



Ninth Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers

"Towards a Middle Stance Culture Favouring Muslim Societies' Development"

Resolutions

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman: 19-21 Muharram 1437H/2-4 November 2015



Resolution on the Agenda

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Having considered its Draft Agenda as contained in Document (ICCM9/2015/1.1),

Decides as follows:

- **Adopts** its Agenda as contained in Document (ICCM9/2015/1.1, adopted).



Resolution on the Programme

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Having considered its Draft Programme as contained in Document (ICCM9/2015/1.2),

Decides as follows:

- **Adopts** its Programme as contained in Document (ICCM9/2015/1.2, adopted).



Resolution on the Composition of the Conference Bureau

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Considering the proposals put forward,

Decides as follows:

- **Forms** its Bureau as follows:
 - **Chair:** Sultanate of Oman
 - **Vice-Chairs:**
 - Republic of Tunisia
 - Republic of Benin
 - Malaysia
 - **Rapporteur:** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Resolution on the Statements of heads of delegation and Member States' national reports on their efforts to implement the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the **election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015**,

- Having considered Member States' national reports on their efforts to implement the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and
- Having heard the presentations made by the heads of the respective delegations of Member States and regional and international organizations in this connection,

Decides as follows:

- 1- Takes** cognizance of the reports and statements of the participating delegations concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.
- 2- Takes** cognizance of Qatar's nomination of His Excellency Dr Hamad Abdulaziz Al-Kuwari, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage, to the post of Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and wishes to His Excellency full success in his endeavors.
- 3- Commends** the efforts made by the member States in the various fields of culture to ensure the intellectual and civilizational revival of the Muslim Ummah.
- 4- Invites** the Member States to continue their efforts to implement the resolutions of the 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers in such a way as to respond to the needs, priorities and public policies of the Member States in this area.



Resolution on the Director General's Report on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and Sector-specific Strategies

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Guided by the principles and goals set out in the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and by the principles of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action for Muslims outside the Islamic World,
- Recalling the resolution of the 6th, 7th and 8th sessions of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers in this connection,
- Appreciating ISESCO's efforts and achievements concerning dialogue, cultural diversity and addressing media smear campaigns against Islam and Muslims,
- Drawing on the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for Dialogue among Followers of Religions and Cultures,
- Having examined the recommendations of the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th meetings of the Consultative Council in Charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Having reviewed ISESCO's great efforts and outstanding achievements within the framework of the implementation of the Islamic Culture Capitals Programme and the Islamic Declaration on Cultural Rights,
- Having considered the report of the Director General on the implementation of the resolutions of the 8th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, concerning the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Having heard the Director General's Report on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and Sector-specific Strategies, and
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as follows:

1. **Adopts** the Director General's Report on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and Sector-specific Strategies, taking into consideration the observations of the Conference members.
2. **Calls on** ISESCO to continue its efforts, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, to widely publicize the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and the sector-specific strategies among member States' relevant parties and civil society organizations, as well as among similar regional and international organizations, while devoting more activities and programmes, under its action plans, to activating the Strategy and achieving its objectives.
3. **Urges** the competent parties in the member States to increase their efforts devoted to the materialization of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and the sector-specific strategies and their respective objectives, to make cultural and communicational action a priority of sustainable development, and to increase public and private funding of culture and communication projects under these strategies.
4. **Endorses** the recommendations issued by the meetings of the Consultative Council for Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World held between the Conference's 8th and 9th sessions; **thanks** the Council for its efforts to prepare for the 9th session of the Conference, by examining and providing inputs into its documents; and **thanks** all its members for their efforts and their cooperation.
5. **Calls on** the Consultative Council on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World to start a periodic review of the said Strategy, ensure that the revised version is presented to the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers for consideration and adoption, and integrate the cultural dimension into all relevant social and economic development issues.
6. **Lauds** the efforts of the Islamic World Heritage Committee to protect natural and civilizational heritage in the member States, and **invites** the Committee to devote part of its attention to Islamic heritage outside the member States, in coordination and cooperation with the relevant and competent parties.
7. **Praises** the efforts devoted by ISESCO to promoting intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity, and confronting media smear campaigns against Islam and Muslims through the strategic documents it has devised and the international conferences and symposia it has held with its regional and international partners; **commends** the Director General's efforts in this connection; and **invites** the member States to steer the activities and programmes dedicated to women and to the youth towards promoting the values underpinning intercultural dialogue and respect for cultural diversity.
8. **Commends** the efforts of the member States whose cities were celebrated as Capitals of Islamic Culture for 2014 and 2015; and **invites** the relevant parties in the member States with cities to be celebrated as Capitals of Islamic Culture in the

