



Final Report of
the 25th Session of the Executive
Council of the Islamic Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Final Report of the 25th Session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization held its 25th Session in Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco, on 12 and 14 Zhul Qida 1425 H / 24-26 December 2004. The proceedings of this Session were attended by the honourable Members of the Council and their accompanying assistants, except for the representatives of Bangladesh, Suriname, Senegal and the Maldives.

1. The opening Session was held in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Abbas Al-Jirari, Advisor to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, His Excellency Dr. Habib El Malki, Minister of National and Higher Education, Executive Staff Training and Scientific Research and President of the Moroccan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science, His Excellency Mr. Morteza Hajji, Minister of Education in the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the 8th General Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, His Excellency Dr. Bachir Ahmed Said Mhamed, Secretary General of the Libyan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science and Chairman of the Executive Council of ISESCO, His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, their Excellencies the Ambassadors of the Member States accredited to the seat country, the representatives of several regional and international organizations, as well as a host of personalities from the fields of culture, science and information.
2. At the beginning of the Session, the Fatiha was read in memory of the late great leaders, His Excellency Mr. Yassir Arafat, President of the State of Palestine, and His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates. Verses of the Holy Quran were recited thereafter.
3. Then, His Excellency Dr. Habib El Malki, Minister of National and Higher Education, Executive Staff Training and Scientific Research, President of the Moroccan National Commission for Education, Culture and Science, delivered an address wherein he congratulated ISESCO's Director General for his earnest and tireless efforts, and described the achievements of ISESCO as important both in quality and quantity. He praised the progress achieved by the Organization, adding that its action will remain on the path of success since its relationship with Member States is marked by concord and harmony. He pointed out that investing in the fields of education, science and culture is one of the ideal means to fulfil ISESCO's goals,

as these fields represent a solid basis for the reinforcement of the Islamic civilizational identity of Muslim peoples, now and in the future.

He also underscored the need for sustained effort in order to deal with the challenges facing the Islamic countries in these times marked by the distortion of Islamic culture and by plots to alter the Islamic identity. He emphasized the capacity of the Member States to overcome these challenges by building the capacities of human resources through joint Islamic action, which is ISESCO's mission.

His Excellency equally highlighted the importance of edifying an Islamic personality attached to the tolerant Islamic values and strong with modern science, describing this as a twofold task reflected in ISESCO's projects.

4. The floor was then taken by His Excellency Mr. Morteza Hajji, Minister of Education in the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the 8th General Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. He stressed the need to educate youth on the principles of conciliation, tolerance, love and cooperation with others, so that future generations can be brought up to love their motherland and humanity at large. This can be achieved by instilling in young generations tolerant concepts that make them respect all nations and cultures and foster in them the sentiment of belonging to the world family.

His Excellency called in his speech for the edification of a new tolerant world where the values of conciliation and the culture of justice and peace prevail, thanks to the improvement of the quality of education.

5. Dr. Bachir Ahmed Said, Chairman of ISESCO's Executive Council, took the floor and began his speech by extending thanks to the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO- for his successful and outstanding efforts and those of the Organization's staff members, to improve its performance and enhance the implementation of the programmes and activities of its Action Plan at such a level of quality and excellence that made this Organization one of the most successful Islamic Organizations and placed it at the forefront of similar regional and international organizations.

His Excellency pointed out that the juncture through which the Islamic Ummah is going compels us to be fully aware of the plots being woven against our existence, culture and future, and should reinforce our attachment to our unity and principles, and mostly to our spiritual, moral and cultural values. This confirms the singular importance of this Organization, as it represents the conscience of the Islamic Ummah in preserving these values, as it shoulders the responsibility of passing such values onto present and future generations through the most efficient educational and scientific methods and the optimal cultural channels, and as it presents the Islamic perspective on the ethical uses of science and technology.

The Chairman of the Executive Council laid emphasis on the need to improve the language of communication and dialogue, and called for helping the others to uncover the cultural and historical identity of our Islamic Ummah from the sources and references that contain true and accurate information about Islam and Muslims, and for making use of modern channels capable of conveying that language, irrespective of their cost. He affirmed that since its creation, ISESCO was and still is a judicious choice, and has become today the reference par excellence in expertise for all Member States, truly standing as the cultural conscience of the Islamic world.

6. His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, then took the floor. At the outset of his address, he extended his thanks and gratitude to their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies the leaders of Member States for the care and attention they grant the Organization, particularly His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, the seat country, for the attention bestowed by his Majesty and his honourable government on this Organization.

