

Islamic Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

- ISESCO-

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL / 14th SESSION

Rabat, 7-12 Jumada II, 1414 H
22-27 November, 1993

FINAL REPORT

Final Report

The 14th session of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) was held in Rabat, capital city of the Kingdom of Morocco, from 7 to 12 Jumada II 1414 H/22-27 November 1993, and was attended by the honourable Executive Council members representing ISESCO's Member States, with the exception of the representatives of the following States: Benin, Tadjikistan, Somalia, Gabon, the Gambia and Guinea-Bissau. (Annex 1: List of attending Council members).

Opening session: Monday morning, 7 Jumada II, 1414 H/ 22 November 1993

1. The opening session was chaired by His Excellency Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council, and was attended by His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Knidiri, Minister of Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the 4th General Conference, and His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of the Organization. The session was also attended by His Excellency Dr. Abdelkebir Alaoui Mdaghri, Minister of Waqf and Islamic Affairs, a number of senior officials in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, members of the Islamic diplomatic corps accredited to Rabat, His Excellency Ambassador Ibrahim Auf, Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the representatives of a number of international and regional organizations and a host of thinkers and cultural figures.
2. The opening session started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an. Then, His Excellency Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council and representative of the republic of Guinea, delivered a speech in which he first welcomed the honourable members of the Council, particularly the representatives of the two States that had joined ISESCO after the 13th session of the Executive Council, namely the Republic of Bosnia- Herzegovina and the Republic of Tadjikistan.

He expressed satisfaction at the steady increase in the number of ISESCO Member States and called on Council members to identify the most effective ways of removing the obstacles still hindering the membership of other Islamic States. He called on Council members to expend the efforts needed for the examination of the important items on the Agenda, particularly the draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997, and commended the intelligent and sound way in which His Excellency the Director General had managed ISESCO's affairs.

He concluded his speech by expressing, on behalf of the honourable Council members, deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his generous patronage and unflagging support for ISESCO. (Annex 2: Speech of his Excellency Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council).

3. His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Knidiri, Minister of Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the Organization's 4th General Conference, delivered an address in which he welcomed the honourable Council members on behalf of the Government of His Majesty King Hassan II and wished full success to this session's proceedings.

He recalled the circumstances in which ISESCO was established, saying that this was an outstanding Islamic event that took place in the Kingdom of Morocco, the bastion of Islamic solidarity and the land of communion, brotherhood and dialogue, as a result of the directives, patronage and support of His Majesty King Hassan II. He then congratulated His Excellency the Director General for the praiseworthy efforts he exerts to achieve ISESCO's objectives, develop its action in the service of Member States and consolidate its presence on the international scene. (Annex 3: Speech of His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Knidiri, Minister of National Education in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the 4th General Conference).

4. His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, then delivered an address in which he first expressed his most profound thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, may Allah preserve him, for his unflagging support and high patronage of ISESCO.

His Excellency stressed the paramount importance of ISESCO's comprehensive civilizational mission in the context of the new world situation, which is characterized by political challenges and economic difficulties. He then welcomed the two new members of ISESCO, the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Republic of Tadjikistan, and referred to ISESCO's strong presence on the Islamic and international scenes in the educational, scientific and cultural fields as well as to its balanced development which responds to Member States' aspirations.

After reviewing the main items in the draft agenda of the Council, he expressed thanks and appreciation to the Member States that extend care and support to the Organization, and called on those Member States that do not honour their obligations towards the Organization to set to fulfill their duty in order to consolidate joint Islamic action (Annex 4: Address by His Excellency Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

5. Following the reception offered by His Excellency the Director General in honour of the participants in the opening session, the members of the Executive Council opened the exhibition of drawings by children from the Islamic World.
6. His Excellency the Chairman of the Executive Council and His Excellency the Director General then proceeded to inaugurate the new headquarters of the Organization, in the presence of the Executive Council members, a number of members of the Islamic diplomatic corps accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco

and numerous cultural and educational personalities. They visited the various wings and facilities of ISESCO's headquarters. His Excellency the Director General and his assistants gave them extensive information on the building's structure and facilities.

First working session: Monday afternoon, 7 Jumada II, 1414H / November 22,1993

Agenda item 1.1: Adoption of the Agenda (Doc. CE 14/93/1.1 Provisional, Amended)

7. The Council considered the proposed draft agenda (Document CE 14/93/1.1 provisional, amended). Pursuant to a proposal of the representatives of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Council decided to add two new items to the agenda (5.4 and 5.5) concerning the role of ISESCO in supporting the cultural and educational institutions in the two countries. In view of time constraints, the Council decided not to grant priority to items 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. In this respect, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.1.1 on Item 1.1 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Agenda

The Executive Council,

- Considering Articles 22,23 and 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;
- Having considered the draft agenda included in Doc. C.E./14/93/1.1. Prov. Amended;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Adopts its agenda as contained in Doc. C.E.14/93/1.1 Adopted.

(Annex 5: Doc CE 14/93/1.1 Adopted)

Agenda item 1.2: Adoption of the Programme (Doc. CE 14/93/1.2 Provisional, Amended)

The Council considered the proposed draft Programme (Doc. CE.14/93/1.2 Provisional, Amended)

8. The Council considered the proposed draft Programme (Doc. CE 14/93/1.2 Provisional Amended). After deliberations, the Council decided to amend the Programme in order to take the following into consideration:

a- the amendments to the agenda (Decision CE 14/93/D.1.1)

b- change the afternoon working hours to become: 3.30 through 7.00 p.m.

The Council then adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.1.2 on Item 1.2 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Programme

The Executive Council,

- Referring to Decision C.E. 13/92/D.6.1 which was adopted by the Council at its thirteenth session on the date and venue of the 14th Council session;
- Referring to Decision C.E. 14/93/D.1.1 by virtue of which it adopted its agenda for this session;
- Having considered the draft Programme of the Council's proceedings contained in Doc. C.E. 14/93/1.2. Prov. Amended;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Adopts the Programme organizing the proceedings of its 14th session as contained in Doc.C.E 14/93/1.2 Adopted.
(Annex 6: Doc. CE 14/93/1.2 Adopted)

Agenda item 2.1: Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the 13th and 14th sessions (Doc. CE 14/93/2.1 Amended)

9. The Director General of the Organization made a brief presentation on his report. He pointed out the contacts and visits he made to some Member States and similar international organizations with a view to strengthening cooperation relations and urging them to provide further support to the Organization's programmes and activities.

He also made a brief survey of the numerous programmes and activities carried out by the Organization last year in the light of the priorities it had defined in the various educational, scientific and cultural fields.

10. The Council members congratulated the Director General for the praiseworthy efforts he made in implementing the programmes of the three-year Action Plan 1991-1994 and for the clear and comprehensive character of the report. They also commended the Director General for the positive initiatives he had taken by paying visits to some Member States and establishing contacts with some regional and international parties with a view to consolidating the Organization's relations with them. The Council requested that these visits should also concerned academies and thinkers in order to urge them to take part in ISESCO's activities and support any action likely to ensure that further Islamic countries join the Organization. These visits should also be used to sensitize the Member States concerned on the need to honour their financial obligations toward the Organization.

