



مُؤَسَّسَةُ الْعَالَمِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّ لِلتَّرْبِيَةِ وَالْعِلْمِ وَاللِّقَاءِ
ISLAMIC WORLD EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION DU MONDE ISLAMIQUE POUR L'ÉDUCATION, LES SCIENCES ET LA CULTURE

CHARTER AND STATUTES OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

2022

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**CHARTER OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION**



The Charter of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), adopted by the Founding Conference (Fez, 1402H/1982) and amended by the Extraordinary General Conference (Rabat, 1407H/1986), the Fourth General Conference (Rabat, 1412H/1991), the Fifth General Conference (Damascus, 1415H/1994), the Sixth General Conference (Riyadh (1418H/1997), the Ninth General Conference (ICESCO) permanent headquarters, Rabat, 1427H/2006), the Tenth General Conference (Tunis, 1430H/2009), the Eleventh General Conference (Riyadh, 1434H/2012), the Twelfth General Conference (Baku, 1437H/2015), the Thirteenth General Conference (Rabat, 1440H/2018), the Fortieth Executive Council (Abu Dhabi, 1441H/2020) and the Fourteenth General Conference hold in Cairo in 1443H/2021.

PREAMBLE

The Governments of the Member States,

- Believing that Islam, a religion of peace and tolerance, represents a way of life and a spiritual, human, moral, cultural and civilizational force which made, and is still making crucial and constructive contribution towards the shaping of the Islamic world and the development of human civilization;
- Responding to the expectations of the Member States and the hopes of the Muslim Ummah in achieving cooperation, solidarity, progress and prosperity within the framework of joint Islamic action;
- In anticipation of the challenges faced by the Member States in the educational, scientific, and cultural fields, and being aware of the importance of such fields in achieving development, progress and prosperity, without neglecting the Ummah's glorious heritage;
- Being aware of the close bonds which unite the peoples of the Islamic world through the unity of civilization and the shared spiritual, moral and cultural values, and seeking to encourage civilizational interaction and promote these shared civilizational, cultural and intellectual bonds;
- In activation of the principles of solidarity, mutual assistance and equality to reinforce cooperation among the Member States and thereby promote education, science, and culture through all appropriate means;

Lay down the present Charter:



CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND DEFINITION

- a) Name:** The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It is hereinafter referred to as ICESCO.
- b) Definition:** ICESCO is an international organization emanating from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, specializing in the fields of education, science, and culture.

ARTICLE 2: HEADQUARTERS

ICESCO shall have its headquarters in Rabat, capital city of the Kingdom of Morocco. The Organization may, by virtue of a General Conference resolution and upon a proposal from the Executive Council of ICESCO, establish in any other country, centers, offices or institutions which are subsidiary to it, or are under its supervision.

ARTICLE 3: LANGUAGES

The working languages of ICESCO shall be Arabic, English and French.

ARTICLE 4: MISSIONS AND OBJECTIVES

• Missions

ICESCO shall undertake the following missions:

- a. Forward-looking and coordinative steering of regional efforts and joint collective action at the level of the Islamic world, in the fields of education, science, technology, culture, communication and human and social sciences, within the framework of the powers conferred upon it, and in full commitment not to intervene in Member States' internal affairs;
- b. Coordinating the efforts aiming, at the level of the Islamic world, at developing Member States' educational policies and systems, and improving the quality of these systems' outputs through providing consultation, expertise, analytical data and

- prospective findings; and disseminating the best applied educational practices and initiatives at the Islamic and international levels; likely to universalize education in accordance with the principle of equal opportunities and on the basis of quality, efficiency and compliance with sustainable development requirements;
- c. Mobilizing stronger commitment from official parties and civil society institutions in the Islamic world to promote cultural development in its comprehensive and integrated dimensions, through safeguarding and preserving both tangible and intangible heritage; developing investment in cultural industries; anchoring the Islamic identity open to other cultures; fostering cultural dialogue; spreading the values of peace and the principles of citizenship, human rights and positive coexistence; and redressing the stereotypes and misconceptions about Islam and Muslims;
 - d. Assisting Muslim countries in devising, developing and sustainably implementing, through major executive programmes, medium-term and long term robust policies to localize scientific research, creativity, innovation, technological development; and anchor solid foundations for knowledge societies;
 - e. Laying down methodological and knowledge-related foundations for a participatory and social contract between all Member States' social groups, to be developed and promoted through encouraging research and monitoring works and leading experiments on the field of human and social sciences; and giving Muslim countries' decision and policy makers access thereto to draw on their contents and outcomes in drafting future policies;
 - f. Encouraging and developing regional and international partnership in ICESCO's areas of competence; fostering the approach of sharing the best practices at the Islamic and international levels; building strong cooperation with parallel international organizations and civil society institutions; and supporting complementarity and coordination with the specialized institutions operating under the aegis of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC);
 - g. Laying the educational and cultural foundations for promoting and consolidating the Islamic identity at the international level; and spreading a culture of accommodation and the values of tolerance, middle stance and dialogue that Islam and other religions call for.

• Objectives

ICESCO shall endeavor to achieve the following goals:

- a. Achieving cohesion, complementarity and strategic coordination among Muslim countries in the fields of education, training, capacity building, science, technology and innovation (STI), artificial intelligence, culture, information, communication, human and social sciences, and strategic and sectoral planning;
- b. Strengthening the capacities and improving the indicators of Member States' educational systems to help them assume their roles in achieving socio-economic development and consolidating the foundations of peace and security nationally, regionally and internationally;
- c. Comprehensive cultural development of the peoples of the Islamic world, within the framework of preserving the constants of the common cultural Islamic identity, respecting local and national specificities, and encouraging cultural diversity and positive openness to other cultures;
- d. Accelerating Muslim countries' pace of joining the group of advanced countries and major economies with high development rates, which are based on knowledge production, technological development and artificial intelligence innovations;
- e. Improving Member States' management of social mutations; and consolidating their approaches and mechanisms of addressing internal and external challenges that have human and social dimensions likely to impede development efforts;
- f. Establishing sustainable and efficient cooperation and partnership relations in the Organization's areas of competence between Member and non-Member States; and expanding the network of local and regional partners in a way that allows Muslim countries to keep up with the rapid changes and benefit from the experiences of other regional groups.

