



JUL 15 1977

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UN/SA COLLECTION

Distr.
GENERALA/32/133
7 July 1977
ENGLISHORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH/
FRENCH

Thirty-second session

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43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 51, 86, 116
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* A/32/50/Rev.1.

Letter dated 6 July 1977 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As the current Chairman of the Islamic Conference, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the final communiqué of the Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 27 Jumad Al Awal to 3 Jumad Al-Thani 1397H (16 to 22 May 1977).

Upon the request of the Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference, I should be grateful if the enclosed final communiqué could be circulated as a single official document of the General Assembly under items 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 51, 86, 116 and 121 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Ali AL GAYED
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

ANNEX

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE MERCIFUL,
THE COMPASSIONATE

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FINAL COMMUNIQUE

ON THE EIGHTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS HELD
IN TRIPOLI, SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA FROM
27th JUMAD AL AWAL TO 3rd JUMAD AL-THANI 1397 (16-22 May, 1977)

1. The Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers convened in Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, one of the glorious lands of the Islamic world, from 27th Jumad Al Awal to 3rd Jumad Al-Thani 1397H (16 - 22 May, 1977), in accordance with the decision of the Seventh Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Istanbul, and at the invitation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.
2. The Conference was preceded by a Preparatory Meeting of the Senior Officials of the Participating Delegations from 22nd to 25th Jumad Al Awal 1397H (1 - 14 May, 1977).
3. The following member States took part in the Conference:

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7. H.E. Colonel Muammar Al Qaddafi, Leader of the First of September Revolution addressed the Conference at its inaugural session. In his address, H.E. Colonel Muammar Al Qaddafi, after welcoming the representatives of the Islamic countries and the Secretary-General, touched on the most important issues contained in the Agenda of the Conference.

On the question of Palestine he stated:

"Peace and war lie in the hands of the Palestinians. We stand by them with all our means. The solution of this problem does not lie in the hands of any Leader. The right solution is for the foreigners to go back to their original countries where they came from after 1948 and for Palestinians to return to their homeland to live with the Jews who were there and to form one democratic nation".

With regard to the problem of the Muslims in the Philippines, he said:

"The Jamahiriya has exerted all her efforts in order that peace prevails in the Philippines. However, what happened lately turned out to be against our expectations and was contrary to the provisions of the Tripoli Agreement. The problem

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in the Southern Philippines is up to the Moro National Liberation Front and to the Government of the Philippines which is at liberty to face its own problems. The Islamic Conference will, of course, be discussing this problem."

Regarding Cyprus he said:

"The national and religious struggle prevails in the area, and it is imperative that our efforts should be directed towards the realization of equality between Muslims and non-Muslims in Cyprus".

With regard to the right of veto at the United Nations, Colonel Qaddafi called for the abolition of the right of veto at the United Nations Security Council. If the realization of equality among nations is to be obtained, he enquired how a single country could have the right to oppress all decisions of the peoples of the world.

He also demanded that colonial powers should compensate the nations who suffered from the war and stressed the necessity of returning their stolen treasures, manuscripts and antiquities.

Colonel Qaddafi recommended to the Conference the establishment of an International Red Crescent Organization in order to serve universal humanitarian cause and stated that the

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Jamahiriya would make the greatest contribution to the realization of this humanitarian noble task.

He suggested that an Islamic Summit Conference should be held once a year.

He said that when the Eritrea problem would be taken up, the Conference should not forget that the percentage of Muslims in Ethiopia is more than 65% of the total population and this is an important factor which should be borne in mind.

He also requested that the entire world should be reassured, without any religious prejudice, of the reality that the non-Muslim minorities who are living among majority of Muslims are not oppressed. However, we note with regret that the same cannot be said of in the opposite case.

Instead of a Constitution prepared by men in the world, Colonel Qaddafi declared that the Jamahiriya adopted the Holy Quran as its Constitution and implemented it as its unchanging law, which is the most just legislation for the entire mankind.

