

Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISESCO-

> Executive Council / 16th Session Rabat, Rajab, 1416 H 1-5 December 1995

Final Report

السم الألاار المكرة الركيم

Final Report

The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization held its Sixteen Session in Rabat, capital city of the Kingdom of Morocco, from 8 to 12 Rajab 1416H -1-5 December 1995). It was attended by the Executive Council members, representing the Member States of the Organization, except the representatives of the following Member States:

- Republic of Azerbaijan
- State of the United Arab Emirates
- Republic of Benin
- Republic of Chad
- Republic of Djibouti
- Democratic Republic of Somalia
- Republic of Guinea-Bissau
- Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros
- Republic of Maldives

(Annex 1, list of attending Executive Council members)

Opening Session: Friday, 8 Rajab 1416H (1 December 1995):

Morning:

- 1- The Opening Session was held under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council, and was attended by H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and President of the Fifth General Conference; H.E. Prof. Mohamed Aouad, Counsellor of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco; H.E. Dr. Driss Khalil, Minister of Higher Education, Staff Training and Scientific Research in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco; and H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Session was likewise attended by a member of senior officials in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, the members of the Islamic Diplomatic Corps accredited to Rabat, the representatives of a number of international and regional organizations, and a host of guests from the intellectual, cultural and information fields.
- 2- The Opening Session started with a recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. H.E. Ambassador Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council and representative of the Republic of Guinea, then delivered an address in which he expressed his happiness to open the proceedings of the Sixteenth Council Session. He thanked all participants for their unfailing interest in the Islamic Organization and indicated,

with profound satisfaction, that the General Directorate has become, under the wise leadership of Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, an example of seriousness, control and excellence in the implementation of the programmes adopted by the General Conference as well as in the rationalization of financial resources, a fact which made of the Islamic Organization an example to be emulated by the other international organizations. He highlighted the necessity of providing further support to the Organization and its Director General so that it may take up the challenges levelled at the Muslim Ummah as it stands on the threshold of the twenty-first century.

He concluded his address by expressing heartfelt consideration and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the generous care and unstinted support he extends to the Organization.

(Annex 2, Address by H.E. Mr. Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council)

3- H.E. Dr. Idriss Khalil, Minister of Higher Education, Staff Training and Scientific Research in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, delivered an address in which he first welcomed, on behalf of the Government of His Majesty King Hassan II, the honourable Council members and wished full success for the Session's proceedings. He then recalled the circumstances surrounding the establishment of the Islamic Organization, described such as event as a momentous Islamic achievement on the soil of the Kingdom of Morocco as well as a fruit of the pure, blessed seeds sown by His Majesty King Hassan II. He stated that the inception of the Organization heralded the ushering of joint Islamic action in the fields of education, science and culture in a new phase of development of work and innovation in performance. He likewise commended the achievements made by the Islamic Organization over the last thirteen years, expressing the readiness of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco to continue providing ISESCO with full support, given its belief in ISESCO's civilizational mission and its trust in its General Directorate which succeeded in developing the Organization, upgrading its performance standard and widening the scope of its radiance throughout the Islamic world.

(Annex 3, Address by H.E. Dr. Idriss Khalil, Minister of Higher Education, Staff Training and Scientific Research in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco)

4- H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the Fifth General Conference, delivered an address in which he expressed his happiness to attend the opening of the 16th Session of the Executive Council of the Organization. He thanked the Director General for inviting him in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and indicated that his presence would enable him to better take stock of the working procedures at the Islamic Organization which he said incarnated the aspirations of the Muslim Ummah for promoting solidarity and cooperation in the fields of education, science and culture. He likewise extended on behalf of the General Conference his most profound thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the generous care he bestows on the Organization. He wished full success for the proceedings of the 16th Council Session.

(Annex 4. Address b y H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the Fifth General Conference)

5- H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Organization, then delivered an address in which he first welcomed the members of the Executive Council and reviewed the most important accomplishments made by the Organization in the fields of education, science and culture in the period between the 15th and 16th Sessions of the Executive Council. He emphasized that those accomplishments were not but the fruit of the renewed confidence placed by the Member Stated in the Organization as well as the efforts exerted and the well-controlled work at administration, finance and programme implementation levels. In his speech, he highlighted the top international position that the Islamic Organizations, thus attesting to the capacity of joint Islamic action to be interactive, responsive and fruitful worldwide.

In conclusion of his address, he expressed the profound consideration felt by the Organization toward the Moroccan Sovereign for the sincere efforts that he exerts in the service of the Islamic world's causes and the consolidation of joint Islamic action, and toward the Kings Emirs and Presidents of Member States for the unstinted support and generous care they grant, thus enabling the Islamic Organization to go ahead with the fulfilment of its lofty civilizational mission.

(Annex 5, Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

6- As part of the tribute paid to Mr. Ahmadou Ali Diaw, the retiring Deputy Director General, the Director General delivered an address in which he commended Mr. Ahmadou Ali Diaw, praised the services he had extended to the Islamic Organization since he joined it in 1983 and thanked H.E. President Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, as well as his Government. He expressed in moving terms his consideration for the retiring Deputy Director General and announced the award of the Gold Medal of the Islamic Organization to him on behalf of the Member States. However, the retiring Deputy Director General left the room, refusing to take the Medal.

First Working Session: Friday, 8 Rajab 1416 H (1 December 1995)

Afternoon:

Item 1.1 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Agenda (Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Provisional (Rev.))

7- The Council examined the Draft Agenda (Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Provisional (Rev.)). At the request of the representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina it was agreed to discuss the status of membership of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Organization upon consideration of item 5.1 of the Agenda regarding ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-

Herzegovina. In this connection, the representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina requested the Council to continue granting his country membership in the Organization. The Director General provided clarifications about the circumstances surrounding the acceptance of the membership of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Organization, indicating that it had applied for membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference, then it became an observer member therein, which brought about new statutory implications that needed to be ruled by the Council given that the Charter of the Islamic Organization stipulated the condition of full membership in the Organization.

Following discussions, the Council expressed its understanding for the measure taken by the Director General in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, and, taking into consideration the remarks made by the representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, it set up from among its members a commission made up of the representatives of Morocco, Senegal, Iran and Egypt in order to look into the status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Organization in the light of the new developments, on the understanding that it would submit its conclusions, the Agenda was adopted in the amended form and the following decision was adopted in this connection:

Decision on Item 1.1 of the Agenda: (Adoption of the Agenda)

The Executive Council,

- Considering Articles 23 and 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Having considered the Draft Agenda included in Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Provisional (Rev.);
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Adopts its Agenda as contained in Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Adopted, which is annexed to the Final Report of the 16^{th} Council Session.

(Annex 6, Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Adopted)

Item 1.2 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Session's Programme (Doc. CE 16/95/1.2 Provisional (Rev.))

8- The Council examined the proposed Draft Programme of the Session (Doc. CE 16/95/1.2 Provisional (Rev.)). After deliberating, it decided to work, in the afternoon, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and to discuss Item 4.1 regarding the appointment of the Deputy Director General and Item 4.3 regarding the Report of the Director General in accordance with Article (120) of the Personnel Regulations in two in camera sessions. The Session's Programme was adopted in the amended form and the following decision was adopted in this connection:

Decision on Item 1.2 of the Agenda (Adoption of the Session's Programme)

The Executive Council

- Referring to Decision n° CE 15/94/D. 6.1which was adopted by the Council at its 15th Session, thereby deciding to convene its 16th Session in the first week of December 1995;
- Taking into consideration Decision n° CE 16/95/D.1.1 by virtue of which it adopted its Agenda for this Session as in Doc. CE 16/95/1.1 Adopted;
- Having considered the Draft Programme of this Session's proceedings, contained in Doc. CE 16/95/1.2 Provisional (Rev.);
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Adopts the Programme organizing the proceedings of this Session as contained in Doc. CE 16/95/1.2 Adopted, which is annexed to the Final Report of the 16^{th} Council Session.

(Annex 7, Doc. CE 16/95/1.2 Adopted)

Item 2.1 of the Agenda: Report of the Director General on the Organization's activities between the 15th and 16th Council Sessions (Document CE 16/95/2.1 and CE 16/95/2.1 Addendum)

- 9- The Director General gave an overview in which he recalled the policy followed by the General Directorate in determining the activities to be implemented in 1995, and indicated the practical reasons which made the General Directorate schedule the activities and programmes of the 1995-1997 Action Plan according to priorities. He said that 211 activities had been programmed in the fields of education, science, culture, data processing, documentation, information and cooperation with Arab, Islamic and international organizations and with National Commissions, and that a total budget of US\$ 2,300,000 had been earmarked for the implementation of these activities, including US\$ 600,000 from contributions of cooperating parties. The Director General then reviewed the most important achievements of the Organization fulfilled in the period between the 15th and 16th Council Sessions. He indicated that the implementation rate had reached 80%, and that what was implemented has been geared mainly towards the development of human resources in Member States, provision of material and academic support to universities, specialized research centres, scientist and researchers as well as catering for writing, translation and publication.
- **10-** The Executive Council members congratulated the Director General on the outstanding efforts that he and his assistants has exerted in the implementation of programmes and activities during the first year of the three-year Action Plan 1995-1997, as well as on his clear and comprehensive report. They also commended him for the positive initiatives he took by visiting some Member States and his efficient cooperation with international and regional organizations with a view to consolidating the Organization's relations with them. Discussions then revolved

around the various aspects of the Director General's report. The Executive Council members and some observations and proposals which were as follows:

- Recommend that the Organization adopt and implement a certain number of major integrated civilizational projects according to a strategic perception and a well-scheduled plan, in line with the intellectual and civilizational mission entrusted to it, with a view to finding comprehensive solutions to developmental problems of Muslim communities, instead of limiting its action to the implementation of partial activities in the traditional fields of action;
- Stress the need for the Islamic Organization to participate, from the very beginning, together with the other international and regional organizations, in crystallizing the elements of the human civilizational thought set before the international community, and dealing with present and future human development issues, stressing all the while the necessity to highlight the elements of the Islamic identity therein;
- Attach importance to the activities dealing with health, preventive and environmental education from an Islamic perspective, through literacy programmes and the publication of booklets raising awareness on the risks of drugs, AIDS and the other scourges;
- Start taking advantage of the recent possibilities provided by the international informatics networks and to use them for the purpose of enhancing the educational, scientific and cultural development of Member States and the interaction, mutual response and exchange of benefits between them and the world at large;
- Continue providing additional support to National Commissions and assist them in fulfilling their tasks;
- Lay stress on the need to attach greater importance to upgrading higher education and linking it with development;
- That the General Directorate should take into account the above guidelines in the implementation of the remaining programmes of the current 1995-1997 Action Plan, and that it should start preparation of the broad lines of the next draft Action Plan for 1998-2000 in the light of the same guidelines, taking into account the objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, the Strategy for the Promotion of Education in the Islamic Countries, and the Medium-Term Action Plan for 1991-2000, after reconsidering it all, in addition to the report of the European Community and the report of the United Nations Organization regarding the prospects of comprehensive development in the 21st Century, provided that the General Directorate presents the broad lines of the said draft plan to the Member States for comment and improvement prior to submitting it to the 17th Executive Council Session.
- 11- The Director General, in his reply to the remarks and queries of the Council members, pointed out that the General Directorate was committed to the implementation of the activities and programmes listed in the Action Plan, approved by its constitutional bodies, within the limits of the available financial resources. He expressed the readiness of the General Directorate to implement the urgent and

strategic activities which were of world and international concern, so as to ensure an effective Islamic presence in this connection, through cooperation agreements linking the Organization with international and regional organizations. He indicated that the paucity of financial resources was the major impediment to the implementation of a greater number of activities.

12-The Deputy Director General in Charge of Programmes and the Directors of Directorates then intervened, each in his field of competence, to reply to the queries raised by the Council members.

After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 2.1 of the Agenda (Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 15th and 16th Council Sessions)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with Article 20, paragraph "d" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council ;
- Having considered the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 15th and 16th Council Sessions, which is included in documents CE 16/95/2.1 and CE 16/95/2.1 Addendum;
- Having heard the presentations made by the Director General and his assistants;
- Noting that the present report has taken into consideration a great number of remarks made by the Council members on the previous reports;
- Noting also that the rate of programme implementation has reached a satisfactory level which could have been higher had there been more resources;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the opinions and suggestions put forward;

Decides the following:

- Adopts the Report of the Director General on the Organization's Activities between the 15th and 16th Council Session contained in documents CE 16/95/2.1 and CE 16/95/2.1 Addendum;
- 2- Commends the efforts exerted by the Director General and his assistants in implementing the Organization's programmes according to the priorities adopted by the Executive Council
- **3-** Thanks the Director General for expanding, in accordance with the resolutions and decisions of the General Conference and the Executive Council, the scope of cooperation with Islamic, Arab and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations System, among which is UNESCO, and invites him to pursue his efforts with a view to reinforcing the Organization's role at international level, as well as in cooperating with similar organizations;

- 4- Agrees to refer this report to the next General Conference, after editing and improving it with the Council's opinions and proposals, and recommends its adoption by the General Conference
- 13- The representative of the Republic of Tajikistan delivered an address before the Council, in which he reviewed the educational, scientific and cultural situation of his country and highlighted its considerable potentialities. He also talked about the problems confronting it in this transition period, particularly with respect to modern projects in the field of promotion of scientific research and exchange of expertise. He reviewed the possible areas of cooperation with the Islamic Organization, specially manuscripts, scientific research centres and universities, stressing his country's readiness to cooperate with the Organization's Member States in these areas.

(Annex 8 Address by the representative of the Republic of Tajikistan in the Council)

Second Working Session: Saturday, 9 Rajab 1416 H (2 December 1995)

Morning:

Item 2.2 of the Agenda: Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1994, and General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 1995 (Doc. CE 16/95/2.2)

- 14- The Director General introduced the afore-mentioned report and provided clarification about the funds received by the Organization from 1 July 1994 to 31 December 1994 and the expenditures incurred during that same period, indicating that the General Conference had not earmarked any budgetary appropriations for that transition period. He commended the Member States which had settled their contributions or arrears during, which enabled the General Directorate to overcome the financial deficit and pursue the implementation of its activities in a satisfactory manner. In this regard, he gave a rundown of the percentages disbursed for the implementation of the programmes and activities by Directorates, Services and Divisions. In his concluding remarks, he urged Member States to settle their contributions and arrears so that the Organization would fulfil its mission at best.
- 15- The Executive Council members commended the Director General and his assistants for the efforts exerted in order to prepare the report, which was characterized by clarity, transparency and the facility to pursue the figures quoted. Discussion ensued in which the Council members made their remarks and raised a number of queries on the status of the Reserve Fund and its available financial resources, on the reason for the increase in the financial appropriations under the item of General Policy and Information and those pertaining to out-of-budget expenditures, on the reason for the non-collection of membership fees at the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, and on the reason for the decrease of financial resources in the End-of-Service Allowance Fund. The Council likewise proposed to entrust an expert with the preparation of a pension system project for the Organization's staff as practised in similar organizations.

- 16- The Director General took the floor to provide the clarifications sought about the expenditures incurred under the various budgetary items, pointing out that the increase in the financial appropriations for information was primarily due to the qualitative development witnessed by the Information Division in response to the desire of the Executive to enlarge the scope of the Organization's impact and publicize its activities. He stressed the necessity to review the functioning system of the End-of-Service Fund, and to take into account the practice of similar international organizations. He indicated that, of late, the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World had managed to collect membership fees from a great number of universities in the Islamic world.
- 17- The Officer in Charge of the Financial Affairs Division at the Organization then took the floor and indicated that her Division had conducted a comparative study between the implementation rates of the Action Plan in the nine months of financial year 1994 and the nine months of financial year 1993. She stated that the results showed that the implementation rate rose from 78% in 1993 to 80% in 1994. She likewise gave clarifications about the rise of the appropriations of the General Policy budgetary item, indicating that the reason was ascribed to the expenditures relating to the holding of the 5th General Conference Session and the 15th Executive Council Session, in addition to the Financial Control Committee meeting. She also explained that the rise of out-of-budget expenditure was mainly due to the exchange difference of the dirham into the dollar.

After deliberations, the Executive Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 2.2 of the Agenda (Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial Year 1994; and General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 1995)

- In accordance with :
 - Article 16 of the Charter;
 - Articles 19 and 29 of the Financial Regulations;
 - Article 20, paragraphs "e" and "f" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Considering operative paragraph 5 of Decision n° CE 15/94/D. 2.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session, and operative paragraph 2 of the 5th General Conference Resolution n° CG 5/94/R 2.3, in which the Conference adopted the said Executive Council Decision;
- Having considered the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial year 1994 as well as the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 1995, contained respectively in documents CE 16/95/2.2 and CE 16/95/2.2 Addendum;
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Director General and his assistants;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for Financial year 1994 as well as the General Statements of Accounts and Expenditure up to the end of September 1995, contained respectively in documents CE 16/95/2.2 and CE 16/95/2.2 Addendum;
- 2- Commends the Director General's adherence to Decision CE 15-/94/D. 2.2 adopted by the Executive Council in its 15th Session, and to Resolution CG 5/94/R. 2.3 adopted by the 5th General Conference concerning the financial reports;
- **3-** Thanks the Director General for the efforts he has exerted in gearing the bulk of the financial resources to the implementation of the Action Plan's programmes, and in reducing operating expenses, and requests him to pursue his efforts in this connection;
- 4- Agrees to refer this report to the next General Conference and recommends its adoption.

Third Working Session: Saturday, 9 Rajab 1416 H (2 December 1995)

Afternoon:

Item 2.3 of the Agenda: Report of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company for Financial Year 1994 (Doc. CE 16/95/2.3)

Item 2.4 of the Agenda: Director General's Report on the Situation of the Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation (Doc. CE 16/95/2.4)

- 18- The Chairman of the Financial Control Committee (Representative of the State of Bahrain in the Executive Council) gave a brief review of the Committee's report in which he commended the efforts exerted by the General Directorate in the implementation of the recommendations of the previous Committee meeting, especially those concerning the use of computer in the management of staff affairs, supplies and programme implementation expenditure, as well as those concerning the attaching of more importance to international cooperation activities. He also reviewed the most important recommendations made by the last meeting of the Financial Control Committee, especially the recommendation that the Organization be the sole owner of the Headquarters, and consultation with specialized agencies as regards revising the Organization Chart of ISESCO's General Directorate. He underlined, at the end of his presentation, that the Organization's accounts for the last six months were accurate and sound.
- **19-** The Council members congratulated the Financial Control Committee on its report and the efforts it exerted to improve working methods and internal management of the Organization. They expressed their satisfaction at the General Directorate's implementation of most of the recommendations made by the last meeting of the Committee. The Council members adopted the recommendations of the last meeting of the Financial Control Committee.

- **20-** The Director General submitted his report on Member States' contributions, indicating that the funds received during the financial year 1995 and in previous years totalled US\$ 9,571,090.91, of which US\$ 1,608,472.63 represented contributions for the financial year 1995 and US\$ 7,962,618.55 the arrears settled for previous years. He further stated that the arrears of Member States to the Organization's budget amounted to US\$ 67,146,943.19, due to the irregular settling of contributions by some Member States, the payment by instalments, the contesting of fixed shares, and the non-payment by others. He pointed out that in order to overcome its financial deficit, the General Directorate has adopted a policy of joint action within the framework of cooperation with international and regional organizations and had succeeded in securing additional financial resources.
- **21-** The Council thanked the Director General for his Report on the Contributions of Member States to the Budget of the Organization, commending the efforts he exerted and the contacts he had made with Member States and international organizations with a view to improving the financial situation of the Organization, and inviting him to pursue these efforts and endeavours. Discussions ensued, resulting in observations and proposals that can be summarized in the following:
 - Consider the rescheduling of the Member States' arrears to the budget of the Organization.
 - Set aside the principle of imposing sanctions on those Member States that do not settle their arrears and contributions, in keeping with the principle of Islamic solidarity and in accordance with Almighty Allah's saying: "Let the man of means spend according to his means".
 - Devise practical solutions likely to redress the situation of contributions and request Member States to speed up the settlement of their shares.
 - Invite the Executive Council members to urge the competent authorities in their countries to settle their contributions and arrears.
- 22- A number of Executive Council members emphasized, during the discussions, the commitment of their States to settle their contributions to the Organization's budget regularly. The representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Yemen stated, in this respect, that their countries' contributions has already been transferred and would soon be received by the Organization. The representative of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya emphasized that his country would transfer its contributions, assuring that the Organization would receive it soon.

Fourth Working Session (in camera): Sunday, 10 Rajab 1416 H (3 December 1995)

Morning:

Item 2.3 and 2.4 of the Agenda: (continued)

23- The Council pursued deliberations on the said two items in a closed session and adopted in this connection the following two decisions:

Decision on Item 2.3 of the Agenda (Report of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company for Financial Year 1994)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with :

- Article 19 of the Charter;
- Articles 20 and 24 through 29 of the Financial Regulations;
- Article 20, paragraphs "b" and "g" of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Considering Decision CE 15/94/D. 2.2 adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session concerning the Financial Reports, and Resolution n° CG 5/94/R. 2.3 of the 5th General Conference whereby the Conference adopted the said Executive Council's Decision ;
- Having considered the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company for Financial Year 1994, contained in Doc. CE 16/95/2.3;
- Having heard the clarifications provided by the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee;
- Considering the Report of the Audit Company for the Financial Year 1994 contained in Doc. CE 16/95/2.3;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Reports of the Financial Control Committee and the Audit Company for Financial Year 1994 contained in Doc. CE 16/95/2.3;
- 2- Thanks the Chairman and members of the Financial Control Committee for their distinct performance and their efforts to upgrade the Organization's accounts auditing standards;
- **3-** Thanks the Director General and his assistants for speeding up the implementation of the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee with a view to developing the Organization's work accounting and administrative levels and for their efforts in improving the financial performance of the Organization and controlling management methods and procedures;
- 4- Invites the Director General to take into account the recommendations of the Financial Control Committee, contained in Doc. CE 16/95/2.3.;
- 5- Expresses satisfaction at the fact that the Director General has strictly and rigorously endeavoured to implement the recommendations made by the Audit Company and redress the shortcomings and inadequacies identified. These were indeed laudable efforts and positive steps that should be commended. The Executive Council congratulates the Director General and his assistants on the initiatives taken and encourages them to pursue that course, in

particular in further implementing all the recommendations formulated in the report contained in Doc. CE 16/95/2.3;

- 6- Empowers the Director General to take the necessary measures regarding the full tenure of the current headquarters of ISESCO, and requests him to submit a report on his moves in this connection to the 17th Council Session;
- 7- Agrees to refer these two reports to the next General Conference and recommends their adoption.

Decision on Item 2.4 of the Agenda (Director General's Report on the Situation of Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Organization's Financial Situation)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with :
 - Article 17 of the Charter;
 - Article 6 of the Financial Regulations;
- Recalling Decision CE 15/94/D. 2.4 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session, particularly the third operative paragraph in which the Executive Council adopted the report of the Committee set up by the 14th Session of the Executive Council;
- Recalling also Resolution CG 5/94/R. 2.5 which was adopted by the 5th General Conference, particularly the third operative paragraph thereof, in which the General Conference called on Member States' representatives in the General Conference and the Executive Council members to contact the authorities concerned in their countries and to stress the utmost importance of commitment to the regular payment of contributions and settlement of arrears in order to keep the Organization's work momentum;
- Noting, after taking cognizance of the Director General's Report on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing its Financial Situation, which is included in Dr. CE 16*95/2.4, that the pace of Member States' settlement of their contributions to the Organization's budget is still below the acceptable standard;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director; General
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Adopts the Director General's Report on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing its Financial Situation, which is included in Doc. CE 16/95/2.4;
- 2- Thanks the Director General for his efforts in collecting Member States' contributions and searching for additional resources to support the Organization's work,

- **3-** Thanks the Member States which have hastened to settle their contributions to the budget of the Organization and thanks as well the States, personalities and institutions which consolidated the Organization with additional resources;
- 4- Commends the efforts of the Executive Council members and the National Commissions in Member States for their support to the Director General's efforts in the settlement of contributions by their States and invites them to pursue their efforts in this connection;
- 5- Expresses its deep concern at the present pace of settlement of contributions, which might perturb the implementation of the Three-Year Action Plan;
- **6-** Agrees to submit this report to the next General Conference and recommends its adoption.

Item 3.1 of the Agenda: Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright (Doc. CE 16/95/3.1)

24- The Council pursued its proceedings in an open session. The Executive Council members explained, in the beginning, that the document submitted, namely the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright, was still under consideration by the authorities concerned in Member States. They deemed it suitable to defer looking into the said draft until the 17th Executive Council Session, in order for the authorities concerned to study it thoroughly and submit their proposals and observations to the General Directorate.

After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 3.1 of the Agenda (Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright)

- In accordance with the provisions of the Organization's Charter, in particular Article 4, paragraph "a", which stipulates the strengthening and encouragement of cooperation among Member States in the fields of education, science, culture and communication;
- Recalling Decision CE 15/94/D. 3.5 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session, and in which the Council decided to defer consideration of the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright to the current 16th Session after taking into consideration the viewpoints expressed by Council members, and after consulting with the experts in Islamic Shariah matters with a view to ascertaining its consistency with the Islamic perception of copyright and with the free circulation of ideas within the Muslim Ummah ;
- Having considered the Draft Islamic Convention for the Protection of Copyright contained in Doc. CE 16/95/3.1;
- Noting that the present draft of the convention is still being examined by the competent parties in the Member States;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Defers consideration of the draft till the 17th Council Session;
- **2-** Thanks the Director General and his assistants for the efforts they exerted in revising and redrafting the Draft Convention;
- **3-** Notes with satisfaction that some National Commissions have provided the Organization with their countries' views on the issue, and invited the other National Commissions to step up their efforts with a view to obtaining the viewpoints of the relevant parties in their countries and sending them to the Organization as soon as possible.

Item 3.2 of the Agenda: Construction of the Organization's Headquarters (Doc. CE 16/95/3.2)

- **25-** The Director General reviewed the various stages of the construction of the permanent Headquarters of the Organization, recalling the gracious donation by His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, of a plot of land to the Organization to construct its Headquarters as well as the generous approval, in principle, of His Highness Sheikh Zayd Ben Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, to finance the construction of the Headquarters. He then referred to the contacts he has made with H.E. the Minister of Higher Education, Staff Training and Scientific Research in the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco with regard to the possibility of replacing the present plot of land with another.
- **26-** Having commended the efforts exerted by the Director General in this connection, the Council members adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 3.2 of the Agenda (Construction of the Organization's Headquarters)

