

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

Final Report

General Conference / Sixth Session

*Riyadh, 6-9 Shaaban 1418 A.H
6-9 December 1997 A.D*

The General Conference of Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization held its regular Sixth Session, hosted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in Riyadh on 6-9 Shaaban 1418 A. H. / 6-9 December 1997 A.D.

The Session's proceedings were attended by Their Excellencies the Ministers of Education (or their representatives) members of the General Conference as well as the Secretaries General and representatives of Islamic, Arab and international organizations.

(Annex 1 : List of Members of the General Conference Members, Members of Delegations, and Participating Islamic, Arab And International Organizations)

Opening Session : Saturday, 6 Shaaban 1418 H (6 December 1997)

- 1- The Opening Session was marked by the presence of H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as H.R.H. Prince Salmane, Ben Abdulaziz, Governor of the Riyadh Region, representing the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz Al Saud, Patron of the Conference. Were also attending H.E. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education of the Syrian Arab Republic and President of the 5th General Conference, H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Mr. Lamine Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the Executive Council, and H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO. The Session was moreover attended by some members of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the members of ISESCO Executive Council, members of the Islamic diplomatic corps accredited to Riyadh, Rectors of Universities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and several personalities in the fields of education and culture.
2. After the recitation of some verses of the Holy Quran, H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, delivered an address in which he welcomed Their Excellencies the Ministers and the members of participating delegations, wishing them a pleasant stay and success in their work. He expressed his satisfaction at the hosting by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which was making great strides in the international arena in its fields of competence. He lauded Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri on the sound management of the Organization, praising the significant results achieved by the Executive Council at its 18th Session, particularly its approval of the new Three-Year Action Plan that would usher the Organization into the 21st century, in addition to the Strategy for the Development of Science and Technology in the Islamic Countries, which met the needs of Member States in the scientific and technological fields. He emphasized that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has spared no efforts to extend every assistance to the Islamic Organization, stating that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, His Royal

Highness the Crown Prince, and His Royal Highness the Second Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, attached paramount importance to supporting the Islamic institutions which strengthened joint Islamic action and stood against acts of violence and terrorism. Before concluding, H.E. the Minister reiterated his welcome to the heads and members of delegations, wishing every success to the Session.

**(Annex 2 : Address by H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary,
Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the
Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques)**

- 3- H.E. Mr. Lamina Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Guinea, Chairman of the Executive Council, delivered an address in which he first expressed to all Council members his profound thanks and gratitude for the confidence reposed in him by his election to the chairmanship of the Executive Council of the Organization. He laid stress on the distinct dimension of the 6th General Conference as a result of the generous hosting of the Session by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the gracious patronage of His Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Abdulaziz and His Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz. He said that the session was also honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and a number of eminent scholars. He then pointed out the high standing of the Islamic Organization in the Islamic world, its high competence and its meticulous performance as a result of the wise policy of its General Directorate. The Council Chairman commended the Director General of the Organization on behalf of all members of the General Conference on the important achievements of the Organization which made of it a shining beacon and a strategic organ likely to help the Islamic world overcome the challenges of the coming century in the fields of education, science and culture.

**(Annex 3 : Address by H.E. Mr. Lamine Kamara, Minister of Foreign
Affairs in the Republic of Guinea and Chairman of the Executive Council)**

- 4- H.E. Mr. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the 5th General Conference, delivered an address in which he expressed his pride and satisfaction in the opening of the Conference in Riyadh, capital of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which, through its unsullied patrimony and deep-seated Islam in faith, and under the gracious aegis of the the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz Al Saud, hoisted high the banner of Islam. He expressed sincere thanks to the King, the Government and people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their generous hospitality and the special consideration given to the proceedings of the Conference. He referred to the shared hopes of each and everyone to achieve their aspirations in the educational, scientific and cultural fields to keep abreast of the developments of 21st century. He commended the Draft Plan and Budget for the Years 1998-2000, which was a natural outcome of the accumulating

experience of the Islamic Organization in the fields of joint Islamic action since its inception. He indicated that the Draft Plan reflected an innovative spirit and a concern for quality, adhering all the while to the dictates of authenticity and the preservation of Islamic identity. As he outlined, the bases of the Plan, he pointed out that it covered new fields of action urging the Member States to honor their obligations towards the Organization, and expressing the firm resolution of the Syrian Arab Republic to ensure the success of the Islamic Organization in its action. He commended the diligent efforts exerted by H.E. the Director General in developing the Organization's work to enable it to carry out its civilizational mission in the best possible manner.

**(Annex 4 : Address by H.E. Mr. Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi,
Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab
Republic and President of the 5th General Conference)**

- 5- In his address, H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Organization, delivered an address in which he first expressed sincere gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz Al Saud, for bestowing his lofty patronage upon the Conference and generously hosting it. He paid tribute to his generous contributions to the Islamic Organization and joint Islamic action, expressing also his profound thanks to the trustworthy Crown Prince Abdullah Ben Abdulaziz, and His Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz, Governor of the Riyadh Region for placing the inaugural ceremony under his kind patronage. He likewise thanked the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, for the generous hospitality, and warm welcome as well as for providing all means to ensure the success of the Conference. He further indicated in his address that the Three-Year Action Plan for the Years 1995-1997 was the most effective plan of the Islamic Organization; the one most likely to succeed, and the richest in term of achievements, and the widest in scale, supporting these facts by statistics.