ARTICLE 5: MEASURES AND PROCEDURES

In order for it to discharge its missions and achieve its set objectives, ICESCO shall take the following measures:

- a. Preparing analytical studies and reports and anticipatory research works based on reliable field data; preparing guidance plans and documents; providing consultation and forward-looking services

- and giving Member States and Muslim communities' institutions access thereto to help them develop their educational, scientific, technological, cultural, communication and environmental systems;
- b. Supporting the projects appropriate for developing, upgrading, enriching and promoting Islamic culture; endeavoring to spread teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers across the world, as being the language of the Holy Quran; contributing to the development of its teaching curricula, methodologies and tools; and tightening coordination between the institutions of teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speakers through supporting the establishment of coordination bodies and promoting Arabic script in schools and universities;
 - c. Establishing specialized ICESCO chairs which are supported by states, organizations, businessmen, and donors; and supervising them to achieve their goals;
 - d. Helping universities; research, innovation and creativity centers in the fields of education, science, culture and communication; and specialized bodies create institutes and departments, prepare action programmes and executive plans; and encouraging cooperation among them, in a way that serves ICESCO's objectives and meets Member States' needs;
 - e. Developing the educational, scientific and cultural activities undertaken by individuals, bodies, or associations to disseminate the human values, fundamentals and characteristics of the Islamic civilization; supporting Member States' efforts to develop programmes of vocational education and technical and practical training; and encouraging researchers, innovators and inventors in Member States;
 - f. Building and developing partnerships with parallel national, regional and international institutions and bodies that share the same areas of competence and interests; creating constructive partnerships and cooperation formulas with Islamic and international funding bodies in order to promote ICESCO's areas of competence in Member States and outside the Islamic world;
 - g. Adopting geographic proximity policy through opening and developing specialized centers for ICESCO at the national and regional levels and in countries outside the Islamic world where Muslims live in order to speed up the efficient response to the requirements and needs pertaining to ICESCO's areas of competence;

- h. Encouraging research, studies and training programmes required for developing and upgrading education, acquiring skills and encouraging innovation in the fields of science and environment;
- i. Holding conferences, symposia, training sessions, seminars and workshops; granting awards; and conducting, translating and publishing research works and studies in cooperation with Member States as well as national, regional and international bodies and organizations operating in the fields of education, science, culture, communication, technology, innovation and environment;
- j. Setting up mechanisms appropriate for publicizing the true image of Islam and Islamic culture and civilization and their contribution to the development of human civilizations.

CHAPTER TWO: MEMBERSHIP AND IMMUNITIES

ARTICLE 6: MEMBER STATES

- a. Every full Member State of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation has the right to become a member of ICESCO upon officially signing the Charter, and after having completed the membership legal formalities and informed thereof the General Directorate of ICESCO, in writing.
- b. Only the Member States of ICESCO shall have the right to vote at the General Conference.

ARTICLE 7: OBSERVERS

- a. Any United Nations Member State may enjoy the status of observer in ICESCO upon notification thereof to the Organization and approval of its request;
- b. International and regional organizations, bodies and federations may enjoy the Observer status at ICESCO, in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the Observer Status Regulations.

ARTICLE 8: IMMUNITIES

ICESCO, as represented by its officials, personnel, premises, offices, documents and mail shall enjoy the immunities and privileges enjoyed by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as those stipulated by the Headquarters Agreement signed between ICESCO and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Governments of States hosting regional offices and delegations of ICESCO.

CHAPTER THREE: ORGANS OF THE ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE 9: MEMBER STATES

ICESCO is made up of the following organs:

- a. The General Conference;
- b. The Executive Council;
- c. The General Directorate.

ARTICLE 10: THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

1. Composition of the General Conference

The General Conference shall be composed of ministers or presidents of the National Commissions for Education, Science and Culture appointed by their Governments, or their representatives.

2. Composition of the General Conference Bureau

At each of its sessions, the General Conference shall elect its president, a vice-president, a general rapporteur and the chairpersons of the committees, taking into consideration the geographic diversity applicable at ICESCO, who, in addition to the Chairman of the Executive Council, constitute the Bureau of the Conference.

3. Resolutions

Each State shall be entitled to one vote only. Resolutions shall be adopted by a relative majority of the attending and voting members, taking into consideration the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter.

4. Meetings of the General Conference

The General Conference shall meet in a regular session once every four years. It may meet in an extraordinary session by virtue of:

- a. A resolution of the General Conference;
- b. A request by the Executive Council of ICESCO;

- c. A request by a Member State endorsed by two-thirds of the Member States;
- d. A request by the Director General of ICESCO, endorsed by at least one-third of the Member States.

5. Attendance at the General Conference

- a. The Chairman of the Executive Council shall attend the General Conference. The members of the Executive Council may attend regular sessions of the General Conference.
- b. The States, governments, organizations and institutions specified in the Observer Status Regulations may, in the capacity of observer and with no right to vote, attend the General Conference, in accordance with the provisions of Article (7) of the Charter.
- c. The Director General shall attend the sessions of the General Conference, and shall invite ICESCO staff members he deems necessary to attend.

ARTICLE 11: FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference shall be the highest statutory organ of ICESCO.

It shall be empowered to:

- a. Define the general policy of ICESCO, supervise its action, as well as coordinate and evaluate all activities falling within its fields of competence, including specialized ministerial conferences;
- b. Adopt ICESCO's action plans, programmes, budget estimates, their implementation projects and closing accounts;
- c. Adopt the reports and proposals put forward by the Member States as well as the recommendations issued by the Executive Council and take appropriate action thereon;
- d. Adopt the agreements and recommendations submitted by the General Directorate in the areas of education, science, and culture, and in the relevant fields. Every state approving these agreements and recommendations shall submit them to the competent national parties within one year of the date of their adoption in order to take the necessary decisions thereon;

- e. Adopt the Financial Regulations of ICESCO and its Personnel Regulations, and the relevant internal regulations and adopt any possible amendments thereto;
- f. Take stock of the agreements signed between ICESCO and the international, governmental and non-governmental organizations and give opinion thereon;
- g. Set up ad-hoc committees with defined mandates to carry out specific duties;
- h. Divide ICESCO Member States into geographical groups, upon a proposal by the Executive Council;
- i. Endorse the nomination of the members of ICESCO Executive Council;
- j. Elect the Director General of ICESCO for a four-year term renewable once, upon a proposal by the Executive Council;
- k. Adopt the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- l. Adopt ICESCO's Organizational Structure;
- m. Adopt the Observer Status and its conditions;
- n. Consider all issues which do not fall within the competence of any other organ of ICESCO.

ARTICLE 12: THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. Composition of the Council

The Executive Council shall be made up of one representative for each Member State. The Member States shall nominate their representatives to the Executive Council who have extensive expertise in education, science, or culture, and have the necessary experience and capability for shouldering the tasks assigned to the Council. Every Member State has the right to change its representative at any given time.

2. Attendance at the Executive Council

- a. The President of the General Conference, or his representative, shall have the right to attend the sessions of the Executive Council, in an advisory capacity;
- b. ICESCO Director General, or his representative, shall attend the meetings of the Council. The Director General shall also

invite whom he deems necessary from among his assistants and representatives of the external bodies of ICESCO to attend these meetings.

3. Functions of the Executive Council:

- a. To examine the progress report of the General Directorate on the Organization's programmes and activities, to adopt it and submit it to the General Conference for approval;
- b. To examine the Financial Report of the Organization and Closing Accounts, Report of the Audit Company, Report of the Financial Control Committee and Report of the General Directorate on Member States' Contributions to ICESCO Budget, to adopt them and submit them to the General Conference for approval;
- c. To examine and adopt the draft action plans and draft budget of ICESCO, and submit them to the General Conference for approval;
- d. To examine the draft agreements and recommendations submitted by the General Directorate in the areas of education, science, and culture, and in the relevant fields; prepare reports thereon; and submit them to the General Conference for approval;
- e. To draw up draft agendas for the meetings of the General Conference, upon a proposal by the Director General;
- f. To nominate the Financial Control Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article (18) of the Charter and Article (24) of the Financial Regulations of ICESCO;
- g. To select an audit company to carry out financial auditing from among three companies specialized in auditing proposed by the Director General;
- h. To examine ICESCO's Financial Regulations, Personnel Regulations and relevant internal regulations, and submit proposals thereon to the General Conference for approval;
- i. To take all the necessary measures to ensure adequate implementation of ICESCO's programmes;
- j. To commission one or several members, or form a committee, to study a particular issue, provided all other members be informed of the outcome of the study at least one month prior to the convening of the meeting;

- k. To examine nominations for the position of ICESCO's Director General and submit proposals and recommendations pertaining thereto to the General Conference;
- l. To distribute ICESCO Member States among the geographical groups, and make proposals thereon to the General Conference.

ARTICLE 13: THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE

1. Composition of the General Directorate

- a. The General Directorate shall consist of ICESCO's Director General and ICESCO's staff working at the Organization's permanent headquarters, regional offices and delegations. The Director General shall determine the official list of ICESCO's staff, along with their respective category, status and administrative grades;
- b. The General Directorate shall be headed by a Director General, elected by the General Conference for a four-year term renewable once, upon a proposal by the Executive Council;
- c. The Director General shall be the head of the administrative apparatus of ICESCO and shall be accountable to the Executive Council and the General Conference. He shall have direct authority over the entire staff of the General Directorate.

2. Election of the Director General

- a. The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference shall determine the conditions for the nomination and election of the Director General;
- b. In case of vacancy of the position of Director General as a result of resignation, incapacity, decease or any other reason, the normal running of the General Directorate and follow-up to the implementation of programmes shall be entrusted to the Deputy Director General. The Extraordinary General Conference shall be held within four months at the latest to elect a new Director General. The extraordinary session of the Conference shall be presided over by the president of the current session of the General Conference, or the vice-president in case the president is unable to attend;

In the event of the vice-president's absence, the general rapporteur shall preside over the extraordinary session of the General Conference;

In all events, the extraordinary session of the General Conference can only be presided over by the parties having the relevant capacity, regardless of the states they represent.

3. Functions of the Director General

- a. To supervise the work progress in the Organization and provide the appropriate conditions to carry out its missions, in accordance with its Internal Regulations and by virtue of the resolutions of the General Conference and the decisions of the Executive Council;
- b. To work towards the application of ICESCO's general policy, by virtue of the resolutions of the General Conference and decisions of the Executive Council, and follow up the implementation of the programmes and projects of the Organization as laid down in the action plan and budget as well as in the cooperation agreements with national, regional and international bodies and institutions;
- c. To draw up the respective draft agendas of ICESCO's General Conference and Executive Council, and submit the reports and documents pertaining thereto;
- d. To appoint ICESCO's staff and oversee the application of the provisions of the Personnel Regulations in a way that serves ICESCO's general interest;
- e. To overhaul ICESCO's Organizational Structure and submit it to the Executive Council and the General Conference for approval;
- f. To represent ICESCO at Islamic, Arab and international conferences and forums.

ARTICLE 14: COOPERATION MECHANISMS BETWEEN ICESCO AND MEMBER STATES

- a. ICESCO shall work towards establishing relations with National Commissions for Education, Science and Culture in order to consolidate cooperation relations between ICESCO and Member States' ministries and bodies;
- b. Member States shall appoint permanent delegates at ICESCO's Headquarters according to each State's means. The permanent delegates shall present their official credentials to the Director General.

ARTICLE 15: BUDGET

- a. The budget shall be prepared for four years and shall become effective each year as of January 1st up to the end of December of the same year. It shall be implemented after its adoption by the General Conference, in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations of ICESCO;
- b. The General Directorate shall prepare an annual report on the budget and the closing account, which it shall submit to the Executive Council at its following session subsequent to the end of the financial year. The report on the financial year shall include the proposals of the General Directorate on the implementation of the budget as well as its observations on the closing account.

ARTICLE 16: RESOURCES

The resources of ICESCO shall include:

- a. Contributions of Member States according to their respective adopted shares, which shall be determined according to the percentage of each country's contribution to the budget of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, until the General Conference decides to change them;
- b. Resources secured from cooperation agreements concluded between ICESCO and other parties;
- c. Subsidies and donations provided by Member States, non-Member States, bodies, and individuals or any other resources, so long as they do not contradict the objectives and regulations of ICESCO. In case the Executive Council decides to refuse these resources, its decision shall be submitted to the General Conference at its following meeting, supported by all the relevant considerations so that the necessary measures relevant thereto shall be taken;
- d. Proceeds of the sales of publications and products, and resources from services pertaining to ICESCO's fields of competence;
- e. Resources of waqf in accordance with its Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 17: EXPENDITURES

The expenditures of ICESCO shall include the following:

- a. Commitments resulting from previous contracts, resolutions or programmes of a binding nature for ICESCO;
- b. Subsidies and assistance to institutions and bodies under its supervision;
- c. Its commitments resulting from projects undertaken jointly with governmental or non-governmental parties;
- d. Obligations towards staff or persons entrusted with a particular mission.

ARTICLE 18: ACCOUNTS

- a. The Director General shall prepare the closing account and submit it to the General Conference in its regular session. The Council shall appoint a Financial Control Committee made up of representatives from five Member States, for a four-year period and on a rotational basis, to audit the accounts of ICESCO, and to ensure sound management of ICESCO's permanent headquarters. The Committee may seek assistance from experts and specialized technicians, if need be;
- b. The Financial Control Committee shall have the right to examine all the relevant books and records and to request the Executive Council, the Director General or the officials of ICESCO to provide any information it deems necessary for the performance of its duties. Accounts shall be audited by the Financial Control Committee on an annual basis so as to verify the accuracy of the budget and the accounts;
- c. The Financial Control Committee shall submit its report to the Director General, who shall refer it to the Executive Council with his observations thereon. The Executive Council shall submit the report to the General Conference at its following session.

ARTICLE 19: AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER

- a. The Director General shall communicate the text of the draft amendments to Member States at least four months before the text is to be submitted to the General Conference;

- b. The amendments proposed to this Charter shall become effective as soon as they are approved by a two-thirds majority of votes of the Member States participating at the General Conference. However, amendments resulting in fundamental changes in the objectives of ICESCO or in new obligations for Member States must be further approved by two-thirds of the Member States before they may become effective;
- c. In the light of the preceding paragraph, ICESCO shall not be dissolved or merged with another institution except by a resolution of the General Conference and the approval of two-thirds majority of the Member States.

In the event a resolution to dissolve ICESCO is adopted, the General Conference shall establish a specialized technical body to liquidate ICESCO's movable and immovable property, in accordance with the rules and procedures to be specified therefor by the General Conference;

- d. The General Conference shall have the right to adopt, through a two-thirds majority vote, the necessary regulations for the enforcement of the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 20: DEPOSITING OF THE CHARTER

This Charter shall be deposited in the archives of the General Directorate of ICESCO, wherein it shall become open for signature.

New memberships shall become effective as soon as they occur in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of this Charter.

ARTICLE 21: INTERPRETATION OF THE CHARTER

- a. The three languages of ICESCO shall be deemed equally valid for the interpretation of this Charter. In case of contention, the interpretation supported by two of the three languages, one of which being that of the original, that is Arabic, shall prevail;
- b. Any contention or dispute on the interpretation of this Charter shall be referred to an arbitration body to be set up by the General Conference.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**

سازمان اسناد و کتابخانه ملی
جمهوری اسلامی ایران

DEFINITIONS

In these Rules of Procedure, the following terms shall mean:

- **ICESCO:** The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- **Member States:** The Member States of ICESCO.
- **Charter:** The Charter of ICESCO.
- **Rules of Procedure:** The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference of ICESCO.
- **General Conference:** The General Conference of ICESCO.
- **Executive Council:** The Executive Council of ICESCO.
- **President:** The President of the General Conference of ICESCO.
- **Director General:** The Director General of ICESCO.
- **General Directorate:** The General Directorate of ICESCO.
- **Bureau:** The Bureau of the General Conference of ICESCO.
- **Secretariat:** The Secretariat and Conference Department.

CHAPTER ONE: COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 1

The delegations representing Member States shall be, each, composed of three members at the most, specialized in education, science, culture and other relevant areas. Each delegation shall be headed by a competent minister or his representative. The accreditation documents shall be signed by the relevant governmental authority and shall be sent before the convening of the Conference.

The accreditation documents shall be submitted to a committee made up of the members of the previous Conference Bureau in order to peruse them and present a report thereon to the General Conference for decision to this effect.

ARTICLE 2

The Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council shall attend the General Conference. The members of the Executive Council may also attend the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 3

The states, governments, organizations, institutions and persons specified in the Observer Status Regulations, may, without the right to vote, attend the General Conference as observers, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 7 and 10 (5) of the Charter.

The Director General may, if he deems it necessary, invite any personalities to the General Conference.

ARTICLE 4

The Director General shall attend the sessions of the General Conference and specify the staff who shall attend.

CHAPTER TWO: GENERAL CONFERENCE MEETINGS

ARTICLE 5

The General Conference shall hold its sessions at ICESCO headquarters. Member States, Observer States and the invited organizations shall bear the travel and accommodation expenses of their delegations. In the event a Member State offers to host the Conference, it shall bear the expenses of organization and accommodation of delegations and send an invitation to this effect to the Director General who shall hold consultations thereon with Member States.

The General Conference shall meet in a regular session once every four years. It may meet in a special session upon a resolution of the General Conference, a request by ICESCO Executive Council, a request by a Member State endorsed by at least two-thirds of Member States, a request by ICESCO Director General, endorsed by at least one-third of the Member States. The extraordinary session of the Conference shall be presided over by the president of the current session of the General Conference and shall be attended by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 6

The General Conference shall hold its sessions when the quorum is reached, that is the absolute majority of ICESCO Member States. It may hold open meetings or meet in camera when deemed appropriate. In case the Conference meets in camera, it shall be attended only by the Member States' Heads of Delegation, the Chairman of the Executive Council, the Director General, and the staff members of the General Directorate authorized by the Director General.

ARTICLE 7

- a) The General Conference shall elect in each session its President, one Vice-president, a general rapporteur and the chairmen of the committees, who, in addition to the Chairman of the Executive Council, constitute the Bureau of the Conference, without prejudice to paragraph (b) of this Article.
- b) The Chairman of the Executive Council or, in case of his absence, the acting chairman, shall attend the meetings of the Bureau of the General Conference, without the right to vote.
- c) The President, in the event of his absence, shall have the right to mandate his Vice-President to represent him. In the event of the absence of the Vice-President, the General Rapporteur shall represent the President. The General Conference shall elect a new General Rapporteur of the Conference.

The Bureau shall discharge the following tasks:

- To schedule plenary sessions;
- To coordinate the proceedings of the Conference, its committees and its subsidiary bodies;
- To consider requests for insertion of new agenda items and submit a report thereon to the General Conference;

ARTICLE 8

At each of its sessions, the General Conference shall set up the following committees:

- The Strategies and Action Plans Committee;
- The Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee;
- The Legal Affairs Committee;
- Any other Committee which the General Conference deems necessary for the smooth conduct of its proceedings and full consideration of the agenda items. Each Committee shall elect its Chairman, one Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

ARTICLE 9

- a) The President shall conduct the proceedings on the questions under consideration according to the adopted agenda.
- b) The President shall give the floor in accordance with the order of requests. Priority may be granted, if need be, to a Chairman or Rapporteur of one of the Conference's committees.
- c) Any Member State may raise a point of order which shall be settled at once by the President so long as his ruling is not challenged by the majority of the members present at the General Conference session.

ARTICLE 10

- a) Only the Member States shall have the right to vote at the General Conference. A consensus shall always be sought for the adoption of resolutions and recommendations.
- b) Subject to the provisions of Article 6 (b) of the Charter, each Member State shall have one vote in the General Conference and in the Committees in which it serves as member.
- c) Voting shall be generally by show of hands or by a roll call if requested by a Member State or when the President deems that the former procedure gives no clear picture of a majority. A vote by secret ballot may be taken if necessary.
- d) Any Member State may abstain from voting, or make partial or full reservation concerning any resolution. The reservations shall be read out after the resolution, and recorded in the session's minutes.

CHAPTER THREE: FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

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ARTICLE 11

The General Conference shall be the highest statutory organ of ICESCO.

It shall be empowered to:

- a) Define the general policy of ICESCO, supervise its action, and coordinate, adopt and evaluate all activities falling within its fields of competence, including the recommendations of specialized ministerial conferences;
- b) Approve ICESCO's action plans and programmes, budget estimates, projects of their implementation and closing accounts;
- c) Adopt the reports and proposals put forward by Member States as well as the recommendations issued by the Executive Council and take appropriate action thereon;
- d) Adopt the conventions and recommendations in education, science, culture and other relevant fields that may be submitted by the General Directorate. Each country having approved the aforementioned conventions and recommendations shall submit them for decision thereon to their competent parties within one year after their adoption.
- e) Adopt the Financial Regulations of ICESCO and its Personnel Regulations and the relevant internal regulations;
- f) Examine the agreements that shall be signed between ICESCO, international organizations and governmental and non-governmental organizations and express opinion thereon;
- g) Set up ad-hoc committees to carry out specific duties;
- h) Determine the distribution of ICESCO Member States among the geographical groups, upon a proposal by the Executive Council;

- i) Endorse the nomination of the members of the Executive Council of ICESCO, who, in addition to being versed in education, science and culture, must have the necessary experience and capability for shouldering the tasks entrusted with the Council;
- j) Elect the Director General of ICESCO for a four-year term renewable once, upon a proposal by the Executive Council;
- k) Adopt the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
- l) Approve the Organizational Structure of ICESCO;
- m) Adopt the Observer Status and its conditions;
- n) Consider all issues which do not fall within the competence of any other organ of ICESCO.

CHAPTER FOUR: AGENDA AND DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 12

Subject to the provisions of Article (19) of the Charter, the Director General shall prepare the draft agenda of the regular sessions of the General Conference and shall send it to Member States along with the necessary documents, at least two months before the Conference.

ARTICLE 13

The draft agenda shall include:

- The report of the Executive Council;
- The report of the General Directorate;
- The draft programmes of the Action Plan and the related draft Budget;
- The items which the General Conference had decided, in a previous session, to include in the agenda;
- The items proposed by the Member States or those which the Director General deems necessary to submit to the General Conference.

ARTICLE 14

Any Member State, the Chairman of the Executive Council or the Director General may request, at the General Conference, that an item be included in the agenda as an urgent matter.

Should an additional item be included in the agenda before the convening of the General Conference, the Director General shall inform the Member States thereof.

ARTICLE 15

The General Conference shall adopt its agenda at each regular session. It may include additional items, subject to approval by the simple majority.

ARTICLE 16

The General Conference may amend or delete, at each of its sessions, certain agenda items subject to the approval of the simple majority.

ARTICLE 17

The agenda of an extraordinary session shall cover only the questions which warranted the meeting, unless the General Conference decides otherwise by a two-third majority of attending members.

CHAPTER FIVE: ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IN THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 18

The Director General shall inform all the Member States of the resolutions and recommendations made by the General Conference within two months after the closing of the General Conference session.

The resolutions and recommendations adopted by the General Conference may be published or broadcast by the President or by the Director General unless the two-thirds majority of attending members decides otherwise.

ARTICLE 19

The General Directorate shall prepare the minutes for each session in extenso and send copies thereof to the Member States if possible. The minutes shall be kept at ICESCO's headquarters for reference purposes if need be.

Under the supervision of the Director General, the Secretariat shall be mandated to prepare draft minutes, resolutions and recommendations for adoption. Such minutes, resolutions and recommendations may also be submitted to the General Rapporteur for guidance.

ARTICLE 20

The Director General and his mandated staff shall participate in all the proceedings of the General Conference and its Committees by providing information, studies and clarifications about the agenda items.

ARTICLE 21

The Director General shall be responsible for organizational work of the regular and extraordinary sessions of the General Conference. He shall prepare all the relevant documents.

CHAPTER SIX: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

ARTICLE 22

The candidate to the post of Director General shall be:

- Specialized in education, science, and culture or other relevant fields falling under the realm of competence of the Organization;
- Of the highest caliber in terms of experience and competence.

• **Selection procedure:**

- a) The incumbent Director General shall write to Member States, six months before the convening of the General Conference which will elect the Director General, to inform them of the date upon which the post of Director General shall fall vacant. He shall invite Member States' governments to nominate one candidate each for the post. The nominations should reach the General Directorate, together with the candidates' curriculum vitae, at least three months before the date of the General Conference which will elect the Director General.
- b) In keeping with the preceding paragraph, the Director General shall prepare a memorandum including candidates' names and curricula vitae and send it to all Member States at least two months before the date of the General Conference.
- c) The General Conference shall elect one of the candidates to the post of Director General through a majority vote of the Organization's Member States. However, should the required majority fail to be reached, a second ballot shall then take place to select one candidate from among the two candidates who received the highest number of votes in the first ballot. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall then be elected.
- d) In the event of vacancy of the post of Director General, the Chairman of the Executive Council shall convene an

extraordinary session of the Conference through writing to Member States four months prior to the date of the extraordinary session of the Conference in which he shall inform them about the reason and date of the vacancy and invite them to nominate one candidate each for the post and send the nomination files with the candidates' curricula vitae to the General Directorate, two months at the latest prior to the date of the extraordinary session of the General Conference. The Chairman of the Executive Council shall prepare a memorandum including the names and curricula vitae of candidates and transmit them to Member States, a month prior to the date of the extraordinary session of the General Conference.

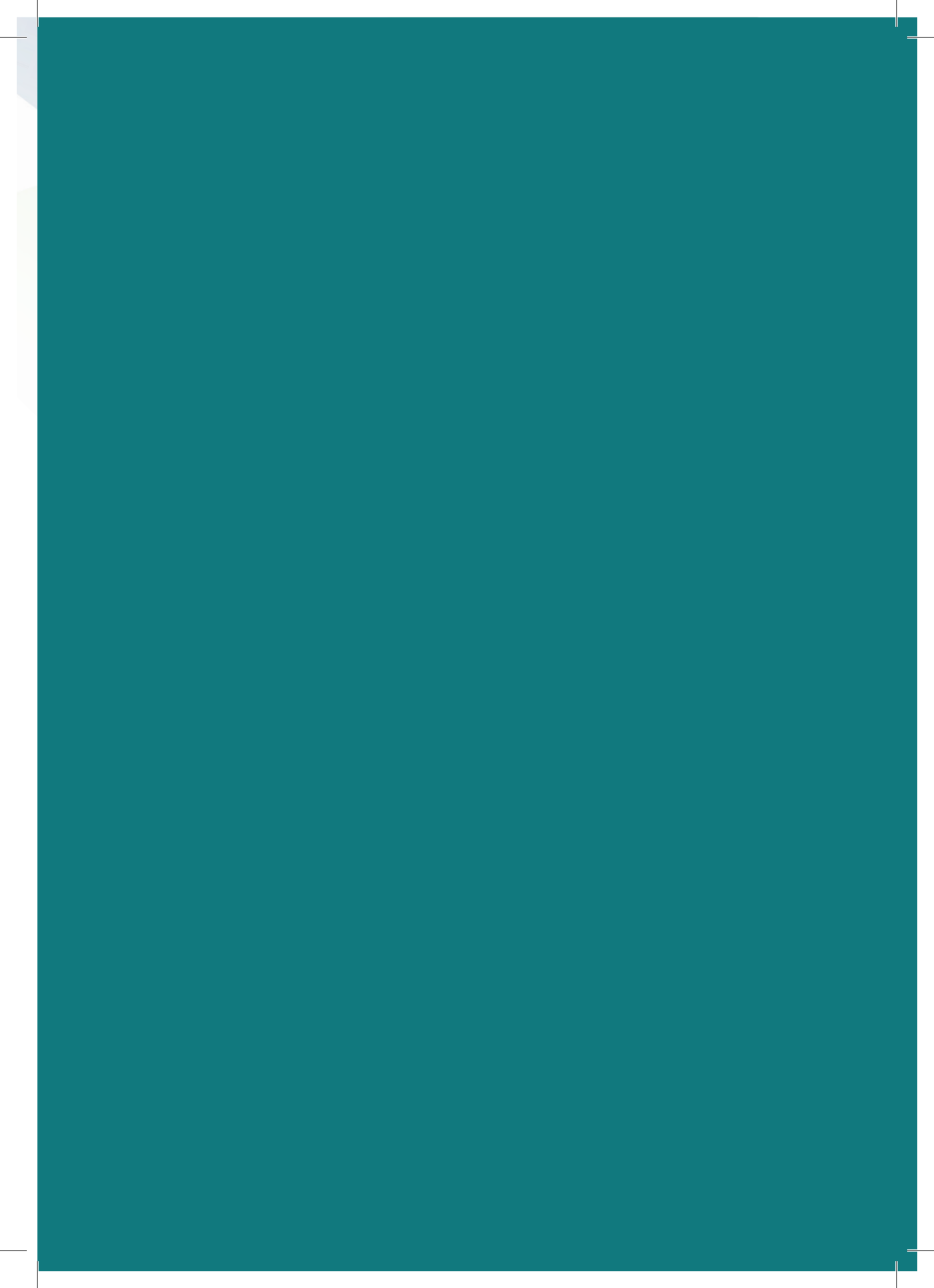
CHAPTER SEVEN: FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 23

These Rules of Procedure shall be amended only by a two-thirds majority of attending Member States. No request for amending or canceling any provision therein shall be considered unless it is sent in the form of a proposal to all Member States at least four months before the convening of the General Conference.

ARTICLE 24

The Rules of Procedure of the General Conference shall come into force upon their adoption by the General Conference.





**RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

DEFINITIONS

In these Rules of Procedure, the following terms shall mean:

- **ICESCO:** The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- **Member States:** The Member States of ICESCO.
- **Charter:** The Charter of ICESCO.
- **Rules of Procedure:** The Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council of ICESCO.
- **General Conference:** The General Conference of ICESCO.
- **Council:** The Executive Council of ICESCO.
- **Chairman:** The Chairman of the Executive Council of ICESCO.
- **Director General:** The Director General of ICESCO.
- **General Directorate:** The General Directorate of ICESCO.
- **Secretariat:** The Secretariat and Conference Department.

CHAPTER ONE: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

ARTICLE 1

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 12 (1) of the Charter, the Council shall be composed of the representatives of the Member States of ICESCO, one representative for each Member State.

Each Member State shall appoint their respective representatives in the Council, in accordance with the aforementioned provisions.

ARTICLE 2

The President of the General Conference, or his representative, shall attend the meetings of the Council on an advisory basis.

ARTICLE 3

- a) The Director General, or his representative, shall attend the meetings of the Council. The Director General shall also invite the staff of the General Directorate whose presence he considers necessary as well as the representatives of the external bodies of ICESCO to attend these meetings.
- b) The General Directorate shall conduct the work of the Secretariat of the Council and shall prepare minutes, decisions and recommendations to be adopted.

ARTICLE 4

The Chairman of the Council, in consultation with the Director General, shall have the right to invite officials, experts and specialists to attend the Council meetings.

The Director General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, shall have the right to invite officials, experts and specialists to attend the Council meetings.

CHAPTER TWO: COUNCIL MEETINGS

ARTICLE 5

The Council shall meet in plenary sessions, unless it decides to hold them in camera. In the event the Council meets in camera, the Director General and any person whose presence is deemed appropriate shall be authorized to attend these meetings.

ARTICLE 6

The Council meetings can be held only when the quorum is reached and when half the members plus one are present.

ARTICLE 7

The Council shall meet at least once a year and may meet in an extraordinary session in the following cases:

- a) Upon a decision made by the Council itself during a previous regular session;
- b) At the invitation of the Chairman and the approval of at least one third of the members, provided that the invitation is received one month before the date set for the session;
- c) At the invitation of the Director General and with the approval of the absolute majority of the members, provided that the invitation is received a month before the date set for the session.

ARTICLE 8

At each of its sessions, the Council shall determine the date and venue of the following session.

ARTICLE 9

- a) The Executive Council shall meet in a procedural session, after each regular session of the General Conference, to elect its Bureau.

- b) The Bureau shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and a rapporteur. Members of the Bureau shall remain in office until the end of the next regular session of the General Conference, taking into account balance among the Member States of ICESCO.

ARTICLE 10

- a) In the event of the absence of the Chairman or vacancy of the post of Chairman for any reason whatsoever, the chairmanship shall be entrusted with the Council's vice-chairman, until the election of a new chairman in the upcoming session.
- b) In case of vacancy of any other position in the Council Bureau, the Council shall select a substitute at its first working session.

ARTICLE 11

- a) The Chairman of the Council shall conduct deliberations concerning the issues submitted for consideration according to the adopted agenda.
- b) The Chairman shall give the floor to the members according to the order in which requests for the floor have been made. He may give the floor to any person he deems appropriate.
- c) Any member of the Council may raise a point of order which shall be settled at once by the Chairman so long as his ruling is not challenged by the majority of the members present at the Council session.
- d) The Chairman may take part in the Council's debates in his capacity as a Council member.
- e) The Chairman shall read out the decisions taken by the Council.

ARTICLE 12

- a) Voting at the Council shall normally be by show of hands or by roll call if so requested by a member, or if the Chairman deems that the first method does not show clear majority. Voting may take place through secret ballot if necessary.
- b) Any member may abstain from voting or make partial or full reservation concerning any decision. The reservations shall be read out after the decision, and recorded in the session's minutes.

ARTICLE 13

Each Council member shall be entitled to one vote. Only the Council members shall have the right to vote.

ARTICLE 14

The Council decisions shall be made on the basis of the two-third majority of the attending members. In case of a tie, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

ARTICLE 15

The General Directorate shall record all discussions on agenda items as well as all decisions resulting from those discussions.

ARTICLE 16

- a) The Secretariat of the Council shall temporarily type a summary report of the Council's deliberations and decisions. The report shall be submitted to the Rapporteur for adoption and shall be distributed to the members at the end of the session.
- b) The General Directorate shall send a summary report of the Council's deliberations and decisions to the Council members, within the two months following the end of the Council session, so that they may, if need be, inform the Director General, within one month after receiving the report, of the amendments they propose to introduce to it.

The Director General shall consult with the Chairman regarding the proposed amendments.

ARTICLE 17

A special record containing all the minutes of the Council meetings shall be kept at the Secretariat of the Council.

ARTICLE 18

The Council sessions shall be closed after all agenda items have been considered.

CHAPTER THREE: FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

ARTICLE 19

The Council shall discharge the following functions:

- a) To examine the progress report of the General Directorate on the programmes and activities of the Organization, to adopt it and submit it to the General Conference for approval.
- b) To examine the Financial Report of the General Directorate and Closing Accounts, Report of the Audit Company, Report of the Financial Control Committee and Report of the General Directorate on Member States' Contributions to ICESCO Budget, to adopt them and to submit them to the General Conference for approval.
- c) To examine the draft conventions and recommendations in education, science and culture and other relevant fields that shall be submitted by the General Directorate; and prepare a decision thereon to be submitted to the General Conference for approval.
- d) To examine the draft action plans and budget of ICESCO, adopt and submit them to the General Conference for approval.
- e) To draw up draft agendas for the meetings of the General Conference, upon a proposal by the Director General.
- f) To nominate the Financial Control Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article (18) of the Charter and Article (24) of the Financial Regulations of ICESCO.
- g) To select among three chartered auditors proposed by the Director General one external auditor specialized in accounting to carry out financial auditing.
- h) To examine the financial and personnel regulations and other relevant internal regulations of ICESCO and to submit proposals thereon to the General Conference for approval.

- i) To take all the necessary measures allowing the Director General to efficiently discharge his missions, in accordance with the Charter.
- j) To entrust one or several members, or form a commission, with the task of studying a particular subject, and to inform other members of the outcome of the study at least one month, if possible, prior to the convening of a meeting where the study shall be discussed.
- k) To examine nominations for the position of ICESCO Director General and to submit proposals and recommendations pertaining thereto to the General Conference.
- l) To examine the distribution of ICESCO Member States among the geographical groups, and to make proposals thereon to the General Conference.

CHAPTER FOUR: AGENDA

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ARTICLE 20

The Director General shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, a draft agenda for each Council session and shall send it, along with all the necessary documents, to the Council members at least two months prior to the meeting except in the case of an extraordinary session for which a one-month notice is required.

ARTICLE 21

The draft agenda shall include:

- All matters referred to the Council by the General Conference;
- Items which the Council had, in a previous session, decided to include in the agenda;
- Report of the General Directorate on the Organization's activities and the measures taken to implement the decisions of the Executive Council and the resolutions of the General Conference;
- Issues, reports and statements which must be submitted to the Council in accordance with the administrative and financial regulations;
- Setting up committees or working groups, if need be, to ensure a smooth conduct of its proceedings and to examine any matters which they be might entrusted with by the Council.
- Draft future activities and programmes of the Organization.

ARTICLE 22

Any member of the Council or the Director General may request that an item or several items be added to the agenda. The request shall be submitted:

- Two months before the date set for the Council meeting.
- At the opening of the Council session, if the question is deemed by the majority of Council members to be important and pressing.

CHAPTER FIVE: FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 23

ICESCO shall bear the travel expenses of the members of the Executive Council in economy class to attend the meetings of the Council or to accomplish their other missions.

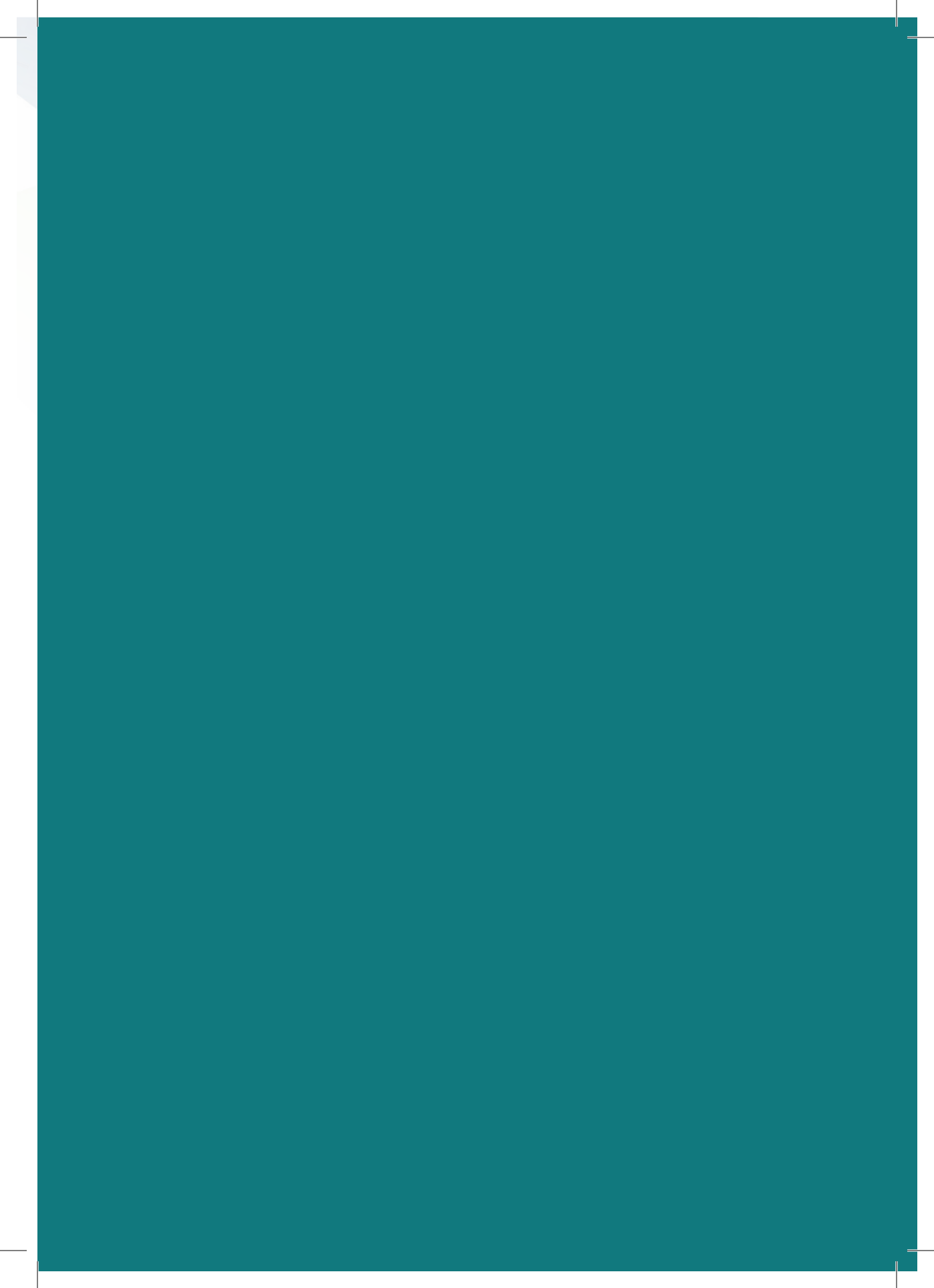
ICESCO shall also bear the expenses of their accommodation and transport during the Council meetings and shall not bear any supplementary charges.

ARTICLE 24

These Rules of Procedure shall be amended by a two-third majority of the attending Member States. The proposed amendments must be submitted to the Council members at least two months prior to the Council session.

ARTICLE 25

These Rules of Procedure shall come into force upon their adoption by the Council.



THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

DEFINITIONS

In these Rules of Procedure, the following terms shall mean:

- **ICESCO:** The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- **The Member States:** The Member States of ICESCO.
- **The Charter:** The Charter of ICESCO.
- **The General Conference:** The General Conference of ICESCO.
- **The Executive Council:** The Executive Council of ICESCO.
- **The Director General:** The Director General of ICESCO.
- **The Action Plan:** the general four-year plan of ICESCO.
- **The Budget:** The financial programme for the implementation of the Action Plan.
- **The financial year:** The period from the 1st of January to the 31st of December.
- **The Financial Control Committee:** the Committee entrusted by the Executive Council with the control of revenues and expenditure, closing accounts and the integrity of administrative and financial procedures.

CHAPTER ONE: BUDGET PREPARATION

61

ARTICLE 1

The budget is the four-year financial programme of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, called ICESCO. It shall be drawn up in four annual sections for the implementation of the items of the budget adopted by the General Conference.

ARTICLE 2

The budget shall include all expenditures and revenues related to the various activities of ICESCO.

As regards expenditure estimates, the budget shall be set in the light of the needs to be fulfilled within the framework of those activities.

As regards revenues, the budget shall show all expected revenues.

ARTICLE 3

In preparing the budget, due account shall be taken of the administrative structures of ICESCO and of the specific nature of its programmes.

ARTICLE 4

Budget estimates shall be apportioned into entries, headings, articles, items and, if necessary, sub-items.

ARTICLE 5

Revenues and expenditure estimates shall be in US dollars.

ARTICLE 6

In addition to revenues, expenditures and any related annexes and explanatory documents, the budget shall include an explanatory memorandum which may be presented by the Director General with regard to collection of Member States' contributions and, if necessary, the reasons which may have prevented the implementation of the plan of action.

ARTICLE 7

The Director General shall prepare and submit the draft budget to the Executive Council for consideration, before its submission to the General Conference for adoption.

ARTICLE 8

Following its examination by the Executive Council, the Director General shall send out the draft budget to Member States two months before the General Conference, along with the supporting documents and analytical studies of expenditures compared to the figures of the previous financial year.

CHAPTER TWO: RESOURCES

63

ARTICLE 9

The budget shall be financed from following resources:

- a) Contributions of Member States;
- b) Available funds proceeding from the transfer of the credit balance of the previous financial year;
- c) Subsidies, grants, investments, real estates and donations from institutions or individuals, provided that their objectives are consonant with those of ICESCO.

Donations, which are not earmarked for any specific purposes, shall be deposited into an account called "Account of Miscellaneous Receipts".

- d) ICESCO *waqf* in accordance with its internal regulations.

ARTICLE 10

When a new State joins ICESCO after the commencement of the financial year, it shall pay its full contribution for that same financial year.

CHAPTER THREE: SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

ARTICLE 11

A reserve account, whose capital and financing means shall be determined by the General Conference, may be opened so as to enable the Director General to use the necessary funds for the expenditures which fall due before the collection of the contributions of Member States.

In this case, the funds withdrawn shall be considered as a loan to be paid back into the reserve account when the Account of Miscellaneous Receipts are replenished with available funds.

ARTICLE 12

Subject to the approval of the Executive Council, the Director General may propose to the General Conference to establish funds, whose resources shall serve specific purposes.

Each fund shall have a separate bank account. Such bank accounts cannot be used except for the purposes and activities for which they are established.

However, the Director General may use them in case of emergencies subject to justifying the reasons thereof. The withdrawn amounts should be reimbursed within six months.

ARTICLE 13

The Account of Miscellaneous Receipts, the reserve accounts and the funds for specific purposes shall be managed according to the provisions of these Financial Regulations.

CHAPTER FOUR: EXPENDITURES

65

ARTICLE 14

The expenditures of ICESCO shall be governed by the provisions of Article (17) of the Charter.

CHAPTER FIVE:

BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

ARTICLE 15

Upon its adoption by the General Conference, the budget shall come into force, with backdated effect if necessary, for a period of four consecutive years. Each year shall start on the 1st of January and end on the 31st of December.

ARTICLE 16

Should the General Conference fail to adopt the budget before the beginning of the new period, the Director General shall issue instructions for expenditures to be made within the limit of 3/12 of budget appropriations for the previous financial year (except for the amounts due for payment) until adoption of the budget by the General Conference at its following session. The said session shall take place before the end of March of the first year of the new four-year period. The following budget shall be backdated to the 1st of January, in accordance with Article (15) of the Charter.

ARTICLE 17

Upon its adoption, the budget shall be notified to Member States in detail, along with the contributions that each Member State must settle within three months from the notification date.

ARTICLE 18

The adoption of the budget by the General Conference shall empower the Director General to use the allocated credits for the achievement of the objectives and programmes approved by the General Conference.

CHAPTER SIX: ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

ARTICLE 19

The Director General shall take the necessary measures for the purpose of book-keeping and submitting the annual accounts, showing:

- Expenditures and revenues, whatever their source;
- Situation of the approved credits;
- Assets and liabilities.

The Director General shall also submit a detailed annual report on the budget of the following year for consideration and approval.

ARTICLE 20

The Executive Council shall appoint an audit company, upon proposal by the Director General, to ensure:

- Efficient and rational use of financial resources;
- Soundness of the accounting operations and conformity with the nature of credits in accordance with the financial and administrative regulations in force;

It shall NOT be allowed to contract an audit company for over two sessions of the General Conference.

ARTICLE 21

There shall be no transfer of credits from one entry to another, or from one heading to another, nor any overspending of the credits allocated to any entry or heading, nor any expenditures incurred outside budget appropriations, except with the consent of the Executive Council and the subsequent approval of the General Conference. However, the Director General may, should the need arise, transfer credits within the same heading:

- From one article to another, up to 30% of the funds available;
- From one item to another, without any set limitation.

The Executive Council shall be informed of the transfer through the Financial Report.

ARTICLE 22

As part of ICESCO's Action Plan, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and after the approval of the Executive Council, the Director General may undertake the following:

- Incurring loans in the name of ICESCO;
- Making commitments which would necessitate reimbursement of expenses after the end of the financial period.

ARTICLE 23

Subject to the approval of the Executive Council, the Director General may postpone or suspend the implementation of any item of the budget if he deems it financially difficult to fully implement.

The credits allocated to such item shall be frozen and the relevant reasons shall be listed in a memorandum to be presented to the General Conference in due time. Those reasons shall also be included in the memorandum on the closing accounts of the year for which the credits were allocated.

CHAPTER SEVEN: THE FINANCIAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 24

The Executive Council shall appoint a Financial Control Committee to be made up of representatives from five Member States in accordance with the provisions of Article (18) of the Charter. The Committee shall be tasked with:

- Ascertaining the optimum utilization of ICESCO's resources;
- Establishing the control of revenues and expenditure accountings as well as ensuring the integrity of administrative, financial and accounting procedures;
- Ensuring the validity of the closing accounts;
- Taking note of the general situation of ICESCO's permanent headquarters as well as its management mechanisms, and expressing views thereon.

ARTICLE 25

The Committee shall check the registers, accounts and supporting documents. It may request the General Directorate to provide it with the data likely to help it discharge its duties.

ARTICLE 26

The Committee shall draw up annual reports on the outcomes of its proceedings and shall refer them to the Director General in order to submit them to the Executive Council and the General Conference together with the report of the General Directorate.

ARTICLE 27

The Committee shall lay down its rules of procedure.

ARTICLE 28

Expenditures incurred in connection with the assignments of Committee members shall be borne by ICESCO.

CHAPTER EIGHT: CLOSING ACCOUNTS

ARTICLE 29

The General Directorate shall prepare an annual report on the closing accounts, showing the revenues and expenditures of the financial year concerned and illustrating the financial situation of ICESCO.

The Director General shall refer the closing accounts to the Financial Control Committee before submitting them to the Executive Council. The closing accounts, together with the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee and the decisions of the Executive Council, shall be submitted to the General Conference along with the report of the General Directorate on the implementation of the budget.

CHAPTER NINE: FINAL PROVISIONS

71

ARTICLE 30

These Regulations shall come into force upon their approval by the Executive Council and their adoption by the General Conference.

ARTICLE 31

The General Conference may amend these Regulations in accordance with the Charter.

Handwritten text in Persian calligraphy, likely a manuscript or a page from a book, featuring dense script in an older style.

OBSERVER STATUS REGULATIONS

DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations, it is meant by:

- **ICESCO:** The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- **The Charter:** ICESCO's Charter.
- **The General Conference:** ICESCO's General Conference.
- **The Executive Council:** ICESCO's Executive Council.
- **The Director General:** The Director General of ICESCO.
- **The President:** The President of the General Conference.
- **The Observer Status:** The status by virtue of which a State, government, governmental organization, civil society institution or Islamic personality may take part in the proceedings of the General Conference and its Committees without the right to vote.

ARTICLE 1

Any United Nations Member State may enjoy the status of observer in ICESCO upon notification thereof to the Organization and approval of its request.

ARTICLE 2

- a) International and regional organizations, bodies and federations may enjoy the status of observer in ICESCO after submitting a request to the Director General to give his initial consent for attending meetings and present the request, together with the opinion of the Executive Council, to the General Conference;
- b) The General Conference shall ratify the Observer Status Regulations and the conditions thereof;
- c) The Observer shall not have the right to vote at the General Conference.

ARTICLE 3

Representatives of bodies and institutions enjoying the Observer Status in ICESCO may take part in the sessions of the General Conference and other conferences, without the right to vote in debates concerning questions of interest to their institutions.

ARTICLE 4

Representatives of bodies and institutions enjoying the Observer Status in ICESCO may make oral statements or submit written ones, during the sessions of the General Conference and other conferences of ICESCO, subject to approval by the Conference President.

ARTICLE 5

The Director General may invite international and regional non-governmental organizations as well as universities, learned societies and associations to send observers to attend the General Conference and other conferences of ICESCO, if he deems it useful for achieving ICESCO's main objectives and implementing its programmes.

ARTICLE 6

The Director General may invite any party he deems necessary to follow up the proceedings of the General Conference and other conferences of ICESCO.