

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**The Federation of the Universities
of the Islamic World (FUIW)
General Secretariat**



18th Session of the Executive Council

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)

Johor, Malaysia

30 Rabii II – 1 Jumada I 1434 A.H./

12-13 March 2013

Final Report

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With the help of Allah, the General Secretariat of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW) held the 18th session of the Executive Council on 30 Rabi'a II and 1 Jumada I 1434 A.H./12-13 March 2013, at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), State of Johor, Malaysia.

The proceedings of this session were inaugurated with an opening session presided over by H.E Prof. Dr Suleiman bin Abdallah Aba Al-Khail, Rector of Al-Imam Mohammed Bin Saud Islamic University, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Federation. Addresses during the opening session were delivered by H.E Prof. Dato' Seri Dr Zaini Ujang, Vice Chancellor of the UTM; H.E Dr Bayramov Shahin, Vice Rector for International Relations and Programmes of Azerbaijan State Economic University, representative of the President of the Federation's 5th Conference; and H.E Dr El Gharib Zaher Ismail, Director of the Federation's General Secretariat and representative of the Secretary General of the FUIW, H.E Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri. Taking part in the opening session were the members of the Executive Council whose names are annexed hereto (**Annex 1: list of participants in the 18th session of the Council**).

After recitation of verses from the Holy Quran and the Malaysian national anthem having been sung, Prof. Dato' Seri Dr Zaini Ujang, Vice Chancellor of the UTM, gave an address in which he welcomed the members of the Executive Council and expressed the university's pleasure to host the 18th session of the Executive Council, thanking H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Secretary General of the FUIW, for his efforts to promote science and scientific research and for his forward-looking approach to the development of the Federation's programmes and activities for the period 2013-2015. He expressed his confidence in the ability of the Federation and its Member Universities to rise to challenges and boost cooperation and partnership among Member Universities. He also reviewed the development of university education and scientific research in the UTM along with the various services delivered by the University and the scientific and industrial application it takes interest in.

Thereafter, H.E Prof. Dr Suleiman bin Abdallah Aba Al-Khail, Rector of Al-Imam Mohammed Bin Saud Islamic University, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, delivered an address in which he expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Vice Chancellor and administration of the UTM, for the generous hospitality and good organization of the 18th session of the Federation's Executive Council. He also expressed his pride in the outstanding status of

the Federation, along with his appreciation of its efforts to enhance partnership among Member Universities thanks to the sound planning, clear vision and earnest endeavours of the Secretary General, H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, who spares no effort to develop the FUIW and enhance its role through the establishment of specialized centres in the Member Universities. He also expressed his confidence in the future of the Federation, particularly thanks to the capacity of the General Secretariat, jointly with the Member Universities, to enhance the Federation's role so as to rank among the best specialized university federations at international level.

In his address, H.E. Dr Bayramov Shahin, Vice Rector for International Relations and Programmes of Azerbaijan State Economic University, representative of the President of the Federation's 5th Conference, extended his thanks and gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and administration of the UTM, for the generous hospitality and commendable organizational efforts devoted to the convening of the present session of the Council. He also commended the achievements of the Federation, stressing that the rapid global evolution of higher education poses new challenges which need to be addressed properly to develop higher education and scientific research in the Muslim world. This, he explained, would help meet the needs of communities, by taking advantage of the huge technological potential of the Member Universities and promoting cooperation and coordination among them to keep abreast of the latest developments, carry out ambitious scientific projects, and achieve education quality.

Thereafter, Dr El Gharib Zaher Ismail, Director of the FUIW General Secretariat, read out the address of H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO, ex officio Secretary General of the Federation, in which the Secretary General conveyed his heartfelt gratitude to H.E. the Vice Chancellor of the UTM and his assistants for the university's hosting of the current session of the Executive Council and for its efforts to promote the Federation, enhance its role and increase its outreach. He also expressed his thanks to H.E. the President of the 5th General Conference of the Federation, Rector of Azerbaijan State Economic University, for the efforts he is devoting to the implementation of the resolutions of the 5th General Conference in such a way as to enhance the action of the Federation and achieve its objectives. He then extended his thanks to H.E. the Chairman of the Executive Council of the Federation, Rector of Al-Imam Mohammed Bin Saud Islamic University, for his great interest in the Federation's actions and for his efforts to develop them, namely in terms of the preparation of the documents on the Islamic Virtual University (IVU) and the university's hosting of

feasible academic projects likely to help improve the Federation's performance and develop its action. In his address, the Secretary General of the FUIW stressed that the Federation's General Secretariat is seeking to develop university education and scientific research as sole prerequisites for development and progress, and is accordingly endeavouring to secure the necessary conditions for university education localization in such a way as to ensure an innovation-oriented university education that is sensitive to its endogenous civilizational and cultural context and actively involved in the Ummah's development project.

