



Final Report

Tenth Session of the Consultative Council in Charge of the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

ISESCO Headquarters, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

18 Muharram 1432 A.H / 24 December 2010

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Pursuant to the recommendations of the ninth session of the Consultative Council in Charge of the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) held the tenth meeting of the Council, at ISESCO headquarters, in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on **18 Muharram 1432 A.H / 24 December 2010**. The meeting was attended by the members of the Consultative Council representing the following countries: the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Iraq, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Republic of Senegal, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Opening Session:

The opening session was held on Friday **18 Muharram 1432 A.H. / 24 December 2010** in the morning. After recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, Dr Hadi Azizzadeh, the Deputy Director General of ISESCO, delivered an address wherein he greeted the Consultative Council's members on behalf of H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Director General of ISESCO, welcoming their election as members of the Council, and wishing them success in discharging their duties. He also noted the importance of the Council's cooperation with the General Directorate of ISESCO on boosting joint Islamic cultural action and implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and highlighted the Consultative Council's significant role in the follow-up of the implementation of this strategy. He then expressed his hope that the tenth session would achieve its objectives consisting in examining the key documents prepared by ISESCO General Directorate, contributing to the formulation of a clear vision of the main theme of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, to be held late in 2011 in Tlemcen, within the framework of the celebration of the city as Capital of Islamic Culture for the same year.

At the procedural session, Dr Bilal Al Budoor, Executive Director for Culture and Arts in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development, UAE, and Mourad Rhiffi, advisor to the Minister of Culture in the Kingdom of Morocco, were elected respectively as Chairman and Rapporteur of the Council. During the working sessions and after the adoption of the meeting's Programme, the representative of ISESCO presented the Progress Report on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the Report on the Strategy

for Islamic Cultural Action outside the Islamic World, the Report on the Islamic Culture Capitals' Programme, the Broad Lines of the Draft Study on Cultural Enterprises in the Member States, and the Draft Agenda of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

The Council members also made suggestions regarding the International Year of Youth and the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures. In their suggestions, they also tackled role of the youth, women and civil society in the promotion of such issues, with a view to formulating the working document of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

During the deliberations, the Council members focused on the following:

- Emphasizing the importance of strengthening communication and consultation between members of the Consultative Council on issues falling within the remit of the Council and the effective relevant implementation mechanisms.
- Underlining the importance of communicating the documents to be submitted to the meetings of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers to the Council Members in a timely manner and via email in order for them to examine them and formulate observations thereon.
- Inviting the competent parties in the Member States concerned with the celebration of Islamic culture capitals to directly coordinate with ISESCO on the celebration-related organizational issues, while welcoming the parties and Arab, Islamic and international organizations wishing to support the festivities celebrating the capitals of Islamic culture.
- Introducing the phrase “cultural investment” into the title of the study to be submitted to the seventh Islamic Conference Culture Ministers, for further clarification of the concept of "cultural enterprises".
- Welcoming the initiative of H.E. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Tunisian Republic, which resulted in 2010 being proclaimed International Year of Youth by the United Nations, while stressing the need for further implementation of the initiative in the Member States, with due attention to involving the youth in the activities and programmes devoted to that event.
- Underlining the importance of the Islamic countries' contribution to the celebration of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures in such a way as to foster world peace, particularly through the involvement of the Islamic world's youth and women organizations in the implementation of durable activities, programmes and initiative devoted to that end.
- Inviting the Council members to provide ISESCO, at their earliest convenience, with proposals for field programmes and activities aimed at fostering the role of the Islamic world's youth, women and civil society in celebrating the International

Year of Youth and the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, in order to include them in the relevant document to be submitted to the seventh Islamic Conference of culture Ministers.

- Adding an item on the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques on dialogue among cultures civilizations and followers of the various faiths to the Draft Agenda of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (Tlemcen, November 2011).

At the close of its deliberations, the Council adopted the Progress Report on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the Report on the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action outside the Islamic World, the Report on the Islamic Culture Capitals' Programme, and the Draft Agenda of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, taking into consideration the Council's observations thereon. The Council also adopted the Broad Lines of the Draft Study on Cultural Enterprises (Cultural Investment) in the Member States, and invited the General Directorate to submit its final version to the eleventh session of the Council before presenting it to the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

Concerning the venue and date of its next session, the Council suggested that they be fixed in consultation between the General Directorate and the competent parties in the Council's Member States wishing to host its eleventh session.

The Council adopted the following recommendations:

1. To call on ISESCO to step up its efforts to widely publicize the amended version of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World among the competent parties in the Member States, civil society institutions and similar regional and international organizations.
2. To call for further materialization by the Member States of the key elements of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World in their action plans and cultural programmes, and urge them to incorporate cultural action as a priority in comprehensive development policies, in view of its potential benefits and its substantial role in the cultural and social development of individuals and societies.
3. To commend ISESCO's contribution to Islamic cultural action in favour of Muslims outside the Muslim world, mainly consisting in convening the first Forum of the Heads of Islamic Cultural Centres and Associations for Muslims outside the Islamic World, at ISESCO Headquarters, energizing the role of the Supreme Council for Education, Science and Culture for Muslims outside the Islamic World, and supporting the Islamic cultural centres and associations in Europe, Asia and Latin America; and to invite the Organization to pursue its efforts towards enhancing Islamic cultural action in favour of Muslims outside the Islamic world.

4. To commend the efforts the Member States having hosted capitals of Islamic culture in 2010 have put in the celebration of this event, and call on the competent parties in the Member States to be hosting capitals of Islamic culture in the forthcoming years to coordinate their efforts and draw on past experiences in this regard, while paying due attention to this event, through large-scale media and outreach campaigns targeting the local and international public opinion, and encouraging the relevant sectors to implement major cultural projects on that occasion.
5. To urge the competent parties in the Member States to implement national and regional activities and programmes to mark the International Year of Youth and the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, and encourage the youth, women and civil society institutions to contribute to the regional and international events devoted to this end.
6. To welcome the choice of “the promotion of the contribution of the youth, women and civil society institutions to the celebration of the International Year of Youth and the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures” as a theme of the seventh Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.
7. To emphasize the importance of cooperation and coordination between ISESCO and the Consultative Council, especially through the Council’s proposals and ideas aimed at developing joint Islamic cultural action and defining its priorities under ISESCO’s action plans.
8. To express thanks and appreciation to His Excellency Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Director General of ISESCO, for the special attention he devotes to the development of the action led by the Consultative Council in charge of the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and commend the great achievements ISESCO is making in its fields of competence under the leadership of the Director General.

Done in Rabat, on 18 Muharram 1432 A.H. / 24 December 2010.

The members of the Consultative Council in Charge of the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World