



## **Final Report of**

The 12th Meeting of the Consultative Council in charge  
of implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic  
World

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**ISESCO Headquarters, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco**

**21 Muharram 1434/ 6 December 2012**

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## Final report of

### The 12th Meeting of the Consultative Council in charge of implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

In line with the recommendations of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Consultative Council in charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) held the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Consultative Council in charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World on **21 Muharram 1434/ 6 December 2012**, at ISESCO Headquarters, in Rabat. The meeting was attended by the members of the Consultative Council, representing the following states: the State of the United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Iraq, the Republic of the Gambia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Kingdom of Morocco, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau as well as by the representative of COMIAC; while the representatives of Tajikistan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Gabon, and the OIC General Secretariat, were absent.

#### **Opening session:**

The opening session was held Thursday morning 21 Muharram 1434/ 6 December 2012, and was started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. Afterwards, H.E. the Deputy Director General took the floor to welcome the members of the Consultative Council on behalf of the Director General, Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, and wish them success. In the same vein, he underlined the importance of the collaboration between the Council's members and ISESCO's General Directorate to activate the Islamic cultural action and implement the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World. Then, the Culture and Communication Director took the floor and gave ISESCO's address, in which he reminded of the important role played by the Consultative Council in following up the implementation of the Cultural Strategy, and expressed his hope that the meeting would achieve its objectives, namely studying the documents and reports to be submitted to the 8<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, due to be held in al-Madinah al-Munawwarah, in November 2013, on the occasion of its celebration as the Islamic Culture Capital for 2013/1434. He also expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Council's president and members for the efforts they have deployed over the last three years in coordinating with ISESCO's General Directorate to ensure the good organization of the sessions of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

Then Dr. Bilal Al Budoor, the President of the Consultative Council, took the floor and gave an address, in which he welcomed the Council's members, and called on them to exert efforts

to study the documents and reports submitted to this meeting, as part of preparation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, and in line with the Council's areas of competence. He also expressed his thanks and gratitude to ISESCO for the good organization of this meeting, the generous hospitality, and for providing the suitable conditions to ensure the success of the meeting.

During the working sessions, and after the adoption of the meeting's programme, the Council's Bureau was constituted as follows:

- President: Dr. Bilal Al-Budoor, the representative of the State of the United Arab Emirates.
- Vice-president: Mr. Muhammad Fahd Al-Duhaish, the representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Rapporteur: Mr. Mourad Al-Rifi, from the Kingdom of Morocco.
- ISESCO.

After the constitution of the Bureau, ISESCO made a presentation on “**The Draft Broad Lines of Cultural Rights in the Member States: Achievements and Future Prospects**”, and “**The Broad Lines of the Draft Executive Plan for the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for Dialogue among Followers of Religions and Cultures**”.

During the deliberations, the Council's members lauded the efforts of ISESCO's General Directorate in following up the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World. They also commended the achievements made between the Council's 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> meetings, and congratulated ISESCO on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Likewise, they called on the Organization to pursue and step up its efforts, in light of the new challenges faced by the Member States in the fields of culture and communication.

At the close of its meeting, the Council praised “**The Draft Broad Lines of Cultural Rights in the Member States: Achievements and Future Prospects**”, and “**The Broad Lines of the Draft Executive Plan for the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for Dialogue among Followers of Religions and Cultures**”, and took note of the observations made by the Council's members thereof. In the same vein, the Council's President called upon the Council's members to submit their remarks about the two documents in no later than one month, and to present the final version of the two documents to the Council's upcoming meeting.

