



Islamic Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization

ISESCO

EC 34/2013/F.R

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

34th Session

**Permanent Headquarters
Rabat - Kingdom of Morocco**

1-2 Zul Hijjah 1434A.H. / 7-8 October 2013

Final Report

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The Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) held its 34th session in Rabat, capital of the Kingdom of Morocco, on 1-2 Zul Hijjah 1434 A.H. / 7-8 October 2013. Taking part in this session were the members of the Council and their accompanying delegations, except for the representatives of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Suriname, the Republic of Guinea and the Republic of Maldives.

1. The opening session was presided over by His Excellency Dr Boubacar Doukouré, Chairman of ISESCO Executive Council, in the presence of H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, ISESCO Director General, and H.E. Dr Mohammad bin Abdulaziz Al-Ohali, Deputy Minister for Educational Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who represented H.E. Dr Khalid bin Mohammed Al Ankary, Minister of Higher Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabian, President of the 11th session of ISESCO General Conference.
2. After recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, H.E. the Chairman of the Executive Council declared the Council's 34th session open, expressing gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, for the relentless support the Moroccan government lends to joint Islamic action in general, and to ISESCO in particular; and lauding the achievements ISESCO has made since its inception, as illustrated by the steadily growing scope of its relations with international and regional organizations.

He also expressed pride in ISESCO's remarkable achievements as well as in the special activities it implemented in 2012, which coincided with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of ISESCO, and which he deemed a "Year of Excellence". His Excellency considered the development of education, science and culture in the Member States as the best response to the challenges facing the Islamic world as a result of conflicts, wars and crises. He equally expressed his pride in H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri's special track record as Director General of ISESCO, wishing him further success in delivering more achievements for the Organization and for its Member States. At the close of his address, Dr Doukouré wished every success to the Council's 34th session.

3. The floor was then given to ISESCO Director General, H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, who welcomed the Council's Chairman and members, and expressed thanks and recognition to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of

Morocco and to the Moroccan government, for their continued support to ISESCO to forge ahead with its duties in the best conditions.

His Excellency explained that 2012 was a special year in the Organization's history in terms of activity implementation and performance, during which the Islamic world celebrated ISESCO's 30th anniversary and which marked the third and last year of the Action Plan for 2010-2012, noting that during the same year the Action Plan for 2013-2015 was devised by the Organization and adopted by its 11th General Conference, held in the Saudi capital Riyadh.

The Director General added that the Organization is witnessing a remarkable steady progress in delivering its functions centered on the Ummah's development, extending its reach beyond the Islamic world, based on a network of relations and partnerships with international and regional organizations, asserting its international role, and supporting such universal causes lying at the core of the world public opinion's interests as intercultural dialogue, the alliance of civilizations, and the promotion of justice, peace and concord among nations and peoples.

His Excellency also underlined that the current unstable situation of the Muslim Ummah originates in the Islamic world's regression as a civilization. He particularly noted that the ongoing rapid mutations and cycle of events in many Member States actually undermine human development and its related actions in the Islamic world, particularly in the sectors of education, culture and science, given their role as driving forces of development.

Besides, he mourned, in his address, the passing away of Dr Mohamed Moussa, member of the Executive Council for the Republic of Chad, commending his remarkable inputs at the Executive Council sessions, and beseeching Almighty Allah to have him in his mercy and grant him the best of rewards for the praiseworthy services he made for the Islamic world and ISESCO.

4. At the close of the opening session, the Director General presented to Mr Issa Namata, member of the Executive Council for the Republic of Niger, ISESCO Literacy Prize for 2013 which went to the Nigerien NGO ONIREC/Assalam, in recognition of the efforts it undertakes in women literacy, using the Standardized Quranic Script and for the support it lends to women via income-generating activities.
5. At the beginning of the first working session, the Executive Council mourned the passing away of the late member of the Executive Council for the Republic of Chad, Dr Mohamed Moussa, commending his devoted role as representative

of his country. He then reiterated gratitude and appreciation to the representative of the Republic of Iraq for his country's erstwhile proposal to host the Council's current session, while at the same time expressing his regret for the non-materialization of the proposal, together with his hope for holding one of the Council's future sessions in the Republic of Iraq. He also presented thanks, in his name and on behalf of the Executive Council, to the Director General for his efforts in defending the Ummah's causes in international and regional forums, and for his keen interest in highlighting the Council's role in proposing solutions and identifying priority areas for action, mandating him to oversee ways to highlight and enhance the respective roles of the Executive Council, intellectuals and civil society institutions in the Islamic world in addressing the civilization-related challenges facing the Ummah in the sectors of education, science and culture.