He emphasized that ISESCO carried out its work within the framework of a comprehensive vision based on the Ummah's rich civilizational heritage; building on the firm foundations and perennial principles laid down by Islam in consonance with the requirements of human development in the Islamic world. In the light of this civilizational perspective, said the Director General, the Organization included in its draft Three-Year Action Plan for the years 1998-2000 a set of programmes, activities and projects related to current issues and comprehensive development plans in Muslim minorities, which stem from its unwavering belief in the civilizational mission assigned to it, a mission of science, action, solidarity and cooperation, indeed a mission of intellectual security, cultural innovation and scientific excellence in all fields. He indicated that the objective was to contribute to joint Islamic action through political, diplomatic and economic channels.

He stated that the General Conference Session was of particular importance as it met at a time the world was standing on the threshold of the 21st century, the century of deep changes. The Islamic world, therefore, pinned on the

Conference with great hopes and expected further action and accomplishments on the part of ISESCO.

**(Annex 5 : Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman
Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO)**

- 6- His Royal Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz delivered an address in which he welcomed H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as the heads and members of delegations to their second country, the cradle of the Revelation and the land of the Holy Mosques, which considered itself the home of all Muslims. He stressed that being Muslims, we are all duty-bound to bring up the younger generations on cooperation and love for the sake of God, underlining that the achievement of such an objective was largely contingent upon education, and that there was a pressing need to teach our children how to work and how to differ. He indicated that the Ummah had auspicious groundwork for cooperation and cohesion, which called for encouraging the Organization in order to promote cooperation, fraternity and solidarity among our States and peoples. He underscored that the Muslim Ummah possessed tremendous resources which would propel the Organization well ahead on the road of progress if harnessed to work righteousness. At the end of his address, he reiterated his welcome to the delegations, stressing that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the country of Islam welcomed any Islamic cooperation conducive to the objectives targeted by our righteous religion.

**(Annex 6 : Address by H.R.H. Prince Salmane
Ben Abdulaziz Governor of the Riyadh Region)**

- 7- On the occasion of the holding of the Board of Imam Muhammad Ben Saud Islamic University, in appreciation of the efforts exerted by H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic to promote the call to God affirm His Message, defend the rights of Bosnian Muslim people, and combat for upholding righteousness and peace, and after taking cognizance of the works of His Excellency the President, the Board of the University issued Decision n 661 for the year 1418 A.H./ 1997 A.D., by virtue of which His Excellency the Bosnian President was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in the Islamic Call by Imam Muhammad Ben Saud Islamic University.
- 8- H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic took the floor and expressed his profound thanks for such a generous mark of appreciation from Imam Muhammad Ben Saud Islamic University. After expressing thanks to the University, he recalled the ferocious war which plagued his country, wreaking havoc and devastating the educational, scientific and cultural institutions. He pointed out that after the lapse of two peaceful years in his country, children had gone back to their schools, and the signs of growth had started to emerge in the country. He indicated that notwithstanding the major difficulties they faced, the Bosnian people had remained steadfast, staunchly adhering to their righteous religion. He praised the educational renaissance witnessed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, commending the pioneer of that renaissance, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, when he was Minister of Education. At the end of his address, he

thanked the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and his Government for their extensive support to the Muslim world, reminding that the Muslim world stood in dire need for an educational, scientific and cultural renaissance likely to enable it to overcome challenges, problems and impediments.

**(Annex 7 : Address by H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic,
President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina)**

9- In appreciation by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), for the distinct efforts exerted in the fields of joint Islamic action and in recognition of the merit of its authors, the Organization availed itself of the convening of the 6th General Conference in the blessed land of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to pay tribute to an elite of scholars in the field of political, educational, and cultural Islamic action. His Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz presented the emblem of ISESCO to H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, ISESCO Director General, presented the Badge of Honour of ISESCO to His Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz, Patron of the Conference, who graciously presented the ISESCO Medal to :

- H.E. Mr. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the 5th General Conference;
- H.E. Mr. Lamine Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Guinea, Chairman of the Executive Council;
- H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mahtar M'Bow, Former Director General of UNESCO;
- H.E. Dr. Mohieddin Saber, Former Director General of ALECSO;
- H.E. Mr. Jean-Louis Roy, Secretary General of ACCT;
- H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

10- At the end of the session, the Heads and members of delegations extended their best regard to His Royal Highness Prince Salmane Ben Abdulaziz, the Patron of the Conference. A reception was held on this occasion.

**Item 1.2 of the Agenda
(Examination of credentials and the List of Delegations)
(Document CG 6/97/1.2)**

11- The Bureau of the 5th General Conference held a meeting, in which it considered the credentials and the list of delegations and recommended that the 6th General Conference adopt the relevant resolution CG 6/97/R.1.2, taking into account Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

First Working Session : Saturday, 6 Shaaban 1418 H (6 December 1997)

Morning :

**Item 1.2 of the Agenda
(Examination of Credentials and the List of Delegations)
(Document CG 6/97/1.2 Provisional)**

12- The 6th General Conference adopted Resolution CG6/97/R. 1.2 on the examination of credentials and the list of delegations participating in that Session, in accordance with the recommendation of the Bureau of the 5th Session of the General Conference. The following resolution was adopted :

**Resolution on Item 1. 2. of the Agenda
(Examination of Credentials and List of Delegations)**

The General Conference,

In accordance with :

- * Article 10, paragraphs 1 and 5 of the Charter;
- * Articles 1-5 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- Having considered document C.G. 6/97/1.2 (Provisional) containing the list of participants in the 6th Session of the General Conference;
- Taking into account the recommendation of the Bureau of the 5th General Conference to adopt the said list;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

1. Adopts the list of participants in the 6th General Conference as contained in Document CG. 6/97/1.2 Adopted and annexes it to the Final Report of the 6th General Conference; (Annex n 1)
2. Invites the Member States to take into account the provisions of Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference upon setting up their delegations.