8. The Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, Niger and Tunisia, representing their respective regional and linguistic groups and the Foreign Minister of Turkey, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Conference, expressed their thanks and appreciation for the address made by H.E. Colonel Muammar Al Qaddafi

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9. The Conference received congratulatory messages conveying fraternal greetings and best wishes for the success of the Conference from H.E. Major General Ziaur Rahman, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; H.E. Colonel Ibrahim El Hemdi, Chairman of the Command Council, President of Yemen Arab Republic, and H.E. Suleyman Demiral, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey.
 10. The Conference heard a message of good wishes from H.E. Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations.
 11. The Conference decided to send H.E. Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Popular Republic of Mozambique, a message of support for the just struggle of the people of Namibia and Zimbabwe for their liberation and national independence.
 12. Upon the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee, the Conference discussed with priority Agenda item entitled "Strengthening of Islamic Solidarity". The Conference dwelled on the need to strengthen the relations between the Islamic countries and to have full participation of all member countries in the Islamic Conference with a view to maintaining Islamic solidarity. After deliberation it decided to make an appeal, affirming the renewed determination of its members to safeguard Islamic solidarity and calling for the attendance of all the member countries in the Conference at present and in the future.
 13. In this context, after discussing the establishment of a
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specialized and permanent organ to deal with the settlement by peaceful means of the dispute that might arise between member States, the Conference decided to establish such a body and requested the Secretary General to prepare a legal study on its creation, taking into account international bodies of similar nature such as the OAU Protocol of the Committee of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration.

14. The Conference addressed a message of solidarity to H.E. Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan. It also adopted a resolution recalling the important decisions of the Second Islamic Summit and the great contribution of the Government of Pakistan and the preponderant role of Prime Minister Bhutto, the current Chairman of the Islamic Summit, in this context.

The Conference expressed its profound concern over the external manoeuvres directed against the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and affirmed its solidarity with the Government and people of Pakistan in their efforts to thwart all foreign interference and to maintain and consolidate their national unity in their consistent attachment to the cause of Islam.

15. Their Excellencies Kasim Zuheyr (Morocco), Zafarul Islam (Pakistan), and Cihat Fethi Teveteglu (Turkey) were sworn in as Assistant Secretaries General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

16. The Conference listened with deep attention and great

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interest to the statement of President Rauf Denktas, Leader of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus. In his address, President Denktas explained, inter alia, the just struggle of the Turkish Cypriot Community for self-preservation and for the protection of its inalienable rights in the territory and in the bi-communal body-politic of Cyprus. He also drew attention to the inspiring address of the illustrious leader of the gallant host country H.E. Colonel Qaddafi, who stated that the Turkish intervention in Cyprus was absolutely legitimate and underlined the equality of the two communities in Cyprus.

17. The Conference listened with interest and sympathy to the address made by Professor Nur Misuari, Chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front. The Chairman, in his address, explained the heroic struggle of the long-oppressed and exploited Bangsa Moro people for liberation and self-government. He also pointed out to the gravity of the situation in southern Philippines and gave a full account of the events which led to the Tripoli Agreement and the violation of it by the Government of the Philippines. It pleaded the member countries to exert all their efforts and influence with a view to ensuring the Philippines Government's fulfilment of its obligations to the Bangsa Moro people and to the resolution of the Islamic Conference. In this connection, Professor Nur Misuari expressed his people's deep appreciation and gratitude for the unanimous support extended to them by the member countries, for their legitimate struggle.

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The Conference, decided by acclamation, to give the status of 'observer' to the Moro Liberation Front as an exceptional case which should not form a precedent for other Organizations in the future.

18. The Conference, after noting that the Charter of the Organization has no provision regarding grant of observer/guest status and being desirous of maintaining the character of the Conference as an association of Islamic States asked the Secretary General to prepare a comprehensive study on this subject and to submit it as soon as possible to the member States for consideration at the Ninth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

19. The Secretary General of the Organization of the Conference submitted his annual report reviewing the extensive activities of the Organization during the previous year in the political, economic Islamic and cultural fields. He also stressed the importance of strengthening the Secretariat of the Islamic Conference so that it can perform its duties effectively to meet its ever-increasing activities and responsibilities.

20. The Heads of Delegations, in their addresses to the Conference reviewed the present world situation with particular emphasis on the questions concerning the Islamic countries. The Committees of the Conference discussed all issues of interest to the Islamic countries in the political, economic and cultural spheres. The deliberations at the Plenary Sessions and the Committees were held in a spirit of brotherhood, cooperation, understanding and mutual confidence

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which allowed the Conference to accomplish its task with success.

IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE

21. The Conference carefully considered all aspects of the Middle East conflict. It noted with regret that the Zionist entity still continues to perpetuate its policies of occupation, expansion, annexation, destruction of buildings and expropriation of property as well as mass expulsions and maltreatment of Arab residents in the occupied territories. The Conference expressed great concern at the serious situation arising from Israel's persistent and continued violation of the United Nations Charter, the principles and provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in the Time of War, which constitute an increasingly serious threat to peace and security in the Middle East. The Conference noted that prolongation of this situation could bring the world to the brink of renewed armed conflict.

The Conference hailed the struggle of the Arab people in Palestine and in the other Arab territories occupied since 1948 and 1967. It affirmed its solidarity with and support for their legitimate struggle for ending Zionist occupation, for the liberation of the occupied territories, the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the defence of the

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Islamic Arab and spiritual status of Jerusalem. The Conference reiterated that the Palestinian cause is the core of the Middle East problem and that a just and lasting peace can be achieved only by the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories and the restitution and exercise of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily their right of self-determination and that of establishing an independent state in Palestine. It further called on all States to extend every form of assistance to the Palestinian and Arab people in their legitimate struggle. The Conference affirmed the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate separately and equally in all international peace efforts.

The Conference called on the Security Council to reconsider its position with regard to the Report and Recommendations of The Committee to Investigate the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which have been approved by the United Nations General Assembly during its thirty-first session.

The Conference reaffirmed the close links which binds Muslims to the Holy City of Jerusalem and the responsibility of the Islamic States to secure its liberation and restoration to Arab rule. The Conference called upon the member States to contribute to the enhancement of the Islamic Arab presence in the Holy City.

The Conference reiterated its conviction that the measures taken by Israel in the occupied Arab territories since 1948 and 1967 to change its physical, geographical, social, cultural, economic,

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religious and demographic features, including the measures of annexation and judaization, are null and void. The Conference demanded that Israel rescind all these measures and policies which flagrantly violate the Charter of the United Nations.

The Conference called upon the Security Council to assume its responsibilities as defined by the United Nations Charter towards safeguarding international peace and security. It requested the member States to work for convening of the Security Council as early as possible to take effective measures with a view to implementing the United Nations Resolutions concerning various aspects of the Middle East question. The Conference also called on all States to shoulder their responsibilities, especially to refrain from supplying Israel with any form of support and to sever all ties with her. The Conference further called on the member States to join the Arab boycott of Israel. It confirmed its Resolution adopted at the Sixth Islamic Conference held in Jeddah calling for expulsion of Israel from the United Nations and all other international organizations. The members of the Islamic Conference undertook to support and uphold the cause of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples until victory has been attained.

22. The Conference reiterated the commitment of the Islamic countries to the struggle against racism in Southern Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and occupied Palestine. It also reaffirmed its resolve for the complete and unconditional elimination of racism, racial discrimination and racial division, condemning these

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practices. In this connection, the Conference invited all member States to co-operate with the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference in convening the International Conference for Combating Racism and Racial Discrimination, in compliance with the relevant United Nations General Assembly Resolution, calling for mobilizing international public opinion and implementing all the United Nations Resolutions in this regard.

23. Although the liberation struggle is ever developing and strengthening in Africa, imperialism is still raising obstacles in order to prevent the peoples of this continent to freely enjoy their right to self-determination to have access to freedom and independence, thus perpetuating the existence of racist minority regimes and favouring foreign occupation and domination.

In its endeavours to de-stablize African countries and to threaten their sovereignty, imperialism is more and more resorting to interference and intervention, the use of mercenaries, political assassinations and the creation of conflicts between friendly and neighbourly countries.

The Conference expressed its deep indignation and condemned such practices. It called upon Islamic countries to be vigilant and to work in solidarity in order to complete the irreversible process of political, economic and cultural liberation of their nations, and to maintain their support of the liberation movements struggling for the achievement of the same objectives.

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24. The Conference noted with satisfaction the report submitted by the Secretary General on the liberation movements in Southern Africa and expressed its deep appreciation for the Secretary General's valuable efforts and the contacts he has undertaken with the representatives of these movements during the Summit Conference of the Organization of African Unity in Mauritius in July 1976. The Conference reiterated its commitment and full support for the struggle of the people of Southern Africa and urged all member States to extend all possible moral and material assistance for these liberation movements. It further requested the Secretary General to maintain his contacts with them to obtain information on their needs and activities.

25. The Conference, reaffirming its support to Mozambique and other Front-line countries to enable them to strengthen their national independence and to resist racist and colonialist regimes and noting with appreciation the support extended by member States to this effect, invited the member States to provide these countries with economic assistance.

