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CO-OPERATION ~~BETWEEN~~ THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

Report of the Secretary-General

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 42/4 of 15 October 1987, the General Assembly took note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General (A/42/308 and Add.1) and requested the United Nations and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to continue co-operation in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonisation, fundamental human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order,

2. By the same resolution, the General Assembly encouraged the specialised agencies and other organisations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating co-operation agreements, and invited them to multiply the contacts and meetings of focal points for co-operation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and OIC. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and other organisations of the United Nations system and OIC, in order to serve their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields.

3. The General Assembly also recommended that the third general meeting between the representatives of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the representatives of the United Nations and other organisations in the United Nations system should be organised in 1988 at a time and place to be determined through consultations; the Assembly also expressed its appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General in the promotion of co-operation between the United Nations and OIC and expressed the hope that he would continue to strengthen the mechanisms of co-operation between the two organisations.

4. The present report deals with the measures taken to implement the above-mentioned provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/4. Section II of the report provides a brief account of consultations between the representatives of the United Nations and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and their representation at meetings. Section III deals with co-operation in the political field and section IV sets out the developments in regard to co-operation in the field of economic, social and cultural development between the United Nations system of organisations and OIC. A section (sect. V) concerning the third general meeting between the representatives of the United Nations and other organisations of the United Nations system and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, held at Geneva from 4 to 6 July 1988, will appear in an addendum to the present report,

## II, CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS

5. On 1 October 1987, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference held their annual co-ordinating meeting at the United Nations Headquarters to review items on the agenda of the forty-second session of the General Assembly, particularly those which were of

great concern and interest to OIC, The meeting undertook the review of the Current international situation, dealing specifically with issues concerning the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war, Afghanistan, South Africa and Namibia and the critical • CONOMIC situation in Africa. The meeting • emphasised the adherence of OIC to the holding of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with General Assembly resolution 38/58 of 13 December 1983, With reference to the Iran-Iraq war, the meeting • expressed support for the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in respect of the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987) of 20 July 1987, The meeting also expressed support for the efforts of the Secretary-General to find a comprehensive settlement of the situation in Afghanistan.

6. At the invitation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Secretary-General attended the Co-ordination Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, which took place at United Nations Headquarters on 10 October 1987. Addressing the meeting, the Secretary-General stressed the urgency of promoting the settlement of problems that particularly affected the members of OIC. He said that the agenda of the OIC meeting constituted a sombre list of problems crying for solution, and added that every one of those issues was sensitive in its own way,

7. On 30 September 1987, and on 26 January and 8 June 1988, the Secretary-General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference met with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York and discussed matters of mutual concern to their two organisations.

8. At the invitation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference OIC and the Government of Jordan, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonisation and Trusteeship represented the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Amman, Jordan, from 21 to 25 March 1988, and delivered a message from the Secretary-General to the Conference.

9. Representatives of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference participated in the meetings of the Security Council and of the General Assembly including the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament.

10. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 42/4, the third general meeting between the representatives of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the representatives of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system was held at Geneva from 4 to 6 July 1988. The conclusions and recommendations of the meeting are contained in the addendum to the present report,

### III. CO-OPERATION IN THE POLITICAL FIELD

#### A. Political and security related matters

11. The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers reaffirmed earlier decisions and undertook new initiatives with regard to various aspects of the situation in the Middle East, in particular the Palestinian question, the Iran-Iraq

war, the situation in Afghanistan, as well as other political issues with which the United Nations is also currently seized, namely, support for the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, support for the liberation struggle of the people of Namibia and South Africa, the question of the critical economic situation in Africa, the Chad-Libyan dispute, international terrorism, the problem of the Horn of Africa, the Comorian Island of Mayotte and problems relating to refugees (see A/43/393-S/19930, annexes I-V),

12. The Conference reaffirmed the continued legal responsibility of the United Nations towards Namibia and reiterated its demands for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 385 (1975) of 30 January 1976 and 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978. It demanded the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria régime, as provided for in Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. It called upon member States to extend all kinds of assistance to the Namibian people struggling for independence under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

13. During the period under review, co-operation between the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat took the form of a continued exchange of information on political questions and informal consultations as the occasion warranted. The Permanent Observer of OIC to the United Nations continued to transmit to the Department pertinent reports and resolutions adopted by his organisation on questions relating to political and security matters,

14. The Organisation of the Islamic Conference reaffirmed its full support of the resolutions concerning Namibia and South Africa adopted by the General Assembly and other bodies of the United Nations.

15. The Conference strongly condemned the white minority régime for its heinous policy of apartheid and reaffirmed the legitimacy and justice of the heroic struggle waged by the people of South Africa. It also condemned the brutal acts of repression against the South African population, as well as the arbitrary detention of hundreds of persons. It urged all member States in the framework of genuine solidarity with the just cause of the people of South Africa to take the measures already adopted either by the United Nations General Assembly or by the Security Council.

## **B. Outer space**

16. Since July 1966, the Outer Space Affairs Division of the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs established fruitful co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, particularly in implementing the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

17. This process is being accomplished through regional and international meetings, training courses and workshops organised under the auspices of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications,

18. During the period under review, the Department carried out **advisory missions** in Iraq and Tunisia and extended technical **advisory services** in Algeria, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Somalia and the Sudan. The Department also undertook the following major **activities**:

(a) **Long-range fellowships**, which are granted on an annual basis continued to be offered by member States and international organisations within the framework of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. Several candidates from member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference were among the beneficiaries of these fellowships;

(b) Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference nominated candidates for participation in United Nations international training courses and meetings of experts;

(c) Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference provided responses that were included in the Directory on Education, Training, Research and Fellowships Opportunities in Space Science and Technology and its Applications. The directory has been circulated to member States of OIC.

19. Similar programmes are planned for the future years. The Outer Space Affairs Division, through its Space Applications Programme, is ready, at the request of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to offer any assistance on education and training, especially in the practical application of space technology. It also intends to continue the progress of co-operation between the Division and OIC.

### **C. Disarmament**

20. Over the past two years, the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat continued its co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, in particular by ensuring the inclusion on the agenda of the General Assembly of items relating to resolutions adopted by OIC on disarmament. The Department remains ready to extend to OIC, at its request, any assistance aimed at enhancing its activities in the field of disarmament.

## **IV. CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **A. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs**

21. In the context of its activities in the projections and perspective studies area, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, has considerable technical expertise in the development of national econometric models, which can be utilised by member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference for analysing their economic outlook and evolution of economic policies. These capabilities can be further utilized in broadening the economic horizons of the research conducted by those countries by giving more explicit treatment to specific socio-economic development issues. The

Department can also provide information on world trade matrices, which now cover a 21-year period from 1965 to 1985 for four commodity groupings and include 80 countries/regions, including developed market countries/regions and countries with centrally planned economies. In its analysis of global trade patterns, the Department treats 15 member countries of the Conference individually and others as members of subregional groups. The Department also prepares comprehensive sets of internationally standardised data measuring economic activity and social conditions in most countries of the world. Such data have, in the part, been made available to the Islamic Conference and can continue to be made available in the future.

22. The World Economic Survey, which is published annually, reports regularly on international economic developments of importance to member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

23. The Statistical Office of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs provides assistance to the member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in the various areas of its responsibility, including the provision of a wide range of economic and social statistics, methodologies, guidelines and technical reports on the collection, classification, processing and dissemination of statistics and the provision of substantive support for technical co-operation in statistics and statistical data-processing through the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat.

24. The Department's Population Division has provided the Organisation of the Islamic Conference with a revised assessment of population estimates and projects for all countries and regions, including the member States of OIC.

25. In the field of new and renewable sources of energy, the Department has continued its contacts with national focal points on new and renewable sources of energy developed by member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. The Department has established a database on activities in the field of new and renewable sources of energy in developing countries, including members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. Information on the activities in member countries of OIC has been compiled in the database and, together with any other information contained in the database, is made available on request.

26. In conclusion, the Department is also responsible for implementation of General Assembly resolution 42/166 of 11 December 1987 on assistance to the Palestinian people. In this respect, the Department has written to concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Organization of the Islamic Conference, soliciting their assistance in mobilising resources for the programme of economic and social assistance that will be carried out in close co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

## **B. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development**

27. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat has continued to carry out specific activities that redound to the benefit of member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. A total of 358 technical co-operation projects were implemented in 1987 in 40 member States.

28. The projects in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference member countries spanned the full range of substantive fields within the terms of reference of the Department, and were useful for purposes of direct assistance and investments. There were projects in the development and conservation of renewable and other forms of energy resources; hydrological studies and development of water resources; prospection and exploitation of mineral and other natural resources, through both conventional and new technology; promotion and improvement of infrastructures for development; training and institution-building in support of demographic and population-related policies and programmes; and the strengthening of the organisational structure and management practices of institutions in the public sector for planning and implementing both local and national social and economic development programmes in rural and urban settings.

29. Individuals from member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference constituted 12 per cent of the Department's roster of international experts and consultants, which was published early in 1988. These States provided 8 per cent of the experts and consultants recruited by the Department in 1987 for technical co-operation projects. In the same year, 414 nationals from 22 OIC member States were provided opportunities to train abroad in various fields of specialization as United Nations fellows,

30. In 1987, technical assistance projects provided \$US 14.3 million worth of equipment and contractual services to national institutions in 43 member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. In the same year, \$US 4.5 million in equipment and contractual services were procured from 32 member States.

31. Pursuant to recommendations in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1/ the Department has been providing both substantive and financial support to interregional programming exercises that focus on technical co-operation for development. The first of these exercises, which was held in China in November 1986 and included the participation of five member countries of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, resulted in the formulation of 145 projects of technical co-operation for development with China, 31 of which were planned in collaboration with Islamic countries. Of the 61 projects involving the participation of other countries, 26 were with Islamic countries. A similar interregional exercise in Turkey in April 1987 led to the adoption of 247 projects of technical co-operation for development. Representatives of eight OIC member States were among the participants in the meeting in Turkey. In the same year, Islamic countries also participated in the exercise at Tunis, which resulted in the formulation of 212 projects of technical co-operation for development. It is anticipated that OIC member States will participate actively in the forthcoming interregional programming exercise in Egypt.

32. The Department hopes to be able to continue its collaborative activities with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and its member States and associated institutions,

### **C. United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development**

33. Since the last meeting between the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the secretariats of the organisations of the United Nations system, the Centre has developed a co-operative project with Jordan in the area of endogenous capacity building in science and technology. This project emanated from the work of the task force of the Advisory Committee on Co-ordination during its 1985 session.

34. The study will be undertaken by the Royal Jordanian Higher Council for Science and Technology, in close co-operation with the Centre. The purpose of the study will be to assess the extent to which Jordan has utilised science and technology in its economic and social development and how its science and technology capacity could be enhanced to deal with future national development issues. Preliminary studies to that end are expected to be completed by the end of June to be followed, as necessary, by an inter-agency mission.

35. In the meantime, the Centre has recently contacted the focal point in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, which is the Islamic Foundation for Science and Technology and Development, to explore the possibility of jointly undertaking similar studies for endogenous capacity with other members of OIC.

36. In preparation for the end-of-decade review of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, the Centre will organise a regional meeting, also in co-operation with the Government of Jordan and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Participants in the meeting will comprise government experts and representatives of national science and technology communities, as well as organisations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions. The regional meeting will review progress and constraints in national and regional efforts in the integration of science and technology for development since the convening of the Vienna Conference in 1979,

37. The results of this meeting will constitute an important input for the report of the Secretary-General to be presented to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, at its tenth session, which will undertake the review. The review is expected to result in recommendations to enhance further the endogenous capacity of member States in the Western Asian region,

38. The Centre also plans to participate in the meeting of the Islamic Academy of Sciences, to be held at Islamabad in December 1988, where, inter alia, the question of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology will be considered.

### **D. U n i t s - 's Fund**

39. An invitation was extended to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to attend the Executive Board session of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), held in April 1988. Similarly, UNICEF was invited to attend the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in March 1988.

40. It was agreed to set up a joint committee to meet regularly to review and co-ordinate the co-operation between the two organizations.

41. UNICEF will assist the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in reviewing projects relating to mothers and children,

42. The Organisation of the Islamic Conference supports co-operation by UNICEF with organizations established within the network, such as the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Islamic Red Crescent Societies. OIC also encourages Islamic countries to support, financially or otherwise, UNICEF programmes.

43. UNICEF provides the Organisation of the Islamic Conference with available relevant publications, and reflects in these publications, as and where appropriate, OIC activities.

44. Co-operation between the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and UNICEF (through its Gulf area office at Riyadh) on information and media will be strengthened,

#### **E. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

45. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has evolved a programme of co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in three substantive areas, namely, economic co-operation among developing countries, shipping and technology,

46. The support provided in the field of economic co-operation among developing countries has consisted of technical assistance missions, provision of data on trade-control measures, special statistical compilations, technical notes and major contributions to monographic publications. The Division for Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries continues to provide, on a regular basis, information on trade flows of countries members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT). In addition, a programme of joint activities has also been agreed upon between the two secretariats, which envisages further collaboration to provide support and assistance to OIC member States in the collection of data, the organization of seminars and the preparation of studies, as well as in developing a trade information system relevant to the needs of ICDT.

47. In the area of technology, UNCTAD has close co-operation with some member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. UNCTAD and IDB have entered into co-operation programmes and projects in 1986 aimed at assisting member countries of OIC in the field of transfer and development of technology. A seminar on technology policy for development was held at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in November 1986. It is planned that another seminar, on technology selection, acquisition and negotiation, will be organized at Kuala Lumpur later this year.

48. In the area of shipping, under the aegis of the IDB, the Islamic Research and Training Institute requested the UNCTAD secretariat to undertake a study that would identify the commercial potential for greater maritime co-operation among member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. This project is now in the implementation phase under a Funds-in-Trust Agreement with OIC.

#### **F. United Nations Development Programme**

49. Since all Islamic countries are developing countries, the objective of technical co-operation among Islamic countries remains consistent with the principles of technical co-operation among developing countries.

50. In 1987, the lead agency role for technical co-operation among Islamic countries among the organs and institutions of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference was assigned to the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTCIC), at Ankara, Turkey. The Director of SESRTCIC attended the fifth session of the United Nations High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in New York, in May 1987, and took the opportunity to review with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries the progress of activities in the area of technical co-operation being jointly supported.

51. The following activities of member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in the area of technical co-operation received combined catalytic support from appropriate OIC organs and institutions, and from the UNDP Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, which assumed focal-point responsibilities for technical co-operation among Islamic countries during the two-year period from 1986 to 1987,

#### **IDB/UNDP**

52. In co-operation with the UNDP Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, the Islamic Development Bank/UNDP organised an orientation seminar for Senior Government Officials at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in October 1986.

53. The seminar helped to enhance the awareness of the constraints to technical co-operation among Islamic countries and the policies, methods and procedures required to tackle these constraints. It recommended the strengthening of focal points of technical co-operation in Islamic countries in Government and in IDB; the integration of technical co-operation into national development policies; the allocation of funds in national budgets; the development of a national information system to be linked to regional, interregional and global information systems; and the enhanced use of the facilities and resources available in the United Nations development system.

54. The Government of Turkey, in co-operation with UNDP and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, organised a technical co-operation and developing countries programming exercise, which

culminated with a bilateral discussions meeting at Ankara, Turkey, in April 1987, with 21 other developing countries, including 16 IDB members. At this meeting, 276 projects for technical co-operation among developing countries were concretised (247 between Turkey and the other developing countries, and 29 projects among participating countries other than Turkey),

55. The Government of Tunisia, in co-operation with UNDP and IDB, organised its technical co-operation among developing countries programming<sup>80</sup>, culminating in a bilateral discussions meeting, at Tunis in April 1987, with 16 developing countries, including eight IDB members. At this meeting, 212 technical co-operation projects were concretised.

56. IDB participated actively in different phases of the <sup>80</sup> xarci and approved financial assistance for a sizeable number of projects that were concretised among its member countries.

#### SESRTCIC/United Nations Development Programme

57. In collaboration with some member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, UNDP and SESRTCIC organised the following seminars:

(a) The Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority, in co-operation with SESRTCIC, organised a seminar on "Project management in water and power development", at Tarbela, Pakistan, from 21 September to 30 October 1986, which was attended by eight developing Islamic countries;

(b) The Turkish Ministry of Agriculture, in co-operating with SESRTCIC, organised a seminar on "Project preparation and evaluation in agricultural and rural development", at Ankara, Turkey, from 13 October to 7 November 1986, which was attended by seven Islamic developing countries;

(c) The Pakistan Administrative Staff College, in co-operation with SESRTCIC, organised a seminar on "Investment analysis and economic management", at Lahore, Pakistan, from 8 November to 3 December 1987, which was attended by 14 Islamic developing countries;

(d) The Tunisia Institute of Quantitative Economics, in co-operation with SESRTCIC, organised a training programme on "Planning techniques," at Tunis, from 30 November to 12 December 1987, which was attended by 12 Islamic developing countries,

#### IFSTAD/United Nations Development Programme

58. UNDP also co-operated with the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD) and some member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in organising the following seminar: the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, in co-operation with IFSTAD, organised a summer course on "Physics and contemporary needs", at Nathiagali, Pakistan, from 22 June to 13 July 1986 and from 26 June to 18 July 1987. Five Islamic developing countries participated in the 1986 seminars and four participated in 1987,

59. There activities reveal an emerging bilateral (as distinct from a concerted system-wide) pattern of co-operation between UNDP and individual organs and institutions of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in the promotion and support of technical co-operation among Islamic countries. As technical co-operation activities gain momentum in Islamic countries, and more active co-ordination in technical co-operation matters materialises within OIC, the scope for wider co-operation between OIC and the United Nations system as a whole should correspondingly develop. It is to be hoped that the current process of consultation among OIC and its organs and institutions on the refinement of technical co-operation policies that will lead to a more rational distribution of sectoral responsibilities among OIC institutions, would go a long way in strengthening technical co-operation among Islamic countries, both as a determined objective, and as an appropriate modality for the implementation of development programmes and projects in the member countries. In this regard, the experience of UNDP, and of other organisations of the United Nations system, in co-ordinating efforts in the promotion and implementation of technical co-operation among developing countries remains at the disposal of OIC to be studied, observed and utilised as appropriate,

#### **G. The United Nations University**

60. The United Nations University is among the seven priority areas of co-operation between the United Nations, and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. The University has continued its collaborative work in agriculture and food security, especially in socio-economic studies of hunger and famine, and scientific research and advanced training in food and nutrition. In the area of science and technology, the University has provided training in microprocessor technology for scientists from OIC member States, and has thus far assisted in establishing computer support units at the University of Malaya in Malaysia and the University of Yaoundé in Cameroon,

61. The United Nations University is exploring the possibility of undertaking joint science and technology activities with the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, a subsidiary organ of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

62. The University will continue to strengthen its co-operation with academic and scientific institutions and individual scholars and scientists in the various member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference within the framework of its programme of work,

#### **H. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)**

63. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) has intensified its co-operation with, and assistance to, member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in the field of human settlements which, the Centre believes, is an area that has a strong direct and indirect impact on most of the programmes under the seven priority areas of co-operation. Habitat is currently implementing

a total of 70 technical co-operation projects with a budget of \$US 36,768,683 in 29 member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. An additional 33 projects with a total budget of \$US 33,291,535 have also been prepared, in consultation with the Governments concerned, for implementation as soon as funds become available,

#### I . Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

64. Following the decision of the second general United Nations/OIC meeting to enhance co-operation in the area of disaster relief, consultations were undertaken with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. Subsequently, the Co-ordinator ● addressed a letter in January 1987 to the Secretary-General of OIC, proposing that co-operation in disaster relief, preparedness and prevention should be increased. The question is being followed up with OIC officials.

#### J. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

65. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues its co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference by maintaining close contact through regular visits and the exchange of information of mutual interest. A UNHCR delegation attended the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Amman, Jordan, from 21 to 25 March 1986. The Conference adopted resolution No. 39/17 F by which, *inter alia*, it confirmed the concern of OIC regarding the question of refugees and invited the General Secretariat to strengthen existing co-operation with UNHCR (see A/43/393-S/19930, annex II). UNHCR continues to act as a focal point for matters relating to assistance to refugees within the framework of co-operation between the United Nations system of organizations and OIC,

#### K. International Labour Organisation

66. Current International Labour Organisation (ILO) assistance in countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference includes: an actuarial valuation of the Public Institution for Social Security (Kuwait) social security advisory mission (United Arab Emirates, 1988); tripartite consultations held at ILO headquarters (Lebanon, 1987); the provision of consultancy services to the Social Security Fund and technical reports on administration and a preliminary actuarial valuation submitted in 1988 (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya); actuarial assistance provided under a UNDP project (1987); advice on management and administration provided during 1987 (Algeria) a UNDP project dealing with organisation, methods and social security legislation (Chad); the provision of a public service pension adviser, as well as actuarial assistance being provided for Niger; a UNDP project to assist the Employees' Old-Age Benefits Institution in administration and computerization; an actuarial valuation of social security organizations currently under way; the provision of a consultant on electronic data processing under a UNDP project (Malaysia); a UNDP project to assist the Ministry of Manpower and the social security institution of Indonesia in the improvement of administrative procedures;

the extension of the number of persons covered by the social security scheme; the formulation of proposals for a pension scheme and assistance in the development of the social insurance medical care scheme; advisory missions undertaken in recent years: administration and planning, rotational valuation and management (Tunisia); the provision of technical and electronic data processing support for the social security scheme valuation (Morocco); and the granting of actuarial fellowships in 1987 (Mauritania).

67. The technical co-operation activities of ILO in some of the member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, namely, Malaysia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, included the formulation of a human resource development plan, the strengthening of a database for monitoring international migration, the strengthening of the labour market information system, the formulation of employment policies and the improvement of hospital management, as well as vocational training and labour administration.

68. In December 1988, an ILO multi-disciplinary mission was fielded to Saudi Arabia to review labour statistics and report on labour and manpower statistics and labour-market information,

69. In February 1987, ILO prepared the "Report on a consultancy on labour statistics in the Middle East region". The report included a survey of the situation of labour statistics in Iraq, Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait and Yemen, with a view to (a) evaluating the state of labour statistics and the state of household surveys in topics of interest to ILO; (b) examining the work of the previous ILO/ESCWA Regional Adviser on Household Surveys; and (c) making specific recommendations as to the most appropriate manner in which ILO can contribute to the statistical development of countries of the region.

70. In May 1987, ILO participated in the development of the "Household income and expenditure survey", which was submitted to the Government of Qatar.

71. ILO has also participated in several experts' meetings organised by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, and its representatives continued to attend meetings of IDB and other regional Arab organisations.

#### L. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

72. Co-operation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference continued in a very satisfactory manner during the period from March 1987 to March 1988. Some of the highlights of the activities covering their co-operation are given below:

##### **Meetings**

(a) A senior officer from FAO attended the meeting of the OIC Second Follow-up Committee on Food Security and Agricultural Development, which was held at Istanbul, Turkey, in December 1987. FAO presented separate reports on the following subjects at the meeting: (i) a warning system on animal diseases in OIC

member States; (ii) forestry and livestock training in the Near East; (iii) and the draft agenda of the Third OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, to be held in Pakistan in October 1988.

(b) FAO is preparing three studies which will be presented to the Third OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, namely: (i) a review of the food security situation in OIC member States; (ii) increasing trade in food commodities among OIC member countries; and (iii) identification of measures and policies necessary for increasing the production of livestock, including poultry and fisheries;

(c) The FAO regional statistician for the Near East attended in 1977 the annual session of the Board of Governors of the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, held at Baghdad in April 1988, the second session of the Near East Regional Economic and Social Policy Commission held at Istanbul, and the meeting arranged by the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Council of Arab Economic Unit held in October, at Amman,

#### Islamic Development Bank

73. An FAO mission visited the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, in April 1987 and substantial opportunities for co-operation were identified on the basis of the established pipeline list of project ideas and proposals, which were submitted to the IDB mission in December 1987. IDB indicated its intention to give high priority to agriculture.

74. The FAO mission was informed that there were 21 priority countries earmarked to receive funds from IDB and future project ideas or proposals should be limited to these countries.

#### Agricultural sector analysis

75. A technical co-operation programme (TCP) project document on "Strengthening of the capacity of OIC training institutions through workshops on agricultural sector and project analysis" has been prepared and approved during the period under review. Its implementation date was scheduled to be March 1988, and will receive financing from FAO. The project will be jointly implemented with SESRTCIC.

#### Agriculture and forestry

76. The Government of Turkey has sought the assistance of FAO to design a project on agriculture and forestry. In accordance with project provisions, four courses were conducted in 1987 as follows: (i) forest nursery and afforestation techniques, 16 March to 30 April; (ii) production of veterinary vaccines, in April; (iii) apiculture, 8 June to 19 July; and (iv) watershed management, 28 September to 25 October,

77. A total of 43 participants from 16 countries attended these courses. In order to consolidate the benefit of the project, it is proposed to provide further assistance to the technical co-operation programme in 1988.

78. Requests for assistance under the Tropical Forestry Action Plan, which has a multi-donor approach to, ~~the~~ conceptual framework for forestry-sector development in the tropics, co-ordinated by FAO, were received from 11 OIC countries. In some cases, field missions have been completed and the reports are under discussion and in other missions are in the preparatory stages.

### Fisheries

791 Co-operation between FAO and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in the field of fisheries has been either in the area of regional activities/projects covering Islamic countries, or through direct ~~co-operation~~ to member countries of OIC. The activities implemented, or being implemented, are as follows:

(a) Phase II of the Mediterranean Aquaculture Development Project (1988-1990) to be financed by the Italian Government, which includes increased technical assistance to the Maghreb countries and to Egypt, in addition to more general assistance to all other Arab-Islamic countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea;

(b) A review on the "Development of aquaculture and inland fisheries in the Near East", which was prepared for the nineteenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East held at Oman, from 13 to 17 March 1988;

(c) The subregional project for the development of fishery co-operatives, which was financed by UNDP and executed by FAO and which continues to provide substantial assistance to the member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (Democratic Yemen, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen);

(d) A regional project entitled "Fish marketing information promotion and technical advisory services for Arab countries", which is based at Manama, Bahrain, and is servicing the Arab-speaking countries and providing them with up-to-date information on fish trade in the world and other advisory services;

(e) The General Fishery Council for the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission and its two committees - Committee for the Development and Management of the Fishery Resources for the Gulfs and the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal - and the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission, which are providing assistance to the member countries, including 20 Islamic countries in the fields of fisheries and research management;

(f) At the national level, FAO is contributing through consultants and missions to the identification of development and investment projects in capture and culture fisheries.

### Co-operation between the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and member countries of Organisation of the Islamic Conference within the FAO/OIC framework of co-operation

80. Within the FAO/OIC framework of co-operation, FAO approved two TCP projects for the Government of Bangladesh. These two TCP projects are within the projects entitled "Flood control and flood protection in Islamic countries" and

"Collaboration and co-ordination in research, training and technology in OIC countries". Consultants have been recruited and investigations carried out with the Government in these two areas. The consultants have forwarded their reports to the OIC secretariat at Jeddah for further action.

### Information systems

81. Thirty-three member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference participated in the International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology of FAO, and 32 in the Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS) of FAO. They all benefit from the system's outputs and services.

82. The second technical consultation of Arab AGRIS/CARIS Participating Centres, held at Baghdad, in April 1987, was attended by all the centres concerned.

83. Documentation projects are in progress in Mauritania in Guinea, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Democratic Yemen and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development at Khartoum. One documentation project was completed in Cameroon in 1987.

### M. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

84. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) co-operated in 1987 with the Islamic Educational and Scientific and Cultural Education (ISESCO) in a national literacy training course that was held in Mauritania from 5 March to 1 April 1987 and at Islamabad in August 1987. Consultancy fees were paid by UNESCO.

85. UNESCO would welcome tripartite ventures involving UNHCR and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in order to provide better educational services for refugees in OIC member States hosting large numbers of refugees (for example, Pakistan, and the Sudan),

86. The UNESCO regional office for science and technology for Arab States co-operates closely with OIC. Specialists from UNESCO have participated in the ISESCO symposium on application of computers, held at Rabat, Morocco, in January 1987.

87. In the field of culture and communication, co-operation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference is essentially materialized within the framework of the publication concerning different aspects of Islamic culture. The subsidiary organizations of OIC are associated with the realisation of the work of volume VI of the publication entitled: Islam in the modern world. The Islamic Foundation for Science and Technology for Development is being consulted for the preparation of volume IV, entitled: Science and Islam.

88. During the past year, the UNESCO Office of Statistics has supplied ISESCO, upon its request, with two computer tapes containing statistical information for the organization's member States, extracted from the UNESCO statistical data bank.

#### **N. International Civil Aviation Organisation**

89. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) participated in the first meeting between Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations system of organisations. The Conference has been informed of ICAO readiness to co-operate, within its area of responsibility, with OIC, and that ICAO co-operates with OIC member States of ICAO. At the present time, ICAO is providing technical assistance to 20 African, 11 Middle Eastern and 6 Asian-Pacific countries members of OIC.

#### **O. World Health Organisation**

90. Health is not among the priority areas chosen for concrete co-operation between the OIC and the United Nations and its specialised agencies. At the same time, however, it must be said that co-operation between the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the member States of OIC is extensive and aims at strengthening the capacity of the individual member Governments for addressing the priority health problems of their populations. This co-operation is embodied in the WHO country programmes of technical co-operation with each developing country. WHO and OIC signed arrangements for co-operation in 1982,

#### **P. International Monetary Fund**

91. The Fund continues to be closely and actively involved with the formulation and implementation of economic and financial policy in many of the member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. This involvement has focused on: (a) the provision of general advice and evaluation of macroeconomic policies; (b) the preparation of medium-term scenarios of the effects of alternative policy actions; (c) the extension of financial resources in support of adjustment policies; and (d) the provision of technical assistance services both by the Fund staff and by outside experts,

92. Between July 1986 and April 1988, there were 37 staff visits to 17 countries to hold periodic consultations, as well as discuss adjustment policies that may be supported by the Fund's financial resources. Iraq was the only country not visited by the staff. Additionally, one standby arrangement entered into effect during this period. There were also 27 staff technical assistance missions to 11 countries focusing on general policy formulation (6 missions), budget and taxation (8 missions), domestic and international banking issues (9 missions), general statistics (3 missions) and external debt (1 mission). Staff advisers were stationed in two countries throughout this period and the services of outside experts were provided to nine countries in areas ranging from advice on research and compilation on statistics to banking supervision and training, external debt management, foreign-exchange markets, budget and customs administration,

93. Additionally, regular contacts and discussions were held with all 18 members in the course of the 1986 and 1987 annual meetings of the Fund, through informal visits by senior Fund staff, and through staff participation in the annual meetings of IDB in March 1987 and March 1988.

### Q. Universal Postal Union

94 The **Universal Postal Union (UPU)** has taken the initiative in **establishing relations** with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference by sending it documentation relating to postal **development** in the countries covered by that **organization** and **by requesting** from OIC all of its documents in return, in order to establish the **basis for an exchange** of information and specific proposals for active co-operation **between the two organizations**. Thus far, OIC has not reacted to the offer of **co-operation** by UPU,

### R. World Meteorological Organization

#### UNDP projects

95. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is currently involved, in various **stages of implementation**, in 13 national **projects** in nine countries and one regional project for OIC members in Asia. WMO is the executing agency for 33 national projects in 17 African countries, which are members of OIC, and five regional projects. **These projects are essentially for the development and/or strengthening of** meteorological, agrometeorological or hydrological services in these countries.

96, WMO activities include the following:

(a) Establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development: this Centre is expected to provide a range of meteorological and hydrological **services for use of the African countries**;

(b) Hydrological Forecasting System for the River Niger Basin Project: the project involves the establishment and operation of an International Forecasting Centre and National Forecasting Centres in the River Niger Basin participating countries;

(c) Agrhyment Programme WMO continues to be the executing agency for this project, which is intended to assist the Sahelian countries in the utilization of agrometeorological and hydrological data to improve agricultural and food protection, as well as to train local personnel in the fields of agrometeorology and hydrology,

#### Current locust crisis in North and West Africa

97. Desert locust and grasshoppers have invaded African countries in northern and western Africa. Following discussions with FAO, it is proposed to provide consultants (jointly with FAO) to examine and assess the meteorological requirements for the fight against these pests and, in co-operation with WMO members in the area, to provide the necessary data and information.

#### Arab drought-watch programme

98. WMO is developing, jointly with the Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD), a programme for studying and monitoring the incidence of drought in Arab countries as well as a for establishing strategies to cope with the problem of drought in the countries concerned, including training. ACSAD has a working arrangement with WMO and is co-operating in the implementation of some WMO programmes.

#### Education and training activities with members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference

99. Between July 1986 and April 1988, WMO has awarded a total of 135 short-term and 84 long-term fellowships to various countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference for training personnel in meteorology and operational hydrology,

100. During the same period, WMO sponsored or co-sponsored nine training events in six of the OIC member countries.

101. WMO Regional Meteorological Training Centres are located in the following five OIC countries: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Niger and Nigeria,

#### S. International Maritime Organisation

102. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) has thus far not had any activities in the context of bilateral co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. It is, however, ready and willing to consider co-operation with the organisation, in areas within IMO competence and subject to the wishes or requests of OIC.

#### T. World Intellectual Property Organisation

103. The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) has submitted a draft agreement for co-operation that is now under consideration by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. In May 1987, a WIPO official visited OIC headquarters at Jeddah to discuss the signing of the draft co-operation agreement with OIC. A concrete proposal was then made to organise the signing ceremony in June 1987 during the visit to Geneva of the Secretary-General of OIC. WIPO was informed in early July that the draft co-operation agreement was still under consideration by OIC and that they would revert to the matter at a later stage.

104. WIPO also called for co-operation in areas of development of industrial property, technical training to improve the capacity of OIC member countries to negotiate licensing agreements relating to intellectual property and the promotion of innovation and inventions.

105. The WIPO official also discussed, at Jeddah, with a senior official of IDB, the possibility of organising a joint WIPO/IDB seminar in the field of industrial

property, In June 1987, a letter containing all the relevant proposals for the seminar was subsequently sent by WIPO to IDB.

106. The WIPO official also held discussions with the Director-General of the Islamic Foundation for Science and Technology and Development. They agreed to consider the possibility of carrying out jointly a number of activities in the field of industrial property for the benefit of the member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, once a co-operation agreement between WIPO and OIC is in force.

107. The majority of member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference are also members of WIPO, therefore WIPO already co-operates with them on a bilateral level.

108. Finally, the Director-General of WIPO sent, on 5 April 1988, a letter to the Secretary-General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference inquiring about the outcome of his coordination of the draft agreement for co-operation which, after its acceptance by the two organisations, would constitute an excellent basis for strengthening co-operation.

#### U. International Fund for Agricultural Development

109. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has continued during 1987 to coordinate, as in previous years, due consideration to promoting co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and to supporting the efforts of its member countries, which are also members of IFAD, to increase food production, to raise the nutritional standards and to improve the living conditions of the rural poor.

110. During 1987, out of the 25 projects approved under both the IFAD regular programme and the special programme for sub-Saharan African countries for a total IFAD contribution of about \$US 230 million, eight projects with about \$US 75.0 million funding went to Islamic countries. Accordingly, by the end of its 10 years of operation (1978-1987), the Fund had provided 85 project loans to 29 Islamic countries for a total amount of \$US 1,032 million, representing approximately 43 percent of the total investments made by the Fund. In addition, about \$US 10 million have been provided in the form of technical assistance grants and \$US 50 million for research grants to support research programmes in the Islamic countries.

111. IFAD investments in the Islamic countries have helped generate additional funds of \$US 1.67 billion in the form of co-financing from other external sources.

#### V. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

112. The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) has had co-operation with the Organisation of the Islamic Conference through the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange (ICCICE), which is one of the organs of OIC.

113. In 1983, UNIDO initiated project UN/INT/83/119 for strengthening the enterprise-to-enterprise industrial promotion and joint-venture programme of ICCICE. Within the assistance provided, UNIDO assisted in the establishment of an Industrial Promotion Service (IPS) within the ICCICE for the purpose of strengthening and promoting industrial entrepreneurship and industrial co-operation among the member countries of OIC. UNIDO provided training to the staff of the IPS in project preparation, analysis and evaluation, as well as in the carrying out of project feasibility studies. A computer and training in computer application of the COMFAR were also provided,

114. In June 1987, UNIDO organised jointly with ICCICE a meeting at Istanbul on the promotion of co-operation and joint venture between the more advanced and selected less developed OIC countries. The meeting brought together over 200 participants from 23 OIC countries and 17 financial institutions of OIC countries, and resulted in identifying 79 joint-venture agreements with a value of over \$US 500 million.

115. In December 1987, UNIDO approved the Project Development Facility for industrial co-operation between less developed and more developed OIC member countries, in order to facilitate the implementation of the joint-venture agreements made at the Istanbul meeting. The Project Development Facility will, inter alia, enable UNIDO to provide direct technical assistance to OIC countries in the preparation of pro-investment and opportunity studies, as well as provide ad hoc export assistance, such as in the preparation and analysis of joint venture agreements, and assistance in the identification of financing for selected joint-venture projects,

116. In March 1988, as one of the activities of the Project Development Facility, UNIDO arranged a meeting with ICCICE, IDB, the National Development Finance Corporation of Pakistan, the Union of Turkish Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange and the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry to discuss possible financing arrangements for selected joint-venture projects of OIC countries. As a result of the meeting, tentative financing has been identified for some 31 joint-venture projects.

117. The Project Development Facility has a duration of two years, until the end of 1989.

#### W. International Atomic Energy Agency

113. Although the Agency has no bilateral agreement for co-operation, it is providing technical assistance to its member States, 29 of which are members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. It is supporting programmes in priority areas of their interest in accordance with specific requests submitted by their Governments,

X. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

119. Exchange of information between General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the Organization of the Islamic Conference has continued in 1987, as reported in the past. It has otherwise no specific up-to-date information to offer on activities carried out in the context of GATT bilateral co-operation.

Notes

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII,

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