**Item 1.3 of the Agenda
(Adoption of the Agenda)
(Document CG 6/97/1.3)**

13- Having considered the Draft Agenda, the Conference adopted it as per annexed version (Document CG 6/97/1.3 Adopted (Annex n 8). It took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 1. 3. of the Agenda
(Adoption of the Agenda)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with Articles 12-17 of the Rules of Procedure;
- Having considered the Draft Agenda of its Sixth Session contained in Document CG. 6/97/1.3 Provisional (Rev.4);
- Taking into account Decision CE 18/97/D. 5.2 (b), adopted by the Executive Council at its 18th Session, recommending that the General Conference adopt the Agenda contained in the proposed document;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

Adopts the Agenda of its Sixth Session as contained in Document CG. 6/97/1.3 Adopted and annexes it to the Final Report of the Sixth General Conference.

**Item 1.4 of the Agenda
(Adoption of the Agenda)
(Document CG 6/97/1.4 Provisional, Rev.4)**

14- Having considered the Draft Programme, the Conference decided that its working hours would be from 09:00 a.m. to 02:00 p.m. in the first and third days, and from 09:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the second day, as contained in Document CG 6/97/1.4 Adopted (Annex n 9) . It took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 1.4 of the Agenda
(Adoption of the Programme)**

The General Conference,

- Recalling Resolution CG. 5/94/R.6.1 adopted by the General Conference at its Fifth Session deciding to hold its Sixth session in the first half of December 1997;
- Considering Resolution CG. 6/97/1.3 adopting the Agenda of the Sixth General Conference as contained in Document CG 6/97/1.3 Adopted;
- Having considered the Draft Programme contained in Document CG 6/97/1.4 Provisional (Rev. 4);
- Considering Decision CE 18/97/D. 5.2 (b) adopted by the Executive Council at its 18th Session, recommending that the Sixth General Conference adopt the programme of work as per the proposed document;

Decides the following :

1. Adopts the Programme as contained in Document CG 6/97/1.4 adopted and annexes it to its Final Report of the Sixth Session of the General Conference.
2. Adopts a one-session programme of work in the first and third days and a two-session programme of work in the second day.

**Item 1.5. of the Agenda
(Composition of the Conference Bureau)**

15- The Conference approved unanimously the election of H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, as President of the Sixth Session of the General Conference, and set up its Bureau as per the Resolution hereunder :

**Resolution on Item 1.5. of the Agenda
(Composition of the Conference Bureau)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with the following :
 - * Article 10, paragraph 2 of the Charter;
 - * Articles 8 and 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- Having considered Document CG 6/97/1.5 on the election of the Bureau of the 6th Session of the General Conference;
- Taking into account Resolution CG 6/97/D. 1.4 it adopted on the Programme of work and the proposed committees;
- Paying tribute to the Host Country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
- Abiding by the principle of geographical distribution;
- In accordance with the unanimity of views expressed;

Decides the following :

Agrees on the following composition of the Bureau of the 6th General Conference :

President of the Conference : Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Vice-Presidents :

- 1- Republic of Chad
- 2- Malaysia
- 3- Arab Republic of Egypt

General Rapporteur :

Syrian Arab Republic :

Chairman of the Programmes Committee :

People's Republic of Bangladesh :

**Chairman of the Administrative, Financial
and Legal Affairs Committee :**

Republic of Tunisia

16- H.E. Mr. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, President of the 5th General Conference, then took the floor and affirmed that the Session was, indeed, a distinct session. He commended the genuine interaction among the members of the Executive Council, extending, by the same token, his heartfelt thanks to the Organization's General Directorate for the earnest action and fruitful follow-up it had carried out during the three years he had spent in the chairmanship of the General Conference. He, in particular, thanked the Director General in person for his sound management of the Organization and the the quantity and quality of programmes implemented by the Organization. He further considered that the Organization was, thanks to God, making much headway on the path of flourishing indicating that his country was beseeching the General Conference, through him; to re-elect the Director General for two new terms (i.e. 6 years). This proposal, he argued, was not inconsistent, in any respect, with the Organization's Charter or the General Conference's Rules of Procedure. He concluded by inviting H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary to take over the chair and also invited the General Rapporteur.

17- H.E. Dr. Khaled Ben Muhammad Al-Ankary, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, took over the chairmanship of the Conference and began his address by thanking his predecessor for his commendable and praiseworthy efforts. He, then, extended his thanks to the Chairman of the Executive Council, giving vent, at the same time, to his appreciation for the Organization's efforts exerted under the administration of H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, and concluded by addressing his heartfelt thanks to the Member States for the confidence they reposed in him.

Item 1.1 of the Agenda

**(Membership of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Amendment of Article 6
of the Charter and Article 2 of the Observer Status Regulations)
(Document CG 6/97/1.1)**

18- The Director General took the floor and presented the document relating to the membership of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, pointing out the need to amend Article 6 of the Charter and Article 2 of the Observer Status Regulations with a view to keeping the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as full member of the Organization.