coming years to coordinate with ISESCO and with each other, and to build on the experiences of the previously celebrated capitals, the ultimate aim being to fulfill the mission of this cultural and civilizational programme.

9. **Lauds** ISESCO's efforts under the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action for Muslims outside the Islamic World; **adopts** the recommendations issued by the meetings of the Supreme Council for Education, Science and Culture for Muslims outside the Islamic World, and by the meetings of the heads of Islamic cultural centers and associations in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, South-East Asia and the Pacific, and Russia and Central Asia; and **invites** ISESCO to follow up the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of these meetings, in coordination with the relevant parties.
10. **Calls for** sustained efforts within the framework of the Strategy for ICTs Development in the Islamic World; **lauds** the quality of the information and communication activities implemented by ISESCO inside and outside the Islamic world between the 8th and 9th sessions of the Conference; **commends** its keen interest in addressing the technical, knowledge-related and professional challenges associated with the new media, and in the training of specialized human resources to keep pace with advances in this sector; and **invites** the member States to develop their national digital strategies and ICT-related legislation.
11. **Calls for** sustained efforts within the framework of the Implementation Plan of the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for Dialogue among the Followers of Religions and Cultures, in order to showcase moderate Islamic thought and culture, and **invites** King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) to further collaborate with ISESCO and make the necessary efforts to publicize the Initiative and implement activities and programmes to achieve its goals.
12. **Commends** ISESCO's efforts within the framework of the Islamic Declaration on Cultural Rights; and **invites** the member States to integrate cultural rights in their national legislation and educational and cultural programmes, while protecting them and harnessing all means available to enforce them in cooperation with civil society organizations.
13. **Lauds** cooperation with the Vatican within the framework of the international conference on "promoting a culture of mutual respect and human solidarity among the followers of religions", co-held by ISESCO and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, in Buenos Aires on 17-18 September 2015; **adopts** the "Buenos Aires Declaration" issued by the Conference on Muslim-Christian Dialogue; and **welcomes** the key elements and objectives of the cooperation agreement between ISESCO and the Pontifical Council.

14. **Appreciates** the noble initiative of H.E. Mr Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, to host the Congress of the Leaders of the World and Traditional Religions and his efforts aimed at achieving the objectives of the Congress; and **commends** the Declaration adopted by the participants in the 5th meeting of the Congress, held in Astana on 10-11 June 2015.
15. Values the UN-endorsed initiative of President Hassan Rouhani for building a world free of extremism and violence.
16. **Calls upon** the Member States to organize the “First OIC Festival of Cultural Expression” on the sidelines of the sessions of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, in conjunction with the Islamic culture capitals’ festivities, and in coordination with Member States desirous of hosting the Festival.
17. **Agrees** that, as of the year 2016, Member States and OIC institutions celebrate the “OIC Day of Culture”; that necessary steps be taken to commemorate this Day; and that an appropriate date thereof be determined by the OIC and notified to the Member States.
18. **Thanks** the official parities, government institutions, international organizations and NGOs that contributed to the success of ISESCO’s initiatives, projects and activities included in the Report.
19. **Recommends** that an international seminar on “Islamic Action to Protect Cultural Heritage” be jointly organized by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the OIC Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) in 2016.
20. **Commends** the Report and the reported achievements and gains; and **expresses** thanks and appreciation to the Director General and his assistants for having prepared it.
21. **Thanks** the OIC Secretary General for his support to ISESCO’s culture-focused initiatives, projects and activities and for his keen interest in coordinating the efforts aimed at promoting joint Islamic action.
22. **Invites** the Director General to submit a report on this matter to the Conference’s forthcoming session.