Afterwards, the Council held its first working session during which it adopted the Draft Agenda and Draft Programme of the Council's 18th sessions in their versions annexed hereto. (**Annex 2: the Agenda; Annex 3: the Programme**).

Then, the Director of the FUIW General Secretariat presented the Report of the Secretary General on the General Secretariat's Activities between the 17th and 18th Sessions of the Executive Council. The report presents an account of the activities implemented by the FUIW over the period between the previous and current sessions of the Executive Council. The reported period was marked by the effective participation of the FUIW in conferences and symposia aimed at promoting university research and improving its resources and methods, as well as by the field visits made by the heads of universities and specialized experts, in a bid to encourage experience sharing and performance assessment and promote the integration of the different visions of the Member Universities. In his report, the Secretary General also reviewed the projects on the "Islamic Virtual University", the "Islamic Body for Quality and Accreditation" and the "Project for the Establishment of the Network for the Development of Academic Cooperation and the Labour Market".

After due discussion of the report, the Council members lauded the outstanding efforts exerted by the Secretary General and his assistants, and expressed their appreciation of the steady progress made by the Federation in developing university education and scientific research. They also invited the Secretary General to pursue his efforts to boost cooperation among Member Universities and upgrade their role in research, training and education, and commended the universities having hosted activities of the Federation and those having collaborated with it in this regard, as part of the promotion of joint Islamic university action. The Council members also commended the increased quantity, quality and scope of activities implemented under the Federation's

action plans despite its limited resources. This, they particularly attributed to the General Secretariat's policy to rationalize expenditure and develop cooperation and partnership among the Member Universities.

After the adoption of the Secretary General's academic report, the Secretary General's Financial Report of the Secretary General and Study of the Financial Situation of the Federation in the year 2012 (extending from 1 January to 31 December 2012) was presented to the Council. The report highlighted the continuous efforts exerted by the Federation's General Secretariat to increase incomes and urge Member Universities to pay their contributions, in line with the recommendations of the Executive Council and the General Conference, and in a bid to ensure implementation of the largest number possible of the programmes scheduled under the three-year Action Plan for 2010-2012. In this regard, the report shows that the General Secretariat received, in 2012, a total sum of US\$236,453.58, including US\$119,014.50 as arrears under previous financial years, and US\$117,439.08 as contributions under the Financial Year 2012, in addition to off-budget resources made of bank proceeds and foreign exchange gains totalling US\$10,031.31.

The Report also points out that the General Secretariat, being aware of the limited resources received in proportion to the number of Member Universities, has taken measures to rationalize expenditure through implementation of activities jointly with Member Universities and similar institutions and organizations, and with the support of ISESCO. During the process of implementing those activities, the General Secretariat has been keen on eagerness to implement such joint activities and open new avenues for cooperation and joint action.

Having examined and discussed the Financial Report, the Council members adopted it and agreed to submit it to the 6th General Conference of the Federation. They also reaffirmed the previous decisions and resolutions of the Executive Council and the General Conference regarding the situation of Member Universities' contributions and arrears to the Federation's budget together with the incentives given to encourage settlement thereof. In the same vein, they expressed their thanks to the Member Universities which paid up their contributions for the year 2012, while urging others to promptly settle their contributions and arrears in order to enable the Federation to accomplish its mission and carry out the programmes scheduled under its Action Plan. In addition, the Council members expressed their appreciation of the Secretary General's intensive contacts with Member Universities to urge them to pay up their contributions.

They particularly thanked him for the good implementation of the Executive Council's decisions in this connection, and invited the Member Universities to sustain coordination with the Federation concerning implementation of their programmes, improvement of their performance and follow-up to their financial commitments vis-à-vis the Federation.