After deliberations, the Conference took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 1.1 of the Agenda
(Membership of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Amendment of Article 6
of the Charter and Article 2 of the Observer Status Regulations)**

The General Conference,

- Considering the provisions of Article 20 of the Charter of the Organization;
- Considering the deliberations of the Executive Council at its 18th Session on the membership of Bosnia-Herzegovina submitted by the Director General, and considering further Decision CE 18/97/D. 5.2 (b) which was adopted by the Executive Council and in which the Council recommended that the General Conference adopt the amendments;
- Having considered the document CG. 6/97/1.1 and taking into account the correspondence of the General Directorate in the regard, in accordance with the provisions of Article 20 of the Charter;
- Considering the Member States 'unanimous approval of the amendments attached to the said document;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

1. Amends Article 6 of the Charter and Article 2 of the Observer Status Regulations as contained in Doc. CG 6/97/1.1;
2. Fixes the contribution of Bosnia-Herzegovina at 1% of the Organization's budget.

19- H.E. Mr. Fakhruddin Rizvanbegovic, Minister of Education, Science, culture and Sports in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, then took the floor and expressed his profound gratitude on behalf of the Bosnian Government and people for amending the Organization's Regulations in order to retain the membership of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**Item 2.1 of the Agenda
(Report of the Executive Council)
(Doc. CG 6/97/2.1)**

20- H.E. The Chairman of the Executive Council submitted a report summarizing the activities of the Executive Council between the 5th and 6th Sessions of the General Conference, particularly with regard to the revision of the Rules of Procedure and the Internal Regulations of the Organization; namely renewing the membership of the Financial Control Committee, instating the post of internal financial controller, appointing the Deputy Director General, raising the External Relations and Cooperation Division to the level of Directorate and setting up a committee for the evaluation of cooperation programmes and agreements concluded in this regard. He pointed out that the Council had considered the Director General's reports on the Organization's activities and

achievements, and commended in this regard the efforts made to implement as many activities and programmes as possible. He also praised the continued expansion of cooperation activities with international and regional organizations, as well as with Arab and Islamic institutions. The Council had also considered the proposed amendments to the Organization's Medium-Term Action Plan for the Years 1991-2000, and the major comprehensive and strategic projects to be financed by extra-budgetary sources. The Conference then adopted the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 2.1 of the Agenda
(Report of the Executive Council)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- Having considered the Report of the Executive Council contained in Document CG 6/97/2.1;
- Having heard the report and the presentation delivered by the Chairman of the Executive Council;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Takes note of the Report of the Executive Council contained in Document CG 6/97/2.1;
2. Commends the efforts made by the Chairman of the Executive Council and by the distinguished Council members to provide sustained support to the Organization and to its Director General.

Second Working Session : Saturday, 6 Shaaban 1418 H (6 December 1997)

Afternoon :

**Item 2.2 of the Agenda
(Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities
between the Fifth and Sixth Sessions of the General Conference)
(Documents : CG 6/97/2.2 Part 1, CG 6/97/2.2 Part 2
and addendum, CG 6/97/2.2 Part 3)**

21- The Director General talked about the important achievements and distinct contributions of the Islamic Organization in its fields of competence during the previous Plan of Action. He highlighted the marked increase in the number of scheduled and implemented activities as compared to the Action Plan for the Years 1991-1994, which showed the steady development witnessed by the Organization in line with the directives of the General Conference and the Executive Council and the efforts of the Organization's personnel.

The Report of the Director General on the activities of the Organization between the 5th and 6th General Conference Session gave a detailed account of the achievements realized in programmes and activities whether with regard to the activities of the Director General or the implementation of the Three-year Plan of Action in the fields of education, science, culture, communication, external relations, cooperation and support programmes in the press, documentation and information.

With regard to the activities of the Director General, they geared to strengthening the presence of the Organization and harnessing its programmes and activities for developmental purposes. The visits of the Director General to some Member States and to a number of international and regional institutions attracted the membership of three new states to the Organization, namely, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Suriname. The Organization's presence was also reinforced in the international arena and on the level of raising awareness about its civilizational mission. These visits also enabled the Director to identify the pressing needs of educational, scientific and cultural institutions of several Member States and Muslim minorities.

Regarding the implementation of programmes and activities in three areas of the Organization's activities, namely human resource development, training cadres in Member and non-Member States and providing technical and financial assistance to researchers, educational and scientific institutions, cultural centres inside and outside Member States, book-writing, translation and publishing. The rate of implementation soared to exceptional and unprecedented levels in the life of the Organization, particularly in the last year of the Plan of Action. Moreover, activities were diversified extensively, as reflected, for instance, in the gearing of activities for benefit of Muslim minorities in the Peoples' Republic of China and the Republic of Suriname.

The report of the Director General highlighted cooperation relations between the Organization and ninety Islamic, international, regional and national organizations and institutions in its fields of competence. In this connection, experience had proven the validity of such cooperation and its effectiveness, and enhanced the standing of the Organization amidst similar organizations, enabling it to implement about 400 activities with the cooperation of these organizations by means of additional resources that stood at eleven million dollars, in contrast with 2.5 million during the previous Action Plan.