Resolution on the Broad Lines of a Draft Action Plan for the Promotion of the Role of Cultural Mediation in the Islamic World

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Guided by the principles and goals set out in the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Recalling the document on the “Cultural Roles of the Civil Society for the Promotion of Dialogue and Peace”,
- In furtherance of the objectives of the Islamic Declaration on Cultural Rights,
- Having examined the recommendations of the 13th and 14th meetings of the Consultative Council in Charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Having reviewed the document entitled “Broad Lines of a Draft Action Plan for the Promotion of the Role of Cultural Mediation in the Islamic World”,
- Having heard the Director General's presentation in this connection, and
- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides as follows:

1. **Adopts** the document entitled “Broad Lines of a Draft Action Plan for the Promotion of the Role of Cultural Mediation in the Islamic World”, taking into consideration the observations of the Conference members.
2. **Invites** ISESCO to work, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, toward publicizing this plan in the member States and beyond, and among the community of regional and international partners concerned.

3. **Invites** ISESCO and the OIC to put this plan into action by devoting a set of cultural activities and programmes to the issues of cultural mediation in the member States and for the benefit of Islamic cultural centres outside the Islamic world.
4. **Invites** the member States to give more attention to cultural mediation in cultural affairs management, particularly in the relevant governmental sectors, university institutions, legislation and labour codes pertaining to the new mediation-related cultural occupations.
5. **Thanks** the Director General and his assistants for preparing this document.



Resolution on Election of the members of the Consultative Council in Charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Based on the respective resolutions of the second and eighth sessions of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (ICCM/2-1998/FC.1) and (ICCM8/2014/R.4.1),
- Being keen on maintaining and fostering synergy of efforts exerted in this field, and
- Considering the suggestions made by the Director General,

Decides as follows:

1- **Endorses** the Consultative Council in Charge of Implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World for a two-year term, renewable once, as follows:

➤ **Member States:**

• **For the Arab region:**

- State of Kuwait
- State of Palestine
- Islamic Republic of Mauritania

• **For the African region:**

- Republic of Mali
- Republic of Guinea
- Federal Republic of Nigeria

- **For the Asian region:**

- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of Azerbaijan
- People's Republic of Bangladesh

- **Ex-Officio Members:**

- Sultanate of Oman (Chair of the 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers)
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (seat country of the OIC)
- Kingdom of Morocco (seat country of ISESCO)
- Republic of Senegal (President of COMIAC)
- The OIC General Secretariat

- **Secretariat of the Consultative Council:**

- ISESCO

2- **Invites** the member States to appoint their representatives in the Council within three (3) months as from the date of the resolution; and **mandates** the Director General to appoint another State as member of the Council in coordination with the Conference Chair in case, within this deadline, ISESCO General Directorate does not receive the name of the representative of one of these States.



Resolution on the Date and Venue for the Conference's 10th Session

The 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on 19-21 Muharram 1437 A.H., corresponding to 2-4 November 2015, on the occasion of the election of the city of Nizwa as the Arab Region's Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015,

- Based on the request of the Republic of the Sudan to host the Conference's 10th session and elect Sennar as the Arab Region's second Islamic Culture Capital for 2017, which was approved by the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers in its 6th session held in Baku in 2009,
- Based on the request of the Republic of Tunisia to host the 11th session of the Conference and elect Tunis as the Arab Region's second Islamic Culture Capital for 2019, and
- Based on the request of the Kingdom of Bahrain to celebrate Al Muharraq instead of Manama as the Arab Region's Islamic Culture Capital for 2018,

Decides as follows:

- 1- Holds** the 10th session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers in the Republic of the Sudan, in the second half of November 2017, and **elects** Sennar as the Arab Region's Islamic Culture Capital.
- 2- Holds** the 11th session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers in the Republic of Tunisia, in the second half of November 2019, and **elects** Tunis as the Arab Region's Islamic Culture Capital.
- 3- Agrees to** the election of Al Muharraq instead of Manama as the Arab Region's Islamic Culture Capital for 2018 (according to the amended table, approved by the 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers).