

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Final Report of 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

1- At the kind invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization convened, by the grace of Allah, in Tehran, capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran, from 26 to 30 Shawal 1424 A.H, corresponding to 21-25 December 2003. The proceedings of the Session were attended by all the members of the Executive Council, except for the representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Suriname, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

2- After the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, His Excellency Mohamed Abdullah Fares, Chairman of the Executive Council delivered an address which he started by thanking the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting the Session in Tehran, the beautiful city with an old-age history and a distinguished centuries-long contribution to the Arab and Islamic culture.

His Excellency underlined the importance that this Session had acquired in view of the issues and items featured on its agenda. He highlighted the specificities of the new Three-Year Action Plan which he described as fully satisfactory in many respects. He also praised the excellent progress levels that the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has achieved in all aspects, particularly with regards to competence-specific prospective planning, for the Islamic world.

His Excellency praised the qualitative improvement in form and content achieved by the Islamic Organization in the discharging of its mission, to become one of today's model organizations, an example to be followed and relied on, both within the Islamic world and at the level of international and regional organizations. In the same vein, he paid tribute to His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of the Organization who, he said, devoted his work, experience, time and health to this Organization, elevating its stature and consolidating its presence, and placing it among the successful organizations recognized for their reliability, efficiency and relevance.

3- The floor was then taken by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization who opened his address with expressions of thanks, esteem and gratitude to His Excellency Mohamed Khatemi,

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, his honourable Government, and the Iranian people for their warm welcome and lavish hospitality.

His Excellency also addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies the Kings, Emirs and presidents of Member States for their unstinting support to the Organization, praying to Allah to protect them and crown with success all their endeavours to achieve victory and empowerment for our Islamic Ummah, and security, peace and stability for humanity at large.

His Excellency reviewed in his address the most salient points of the Council's agenda, mentioning in particular the outcome of the action carried out in the interim period between the two sessions. He described this outcome as highly rich in terms of achievements which do reflect the efforts exerted by the Islamic Organization over the elapsing Three-Year period. The second salient point was the new Three-Year Action Plan (2004-2006) which he described as a crystal-clear embodiment of the collective will of the Member States to have the Islamic Organization achieve a qualitative leap forward in its programmes and its performance of the civilizational mission vested with it while being interactive with the world changes and responsive to the mutations commanded by the prevailing juncture.

His Excellency affirmed that the considerable efforts of the Organization have proven indispensable in the service of such a multi-dimensional and vital issue as the edification of the human being in the Islamic world, building up his capacities, and qualifying him in order to contribute to the development and resurgence of society. Such efforts are likewise conducive to consolidating the endeavours undertaken by the international community for the worldwide consolidation of the principles of tolerance, coexistence, justice, security and peace-building to preserve the human interests, as part of the belief in the common destiny of all humanity. He stressed in this regard that the Islamic Organization has become an active partner in international efforts exerted by specialized organizations to promote dialogue between civilizations and cultures. He went on to say that the Islamic Organization now ranks among the active organizations working effectively towards disseminating the culture of peace and justice, and building a new world through educational, scientific and cultural action, guided by the revealed messages and drawing on the human principles and rules of international law.

- 4- Thereafter, the floor was taken by His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Ghazali, Deputy Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, speaking on behalf of Dr. Abdelouahed Belkeziz, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference. At the outset of his speech, he thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for playing host to the proceedings of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Organization,

emphasizing the effective contribution of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the intellectual and cultural movement both at the Islamic and international arenas, Iran being the cradle of many intellectual movements which were led by eminent figures whose fame bypassed the confines of the Islamic world to impact on other known civilizations of the world.

Mr. Ghazali went on to warn against the dangers lying in the tendentious and ungrounded smear campaigns waged against Islam and Muslims at present, emphasizing the need to coordinate the efforts exerted at all levels to redress the image of Islam and confront the fanatic assault on Islam and Muslims by extremist movements. He extolled the action of the Islamic Organization and its modern approach in tackling the issues and challenges facing the Islamic world. He also conveyed the pride that the Organization of the Islamic Conference takes in the pioneering role played by the Islamic Organization, and hailed the visionary leadership of its Director General, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri whose efforts have tremendously contributed to the consolidation of the role of the Islamic Organization and its radiance at the Islamic and international scenes.

- 5- His Excellency Dr. Morteza Haji, Minister of Education in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, then took the floor and delivered a speech in which he welcomed, on behalf of the Government of his country, the holding of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Tehran. He commended ISESCO on the efforts and valuable services it renders in developing education, culture and sciences in the Islamic world, and on the endeavours of its Director General, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, to elevate the stature of the Organization. His Excellency stressed the magnitude of the responsibility entrusted to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in meeting the existing educational challenges such as the prevalence of illiteracy, the shrinking opportunities of education for all, and the inequalities of schooling opportunities available for both genders, a situation that goes against the essence of Islam's call to acquire reading skills and spare no effort in the quest for knowledge. It also places upon the shoulders of the Islamic countries the responsibility for devising strategies conducive to boosting development fields, and that of coordinating efforts and intensifying cooperation among themselves, most particularly since the Islamic world has sufficient potentialities and resources to enable it to achieve the desired renaissance, and since some of its countries boast of achievements that could be put to contribution in meeting the said challenges.

His Excellency the Minister pointed out that the accusations and denigration campaigns that label Islam and Muslims with terrorism and accuse them of condoning violence, accusations of which Islam and Muslims are innocent, are but a pretext to attack and

occupy part of our Islamic world. Muslim countries have, therefore, to take the necessary measures in the cultural and information fields to refute these allegations and preserve their Islamic identity and civilizational heritage by consolidating ties, adopting sound planning and embracing sciences and modern technologies.

H.E. the Minister called upon the Islamic Organization to grant further attention to the conditions of education in Palestine, Afghanistan and Iraq, and to enhance the share of activities allotted within its programmes to the languages of Muslim peoples such as Persian, in consideration of its wealth of intellectual, religious, scientific and cultural creativity. He also proposed the creation of a parliament of the youth of Islamic countries in a bid to consolidate acquaintance and cooperation in educational, scientific and cultural fields between young Muslims from various countries.

His Excellency concluded by hailing the creation of two ISESCO Regional Offices in Tehran and Sharjah, and by wishing the meetings of the Executive Council and the General Conference of the Islamic Organization all success.

- 6- At the outset of the first working session, the Chairman of the Executive Council welcomed the joining of the Islamic Organization by the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, as well as the new members of the Executive Council representing the Republic of Benin, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam, the Republic of Togo, the Republic of Tunisia, the Republic of Djibouti, the Republic of Iraq, the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Lebanon.
- 7- Then, the Chairman of the Council submitted the Draft Agenda of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council as well as the Draft Programme. After being discussed, the two documents were adopted in the version appended.
- 8- The Draft Procedure for the proceedings of the Executive Council was then submitted. It included the suggestions of the General Directorate in answer to the call of the Council in its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session for the development of procedural mechanisms and organizational formalities of the Council's proceedings, particularly in relation to the Programme and the specification of the time allocated to the discussion of every item as well as the chronology of items on the Agenda. After the deliberations, the Draft Procedure was adopted, while taking account of the Council members' observations that will be examined and followed up by the General Directorate.
- 9- The Director General presented his report on the Organization's activities between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Executive Council. He reported that the Islamic Organization implemented during the previous year 334 activities covering education, science, culture, communication, computer science, planning and information with a

view to safeguarding the Islamic civilizational identity, contributing to lending assistance to development projects and plans in the Islamic world, and enhancing the values of knowledge and human rights and the culture of justice and peace from an Islamic point of view. Among those activities there were also 93 training and skills upgrading sessions as well as national and regional workshops, the aim being to contribute to developing institutions' capabilities and enhancing the human resources qualifications in the fields of teaching Arabic and the languages of Muslim peoples, Islamic education, literacy programmes, adult education, curricula development, modernizing teaching methods, and contributing to solving environment, health, population and social issues, preserving Islamic civilizational heritage and restoring its landmarks, and the optimal utilization methods of natural resources and renewable energies so as to achieve sustainable development.

The Director General also pointed out that the Islamic Organization held and participated, beside the regional and international specialized organizations, in 49 international specialized symposia and conferences in the areas of dialogue among cultures and civilizations, rapprochement among Islamic Madhahib, Islamic cultural action in the West, redressing the image of Islam and Muslims, child, woman and youth issues, preserving the cultural and civilizational heritage of Member States, establishing the knowledge society based on information and communication technologies, developing higher education, and respecting ethical norms in the field of scientific research.