His Excellency reviewed the Organization's achievements over the period between the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Executive Council, which is the first year of the Organization's current Three-Year Action Plan (2004-2006). He pointed out that the activities programmed for this year focused on priority fields of action in education, science, culture, communication and information. Four hundred and ten (410) activities were implemented and consisted of training sessions and workshops that benefited 2182 teachers, trainers, experts and administrative staff from Member States and Muslim communities in the West. These activities also included the organization of more than one hundred conferences, symposia and meetings which the Organization either convened or took part in to address issues related to its educational, scientific, cultural and communication fields of competence, and geared for Member States, Islamic cultural centres and associations in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Through these activities, the Organization endeavoured to extend financial and technical support to governmental and non-governmental institutions and associations, and to grant scholarships to students from Member States and Muslim communities in the West. He underscored the efforts of the Organization in expanding the base of Arab, Islamic and international cooperation in the implementation of the activities of the Action Plan, pointing out that one hundred and thirty-three (133) agreements were signed with regional and international organizations.

Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri reiterated the determination of the Organization to carry on its action in the field of dialogue among civilizations and cultures, and in redressing the image of Islam and refuting allegations against it.

Concluding his address, the Director General pointed out to the difficult circumstances endured by the Palestinian and Iraqi peoples, which heightens the responsibility of the Organization towards the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine and Iraq. He declared the total solidarity of the Organization with the Palestinian and Iraqi peoples, and appealed to the international community to support them in achieving freedom and independence.

7. The Director General then handed over the ISESCO Literacy Award for 2004 to the Dubbal Leydi Men Association (D.L.M) from Burkina Faso, in recognition and support of its efforts to achieve literacy using the standardized Quranic script, and to elaborate social programmes in the fields of health, environment and women's rights.
8. The members of the Executive Council then conducted a visit to the construction site of the permanent headquarters and were informed of the progress of works.
9. At the opening of the first session, the members of the Executive Council read the Fatiha in memory of the late mother of the Director General of ISESCO, the late mother of the representative of the State of the United Arab Emirates in the Council, and the late Mr. Kamal Al Jarrah, Secretary General of the National Iraqi Commission. The Chairman of the Executive Council then welcomed the new members of the Council, representatives of the following countries: the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the State of the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Iraq, the Union of Comoros, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Republic of Lebanon and the State of Palestine.

His Excellency the Chairman then presented the **draft agenda of the 25th Session of the Executive Council and the draft programme of the Session**. After discussing them, the Council adopted the said agenda and programme as appended to the present report.

10. The Director General presented **his report on the Organization's activities between the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Executive Council**. At the beginning of this presentation, he pointed out to the methodology followed by the General Directorate in presenting the qualitative and quantitative data related to the implementation of the activities in line with the relevant recommendations of the Executive Council. He stated that during this year, ISESCO programmed four hundred and seventy-nine (479) activities in the fields of education, science, culture, communication and information. 410 of these activities were carried out, achieving an implementation rate of 85.6% and recording a quantitative increase in comparison with the first year of the previous Three-Year Action Plan (2001-2003). Within the framework of these activities, 98 national and regional training sessions and workshops were organized in the fields of education, science, culture,

communication and information, and benefited 2182 trainees from the Member States and Muslim communities in the West. Furthermore, the Organization held 56 symposia, conferences and experts meetings with a view to consolidating scientific knowledge and awareness-raising, ensuring the optimal use of this knowledge in the protection of mankind and his environment along with its natural resources, consolidating the bridges of dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, promoting the issues of children, youth and women, and protecting the Islamic material and intellectual cultural heritage. Similarly, the Organization implemented 62 activities in the fields of writing, translation and publishing.

By the end of his presentation, the Director General explained that, during this year, ISESCO sustained its efforts to expand partnership with the Arab-Islamic and international organizations, as well as with the charitable institutions and funding parties, conscious of the importance of cooperation in rationalizing expenditure, exchanging expertise and enhancing common values. Since its inception up to the present time, ISESCO has signed 133 cooperation agreements within the framework of which 261 activities were scheduled for this year. 222 of these activities have been implemented, accounting for 85% of the overall activities under the said agreements. Compared with the first year of the previous three-year action plan, there is a remarkable improvement in number and variety.

11. During the deliberations and discussions of the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 24th and 25th Executive Council Sessions, the Executive Council members' observations centred on:

- a. Gearing further activities and programmes to the Member States in need, particularly Palestine, Iraq, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and increasing budgets allocated to these activities.
- b. Working towards upgrading the capacities of Member States in the Organization's fields of competence, through opening up new vistas for bilateral relations between the Member States and boosting them, as well as enhancing exchange of experience and expertise among them in the fields of education, science, culture and communication.
- c. Emphasizing the necessity to pursue efforts directed towards making the results and recommendations of the activities implemented by the Organization accessible to the competent authorities, and stressing the need to draw on the multi-media in publicizing the objectives of the Organization and the activities of its Director General towards explaining the viewpoint of Islam as concerns contemporary issues in international circles.

- d.** Accommodating within the Director General's Report on ISESCO's Activities an account of the activities which have not been implemented, explaining the reasons of this shortfall, and integrating a table showing the activities and the Organization's participation in international meetings, together with a statement of the expenditure incurred by the activities implemented.
- e.** Dedicating further activities to the National Commissions' executives in the Member States.
- f.** Earmarking additional support in terms of authoring national textbooks catering to the needs of Member States, in accordance with the Charter of the Organization.
- g.** Expanding inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue programmes, consolidating the presence of the Organization in the concerned regional and international symposia, and enhancing its cooperation in this field with the international organizations with common concern.
- h.** Enhancing cooperation with ALECSO in training executives active in the field of education of people with special needs.
- i.** Attaching further importance to the activities related to child issues, especially in war-stricken areas.
- j.** Elaborating activities in health sensitization, with a view to combating such infectious diseases as AIDS.
- k.** Preparing booklets containing data about the achievements of some Member States in certain fields of knowledge in order to benefit from them.
- l.** Elaborating an evaluation study on the progress of ISESCO and its achievements since its inception as compared with the parallel organizations sharing the same fields of competence.
- m.** Allocating further activities and programmes to literacy, adult education and developing educational systems in the Member States.
- n.** Intensifying efforts to introduce the tolerant values of Islam and highlight the true image of Islam and Muslims.

- o. Consolidating the activities of the Organization in the field of Arabic language teaching and Islamic education and their relevant curricula, in addition to upgrading Quranic Schools.
 - p. Expanding participation of Member States in the regional activities implemented by ISESCO.
12. Their Excellencies the Executive Council's Members expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the Director General and his assistants for the considerable efforts they have exerted in implementing the programmes and activities scheduled. Moreover, the Executive Council adopted the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 24th and 25th Executive Council Sessions, taking into consideration the observations and proposals put forth by the Council members. It commended the unstinting endeavours undertaken by the Director General towards broadening the scope of cooperation with regional and international organizations and Arab-Islamic institutions in the implementation of the programmes scheduled and for the rationalization of the expenditures incurred, with due account taken of the priorities and needs of Member States and Muslim communities. This has won ISESCO the interest it deserves as a reference for the Islamic world in its fields of competence. The Executive Council recommended the adoption of this report by ISESCO's General Conference in its 9th Session.
13. Then, the Director General presented his three-chapter **report on Member States' contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization**. The first two chapters dealt with the Member States' contributions and the situation of arrears either in the financial year 2003 or during the previous years. The third chapter stated the efforts of the Executive Council and the Director General in urging Member States to pay their contributions and arrears to the budget of ISESCO. Prominent among these efforts was the report of the Executive Council Committee, which defined the executive procedure to be followed in applying the criteria of exempting States from their arrears. Member States have accordingly been divided into States that are able to settle their arrears, States unable to settle such arrears and States with a special status, in an effort to incite them to pay their contributions to the Organization's budget. The Director General then called upon the Council to examine the contributions issue in accordance with the relevant report.
14. After deliberations, the Council decided to approve the report of the Director General on the situation of Member States' contributions to the Organization's budget and on redressing the financial situation of the Organization. It confirmed the previous resolutions of the General Conference and decisions of the Executive Council in this respect, and addressed its thanks and appreciation to the Director General for his efforts to intensify contacts with the Member States with a view to

collecting the largest possible share of contributions, and to enhance cooperation with international organizations in order to provide support for the Organization's programmes and activities. The Council also called upon the Director General to pursue coordination and consultation with the Member States that have arrears, through the National Commissions and the Members of the General Conference and the Executive Council with the aim of recovering arrears. The Council agreed to submit the report to the next General Conference and recommended its approval.

15. His Excellency the Director General presented his report on **the project of construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters**. He shed light on the implementation phases that were completed between the two sessions of the Council, in accordance with the contracts awarded by the Organization to the commissioned firms by means of tenders. He also stated that the concerned firms had started the works and were making substantial progress in the implementation of the tasks they were assigned.