The Council's Chairman then welcomed the new members of the Council, namely the representatives of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Tunisian Republic, the Federal Republic of Somalia, the Republic of Djibouti, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Chad, the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Tajikistan.

Thereafter, he presented the Draft Agenda and Draft Programme of the 34th session of the Executive Council, which were adopted.

6. For his part, the Director General presented the reports and documents placed on the agenda of the Council's 34th session, providing an account of ISESCO's major achievements in 2012, which was the third and last year of the Action Plan for 2010-2012. He also presented the financial data and figures concerning the closing accounts for 2012, as well as those relating to the Member States' contributions to ISESCO's budget and the efforts being made to redress the financial situation of the Organization for the same year. Afterwards, the Director of the Audit Company presented the Company's audit report for 2012, and the Chairman of the Financial Control Committee presented the Committee's report of Committee for 2012.
7. After the introductory notes and presentations made by the Director General, and after due consideration and discussion of the relevant reports and documents placed on the agenda of the Council's 34th session, the Council members made several observations and suggestions which can be summed up as follows:

8. With regard to the Report of the Director General on ISESCO's Activities for the Year 2012 (Document EC 34/2013/2.1)

- To commend the Director General's Report in terms of its account of the outstanding achievements made in the Organization's areas of competence, and to congratulate the Director General and his assistants on their efforts.
- To pay more attention to the activities aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and peace, particularly with regard to the education system in the Member States.
- To develop ISESCO's programmes aimed at mainstreaming Islam and the Islamic civilization, and to implement more activities devoted to the rapprochement of Muslim Madhahib, dialogue among cultures, civilizations and followers of religions and to the rejection of extremism, fanaticism and immorality.
- To laud the sustained efforts being put in the implementation of educational, scientific, cultural and communicational activities for the benefit of Palestinian institutions, in general, and those devoted to Al-Quds Al-Sharif in particular; and to invite the Director General to continue supporting such institutions.
- To stress the importance of adopting and supporting the decisions on Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to invite the Director General to cooperate with UNESCO for ensuring follow-up to their implementation.
- To allocate more attention to the programmes and activities targeting the youth, children, women and persons with special needs, along with those aimed at promoting natural and cultural heritage, developing traditional schools and Arab-Islamic schools, and fostering the teaching of Islamic Education and Arabic as a foreign language.
- To involve the private sector in the implementation of programmes in a bid to ensure extra financial resources beyond the contributions of the Member States and partners.
- To include activity implementation rates in the Director General's activity report.
- To take advantage of literacy programmes and local radio stations of the Member States in publicizing the Islamic civilization and expanding its reach.

- To expand technical and technological education programmes for curbing youth unemployment; and to devote more programmes to ensuring universal education for children.
- To commend the support allocated to the National Commissions in the Member States through providing them with the necessary working means, and to consolidate such support and enlarge its scope.

The Council then adopted the Report of the Director General on ISESCO's Activities for the Year 2012 as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.2.1.

9. **The Council then adopted the Financial Report of the Director General and Closing Accounts for 2012, Report of the Audit Company and Report of the Financial Control Committee for the Financial Year 2012 as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.2.2.**
10. **The Council also adopted the Report of the Director General on Member States' Contributions to the Organization's Budget and on Redressing the Financial Situation of the Organization for the Year 2012 as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.2.3.**
11. In addition, the Council elected the Financial Control Committee (Document EC 34/2013/3.1) as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.3.1.
12. The Council also endorsed the appointment of the Deputy Director General (Document EC 34/2013/3.2) as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.3.2.

It also invited the Director General to later arrange for a tribute to the former Deputy Director General in appreciation of his efforts during his term of appointment.

In addition, the Council stressed the necessity to empower the Director General to appoint the Deputy Director General and called for taking the necessary regulatory measures thereto.

13. The Council also endorsed the date and venue for the 35th Executive Council Session as contained in Decision EC 34/2013/D.4.1.
14. At the beginning of the closing session, the Council adopted the Final Report and decisions of its 34th session. Closing speakers included Director General Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, who expressed satisfaction at the outcome and full appreciation for the input and effective participation of the Council's Chairman and members. For his part, Dr Boubacar Doukouré thanked the members of the

Council and the General Directorate of ISESCO for contributing to the success of the Council's 34th session, while highly commending the Director General for wisely leading the discussions and for his efforts to promote joint Islamic action in the areas of education, science and culture.

In conclusion, the Council addressed a message of gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, placing on record both the sustained support by the Moroccan government to ISESCO, and the keen effort by His Majesty to safeguard, in his capacity as the President of Al-Quds Committee, the city of Al-Quds, its cultural property and its civilizational heritage.