



# Third Extraordinary Session of **ISESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE**

King Abdullah Economic City, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
4-5 Ramadan 1440A.H./9-10 May 2019

## **Final Report and Resolutions of the Conference**

**Item 1.6 of the Agenda**

# Final Report

With the Grace of Allah, the General Conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) convened its 3<sup>rd</sup> extraordinary session in King Abdullah Economic City, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 4-5 Ramadan 1440 A.H., corresponding to 9-10 May 2019, with the participation of ISESCO Member States, save the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic whose membership was suspended, and the Republic of Turkey which has not yet finalized its constitutional procedures for membership in the Organization.

1. The opening session was held in the presence of H.E. Dr Hamad bin Mohammed bin Hamad Al Shaikh, Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President of the Saudi National Commission for Education, Culture and Science; H.E. Dr Ali Zeidan Abu Zuhri, President of the 13<sup>th</sup> General Conference of ISESCO, President of the Palestinian National Commission for Education, Science and Culture; H.E. Dr Boubakar Doukouré, Chairman of ISESCO Executive Council, Presidential Advisor on Islamic Affairs in Burkina Faso; H.E. Dr Amina Al Hajri, ISESCO Deputy Director General, on behalf of Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) who could not attend due to an emergency health reason; and H.E. Dr Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and a number of senior government personalities and senior officials.
2. At the outset, following the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, Dr Al Shaikh delivered an address in which he welcomed the participating delegations and conveyed the greetings of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and the greetings of H.R.H. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, may Allah preserve them, to the participants. He also expressed his thanks to the participating delegations for having accepted the invitation to attend this extraordinary session of the Conference, following to the decision of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to nominate Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al Malik for the post of ISESCO Director General in lieu of the incumbent Director General, Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri. In addition, Dr Al Shaikh lauded ISESCO's march full of success and achievements to attain the noble objectives for which it was created. Likewise, he commended the enormous efforts he exerted during the period of his leadership of the Organization,

adding that this extraordinary session of the Conference is being held as part of giving effect to the mechanisms of coordination and consultation among ISESCO Member States on the developments and socioeconomic challenges which they need to address with more cooperation and solidarity to prove that the concepts of education and culture are too powerful to crumble because of conflicts and transient challenges. At the close of his address, Dr Al Shaikh wished success to H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al Malik and to staff of the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to ISESCO's team, beseeching Allah Almighty to crown their efforts with success.

3. Then, H.E. Dr Ali Zeidan Abu Zuhri, President of the 13<sup>th</sup> ISESCO General Conference, President of the Palestinian National Commission for Education, Science and Culture, made an address in which he first wished a blessed Ramadan to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques , King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and Crown Prince, H.R.H Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, while expressing his appreciation of the position of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Islamic world and its special and valuable role in supporting joint Islamic action and the causes of the Islamic Ummah, primarily the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif. He also pointed out that this Conference is being held amid great challenges facing Islamic countries, particularly the conspiracies against the Palestinian cause and the spread of the speech of extremism, hatred and fanaticism, hoping that it will give a new impetus to ISESCO, one of the most successful specialized regional organizations in the Islamic world and lauding the efforts of its staff namely Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri. At the end of his address, Dr Abu Zuhri reiterated his thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and his Crown Prince, H.R.H Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, for providing care to joint Islamic action. He also extended his thanks to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, may Allah preserve him, for his unfaltering support to ISESCO in its seat in Rabat, as well as to the leaders of Member States without exception, and thanked the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to ISESCO's team for the good preparation of this Conference.
4. H.E. Dr Boubakar Doukouré, Chairman of ISESCO Executive Council, took the floor and delivered an address in which he first expressed his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, and to H.R.H Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, for their support to ISESCO and efforts at the service of the causes of the Islamic world, beseeching Allah Almighty

to grant success to the Saudi leadership and achieve, through its action and wisdom, more prosperity and progress for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also extended his deep appreciation and gratitude to King Mohammed VI of Morocco, may Allah protect him, for his support to ISESCO. He underlined that this third extraordinary session of ISESCO General Conference is organized to consider the nomination by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of a new Director General in lieu of the incumbent Director General, who, from his position, served his honorable country and presented an ideal image of the qualified and competent official who honored his country and all ISESCO Member States. He also hailed the great support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to joint Islamic action at all levels through various channels and in different forms since the foundation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, adding that ISESCO has had a great part of this support whose aspects have been shown, for instance, in its repeated nominations of the current Director General and its nomination of his successor. Thus, as Dr Doukouré added, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has reaffirmed its unwavering contribution and reflected the bright side of the kind care it provides to ISESCO. He also hoped that ISESCO's new stage will be a fresh start towards further progress and a bright, prosperous and stable future for our Organization which has gained the appreciation, support and praise of all Member States.

5. Dr Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) gave an address wherein he expressed his wholehearted thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and his Crown Prince H.R.H. Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, may Allah preserve them, for their unstinting care to joint Islamic action and support to the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). He further expressed his sincere thanks to H.E. Dr Hamad bin Mohammed bin Hamad Al Saikh, Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for the kind invitation to the Conference and to H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri in recognition of his role and endeavors to promote cultural, scientific and educational issues throughout his career as ISESCO Director General. Likewise, Dr Al-Othaimeen reaffirmed the willingness of the OIC to promote joint Islamic action in the various fields and specializations, including those ISESCO has taken the lead to implement in the field of education, science, culture and communication which are key to achieving socioeconomic development in the Islamic world. In addition, he hailed the achievements made by ISESCO under its successive action plans to advance culture, science and education in Member States, such as the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and the Islamic Culture Capitals Programme and the development of the programmes of teaching

Arabic language to non-Arabic speakers. Moreover, he recalled the constant willingness of the OIC to activate partnership with ISESCO with regards relevant sectorial conferences relevant to major issues and programmes. At the close of his address, the OIC Secretary General reaffirmed the aspiration of the OIC to permanently enhance cooperation with ISESCO in its next stage, wishing H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al Malik every success in his missions.

6. Then, H.E. Dr Amina Al Hajri, ISESCO Deputy Director General, read out the address of H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, ISESCO Director General, in which he first thanked Allah Almighty for granting great success to ISESCO General Direction and Member States in upgrading, developing and expanding the outreach of the Organization. Besides, he expressed his heartfelt thanks, gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, may Allah preserve him, and to his Crown Prince, H.R.H Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, for their sustained support and endorsement to him; beseeching Allah to help them achieve the good, progress and prosperity for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Muslim Ummah at large. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to His Majesty late King Hassan II, may Allah have mercy on him, and to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, the Seat Country of ISESCO, may Allah preserve him, for their sustained support to the Organization. He further expressed his great respect, gratitude and thanks to Their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies leaders of Member States for their unwavering support to the missions of ISESCO. Moreover, he thanked the President of the General Conference and his predecessors, members of the General Conference, the Chairman of the Executive Council and his predecessors, the Council members, and ISESCO's family members, including its current staff and those who passed away. Then he underscored the great achievements of ISESCO since its foundation that have made of it a great international organization with an effective presence on both the Islamic and international arenas through a wide network of cooperation and partnership relations with about two hundred thirty regional and international organizations, its regional offices and educational and information centers present in a number of Member States, its goodwill ambassadors, and its initiatives to spread the values of justice, peace, harmony and coexistence among nations and peoples until ISESCO has become a prestigious model of Islamic solidarity in its strongest aspects. Likewise, he also expressed his confidence of the continuity of ISESCO's special march to stay as a beacon of Islamic solidarity, and a locomotive of joint Islamic action in the fields of civilizational edification, beseeching Allah to help everyone

achieve good, glory and development for Member States and grant success to joint Islamic action.

7. In appreciation of the great efforts exerted by H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri on top of ISESCO General Direction and his important contributions to the development of joint Islamic action in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, and in recognition of his prominent role in upgrading the status of the Organization to join the ranks of successful international organizations, the Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Dr Hamad bin Mohammed bin Hamad Al Shaikh, presented the shield of the Ministry to H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri. Also, the Ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon to Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco, presented the “Grade d'Officier de l'Ordre de la Valeur” National Medal for which the President of the Republic, Mr Paul Biya, issued a decree to award it to H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri. The Medal was received by Dr Amina Al Hajri, Deputy Director General, on behalf of Dr Altwajri.
8. At the close of the opening session, a group photo was taken for the heads of the delegations of the Member States taking part in the conference.
9. Afterwards, the procedural session was devoted to adopting the list of the participating delegations and presenting and adopting the Draft Agenda and the Draft Programme.
10. The Conference also examined the submitted document on the decision of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to appoint H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al-Malik for the post of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to substitute the incumbent Director General Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri. After H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al Malik had made a presentation on his visions on the features of the next stage of ISESCO, the General Conference adopted the attached resolution (**Resolution EGC 3/2019/R.1.4**). The State of Qatar expressed its reservation about the procedures taken in this regard.
11. Afterwards, Their Excellencies heads of delegations delivered their addresses in which they congratulated H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al Malik on his election as ISESCO Director General wishing him full success in his mission at the head of the Organization, and reaffirmed the will of their countries and their competent authorities to support and cooperate with him in the Organization’s fields of competence for the good of Islamic communities, in such a way as to achieve their aspirations for development and prosperity.

12. Later, the newly elected Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), H.E. Dr Salem bin Mohammed Al-Malik made an address wherein he presented his heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, may Allah preserve him, and H.R.H Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, for the invaluable confidence they placed in him through nominating him to the post of Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). He also thanked His Majesty King Mohamed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, may Allah preserve him, for the support he extends to the Organization and praised the efforts of late Mr. Abdelhadi Boutaleb, may Allah have mercy on him, and Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the out-going Director General. He further thanked the delegations of Member States participating in the Conference for electing him to this position. In his address, Dr Al-Malik stressed the need for ISESCO to keep pace with the current changes at both the regional and international levels and expressed his keenness that ISESCO assume its responsibilities as a house of expertise for the Islamic world in its areas of competence and develop partnerships with parallel organizations and the private sector. He further called for avoiding the politicization of joint Islamic educational, scientific and cultural action, preserving the Islamic sanctities in Palestine, strengthening the Islamic identity, countering the calls of extremism and zealotry, and combating ignorance and poverty. In addition, he expressed his strong willingness to work in coordination with the competent authorities in Member States while expecting them to support him to enable him to discharge his missions in order to sustain the achievements made over the past decades and promote the roles being played by the Organization in the service of joint Islamic action, and develop cooperation mechanisms between Member States in such a way as to contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in them. At the end of his address, he thanked H.E. Dr Hamad bin Mohammed bin Hamad Al Shaikh, Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, ISESCO's team, King Abdulaziz University and all those who contributed to the success of this Conference.
13. Later, Dr Ali Zeidan Abu Zuhri, President of the 13<sup>th</sup> General Conference of ISESCO, President of the Palestinian National Commission for Education, Science and Culture, took the floor and delivered an address wherein he congratulated H.E. Dr Salim bin Mohamed Al-Malik, beseeching Allah Almighty to grant him success in his new functions to allow the Organization sustain its successful march benefiting from the confidence of all Member States and the cooperation of the General Conference and the Executive Council so as to continue its development and consolidate its active and influential presence on the Islamic and international scenes. He afterwards expressed on behalf of the General Conference his

confidence that the elected Director General of ISESCO will be the best successor of the best predecessor to continue working based on the solid foundations and great achievements accomplished by the Organization in the past periods. Moreover, he expressed his confidence in the ability of ISESCO to attain its noble goals with the support of Member States, first and foremost Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, calling for intensifying efforts to implement the current Three-Year Action Plan with the same determination to attain its developmental goals. At the close of his address, he expressed his heartfelt thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salam bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, may Allah preserve him, wishing him full success in leading this honorable country together with his aid H.R.H Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz.

- 14.** The Conference extended its warmest thanks to the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the generous hospitality and good organization and sent two messages of thanks, appreciation and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and to his Crown Prince H.R.H Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, may Allah preserve them, for their generous patronage and care for the Conference and for their unwavering support to ISESCO, out of their belief in its human civilizational mission with the aim of entrenching the concepts of Islamic solidarity and contributing to the achievement of comprehensive sustainable development of the Islamic world in the fields of education, science and culture.