As regards the financial aspects of the project, the Director General pointed out that he pursued his contacts with a number of eminent personalities in the Member States to contribute in covering the construction expenses. Thanks to these efforts, the Government of the State of Kuwait donated one million US\$ on the instructions of His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad As-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, while the Government of the Sultanate of Oman made a donation of US\$ 300,000 following a directive of His Majesty Qabus bin Said, Sultan of the Sultanate of Oman. Thus, the overall donations made for the construction of the permanent headquarters have totalled US\$ 3,015,000.00. At the end of his presentation, the Director General called upon the Executive Council members to take further interest in the project of ISESCO's permanent headquarters and to back the efforts of the Director General to fulfil this project. He also extended his heartfelt thanks for the unstinting support extended by the Kingdom of Morocco to ISESCO.

16. After deliberations, the Council decided to endorse the report of the Director General on the project of the construction of the permanent headquarters of the Organization, and reiterated its thanks to the eminent personalities who made donations for the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters. It also expressed its gratitude to the government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the procedural facilitation provided for the construction of the said headquarters. The Council also thanked the Director General for stepping up his efforts and initiating further contacts with a view to securing support for the headquarters' construction. It decided to place this item on the agenda of its next session and submit the issue to the next General Conference for consideration and adoption of the appropriate decision thereon.

17. In his presentation of **the Financial Report and Closing Accounts for the Financial Year 2003, from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2003**, representing the 3rd year of the previous 2001-2003 Three-Year Action Plan, the Director General of ISESCO stated that the collected contributions of Member States reached US\$ 7,385,485.00 during 2003, accounting for 46% of the estimated budget for 2004 which amounts to US\$ 12,861,722.00.

The Director General explained that this rate remains nevertheless moderate in comparison with the number of programmes and activities scheduled for implementation under the Organization's Action Plan, especially since this implementation depends mainly on Member States' contributions. The Director General's Financial Report and Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2003 also show that the extra-budgetary resources stood at a small amount of US\$ 1,200,162.00 for this year.

The Director General further explained that the total arrears, accumulated since the inception of the Organization till 31 December 2003, reached US\$ 83,491,714.00, accounting for 39% of the total amount of the Organization's budgets. Compounding this is the constant budget deficit owed to the gap in income totalling US\$ 26,000,279.00 and representing the unpaid contributions of Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference that have not yet joined ISESCO.

As regards the actual expenditure on programmes and activities during 2003, the Director General confirmed that the General Directorate did continue rationalizing expenditure and determining priority fields of action, in fulfilment of the recommendations of the Organization's General Conference and Executive Council. Thus, the financial expenditures of the Organization in 2003 reached US\$ 6,892,604.00, of which 14% concerned general policy, 70% were dedicated to the implementation of programmes and support activities, and 16% to joint expenditures.

Furthermore, the financial report and the closing accounts of the financial year 2003 included the balance sheet and the operating account of both the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Medical Insurance Fund until 31 December 2003.

18. The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee subsequently presented the **report of the Committee for financial year 2003**, whereby he pointed out that the Committee has perused the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 2003, which provides detailed and clear information on the progress of financial operations in this year. He confirmed that the Committee took cognizance of the progress of the financial and administrative operations in the Organization, and, according to it, they reflect in a satisfactory manner the good progress of the Organization's administrative and financial

performance. He also praised the rise in the number of qualitative programmes and projects carried out by the Organization during that year. He then thanked the Member States having settled their contributions to the Organization's budget under the year 2003, and urged the States having failed to pay their contributions to take advantage of the exemptions provided and take the initiative of settling their contributions and arrears in the Organization's budget. He also expressed the satisfaction of the Committee with the administrative and practical measures pertaining to the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters, and with the way the accounts related to cooperation programmes are handled. He equally expressed the satisfaction of the Committee with the efforts being exerted by the Organization in implementing the programmes of inter-civilizational dialogue and redressing the image of Islam and Muslims.

19. The representative of the Audit Company submitted **his report for the financial year 2003**, pointing out that the said report contained the accounting principles and procedures adopted for the accuracy of accounts, the major headings of the balance sheet and operating account, and the accounts of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Medical Insurance Fund.

He showed in his report the soundness of the accounting procedures and their consistency with the internal control procedures. He noted that the closing account as at 31 December 2003 was sound, and that the operating account was in full conformity with the Organization's books. The report also noted the absence of any form of breach of the regulations in force within the Organization.

20. After deliberations, the Council decided to adopt the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 2003, along with the Report of the Audit Company and the Report of the Financial Control Committee for Financial Year 2003. The Council also extended his thanks to the personalities and bodies who made donations in support of the Organization, and invited the Director General to proceed with his endeavours and pursue his efforts in contacting the donating parties to secure the maximum support for the Organization's activities. It also lauded his efforts in directing the bulk of ISESCO's financial resources to the implementation of programmes and the rationalization of expenses. The Council also praised his adherence to the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee which it endorsed, and decided to submit the report to the forthcoming General Conference and to recommend that the General Conference adopt it.
21. With respect to **the project of establishing an Islamic Youth Parliament**, the Director General of the Organization stated that the first conception of this project was made in coordination with the competent authorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the initiator of the project. He added that only the general objectives and

overall structures of the project have, for the time being, been determined. The rules of procedure of the Islamic Youth Parliament will be established at a later stage.

22. After deliberations, the Council decided to invite the Director General to pursue the study of the project and the mechanisms of its implementation, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the competent authorities in Iran and in Member States. It also decided to place this item on the agenda of its next session.
23. In his presentation of the General Framework of **the Support Programme of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan**, the Director General referred to the fact that ISESCO has assigned a team of experts to Afghanistan in order to meet with senior officials there, take stock of the situation of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan, and determine their needs along with the nature of the support which the Organization can extend to these institutions. He also pointed out that the report drawn up by the team of experts focused on the training of human resources in the educational fields, the assignment of experts to provide technical consultation, the preservation of the Islamic cultural heritage, the development of the infrastructure of educational, scientific and cultural institutions, and the awarding of study grants. The Director General also confirmed that the Organization will prepare specific activities within the framework of its programmes for the coming years and within the limits of the available resources for the benefit of these institutions, in coordination with the competent authorities in Afghanistan and in cooperation with the donating and concerned parties.
24. After deliberations, the Council decided to adopt the General Framework of the Support Programme to Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan. It called upon the Director General to devise educational, scientific and cultural programmes and projects benefiting the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in the relevant fields, in coordination with the competent authorities in Afghanistan. The Council further invited the Director General to intensify contacts with international organizations and donor parties in order to secure support for educational, scientific and cultural programmes in Afghanistan within the framework of the joint agreements concluded with ISESCO, in accordance with the needs and priorities of Afghanistan, and in the light of the programmes and projects devised by the Organization in this regard. The Council invited the General Directorate to intensify its efforts for the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan and grant them a priority status in the programmes of the Organization's Action Plan for 2004-2006. The Council condemned the parties responsible for wreaking havoc on these institutions, thanked the Director General and his assistants for having prepared the Support Programme

to Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan, and decided to place this item on the agenda of its next session.

25. The Executive Council issued a **communiqué on the situation of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine, the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and the South of Lebanon, as well as in Iraq**, wherein it strongly condemned the discriminatory practices and the criminal acts of demolition and desecration perpetrated by the occupation authorities in these countries, and urged the international community, especially the competent international organizations, to bring pressure to bear on the occupation authorities for a cessation of these criminal acts perpetrated in utter defiance of the international law. Moreover, the Executive Council called for extending support to these institutions through ISESCO, and affirmed its total solidarity with the Arab and Muslim populations in these states. The Council stressed the need of the immediate liberation and independence of these States and their right to self determination as guaranteed by international laws.
26. The Director General presented the **Draft Programme on ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations**, put forth by the General Directorate of the Organization in its drive to promote working means in this field. In its earliest phase, the Draft Programme provides for the appointment of nine Muslim figures as ISESCO's ambassadors, three per each of the regions covered by ISESCO. The said ambassadors will deliver, as part of a special programme of action, lectures at universities and research centres. They will also hold official and cultural meetings with the leaders of the regional and international institutions active in and concerned with the promotion of dialogue among cultures and civilizations, with a view to disseminating the modern, moderate and constructive Islamic discourse in this respect. The Draft Programme includes, at a later stage, the appointment of ISESCO's ambassadors for inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue from among international personalities renowned for their championing the just causes of the Muslim Ummah and for their desire to achieve peaceful coexistence among peoples.
27. After deliberations, the Executive Council approved the programme of ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations, with due account taken of the observations of its members. It also invited the Director General to appoint ISESCO's Ambassadors for inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue among the eminent and influential figures in this field, in accordance with the contents of the document adopted by the Council, in the light of the observations made by its members, and in coordination with the States these ambassadors belong to. It called as well for submitting a report in this regard to the next session of the Executive Council.

28. In an in-camera session, the Council discussed **the draft amendment to ISESCO Charter**, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and the Observer Status Regulations. After deliberations, it invited Member States to provide the General Directorate with their observations, in written form, on these amendments for submission to its coming session.
29. The Council elected the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Malaysia, the Republic of Niger, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Sultanate of Oman as members of the Financial Control Committee for a three-year term. It invited the Member States represented in this Committee to nominate their representatives therein from among experts and specialists in this field.
30. In the same in-camera session, the Council appointed Dr Hadi Azizzadeh from the Islamic Republic of Iran Deputy Director General of ISESCO for a three-year term, with effect from 1st January 2005. It extended its thanks to Dr. Mohamed Hashem Falougi, former Deputy Director General of the Organization, for the efforts he exerted during his term of office.
31. The Council decided to hold the 26th Session of the Executive Council in the 2nd half of December 2005, at ISESCO's headquarters in Rabat.
32. At the outset of the closing session, the cooperation minutes for 2005 was co-signed between ISESCO and the World Islamic Call Society. On this occasion, the Organization's Director General commended the fruitful and expanding cooperation between both institutions. He also expressed his gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency Dr. Mohmmad Ahmed Al-Sherif, Secretary General of the World Islamic Call Society. The floor was given also to His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Ali Rabu, Secretary General of the Bureau of Islamic Conferences, International Bodies and Relief in the WICS, who expressed the pleasure he takes in signing the cooperation minutes. Mr. Ibrahim Ali Rabu also affirmed the readiness of the WICS to pursue and further cooperation with ISESCO in the service of the causes of the Islamic Ummah.
33. The floor was given also to His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Hashem Falougi, the ex-Deputy Director General of the Organization, who, upon termination of his term of office, acknowledged his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency the Director General of ISESCO, along with the Organization's executive staff. He lauded, likewise, the civilizational mission of ISESCO and commended the efforts directed by the Director General towards attaining its lofty objectives.
34. The floor was then taken by His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Director General of ISESCO, who expressed the immense pleasure he is taking in the considerable achievements of the 25th session of the Executive Council. He also expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Members of the Executive Council

for their positive contribution and outstanding efforts towards attaining these results. ISESCO Director General also called upon the Executive Council to urge the Member States to offer help and assistance to ISESCO in order that it shall take on its civilizational mission, especially as regards inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue, as well as consolidation of its active presence in the international symposia which treat of the issues relative to redressing the image of Islam and Muslims. At the close of his address, the Director General expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Chairman of the Executive Council for his good conducting of the proceedings of the Executive Council, and to His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Hashem Falougi, the ex-Deputy Director General of the Islamic Organization for the services he offered during his term of office in the Organization.

35. On his part, His Excellency Dr. Bachir Ahmed Said M'hammed, Chairman of the Organization's Executive Council, gave an address wherein he thanked the Executive Council's members for their cooperation and contribution to bringing the proceedings of this session to successful fruition. He also congratulated Dr. Hadi Azizzadeh on his appointment as Deputy Director General of ISESCO, and commended the efforts of the ex-Deputy Director General during his term of office in ISESCO.
36. At the close of its 25th session, the Executive Council addressed a message of gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the unstinting support His Majesty has been extending to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which helps it carry on with discharging the civilizational mission devolved upon it in achieving development for the Islamic world as well as attaining its educational, scientific and cultural progress in line with the principles of Islamic solidarity, which constitutes the main groundwork for joint Islamic action.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 25th Session

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
11 – 13 Zhul Qida 1425 A.H. / 24 - 26 December 2004**

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 25th Session contained in document (CE25/2004/1.1 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

- Adopts the Agenda of its current 25th Session as contained in document (CE25/2004/1.1 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of the said Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 25th Session

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
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Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda: (Draft Programme of the Session)

The Executive Council,

- Recalling Decision (CE 24/2003/D.5.2) adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003), whereby the Council decided to hold its 25th Session in December 2004 in Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco,
- Considering Decision (CE 25/2004/D.1.1) adopted by the Council in connection with the Agenda of its current 25th Session,
- Having considered the Draft Programme of this Session contained in document (CE25/2004/1.2 Provisional),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

- Adopts the Programme of its current 25th Session as contained in document (CE25/2004/1.2 Adopted) annexed to the Final Report of this Session.



**Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization
-ISESCO-**

Executive Council / 25th Session

**Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco
11 – 13 Zhul Qida 1425 A.H. / 24 - 26 December 2004**

Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda:

**(Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities
between the 24th and the 25th 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 24th and 25th Council Sessions, contained in documents (CE 25/2004/2.1) and (CE 25/2004/2.1 Addendum),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General of ISESCO in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations and views put forward by the Executive Council members,

Decides as under:

- 1-** Approves the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 24th and 25th Council Sessions as contained in documents (CE 25/2004/2.1) and (CE 25/2004/2.1 Addendum), taking into account the observations made by the Executive Council members.
- 2-** Appreciates 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 programmes implementation.
- 3-** Thanks the Director General and staff 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 and minorities.

- 4- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference Session, and recommends its adoption by the General Conference.



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Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda:

**(Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts
for the year 2003, Report of the Audit Company and
Report of the Financial Control Committee
for the Year 2003)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the following:
 - * Articles (16) and (19) of the Charter,
 - * Articles (19), (20), (24) and (29) of the Financial Regulations,
 - * Articles (21), paragraphs (b, c and d) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Pursuant to Resolution CG 8/2003/R.2.3 of the 8th General Conference and considering Decision CE 24/2003/D.2.3 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003),
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2003, the Report of the Audit Company and the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the year 2003 contained in document (CE 25/2004/2.2),
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views put forward,

Decides as under:

1. Approves the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts for Financial Year 2003, the Report of the Audit Company and

the Report of the Financial Control Committee for the year 2003 as contained in document (CE25/2004/2.2), taking into account the observations made by the Council members.

2. Extends thanks to all the personalities and institutions that made donations in support of the Organization;
3. Invites the Director General to continue his endeavours and efforts to contact donors with a view to obtaining maximum support for the Organization's activities;
4. Lauds the efforts exerted by the Director General and his assistants to gear the bulk of the Organization's financial resources to programmes implementation, and to rationalize expenditure and improve its methods, as well as his compliance with the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee adopted by the Council;
5. Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference Session, and recommends its adoption by the General Conference.



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Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda:

**(Report of the Director General on 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 7/2000/R.2.5 adopted by the 7th General Conference (Rabat, 22-24/11/2000) inviting the Director General to arrange special visits to the Member States with arrears, to meet with their officials and to intensify efforts with a view to urging Member States to settle their contributions and pay up their arrears,
 - * Decision CE 24/2003/D.3.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003), whereby it adopted the report of the Executive Council on the criteria and modalities for writing off Member States' arrears,
 - * Resolution CG 8/2003/R.3.2 adopted by the 8th General Conference (Tehran, 27-29/12/2003),
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General in this respect,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views expressed,

Decides as under:

- 1- Approves 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 25/2004/2.3.
- 2- Invites the Member States with contributions in arrears to pay them up, in order not to miss the historic chance which the adopted resolutions of ISESCO's 8th General Conference afforded them, as regards writing off the whole, or part of, arrears.
- 3- Expresses thanks and appreciation to 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 organizations to secure further support to the Organization's activities and programmes.
- 4- Invites the Director General to further coordination, consultation and pursue contact with the Member States with arrears, through the National Commissions and the General Conference and Executive Council Members, with a view to collecting arrears and deciding on the practical mechanisms to settle them, in accordance with the General Conference and Executive Council Resolutions and Decisions in this regard.
- 5- Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference Session, and recommends its adoption by the General Conference.



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Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda:

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

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the previous decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Council and the General Conference in this respect, notably Decision CE 24/2003/D.3.3 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session and Resolution CG 8/2003/R.3.3 adopted by the 8th General Conference,
- Having considered the “Report of the Director General on the project of construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters” contained in document CE 25/2004/2.4,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

1. Approves the Report of the Director General on the project of construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters as contained in document CE 25/2004/2.4.
2. Further thanks the eminent personalities who made donation to the construction of the permanent headquarters.
3. Thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the procedural facilitation provided for the construction of ISESCO's permanent headquarters.
4. Praises the Director General's steady efforts and continuous 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 expediting construction works, sustaining their quality and rationalizing expenditures thereon.

5. Places this item on the Agenda of the 26th Council Session.
6. Agrees to submit this report to the forthcoming General Conference Session for consideration and adopting the appropriate resolution thereupon.



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**Decision on Item 3.1 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,
- Recalling Decision CE 24/2003/D.2.9 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003), inviting the Director General to examine this subject, in coordination with the competent Iranian authorities and present a report in this respect to the current Council session,
- Having considered the report as contained in document (CE 25/2004/3.1),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the views expressed,

Decides as under:

- 1- Invites the Director General to pursue studying the project and its implementing means, in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the competent Iranian authorities and the Member States.
- 2- Places this item on the Agenda of the 26th Executive Council Session.



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Decision on Item 3.2 of the Agenda:

**(Draft General Framework of Support Programme towards
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,
- Recalling Decision CE 24/2003/D.2.8 adopted by the Executive Council at its 24th Session (Tehran, 21-25/12/2003), inviting the General Directorate to prepare 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, in collaboration with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan,
- Recalling Resolution CG 8/2003/R.2.9 urging 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, cultural, information and communication institutions in Afghanistan,
- Having considered the general framework of the proposed programmes for the support of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan as contained in document (CE 25/2004/3.2),
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

1. Approves the Document CE 25/2004/3.2 concerning the Draft General Framework of Support Programme towards Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Afghanistan.
2. Invites the Director General to draw up educational, scientific and cultural programmes and projects geared to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in

relevant fields, in coordination with the competent authorities in Afghanistan.

3. Invites the Director General to strengthen contact with the international organizations and the donating parties, with a view to supporting the educational, scientific and cultural programmes in Afghanistan, within the framework of the joint agreements with the Organization and in conformity with the needs and priorities of Afghanistan, as well as in the light of the programmes and projects prepared by the Organization in this regard.
4. Invites the General Directorate to intensify efforts directed towards supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Afghanistan and introducing relevant support activities into the Organization's 2004-2006 Three-Year action plan.
5. Thanks the Director General and his assistants for having prepared this document.
6. Places this item on the Agenda of the forthcoming Executive Council Session.



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**Decision on Item 3.3 of the Agenda:
(Draft Programme on ISESCO's Ambassadors for
Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article (21), paragraph (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having examined the document (CE 25/2004/3.3) presented by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

- 1- Approves the draft programme as contained in Document (CE 25/2004/3.3), taking into consideration the observations made by the Executive Council members.
- 2- Invites the Director General to nominate ISESCO's Ambassadors for Dialogue among Cultures and Civilizations among the eminent and influential figures in the field, in the light of the content of the document adopted by the Council and the observations made by the Council's Members, and in coordination with the states which these Ambassadors belong to.
- 3- Submits a report in this connection to the forthcoming session of the Executive Council.



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**Decision on Item 3.4 of the Agenda:
(Draft Amendment to ISESCO's Charter,
The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,
The Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
And the Observer Status Regulations)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with the following:
 - * Article (20) of the Charter,
 - * Article (21), paragraph (j) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the document (CE 25/2004/3.4) presented by the Director General in this connection,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the observations and views put forward by the Executive Council Members,

Decides as under:

- 1- Invites the Member States to forward their observations on the proposed amendments to ISESCO's Charter, the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, and the Observer Status Regulations to the General Directorate with a view to submitting them to the forthcoming session of the Executive Council.
- 2- Thanks the Director General and his assistants for having prepared this document.
- 3- Places this item on the Agenda of the forthcoming Executive Council Session.



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Decision on Item 3.5 of the Agenda:

(Election of the Financial Control Committee Members)

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with :
 - * Article (19) of the Charter,
 - * Article (24) of the Financial Regulations,
 - * Article (21), paragraph (b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered the Document CE 25/2004/3.5 concerning the election of the Financial Control Committee members,
- Considering the termination of the three-year term of the current Committee, which was elected by the 22nd Executive Council Session according to Decision CE 22/2001/D.3.4 of the Executive Council,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

- 1- Elects the following States as Members of the Financial Control Committee for a three-year term:
 - Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
 - Malaysia
 - Republic of Niger
 - People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
 - Sultanate of Oman
- 2- Calls upon the Member States which are members of this Committee to nominate their representatives from among experts and specialists in the field.



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**Decision on Item 3.6 of the Agenda:
(Appointment of the Deputy Director General)**

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with article (12, B), paragraph (2) of the Charter;
- In accordance with the provisions of Article (22) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Recalling the Decision of the Executive Council at its 22nd Session (Decision CE 22/2001/D.3.6);
- Considering the nominations placed by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides as under:

- 1- Appoints Dr. Hadi Azizzadeh (from the Islamic Republic of Iran) as Deputy Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for a three-year term of office as of 1st January 2005.
- 2- Thanks Dr. Mohamed Hashem Falougi, the outgoing Deputy Director General, for the efforts he has been exerting in discharging the duties devolved upon him during his term of office.



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Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda:

(Venue and Date of the 26th 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 25/2004/4.1,
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as under:

- Convenes the Twenty-sixth Session of the Executive Council in the second half of December 2005 at ISESCO's Headquarters in Rabat.