The Director General added that ISESCO presented, during the previous, year 84 financial and technical forms support to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Member States. The relevant institutions in Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif benefited from a large share that reached 32 activities. The Organization also allocated 67 scholarships to Muslim students in Member States and other Islamic countries. It also assigned 35 Arabic and Islamic education teachers to Islamic universities and centres. The Islamic Organization concentrated its attention on the fields of writing, translating and publishing through implementing 60 activities in these fields.

ISESCO pursued the implementation of its educational, cultural and development projects in terms of preparation, implementation and evaluation, such as the projects "Creating In-Service Training Centres for Arabic in non-Arabic speaking Countries", "Writing African Languages in the Quranic Script", "Reading Centres in African Sahel Countries", and "The Productive Woman".

With regards to the agreements concluded between ISESCO and the international and regional organizations, the Director General pointed out that the number of these

agreements stood at 127, in the framework of which 207 activities were implemented last year.

**10-** During the discussions of the Director General's report on the Organization's activities between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Sessions, the Member States of the Council expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation for the Director General and his assistants for the distinguished efforts they made in implementing the programmes and activities. Their observations centred on the following:

- A)** Calling upon the Islamic Organization to continue granting importance to programmes meeting the urgent needs in several Member States, such as literacy programmes, girls' education, fighting poverty and unemployment and spreading the culture of justice and peace.
- B)** Allocating further activities to teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers, setting up specialized centres to teach it in non-Arabic speaking countries, spreading Islamic culture and training teachers of Quranic schools.
- C)** Implementing more activities in the field of teacher training and upgrading through adopting modern communication tools in teaching as well as in the field of educational planning and school administration.
- D)** Pursuing the implementation of programmes and activities related to enhancing dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions and programmes intended for redressing the image of Islam and Muslims in the world.
- E)** Calling upon the Islamic Organization to allocate programmes aimed at enhancing cooperation and dialogue among Member States to exchange expertise among them in the educational, scientific and cultural fields.
- F)** Dedicating more programmes and activities to the youth in Member States and endeavouring to establish Islamic youth parliament to contribute to the enterprise of dialogue among civilizations and cultures.
- G)** Urging for additional follow-up of the activities implemented periodically on the basis of data and indicators to evaluate their output and show their effect.
- H)** Extending increased financial and technical support to the National Commissions with a view to assisting them in discharging their duties.
- I)** Activating the formalities related to setting up the international Israeli war-crimes documentation observatory.

- J)** Taking the necessary measures to activate the Islamic Body on Ethics of Science with a view to drawing up a unified Islamic stance in this field and spread far and wide the results of its activities among all Member States.
  - K)** Carrying out an inventory of excellence centres in the Islamic world in order to provide developed working mechanisms from which Member States can benefit.
  - L)** Calling for the setting up of a research work group in charge of taking the initiative to present the Islamic conception about international issues instead of being limited to mere reactions.
  - M)** Continuing to use information means and media to spread the statements and positions of the Islamic Organization with a view to redressing the image of Islam and Muslims.
  - N)** Calling upon the Islamic Organization to allocate activities and programmes to water resources management and use of environment-friendly renewable energies.
  - O)** Persevering in the task of listing plundered Islamic cultural properties and endeavouring to recover them.
  - P)** Calling upon Member States to lend more financial and moral support to the Islamic Organization to assist it in discharging its civilizational mission.
- 11-** The Council then adopted the report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Executive Council, taking into consideration the observations and suggestions of the Council members. It also praised the efforts exerted by the Director General with a view to expanding cooperation areas with international and regional organizations as well as Islamic and Arabic institutions within the scope of programme implementation. The Council thanked the Director General and his assistants for their efforts in implementing programmes and rationalizing their expenditure, while taking into account the need to meet the priority needs of Member States and Muslim communities and minorities. This has made the Islamic Organization an authority in its fields of competence for the Islamic world. The Council recommended that the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of ISESCO's General Conference adopt this report.
- 12-** At the end of the first working session, the Director General presented the Organization's Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the years 2004-2006. He pointed out that, in response to the recommendations of the Executive Council in its 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Sessions, a main strategic objective of this Plan was determined, which is warding off the hostile campaign waged against Islam and Muslims. Three subsidiary strategic objectives were also determined, which the Organization intends to achieve

and work within their framework during the coming three years. These are related to contributing to national and international endeavours aimed at fighting illiteracy in its broad sense, developing knowledge, enhancing the culture of justice and peace through education, science and culture, and directing the endeavours of Member States towards using information and communication technologies in developing the sectors of education, science and culture.

To achieve these objectives, the Director General stressed that significant changes have been introduced to the current Three-Year Action Plan, taking into account the changes sweeping over the world and the scope and nature of challenges facing the Islamic world. This concern appears in the subsidiary objectives that were outlined for each one of the Organization's fields of competence: education, sciences, culture and communication as well as in the new activities and programmes spelled out in the new Action Plan that sets as priorities the programmes geared to achieving education for all and fighting illiteracy. Other priorities set by the new Action Plan include programmes geared to serving the Islamic culture and civilization with the aim of renewing their contribution to universal civilization, facilitating Member States' use of new information and communication technologies, encouraging young scientists to conduct development-related scientific research, enhancing the education of gifted persons, encouraging the establishment of excellence centers in the Islamic world and consolidating efforts by Member States to promote the exchange of expertise and experience among them. The current Action Plan is also marked by the adoption of new implementation tools, especially as regards the use of modern communication means available for the Islamic Organization and for Member States.

Concerning cooperation with parallel international and regional organizations, the Director General emphasized the General Directorate's resolve to carry on its efforts to activate the cooperation agreements it concluded with its sister Arab, Islamic and international organizations to coordinate joint Arab, Islamic and international action. Furthermore, he reiterated determination to rationalize expenses and raise additional funds to implement the largest possible number of programmes and activities scheduled in the Action Plan. He also praised the central and crucial role played by National Commissions in contributing to the implementation of the Action Plan's activities and programmes, expressing the General Directorate's determination to reinforce cooperation ties with them and intensify the support extended to them in order to enable the National Commissions to discharge their duties in the best possible way.

Regarding the new Action Plan and Budget, the Director General explained the reasons why the budget was increased by 6.5%, recalling in this regard the decision adopted by the 10<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit held in Malaysia on 16-18 October 2003 and which provided

for an increase in the Islamic Organization's budget. This would, with God's help, endow the General Directorate with means likely to enable it to carry out the scheduled activities and programmes and cover new expenses resulting from the holding of current Islamic ministerial conferences and of those to be organized, pointing out that the Organization's budget has not been increased for the past nine years.

- 13-** After listening to the report of the Director General, the discussions of the Council at the beginning of the second working session, dedicated to the Draft Action Plan and the Budget for the years 2004-2006, centered on setting the priorities of the Organization's action for the three forthcoming years, such as the need to master the sources of knowledge, and to contribute to the achievement of education for all with special emphasis on the teaching of science, technology, environment and natural resources' protection. Other priorities include the need to redress the image of Islam and Muslims, take initiatives to recover the luster of the Islamic thought and its impact on the human civilization, secure respect for cultural diversity and energize the Islamic solidarity to help most disadvantaged states build their capabilities in the area of information technology and communication, as well as to provide support and assistance to the Palestinian people and the Muslims in Chechnya and Kashmir, strive to build Islamic societies with stable conditions proud of their Islamic affiliation and their Islamic values that call for the achievement of justice, tolerance, peace and democracy.

The observations and proposals of the Council on the Action Plan and Budget for the years 2004-2006 came as follows:

- Commending the comprehensiveness, depth, renovation and cohesion of the Action Plan;
- Emphasizing the need of the Organization's ambitious programmes and activities for additional financial and moral support in order to serve the educational, scientific and cultural causes of the Islamic world;
- Inviting Member States to ensure appropriate conditions for the Islamic Organization to discharge its coordinating mission with regards to the exchange of expertise among Member States and benefiting from Muslim skills;
- Urging the Islamic Organization to intensify cooperation with regional and international organizations as a means of rationalizing efforts and expenditure as a way of drawing benefit from other successful experiences within the respect of the reference framework of Islamic values, and the preservation of cultural plurality and civilizational diversity;
- Emphasizing the need to modernize working and training methods followed in the various training and rehabilitating activities;

- Increasing the share of programmes and activities benefiting Newly Independent Islamic Republics in Central Asia in order to help them preserve their Islamic identity;
- Consolidating the rapprochement of Europe and the countries of the Islamic world through the implementation of more joint activities within the fields of competence of the Organization;
- Consolidating the various activities of literacy, education for all, girls and women's education, the education of overachievers and persons with special needs, the curricula of Quranic schools, original education, environment and health education, reduction of poverty and unemployment and consecrating the culture of peace and human rights;
- Dedicating part of its support programmes to encouraging national programmes of education for all, particularly in countries where illiteracy rates are high among women and girls;
- Creating ISESCO Literacy Prize and awarding it to Member States that took successful initiatives to fight illiteracy through utilization of modern techniques in this area;
- Dedicating activities within the framework of Education for All for "Early Childhood" to cater to the needs of this category in Islamic countries, particularly through the training of the appropriate educational staff;
- Elaborating, under the supervision of ISESCO, an Islamic educational theory to be adopted as a reference document within Member States;
- Incorporating the subject of "Education Economies" as an educational subject, planning it properly and drawing up its appropriate curricula with a view to facilitating its teaching in Member States' qualified universities;
- Encouraging modern educational curricula, endeavouring to unify them in the fields of Islamic education, science, technology and illiteracy eradication, and contributing to developing education working means through adopting modern communication technologies and qualifying educational and administrative executives for exploiting them;
- Sending expert groups from ISESCO to take stock of the educational and cultural situations in some countries, particularly independent Islamic countries in Central Asia;
- Enhancing programmes geared to civilizational dialogue, for redressing the image of Islam and Muslims, acquiring the spirit of initiative and leadership in

this field, and drawing up appropriate activities to be jointly implemented in Europe, America and Asia;

- Commending the new implementation means of programmes included in the Plan, such as university chairs;
- Spreading health culture in Islamic societies;
- Translating major books into the languages of Muslim peoples;
- Allocating more scholarships to students from Member States and Muslim communities and minorities;
- Encouraging women's access to higher education in Member States;
- Calling for setting up an Islamic Youth Parliament;
- Endeavouring to incorporate the concepts of dialogue among civilizations, religions and cultures in curricula of children and young people both inside and outside the Islamic world;
- Finding out the appropriate mechanisms to enable the Islamic world to benefit from its migrant brains' skills and experience in priority development fields, starting with technology and communication, tapping renewable energies and compiling databases on these skills, as part of the Organization's strategy in the field;
- Invigorating Islamic cultural action in newly-independent Islamic states of Central Asia, in order to deepen Islamic values in these countries and protect their civilizational identity, as part of the strategy and executive plan of the Islamic cultural action in the West;
- Highlighting the importance of ensuring an effective presence of the Islamic Organization in international fora and conferences on cultural diversity and appealing to ISESCO to consolidate coordination in this field with UNESCO and the International Francophony Organization;
- Increasing activities and programmes geared to promoting Member States' use of Information and Communication Technology;
- Dedicating further attention to Islamic museums, monuments and landmarks in Member States, especially in Palestine, Iraq, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan and the newly independent Islamic states in Central Asia;
- Assigning further interest to programmes and activities geared to developing mechanisms for the generalization of environment and health education;

- Inviting ISESCO to further invest in various new information and communication technologies within the framework of the project of redressing the image of Islam and Muslims;
- Addressing the cultural challenges through a strategic approach angle that takes into account the new globalization-related world trends and the building of the information society;
- Dedicating further activities to gifted and excellent children, youth and women in Member States, and organizing meetings, camps and contests for them;
- Pursuing the implementation of the project of setting up regional Islamic centres for audio-visual and multimedia training and programme production, in cooperation and coordination with Member States;
- Organizing activities to exchange technical expertise and consultation between Member States in knowledge production and to catch up with current advances in theoretical and practical sciences and new technologies;
- Supporting the setting up of scientific laboratories to teach exact sciences in Member States;
- Initiating financial support programmes to assist in the enhancement of the university education system in needy Member States;
- Setting up permanent committees, composed of eminent Muslim scholars, specialized in exact sciences to benefit from their expertise in the preparation and implementation of ISESCO's projects relating to the ethics of sciences and to the mechanisms for the application of science for developmental purposes;
- Dedicating further care to social sciences through the setting up or supporting of social studies centres in Member States.

**14-** The Council adopted the Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the years 2004-2006, taking into account the Council members' observations. It also thanked the Director General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in drawing up the budget and recommended to the General Conference to adopt the project.

**15-** The Director General then presented a report on the programmes and activities carried out in the 2001-2003 period for the benefit of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to preserve its Islamic identity against obliteration and Judaization, highlighting the keen interest taken by the Islamic Organization in the education of categories with special needs and the protection of Islamic manuscripts and historical landmarks in this city. In this context, several training sessions and workshops were held for education staff and technical and material support was extended to educational, scientific and cultural

institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the publication of books and documentary films to publicize the civilizational heritage of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. In the same vein, ISESCO held several conferences to expose the Israeli tyranny and raise awareness on the dangers that these practices entail on the Palestinian people and on its Islamic and human heritage. The Director General furthermore pointed out to the Islamic Organization's attempts to involve Arab, Islamic and International organizations in financing these activities and programmes, given the limited annual funds available.

- 16-** The Executive Council adopted the report presented by the Director General on the Islamic Organization's efforts to safeguard the Islamic identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif against obliteration and Judaization and condemned Israel's aggressions, desecration of Islamic sanctities and destruction of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It also appealed to the Director General to continue the implementation of programmes and activities geared to preserve the cultural identity of the city and its civilizational landmarks. The Council reiterated its previous decisions related to the status of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif. It equally thanked the Director General for the good implementation of its decisions related to Al-Quds Al-Sharif and for his efforts and initiatives in this connection, and recommended to the General Conference to adopt the document.
- 17-** The Director General then presented a report on ISESCO's role in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine during the period running between 2001 and 2003. He pointed out that the Islamic Organization has carried out, in close coordination with the Palestinian National Commission for Education, Culture and Sciences and based on the priorities set by the educational, cultural and social institutions in Palestine, a series of training sessions and workshops. It also extended to these institutions material and technical support to consolidate their technical capacities, and convened in 2003, an international symposium to document Israel's war crimes, a symposium that called for setting up an international observatory to document the Israeli war crimes. It also published a book entitled: "Jenin Camp: a testimony to Israeli war crimes" in the Organization's three working languages, and granted 21 scholarships for Palestinian students in various scientific subjects.
- 18-** The Council adopted the document on ISESCO's role in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and condemned the Israeli tyrannical aggressions against the educational, scientific and cultural institutions, cities and villages in Palestine and the siege and oppression of its innocent citizens. It also urged for putting an end to the settlement activities and to the Israeli practices and measures that run counter to the international legitimacy. An appeal was also launched for banning these measures and for dismantling the Israeli settlements in accordance with

the relevant the Security Council resolutions. The council appealed to the General Directorate to intensify its efforts to support the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and give them the priority in the 2004-2006 Action Plan programmes. It also thanked the Director General for his sustained efforts to back up the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and recommended to the General Conference to adopt the document.

- 19-** The Director General further presented a report on ISESCO's role in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the 2001-2003 period, stressing that the Islamic Organization has focused its efforts on the city of Sarajevo within the framework of the Special Sarajevo Unit and has been granting utmost importance to the preservation of the Islamic heritage, the teaching of Islamic education and of Arabic language and the education of categories with special needs. In this context, reference books and school manuals were devised, translated and published and the meanings of the Holy Quran were translated into Bosnian and published in Braille. Furthermore, several information institutions were extended support, teachers of Islamic education and Arabic language continued to be assigned to Islamic educational institutions in Sarajevo and Bosnian students received scholarships to carry on their studies in various scientific subjects.

The Director General expressed thanks to the World Islamic Call Society and to the World Islamic Charitable Association for their distinguished cooperation with the Islamic Organization in carrying out these activities.

- 20-** The document on the role of ISESCO in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina was adopted. The Council invited the Director General to pursue the implementation of programmes allocated to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina within the Three-Year Action Plan (2004-2006). The Council reaffirmed the decisions taken by the previous sessions of the Executive Council and the General Conference in this connection. It also commended the unstinting efforts of the Director General in supporting the institutions of education, science and culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council thanked the Director General for the good implementation of these decisions and recommended that the 8th General Conference adopt this document.
- 21-** The Director General presented a report on the role of ISESCO in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia between 2001 and 2003. He underscored the programmes and activities implemented in the fields of training, enhancement of skills, education and administration as well as technical and financial

assistance provided to the Somali National Commission and to the Ministry of Higher Education of Somalia and relating to the assigning of Arabic and Islamic Education teachers to Mogadishu University, Somalian schools and to Somalian refugees in Djibouti.

**22-** The Council adopted the document on the role of ISESCO in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia. It invited the Director General to pursue the implementation of programmes allocated to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia. It reaffirmed the decisions taken in this connection by the previous sessions of the Executive Council and the General Conference. It extended thanks to the Director General for his good implementation of those decisions, and recommended that the 8th General Conference adopt this document.

**23-** At the end of the second working session, the Director General presented his report on the evaluation of the action of the Islamic Organization between the years 2001-2003. He pointed out that notwithstanding the great number of activities scheduled within the three previous years, which reached 1,235 activities, this number does not reflect all the programmes and activities contained in the 2001-2003 Three-Year Action Plan. He attributed this fact to the great ambition of this Plan on the one hand, and to the non-disbursement of the full contributions of Member States on the other. The activities implemented within the current Action Plan totalled 849 activities from the overall activities scheduled. He pointed out that the rate of implementation could have been higher if sufficient financial resources were available, if the cooperating and hosting parties abided by their commitments, and if some activities were not suspended on account of circumstances on the site of implementation.

Regarding the qualitative evaluation, the General Directorate endeavoured to consolidate the evaluation approach with the aim of improving performance, and achieving the sought objectives. The Organization pursued the study of the actual impact of its field activities to gauge the judiciousness of its choices, the relevance of these activities' contents, and the effectiveness of implementation methods. Evaluation was conducted on the basis of the data obtained from the questionnaires sent to the beneficiaries and to the National Commissions on the one hand, and of reports drawn-up by the supervising experts on the other.

After reviewing the results of the evaluation of the activities and programmes implemented within the foregoing action plan, he touched on the activities that the Organization could not implement and the problems it encountered.

**24-** Then, the Council discussed the report of the Director General on the evaluation of the work of the Islamic Organization in the course of the years 2001-2003. The observations focused on the following items:

- Expressing satisfaction at the continuous renewal and improvement of the evaluation methods of the Organization's performance.
- Requesting demonstration of the impact of accrued Member States' contributions arrears on the scheduling and implementation of programmes and activities.
- Conducting evaluation of the immediate field impact of the activities of continuous training and other similar activities.
- Commissioning external, independent and specialized parties to evaluate the activities of the Islamic Organization and present a Ten-Year report on its action.

**25-** The Council decided to adopt the evaluation of the Organization's action contained in the document relating to the report of the Director General on the evaluation of the action of the Islamic Organization between 2001 and 2003, while taking into consideration the observations made by the Council members. The Council called upon the Member States to interact in a more productive and profound manner with the external evaluation operations within the framework of implementing the programmes and activities of the Action Plan. The Council also commended the efforts exerted by the Director General and his assistants with a view to improving the evaluation methods of the Organization's action. It also invited him to continue in improving the internal and external evaluation mechanisms, in such a way as to improve the Organization's performance. The Council recommended that the General Conference adopt this document.

**26-** Regarding to the role of the Islamic Organization in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan, the representative of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan to the Executive Council took the floor at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> working session and talked about the paramount importance given by the competent authorities in his country to teaching Arabic in addition to other languages and to publicizing the human values of the Islamic culture. He stressed the high priority to be given to providing education for all, mainly to children, unable to go to schools, destroyed or closed during the years of war. He called upon the Islamic Organization and the Member States to provide support to women education and literacy, dedicate assistance to the educational institutions, provide curricula, train and re-train all educational executives at all levels, rebuild and open the cultural institutions, including museums and cultural centers to protect and maintain the cultural heritage and to rehabilitate the Islamic civilizational and cultural landmarks in Afghanistan. The

Representative of Afghanistan presented in this connection a document including a set of related proposals.

- 27-** The Council took its decision on the role of ISESCO in supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan, inviting the General Directorate to prepare a special programme of comprehensive support to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan within the framework of the 2004-2006 Action Plan, in particular in the rebuilding of these institutions, in cooperation with Government of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan. It urged the Member States in the Islamic Organization and governmental and non-governmental organizations in the Islamic world to contribute to providing urgent assistance to educational, scientific, cultural, communication and information institutions in Afghanistan, requesting, by the same token, the General Directorate to submit a report in this connection to the following session of the Council and recommending that the 8<sup>th</sup> General Conference adopt this report.
- 28-** Regarding the project of setting up an Islamic Youth Parliament, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Council, stated that His Excellency the Minister of Education, Dr. Mourtada Haji proposed the idea of setting up an Islamic Youth parliament to foster deep understanding and acquaintance among youth in the Islamic world, and to contribute to laying down the foundations of democracy in their countries. He likewise pointed out that the competent authority in the Islamic Republic of Iran will undertake to prepare documents pertaining to the project in collaboration with the Islamic Organization.
- 29-** The Council took a decision on the project of setting up an Islamic youth parliament, wherein it invited the Director General to examine the matter in collaboration with the competent parties in Iran, and to present a report thereon to the forthcoming Executive Council.
- 30-** The Director General presented the Financial Report and the Closing Accounts for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002 as being the accounts of the second financial year of the Three-Year Action Plan 2001-2003. The Director General underlined that during the year 2002, the Islamic Organization received US\$ 6,155,426 in the form of contributions from the Member States, representing 40% of the contributions expected for this year's budget which amounted to US\$ 12,861,722. The Director General stressed that this rate is inconsequential in comparison to the programmes and activities to be implemented, particularly since the Islamic Organization relies mainly on Member States' contributions to implement its Action Plans. In a move to alleviate the deficit and secure the support required to finance the

scheduled programmes and activities, the Director General pointed out that thanks to the extensive contacts he had with a host of prominent personalities and charitable institutions in the Member States, additional resources amounting to US\$ 1,215,400 have been raised.

The Director General recalled that the arrears not collected by the Organization from its creation till 31 December 2002 totalled US\$ 77,822,511, in addition to the permanent deficit in the budget due to unearned contributions from Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which have not yet joined ISESCO.

With regard to the actual expenditures destined to the programmes and activities of 2002, the Director General emphasized that given the scarcity of available financial resources, and the non-settlement of contributions by most Member States, the Organization pursued rationalization of expenditures. Thus the total of the financial expenses of the Organization in 2002 reached US\$ 6,624,989, with 11% earmarked to the general policy, and 73 % to programmes and support activities, whereas the joint expenditures totaled US\$ 1,090,130, which represents 16% of the total expenditure for the year 2002.

The Director General proposed the appointment of a new audit company in accordance with the recommendation of the Financial Control Committee in order to allow the Islamic Organization to benefit from new and advanced expertise in account auditing. He indicated that the General Directorate followed the procedural rules to examine the tenders presented by several auditing firms in Rabat, and selected the Delta Audit Company which fulfilled all the criteria and international specifications observed in this field.

- 31-** The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee presented the Committee's report for the year 2002, wherein he expressed his satisfaction with the cooperation of the Director General with the Committee through providing all the information and explanations needed. This eased the task of the Committee and enabled it to draw the necessary comparisons and make the required analyses to confirm the sound use of the Organization resources, and the accuracy of its calculations. The Chairman of the Committee praised the implementation of the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee for the year 2001. He also commended its call for convening the meeting of the Commission of the Executive Council entrusted with studying the matter of collecting the arrears of the Member States and to step up efforts to seek off-budget resources to implement programmes and activities. Concerning the Report of the auditing Company for the year 2002, the Chairman of the Committee pointed out that after the examination of the report mentioned, the Committee confirms the

soundness of the Organization's line of conduct pursued by the General Directorate in the field of rationalizing expenditure, and recommended concluding a contract with a new highly qualified auditing company to enable the General Directorate to benefit from a new expertise in this field.

**32-** During the deliberations on the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2002, the Report of the Audit Company, the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Financial Year 2002 and the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditures up to the end of September 2003, the Committee members made observations that centred on:

- Praising the approach of submitting the financial data of the Financial Report of the Director General, the Closing Accounts, the Report of the Audit Company, the General Statement of the Organization's Accounts and Expenditures that were incorporated in a single document, a formula that facilitated the Council's work in examining these data.
- Hailing the Organization's financial policy which allocated the bulk of expenditures to implementing the Action Plan activities and programmes and earmarking the tiniest proportion to general policy and joint expenditures.
- Commending the Director General efforts to raise additional financial resources in order to make up for the deficit in the Islamic Organization budget.
- Calling for the design of implementation indicators by the Audit Company with a view to better evaluate the action of the Islamic Organization.
- Entrusting operations related to the printing and publishing of the Islamic Organization's publications with external printing houses instead of setting up a printing house special for the Organization.

**33-** Then, the Council adopted the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 2002, the Report of the Audit Company, report of the Financial Control Committee for the Year 2002 and the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditures up to the end of September 2003. The Council thanked the personalities and parties that made donations to support the Organization. It also extended thanks to the Director General for his endeavours to obtain additional resources, invited him to carry on these endeavours and praised the policy he pursued in gearing the maximum resources of the Organization to implementing the programmes, rationalizing expenditures and improving their exploitation. It, likewise, commended his adherence to the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee.

The Council also thanked the Financial Control Committee for its endeavours to improve the performance of the Organization's General Directorate. It commissioned Delta Audit Company to carry out the auditing of accounts as from the beginning of the year 2004 for one renewable financial year.

- 34-** The Executive Council held an in-camera session to study the Report of the Director General on the contributions of the Member States to ISESCO's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization. The report came in three chapters. The first and the second chapters are devoted to the statement of the situation of Member States' contributions, and the situation of arrears during the financial year 2002 and the previous years. The third chapter dealt with the efforts exerted by the Executive Council and the Director General to urge the Member States to settle their contributions and arrears. The Director General pointed out that the contributions which have been actually collected during the year 2002 totalled US\$ 6,155,426, accounting for only 40% of the total amount planned for the year, i.e. US\$ 12,861,722. The Director General listed the countries that settled their contributions partially or totally during the said financial year. The contributions made to the Organization's budget between 1982 and 31 December 2002 reached US\$ 92,794,142, which represents a rate of 46% only of the scheduled budget estimated at US\$ 201,036,537, decided by ISESCO's supreme bodies. During this same period, arrears reached US\$ 77,822,551. The Director General pointed out that in order to cope with the situation, the General Directorate was forced to adopt an austerity policy and rationalize its expenditure, which affected the level of implementation of the activities and programmes, and to maintain a financial surplus to avoid any financial crisis and cope with expenditure in the beginning of the following year.
- 35-** The Executive Council discussed the report of the Committee set up by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Executive Council to look into the proposal of writing off Member States' arrears, which met on 18 December 2003 in Tehran. The Committee examined the working document of the Director General on the criteria and conditions regulating the proposal of arrears' cancellation, and took cognizance of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference Resolution and decided to submit its proposals to the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council. This proposal provides for the submission of any dispute arising from or in connection with the contribution rate to the General Conference of the Islamic Organization, classifying the Member States into able, unable states and states with a special status, and subjecting each category to specific writing off measures in accordance with the procedure contained in the Committee's report.
- 36-** After deliberations, the Council decided to adopt the Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the

Financial Situation of the Organization. It also adopted the report of the Executive Council Committee in charge of studying the proposal of the Director General on canceling Member States' arrears, containing its rules of procedure after amendment by the Council. It expressed thanks and appreciation to the Director General for his efforts to intensify contacts with the Member States in order to collect maximum contributions, as well as his efforts to promote cooperation with international and regional organizations to secure further support to the Organization's programmes and activities. It invited him to carry on his efforts in this connection and continue his special visits to Member States with unsettled arrears to meet with their leaders, through the National Commissions and the Representatives of these States in the Executive Council, in order to better prepare these visits. The Council recommended that the General Conference adopt this report.

- 37-** Then, the Executive Council examined the projects of the Amendment to the Personnel Regulations, the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund. These projects included the amendments proposed by the General Directorate relating to reducing the number of grades for the two categories of Specialists and Experts into one category. There were also other amendments related to the administrative procedure applied within the framework of the Personnel Regulations.
- 38-** After deliberations, the Executive Council adopted, at the closing of the in-camera session, the decisions related to the amendments to the personnel regulations, the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of the Organization's personnel. It also recommended to the General Conference to adopt these amendments.
- 39-** In the beginning of the fourth working session, the Executive Council issued a decision tasking the Islamic Organization to assign support activities to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Iraq, as part of the Three-Year Action Plan 2004-2006.
- 40-** The Council released a statement in which it condemned the recent barbaric massacre perpetrated by the ruthless Israeli forces in the Palestinian city of Raffah, expressing by the same token its full solidarity with the militant Palestinian people, exhorting international organizations and the international community to urgently move to halt ugly Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian people and their educational, scientific and cultural institutions.
- 41-** The Director General presented a report on the construction of the new permanent headquarters of the Islamic Organization. In his report, he reviewed the administrative

and technical measures taken so far, relating to concrete works, recalling the visit paid by the Financial Control Committee, in July 2003, to the construction site to verify that the measures taken and construction works were in conformity with the set plan. As for the financial aspect of the project, the Director General said that the contacts he has made so far with a number of eminent personalities enabled him to collect donations, totalling US\$1,710,000, in addition to US\$1,000,000 provided by ISESCO from its Reserve Fund. This brings the total amounts secured to US\$ 2,710,000 out of the total overall cost of US\$ 6,000,000. In a move to secure additional financial resources to complete the project, the Director General expressed his intention to pursue his contacts with a number of eminent personalities in Member States to secure more funds.

The Director General proposed that the Council authorizes the borrowing from the Reserve Fund of the Organization as and when necessary to cover outlays on the project. The loans thus borrowed shall be refunded from possible donations and from income of sale of the current Organization's headquarters.

At the end of his report, the Director General said that the construction of the headquarters will usher in a new era in the march of the Islamic Organization, calling upon the Executive Council's Members to support his efforts in order to complete all the phases of the project as soon as possible.

Being keen to advise the Members of the Executive Council on the progress in the headquarters construction, a documentary prepared by the Organization was shown.

- 42-** The Executive Council adopted the Report of the Director General on the construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters, and thanked the eminent personalities who pledged donations for the construction of the headquarters. The Council also thanked the government of the Kingdom of Morocco for facilitating procedures for the Organization to start the construction works. It commended the steady efforts exerted by the Director General and his contacts to secure financial support for the construction of the permanent headquarters, thanked the Director General and his assistants for the works achieved and authorized the Director General to borrow from the Reserve Fund as and when necessary to complete the construction works. The Council also decided to place this item on the agenda of the 25th Session of the Council. The Executive Council recommended that the 8th General Conference adopt this report.
- 43-** The Executive Council moved to the agenda item on the setting up of an ISESCO Office in Tehran in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Director General presented a report in this connection and recalled the steps taken by the General Directorate to open the Regional Office in Tehran and the talks held with the relevant Iranian authorities

ending up in the signature of the Seat Agreement and the opening of the Office on 18 January 2003. The Director General commended the Islamic Republic of Iran for honouring its administrative, financial and technical obligations as stipulated in the Seat Agreement, and for providing working means and facilities for the Office. He indicated that the Office became officially operational and carried out a series of activities falling under the scope of competence of the Organization, in cooperation with the General Directorate, in addition to its contribution in coordinating the preliminary organizational steps of the 8th General Conference and the 24th Session of the Executive Council.

- 44-** During the discussions, the Members of the Executive Council made remarks focused on reinforcing the staff working at the Regional Office of ISESCO in Tehran and the necessity to endow the Office with highly qualified personnel from among States in the region, while looking into the progressive extension of its competence.
- 45-** The Executive Council adopted the report of the Director General on ISESCO Regional Office in Tehran and thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing fully equipped premises to host the Regional Office and for earmarking a generous budget to it, recommending that the General Conference adopt this document.
- 46-** At the end of the fourth working session, the Director General made a presentation on the project of setting up an Islamic Satellite Channel. He reviewed the progress achieved in the project since the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Executive Council in 2000 in Rabat, the steps taken by the Islamic Organization to implement the decision of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Executive Council Session commissioning of a detailed study on the Channel, its installation and operating costs, as well as the proposed shares of Member States in the funding of the project. In this connection, the Director General stated that contacts were made with two international audio-visual consulting firms to prepare the requested technical and financial study. In the meantime, the General Directorate received some responses from Member States, which were in the overall diverse but almost all urged for further patience in the launching of the project. This led the General Directorate to exercise patience and postpone the conduct of such study and submit it to the Executive Council for consideration.

