

ISTANBUL DECLARATION

ADOPTED BY THE FIRST MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION INSTITUTIONS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

**(May 13-14, 2009)
Istanbul, Republic of Turkey**

We, the Heads/Representatives of the Development and Cooperation Institutions (DCIs) of the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Heads of Delegations participating in the First Meeting of the Development and Cooperation Institutions of the OIC Member States held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 13-14 May 2009,

Inspired by the OIC Ten-Year Programme of Action, adopted by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah in December 2005,

Commending the OIC General Secretariat, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) for their initiative of convening the First Meeting of the Development and Cooperation Institutions of the OIC Member States,

Recognizing the vital role our institutions can play in alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable development in the Member States through enhancing and strengthening development cooperation at OIC level,

Aware of the challenges facing the OIC DCIs in terms of enhancing visibility, coordination, common strategy and sharing best practices in aid delivery and its impacts.

Considering the importance of sharing our development experiences and knowledge with the aim of enhancing our efforts to achieve our common development goals, keeping in view the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that coordination, collaboration and cooperation among donors and the recipient countries is a fundamental premise and principle for enhancing aid effectiveness,

Mindful of the challenges and the opportunities that the global crises have on the flows of foreign aid provided by the international donors to the developing and least developed countries, including the OIC Member States,

Hereby recommend to:

1. Identify joint development cooperation activities among our institutions both bilaterally and multilaterally with a view to sharing approaches to development and enhancing the effectiveness and complementarity of our efforts towards achieving our common development goals keeping in view the Millennium Development Goals.
2. Implement joint programmes, projects and activities towards poverty alleviation and sustainable development particularly in the Least-Developed OIC Member States.
3. Take all necessary measures to enhance the visibility of development assistance provided by OIC Member States and request SESRIC to collect and disseminate the development assistance statistics annually.
4. Convene the Meeting of the DCIs of the Member States annually.
5. Establish the OIC Development Assistance Committee (OIC-DAC) with the aim of promoting development cooperation and assistance among the OIC Member States.
6. Form an Experts Group to study and prepare strategic and operational guidelines and procedures for the OIC-DAC as well as develop new joint initiatives and programmes to be implemented in the Member States.
7. Request the Expert Group to meet in 2009 and finalize its report in timely manner before the 2nd meeting of the DCIs in 2010 and welcome the offer of SESRIC to coordinate the work of the Experts Group in collaboration with the OIC General Secretariat and the IDB.

We express our appreciation to the organisers of this event, namely, TIKA, SESRIC and the OIC General Secretariat and our profound gratitude to the Republic of Turkey for the excellent arrangement and hospitality.