22- Then, Heads of delegation from the following Member States took the floor : Brunei Darussalam, Morocco, the Sudan, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Niger, Tajikistan, Iran, Mali, Senegal, Tunisia, Mauritania, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Libya, Palestine, Pakistan, Kuwait, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Gabon, Gambia, Benin, Jordan, Chad, Sierra Leone, Comoros, Indonesia, Yemen and Bangladesh. They all extended heartfelt thanks to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in recognition

of the generous hospitality and boundless care bestowed on the General Conference and the Executive Council all along their proceedings. They, further, congratulated H.E Dr. Khaled Muhammad Al-Ankary on his election as President of the Sixth General Conference and addressed their warm thanks to the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they had exerted with a view to implementing of the largest number of the activities and programmes of the last Action Plan. On the same occasion, the Heads of delegation congratulated the Director General for the outstanding results achieved during that three-year period. They concluded their debates by issuing the following recommendations:

- Work on disseminating the Arabic language as a medium of communication among the Muslim peoples and promote Quranic schools;
- Bring the views of Muslims closer together to arrive at a harmonious approach to the major issues challenging mankind;
- Correct the image of Islam by means of setting up a sound information policy based on scientific principles, and harnessing Internet facilities;
- Promote science and technology and create centres for scientific excellence and human resource development;
- Popularize education at all levels and attach further attention to technical and vocational education;
- Exert further efforts in the fields of standardizing the Quranic script for transcribing the languages of Muslim peoples;
- Work out and implement programmes geared to eliminate poverty through literacy;
- Set up ISESCO's offices and regional units in order to activate Islamic solidarity within the Organization's fields of competence;
- Show more interest in Islamic manuscripts in cooperation with ALECSO's Manuscripts Centre or any other specialized centres;

After deliberations, the General Conference took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 2.2. of the Agenda
(Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities
between the Fifth and Sixth Sessions of the General Conference)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- Recalling Resolution CG 5/94/R. 3.1 adopted by the General Conference at its Fifth Session on the Plan and Budget for the Years 1995-1997;
- Having considered the Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the Fifth and Sixth sessions of the General Conference, in its three parts, contained in documents CG 6/97/2.2 P 1, CG 6/97/2.2 P 2 and addendum, and CG 6/97/2.2 P 3 ;

- Considering the decisions adopted by the Executive Council at its three previous sessions on its report approving all its parts and agreeing to submit it to the Sixth General Conference and recommending its adoption;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General on this issue;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Adopts the report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the Fifth and Sixth General Conference Sessions, in its three parts, contained in documents CG6 /97/2.2 P 1, CG 6/97/2.2 P 2 and addendum, and CG 6/97/2.2 P 3 ;
2. Thanks the Director General for his sound implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its successive sessions, for his activation of the role of the Organization at international level in its fields of competence, for having implemented the major part of the plan's programmes and of the budget for the Financial Years 1995-1997 and for rationalizing expenditures;
3. Requests Member States to consolidate the Organization by settling their full contributions to it.

23- The representatives of the international and regional organizations participating in the Conference, namely ACCT, ABEGS, OIC General Secretariat, UNESCO, UNEP, WIPO and ALECSO took the floor and thanked the King, Government and people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their warm welcome and generous hospitality. They also expressed thanks to the Director General for the distinct achievements made by the Organization, stressing their determination to consolidate cooperation ties with the Islamic Organization. They then put forward the following proposals :

- Counter the tendentious allegations levelled against Islam;
- Set up a data bank for the development of science and technology in the Islamic world;
- Support joint Islamic action through the activation of inter-civilizational dialogue in order to reinforce peace, tolerance and coexistence worldwide;
- Cooperate with UNESCO in setting up an itinerant exhibition to raise awareness about the contributions of Muslim scholars in the fields of education, culture and applied science;
- Cooperate for holding a symposium on environmental values in Islam.

Third Working Session : Sunday, 7 Shaaban 1418 H (7 December 1997)

Morning :

**Item 3.2 of the Agenda
(Construction of the Organization's Headquarters)
(Document CG 6/97/3.2)**

24- The Director General reviewed the contacts he had made with a view to ensuring the Construction of a permanent headquarters of the Organization in the Seat Country, pointing out the royal gesture bestowed by His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, consisting in the allocation of a plot of land for this purpose, in addition to the generous promise of His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, to finance the construction of the Organization's headquarters. He also mentioned, with further gratitude, that the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco had taken the decision of exchanging the plot of land.

The Conference then took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 3.2 of the Agenda
(Construction of the Organization's Headquarters)**

The General Conference,

- Recalling the deliberations which have taken place at the General Conference's previous sessions in connection with the Construction of the Organization's Headquarters, particularly Resolution CG 5/94/R 3.3 adopted by the Fifth General Conference Session, in which the Conference called upon the Executive Council to support the Director General's efforts regarding the construction of a permanent headquarters for the Organization and to follow up the issue at each of its sessions;
- Considering the decisions adopted by the Executive Council at its previous sessions:
- Having examined the Director General's Report on the Construction of the Organization's Headquarters contained in Doc. CG 6/97/3.2;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for its readiness to support the Director General's efforts regarding the construction of a permanent headquarters for the Organization and its affirmation that it will continue to provide every assistance to enable the Organization to carry out its civilizational mission;

2. Thanks His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al-Nahyan Head of State of the United Arab Emirates for his benevolent contribution to the sponsoring of the construction of the Islamic Organization's headquarters;
3. Thanks the Director General for his efforts in this regard, and invites him to pursue these efforts;
4. Invites the Executive Council to support the Director General's efforts and follow up the matter at each of its sessions;
5. Inserts this item in the Agenda of the 7th Session of the Organization's 7th General Conference.

Item 4.1 of the Agenda :
(Report of the Director General on the Situation
of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli occupation
and attempts to obliterate its identity and judaize it)
(Document CG 6/97/4.1)

25- The Director General made a presentation on the activities and programmes carried out by the Islamic Organization in Al-Quds during the last three years. He also pointed out the establishment of Al-Quds Fund.

The representative of the State of Palestine took the floor and thanked the Director General and Member States for supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Al-Quds.

The Conference took the following Resolution in this connection :

Resolution on Item 4.1 of the Agenda :
(Report of the Director General on the Situation
of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli occupation
and attempts to obliterate its identity and judaize it)

The General Conference,

- Recalling the resolutions adopted by previous sessions of the General Conference and the Executive Council of the Organization on the Situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli occupation and attempts to obliterate its identity and judaize it, particularly Resolution CG5/94/R. 5.1 adopted by the 5th General Conference, in which it decided the following :
 - 1- Thanks His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, and Chairman of Al-Quds Committee for his generous patronage of this international symposium on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which was held by the Organization in compliance with a Resolution of the 4th Session of the General Conference of the Organization;
 - 2- Invites the Director General to submit a report on the situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference.
- Taking note, after examining the Report of the Director General on the Situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli occupation and attempts to

obliterate its identity and judaize it, contained in Doc. CG 6/97/4.1, that the Director General has attached to Al-Quds Al-Sharif city the importance it deserves;

Decides the following :

1. Affirms its previous resolutions regarding the situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
2. Calls upon the Member States to give Al-Quds Al-Sharif top priority in the international fora in order to defend its belonging, protect its identity and support the national Palestinian institutions;
3. Thanks the Director General for his sound implementation of the resolutions pertaining to Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as for the efforts and initiatives he has made in this regard;
4. Places this item on the Agenda of the Seventh Session of the General Conference.

**Item 4.2 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina)
(Document CG 6/97/4.2)**

26- The Director General made a presentation on the activities and programmes implemented by the Islamic Organization in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the last three years. The representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina took the floor and thanked the Director General as well as the Member States for the support they extended to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Conference then took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 4.2. of the Agenda :
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with the Organization's Charter and the principle of Islamic solidarity in the fields of education, science and culture;
- Recalling the previous resolutions adopted by the General Conference and the decisions taken by the Executive Council in this regard;
- Noting after considering the Director General's Report on ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina in Doc. CG 6/97/4.2, which was examined by the Executive Council at its 18th Session, under code C.E. 18/97/4.1, that the Director General had visited Sarajevo together with UNESCO's Director General, and extended material assistance to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

- Having heard the presentation made by the Representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- Taking into consideration Decision CE/18/97/D. 4.1 taken by the 18th Executive Council Session;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Reaffirms the previous decisions taken by the Executive Council on cultural and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina;
2. Thanks the Director General for his efforts in implementing the aforementioned decisions and invites him to follow up their execution.

**Item 4.5 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Palestine)
(Document CG 6/97/4.5)**

27- The Director General took the floor and explained that the Executive Council had taken at its 18th Session a decision to gear certain programmes of the 1998-2000 Action Plan to the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine. After hearing the representative of Palestine, the Conference took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 4.5 of the Agenda :
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Palestine)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with the Organization's Charter ;
- Recalling the previous resolutions taken by the General Conference since 1982 on support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions of the Palestinian people;
- Taking cognizance of the situation of Palestinian educational, scientific and cultural institutions and their urgent needs for a reconstruction of their infrastructures, as noted in the report prepared by the Organization's delegation following its visit to the regions of the National Palestinian Authority according to the directive of the OIC Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, which report was submitted to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Islamic countries at its 24th Session;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General;
- Having heard the presentation made by the head of the Palestinian Delegation;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Hails the Palestinian people and expresses appreciation for their steadfastness in their homeland, their resistance against the occupation authorities, and their construction of national institutions;
2. Affirms the resolutions of the previous General Conference Sessions concerning the support to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions;
3. Adopts the decision of the Executive Council, taken at its 18th Session, under code CE18/97/D.4.3;
4. Invites the Director General to gear some of ISESCO's programmes to the support of the Palestinian educational, scientific and cultural institutions, and to search for additional financial sources to help these institutions;
5. Thanks the Director General for the efforts he exerted in support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Palestine, and for ISESCO's assignment of a delegation to take stock of the situation of these institutions and determine their needs.

**Item 4.3 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Azerbaijan)
(Document CG 6/97/4.3)**

28- The Director General made a presentation on the activities and programmes carried out by the Organization for the benefit of educational, scientific and Cultural institutions in Azerbaijan in the ending Action Plan. The representative of Azerbaijan took the floor and expressed thanks to the Director General and his assistants, then the Conference took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 4.3 of the Agenda :
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Azerbaijan)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with the Organization's Charter and the principle of Islamic solidarity in the fields of education, science and culture;
- Taking into consideration the decisions taken by the Executive Council at its previous sessions on ISESCO's role in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan, and Resolution CG 5/94/R 5.3 adopted by the 5th General Conference on the same issue;
- Noting, after considering the Director General's Report on ISESCO's role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Azerbaijan, contained in Doc. CG 6/97/4.3, that the Director General had earmarked

some of the Organization's programmes, in its Three-Year Plans 1991-1994 and 1995-1997, for providing assistance to Azerbaijan, the Member State of ISESCO;

- Having heard the presentation made by the Representative of Azerbaijan;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Reaffirms the decisions and resolutions adopted by the previous Executive Council and General Conference Sessions in this respect;
2. Thanks the Director General for his efficient implementation of these decisions and resolutions.

**Item 4.4 of the Agenda
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Institutions in Somalia)
(Document CG 6/97/4.4)**

29- The Director General made a presentation on the activities and programmes carried out by ISESCO for the benefit of Somalia during the ending Action Plan. The representative of Somalia took the floor and commended the efforts exerted by the Director General, thanking the Organization for supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia. He requested to gear activities to Somalia itself in view of the current internal stability of conditions in Somalia.

The Conference took the following Resolution in this connection :

**Resolution on Item 4.4 of the Agenda :
(ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia)
(Document CG 6/97/4.4)**

The General Conference,

- Recalling the Organization's Charter and the principle of Islamic solidarity in the educational, scientific and cultural fields;
- In accordance with the previous decisions and resolutions adopted by the Executive Council and the General Conference on ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia;
- Having considered the relevant document CG 6/97/4.4;
- In accordance with decision CE 18/97/D. 4.2 taken by the Executive Council at its 18th Session;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Representative of Somalia;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

1. Endorses decision CE 18/97/4.2 taken by the Executive Council at its 18th Session;
2. Appeals to Member States to extend material and technical support to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;
3. Calls on the Somali factions to reconcile and unite;
4. Thanks the Director General for his efficient implementation of the decisions and resolutions pertaining to this issue.

**Item 5.1 of the Agenda
(Endorsement of the Executive Council Members)
(Document CG 6/97/5.1)**

30- The Director General presented the document featuring the list of Executive Council members. Having considered the Document, the Conference adopted it and took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 5.1. of the Agenda
(Endorsement of the Executive Council's Members)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 11, and Article 12(I), paragraph 2 of the Charter;
- Having considered the list of the Organization's Council members in Doc. CG 6/97/5.1 Provisional;

Decides the following :

1. Endorses the Council members as per Doc. CG 6/97/5.1 Adopted;
2. Invites Member States to nominate their representatives to the Executive Council in compliance with the provisions of Article 12(I), paragraph 2 of the Charter, and to provide the Director General with each representative's official curriculum vitae;
3. Invites the Director General to follow up this matter with Member States and amend this list according to the replies of the relevant authorities in Member States.

**Item 6.1 of the Agenda
(Date and Venue of the Seventh General Conference)
(Document CG 6/97/6.1)**

31- The General Conference considered the relevant document, and took the following Resolution :

**Resolution on Item 6.1. of the Agenda
(Date and Venue of the 7th General Conference)**

The General Conference,

- In accordance with Article 6 the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following :

Convenes its 7th Session in the first half of December in the Year 2000 in the Seat Country unless a Member State proposes to host it.

Fourth Working Session : Sunday, 7 Shaaban 1418 H (7 December 1997)

Afternoon :

**Adoption of the Report of the Programmes Committee
(Document CG 6/97/D.F.R C1)**

32- The Chairman of the Programmes Committee took the floor and presented the Committee's Report. Having considered the said report, the General Conference decided to adopt it as per document attached.

**(Annex 10 : Final Report of the Programmes Committee)
(Doc CG 6/97/F.R C1)**

**Adoption of the Report of the Administrative,
Financial and Legal Affairs Committee
(Doc CG 6/97/D.F.R C2)**

33- The Chairman of the Administrative, Financial and Legal Affairs Committee took the floor and presented the Committee's Report. After deliberation, the General Conference adopted the Report in its revised form attached hereto.

**(Annex 11 : Final Report of the Administrative,
Financial and Legal Affairs Committee)
(Doc. CG 6/97/F.R C2)**

**Item 5.2 of the Agenda
(Election of the Director General)
(Document CG 6/97/5.2)**

34- The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic put forward the following proposal :

Proposal from the Syrian Arab Republic on Item 5.2 of the Agenda

- In accordance with Article 11, paragraph (10), and Article 13 of the Charter,
- In response to the desire of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to elect Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General for another term,
- Considering that the Executive Council has issued a recommendation thereon to the General Conference in its Decision CE 18/97/D.5.2 (a),
- Bearing in mind the unanimous tribute paid by the Member States to Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri's competence, outstanding performance, and considerable success in steering the Organization's affairs and furthering its radiance on the Islamic and international levels,
- Considering the Member States' determination to maintain this sound course and steady development,

We request the General Conference to approve the re-election of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General of the Islamic Organization for two new three-year terms on an exceptional-basis in appreciation for his distinct efforts.

35- The Heads of delegation took the floor and commended the outstanding performance of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, and his great success in steering the Organization's affairs. The Conference, therefore, agreed unanimously to re-elect Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General of the Islamic Organization for two new three-year terms. It took the following Resolution in this connection :

Resolution on Item 5.2. of the Agenda (Election of the Director General)

The General Conference,

- In accordance with the following :
 - * Article 11, paragraph 10, of the Charter;
 - * Article 24, paragraphs 2-a and 2-b of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- In response to the desire of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to re-elect Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General of the Organization for a new term;
- In accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Council contained in Decision C.E. 18/97/D. 5.2 (a);
- Expressing its profound appreciation for the outstanding performance of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri in the management of the Organization on all

levels, and the rapid development achieved by the Organization since the 4th General Conference that elected him;

- Considering the Member States 'unanimous praise of the competence of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as well as of his remarkable performance and his considerable success in running the affairs of the Organization and furthering its radiance on the Islamic and international levels;

Decides the following :

1. Elects Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri as Director General of the Organization for two three-year terms on an exceptional-basis in appreciation for his outstanding efforts;
 2. Thanks the Director General for his distinct efforts in achieving the Organization's objectives, developing its work, widening its fields of action and highlighting its standing in the Islamic and international arenas;
 3. Invites the Director General to pursue these efforts to further develop the Organization and improve its performance in all its fields of competence.
36. The Director General, then, gave an address in which he extended heartfelt thanks to all the members of the General Conference. He gave vent to his feeling of the burden brought by the responsibility unanimously entrusted to him and the honour he was granted which, in fact, stemmed from deep appreciation for the efforts exerted by all the staff members of the Organization's General Directorate. He considered that honour as a duty conferred on him and on the personnel at large, requiring on their part to muster up efforts and work hard in order to achieve the Organization's objectives.

Closing Session : Monday, 8 Shaaban 1418 H (8 December 1997)

Morning :

37. Having taken cognizance of its Draft Final Report (Doc. CG 6/97/D.F.R.), the 6th General Conference examined the Report and adopted it as contained in Document CG 6/97/F.R.
38. Upon conclusion of its proceedings, the 6th General Conference addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the warm and generous hospitality lavished on the participating delegations and the kind hosting of the proceedings of the Session, expressing by the same token appreciation for his noble stances and laudable efforts in the field of joint Islamic action.

**(Annex 12 : Message of thanks and gratitude to the Custodian
of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud)**

39. The General Conference, also, addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco for the generous care bestowed by His Majesty on the Islamic Organization, and for the plot of

land he had granted the Organization for building its permanent headquarters as well as for His Majesty's noble stands in defense of the Ummah's supreme interests.

**(Annex 13 : Message of thanks and gratitude to
His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco)**

40. The General Conference addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates for His Highness's generous sponsoring of the construction of the Organization's permanent headquarters and in appreciation for his noble efforts exerted with a view to consolidating Islamic solidarity.

**(Annex 14 : Message of thanks and gratitude to
His Highness Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al-Nahyan,
President of the State of the United Arab Emirates)**

41. The General Conference addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Excellency Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina for having honoured the Conference with his attendance to the opening ceremony and, further, by delivering both an address and an invaluable lecture before the participating delegations.

**(Annex 15 : Message of thanks and gratitude to
His Excellency Alija Izetbegovic,
President of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina)**

42. The General Conference, also, addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Royal Highness, Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz, Crown Prince and First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Chief of the National Guard for his keen interest in the Conference and the generous care he bestowed, leaving deep satisfaction among all the participating delegations.

**(Annex 16 : Message to His Royal Highness, Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz,
Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)**

43. The General Conference addressed, likewise, a message of thanks and gratitude to His Highness Prince Salmane Ibn Abdulaziz, Governor of Riyadh Region for his high patronage of the Conference's proceedings and the honour bestowed on the Conference by his attendance to the opening ceremony and by the address he delivered therein, as well as for his generous gestures towards people involved in science, culture and thought in the Islamic countries.

**(Annex 17 : Message of thanks and gratitude
to H.R.H. Prince Salmane, Governor of Riyadh Region)**

44. The Director General of the Islamic Organization, Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri delivered an address in which he first expressed heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al-

Saud, his trustworthy Crown Prince, His Highness Second Vice-Chairman of the Government Council, His Highness Prince Selmane Ibn Abdulaziz and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the generous hospitality and care lavished on the 18th Session of the Executive Council and the 6th General Conference. He highlighted the large success and the top-quality of the two Sessions, affirming, on the same occasion, that the resolutions taken by the Conference were, indeed, a real masterpiece, in full consonance with the current requirements of the present history of the Muslim Ummah. He indicated that the Three-Year Action Plan 1998-2000 and the Strategy for Developing Science in the Islamic countries adopted by the General Conference were fully compatible with our collective will and longing for progress and advancement in the realm of science, technology, economy and development. He extended heartfelt thanks to the President of the 6th General Conference, H.E. Dr Khalid Ibn Muhammed Lankari, Minister of Higher Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the support and assistance he and his collaborators had extended with a view to helping the Conference achieve success in its proceedings as well as for the excellent steering of the Session. The Director General also extended thanks to H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, President of the 5th General Conference, and Minister of Education in the Syrian Arab Republic for his laudable assistance and support to the Islamic Organization during his chairmanship of the Conference. He expressed deep thanks and gratitude to the Members of the Conference for the Confidence they had granted him, highlighting the burden of the responsibility entrusted to him and praying the Almighty to help him discharge the mission to the best interest of the Organization's objectives. He, likewise, addressed his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco for his unstinted support and generous care bestowed on the Islamic Organization. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri concluded his address by thanking the Organizing Committee, the translation team and all those who contributed to the works of that distinct Session.

**(Annex 18 : Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri,
ISESCO Director General, at the Closing Session
of the 6th General Conference)**

45. Dr Khalid Ibn Muhammad Lankari, Minister of Higher Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and President of the 6th General Conference took the floor and expressed his happiness to see the General Conference held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He reiterated his thanks to the Members of the General Conference for electing him as President, commending the achievements realized by the Organization in its fields of competence as well as the laudable efforts exerted by the President of 5th General Conference, H.E. Prof. Muhammed Ghassan Al-Halabi. He commended the active participation of the members of the Conference in examining and enriching all documents submitted to the Conference, wishing for the Organization full success in the pursuit of its objectives and implementation of the new Three-Year Action Plan which would inevitably, God willing, help the Islamic countries

enter the 21st Century with further confidence and strength. H.E. Dr Lankari, then, addressed heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al-Saud, his trustworthy Crown Prince and His Highness Prince Selmane Ibn Abdulaziz, Governor of Riyadh Region for the warm hospitality and generous patronage lavished on the 18th Session of the Executive Council and the 6th General Conference, wishing for all a rewarded Umrah and good return to their homelands. He concluded by declaring closed the Conference's Closing Session.