In view of the financial and technical difficulties impeding implementation of the project, and taking into consideration the division of Member States, as regards setting up an Islamic Satellite Channel, the Director General proposed to benefit from the existing satellite channels in the Member States, promoting them through supplying appropriate information material for redressing the image of Islam and Muslims through widely spoken languages.

- 47-** Considering the deliberations which have taken place, the Executive Council adopted the Director General's report on setting up an Islamic Satellite Channel, and urged that the project be given conscientious and thorough consideration, drawing on cooperation and coordination with the existing satellite channels in Member States, with a view to running programmes on Islam in the worldwide spoken languages.
- 48-** In another in-camera session, the Council examined the preparation for the General Conference of the Islamic Organization. After due deliberation, the Council decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt the Draft Agenda of the Eighth Session of the General Conference and its Draft Programme, subsequently to the addition of an item on Iraq and the issuance of an appeal condemning the Israeli aggression against Gaza strip. Furthermore, the Council decided to recommend that the Eighth General Conference re-elect Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for a six year term, in accordance with the resolutions of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit (Putra jaya, Malaysia, 16-18 October 2003) in connection with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- 49-** The Council decided to convene the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council during the first half of December 2004 in Rabat.
- 50-** At the outset of the closing session, the Executive Council addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, whereby the Council members expressed their gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency, along with his august Government and to the Iranian people for their warm welcome and generous hospitality, as well as for the help and support they received, enabling them to discharge their mission in the best conditions.
- 51-** The Executive Council then discussed the Draft Final Report on the proceedings of its 24<sup>th</sup> Session, along with the relevant Draft Decisions. After due deliberation, the Council adopted the Final Report of this session as well as the ensuing Decisions.
- 52-** Thereafter, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, delivered an address in which he expressed his profound satisfaction with the positive results of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council, stressing that the Council has been successful in the observations it made, the issues it raised and the ideas it put forward about the mission of the Islamic Organization in the coming period and the role it discharges in support of human development, cultural renaissance as well as scientific and technological progress in Muslim societies, within or without Member States. He also pointed out that the Executive Council emphasized through its discussions that the success scored by

ISESCO in all these fields constitutes an asset for the Islamic Organization, as well as a contribution to the wealth of constructive ideas it relies upon while designing projects, programmes and activities under its Action Plan, which has made of ISESCO an apex centre in the Islamic world. He also extended special thanks to Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Fares, upon the completion of his mandate as Chairman of the Council, for his distinguished efforts, his wisdom and magnanimity in running the Council's proceedings throughout the elapsed three-year period

- 53-** The floor was then taken by Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Fares, Chairman of the Executive Council, who thanked the Council members for the trust they placed in him as they elected him Chairman of the Executive Council of the Islamic Organization for the previous three years, and for their assistance as well as patience and endurance. He also lauded their wide experience and expertise which significantly contributed to the success of the Council's proceedings and to the upgrading of the Islamic Organization's work.
- 54-** Afterwards the floor was taken by Dr. Ibrahim Mubarak Al-Juwair, the Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Council, who extended his thanks on behalf of all Council members to Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Fares for his outstanding efforts, while praising his wise steering of the Council's proceedings, his high morals and wide experience.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific  
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**Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 1.1 of the Draft Agenda:  
(Draft Agenda)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Articles (23-25) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Draft Agenda of its 24<sup>th</sup> Session contained in document (CE24/2003/1.1 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- Adopts the Agenda of its current 24<sup>th</sup> Session as contained in the document (CE24/2003/1.1 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of the present Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific  
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**Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda:  
(Draft Programme)**

**The Executive Council,**

- Recalling Decision (CE 23/2002/D.4.1) adopted by the Executive Council at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session (Rabat, 12-15 December 2002), whereby the Council decided to hold its 24<sup>th</sup> Session on the days preceding the 8th General Conference Session, in the second half of December 2003 in Tehran, capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Considering Decision (CE 24/2003/D.1.1) adopted by the Council in connection with the Agenda of its current 24<sup>th</sup> Session,
- Having considered the Draft Programme of this Session contained in document (CE24/2003/1.2 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- Adopts the Programme of its current 24<sup>th</sup> Session as contained in the document (CE24/2003/1.2 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of the present Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific  
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**Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
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**Decision on Item 1.3 of the Agenda:  
(Draft Procedure of the Executive Council Activities)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Draft Procedure of the Executive Council Activities contained in document (CE24/2003/1.3),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- 1- Adopts the Procedure of the Executive Council Activities as contained in the document (CE24/2003/1.3), taking into consideration the observations of the Council's Members.
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for having prepared this document.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific  
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**Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda:**

**(Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities  
between the 23rd and the 24th Executive Council Sessions)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Council Sessions, contained in documents (CE 24/2003/2.1) and (CE 24/2003/2.1 Addendum),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General of the Islamic Organization in this connection,
- Thanking the Islamic States, organizations and personalities which support ISESCO's programmes and activities;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations made by the Council members,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Council Sessions as contained in documents (CE 24/2003/2.1) and (CE 24/2003/2.1 Addendum), taking into account the observations and proposals made by the Executive Council members;
2. Notes with satisfaction that ISESCO is, through the high quality of its action, building up steadily and methodically its status as an apex center for Islamic countries, as regards education, science and culture.

3. Hails the steady efforts exerted by the Director General to broaden the areas of cooperation with international and regional organizations as well as Islamic and Arab institutions within the framework of programme implementation;
4. Thanks the Director General and his assistants for their outstanding efforts in pursuing the implementation of programmes and rationalizing expenditure thereon, while taking into account the fulfilment of the pressing needs of the Member States and the Muslim communities in non-Muslim States;
5. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this report as submitted to it in documents CG8/2003/2.2.P.2 and CG8/2003/2.2.P.2 Addendum, which make up the second part of the Director General's report on ISESCO's activities between the seventh and eighth sessions of the General Conference.



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**Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda:  
(Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget  
of the Organization for the Years 2004-2006)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (e) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Recalling Decision (CE 23/2002/D.3.1) adopted by the Executive Council at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session, whereby the Council mandates the Director General to take every action necessary to prepare the Draft Three-Year Action Plan 2004-2006, based on the Broad Lines of the Draft Three-Year Action Plan 2004-2006, taking into account the Council members and the Member States' observations and keeping in line with the Medium-Term Plan 2001-2009 and the Organization's strategies of reference,
- In accordance with the Resolution of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference (Putra Jaya, Malaysia, 16-18 October 2003) which calls upon Member States to approve the increase in the budget of the Action Plan of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,
- Having examined the Draft Action Plan and Budget of the Organization for the years 2004-2006 contained in document (CE24/2003/2.2),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place, along with the observations made by the Executive Council members,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Draft Three-Year Action Plan and Budget of the Organization for the years 2004-2006 as contained in document (CE24/2003/2.2), taking into account the observations and proposals made by the Executive Council members;
2. Thanks the Director General and his assistants for preparing this document and for their outstanding efforts;
3. Recommends that the Eighth General Conference adopt the Draft Action Plan and Budget of the Organization for the years 2004-2006, and that it adopt the increase of the Draft Action Plan's Budget at a rate of 6.52 %, in response to the above-mentioned Resolution of the Islamic Summit Conference.



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Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda:**

**(Report of the Director General on the activities geared to Al-Quds Al-Sharif to protect its Islamic identity from obliteration and Judaization, for the years 2001-2003)**

**The Executive Council,**

- Recalling the previous resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and the Executive Council about “the Preservation of the Islamic identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif against obliteration and Judaization”, in particular resolution CG7/2000/R.4.1 adopted by the seventh General Conference,
- Having considered document CE 24/2003/2.3 concerning “the Director General’s report on the programmes and activities geared to Al-Quds Al-Sharif to protect its Islamic identity against obliteration and Judaization for the years 2001-2003”,
- Having taken stock of the difficult situation being experienced by the Palestinian people in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and elsewhere under the criminal aggressions being perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Palestinian people in the holy city and their attempts to obliterate and Judaize the Islamic identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the document CE24/2003/2.3 concerning the protection of the Islamic identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif against obliteration and Judaization;
2. Condemns the Israeli aggressions and desecration of Islamic sanctities and the havoc wreaked on educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
3. Reaffirms that Al-Quds is the capital of the Independent State of Palestine, rejects any attempt to cut down Palestinian sovereignty over it, and stresses that all the settlement measures and practices therein are null and void in accordance with the resolutions of the international legitimacy as well as the international conventions and accords which consider that all the legal and administrative arrangements and measures of the Israeli settlements designed to alter the legal, demographic, architectural, historical and civilizational status of the holy city are null and void and violate the resolutions of the international legitimacy and all international instruments;
4. Invites the Director General to pursue the implementation of the programmes and activities designed for the benefit of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds Al-Sharif in order to protect its cultural identity and civilizational landmarks;
5. Invites the Member States to give an overriding priority to Al-Quds Al-Sharif in international meetings in defence of its Arab, Islamic civilizational character, to protect its identity and to support its Palestinian national institutions;
6. Reaffirms its previous decisions regarding the situation in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
7. Thanks the Director General for his effective implementation of the previous decisions concerning Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as for his efforts and initiatives in this respect;
8. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the document mentioned hereabove.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific  
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Executive Council / 24th Session**

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
26 – 30 Shawal 1424 A.H. / 21 - 25 December 2003**

**Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda:**

**(Role of ISESCO in Supporting Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Institutions in Palestine, for the years 2001-2003)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the Declaration on Solidarity with the Palestinian People, issued by the General Conference of ISESCO, at its Fourth Session, called Al-Quds Al-Sharif Session (Rabat, 28-30 November, 1991) as well as the previous decisions of the Executive Council and the resolutions of the General Conference since 1982 pertaining to the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine,
- Recalling the previous decisions of the Executive Council concerning the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine,
- Referring to the report presented by the Director General in this connection, contained in Document CE24/2003/2.4,
- Having taken cognisance of the severe conditions that the Palestinian people is going through, compounded with the criminal aggressions perpetrated by the ugly Israeli occupation authorities and the blockade imposed on the Palestinian towns and their educational, scientific and cultural institutions,
- Having heard the presentation made by the representative of the State of Palestine.
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Document CE 24/2003/2.4 on “ISESCO’s role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine”;
2. Condemns the ruthless Israeli aggressions against the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and against Palestinian towns and villages, besieging them and vexing their innocent civilian population, and issuing a statement in this connection;
3. Stresses the necessity to act in such a way as to halt the settlement activities, curb the Israeli measures and practices which run counter to the international legitimacy decisions, and endeavour to put an end to those measures and remove the Separation Wall in accordance with the relevant Security Council Resolutions;
4. Invites the General Directorate to intensify efforts with a view to supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and to assign priority to them through the programmes carried out under the 2004-2006 Action Plan;
5. Reaffirms the previous decisions and resolutions of the Executive Council and the General Conference in this connection;
6. Thanks the Director General for his steady efforts in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine;
7. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.



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**Decision on Item 2.5 of the Agenda:**

**(Role of ISESCO in Supporting Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
for the years 2001-2003)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the previous decisions adopted by the Executive Council on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina",
- Having considered document CE 24/2003/2.5 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina" and taken note of the assistance extended by ISESCO to Bosnia and Herzegovina in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- 1- Adopts the Document CE 24/2003/2.5 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina";
- 2- Reaffirms the previous decisions and resolutions of the Executive Council and the General Conference in this connection;
- 3- Thanks the Director General for the fair implementation of these decisions;

- 4-** Commends the Director General's steady efforts in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- 5-** Invites the Director General to follow up implementation of the programmes geared to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina under ISESCO's Three-year Action Plan for the years 2004-2006;
- 6-** Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.



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**Decision on Item 2.6 of the Agenda:**

**(Role of ISESCO in Supporting Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Institutions in Somalia, for the years 2001-2003)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the provisions of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling the previous decisions adopted by the Executive Council on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia",
- Having considered document CE 24/2003/2.6 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia for the years 2001-2003" and taken note of the assistance extended by ISESCO to Somalia in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Document CE 24/2003/2.6 on "ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia";
2. Reaffirms the previous decisions and resolutions of the Executive Council and the General Conference in this connection ;
3. Thanks the Director General for the fair implementation of these decisions;
4. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.



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**Decision on Item 2.7 of the Agenda:**

**(Report of the Director General on the Evaluation of the Organization's  
Action)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the second operative paragraph of decision CE 12/91/D 2.5, adopted by the Executive Council at its twelfth session, requesting the Director General to present a report on the evaluation of ISESCO's action in a regular manner to the session of the Executive Council which precedes the regular session of the General Conference,
- Taking into account, after having considered the evaluation of ISESCO's action in document CE 24/2003/2.7, the fact that the Director General has implemented the Council's decisions in the required way, by incorporating within this document the data concerning the external evaluation of implemented programmes and activities under the action plan for the years 2001-2003,
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the evaluation of ISESCO's action as contained in document CE 24/2003/2.7, taking into consideration the observations made by the Executive Council members;

2. Invites the Member States to be more interactive with the external evaluation operations conducted by ISESCO within the framework of the implementation of the Action Plan's programmes and activities.
3. Praises the Director General and his assistants for the efforts made in order to enhance the evaluation methods of ISESCO's action, and invites him to pursue the consolidation of internal and external evaluation mechanisms, in such a way as to further enhance ISESCO's action;
4. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the said document.



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**Decision on Item 2.8 of the Agenda:**

**(Role of ISESCO in Supporting Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having heard the presentation made by the representative of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place, and the viewpoints and observations of the Executive Council members,

**Decides the following:**

1. Invites the General Directorate to prepare, in collaboration with the government of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, a special overall support programme to the Educational, Scientific and Cultural institutions in Afghanistan, in ISESCO's fields of competence, as part of its Three-Year Action Plan and Budget for the years (2004-2006).
2. Invites the General Directorate to provide, within the framework of the Three-Year Action Plan and Budget of ISESCO for the years 2004-2006, increased assistance to the Government of Afghanistan in ISESCO's fields of competence, in particular towards the reconstruction of educational and cultural institutions,
3. Requests that a report be submitted to the Executive Council on implementation of programmes and activities destined to Afghanistan.
4. Urges the Member States of ISESCO, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations in the Muslim world to respond to the urgent need for

support of educational, scientific and cultural, as well as information and communication institutions in Afghanistan.

5. Places this item on the agenda of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council.
6. Requests the General Conference to adopt this decision.



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**Decision on Item 2.9 of the Agenda:  
(Project of establishing an Islamic Youth Parliament)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Referring to the proposal made by the Islamic Republic of Iran,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Invites the Director General to examine this subject, in coordination with the competent Iranian authorities and the relevant authorities in the Member States.
2. Submit a report on the subject to the following Executive Council session for consideration and action.



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**Decision on Item 3.1 of the Agenda:**

**(Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for the year 2002, Report of the Audit Company, Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Year 2002 and General Statements of Accounts and Expenditures up to the End of September 2003 )**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the following:
  - \* Articles (16) and (19) of the Charter,
  - \* Articles (12), paragraph (7) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
  - \* Articles (19), (24) and (29) of the Financial Regulations,
  - \* Articles (21), paragraphs (b, c and d) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2002, the Report of the Audit Company, the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the year 2002 as well as the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 2003, contained respectively in documents (CE 24/2003/3.1) and (CE 24/2003/3.1 Addendum),
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations made,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2002, the Report of the Audit Company, the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the year 2002 as well as the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 2003, as contained respectively in documents (CE 24/2003/3.1) and (CE 24/2003/3.1 Addendum),
2. Commissions the company (**Delta Audit**) to audit the accounts of the Islamic Organization for one renewable financial year as from the year 2004;
3. Extends thanks to all the personalities and institutions that made donations in support of the Organization;
4. Thanks the Director General for his efforts and endeavours and invites him to continue these moves and efforts with a view to obtaining maximum support for the Organization's activities;
5. Lauds the efforts exerted by the Director General and his assistants to gear the bulk of the Organization's funds to programme implementation, rationalize expenditure and improve its methods, and also lauds their keenness on complying with the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee adopted by the Council;
6. Thanks the Audit Company and the Financial Control Committee for their respective reports and for the efforts they exerted.
7. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this report as submitted to it in documents CG8/2003/3.1.P.2 and CG8/2003/3.1.P.2 Addendum, which make up the second part of the Financial Report of the Director General.