- Recalling Resolution CG 5/94/R. 3.3 which was adopted by the 5th General Conference concerning the construction of the Organization's headquarters, particularly the following:
 - Operative paragraph 2 which thanks the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for its readiness to support the efforts of the Director General regarding the construction of ISESCO's Headquarters, and for its determination to continue providing all forms of assistance to enable the Organization to fulfil its civilizational mission,
 - Operative paragraph 3 which invites the Executive Council to support the efforts of the Director General in this regard and to follow up the issue at each Council session,
- Having considered Doc. CE 16/95/3.2 concerning the construction of the Organization's Headquarters;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General in this connection;

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Expresses its profound gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his granting a plot of land to ISESCO, and its deep appreciation for the readiness, often reiterated by His Majesty's Government, to ensure for the Organization a permanent Headquarters;
- 2- Expresses its heartfelt thanks to His Highness Sheikh Zayd Ben Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, for his generous approval to help the Organization in the construction of its permanent Headquarters;
- **3-** Thanks the Director General for his efforts in searching for the necessary resources to construct a permanent Headquarters for ISESCO befitting its duties and worthy of its mission;
- 4- Requests the Director General to report on his moves in this regard to the 17th Session of the Executive Council.

Fifth Working Session: Sunday, 10 Rajab 1416 H (3 December 1995)

Afternoon:

Item 4.2 of the Agenda: Election of the Financial Control Committee Members (Doc. CE 16/95/4.2)

27- The Council elected the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Tunisia, the Republic of the Sudan, the Republic of the Gambia, and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya members of the Financial Control Committee and adopted the following decision in this connection:

Decision on Item 4.2 of the Agenda (Election of the Financial Control Committee Members)

- In accordance with:
 - Article 19 of the Charter,
 - Article 24 of the Financial Regulations,
 - Article 20, paragraph "b", of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council,
- Having considered Doc. CE 16/95/4.2 concerning the election of the Financial Control Committee members;
- Considering the expiry of the three- year mandate of the current Committee which was elected at the 13th Session of the Executive Council;

Decides the following:

- 1- elects the following States as Members of the Financial Control Committee for three years:
 - Islamic Republic of Iran
 - Republic of Tunisia
 - Republic of the Sudan
 - Republic of the Gambia
 - Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- 2- Invites the States which are members of this Committee to nominate their representatives in this Committee from among their experts in this field.

Item 4.1 of the Agenda: Appointment of the Deputy Director General (Doc. CE 16/95/4.1)

28- The Council pursued its proceedings in a closed session, during which Mr. Oumar Saad Touré was appointed Deputy Director General of the Islamic Organization for a three-year term, renewable once. It adopted the following decision in this connection:

Decision on Item 4.1 of the Agenda (Appointment of the Deputy Director General)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with Article 12 II, paragraph 2 of the Charter, concerning the appointment of the Deputy Director General;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General and the candidature that he has submitted ;
- Considering the discussion which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Appoints Mr. Oumar Saad Touré as Deputy Director General for a three-year term, as of January 1st, 1996, renewable once.

Sixth Working Session: Monday, 11 Rajab 1416 H (4 December 1995)

Morning:

Item 4.3 of the Agenda: Report of the Director General in accordance with Article (120) of the Personnel Regulations (Doc. CE 16/95/4.3)

29- The Council started its work in camera and considered Doc.16*95/4.3, namely the Report of the Director General in accordance with Article (120) of the Personnel

Regulations. At the end of its deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 4.3 of the Agenda (Report of the Director General in accordance with Article 120 of the Personnel Regulations)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with:

- Article 13 of the Charter,
- Article 120 of the Personnel Regulations;
- Having considered the report of the Director General in accordance with Article 120 of the Personnel Regulations contained in Doc. CE 16/95/4.3;
- Considering the presentation made by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

Considers the matter settled to the satisfaction of all Member States.

30- The Council then pursued its work in a public session. The Chairman of the Commission set up by the Council at its 16th Session to consider the status of the membership of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Organization took the floor to inform the Council of the results arrived at by the Commission as splet out in the following minutes:

Minutes of the Meeting

of the Executive Council Commission on the Legal Status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina within the Islamic Organization

Following the Decision taken by the 16th Session of the Executive Council on 1st December 1995, when it considered the legal status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina within the Islamic Organization and decided to establish an ad hoc Commission composed of the following Member States: Iran, Senegal, Egypt and Morocco, to give its views on the legal status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina within ISESCO, the said Commission met on 2 December 1995 in this connection.

Having taken cognizance of the stand of the Islamic Organization and that of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in this connection, the Commission decided to submit to the Executive Council the following two proposals:

- **1-** To change the legal status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina from Member State to that of Observer, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization (Article 6);
- 2- To maintain the legal status of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as Member State, a status conferred to it by the Fifth General Conference, and to refer, for decision, the file to the next session of the General Conference.

31- The Council examined the two proposals put forward by the Commission. After deliberations, it decided to opt for the second proposal which it adopted. The Council likewise decided to place this matter on the agenda of the Executive Council Session proceeding the Sixth General Conference.

Item 4.4 of the Agenda: Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council (Doc. CE 16/95/4.4)

32- The Director General reviewed the most important amendments proposed to be brought to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council to be in line with the provisions of the amended Charter. The amendments dealt with the memberships of all Member States in the Council, the appointment of their representatives therein, the Secretariat of the General Conference and the Executive Council, the Procedural Meeting held by the Council immediately after the session of the General Conference in order to elect the Council's Bureau, the method of preparation of the Final Report and its contents, the time of its adoption and dispatch to Member States and the methods whereby candidatures are to be submitted for the post of Deputy Director General.

Seven Working Session: Monday, 11 Rajab 1416 H (4 December 1995)

Afternoon:

Item 4.4 of the Agenda: Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council (Continued)

33- The Council considered the amendments proposed by the Committee in Charge of Revising the Charter and the Internal Regulations of the Organization and by the Director General, contained in Doc. 16/95/4.4. following deliberations and discussions, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the matter until the 17th Session and set up a commission composed of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Senegal, The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Yemen in order to examine the amendments proposed and formulate them in a unified version prior to submitting them to the following session.

It then adopted the following decision in this connection:

Decision on Item 4.4 of the Agenda (Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council)

- In accordance with Articles 26 and 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
- Recalling Decision CE 15/94/ D. 4.2 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session and in which the Council decided to defer consideration of the Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council until adoption of the Charter by the General Conference;

- Having examined the Draft Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, which are submitted to the Council in Doc. CE 16//95/4.4;
- Noting that the new Draft has taken into consideration the texts of the Charter adopted by the 5th Session of the General Conference;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- 1- Defers consideration of the matter to the 17th Council Session and places it as the first item on its agenda;
- 2- Establishes a restricted commission composed of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Senegal, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Yemen in order to consider the proposed amendments, formulate a unified version thereof and submit it to the next Council session.

Item 6.1 of the Agenda: Date and venue of the 17th Session of the Council (Doc. CE 16/95/6.1)

34- The Council decided, after deliberating, to hold its 17th Session in Rabat in the first two weeks of December 1996 for six days.

The Council adopted the following decision in this connection:

Decision on Item 6.1 of the Agenda (Date and venue of the 17th Session of the Executive Council)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council of the Organization;
- Having considered Doc. CE 16/95/6.1 concerning the date and venue of the 17th Session of the Executive Council;

Decides the following:

Convenes its 17th Session in Rabat in the first two weeks of December 1996 for a six-day period.

Eighth Working Session: Tuesday, 12 Rajab 1416 H (5 December 1995)

Morning:

Item 4.5of the Agenda: Revising the Organization Chart of ISESCO's General Directorate and instating the Post of Internal Financial Controller therein (Doc. CE 16/95/4.5)

35- The Director General introduced the said item, recalling the two recommendations made by the 5th General Conference and the 15th Session of the Executive Council

about the appointment of an internal financial controller to assist the financial affairs in managing their business through pre-monitoring all expenditures and ascertaining the availability of the needed funds, and about raising the status of the External Relations and Cooperation Division to that of a Directorate with a view to further promoting cooperation activities and finding additional financing resources to redress the Organization's financial situation.

36- At the end of its deliberations, the Council approved the instating of the post of internal financial controller in the Organization Chart of the General Directorate and deferred consideration of turning the External Relations and Cooperation Division into a Directorate to the following Council session.

The Council then adopted the following decision in this connection:

Decision on Item 4.5 of the Agenda (Revising the Organization Chart of ISESCO's General Directorate and instating the Post of Internal Financial Controller therein)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with Article 11 II, paragraph "1", of the Charter;
- Considering the appointment of an internal financial controller in the Organization;
- Having examined Doc. CE 16/95/4.5 on revising the Organization Chart of ISESCO's General Directorate, which deals with instating the post of intetrnal financial controller and raising the External Relations and Cooperation Division to the Level of Directorate;
- Noting that the appointment of an internal financial controller requires an amendment to the Organization Chart of ISESCO's General Directorate;
- Having heard the presentation made by the Director General;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place and the proposals made;

Decides the following:

- 1- Approves the instating of the post of the internal financial controller in the Organization Chart of the General Directorate;
- **2-** Defers consideration of raising the External Relations and Cooperation Division to the level of Directorate to the next Council session, and invited the Director General to prepare an evaluation of this Division.

Item 5.1 of the Agenda: ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina (Doc. CE 16/95/5.1)

37- The Director General introduced the report on "ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina". He recalled the efforts exerted by the General Directorate with a view to implementing

the scheduled programmes concerning the provision of assistance to these institutions, and the contacts it had made with Member States which expressed the will to grant a number of scholarships to Bosnian students. He mentioned the obstacles resulting from the difficult circumstances which the city of Sarajevo had undergone and which prevented the implementation of activities as required.

38- The representative of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina took the floor and thanked the Director General for the efforts exerted in support of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions. He made a number of observations on the implementation of the support activities allocated to these institutions, stressing the need for the implementation of the scheduled activities in the future in consultation and coordination with the relevant official parties in order to attain the targeted goals. The representatives of some Member States then pointed out that the support recommended by the Executive Council to the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina called for further exceptional efforts in view of the difficult circumstances facing this State.

After deliberations the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 5.1 of the Agenda (ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with provisions of the Organization's Charter;
- Recalling Decision CE 15/94/D. 5.1 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session, and Resolution CG 5/94/R. 5.2 of the 5th General Conference, whereby the Conference adopted the said Executive Council Decision;
- Having examined Doc. CE 16/95/5.1 entitled "ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina";
- Noting that the Organization has started implementing the decisions and resolutions taken in this connection;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

- Supports the sustained efforts exerted by the Director General with a view to helping the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- 2- Reaffirms the previous decisions concerning the support of educational, scientific and cultural institutions in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and invited the Director General to follow up implementation of these decisions;
- **3-** Invites the Member States to reinforce bilateral assistance to the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina at the educational, scientific and cultural levels;

4- Includes this item in the Agenda of the 17th Session of the Executive Council.

Item 5.2 of the Agenda: ISESCO's Role in supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia (Doc. CE 16/95/5.2)

- **39-** The Director General introduced the said item, recalling the efforts exerted by the General Directorate in the implementation of the targeted activities concerning the provision of support to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia, namely assigning a Somali expert to teach children of Somali refugees in the Republic of Yemen, preparing textbooks on Islamic education and the Arabic language in Somalia, and providing financial assistance to some Somali university students.
- **40-** The members of the Council commended the efforts exerted by the Director General in support of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia. They addressed thanks and appreciation to the Yemeni National Commission for having provided all sorts of support and assistance to the Somalis who were refugees in the Yemeni Republic. The representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt expressed his country's readiness to provide educational and cultural support to the Somali refugees in the Yemeni Republic, and requested the necessary information and statistics in this connection.

After deliberations, the Council adopted the following decision:

Decision on Item 5.2 of the Agenda (ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia)

The Executive Council

- In accordance with provisions of the Organization's Charter;
- Recalling Decision CE 15/94/D. 5.3 which was adopted by the Executive Council at its 15th Session, and Resolution CG 5/94/R. 5.4 of the 5th General Conference, in which it adopted the said Executive Council Decision;
- Having considered Doc. CE 16/95/5.2 entitled "ISESCO's Role in Supporting Educational, Scientific and Cultural Institutions in Somalia";
- Noting that the Organization has provided educational, scientific and cultural support to Somalia within the framework of its programmes despite the difficulties resulting from the civil war in Somalia and the absence of a unique official authority to address;
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place;

Decides the following:

1- Commends the efforts exerted by the Director General in supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;

- 2- Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Yemen National Commission for Education, Science and Culture for its support to the Organization in this connection;
- **3-** Affirms the previous decisions concerning supporting educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia and invites the Director General to follow up implementation of these decisions;
- **4-** Invites the Member States to back up ISESCO's role in this field and to provide support, according to their means, to educational, scientific and cultural institutions in Somalia;
- 5- Calls on the Somali factions to reconcile and unite;
- 6- Includes this item in the Agenda of the 17th Session of the Executive Council.

Message to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco

41- The Executive Council addressed a message of thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, expressing its profound appreciation to His Majesty, may God safeguard him, for the unstinted care he bestows on the Organization, and conveyed its profound thanks and gratitude to the King, the Government and people of the Kingdom of Morocco for the generous hospitality and warm welcome accorded to this Session.

(Annex 9: Message to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco)

Message to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

42- The Council addressed a message to the Custodian of the Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in which the Council members expressed their wishes for his prompt recovery and sound health, thanking him for the sustained support that he -may God safeguard him- provides to the Islamic Organization and commending his efforts in the service of the goals of Islamic solidarity and in consolidating joint Islamic action.

(Annex 10: Message to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

Closing Working Session: Tuesday, 12 Rajab 1416 H (5 December 1995)

Afternoon:

43- In the beginning of the Session, the Council reviewed the Draft Final Report paragraph by paragraph. After making a number of observations and amendments to

the draft, the Executive Council members adopted it and invited the General Directorate to take those observations into account upon finalizing the drafting of the report.

44- The Council extended its thanks to HE. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, for attending the Council's proceedings. It expressed appreciation for his sharing the Council's preoccupations and for following, with keen interest, its proceedings.

(Annex 11: of thanks addressed to H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic)

45- The Director General addressed the Executive Council at the closing of the 16th Session, expressing his satisfaction and pleasure at the results reached and the success achieved, as well as for the spirit of Islamic fraternity and solidarity which had taken place. He expressed his thanks and gratitude to His Excellency the Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the 5th General Conference, to the Chairman of the Executive Council, to the Council members as well as to all those who had worked for his Session and contributed to its success. In conclusion of his address, he expressed his most profound appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his high patronage of the Organization and his care for joint Islamic action.

(Annex 12: Address by H.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO, at the closing of the 16th Executive Council))

46-H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the General Conference, delivered an address in which he congratulated each and everyone on the success of the 16th Session's proceedings, which he said were characterized by objective discussions, spirit of understanding and convergence of views. He expressed thanks to the Director General for inviting him to attend the proceedings of that Session, a gesture which has a great impact on strengthening his conviction about the importance of the Council and its role in promoting the Organization's advancement. He congratulated the Council's Chairman on his wisdom and competence in steering the Council's proceedings. In conclusion of his address, he extended, in his name and on behalf of the 5th General Conference, his hearty thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the generous care he bestows on the Organization.

(Annex 13: Address by H.E. Prof. Muhammad Ghassan Al-Halabi, Minister of Education in the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, President of the Fifth General Conference)

47- The Chairman of the Executive Council then took the floor and expressed his thanks to the Executive Council members for the sincere and relentless efforts they exerted in studying their agenda items. He commended the satisfactory results of the deliberations and discussions and expressed his satisfaction at the development achieved by the Organization in its successful course, which enabled it to occupy the place that befitted it among similar international organizations. He extended his

thanks and gratitude to the Director General of the Organization for the services and facilities he had provided to the Session, as well as for the clarifications made, which had contributed to its success. He also thanked the President of the 5th General Conference for kindly following the Session's proceedings. In conclusion of his address, the Chairman of the Executive Council expressed his deep thanks and gratitude to the Kingdom of Morocco; the Seat-country, to its Sovereign, Government and people for their assistance and support to the Organization.

(Annex 14: Address by H.E. Mr. Lamine Kamara, Chairman of the Executive Council)