Discussion then revolved around the various aspects of the report, and the Council addressed the following:

- the need for the report to include the evaluation of implemented programmes and activities in the light of the Organization's objectives, as well as the assessment of the actual output of implemented activities and the obstacles and difficulties encountered, instead of merely listing activities without any evaluation.
- The need to find internal and external evaluation mechanisms and to apprise the Council, in its next sessions, of the results obtained in this respect.
- The report should be brief and should tackle, in the introduction, the Organization's role as well as its current duties.
- An annex should be added to the report, to convey a prospective perception of the future of the Organization and its prospects of action as well as the Director General's proposals to the following session. It was also requested to adopt an approach that allows for comparison with previous years.
- To brief the Council on the specific results obtained from the Director General's visits outside the seat country and the extent to which they had a positive impact on urging Member States to settle their contributions to the Organization's budget and on improving the financial situation of the Organization.
- To take interest in educating Muslim women and providing opportunities for their university education.
- To take further interest in the dissemination of Islamic education and the teaching of Arabic language to non-Arabic speakers.
- To adopt a standardized approach in reporting on the contributions of the cooperating parties participating in the implementation of programmes, on the basis of either their contribution rate or the expenditures incurred.
- To give all due attention to the Organization's Culture and Communication Sector in view of its vital role in the current international juncture.
- To expand the Organization's information network to all the Member States in order to expound the Organization's objectives, spread the Islamic view on contemporary world issues and to benefit from experts specializing in this field; to consolidate the role of information in the organization and collect Islamic documents, study them and use them in sensitizing the universal conscience.
- To foster cooperation with the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO). The Council noted with satisfaction the

notable improvement in cooperation relations with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and with the Islamic Development Bank.

- To adopt Islamic criteria in dealing with the cooperating regional and international parties; to consolidate the Islamic cultural identity and protect it from the perils threatening it and to highlight the distinct status of the Organization, its objectives and action plans in comparison with similar organizations.
- To expand the cooperation network to world financial institutions.
- To support and promote cooperation with Member States' national commissions for education, science and culture.
- To continue to support the Palestinian people's struggle with a view to preserving their legitimate and historical rights to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and protecting its Islamic cultural identity; to express thanks to the Director General for the programmes on Palestine and for Al-Quds Symposium in particular.
- To take the necessary measures to start implementing the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training and to integrate it in the programmes of the Education Sector.
- To collect information on Islamic manuscripts, their nature, origin and benefit therefrom and to take special interest in manuscripts in the sub-Saharan region.
- To provide for ISESCO to participate in the World Cultural Development Decade and start, if possible, an ISESCO cultural decade.
- To provide further support to the activities on protection of intellectual property, taking due account of the cultural dimension in intellectual property, and protection of Islamic cities and the civilizational heritage.
- To consolidate cooperation with Islamic communities in America, Africa, Asia and Europe.
- To support cooperation relations with the High Commissioner for the Refugees.
- To provide indicators on the efficiency of the activities of the Islamic Information and Data Bank.

Second Working Session: Tuesday morning, 8 Jumada II, 1414 H/ 23 November, 1993 Agenda item 2.1 (cont.) (Document CE 14/93/2.1 Amended)

11. At the beginning of the session, the Director General of the Organization took the floor to provide answers and clarifications in connection with Council members' observations. He thanked them for the tribute paid to him as well as to all his assistants in appreciation for their efforts in implementing the Action Plan's programmes and achieving the Organization's objectives. He stressed the following:

- The visits he had paid to some Member States contributed efficiently to raising awareness about ISESCO's objectives and achievements and sensitizing Member States on the necessity to provide further material support to the Organization.
- The Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training does not fall under the Organization's current Action Plan; its implementation depends on securing extra-budgetary resources, a fact which has not materialized so far, despite repeated contacts and attempts.
- As regards cooperation relations with similar organizations, the Organization realized the necessity to adopt a distinctive policy for the preparation and implementation of plans and programmes which meet the needs of the Islamic World and preserve its specificities.

After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.2.1 on Item 2.1 of the Agenda: Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 13th and 14th Council Session

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 20, paragraph "d" of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General;
- Having considered the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 13th and 14th Council sessions, which is included in Doc. C.E/14/93/2.1 Amended;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;
- Having heard the clarifications given by the Director General and his assistants;

Decides the following:

1. Takes cognizance of the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 13th and 14th Council sessions,

presented in Doc. C.E.14/93/2.1 Amended, and agrees to refer the said report to the General Conference;

2. Thanks the Director General for his sustained efforts to implement most of the Organization's programmes while continuing his efficient rationalization measures destined to reduce implementation costs;
3. Invites the Director General to continue to develop the report's drafting techniques;
4. Invites the Director General to take into account the remarks made by Council members.

Agenda item 2.2: Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1992 (Document CE 14/93/2.2)

12. The Director General took the floor and recalled the decision of the Executive Council at its 13th session, which provided that the Financial Report for the year 1991-1992 be referred to the Financial Control Committee for consideration prior to submitting it to the 14th session of the Council. He indicated that this had actually been done.

He pointed out that more than two-thirds of Member States had approved, by way of correspondence, the modification of the date of commencement of the financial year from July 1st to January 1st.

He then made a brief review of the detailed statements of income and expenditure contained in the report for the said financial year.

13. The Official in charge of the Financial Division at the Organization took the floor and gave explanations on the implementation of the various budget items as well as on the Organization's properties and fixed assets. He pointed out the innovation of accounting methods at the Organization, as reflected in the incorporation of implementation costs of programmes and activities in the financial report and in the enhancement of the Organization's internal financial control system.

He also commended the good work of the audit company with which a contract was concluded last year.

14. Executive Council members then thanked the Director General for the efforts he had expended to prepare this report and for the proper lay-out, good drafting and clear numbering and presentation of the report. They also commended the performance achieved at the level of programmes and activities despite the financial difficulties which hinder the expansion of the Organization's scope of action.

Discussions revolved around the following points:

- Regret over the decline in the Member States' contribution collection rate; Council members issued recommendations to redress the situation.
- The Council expressed thanks and appreciation to the World Islamic Call Society (Tripoli) for its support and cooperation with the Organization in implementing joint programmes.
- The Council requested that the Financial Report comprise in the future a comparative study between annual budget estimates and actual expenditures on one hand, and the expenditures on the previous financial year and the one preceding it.

Agenda item 2.3: Reports of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for Financial Year 1992 (Document CE 14/93/2.3)

- 15.** The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee (representative of the State of Bahrain in the Executive Council) made a brief presentation on the Committee's report, in which he commended the important and good performance of the audit company. He expressed concern over the steady increase in Member States' arrears as a result of failure to honour their financial obligations towards the Organization.

He requested the Council to take the necessary measures to remedy this situation and stressed the necessity to diversify the investment of the available financial resources in order to guarantee optimal use. He stressed that the Committee was satisfied with the implementation of the Organization's activities.

- 16.** The presentation was followed by discussions which centered on the following:

- To thank the Director General for the appropriate selection of an audit company.
- To express thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its donation of \$ 57,736.72 to the Organization.

During the discussion, Council members called for the following:

- To take into consideration, to the extent possible, the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee.
- To convert the Organization's bank deposits in dollar into more profit-yielding currencies.
- To ensure the regular payment, into the End-of-Service Allowance Fund, of the contributions of the Organization as well as those of staff members.

- To rationalize expenditures on the equipment of the headquarters and ISESCO-provided accommodation with a view to allocating greater funds to programme-related equipment.
- To restrict the aggregate amount of salaries to a specific percentage.
- To standardize the dollar exchange rate in all budget items and expenditure chapters, to become 9 dhs instead of 8 dhs to the dollar, particularly in what regards the salaries and allowances.
- To continue the policy of equitable adjustment of the situation of the Organization's staff members, in order to reward them for their outstanding work and encourage them to expend further efforts.
- To encourage the Director General to pursue his policy with a view to striking a balance in the Organization's General Directorate and achieving equitable geographical distribution in terms of appointments.
- To inform the Purchase Committee of all the transactions concluded by the Organization and submit all related documents to the Council.
- To request the Financial Control Committee to avoid general recommendations in its future reports and study the recommendations made by the audit company to use them in developing financial and accounting methods in the Organization.

Third Working Session: Tuesday afternoon, 8 Jumada II, 1414 H/23 November, 1993 Agenda item 2.3 (Cont.) (Document CE 14/93/2.3)

17. The Council continued discussion of the report of the Financial Control Committee and the report of the audit company. It expressed satisfaction with the performance of the audit company, especially that it enjoys a high credibility and a good reputation..

The discussions centred on the following:

- Necessity to include in the report of the audit company statements on the salaries and allowances granted to the Organization's staff members.
- Necessity to take into account and implement the recommendations and observations included in the report of the audit company with a view to improving the Organization's accounting system.

Agenda item 2.4: Report of the Director General on the Situation of Member States' Contributions and on redressing the Organization's Financial Situation for Financial Year 1992 (Document CE 14/93/2.4)

18. The Director General presented his report on the situation of contributions and drew attention to the difficult financial conditions of the Organization because of Member States' failure to settle their contributions to the Organization's budget. He shored up his observation with figures to show Member States' accumulated arrears. He indicated that the contributions collected are not sufficient to enable the Organization to implement its ambitious action plans. Still, there is reason for optimism in the sense that Member States will hasten to settle their contributions now that they have realized the Organization's development and excellent performance.
19. The Council Chairman stressed the necessity of finding practical solutions to redress the situation of contributions. The Member States which recently joined the Organization were requested to promptly pay their contributions.
20. The delegate of the State of Kuwait took the floor and indicated that his country will settle its arrears before the end of the current financial year.

The delegate of the Republic of Yemen recalled the agreement previously reached with the General Directorate to exempt his country from paying its contributions for 1982 and 1983 for legal considerations, indicating that the 1992 Financial Report did not take this agreement into consideration. He requested that this matter be settled once and for all.

The delegate of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that his country had settled all its arrears, and that the outstanding amount of \$ 70,000 will be paid off before the end of the financial year.

The delegate from Malaysia requested that direct contacts be made with his country to agree on payment of its arrears. He indicated that the financial statements do refer to Malaysia's contributions for the years 1982 through 1984 whereas Malaysia had not yet joined ISESCO at that period.

The delegate from the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam asked that the rate fixed for her country be reconsidered to match the rate agreed upon with the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

21. The Council Chairman stressed that the question of the Organization's financial situation was an extremely important matter and that it was necessary to come up with specific ideas in this respect. He suggested that a committee be set up to prepare a document in this respect to identify the most effective ways and means to collect all contributions and arrears in addition to securing supplementary financial resources in order to transcend the Organization's predicament. The Council mentioned the possibility of deriving ideas from previous reports and submit them in an extensive working paper to the General Conference for appropriate action.

The Council suggested that efforts be stepped up for the payment of arrears for the year 1991 through 1992 and, in a second stage, for the settlement of the outstanding arrears while thinking about gradual sanctions. It was also suggested that Member States' delegates in the Council would inform the Organization, by way of correspondence, of the effectiveness of their contacts and initiatives in their respective countries regarding this matter. The Council then decided to set up a committee made up of the delegates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Senegal and Malaysia. This committee was asked to meet alongside the current session and examine the most efficient ways to collect Member states arrears and secure additional financial resources. The committee was asked to report on its conclusion before the end of the proceedings of the current session. A Council member wondered how some states pay their contributions to other international organizations but fail to honour their obligations towards ISESCO. He suggested that these states should not be allowed to vote at the General Conference. Some Council members suggested that sponsors should be contacted to improve the current situation or that scholars, thinkers and deputies should be contacted in addition to setting up associations of ISESCO Friends.

22. The Director General then took the floor to provide answers and clarifications in connection with the Council's observations and questions concerning the Financial Report and the Report on the situation of contributions. He indicated that contacts were under way with a view to building the headquarters of the Organization on the plot of land donated by the Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco for this purpose, pointing out that the purchase of the new building constitutes a useful investment for the Organization. He indicated that the contribution rates fixed for Members States were the same as those applied at the Organization of the Islamic Conference and that the same approach was followed at other international organizations like UNESCO and the United Nations. Other attempts were made to improve the financial situation through contacting Islamic funding institutions. He indicated that agreements were signed with the Islamic Development Bank as well as Iqraa Charitable Society in Jeddah in addition to the League of Islamic Universities to secure programme financing. Similarly, cooperation with International Arab and Islamic organizations was revitalized to benefit programme implementation, as is indeed attested by the fact that 40 programmes were implemented this year through external financing. He also said that the exact dates of joining ISESCO would be checked to determine the arrears owed as from the date of signing the Charter.

The Director General stressed that he was keen to improve the situation of the Organization's staff members, enable them to enjoy all their material rights and secure for them all appropriate social benefits. He said that the decrease in the resources of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund was due to

the payment of the allowance of the Deputy Director General for Science and of some other staff members. He said that it was necessary to set up a permanent retirement scheme instead of the current system of a single lump-sum allowance. He also added that it was necessary to pursue efforts to provide suitable housing to staff members.

The Director General indicated that the dollar conversion rate for the allowances used to stand at 6 dirhams and that he brought it up to 8, to match the rate applied to salaries. He said that current salaries were higher than those of 1991.

23. In this regard, the Director General proposed to the Executive Council to raise the dollar conversion rate from 8 to 9 dirhams, providing that this measure enter in force immediately after the end of the proceedings of the 14th Executive Council session. The council unanimously approved this measure by acclamation.
24. The Official in charge of Financial Affairs then took the floor and gave extensive clarifications concerning the technical and accounting observations made by Council members and stressed that no resources were taken from ISESCO's Reserve Fund. The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee and representative of Bahrain also took the floor, thanked the Council members for commending the work of the Committee and asked them to make the necessary contacts with their states to urge them to pay their arrears.
25. Finally, the Council thanked the Director General for the clarifications he had given and for the positive initiatives he had taken to improve the situation of staff members and induce them to do their best and contribute to the civilizational mission of the Organization.
26. Concerning the financial reports, the Council adopted the following decisions:

Decision CE 14/93/D.2.2 on Item 2.2 of the Agenda: Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts of Financial Year 1992

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 20 of the Charter, Articles 19 and 29 of the Financial Regulations and Article 20, paragraphs "e" and "f" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;

- Referring to Decision C.E. 13/93/D.2.1 adopted by the Executive Council at its 13th Session with regard to the previous Financial Report for financial year 1991-1992;
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 1992 included in Document C.E.14/93/2.2;
- Noting that the Organization's accounts were closed on 31st December, 1992;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General and his assistants;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Approves the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 1992 with a view to referring them to the General Conference for adoption;
2. Thanks the Director General to include the following in the Financial Report to be presented to the 15th Council session;
3. Requests the Director General to include the following in the Financial Report to be presented to the 15th Council session:
 - Closing accounts at the end of financial year 1993, that is on 31st December, 1993 in accordance with Decision C.E.13/92/D.2.2 and the views of Member States;
 - Final closing of accounts on 30 June, 1994 for completing the current Action Plan 1991-1994 which was adopted by the General Conference at its 4th Session.

Decision CE 14/93/D.2.3 on Item 2.3 of the Agenda: Report of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for Financial Year 1992

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 19 of the Charter, Articles 20, 24, 25, 26, and 27 of the Financial Regulations and Article 20, paragraph "b" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Referring to Decision C.E. 13/92/D.3.6 by virtue of which the Council elected the members of the Financial Control Committee, and recalling further

Decision C.E. 13/92/D.2.3 whereby the Council authorized the Director General to select a new audit company;

- Having considered the report of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for Financial year 1992 included in Doc. C.E./14/93/2.3;
- Taking into consideration Council Decision C.E.14/93/D.2.2 regarding the Financial Report of the Director General and the Closing Accounts of Financial Year 1992, particularly operative paragraph 3 which provides for two closing accounts, one on 31st December, 1993 and one on 30 June, 1994;

Decides the following:

1. Approves the reports of the Financial Control Committee and of the Audit Company for Financial Year 1992, taking into account the remarks of Council members, with a view to submitting the reports to the General Conference for adoption;
2. Invites the Director General to convene the meeting of the Financial Control Committee before August 1994 in order to prepare its report on financial year 1993 as well as on the first semester of 1994 in order to close the current Plan and submit this report to the 15th session of the Executive Council, which will refer it to the 5th General Conference for adoption.

