

FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE

FINAL REPORT

The first General Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was held in Casablanca on 25-26-27 Shaabane 1403 H (7-8-9 June 1983). It was attended by representatives from thirty one Islamic Countries, in addition to the Director General of the Arab, Educational Cultural, and Scientific Organization, the Director General of the Arab Education Bureau for the Gulf States, the representative of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the representative of the World Islamic League.

Verses of the Holy Coran were read out at the beginning of the opening session of the Conference held at the Wilaya of Greater Casablanca under the chairmanship of the Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Morocco, His Royal Highness Sidi Mohamed, who delivered an important speech on the occasion.

Speakers who took the floor at the opening session were:

Dr. Azzedine Laraki, Minister of Education in the Kingdom of Morocco, and President of the General Conference, followed by the Deputy-Director General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Mr. Arshad Uzzaman, then by the Director General of ISESCO Pr. Abdelhadi BOUTALEB who presented the progress report of the Organization.

The Bureau of the Conference was elected, with the Moroccan Minister of Education as President. The three Vice-Presidents were: The Minister of Education of the Republic of Senegal, the Minister of Education of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The Representative of Hachemite Kingdom of Jordan was elected General Rapporteur.

The Conference approved its agenda and decided to set up only one Committee to address the Organization's Regulations, its plan of Action, the budget, draft agreements, and its Draft Declaration.

A third plenary session was convened to discuss the Director General's report. Speakers who took the floor were Heads of Delegations in addition to the Representatives of Arab Education Bureau for the Gulf States, UNESCO, ALECSO, and the World Islamic League.

The remaining meeting including two night sessions were devoted to consideration of the report of the Committee whose Chairman was the Representative of Senegal. The rapporteur was the Representative of Morocco.

Following exhaustive discussions, and after the chairman of the Executive Council has presented the Council's report, ISESCO's Regulations made up of the Rules of procedure of the General Conference, the Financial Regulations, and the Personnel Regulations (see annex 2). were approved by the Committee, then by the Plenary.

The Conference also approved ISESCO's plan of Action as well as the two year budget (1403-1405/1983-1985) after introducing minor amendments on the Draft budget which had been adopted by the Executive Council at its latest session (see annex 3). The Committee examined the last two items of the agenda which cover the Draft Agreements with UNESCO, ALECSO and the Arab Education Bureau for the Gulf States, as well as the question of observer status (see annex 4) in addition to the Draft final Declaration of the Conference (see annex 5). The Conference adopted the Committee's recommendations.

The Conference was also informed about the plans of ISESCO directorate general to build the Organization's headquarters on the land donated by the Kingdom of Morocco.

In the closing meeting, the Conference decided to have the next General Conference in ISLAMABAD in two years.

A telegram of thanks and gratitude was sent to H.M King Hassan II of Morocco.