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**Decision on Item 3.2 of the Agenda:**

**(Report of the Director General on the Status of Member States'  
Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing  
the Financial Situation of the Organization)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (6) of the Financial Regulations,
- Recalling the decisions adopted by the previous sessions of the Executive Council and the resolutions of the General Conference of ISESCO in this connection, in particular the following:
  - \* Resolution CG 6/97/R.2.5 of the 6th General Conference (Riyadh 6-9/12/1997) affirming the provisions of the Resolution of the 5th General Conference and the necessity for the Member States to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears in order to help the Organization fulfill its civilizational mission,
  - \* Resolution CG 7/2000/R.2.5 adopted by the General Conference at its 7<sup>th</sup> Session (Rabat 22-24/11/2000) inviting the Director General to arrange special visits to the Member States with arrears, to meet their officials and to intensify efforts with a view to urging Member States to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears,
  - \* Decision CE 23/2002/D.2.4 adopted by the Executive Council at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session, whereby it established a committee made up of the Chairman of the Executive Council, the representatives of the Republic of Cameroon and the

Islamic Republic of Iran in the Executive Council and the Director General of ISESCO, in order to work out the criteria and modalities for effective implementation of the proposal, and submit a report thereon to the forthcoming Council Session, to take the appropriate decision thereon,

- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General in this respect,
- Having considered the report of the Committee,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Report of the Director General on the Status of Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization, as contained in Document CE 24/2003/3.2 and its addendum.
2. Adopts the report of the Executive Council's Committee on the criteria and modalities for writing off Member States' arrears as per the amended document CE 24/2003/3.2 Addendum, annexed to the final report.
3. Expresses thanks and appreciation for the Director General in consideration of his efforts to intensify contacts with the Member States in order to collect a maximum of contributions, as well as for his efforts to promote cooperation with international and regional organizations to secure further support to the Organization's activities and programmes and invites him to carry on his efforts in this connection.
4. Invites the Director General to continue the special visits to the Member States with arrears, in order to meet their Heads of State, in coordination with National Commissions and the representatives of those States in the Executive Council, to ensure an excellent preparation for the visits.
5. Thanks the Committee entrusted by the Executive Council with considering ways of settling contributions in arrears for its report and for its efforts and action.
6. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this report as submitted to it in documents (CG8/2003/3.2.P.2 and CG8/2003/3.2.P.2 Addendum), which make up the second part of the Report of the Director General on "the Status of Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization".



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**Decision on Item 3.3 of the Agenda:**

**(Report of the Director General on the Project  
of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters)**

**The Executive Council,**

- Recalling the previous resolutions and decisions taken by the General Conference and the Executive Council in this respect, notably Decision (CE 23/2002/D.3.2) adopted by the Executive Council at its 23rd Session,
- Having considered the "Report of the Director General on the Project of Construction of ISESCO's Permanent Headquarters" contained in document (CE 24/2003/3.3),
  - Having taken stock of the status of construction works achieved so far, and watched the relevant documentary produced to this effect,
  - Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the Report of the Director General on the project of construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters, as contained in document (CE 24/2003/3.3).
2. Mandates the Director General to borrow from ISESCO Reserve Fund, as and when necessary, to complete construction works of the Organization's permanent headquarters.
3. Thanks the eminent personalities pledging donation to the construction of the Organization's permanent headquarters.
4. Thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the procedural facilitations offered to the Organization to start the construction works of the permanent headquarters.

5. Praises the Director General's steady efforts and close contacts made to collect financial support for the construction of the permanent headquarters of the Organization, and thanks the Director General and his assistants for the works achieved.
6. Places this item on the agenda of the 25th Session of the Council.
7. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this report as submitted to it in document (CG8/2003/3.3).



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**Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda:**

**(Opening of ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran,  
Islamic Republic of Iran)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the provisions of Article (2) of ISESCO's Charter,
- Recalling Decision (CE 23/2002/D.3.3) taken, in this connection, by the Executive Council at its 23rd Session, and Resolution (CG7/2000/R.3.5) adopted by the 7<sup>th</sup> General Conference,
- Having considered the study contained in document CE 24/2003/4.1,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Endorses the Seat Agreement concluded with the competent parties in the Islamic Republic of Iran on opening ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran, capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
2. Thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran for allocating fully equipped and furnished premises to host the Regional Office and for earmarking a gracious budget thereto.
3. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference ratify the Seat Agreement concluded with the Islamic Republic of Iran on opening ISESCO's Regional Office in Tehran, and the aforementioned document, as submitted to it in Document (CG8/2003/4.1).



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**Decision on Item 4.2 of the Agenda:  
(Project of Establishing an Islamic Satellite Channel)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (25) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Recalling Resolution CG7/2000/R.4.6 adopted by the 7<sup>th</sup> General Conference, stressing the importance of establishing an Islamic satellite channel, in the modern languages, to introduce the Islamic culture and civilization and to highlight the image of Islam worldwide,
- Having considered the project of establishing an Islamic satellite channel and the report of the Director General in this connection,
- Referring to the decision of the Executive Council CE21/2000/D.5.6,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Exercises patience as to establishing the Islamic Satellite Channel, given the difficulty to obtain adequate funding for effective operating.
2. Maintains cooperation with satellite channels existing in Member States and ensures coordination to produce programmes dedicated to Islam, in English, French, Spanish and other widely spoken languages, and have them broadcast by international channels.



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**Decision on Item 4.3 of the Agenda:  
(Project of Amendment to the Personnel Regulations)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the following:
  - \* Article (11), paragraph (5) of the Charter,
  - \* Article (125) of the Personnel Regulations,
  - \* Article (21), paragraph (k) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Document (CE 24/2003/4.3) presented by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the proposed amendments as contained in document (CE 24/2003/4.3), annexed to the Final Report.
2. Agrees to raise the salaries of the personnel of the Islamic Organization, regardless of their categories, at a percentage of 10 % of the basic salary, as from 1 January 2004.

3. Invites the Director General to review, every three years, the salaries and allowances of the personnel of the Islamic Organization, regardless of their categories, and submit the revision thereof to the Executive Council for adoption.
4. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this project as submitted to it in document (CG8/2003/4.3).



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**Decision on Item 4.4 of the Agenda:**

**(Project of Amendment to the Internal Regulations  
of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the following:
  - \* Article (11), paragraph (5) of the Charter,
  - \* Article (20) of the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund,
  - \* Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Document (CE 24/2003/4.4) presented by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the proposed amendments as contained in document (CE 24/2003/4.4), annexed to the Final Report.
2. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this project as submitted to it in document CG8/2003/4.4.



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**Decision on Item 4.5 of the Agenda:**

**(Project of Amendment to the Internal Regulations  
of the Medical Insurance Fund for ISESCO Staff)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the following:

- \* Article (11), paragraph (5) of the Charter,
- \* Article (14) of the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund for ISESCO Staff,
- \* Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,

- Having considered the Document (CE 24/2003/4.5) presented by the Director General in this connection,

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

1. Adopts the proposed amendments as contained in document (CE 24/2003/4.5), annexed to the Final Report.
2. Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt this project as submitted to it in document CG8/2003/4.5.



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**Decision on Item 5.1 of the Agenda:**

**(Preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with Article (21) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the following documents of the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference:
  - \* Document (CG8/2003/1.2) concerning the “Adoption of the Conference Draft Agenda”.
  - \* Document (CG8/2003/1.3) concerning the “Adoption of the Conference Draft Programme”.
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- 1- Recommends that the Eighth Session of the General Conference adopt the document (CG8/2003/1.2) concerning the “Adoption of the Conference Draft Agenda” and document (CG8/2003/1.3) concerning the “Adoption of the Conference Draft Programme”, subsequently to the addition of an item on Iraq, along with the statement condemning the Israeli aggression against Gaza Strip.
- 2- Recommends that the General Conference re-elect Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri as Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for a

six year term, in accordance with the Resolutions of the 10<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit (Putra Jaya, Malaysia, 16-18 October 2003), in connection with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.



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**Decision on Item 5.2 of the Agenda:**

**(Venue and Date of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council)**

**The Executive Council,**

- In accordance with the provisions of Article (10) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, whereby the Council shall set, during each one of its Sessions, the date and venue of the following session,
- Having considered document CE 24/2003/5.2,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

**Decides the following:**

- Convenes the Twenty-fifth Session of the Executive Council in the first half of December 2004 in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco.