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Cooperation between the United Nations
and regional and other organizations

**Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
Report of the Secretary-General ****

Summary

The present annual report of the Secretary-General reviews the cooperation between the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, including their respective specialized agencies and programmes, for the period from July 2001 to August 2002. It highlights the convening of the general meeting between the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions held in Vienna in July 2002.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 13 of [General Assembly resolution 56/47](#) of 7 December 2001.

II. Consultations between representatives of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and representation at meetings

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2. Consultations between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) at different levels on political, economic, social, humanitarian and other matters continued throughout the reporting period. Such pressing issues as combating terrorism, and the situations in Afghanistan and the Middle East were regularly addressed. The two organizations also sought to better coordinate their efforts in conflict prevention and peacemaking. The Department of Political Affairs and the Office of the Permanent Observer for the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations maintained regular working contacts on issues of mutual concern to the two organizations.

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4. On 15 November 2001, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference held their annual coordinating meeting at United Nations Headquarters. The meeting discussed the agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly and the international political situation, in particular those items of concern and interest to the Organization of the Islamic Conference. The coordinating meeting confirmed the position adopted by the ninth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the issue of international terrorism. Other issues reviewed were: the Middle East and the question of Palestine, including the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif; the situations in Afghanistan, Cyprus, Comoros, Sierra Leone and Somalia, as well as the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The topics of United Nations reform and expansion of the Security Council were also discussed. The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan, addressed the meeting on behalf of the Secretary-General.

5. The OIC convened the tenth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to discuss the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory on 10 December 2001 in Doha. The Deputy United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process participated in the conference as an observer.

III. General meeting between the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its specialized institutions

8. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/47 of 7 December 2001, a general meeting on cooperation between representatives of the United Nations system and OIC and its specialized institutions was held at the United Nations Office at Vienna from 9 to 11 July 2002. Substantive preparations for that meeting were initiated by the coordinating secretariats of the United Nations and OIC. ...

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G. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

37. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) continues to enjoy the support of OIC in

its efforts to provide essential services and humanitarian assistance to the Palestine refugees. Continuing contacts are taking place between UNRWA and the Islamic Development Bank, with a view to mobilizing additional resources for the Agency. In 2001, the Bank pledged \$5 million towards UNRWA emergency operations in the occupied Palestinian territory.

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** The present report is being submitted on 11 September 2002, in order to include all contributions from the United Nations system.