26. The Conference took note, with appreciation, of the report submitted by the Delegation of Somalia on the liquidation of colonialism from the Somalia Coast. Welcoming the results of the referendum and elections held in the Somali Coast (Djibouti) on May 5, 1977, the Conference reiterated its full support for the right of the people of the Somalia Coast to achieve immediate and real independence by June 27, 1977 and called for the respect of

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the desire of the people of the territory for self-determination. Moreover it decided to send a congratulatory message to the Head of the Majority Party and Prime Minister Syed Hasan Jouleed on the occasion of the referendum and the elections and requested the Secretary General to extend the congratulations of the Islamic Conference to the leaders of the country on its independence day.

27. The Conference after considering the situation in the Comorian Island of Mayotte, condemned the so-called referenda held on February 8 and April 17, 1976, imposed upon the inhabitants of the territory and declared them null and void. It also rejected in advance any other form of referendum or consultation which might be organized in future or any law or regulations to be adopted by the French authorities designed to give a legal basis to French colonial presence on the Comorian territory of Mayotte. It further called upon France to respect fully the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Comoro and to withdraw its military occupation forces from the Comorian Island of Mayotte.

The Conference requested the Chairman of the Conference to approach the French Government to put an end to the process it has undertaken for giving special status to the Island of Mayotte with a view to creating favourable conditions for the resumption of the dialogue between the parties concerned. The Conference, also, appealed to all member States to approach the French Government with a view to making it renounce its intention of separating the Island of Mayotte from the Republic of Comoro and to provide financial,

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technical and material assistance to the Comorian State to enable it to overcome its serious difficulties.

28. The Conference re-affirmed its resolution on the Cyprus Question adopted at its Seventh Meeting, and welcomed the agreement reached between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities; supported the principle of the political equality for the two Cypriot communities in a federal administration; noted with satisfaction the resumption of the inter-communal talks; urged the parties to continue their negotiations until they find a peaceful solution acceptable to both sides; and demanded from member States to take all necessary measures to extend to and strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

29. The Conference recalled its Resolution of last year on the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia and noted the dangers posed to the security of the Islamic countries as a result of the non-acceptance of these proposals by certain States and parties outside the Islamic world. The Conference called upon these States and parties to reconsider their positions and give credible undertakings not to acquire nuclear weapons. It also called upon the nuclear powers to undertake the obligations devolving on them in the denuclearization of these regions. The Conference furthermore called for the transformation of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, free of military bases and nuclear weapons.

30. The Conference having considered the question of strengthening

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the security of non-nuclear weapon States, welcomed the adoption of the Resolution of the thirty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly in this matter and called upon the nuclear weapons States to respond positively to the security concerns of the non-nuclear weapon States and accept not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear States. The Conference also requested the member States to seek from nuclear weapon States binding and effective security assurances for non-nuclear weapon States, in particular, at the forthcoming Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament and other relevant fora.

31. Taking note, with appreciation, of the report submitted by the Secretary General, the Conference reiterated its deep concern at the inhuman treatment meted out to Muslim minorities and communities in some countries. It called on the Governments concerned to respect fully the legitimate rights of the minorities and communities in their countries. The Conference recommended the Permanent Council of the Solidarity Fund to provide all necessary assistance to Muslim minorities and communities throughout the world in order to relieve their plight.

32. The Conference considered the question of Eritrea and decided to co-ordinate its efforts with those of the Organization of African Unity in order to find a just and equitable settlement within the framework of Afro-Asian brotherhood.

33. The Conference, reiterating its support for the principles of
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the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the right of self-determination and recognizing that the preservation of international peace and security is an important collective responsibility to which all the countries of the world should have the possibility of making practical contribution on the basis of equality, called upon the member States to exert efforts to expediate action on amending the present Charter of the United Nations, especially the provisions relating to the right of veto enjoyed by the permanent member States of the Security Council in a manner that would protect the interests and aspirations of third world countries. In this context, the Conference called for the co-operation of member States with the non-aligned countries to take initiatives for amending the United Nations Charter during the thirty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly especially with regard to the question of veto.

34. The Conference considered the problem of compensating the losses from left-over war material, in particular the damages arising out of the mines planted by foreign powers in the developing countries. In this context, the Conference underlined the responsibility of the colonial States for the material and moral losses suffered by the developing nations and called upon all the States which were parties in general and colonial wars to accept their obligations to compensate for those losses and decided to convene an International Conference to discuss all questions relevant to this matter. The Conference further

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recommended to the member States to inscribe on the agenda of the thirty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly an item on this question.

35. The Conference, convinced that the consultations which have taken place among the Islamic countries in the Law of the Sea Conference so far have demonstrated that a wide range of issues existed on which member countries could establish coordinated action, and desirous of promoting this cooperation, called upon the Islamic countries to consult and harmonize their positions during the forthcoming sessions of the Conference on the Law of the Sea. Furthermore, it was emphasized during the general debate that such consultations should also be made with all the members of the non-aligned countries.

36. The Conference, after having examined the report submitted by the Quadripartite Commission on the evolution of the situation concerning the Muslims in Southern Philippines expressed its concern over the policy of the Government of the Philippines, which is contrary to the Agreement of Tripoli, reached, thanks to the efforts made by the Jamahiriya. The Quadripartite Commission and the Secretary General has entrusted the Commission again with the task of pursuing its mission of mediation between the Moro National Liberation Front, which is the legitimate representative of the Muslim movements in Southern Philippines, and the Government of the Philippines.

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IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE

37. The Conference reviewed the progress achieved in economic cooperation and measures taken for strengthening such cooperation amongst member States of the Islamic Conference and in this context noted the recommendations of the First Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and those of the Group of Economic Experts on trade, money and finance, technical cooperation and agricultural development and considered that these recommendations were extremely important and, when implemented, would go a long way towards bringing together the member States through expansion of economic cooperation between developed and developing countries.

The Conference noted with satisfaction the keen desire of the member States to make all possible endeavours to accelerate and facilitate increased cooperation in various fields relating to economic development and prosperity.

38. The Conference, however, expressed its disappointment with the lack of progress in international economic negotiations so far and strongly urged the developed countries to adopt a positive attitude specially at the concluding session of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation so that concrete progress is made towards the establishment of a New International Economic Order. It affirmed the crucial importance of implementing the decisions relating to the Integrated Programme on Commodities and the commitment of the developing countries to the early establishment

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of a Common Fund.

37. The Conference in keeping with the objectives embodied in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to create the best possible circumstances and conditions for the economic progress and development of member States and for raising living standards of their people approved a General Agreement for Economic, Technical and Commercial Cooperation amongst Member States and expressed the firm belief that its implementation would ensure achieving the objectives of consolidation of the socio-economic development of the Islamic states.

40. The Conference welcomed the establishment of the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Center in Ankara, Turkey, which would play a vital role in economic cooperation amongst member States which is hampered for lack of vital information and data on the economic situation of the countries of the Islamic world. It also approved the programme of work and budget of the Center for the financial year 1977-78.

41. The Conference noted with appreciation the detailed report prepared by a group of experts appointed by the Secretariat of the Islamic Conference on the requirements of land-locked Islamic countries and recommended that this report, together with the country studies on the six Islamic land-locked countries be examined in depth by the Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs for initiating necessary measures to ameliorate the economic difficulties of those countries.

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42. While appreciating the need for continued exchange of labour and know-how amongst member States, the Conference felt that such exchange could be accelerated if the skills of the manpower resources available within the Islamic world are improved through adequate training. In this context the Conference appreciated the offer made by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to set up an Islamic Center for Vocational and Technical Training in Dacca, under the aegis of the Islamic Conference. The full details of the project to be submitted shortly by Bangladesh to the Secretary General will be finalized on due scrutiny at an Experts Group Meeting in Dacca in the light of relevant information on training facilities existing in other member countries, for submission to the Ninth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

The Conference reiterated its call upon the Secretariat to act as a catalyst in the collection and dissemination of information concerning surplus and requirements of manpower within the Islamic World and prepare guidelines for use of member States while concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements.

43. The Conference welcomed the important proposal submitted by the Government of the United Arab Emirates for strengthening the land, sea and air transportation and tele-communications links amongst the member States and recommended that this proposal be urgently examined and considered at expert level.

44. While adopting the reports of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and the Group of Experts

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convened in Ankara to review measures to promote economic cooperation amongst Islamic countries, the Conference approved the convening of a number of expert groups to identify specific possibilities of expanding trade, joint projects and technical cooperation amongst member States. The Conference also recommended the holding of a meeting of the Governors of the Central Banks of the member countries in conjunction with the next meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank to coordinate and harmonize policy issues on monetary, capital and investment matters.

45. Expressing solidarity with the cause of the people of Palestine, the Conference adopted a resolution for the immediate convening of a meeting of the Governing Body of the Jerusalem Fund and issue of a postage stamp bearing the name of 'Palestine Stamp' in support of the Palestinian cause.

IN THE ISLAMIC AND CULTURAL SPHERE

46. In conformity with the decision taken at the previous meeting to establish an Islamic, Art and Cultural Research Center in Istanbul and having heard the statement made by the Turkish Delegation on the latest developments in this connection, the Conference decided to make an appeal to all member States to contribute financially to establishing this Center in addition to what is granted by the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Solidarity Fund. The Conference also resolved that the draft status of the Center submitted by Turkey, be forwarded to the Council of Islamic

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Solidarity Fund and recommended that the Turkish Delegation should co-operate with the Fund's Council during its deliberations on this matter.

47. The Conference decided to call upon the Republic of Guinea-Bissau to draw up a detailed report on the establishment of an Islamic Research Center in Guinea-Bissau and present it to the Secretariat of the Islamic Conference at its earliest convenience. The Conference decided to call upon the Secretary General to co-operate with the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau to provide all member States with detailed information on the importance of this project, its cost and requirements so as to enable the member States to define their capabilities in the financial and technical participation in the project.

48. The Conference having considered the decisions adopted by the Executive-Council of the Islamic International News Agency as well as the report of the Agency's Director decided to urge member States to meet the cost of the proposed telecommunication project.

49. The Conference, having examined the report of the General Assembly of the Islamic Broadcasting Organization, reaffirmed the importance of the Organization and made an appeal to all member States to support this Organization financially and morally so as to enable it to achieve its objectives properly.

50. The Conference, recalling its previous decisions concerning the Islamic Organization for Science and Technology, requested the

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Secretary General to urge the member States to support this Organization and to determine the amount of contributions to be made with a view to securing the required fifty million dollars for the establishment of this body.

51. The Conference, having considered the report drawn up by the Preparatory Committee set up by the Seventh Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference, approved the recommendations and programmes of the said Committee for the celebrations on the occasion of the beginning of the Fifteenth Hijra Century at international and Islamic member State levels.

52. In conformity with its established policy to support the Islamic Centers, the Conference entrusted the Secretary General with the task of cooperating with the Islamic Solidarity Fund to assist these Centers all over the world financially and morally and decided on the establishment of two Islamic Centers, one in Asia and one in Africa.

53. Delegations expressed the wish that religious teaching and Islamic culture should be strengthened in Islamic countries with a view to thwarting increasing activities of foreign associations and missionaries in member countries.

54. The Conference unanimously decided to set up an International Islamic Red Crescent Society upon the proposal of the Delegation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The Conference entrusted the Secretary General with the task of preparing the basic

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principles for the establishment of the International Islamic Red Crescent Society and to submit its report to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

55. The Conference, having examined the Report on the Religious Ability on Pilgrimage prepared by the Ministry of Hajj and Auquaf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, fully supported its recommendations and urged member States to convene seminars in which Islamic scholars and thinkers could study these important recommendations.

56. The Conference hearing the report presented by the International Union for Islamic and Arabic Schools, decided to call upon the members to support its activities and called upon member States to support this Union materially and morally.

57. The Conference, having listened with great interest to the President of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and having examined the report regarding the activities of the Fund during the 1976-77 fiscal year, expressed its appreciation to the President for his endeavours. The Conference thanked the members which have extended support to this end, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its generous contribution. The Conference approved the budget of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the 1977-78 fiscal year, ratified amendment of Article VIII of the Regulations of the Fund, noted with satisfaction the advanced stage of the implementation of the numerous projects carried out by the Fund, and called upon the members to continue to extend their assistance and contributions to the activities of the Fund.

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The Conference, having examined the project concerning the establishment of a Waqf for the Islamic Solidarity Fund and expressing its deep appreciation for this initiative, approved in principle the project submitted by the Permanent Board of the Fund.

The Conference also called upon member States to make donations to the Islamic Solidarity Fund in order to enable it to finance the setting up of universities in Niger and Uganda.

58. The Conference examined the administrative and financial matters on its agenda and adopted resolutions in this regard. The Conference approved the budget of the Organization for the fiscal year 1977-78.

59. The Conference approved, by acclamation, the extension of the mandate of H.E. Dr. Amadou Karim Gaye for another term as Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

60. The Conference accepted, with appreciation and gratitude the invitation of the Republic of Senegal to hold its Ninth Session in Dakar.

61. The Conference recorded its deep appreciation and thanks to the people and Government of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the cordial and generous hospitality extended to the Delegations throughout their most pleasant stay in the historic and beautiful city of Tripoli.