Then, the Director of the FUIW General Secretariat presented a progress report on the Project of the Islamic Virtual University, in line with the recommendations of the 5th General Conference of the FUIW, which invited the Secretary General to pursue his efforts devoted to the implementation of the Project, and in compliance with the decision issued in this regard by the previous session of the Executive Council. The report provided a review of the resolutions and recommendations of the 4th and previous meetings of the IVU Board of Trustees. Subsequently, the Executive Council adopted the report submitted by the Federation's General Secretariat on the IVU project, along with the new configuration of the IVU Board of Trustees, with recommendation for approval by the 6th General Conference, and invited the General Secretariat and the IVU presidency to take the necessary measures to launch the project. In the same context, the Council expressed gratitude to the FUIW General Secretariat, to His Highness the Ruler of Sharjah, to the Board of Trustees and to the IVU presidency for their continued cooperation on the project, while inviting universities, organizations and institutions in the Arab and Islamic worlds to financially and technically support the IVU to discharge its mission. The Council then invited the Secretary General to submit a report in this regard to its next session.

The Director of the FUIW General Secretariat also presented the Report on the Bureau of the Islamic Body for Quality and Accreditation (IBQA), which was drawn up following the experts meeting held on the IBQA activation, and the meeting held at the International University Malaysia. The Council adopted the Report on the Bureau of the Islamic Body for Quality and Accreditation, and invited the General Secretariat and the bureau to take the necessary measures to launch the project, and invited the universities, organizations and institutions in the Arab and Islamic worlds to financially and technically support the project. The Council then agreed to submit the report to the 6th General Conference, with a recommendation for adoption.

Afterwards, the Director of the FUIW General Secretariat made a presentation on the Project for the Establishment of the Network for the Development of Academic Cooperation and the Labour Market, highlighting its importance in improving quality and

research in higher education and meeting communities' needs and the labour market's demands. After due discussions, the Council decided to adopt the project, agreed that Al-Azhar University and Mansoura University (Egypt) and the UTM (Malaysia), host the headquarters of the Network, in coordination with and under the umbrella of the FUIW. In this context, the Council expressed gratitude to the General Secretariat for having prepared the document, decided to submit it to the Federation's 6th General Conference, and invited the universities, organizations and institutions in the Arab and Islamic worlds to fully support the implementation of the project.

The Council, having heard the presentation made by the Director of the FUIW General Secretariat on changing the Federation's logo, and having taken stock of the draft new logo, decided to adopt the new logo of the FUIW and agreed to submit it to the 6th General Conference, with a recommendation for approval.

Then, the Director of the FUIW General Secretariat presented a report on the 14 membership applications the General Secretariat received in 2012, six of which fulfilled the required conditions. He also expressed the Federation's desire to have prestigious universities among its members.

After due examination of the applications submitted, the Council commended the outcomes of the efforts exerted by the General Secretariat in this respect and decided to admit to the Federation, the following universities: Tunis Virtual University (Tunisian Republic); Shaqra University, University of Tabuk, University of Hail, and Arab East Colleges (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Karary University (Republic of the Sudan). **(Annex (4): List of Universities admitted to the FUIW by the Executive Council).**

In the same vein, the Executive Council recommended to the Secretary General to pursue efforts to invite other universities in the Islamic world to join the Federation. It also agreed to submit this document to the 6th General Conference with a recommendation to adopt it.

Furthermore, the Executive Council expressed gratitude to Qatar University for its kind proposal to host the 7th session of the Federation's Executive Council, and decided to host its next session at the university in 2014.

At the closing session, the Council members adopted the draft Final Report and the annexed decisions, while reiterating thanks to the UTM and its Vice Chancellor, H.E

Prof. Dato' Seri Dr Zaini Ujang, for the generous hospitality and good organization, and to H.E. Prof. Dr Suleiman Aba Al-Khail, Rector of Al-Imam Mohammed Bin Saud Islamic University, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Federation, for his wise running of this and previous sessions of the Council. They also expressed their appreciation to the FUIW Secretary General, H.E. Dr Abdualziz Othman Altwaijri, for the Federation's steady progress and its key role in enhancing the performance of universities, as well as for his support to the Federation's mission in such a way as to ensure the revival of the Muslim Ummah in every field.