As far as the venue and date of the Council's next meeting are concerned, the members proposed that they be determined in consultation between ISESCO's General Directorate and the competent party in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In the same vein, the Council adopted the following recommendations:

1. ***With regard to the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World:***

1. To call upon ISESCO to pursue its efforts to publicize the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World among the competent parties in the Member States, civil society institutions, and regional, international and similar organizations.
2. To urge the competent parties in the Member States to step up their efforts in activating the contents and trends of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.
3. To laud the efforts of the Member States, whose cities were celebrated as Capitals of the Islamic Culture for 2011, in commemorating the event; invite the competent parties in the Member States, whose cities will be celebrated as Capitals of the Islamic Culture in the Future, to coordinate among themselves, benefit from the experiences of the other countries, and devote the necessary attention to this celebration, through organizing big media campaigns and propelling the related sectors to carry out major cultural projects on this occasion; and invite ISESCO to assess the Islamic Culture Capitals Programme in its 10<sup>th</sup> year of launch.
4. To laud ISESCO's keenness to activate the contents of the "*Cultural Roles of Civil Society in Promoting Peace and Dialogue in Muslim World*" document, in its relation with the subject of cultural rights, through the organization of a roundtable on "**The Cultural Roles in their Relation to the Cultural Rights in the Islamic World**", as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Civic Values and Alliance of Civilizations: What is the Role of the Youth in Promoting Civic Values, Development and Dialogue?", (ISESCO Headquarters, 19-21 December 2012), with the participation of experts from civil society organizations in the Member States.
5. To hail the proposal of holding a roundtable at the beginning of the 8<sup>th</sup> Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers to open up onto the cultural actors and hold direct dialogue with the officials of the cultural field in the Member States to examine cultural issues.
6. To commend the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques' initiative to establish a center for dialogue among Islamic Madhahib, during the last Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah al-Mukarramah (Ramadan 1433); and invite

King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and ISESCO to establish a partnership to implement joint activities to activate the Initiative.

7. To underline the importance of collaboration and coordination between ISESCO and the Council through presenting its propositions and vision to promote the joint Islamic cultural action and determining its priorities, as part of ISESCO's action plans.

II. ***With regard to the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action outside the Islamic World:***

1. To laud ISESCO's efforts in the field of Islamic cultural action for Muslims outside the Islamic world, its keenness to activate the Supreme Council for Education, Science and Culture for Muslims outside the Islamic World, and its support to the Islamic cultural centers and associations in Europe, Asia, Latin America, South-East Africa, and the Indian Ocean Islands; and invite it to pursue its efforts in this regard to promote the Islamic cultural action outside the Islamic world, and to benefit from the different programs, projects and documents of the Council and of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.
2. To commend ISESCO's efforts in activating the contents of the "Cultural Roles of Civil Society in Promoting Peace and Dialogue in Muslim World" document in the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Heads of Islamic Cultural Centers and Associations in Southeast Asia and Pacific (Singapore, 19-21 October 2012), and its keenness to involve the civil society institutions and organizations outside the Islamic world in the efforts it exerts in this regard.
3. To invite ISESCO to hold one of the meetings of the Heads of Islamic Cultural Centers and Associations outside the Islamic World within the framework of the Programme of the Islamic Culture Capitals.
4. To praise the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for Dialogue among Followers of Religions and Cultures, commend its achievements, and invite the competent parties in the Member States and the specialized international and regional bodies and organizations, including ISESCO, to step up their efforts to activate this leading initiative and achieve its sought objectives.

***Likewise, the Council made the following recommendations:***

1. Inviting the OIC Member States to provide all kinds of support to the young State of Palestine and calling on the United Nations' specialized organs to protect the historical cultural rights of Palestinians.
2. Calling on the Member States to provide support to the Muslim minority of Rohingya in Myanmar, facing persecution and religious, cultural and racial cleansing, and to mobilize international support to file their case to the Security Council.
3. Congratulating H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, ISESCO Director General, on ISESCO's thirtieth anniversary, thanking him for the attention he devotes to activate the Council's action, lauding the major achievements he has achieved on top of ISESCO, in its areas of competence, and praising the success of ISESCO's General Conference, held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in December 2012.

Done in Rabat, on 21 Muharram 1434/ 6 December 2012

**Members of the Consultative Council in charge of  
Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World**