## OIC/ACM-2011/FC.

## FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS - NEW YORK 23 SEPTEMBER 2011

## FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK 23 SEPTEMBER 2011

- 1. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held their Annual Coordination Meeting (ACM) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 23 September 2011, under the chairmanship of His Excellency, Mr. Yerzhan Kazykhanov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General attended the Meeting.
- 2. It reaffirmed the decisions taken during the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC held in Astana 28-30 June 2011, and previous communiqués issued by the ACM.
- 3. The Meeting expressed its gratitude to the OIC Secretary-General for his role in promoting and defending the interests and causes of the Islamic World, and in raising the profile of the OIC as a significant player at the global level.
- 4. The Meeting stressed the importance of the decisions of the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC (OIC CFM) directed toward strengthening the OIC's role in the Islamic world as well as in the international arena under the new name and logo and, within the spirit of the OIC Astana Declaration, reiterated its call for reforms aimed at promotion of good governance, human rights, including right for development, and fundamental freedoms, rule of law, democracy, and accountability.
- 5. The Meeting reiterated OIC's full support for the just cause of Palestine and the rights of the Palestinian people and reaffirmed strong backing for the efforts of the State of Palestine to mobilize international support for the inalienable Palestinian rights and legitimate national aspirations, including their inalienable rights to self-determination and return, to expand international recognition for the State of Palestine on the 4th June 1967 borders at all levels, including the United Nations. It welcomed the important decision made recently by numerous States to recognize the State of Palestine on the basis of the 4th of June 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and urged the States, that have not yet done so, to uphold their responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and, to recognize the State of Palestine as soon as possible and support the efforts being made so that Palestine obtains full membership of the United Nations and takes its rightful place among the community of nations.
- 6. The Meeting reiterated its strong condemnation of illegal Israeli policies and actions, including settlement activities, demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families, aimed at altering the Arab and Islamic character of occupied East Jerusalem in particular, all of which constitute flagrant breaches of international law, including international humanitarian law and numerous relevant United Nations resolutions. The Meeting, in this regard, demanded that Israel, the occupying Power,

immediately cease all such illegal measures and activities and called for the implementation and full respect of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the relevant United Nations resolutions and the 9 July 2004 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and called as well for protection of the Muslim holy sites therein and respect for their sanctity and freedom of access for worshippers. The Meeting also reiterated its condemnation of Israel's continued imposition of the illegal blockade against the Gaza Strip and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, immediately cease its unlawful collective punishment of the Palestinian people and completely lift its blockade of the Gaza Strip and comply fully with its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law.

- 7. The Meeting expressed grave concern about the thousands of Palestinian civilians imprisoned and detained by Israel, the occupying Power, including at least 300 children. It condemned this aggressive and inhumane practice by the occupying Power as a flagrant contravention of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The Meeting stressed that the question of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails is a central issue and is a practical benchmark in the achievement of a just peace in the region. The Meeting also stressed the international responsibility in this regard and emphasized the importance of the role played by the OIC, the United Nations and the international community as a whole in raising awareness of the question of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons and detention centers and in calling for their release. It urged the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to take all appropriate steps to effectively address this subject.
- 8. The Meeting commended the efforts made by His Majesty King Mohammad VI, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee and Bayt Mal Al-Quds in order to preserve the identity of the Al-Quds Al-Sharif and support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the Holy City.
- 9. The Meeting reiterated its appreciation of the important Hashemite role led by His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al-Hussein of Jordan in safeguarding and protecting the holy sites in the Holy City of Al Quds.
- 10. The Meeting rejected the claims contained in the Palmer Report with regard to the illegal status of the blockade imposed on Gaza Strip and reaffirmed the fact that the illegality of the blockade is unquestionable in view of the relevant OIC resolutions, as well as reports and decisions of the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council. The meeting expressed full support to the efforts to take the issue before competent international legal authorities.
- 11. The Meeting reiterated its support for Lebanon to complete the liberation of all its territories, and insisted on the necessity of Israel's withdrawal from Sheba's Farms, Kfarshouba Hills, and from the Lebanese part of Al-Ghajar village. It called for the strict and full implementation of Resolution 1701 (2006), and strongly condemned Israel's continuous violations of Lebanon's sovereignty, by land, sea, and air, including the spy networks implanted in Lebanon. The Meeting emphasized the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and rejected any form of

resettlement. It valued the important role played by H.E. President Michel Sleiman, in chairing the sessions of national dialogue. The Meeting took note of the determination of the Government of Lebanon to reveal the truth regarding the crime of assassination of martyr Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri and his companions, and the Government will follow the process of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon which was established in principle to achieve righteousness and justice, without politicization or revenge, and without any negative impact on Lebanon's Stability, Unity and Civil Peace.

- 12. The Meeting reiterated the right of Lebanon to its oil and water and gas resources, including those located within its exclusive economic zone, whose South-West boundaries were delineated according to the maps that were deposited by the government of Lebanon with the secretariat of the United Nations on 9 July 2010 and 12 October 2010.
- 13. The Meeting strongly condemned Israel's policy of refusing to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981) concerning the occupied Syrian Golan and its policies of annexation building of colonial settlements, confiscation of land, diversion of water sources and imposition of Israel nationality upon Syrian citizens. It also demanded Israel to completely withdraw from the occupied Syrian Golan to the June 4th 1967 lines in accordance with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), the principle of land for peace, the Madrid Peace Conference terms of reference and the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Beirut Arab Summit on 28 March 2002.
- 14. The Meeting reaffirmed the need to compel Israel to comply forthwith with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Times of War, dated 12 August 1949, and to apply them to the Syrian detainees in the occupied Syrian Golan. The Meeting also demanded Israel to release all Syrian detainees citizens of the Occupied Syrian Golan, taking into consideration that some of them have been detained for more than 25 years.
- 15. The Meeting condemned the decisions of the United States Administration to impose unilateral economic sanctions against Syria; it expressed its rejection of the so-called "Syria Accountability Act" and considered it null and void, and constituting a flagrant violation of the principles of international law, the resolutions of the United Nations and its Charter, as well as the resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and blatantly taking the side of Israel. The Meeting expressed its solidarity with the Syrian Arab Republic and appreciated the Syrian position that calls to favor dialogue and diplomacy in the international relations in order to solve all disputes; it requested the United States of America to revisit its position with regards to this Act as soon as possible and to abolish all decisions related to this matter.
- 16. The Meeting underlined the importance of the security, sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and legal rights of all OIC Member States as well as the need for peaceful resolution of conflicts in accordance with principles of the UN Charter, the OIC Charter and international law. It expressed full support for the efforts deployed to strengthen and enhance the role of the OIC in the promotion of peace and security and conflict prevention and resolution.

- 17. It expressed solidarity with Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, the Union of Comoros, and Bosnia and Herzegovina in their aspirations for peaceful, secure and prosperous life.
- 18. The Meeting condemned the aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, reaffirmed that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and called for the resolution of the conflict on the basis of respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Meeting also expressed its grave concern at the forced demographic changes, interference with property rights, inadequate protection of the cultural heritage and sacred sites in the Daghlyq Garabagh (Nagorno Karabakh) region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan and reaffirmed in this regard its principled support to the efforts of Azerbaijan, including within the United Nations General Assembly, aimed at ensuring respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.
- 19. The Meeting urged Member States to support the efforts for the success of the ongoing UNsponsored settlement process in Cyprus with the aim set forth by the UN Secretary-General to reach a settlement before the end of 2011, and to discourage the Greek Cypriots' oil/gas exploration activities around the Island, which could seriously undermine the UN settlement efforts as well as adding to the existing problems in the Middle East. The Meeting reaffirmed its solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot State and encouraged the Member States to increase and expand their relations with the Muslim Turkish Cypriots in various fields with a view to helping them overcome the inhuman isolation imposed upon them, also by participating in the OIC Forum and Exhibition titled "Higher Education Services in the OIC Member States" on November 28th December 1st, 2011.
- 20. The Meeting reaffirmed its principled support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the realization of their legitimate right to self-determination, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and aspiration of the Kashmiri people. It emphasized the need for full respect of human rights as well as the importance of taking all requisite steps to provide relief and comfort to the Kashmiris. It further called upon India to allow international human rights groups and humanitarian organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.
- 21. The Meeting expressed concern at the continuing indiscriminate use of force and gross violations of human rights committed in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IoK) by Indian security forces which have resulted in killing scores of innocent and unarmed civilians as well as injuries to hundreds of others including women, children and elderly.
- 22. The Meeting took note of the latest investigation report by the Jammu and Kashmir State Human Rights Commission regarding 2156 unidentified dead bodies buried in unmarked graves at various places of North Kashmir and called for fair trial of those, involved in such heinous crimes.
- 23. The Meeting commended the efforts of Pakistan and its readiness to engage with India to resolve all outstanding issues including Jammu and Kashmir dispute and urged the international community to play its due role to settle this long standing dispute on UN agenda for the overall improvement of the relations between Pakistan and India as well as to promote regional peace and stability.

- 24. The Meeting underlined the need for a peaceful and negotiated end to all conflicts within the Islamic World. It condemned the excessive use of force against civilians, and urged the parties to engage in peaceful and constructive dialogue in line with international law and in respect for all human rights, including right to development, and fundamental freedoms. It called for the intensification of efforts to strengthen the conflict prevention and mediation capacity of the OIC.
- 25. The Meeting expressed its deep sympathy with the countries of the African Horn, especially, with Somalia, over the serious drought and famine in the country and commended the activities of the OIC Humanitarian Coordination Office in Mogadishu. Referring to the decisions taken at the Emergency Meeting of the OIC Executive Committee held in Istanbul on 17 August 2011, the Meeting strongly appealed to the Member States to generously and urgently contribute through the OIC system towards alleviating the plight of the famine stricken Somali people. The meeting encouraged the OIC Member States' to fulfil their pledges of 350 million US dollars and reiterated its intention to raise the donation up to 500 million US dollars.
- 26. The Meeting welcomed the latest developments in Libya and congratulated the Libyan people for the success of their revolution and for the triumph of their free will and national options, wishing them success in the realisation of their aspirations for progress and prosperity. It called on the remnant forces of the former regime's brigades to stop violence immediately and to respect the will of the Libyan people and their desire for change.
- 27. The Meeting urged the Libyan people to rally around the National Transitional Council (NTC) which is the only legitimate representative of the Libyan people, in promoting national reconciliation, and not to resort to retaliatory means and to comply with national and international laws.
- 28. The Meeting reiterated the OIC's full support to the NTC efforts for the reconstruction, reinforcement of the foundations of good governance, promotion of human rights, expansion of political participation and comprehensive development.
- 29. The Meeting invited OIC Member States to provide their political and humanitarian support to the Libyan people to achieve lasting peace and stability, and to cooperate closely with the Libyan interim government in combating impunity and bringing to justice all responsible for crimes committed during the Gaddafi rule.
- 30. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the continued progress made towards strengthening democracy and the institutional work at all relevant levels throughout the entire territory of Kosovo, serving peace and stability in the country and the entire region. It welcomed the process of dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia with the facilitation of the European Union, and it encouraged parties to constructively continue this process on all technical and practical issues, pursuant to UNGA resolution 64/298, with a view of improving the lives of the people and cooperation between the parties.
- 31. The Meeting renewed the call made in Resolution no. 17/38 Pol (On the Situation in Kosovo), which was adopted during the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the OIC CFM, addressed to all Member States of the Organization that have not yet done so, to consider recognizing Kosovo,

based on their national practice. It also reaffirmed the call to Member States to continue contributing to the fostering of the Kosovo's economy.

- 32. The Meeting emphasized the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for its people and the region. It stressed the importance of the inclusive political process and the full implementation of the political agreement that paved the way to a representative national partnership government. The Meeting reaffirmed the need to combat all forms of terrorism in Iraq. The Meeting also recalled the adoption by the OIC in a successful precedent of the Makkah Document on the situation in Iraq on 20 October 2006; and stresses the need to follow up the implementation of this important document. The Meeting welcomed the official visits of the OIC Secretary General to Iraq, the most recent of which was in March 2011, and the visit of the Assistant Secretary General on Humanitarian Affairs to Baghdad in April 2011 and the outcomes of those visits and emphasizes the strength of the relations between Iraq and the OIC.
- 33. The Meeting invited Somali Federal Institutions to intensify their efforts to reestablish peace and stability in central and South Somalia through a wider reconciliation, thus creating necessary conditions for the reconstruction and development of the country.
- 34. The Meeting expressed its full solidarity with the Muslims in Greece in general, and the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace, in particular, who are an integral part of the Islamic World and whose basic rights and freedoms are defined and protected by multilateral and bilateral treaties and conventions to which Greece is a party. The Meeting called upon Greece to take all necessary measures to respect the rights and identity of the Turkish Muslim Minority.
- 35. The Meeting welcomed the signing of the Doha Document on Darfur Peace adopted by the All Darfur Stakeholders Conference which was held from 27 to 31 May 2011 and expressed its full solidarity with the Sudan under the leadership of H.E. President Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir and renewed its unflinching support for the various endeavors to achieve genuine national reconciliation, lasting peace and stability. In this regard, it expressed its gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, for the support of his Government to the Doha Peace Process. It urged the Sudan and its new neighbor, South Sudan, to maintain good neighborliness and seek to resolve peacefully all outstanding issues between them through dialogue and negotiation.
- 36. The Meeting expressed its full and continued support to the unity, stability and security of the Republic of Yemen and called for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. It called on the parties to start immediate dialogue on the implementation of the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation Council for an immediate end to the crisis.
- 37. The Meeting reaffirmed its full solidarity with the Republic of Djibouti in its territorial dispute with Eritrea. The Meeting welcomed the mediation efforts deployed by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, to settle the border issue between Djibouti and Eritrea resulting in a Memorandum of Understanding and called upon both parties to engage in the mediation process fully

and in good faith, to refrain from the use, or the threat of use, of force, to abide by their commitments in full and comply fully with the provisions of relevant UN Security Council statements and resolutions.

- 38. The Meeting reaffirmed the collective commitment of all OIC Member States to a long-term engagement in Afghanistan in order to bring peace, stability and socio-economic development to the country and to tackle challenges of illicit drug trafficking and extremism. It welcomed the initiative by the OIC Secretary General to hold a conference of Muslim Ulema to support the reconciliation process in Afghanistan and to discuss all related aspects of insecurity in the country. The Meeting welcomed the forthcoming Istanbul Conference for Afghanistan, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2011, Kazakhstan's proposal to host 12<sup>th</sup> session of the International Contact Group on Afghanistan to be held in Astana in November 2011 and also Tajikistan's initiative to host the Fifth Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA-5) to be held in Dushanbe on 26-27 March 2012, and called upon all relevant parties to actively participate in these sessions.
- 39. The Meeting strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations committed by whomsoever and wherever, and reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen mutual cooperation in the fight against terrorism through inter alia, evolving an appropriate definition of terrorism by consensus, mutual exchange of information, capacity building and by addressing the root causes of terrorism such as prolonged unresolved conflicts, continued suppression and marginalization of peoples and denial of the rights of peoples to their self-determination in situations of foreign occupation.
- **40.** The Meeting condemned and rejected all attempts to associate Islam or any Islamic country, any race, religion, culture or nationality with terrorism.
- 41. The Meeting took note of the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 and reaffirmed its status as a living document to be updated and called for the subsequent review mechanism of the strategy to take account the root causes of terrorism and draw distinction between terrorism and the struggle for the right of self-determination by the people under foreign occupation and colonial or alien domination. The Meeting recognized that foreign occupation, state terrorism, political and economic injustice and denial of the right of self-determination to people are the main root causes of terrorism. The Meeting recognized that a time-structured approach, envisaging short, medium, and long term objectives, to the implementation of the strategy could best accommodate the contentious issues related to the strategy.
- 42. The Meeting commended the efforts made by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz Al-Saud in establishing the United Nations Counter Terrorism Center. The Meeting welcomed affirming this agreement by signing an official agreement by the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 at the United Nations Headquarters. It commended the continuous efforts of the

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in strengthening global efforts in order to effectively eliminate all forms of terrorism.
- 43. The Meeting reiterated that the struggle of peoples plying under the yoke of foreign occupation and colonialism, to exercise their right to self-determination and to accede to national freedom, does not in any way constitute an act of terrorism.
- 44. The Meeting considered that the financing of terrorism is a matter of grave concern to the international community and recognised that the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups constitutes one of the main sources of financing of terrorism. The Meeting urged the Member States to cooperate for banning the payment of ransoms claimed by terrorist groups.
- 45. The Meeting reaffirmed its continued support for the establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in the Middle East. It called on Israel, as the only non-NPT party in the Middle East, to accede, unconditionally and without further delay, to the Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapon party, and to place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive safeguards of the IAEA.
- 46. The Meeting noted the consensus adoption of a detailed plan of action on "the Middle East, particularly implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East" in the "Conclusions and Recommendations for Follow-on actions" of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. In this context, the Meeting urged the UN Secretary General and the cosponsors of the 1995 Resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, to commence immediately necessary preparations, in particular appointment of a facilitator and the designation of a host government, to convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. The Meeting expressed serious concern that despite the elapse of more than one year from the adoption of above-mentioned Plan of Action, no progress has been made.
- 47. The Meeting reaffirmed the inalienable right of developing countries to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy, including the right to nuclear fuel cycle, for peaceful purposes without discrimination. It noted with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology, for peaceful purposes persist. The meeting emphasized that the proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements. It further underlined that Non-proliferation control arrangements should be transparent and open to participation by all States, and should ensure that they do not impose restrictions on access to material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries for their continued development.
- 48. The Meeting believed that disarmament efforts should be promoted in an equitable and balanced manner so as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage. At each stage the objective should be undiminished security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces.

- 49. In this context, the Meeting called for an early convening of the Fourth Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament (SSOD-IV). The Meeting also emphasized the imperative of promoting multilateral diplomacy in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns, and, in this context, underlined that treaty-based multilateral institutions established under the auspices of the United Nations are the sole legitimate bodies to verify and ensure compliance with relevant international agreements.
- **50.** Bearing in mind increasing food insecurity in many parts of the Islamic world, the Meeting reiterated the need to establish an OIC food security mechanism in the context of early warning and providing adequate assistance and help in case of emergency.
- 51. The Meeting reviewed the current activities of the OIC towards addressing development challenges of its member countries, including the implementation of the OIC trade preferential system and establishment of the various poverty alleviation funds. The Meeting commended the ongoing partnership between the OIC and the relevant agencies of the United Nations, particularly, the mission of the COMCEC-FAO Task Force on food security and agricultural development and similar efforts aimed at attaining the Millennium Development Goals. It, therefore, called for support of other international partners and stakeholders for the promotion of its development programs on transportation, tourism and industrial development, agriculture and energy fields. The Meeting welcomed the current emphasis on enhancing the role of regional economic blocs in the realization of the economic objectives of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action.
- 52. The Meeting expressed its deep sympathy with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan over the devastating floods affecting the country this year. While acknowledging the ongoing rehabilitation efforts in the wake of last year's floods, it appealed to the Member States of the OIC to heed to the call by the President of Pakistan for international assistance by generously and urgently contributing towards the alleviation of the plight of the flood victims in the country.
- 53. The Meeting asserted that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated in nature, taking into consideration the significance of national and regional particularities, and the various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds. The Meeting emphasized the necessity for the international community to address all human rights issues in an objective, impartial and non-selective manner. The Meeting called for the necessity to consider all human rights in their global conception and in all their civil, political, social, economic, and cultural facets within the framework of international cooperation and solidarity, and within the framework of international Human Rights law and relevant international human rights instruments.
- 54. The Meeting noted that the work of the OIC Groups in New York and Geneva are particularly laudable with respect to their efforts; to deploy collective and intensive efforts to enable the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council (HRC) to take concrete measures for the respect and protection of human rights in the Occupied

Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupied parts of Lebanon; to place two crucial issues for the OIC, namely, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupied parts of Lebanon, and the incitement to racial and religious hatred, in particular, its contemporary manifestation - i.e. the defamation of religions, at the top of the permanent agenda of the General Assembly and the HRC. The Meeting also noted that the Groups have worked zealously to promote the laudable tenets of Islam i.e. respect and tolerance for all, as central elements for any pluralistic and human rights friendly society.

- 55. The Meeting expressed their alarm and great concern on the mounting trend of Islamophobia and systematic defamation of Islam as well as discrimination against Muslims and strongly condemned the anti-Islam/anti-Muslim incidents, including the burning of the Koran, on construction of minarets, attacks on Prophets and venerated personalities, prohibition on the use and ban on religious symbols, and other discriminatory measures that incite religious hatred all over the world. The Meeting noted that anti-Islam/anti-Muslim hate campaign has already shown signs of its dangerous implications on peace and security as vindicated by the case of the July 22, 2011 massacre in Norway and called on the international community to take a common position to combat incitement to hatred, discrimination, violence and stereotyping against persons based on their religion.
- 56. The Meeting deplored the misuse of any religion for acts of hatred, incitement and violence. It called upon people of all walks of life, to ensure that the voice of moderation prevails, to avoid all aspects of bigotry, extremism and terrorism, to promote tolerance, mutual understanding and respect.
- 57. The Meeting called upon the international community to exert efforts to prevent incitement to hatred and discrimination against Muslims and to take effective measures to combat the defamation of religions and negative stereotyping against persons based on their religions, faith or race. The Meeting requested the Secretary-General to continue the OIC initiatives in order to effectively counter anti-Islam/anti-Muslim campaigns and propaganda through discussions and deliberations in various international fora. The Meeting called for a global awareness on the dangerous implications of the rise of such campaigns and propaganda on world peace and security and called on the international community to demonstrate its collective political will to address the issue with all urgency.
- The Meeting recognized the adoption, by consensus, of Resolution 16/18 on "Combating Intolerance, Negative Stereotyping and Stigmatization of, and Discrimination, Incitement to Violence, and Violence against Persons Based on Religion or Belief" at the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the U.N. Human Rights Council. The Meeting also commended the positive spirit of all concerned parties that were involved and contributed in reaching this consensus, and called upon Member States in New York to adopt the same approach of flexibility, cooperation and mutual understanding. The Meeting welcomed in this regard the OIC meeting held in Istanbul 15 July 2011, which was attended by dignitaries from different parts of the world to lend political impetus to the implementation of the aforementioned HRC Resolution.

- 59. The Meeting emphasized the need to develop, at the United Nations, including the Human Rights Council, a legally binding international instrument to promote respect for all religions and cultural values and prevent intolerance, discrimination and the instigation of hatred against any group or followers of any religion.
- 60. The Meeting reiterated the need to counter religious and sectarian extremism, refrain from accusing Islamic schools of jurisprudence of heresy, emphasize dialogue among them, strengthen balance, moderation, and tolerance, and ensure adherence to the fundamental methodology of fatwa whereby only those determined by their schools of Islamic jurisprudence to be eligible for such issuance may do so. The Meeting also welcomed the ongoing efforts in this regard, including the Amman Message and General Assembly Res. 5/65 of 2010 on World Interfaith Harmony Week, and encouraged all states to continue supporting this initiative.
- 61. The Meeting attached utmost importance to the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of expression, as stipulated in international human rights law instruments. It further recalled that international human rights law provides that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities and therefore may be subject to certain restrictions provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, and for the protection of national security or public order, or public health or morals. The Meeting further stressed the need to prevent the abuse of freedom of expression and freedom of press for insulting Islam and other divine religions and the necessity for ensuring that the right to freedom of expression should be exercised by all, in particular the media, with responsibility and in accordance with the law.
- 62. The Meeting expressed its satisfaction at the timely actions undertaken by the Observatory at the General Secretariat and the Secretary-General personally in monitoring and countering Islamophobic incidents. It commended the Observatory for its Annual Report on Islamophobia.
- 63. The Meeting called the international community, including the United Nations, the European Union, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and other relevant organizations to engage with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to elaborate common position to combat intolerance.
- 64. The Meeting recalled all previous OIC resolutions to reiterate that any reform of the United Nations, including Security Council reform, should be carried out with transparency and all-inclusiveness, in accordance with the provisions of the UN Charter. The meeting noted progress in the UN reform process including in particular the establishment of the Peace-building Commission, the Human Rights Council and UN Woman and encouraged the OIC Member States of these bodies to protect and promote the interests of the Islamic world in the work of these bodies.
- 65. The Meeting stressed that the UN Security Council reform must be comprehensive in all its aspects and be carried out through constructive negotiations, taking into account

the views of the United Nations membership, including that of the OIC Member States. It reaffirmed its principle position that any reform of the Security Council must ensure adequate representation of the OIC Member States in any category of membership in an expanded Security Council and noted that OIC's demand for adequate representation in the Security Council is in keeping with the significant demographic and political weight of the OIC Member States.

- 66. The Meeting reiterated that efforts at the restructuring of the Security Council shall not be subjected to any artificial deadlines, and that a decision on this issue should be made by consensus. It underlined the resolve of the Member States to continue contributing actively and constructively to the consideration of the UN reform, including through regular consultations among OIC Member States.
- 67. The Meeting urged Member States to implement Resolution No. 41/37-POL on coordination and voting patterns of Member States at the United Nations and other international and multilateral fora.
- 68. The Meeting reaffirmed the principled position of the OIC that where there are OIC Member States candidates for senior United Nations positions, or for membership of the main and other UN bodies, including the Security Council, ECOSOC, and the General Assembly subsidiary bodies, the OIC will support them; and urged the Member States to make the necessary arrangements towards agreeing on one candidate in the event of having multiple candidacies for the same post from the OIC Member States.
- 69. The Ministers reiterated the strategic role of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC and agreed to modernize and rationalize its work, raise its efficiency through interactive discussion and to transform agreed principles and positions achieved at the previous CFM into coordinated action by members of the organization during the sessions of the United Nations.
- **70.** The Meeting adopted the reports issued by:

The OIC Six Member Committee on Palestine (Annex-I)

The OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir (Annex-II)

The OIC Contact Group on Somalia (Annex - III)

The OIC Contact Group on Sierra Leone (Annex-TV)

*The OIC Contact Group on Iraq (Annex-V)* 

The OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina (Annex-VI)

\*\*\*\*\*\*