowment (Awqafs) and donations from the charitable institutions and benefactors.
5. Recommends to the Second General Conference to approve the increase of the annual contribution to one thousand five hundred US dollars.
6. Considers in the Sixth Executive Council Session to take the appropriate measures regarding the Universities which did not settle their contributions.
7. Places this item on the agenda of the coming Executive Council session.

**Item 8 of the Agenda:
Draft Action Plan of FUIW for the Years 2001-2003
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/8**

14. The Secretary General presented an exhaustive report on the Draft Action Plan of FUIW for the Years 2001-2003, in which he talked about the main axes of the Plan, which was drawn up in the light of the cardinal objectives and priorities of FUIW, consisting mainly in the strengthening of cooperation amongst Member Universities, and facilitating the ways and means for educational, scientific and cultural exchange of professors and students. He indicated that the Plan was characterised by realism as it took into account the adopted budget available to the FUIW, and allocated to the implementation of the programmes figuring in the Action Plan for the Years 2001-2003. The Secretary General of FUIW underlined the assistance extended by the Islamic Organisation (ISESCO) to the FUIW as it bore the expenses of the staff members' salaries, in addition to the technical and administrative services. He also pointed out that the Executive Council would study the project at its Fifth Session prior to its submission to the Second General Conference for adoption. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 8 of the Agenda
(Draft Action Plan of the FUIW for the Years 2001-2003)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.8**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 12, paragraph "b", of the Statute of the Federation;
- Having examined the document containing the Draft Action Plan of the FUIW for the Years 2001-2003;
- Taking into account the fact that the activities enshrined in the Draft Action Plan have been laid down on the basis of the budget estimates of the FUIW, and that the project features the most important programmes likely to give substance to the main goals of FUIW;
- Noting that the FUIW General Secretariat has taken into consideration the opinions put forward by the Executive Council members at the preceding Council sessions;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1-**Adopts the Draft Action Plan of the FUIW for the Years 2001-2003 as contained in the document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/8 amended, annexed to the Final Report.
- 2-**Thanks the Secretary General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in the preparation of the Draft Action Plan.
- 3-**Recommends the adoption of the Draft Action Plan of the FUIW for the Years 2001-2003, as contained in document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/8, by the Second General Conference.

Item 9 of the Agenda:

**Determination of the Date and Venue of the
Second Session of the General Conference
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/9**

15. Following examination of the report of the Secretary General regarding the date and venue of the Second Session of the General Conference (document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/9), and after taking note of the clarifications of the International Islamic University Malaysia Representative, the Executive Council agreed to wait for the reply of the University in September 2000, to know about the possibility for it to host the Second General Conference of FUIW. The Council commended the initiative of the Director of this University, who was considering the issue with the Malaysian government, and empowered the Secretary General to take the decision he would deem fit in case the International Islamic University Malaysia failed to host the Second General Conference. The Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 9 of the Agenda
(Date and Venue of the Second
Session of the General Conference)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.9**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 12, paragraph "d", of the Statute of the Federation;
- Taking into consideration the contents of the letter addressed by the honourable Director of the International Islamic University Malaysia in connection with the hosting of the Second Session of the General Conference of FUIW, and considering his request to the General Secretariat of FUIW to wait until September 2000 in order to know the final decision on the issue;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1-**Agrees to wait until September 2000 in order to know about the final decision of the International Islamic University Malaysia with regard to its hosting of the Second Session of FUIW General Conference.
- 2-**Conveys thanks and appreciation to the Director of the International Islamic University Malaysia for his firm intention to host the Second General Conference of FUIW as well as for his earnest endeavours to examine the issue with the Malaysian Government.
- 3-**Empowers the Secretary General of FUIW to take the decision he deems fit in this connection in case the International Islamic University Malaysia fails to host the Second General Conference of FUIW in 2001, and invites him to inform the Member Universities of FUIW thereon as soon as possible.

4-Decides to hold the Second General Conference of FUIW during the last week of March 2001.

**Item 10 of the Agenda:
Determination of the Date and Venue of the
Sixth Session of the Executive Council
Document FUIW/E.C.5/2000/10**

16. Following deliberations on this item, the Council passed the following decision in this connection:

**Decision on Item 10 of the Agenda
(Date and Venue of the Sixth Session
of the Executive Council)
FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.10**

The Executive Council,

- In compliance with Article 9 of the Statute of the Federation;
- Pursuant to the letter of the honourable Director of the International Islamic University Malaysia, whereby he requested to wait until September 2000 to know his reply in connection with the hosting of the Second General Conference of FUIW;
- In accordance with the decision taken by the Executive Council at its Fifth Session regarding the convening of the Second Session of the General Conference (Decision FUIW/E.C.5/2000/D.9);
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Approves the convening of the Sixth Session of the Executive Council during the three days preceding the Second Session of the General Conference of the FUIW in 2001.

Closing Session: Friday, 28 April 2000

17. At its closing session, the Executive Council examined the Draft Final Report, and adopted it. On this occasion, H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Secretary General of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW), delivered an address, in which he thanked the participants for their interest in the Federation's programmes and in the documents included in the agenda of the Council session. He likewise commended the efforts exerted by the staff of the Islamic Azad University, particularly Dr. Abdullah Jassbi, and thanked them for their warm welcome, expressing by the same token his appreciation for the excellent organization arrangements, the tremendous efforts expended, and the provision of all means with a view to facilitating the holding of the Council and bringing its proceedings to fruition.

18. H.E. Dr. Tengku Dahril, Rector of Riau Islamic University, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council, delivered an address in which he thanked the members of the Executive Council for their praiseworthy efforts in the study of the documents submitted to them. He also thanked the host university for the warm welcome, generous hospitality and excellent organization arrangements, and praised the efforts undertaken by the General Secretariat to prepare the documents to the full satisfaction of the Council.

19. At the end of the session, the Executive Council addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to H.E. Mr. Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for his enhancement of the values of Islamic solidarity, and his support of all the Islamic institutions. The Council expressed pride in the considerable accomplishments achieved by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the excellent international reputation enjoyed under his wise leadership.