Decision CE 14/93/D.2.4 on Item 2.4 of the Agenda: Report of the Director General on the Situation of Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation for Financial Year 1992.

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 6 of the Financial Regulations;
- Recalling the previous decisions it adopted with regard to contributions, particularly Decision C.E. 13/92/D.2.4 adopted at its 13th Session;
- Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Director General on the Situation of Member States' Contributions and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation for Financial Year 1992 included in Doc. C.E. 14/93/2.4;
- Having heard the presentation of the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the setting up of an ad-hoc committee;

Decides the following:

1. Approves the Report of the Director General on the Situation of Member States' Contributions and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation for Financial Year 1992 included in Doc. C.E. 14/93/2.4;
2. Reaffirms its previous Decision adopted at the 13th Council session;
3. Thanks the Director General for his efforts in this respect and invites him to pursue these efforts with a view to implementing the said decision;
4. Appeals to Member States and to Council members to provide effective support to ensure the success of the Director General's action;
5. Requests the General Conference to take efficient measures to redress the situation in keeping with the spirit of Islamic solidarity to which Member States committed themselves upon signing the Organization's Charter and to rely, should the General Conference wish it, on the study being prepared by the ad-hoc Committee set up by the Council at its 14th session.

Fourth working session: Wednesday morning, 9 Jumada II, 1414 H/24 November, 1993

Agenda item 3.1: Draft Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 (Document CE 14/93/3.1, Amended)

27. The Director General made a brief survey of the broad lines of the Draft Plan and Budget. He reviewed the main references and objectives of the Plan and pointed out that the Plan included new programmes in compliance with the objectives of the Medium-Term Action Plan and the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the aim being to meet progress requirements, in keeping with modern developments and Member States' needs. He indicated that emphasis was placed on content and that programmes were characterized by further qualitative improvement and evolution. He pointed out that the project included 18 major programmes and 82 subsidiary programmes. He also indicated that the proposed budget did not witness any actual increase, except for the 10% to make up for inflation.
28. The members of the Council congratulated the delegate of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for being entrusted with chairing the rest of the present session's meetings and extended their thanks to the Director General and his assistants for the excellent preparation of the draft Action Plan.

The Council then called for the following:

- To devise a clear, well-defined scale of priorities within the Plan and observe these priorities in implementing the programmes and activities in the light of the Organization's available financial resources;
- To make of the Action Plan a general framework for action and to lay down detailed programme based on on-going programmes, new programmes as well as Member States' proposals;
- To initiate major ambitious projects which reflect Islamic solidarity;
- To include, in the draft Plan, programmes in favour of the peoples of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Azerbaijan and India-occupied Kashmir, with special emphasis on the pressing and urgent needs of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly through the establishment of a special Unit for Sarajevo, which is confronted with a savage aggression and all-out destruction;
- To delete the paragraph on the characteristics of the Plan as it is of a rather general order;
- To link the equitable geographic distribution of implemented activities with the actual needs of beneficiary countries;
- To include, in the introduction of the draft Action Plan, an in-depth theoretical analysis of the major problems faced by the Islamic world as a result of the numerous and successive international mutations;
- To revise the rates allocated to the three headings of the draft Action Plan, namely general policy, programmes and activities, and intersectoral expenditures with a view to earmarking the bulk of resources for the implementation of programmes;
- To enrich the draft Plan with detailed statements on the number of programmes and activities, their nature and venue of implementation;
- To add a fourth objective in the draft Plan, concerning Islamic concepts;
- To take further interest in higher studies and scientific research in Member States' universities and higher institutes and award scholarships to Member States;
- To extensively define and enrich the intellectual essence of the Organization's Culture and Communication Sector, and highlight its role in tackling the issues of the current international juncture and in its role in the dissemination of accurate Islamic values;
- To ensure that the Plan provides for publishing a monthly newsletter on the activities undertaken by ISESCO and the Member States;

- To take greater care in technology teaching programmes;
- To take greater care of programmes on Muslim women, children and groups with special needs such as the handicapped, the disadvantaged and the talented;
- To undertake comparison with the programmes implemented by other organizations in Islamic countries, in order to ensure greater complementarity.

29. The Director General then took the floor and thanked Council members for their keen interest in the draft Action Plan and their contributions which enriched it in terms of both form and substance. He said that the proposed draft Plan did not fully reflect the Organization's actual ambition as the proposed budget fell short of meeting Member States' requests and needs, particularly that the amount did not exceed \$ 40 million over three years. He indicated that judged by current international criteria, the Plan was modest, as certain similar international organizations and private centres have budgets exceeding one hundred million dollars a year, as it is the case with the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation in France, Goethe Institute in Germany and the British Cultural Council in the United Kingdom. The Director General added that emphasis in the implementation of the programmes of the proposed plan was placed on areas with the most pressing needs. He then welcomed the idea of setting up a unit to be in charge of the affairs of the peoples of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Azerbaijan and India-occupied Kashmir, and supported the idea of expanding communication and consolidating its impact to make of it a distinct instrument in the service of the Muslim Ummah.

30. As regards general policy, the discussion concerned the following aspects:

- To allocate a greater part of the Director General's activities to studies and research work in order to strike a balance with his other activities.
- To orient cooperation programmes towards specific objectives consistent with the character of the organizations and institutions that have cooperation agreements with ISESCO.
- To stimulate ISESCO's information programmes through using several channels like the national commissions of Member States, and through exchanging information with the information systems of Arab, Islamic and international organizations.
- To allocate more effective programmes to providing support to the national commissions in Member States so that these commissions may become active units in the implementation of the Organization's activities, in charge of training personnel and upgrading their qualification and skills.

Fifth working session: Wednesday afternoon, 9 Jumada II, 1414 H/24 November,1993

Agenda item 3.1 (cont.): (Document CE 14/93/3.1, Amended)

31. As regards education, discussions focused on the following:

- The necessity to draw up a new Islamic educational strategy which takes into account modern developments and promotion of educational management systems with a view to devising a new approach likely to achieve the objectives of comprehensive development on the basis of the idea that education is the key to all other forms of development.
- To give greater attention to Islamic educational institutions in non-Islamic countries.
- To attach importance to all types of pre-school educational institutions, including kindergartens and Qur'anic schools.
- To give attention to the humanities and social sciences through providing support to scientific research from an Islamic perspective and through publication of studies and research work aimed at ensuring the radiance of Islamic thought and civilization.
- To add a programme on methods for the rationalization of expenditure in the educational field.
- To allocate more programmes to literacy and adult education.
- To provide more support to educational institutions in the State of Palestine to enable it to rebuild its educational system.
- To add a programme on technical and vocational training in favour of rural areas and disadvantaged groups.
- To give attention to education-related industries, particularly teaching aids.
- To ensure the exchange of visits among Member States' children and teachers.
- To allocate a larger budget to the publication and distribution of textbooks as well as to the training of specialized personnel for Qur'anic schools.
- To overcome financial difficulties through securing extra-budgetary funds.

32. As regards science, discussions revolved around the following:

- To take further interest in scientific programmes when setting the Organization's priorities.

- To focus on the Islamic perspective when preparing scientific programmes and researches.
- To determine overall amounts allocated to scholarships as well as the number of beneficiaries.
- To select efficient science curricula and to translate and distribute them on a large scale in order to generalize benefit therefrom; to contact Member States in order to inquire about their curricula instead of preparing new ones.
- To allocate further funds to securing scientific equipment, software and facilities in Member States' laboratories.
- To add programmes and activities on assessing the Organization's scientific action, particularly with regard to Member States' benefit from the curricula prepared by the Organization.
- To make further efforts for a clearer drafting of the Action Plan, particularly in defining the objectives and activities of the programmes.
- To cooperate with universities and scientific research centres with respect to studies on natural disasters.
- To provide assistance in preparing curricula for higher education diplomas.
- To take the necessary interest in science education and promote positive attitudes towards science education and scientific culture among public opinion.

33. As concerns culture, discussions focused on the following:

- To set up cultural centres for the dissemination of Islamic culture.
- To increase the funds allocated to the Culture Sector in view of its crucial role in the current international struggle.
- To adopt an active position in the Islamic cultural action rather than a passive one, by showing Islam under genuine bright image as a religion of learning, progress, tolerance, justice and affection.
- To prepare cultural programmes on the basis of efficient, influential Islamic faith.
- To use all necessary means to give a genuine picture of Islamic culture and to correct wrong information about it particularly in the media.
- To increase the funds allocated to the programmes on the preservation of manuscripts.

- To take further interest in the implementation, explanation and dissemination of the constructive Islamic positions with regard to the major contemporary civilizational issues.
- To organize international seminars on youth and support Muslim youth and women associations.
- To take interest in the Muslim children's cultural conditions.
- To give more substance to the programmes on tackling contemporary issues and human rights question from an Islamic cultural perspective.

34. The Council then examined the other headings of the draft Plan and Budget. Discussions focused on the following:

a- Islamic Information and Data Bank (BIDI)

- Necessity to link the Organization's data bank with data bases in Member States and similar international organizations.
- To redraft the objectives of the two programmes (3.1- 2.3/3.1-2.1).
- To reduce the funds allocated to the acquisition of software and seek to produce them instead.
- To introduce an activity aimed at consolidating contacts with national commissions and Member States in the information field.

b- The Printing Unit

- To undertake a feasibility study to determine the economic desirability of setting up a print-shop at the Organization's headquarters; to refrain from giving the priority to the implementation of this project given its financial cost, until improvement of the Organization's financial situation.

c- Equipment and operating expenditures

- To refrain from granting priority to the following: opening and equipment of ISESCO offices, recruitments in potential additional posts and refurbishing offices and ISESCO- provided accommodation.
- To include in the draft Action Plan and Budget a section on human resources showing equitable geographical distribution and, also, future appointments and data on salaries and allowances.

35. The Chairman of the Council requested that the General Directorate take the observations made by Council members into account when redrafting the

project before submitting it to the 15th session of the Executive Council, then to the 5th General Conference.

- 36.** Then, His Excellency Ambassador Ibrahim Ahmed Auf, Assistant Secretary General of the OIC, took the floor and conveyed to the honourable Executive Council members the greetings of H.E. Dr. Hamed Al-Gabid, Secretary General of the OIC. He stated that his participation in the Council session was not due to legal or protocol considerations but stemmed from a strong, genuine will to consolidate dialogue, cooperation and coordination channels between the two organizations. He then commended the receptiveness of the General Directorate of ISESCO as well as its immediate favorable response to further consolidate and develop this cooperation.

The Council expressed deep thanks and appreciation to H.E. Ambassador Ibrahim Auf, Assistant Secretary General of the OIC, for his active participation and for the readiness of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to cooperate and coordinate action with the Islamic Organization –ISESCO- in order to achieve the complementarity of joint Islamic action in serving the Muslim Ummah. (Annex 7: Speech of the Assistant Secretary General of the OIC).

- 37.** Subsequently, His Excellency Ambassador Ahmadou Ali Diaw, ISESCO Deputy Director General in charge of Programmes, took the floor and thanked the honourable Council members for their constructive participation in enriching the draft Action Plan Budget. He then reviewed the various preparation stages of the Action Plan in addition to its basic components and indicated that it stemmed from an in-depth analysis of the current international situation and the major challenges confronting the Ummah on all fronts. He pointed out that ISESCO did not include in the draft Plan many important programmes and pressing activities because the proposed budget cannot provide for them as the increase does not even cover the rate of inflation. He stressed that the General Directorate endeavours, as much as possible, to take into account all the observations and proposals made by the honourable Council members.
- 38.** The three Directors in charge of the Education, Science and Culture sectors took the floor successively to answer the question and observations of the honourable members.
- 39.** The Director General then took the floor and pointed out the importance of the Printing Unit in the implementation of ISESCO's activities as well as its contribution in upgrading performance and rationalizing expenditure. He also pointed out the need for purchasing new equipment to replace the old equipment whose maintenance costs constitute a heavy financial burden for the Organization.

Sixth working session: Thursday morning, 10 Jumada II, 1414 H/ 25 November, 1993

Agenda item 3.1 (cont.) (Document CE 14/93/3.1 Amended)

40. At the beginning of the session, discussion revolved around the preamble of the draft decision related to this document, particularly with respect to the date of commencement of the financial year. The Director General gave clarifications about changing the date of commencement of the financial year from July 1st to January 1st. It was carried out by way of correspondence in accordance with the Council's decision adopted at its 13th session. He stated that the matter had been decided following the approval, in writing, of two-thirds of Member States and that the amendment was in the interest of ISESCO and was not inconsistent with the Charter.

A Council member indicated that Article 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council stipulated that it was the Council's prerogative to ensure that the Charter be observed in the sense that the Charter is the highest reference document, and the Council decision should not be inconsistent with it. From the legal perspective, the Charter is above the Financial Regulations, and the amendment must therefore be approved by a two-third majority of the General Conference.

41. Following discussions, the Council took the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.3.1 on Item 3.1 of the Agenda: Draft Action Plan and Budget for 1995-1997

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 20, paragraph "h" and "i" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Recalling Decision CE 13/92/D.2.2 recommending to Member States to adopt a financial year consistent with the Gregorian year, starting from 1st January and ending on 31st December of each year;
- Taking into consideration the transitional period between the previous Action Plan, which ends on 30 June, 1994, and the Action Plan under consideration;
- Having examined the draft Action Plan and Budget for the years 1995-1997 contained in Doc. CE 14/93/3.1 Amended;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General and his assistants in this regard;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Commends the efforts made by the Director General and his assistants in the preparation of the draft Action Plan and Budget for 1995-1997 contained in Document CE 14/93/3.1 Amended; and invites the Director General to prepare the final version of this Action Plan and Budget and submit it to the 15th session of the Executive Council after introducing the amendments proposed by the Council members;
 2. Calls upon the Director General to keep the budget of the Sectors and Services for the three years 1995 through 1997 unchanged, except for matter resulting from the increase of the Executive Council members, the recommendation related to changing the financial year, the decision on the setting up of Sarajevo Unit and the support programmes in favour of Azerbaijan and India-occupied Kashmir;
 3. Recommends to the General Conference to approve the increase of the budget by a sixth with a view to covering the six-month transition period which starts on 1/7/1994 and ends on 31/12/1994 and which represents the period falling between the end of the previous plan on 30/6/1994 and the beginning of the plan under consideration on 1/1/1995.
42. Following deliberations, the Council decided to give precedence to the examination of the proposed draft amendments to the internal regulations and texts, given their importance and priority for the functioning of the Organization. It has been decided to delay the examination of the items related to the Implementation Mechanisms of the Special Islamic Programmes, the project of the Euro-Islamic University in Cordoba and the project of establishment of ISESCO National Education Centres to a later time before the closing of the Council's session.
43. The Council preferred to start with the examination of the draft amendments to the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund and the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund for ISESCO Staff before starting examination of the draft amendments to the Financial Regulations.

**Seventh working session: Thursday afternoon, 10 Jumada II
1414H/25 November 1993**

Agenda item 4.2: Draft amendments to the Internal Regulation of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund (Doc.CE14/93/4.2)

44. During discussion of this agenda item, the Council welcomed the proposal put forward by the Director General at an earlier session, to the effect of conducting a study on setting up a suitable retirement scheme similar to the one applied at the United Nations and to present the study findings to the

Council, so that this new system may replace the current end-of-service system of the Organization.

45. After discussion, the Council took the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D. 4.21 on Item 4.2 of the Agenda: Draft amendments to the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4 of the Charter, Article 108 of the Personnel Regulations, Article 20, paragraph “c” of the Rules of Procedures of the Executive Council and Article 21 of the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund:
- Having considered the draft amendments to the Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund included in Doc. CE 14/93/4.2;
- Considering the deliberations and amendments which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Approves the attached version of the Amended Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund.

(Annex 8: Amended Internal Regulations of the End-of-Service Allowance Fund).

Eighth working session: Friday morning, 11 Jumada II, 1414 H/ 26 November 1993

Agenda item 4.3: Draft amendments to the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of ISESCO’s Staff (Doc. CE 14/93/4.3)

46. At the beginning of the session, which was chaired by the Vice-Chairman, the representative of the Republic of Chad, the Director General made a brief presentation indicating that this item has been placed on the agenda of the 13th Council session but the Council had then decided to postpone its consideration till this session. He pointed out that the purpose from the draft amendments was to achieve greater balance between the Fund’s receipts and expenditures. After discussion, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D. 4.3 of the Agenda: Draft Amendments to the internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of ISESCO’s Staff

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4 of the Charter, Article 107 of the Personnel Regulations and Article 20, paragraph “c” of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;
- Having considered the draft amendments to the Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of ISESCO’s Staff included in Doc. C.E./14/93/4.3;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Approves the attached version of the amended Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of ISESCO’s Staff.

(Annex 9: Amended Internal Regulations of the Medical Insurance Fund of ISESCO’s staff).

Agenda item 4.4: Report of the Committee in charge of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate (Doc. CE 14/93/4.4)

47. At the beginning of discussion on this item, the delegate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Chairman of the Executive Council Committee in charge of revising the Organization Chart of the General Directorate took the floor and indicated that the report submitted to the Council was the outcome of several meetings held by the Committee to discuss the matter from the various legal, financial and functional aspects. He indicated that the Committee took the following into consideration:

1. The experience acquired in the management of the Organization.
2. The financial situation and the need to rationalize expenditures without affecting the Organization’s performance.
3. The views of the General Directorate and the recommendations of the Executive Council regarding the salary scale.

48. The Director General then took the floor and indicated that the rationale behind the proposed project was to reduce senior posts and increase technical posts (medium and lower posts) with a view to upgrading efficiency and performance in the Organization’s basic sectors: Education, Science, Culture and Communication, and allowing for equitable geographical representation of all Member States in the General Directorate. He added that this proposal was the ideal perception in the current situation of the Organization in addition to being a step toward rationalization of expenditure. He further said that these amendments were not inconsistent with the Charter.

49. The delegate of the Republic of Senegal took the floor in his capacity as Chairman of this Committee in previous meetings and recalled that the

Committee had taken into consideration a basic element in laying down the preliminary draft, namely the unity and diversity of the Islamic world. He indicated, therefore, that it was necessary to strike a balance in terms of distribution of senior positions between the Arab world, Africa and Asia as is the practice in the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and in keeping with the Charter of the Islamic Organization.

50. Three trends emerged from the discussion. The first called for realism in laying down the Organization Chart in order to rationalize expenditure on senior positions in keeping with the difficult financial situation of the Organization. The second held that it was necessary to abide by the provisions of the Charter which stipulated that there should be several Deputy Directors General in consonance with the principle of equitable geographical representation. As for the third trend, it called for only two Deputy Directors General, one in charge of supervising programme implementation and the second in charge of supervising the administrative and financial management of the General Directorate.

**Ninth-working session: Friday afternoon, 11 Jumada II 1414 H/26
November 1993**

(Agenda item 4.4 (Cont.) (Document CE 14/93/4.4))

51. At the beginning of the session, the delegate of the Republic of Senegal took the floor and made reservations on behalf of his country concerning the report of the Committee in charge of examining the Organization Chart of the General Directorate, particularly with respect to keeping only one post of Deputy Director General because it is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charter. He said that Article 11, (parag.8) of the Charter mentions one Director General whereas Article 12 (parag.5) and Article 13 (parag.3) refer to Deputy Directors General in the plural form. He said that this proves that the number of Deputy Directors General is clearly more than one.
52. The Director General pointed out that the proposed amendments to the Organization Chart of the General Directorate were not inconsistent with the provisions of the Chart, particularly Article 12, parag. "5", which does not specify the number of Deputy Directors General, or the posts to which they are assigned at the General Directorate. They do not stipulate either the geographical region to which they belong. He added that the amendment to the Organization Chart of the General Directorate was a necessity required by the current conditions of the Organization as well as the nature of its action at this moment of its history. He added that amendment of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate does not mandate the amendment of the Charter. He indicated that this was a provisional amendment and that it could be reconsidered with the improvement of the Organization's financial situation in the future.

53. After deliberations, the Council decided the establishment of administrative units to take charge of the affairs of the peoples of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Azerbaijan and India-occupied Kashmir, in addition to the setting up, within the Education Sector, of a division for university education and scientific research.

54. The Council took the following decision in this respect:

Decision CE 14/93/D. 4.4 on Item 4.4 of the Agenda: Report of the Committee in charge of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate

The Executive Council,

- Recalling Decision C.E. 12/91/D.5.7, adopted by the Executive Council at its twelfth session and whereby the mandate of the Committee in charge of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate was extended so that it may submit its report to the thirteenth session of the Council;
- Recalling further the decision of the Council at its thirteenth session to place the report of the Committee in charge of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate on the agenda of the current fourteenth session;
- Having considered the report of the Committee included in Doc. C.E.14/93/4.4;
- Having heard the presentation of the Committee Chairman as well as the clarifications and remarks made by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Approves the report of the Committee in charge of the Organization Chart of the General Directorate included in Doc. C.E.14/93/4.4. as well as the amendments proposed by Council members;
2. Invites the Director General to prepare the final version of the Organization Chart and of the job description and to send them alongwith the Final Report to the Council members.

Agenda item 5.1: Report of the Director General on the Situation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in the State of Kuwait

(Documents CE 14/93/5.1 and CE 14/93/5.1 Addendum)

55. The Director General made a presentation on the educational, scientific and cultural activities which were implemented in favour of the State of Kuwait and on the contacts he had with the Iraqi authorities in follow-up to the

implementation of the Council's decisions pertaining to the support of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in the State of Kuwait.

56. The delegate of the State of Kuwait took the floor and expressed thanks and appreciation to the Executive Council and the Director General for the efforts made to support the State of Kuwait. He then spoke about some of the practices of the Republic of Iraq, which affect the sovereignty of his country and pointed out the misrepresentations contained in Iraqi textbooks, curricula and diplomas, and called on the Council to help his country remove these misrepresentations.
57. The delegate of the Republic of Iraq took the floor to explain that his country had presented a set of documents to the Organization attesting to the invalidity of those charges. He also expressed his country's desire to break with the past with a view to harnessing energies and efforts for the consolidation of Islamic solidarity.
58. The Council then called for overcoming the consequences of the crisis that beset the Ummah in order to take up the major civilizational challenges facing the Islamic world.

The Council then adopted the following Decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D. 5.1 on Item 5.1 of the Agenda: Report of the Director General on the Situation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in the State of Kuwait

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the previous resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Conference and the Executive Council of the Islamic Organization regarding the "Situation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in the State of Kuwait," particularly Decision C.E. 13/92/D.4.1 addendum, which was adopted by the Council at its 13th Session and in which the Council invited the Director General to approach the Iraqi Government and request it to take the measures likely to modify all elements prejudicial to the State of Kuwait in the relevant books and curricula and to submit a report thereon to the 14th Session of the Executive Council;
- Having noted, after consideration of the report of the Director General in documents CE 14/93/5.1 and CE 14/93/5.1 Addendum, that:
 - The Director General has taken the necessary steps for the enforcement of the decision.
 - The Republic of Iraq notified the Organization that the social science books which constitute the object of the complaint are no longer in use.

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Commends the Director General for endeavouring to properly implement this decision and invites him to pursue the matter with the Iraqi Government and to apprise the State of Kuwait of actions taken in this respect.

Agenda item 5.2: Report of the Director General on the Situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under the Israeli Occupation and Attempts to Obliterate its Islamic Identity and Judaize it (Document CE 14/93/5.2)

59. The Director General reviewed the efforts he made towards the implementation of the resolution of the 4th General Conference (CG 4/91R. 6.2) which led to the convening of an international symposium on **Al-Quds and its Cultural Heritage within the framework of Islamic-Christian Dialogue**. He commended the gracious gesture of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom Morocco and Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, who generously offered his patronage and hospitality to the Symposium, which had a significant impact on its success. The Director General also praised the outstanding results achieved by the symposium at all levels.
60. Afterwards, the delegate of the State of Palestine took the floor and thanked the Director General for holding this symposium as well as for the creation of an administrative unit in charge of Al-Quds Al-Sharif within his Cabinet. He called for pursuing implementation of the remaining steps provided for in the relevant Resolution of the 4th General Conference.
61. The Council then adopted the following Decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.5.2 on Item 5.2 of the Agenda : Report of the Director General on the Situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli Occupation and Attempts to Obliterate its Islamic Identity and Judaize it

The Executive Council,

- Recalling all the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Conference and the Executive Council of the Islamic Organization, particularly Resolution C.G.4/91/R.6.2., which was adopted by the General Conference at its 4th session and whereby the Director General was entrusted, in accordance with operative

paragraph 4, with holding an international symposium within the framework of Islamic-Christian dialogue with a view to preserving Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its cultural heritage : recalling also Decision C.E.13/92/D.4.2 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its thirteenth session, whereby it invited the Director General in operative paragraph 4 to pursue preparations for convening the said international symposium;

- Having noted, after consideration of the “Report of the Director General on the Situation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif under Israeli Occupation and Attempts to Obliterate its Identity and Judaize it” included in Doc. C.E. 14/93/5.2, that this report contains the Final Declaration of the symposium and that the full proceedings of the symposium will be published in a special ISESCO publication;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Thanks His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of Al-Quds Committee, for his generous patronage of the symposium, which had a considerable impact on its success at all levels;
2. Thanks the Director General for endeavouring to implement the decisions relating to Al-Quds as well as convening the symposium and invites him to continue the implementation of these decisions as well as the orientations and recommendations of the proceedings of the afore-mentioned symposium on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, it being the capital city of Palestine, the first of the two Qiblahs and the third holy place;
3. Invites the Director General to send out the special publication containing the full proceedings of the symposium to the Member States as well as to the Executive Council members;
4. Places this issue on the agenda of the Fifth Session of the General Conference.

Agenda item 5.3: Construction of ISESCO’s headquarters (Document CE 14/93/5.3)

62. The Director General advised the Council of the efforts he is expending with a view to constructing a permanent headquarters for the Organization on the plot of land donated by His Majesty King Hassan II to the Organization. He also expressed the hope that his efforts aimed at starting the actual achievement of this project will be crowned with success.

He then made clarifications on the acquisition of the Organization’s new building and on its good specifications.

63. The Council expressed its satisfaction with this step and took the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.5.3 on Item 5.3 of the Agenda : Construction of ISESCO's Headquarters

The Executive Council,

- Recalling its Decision C.E. 13/92/5.1, which was adopted at its 13th session with respect to the construction of the Organization of the Organization's Headquarters and in which it invited the Director General to submit a report thereon to the 14th session of the Council;
- Having considered the said report included in Doc. C.E. 14/93/5.3;
- Considering the presentation made by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Confirms the previous decisions adopted by the Council with respect to the new Organization's headquarters;
2. Thanks the Director General for his efforts in this respect as well as for rapidly purchasing a provisional headquarters for the Organization;
3. Invites the Director General to pursue these efforts and to report the results thereof to the 5th General Conference of the Organization.

Agenda item 5.4: Supporting the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina

- 64.** The Council expressed solidarity with the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in defending its independence and civilizational identity. It condemned the savage aggression waged by the Serb and Croat forces against the Bosnian people and their religious, civilizational, educational and cultural institutions. The Council also stressed the need to set up a unit called "Sarajeva Unit" within the General Directorate.
- 65.** The delegate of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina took the floor and commended the readiness of the Council to show solidarity with the people of his country in their tragic ordeal. He expressed the wish that the Organization would give the Muslim communities in Europe the attention they deserve.
- 66.** The Council then adopted the following Decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.5.4 on Item 5.4 of the Agenda : ISESCO's role in supporting cultural and educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the objectives enshrined in the Charter of the Islamic Organization;
- Pursuant to Article 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Considering the alarming conditions in which the Moslem people of Bosnia-Herzegovina are living and the difficulties faced by the religious, civilizational, educational and cultural institutions of this sister country, member of ISESCO;
- Referring to the final communiqué n° ICFM/21-93/FC of the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Affairs Ministers, held in Karachi, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 25-29 April 1993, and more specifically item 38 on the tragic situation experienced by the Moslem people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, victim of genocide and ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the Serbian and Croatian aggressors;
- Also referring to the Vienna Declaration and Action Programme as well as to the Special Declaration on genocide in Bosnia –Herzegovina, issued by the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 14-25 June 1993) ;
- Having heard the report of the representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Condemns the spiteful attack against the Muslim people of Bosnia-Herzegovina and shares their deep affliction and sorrow as a result of the destruction besetting their religious, civilizational, educational and cultural institutions, as well as the unfair measures prohibiting this Muslim people from obtaining arms to defend itself;
2. Urges Member States to provide assistance to the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the exercise of its natural right to individual and collective legitimate defence and to use all the necessary means to support and help recover the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina;
3. Invites Member States to provide financial and academic support to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina;
4. Invites Member States to take charge of educational institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina by taking care of the operating costs of these institutions and

to award scholarships to Muslim students from Bosnia-Herzegovina pursuing their studies inside as well as outside the country;

5. Invites Member States, in cooperation with the General Directorate, to initiate major media actions to sensitize public opinion in Member States and raise funds for the benefit of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina ;
6. Invites the Director General to set up a unit within the General Directorate called “the Sarajevo Unit” in charge of ensuring follow-up and coordination of the above-mentioned actions, and more specifically the programme of action for the benefit of the following institutions:
 - a. The Faculty of Islamic Sciences in Sarajevo,
 - b. The Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, Department of Oriental Languages,
 - c. PREPOROD Association, particularly in the area of publishing,
 - d. The National University Library in Sarajevo,
 - e. The Bosnia-Herzegovina television in Sarajevo,
7. Calls on the Director General to earmark funds from some headings of the 1991-1994 Action Plan and Budget and the 1995-1997 Action Plan and Budget for financing the activities mentioned in paragraph 6;
8. Invites the Director General to visit Sarajevo as soon as possible to take stock, on the spot, of the alarming situation which the courageous people of Bosnia-Herzegovina are undergoing and the destruction of their educational, scientific and cultural institutions;
9. Invites the Director General to place this issue on the agenda of the 15th session of the Council as well as the 5th session of the General Conference and to present a report thereon.

Agenda item 5.5: ISESCO’s reole in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Azerbaijan

67. The delegate of the Republic of Azerbaijan made a general presentation on the plight of his country as a result of foreign aggressions, and focused on the predicament of educational, scientific and cultural institutions. He called on the Council to take the necessary measures to help meet the pressing needs of these institutions (**Annex 10**: Speech by the representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan).
68. In this respect, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.5.5 on Item 5.5 of the Agenda : Role of ISESCO in supporting cultural and educational institutions in Azerbaijan

The Executive Council,

- Recalling the Charter of the Organization;
- Considering Article 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;
- Considering the plight of the Muslim people of Azerbaijan;
- Considering the predicament of cultural and educational institutions in this Islamic country, which is a Member State of the Islamic Organization;
- Having heard the report of the representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Condemns the Armenian aggression against the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as the acts of demolition and destruction affecting its educational, cultural and civilizational institutions;
2. Expresses deep concern over the plight of the people of Azerbaijan as well as the predicament of their religious, cultural and educational institutions;
3. Invites the Director General to gear some of the programmes in the Organization's Action Plan for 1991-1994 towards providing support to this Islamic country ;
4. Urges Member States to provide assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan in the exercise of its natural right to self-defence and to use the necessary means to support the Republic of Azerbaijan and help it recover its sovereignty and territorial integrity;
5. Calls on Member States to take care of educational institutions in the Republic of Azerbaijan by paying for their operating costs and granting scholarships to Muslim Azeri students studying in the country or abroad;
6. Invites Member States, in cooperation with the General Directorate, to initiate media actions to sensitize public opinion in Member States and raise funds for the benefit of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in the Republic of Azerbaijan;
7. Calls on the Director General to earmark financial resources from some headings of the 1991-1994 and 1995-1997 Action Plans and Budgets for financing the said activities;

8. Places this item on the agenda of the 5th session of the General Conference;

69. The representative of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made a presentation on his country's sufferings as well as the impact of the embargo imposed on its educational, scientific and cultural institutions. Following the Council's discussions, the Council decided to issue a statement of solidarity with the people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in confronting the embargo imposed on this Muslim people. The statement is as follows:

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

- Following the crisis between the Great Jamahiriya on the one and some Western countries on the other; considering the escalation of the crisis as a result of an air embargo imposed by virtue of Security Council Resolution 748 and the possible consequences of Security Council Resolution 883 despite the flexibility and readiness shown by the Great Jamahiriya in its attitude towards this crisis;
- Being aware of the actual and possible effects of these measures on the educational, scientific and cultural institutions of this Islamic country member of the Organization;
- Expresses solidarity with the people of the Jamahiriya in confronting the embargo, and its deep concern at the developments of the crisis and calls for its peaceful settlement through dialogue and negotiation.

Agenda item 6.1: Date and venue of the 15th session of the Executive

70. The Director General informed the Council that the Syrian Arab Republic had generously offered to host the 15th session of the Executive Council and the 5th General Conference to be held in November 1994.

71. After expressing warm thanks and deep appreciation to the Syrian Arab Republic for its gracious initiative, the Council decided to hold its 15th session in Damascus in the second half of November 1994 prior to the 5th General Conference.

Following is the text of the decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.6.1 on Item 6.1 of the Agenda: Date and Venue of the 15th Council session

The Executive Council,

- Considering Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council;

- In response to the initiative taken by the Syrian Arab Republic to host the 15th session of the Executive Council and the 5th session of the General Conference;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. To express thanks and gratitude to the Syrian Arab Republic for its generous initiative;
2. To hold the 15th session of the Executive Council in the second half of November, 1994, in Damascus, capital city of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Agenda item 3.1: Project of the Euro-Islamic University in Cordoba (Doc. CE 14/93/3.3 Amended)

72. The Director General stressed the importance of implementing this project which will establish a link between the Islamic and the Western worlds and contribute to promoting dialogue between the two civilizations and enriching the universal civilizational heritage.

73. The deliberations of Council members centered on:

- The need for an excellent preparation for the project through consulting academics specializing in medieval philosophy and in the various branches of Islamology.
- Concentrating on joint academic research work involving both Muslim and Western scholars and particularly research on joint contemporary issues between the two civilizations.
- Consider the setting up of a research group to formulate a conception of the activities of the University and the projects it could carry out.
- Consider potential sources for the extra-budgetary financing of the project, as only very limited resources can be taken from the budget to cover the costs of the project.

74. The Council adopted the following decision:

Decision CE 14/93/D.3.3 of the Agenda: Project of the Euro-Islamic University in Cordoba

The Executive Council,

- In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Charter;
- Having considered Doc. C.E./14/93/3.3. Amended;

- Having heard the presentation of the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1. Approves the steps taken by the Director General with a view to setting up the Euro-Islamic University in Cordoba;
 2. Invites the Director General to pursue his efforts and regularly apprise the Council of the action undertaken in this respect.
75. Subsequently, the Council decided to postpone the examination of the following three agenda items until the 15th session:
1. **Item 3.2:** Implementation Mechanisms of the Special Islamic Programme for Literacy and Basic Training for all in Islamic Countries and Communities.
 2. **Item 3.4:** Project of establishment of ISESCO National Education Centres.
 3. **Item 4.1:** Draft amendments to the Financial Regulations.

Closing Session: Saturday afternoon, 12 Jumada II, 1414 H/27 November, 1993

76. At the beginning of the closing session, the Executive Council members considered the report of the tripartite committee entrusted with the issue of Member States' contributions. The Council then decided to include this report in the agenda of its 15th session. (**Annex 11**, report of the Committee in charge of studying the situation of Member States' contributions to the budgets of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).
77. Subsequently, the representative of Chad, Sierra Leone, Egypt, Palestine, the Comoros, Morocco and Mauritania took the floor and commended the efficient role discharged by the Director General in terms of upgrading the Organization's performance, expanding the scope of its activities; improving its working means and asserting its distinct presence on the Islamic and international scenes. They likewise praised his success in the implementation of the bulk of programmes notwithstanding the difficult financial situation as well as in combining between the rationalization of expenditure and the upgrading of performance.
78. The Council Rapporteur then read out the draft Final Report of the fourteenth session. Upon insertion of the amendments requested by the Council members, the final report was adopted and a recommendation was issued to

the Secretariat to take these amendments into consideration when finalizing the report prior to sending it to the Council members.

- 79.** The Council Reporteur read out a Message of Thanks and Gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, in which the Council expressed its profound appreciation for the unstinted lofty care extended to the Organization by His Majesty the King may Allah preserve him; it also expressed full thanks and gratitude for the generous care and welcome extended to this session by the King, Government and people of Morocco. (Annex 12, Message to His Majesty King Hassan II).
- 80.** The Director General delivered an address in which he expressed deep satisfaction for the positive results of the Council's fourteenth session and commended the efforts exerted by all Council members with a view to upgrading the Islamic Organization's performance as well as the wisdom they showed in addressing agenda items.

He stressed that the General Directorate will take into consideration their views and remarks upon redrafting the documents to be submitted to the General Conference as well as in improving the implementation of the last part of the current Action Plan's programmes.

He expressed deep thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II for the generous and gracious care extended to the Organization and thanked the authorities of the Kingdom of Morocco, particularly the Minister of National Education, Chairman of the fourth General Conference, for the support and assistance extended to the Organization. (Annex 13, Address by Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Organization, at the Closing Session).

- 81.** Mr. Muhamed Irshadul Haq, representative of the Republic of Bangladesh and Vice-Chairman of the Council, delivered an address in which he stressed the tremendous success achieved by this session, which proved that the Organization had become a firmly-established institution with clear objectives and efficient programmes. He also thanked Council members for the positive efforts they had exerted to bring the session to a successful conclusion and commended the Director General for his frankness, open-mindedness and sense of responsibility as well as for the outstanding positive changes introduced in the Organization.

He expressed most sincere thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II for the special care and relentless support he extends to the Organization. (Annex 14, Address by Mr. Irshadul Haq, representative of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council, at the Closing Session).