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The Head Of The Government Of Morocco receives IIFA Secretary-General



H.E. Dr. Saad-Eddine El Othmani, Prime Minister and Head of the Government of Morocco, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO, Secretary-General of the Academy, on Tuesday 28 Jumada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 12 January 2021, at his official residence in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco.

H.E. the Prime Minister welcomed the Secretary-General of the Academy and congratulated him on his appointment at this critical time where the Academy is expected to play a leading role in achieving intellectual harmony and scientific complementarity between Islamic Jurists



and experts in social and applied sciences in order to provide the right solutions to the problems of contemporary life at all levels. The Prime Minister also noted the strong presence of the Academy in the Moroccan seen during the period of the 1990s, and stated that Morocco is fully prepared to strengthen cooperation and partnership relations between the Academy and the leading scientific institutions of Morocco through the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs. On his side, the Secretary-General of the Academy expressed his thanks to the Prime Minister of Morocco for the

warm welcome and congratulations and conveyed to him the greetings of H.E. Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Hamid, President of the Academy, Advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, Member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and Imam Khatib in the Grand Mosque of Makkah. His Excellency also expressed his thanks and deep appreciation to the Kingdom of Morocco's government for its outstanding support to the Academy since its foundation and up to the present day. His Excellency seized this opportunity to express his willingness and firm aspiration for closer cooperation relations

between the Academy and the leading Moroccan scientific institutions with outstanding scholars, led at the top by the Supreme Scientific Council.

At the end of the meeting, H.E. Dr. Saad-Eddine El Othmani, Prime Minister of Morocco, presented the Secretary-General of the Academy with a commemorative souvenir.

The Academy's Secretary General, it should be noted, is currently on official visit to Morocco aiming at strengthening relations and building strategic partnerships with Moroccan prestigious scientific institutions.

H.E. Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimen receives the first copy of the fourth edition of the Academy's Resolutions and Recommendations

H.E. Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimen, OIC Secretary-General, received H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO in his office at the OIC headquarters in Jeddah, on Monday 12 Jumada Al-Akhira 1442 corresponding to 25 January 2021. This visit came on the occasion of the publication of the fourth edition of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations book.

H.E. OIC Secretary-General expressed his sincere thanks and warm congratulations to the Secretary-General of the Academy for this outstanding achievement in a record period since his assumption of office as the Secretary-General of the Academy. H.E. also promised to send a copy of this precious publication to the OIC Member states and expressed his aspiration to see more achievements by the Academy

in the coming days, confirming – in this regard – his continued support to the Academy's activities and programs.

On his side, the Secretary-General of the Academy thanked H.E. the OIC Secretary-General for his tremendous support for the Academy, which greatly contributed to this achievement. Professor SANO also assured the Secretary-General of the OIC and of the tireless efforts of all the Academy's staff in promoting and developing its performance in order to achieve its vision, mission and objectives.

The Secretary-General of the Academy took this opportunity to inform H.E. the OIC Secretary-General that the translations of the resolutions and recommendations book into English and French are on their way soon.

At the end of the meeting, and on behalf

of H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, President of the Academy, Advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, Member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and Imam Khatib in the Great Mosque of Makkah, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano presented the first copy of the fourth edition of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations book to H.E. the OIC Secretary-General, in recognition of his continued support to the Academy.

It should be noted that this new edition comes after an eleven-year interruption and includes all the resolutions, recommendations and declarations issued by the International Islamic Fiqh Academy since its inception forty years ago.



H.E Prof. Koutoub SANO meets the Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco.

The Secretary-General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO, paid a visit to the headquarters of the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on Wednesday morning 29 Jamada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 14 January 2021, wherein His Excellency was received by H.E. Mr Ahmed Al-Tawfiq, Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs.

H.E. the Minister welcomed his guest and congratulated him on his appointment as the Secretary-General of the Academy, and expressed his great pleasure with this appointment, which he considers as a good synergy between established political experience and competent jurisprudential knowledge, wishing that this mixture would help the Secretary-General to achieve the esteemed link between jurisprudence and real life on the one hand, and between Islamic jurists and the concerns of the Ummah on the other hand.

H.E. the Minister also expressed his full confidence that the International Islamic Fiqh Academy will benefit from the academic and political competencies and experiences of H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha SANO accumulated over the years between universities and behind the scenes of politics and diplomacy, to improve the

performance of the Academy, its development and elevating it to fulfill the aspirations and hopes of the OIC Member States.

H.E. the Minister concluded his address by stating that the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs and its various agencies and departments welcomes all efforts that would strengthen co-operation and communication relations with the Academy at all levels, noting in this regard the willingness of the Ministry to host one of the forthcoming Sessions of the Academy, through the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco.

On his side, H.E. the Secretary-General of the Academy expressed his sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs for his warm welcome and conveyed to him greetings from the President of the Academy, H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, Advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, Member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and Imam Khatib of the Great Mosque of Makkah.

His Excellency also expressed the Academy's gratitude and deep appreciation for the tremendous support that the Moroccan government has accorded to it since its inception. He also appreciated the Ministry's offer to host one of the forth-



coming sessions of the Academy in collaboration with the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco. His Excellency affirmed to the Minister the Academy's full readiness to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco in order to coordinate the efforts, integrate the visions and strengthen partnership relations between the two institutions in various scientific fields of common interest.

At the end of the meeting, H.E., the Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs presented the Secretary-General of the Academy with a luxurious copy of an Art book annotated with Allah's most beautiful names.

The Secretary General of the Academy conclude his Official Visit to Morocco by meeting members of the Supreme Scientific Council

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, Secretary-General of the Academy, held on Thursday 01 Jamada al-Akhira, corresponding to 14 January, 2021, a fruitful meeting with the honorable members of the Supreme Scientific Council in Morocco at its headquarters in Rabat, Morocco. During the meeting, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Youssef, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council, welcomed Prof. Koutoub Sano and congratulated him on his appointment as Secretary-General of the Academy and introduced him to the members of the Supreme Scientific Council, who represent the finest Moroccan scholars, and expressed his pleasure for this renewed meeting between the Secretary General of the Academy and the members of the Supreme Scientific Council, which had previously hosted His Excellency to deliver a series of scientific lectures on Islamic Finance some sixteen years ago.

In his turn, the Secretary-General of the Academy expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to the members of the Council for the warm welcome and conveyed to them the greetings of the President of the Academy, H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, Advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, member of the Council of Great Scholars, and Imam Khatib at the Grand Mosque of Makkah. His Excellency also expressed his great appreciation for the scientific efforts that the Supreme Scientific Council has been making for the welfare of the Moroccan society, and aiming to guide human life through the teachings of the noble Shariah based on the Holy Book of Allah (The Quran), the Sunnah (teachings) of His Messenger (PBUH), and the rich Islamic heritage. His Excellency also praised the outstanding scientific achievements of the Council, namely the distin-



guished translation into English of Imam Malik's book Al-Muwatta' (RA).

His Excellency also seized the opportunity to present the vision, mission, objectives and means of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy to the Supreme Council members, referring to a few scientific programs and activities that the Academy has been organized since its inception. At the same time, he commended the distinct presence and outstanding contribution of Moroccan scholars to the Academy's various activities and programs. His Excellency also renewed the appeal to the Supreme Council members to strengthen coop-

eration and communication relations between the two institutions in the future.

His Excellency also expressed the Academy's firm intention to establish a permanent partnership with the Moroccan Supreme Scientific Council at all levels, and considered that hosting one of the Academy's Sessions after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic would be the beginning of a new era of cooperation between the two institutions through the joint organization of specialized scientific conferences and seminars, in addition to the preparation of scientific studies and research on issues and topics of mutual interest.

His Excellency concluded his speech by praying for success to HM King Mohammed VI – may Allah assist him –, by wishing the Moroccan people more progress, advancement, security, safety and stability, and by expressing his thanks to H.E. Dr. Saad Eddin El Othmani, Prime Minister of Morocco, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Tawfiq, Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs, H.E. Dr. Mohamed Yassif, Secretary-General of the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco, and to all the Council's scholars, experts, members for their generous patronage during his visit to the Kingdom of Morocco.

At the end of the meeting, the Secretary-General of the Council presented to H.E. the Secretary-General of the Academy a copy of the Council's publications. It is worth noting that the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco represents the highest religious and scientific authority and the first reference for fatwas and the clarification of Shariah rulings on emerging issues and calamities. HM King Mohammed VI of Morocco chairs the Supreme Scientific Council whose members consist of the most eminent scholars of the Kingdom of Morocco.

H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid chairs the first scientific forum between the Academy and the Shariah boards and councils of Islamic banks and financial institutions in the GCC States

With the participation of more than sixty attendees, including heads, secretaries and members of Shariah boards and committees in Islamic banks and financial institutions within the GCC States, H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, Imam Khatib at the Great Mosque of Makkah and President of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy chaired on Tuesday 13 Jamada Al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 26 January 2021, the first scientific forum entitled "Towards a Scientific Partnership between the Academy and the Shariah Boards and Committees of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions in the GCC States". The forum was inaugurated by a recitation from the Holy Qur'an. Then H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, President of the Academy, delivered an opening address about this Forum's objective which is strengthening cooperation and partnership relations between the Academy and the Islamic financial institutions in the GCC States. H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO, Secretary-General of the Academy, delivered the keynote speech of the Forum, stressing the importance of the Shariah boards and committees' commitment to the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy regarding Islamic Finance when issuing fatwas, directives, guidance and advice based on the fact that the Academy is the leading jurisprudential reference established by the leaders of the OIC Members states to clarify the Shariah rulings on issues of concern to Muslims and provide effective solutions to the problems of contemporary life, notably the issues of finance and business. Afterwards, H.E. Sheikh Ab-



Dr. Saleh bin Humaid

dullah Al-Mutlaq, advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and head of several Shariah boards and committees in GCC based Islamic banks and financial institutions delivered a speech in which he stressed the importance of grooming the rising generation of young jurists to carry the torch from and keep the tradition from the present generation. H.E. Dr. Khaled Madhkour, from the State of Kuwait, called on the Academy to coordinate with the central banks in the GCC states to provide the

necessary support to Islamic banks and financial institutions especially the legislations that help the financial institutions carry out their work in accordance with the shariah. As for H.E. Sheikh Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al-Haddad, Grand Mufti of the Emirate of Dubai in the UAE, he also called for greater participation of the young generation of Islamic jurists in the conferences and forums of the Academy in order for them to learn from the older generation. H. E. Sheikh Nizam Yaqoubi, from the Kingdom of Bahrain, spoke of

the importance of coordination between the Academy and the Shariah boards and committees to publish standards and regulations equivalent to those of AAOIFI, the Islamic Financial Services Council and the General Council of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions. In his speech, H.E. Sheikh Dr. Majid Al-Kindi, from the Sultanate of Oman, highlighted the importance of benefiting from the outstanding researchers and experts at universities, institutes and colleges. His Excellency also proposed establishing a permanent council for banks within the Academy to follow up with the Shariah Boards and Committees. On his side, H. E. Dr. Muhammad Ali Al-Qari, from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, reviewed the pioneering role of the Academy, through its resolutions and recommendations that paved the way for the emergence of contemporary Islamic banks and financial institutions. He also stressed the importance of the Academy continuing to play the same pivotal role. For two and a half hours, the honorable participants, presidents, secretaries and members of Shariah boards and committees made interesting interventions and comments. The stressed the importance of this event and called upon the Academy to organize similar events in the future. The forum's final declaration and recommendations will be published soon after its approval by the scholars, jurists, and experts who participated in the Forum. It should be noted that this forum is part of a series of forums the Academy intends to organize in partnership with the Shariah boards and committees within and outside the countries of the Muslim world.

Final Statement and Recommendations of the Scientific Forum

«Towards a Scientific Partnership between the Academy and Shariah Boards of GCC-based Banks and Financial Institutions for strengthening the Islamic Financial Industry»



Dr. Majid Al-Kindi Dr. Nidam Al-egaby Dr. Muhammad Al-Qrai Dr. Ahmed Al-Haddad Dr. Khaled almdkor Dr. Abdullah Al- Mutlaq Dr. Koutoub Sano Dr. Saleh bin Humaid



Dr. Anwar Abdul Salam Dr. Khaled Al-Otaibi Dr. Abdullah partner Dr. Mubarak Al-Harbi Dr. Abdul Ilah Bel Ateeq Dr. Bo Lawal Dana Sheikh Walid Al-Qary Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez



Dr. Carnivorous Dr. Ayashi a hamster Dr. Mubarak Al-Hajri Dr. Muhammad Al-Fuzia Dr. Mohammed Al-Osaimi Dr. Absolute Al-Jasser Sheikh Jaber Al-Sweileh



Dr. Osama Al-Durai Sheikh AlMutasim AlMaawali Dr. Abdullatif AlMahmoud Dr. Jassim Al Shamsi Dr. Salem Al-Ali Dr. Muhammad Laluddin Dr. Mohammed Qattan Dr. Abdullah Muhammad

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful

First: Final Statement

Praise to Allah Who by His grace has made all things perfect, and may the blessings and peace be upon whom He sent as a mercy to the worlds, our master Muhammad, upon his family, companions, and those who follow them with kindness until the Day of Judgment.

With Allah's grace, the Secretariat General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation organized the first scientific Forum entitled:

Towards a Scientific Partner-

ship between the Academy and Shariah Boards of GCC-based Banks and Financial Institutions for strengthening the Islamic Financial Industry

Held through videoconferencing on Tuesday morning 13 Jumada al-Akhira 1442 corresponding to 26 January 2021, the Forum brought together many chairmen, secretaries and members of the Shariah boards and committees of GCC-based Islamic banks and financial institutions, (list of the participants' names attached).

The Forum opened at ten o'clock with a recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr Abdullah bin Omar Al-Tamimi,

director of the conferences and symposia department at the Academy. H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, President of the Academy, advisor to the Royal Saudi Court and member of the Council of Senior Scholars delivered the opening address. H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, delivered the keynote address of the Forum.

At the opening session, the key participants delivered short statements on the importance of the Forum, including a considerable amount of proposals and ideas to improve cooperation and coordination between

the Academy, Shariah boards and committees of GCC-based banks and financial institutions. Participants included the following:

-H.E. Sheikh Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad Al Mutlaq, advisor to the Royal Saudi Court, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, and chairman of several Shariah Boards based in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

-H. Em. Sheikh Dr. Khaled bin Madkour al-Madkour, chairman of the Shariah Supervisory Board at the National Bank of Kuwait.

-H. Em. Sheikh Dr. Nidham Muhammad Saleh Yaqoubi, executive member of several Shariah Boards in the King-

dom of Bahrain.

-H. Em. Sheikh Dr. Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al-Haddad, Grand Mufti of the Emirate of Dubai, and executive member of the Shariah Supervisory Board of the United Arab Bank in the United Arab Emirates.

-H. Em. Sheikh Dr. Majid bin Muhammad Al-Kindi, Shariah Council member of the Charter of Islamic Banks at the Sultanate of Oman.

-H. Em. Dr. Muhammad Ali Al-Qari, chairman of several Shariah Boards based in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Furthermore, eminent and honourable personalities made distinguished interventions and constructive comments, including proposals to achieve the Forum's objectives such as strengthening partnership, cooperation and coordination between the Academy, Shariah boards and committees of GCC-based Islamic banks and financial institutions.

After the interventions and comments, Their Excellencies and Eminences concluded the following recommendations:

Second: Recommendations

1) Commending the efforts of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy in clarifying the Shariah provisions concerning the topics and issues of contemporary life, especially in finance and business. Hence, the total number of the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy has reached two hundred and thirty-eight (238) jurisprudential resolutions, including more than one hundred and twenty (120) resolutions on finance and business, rendering it the most respected scientific source and the most important jurisprudential reference in the jurisprudential Ijtihad and Shariah resolutions that advise, lead and counsel the activities of banks and financial institutions.

Participants also lauded the publication of the fourth edition of the Academy's book of resolutions and recommendations after an eleven-year hiatus.

2) Calling to establish a permanent scientific partnership between the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, Shariah boards and committees of GCC-based banks and financial institutions, where the reference in Ifta and clarifications on financial and business matters should be based on the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy.

The resolutions and recommendations of the Academy shall be forwarded to the members of Shariah boards and committees. The Academy shall invite them to its annual sessions, general conferences, and specialized symposia to participate in the study of the developments in the Islamic financial industry and enrich the sessions and contribute to the drafting of the resolutions and recommendations.

3) Promote cooperation and coordination between the Academy, Shariah boards and committees by providing a practical scientific model for the Islamic financial sector based on monitoring developments and changes in order to advise and guide them in accordance with the Shariah provisions, its financial and business objectives. This is based on the mission entrusted to the Academy by the leaders of the Muslim world, which is to present Islamic law correctly and moderately, emphasizing its advantages and full capacity to deal with all the problems of life and to achieve happiness, stability, security, peace and safety of humankind in this world and beyond.

4) Calling upon the Secretariat General of the Academy to regularly organize more scientific meetings, aiming to unite ranks and efforts to refute opinions and fatwas violating the established principles of Shariah, confiscating the recognized rules of Ijtihad, and causing disruption.

5) Calling upon the Secretariat General of the Academy to communicate and coordinate with the universities, colleges, institutes and scien-

tific centers in the Gulf Cooperation Council, in order to seek the assistance of reliable scholars and experts of these scientific institutions, especially from the younger generation, by involving them in the sessions of the Academy, its conferences, seminars, and its various activities, in order to enable them to train and familiarize themselves with the methodology of deduction, analysis, derivation, consultation, and counseling.

6) Calling upon the Secretariat General of the Academy to establish more cooperation and coordination relations with the Shariah boards of the bodies involved in the advancement and development of the Islamic financial industry, such as the Shariah Council of the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI), Islamic Banking Services Board, General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions, and other equivalent bodies and councils, based on the fact that these bodies and councils should collaborate with the Academy by following its resolutions, recommendations and statements.

To achieve this objective, the Forum welcomed the creation of the Permanent Committee for Islamic Economics and Finance within the Secretariat General of the Academy to ensure coordination between the Academy and Islamic bodies, committees, banks and financial institutions by holding periodic consultation and coordination meetings.

7) Calling upon the chairmen, secretaries and members of Shariah boards and committees to urge the owners of Islamic banks and financial institutions, whom they assist in consultation and counseling, to allocate a fixed percentage either from charitable income accounts or from set-aside funds to help finance the activities of Academy's strategic plan whose annual cost is estimated at about fifteen million U.S. dollars.

The International Islamic

Fiqh Academy is a legitimate body to which these revenues and funds can be donated, to enable it to conduct research and studies and organize scientific conferences and seminars that clarify the Shariah provisions regarding issues of concern to Muslims inside and outside the Muslim world, and that provide appropriate and practical solutions to the problems of contemporary life.

8) Urging states, peoples and charities inside and outside the Muslim world to contribute with substantial, financial and real estate support to the Waqf Fund of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, which was established by a ministerial decision of the OIC Foreign Ministers Conference in 2017 to provide a permanent and stable source funding for the Academy and to cover its budget deficit.

In conclusion, the participants in this Forum expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to Their Majesties and Highnesses the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council for the enormous patronage given to the Islamic economy in general, and to Islamic banking and finance in particular, asking Allah the Almighty to reward them and perpetuate security, peace, stability, prosperity and development for them and their people.

On behalf of the OIC Secretary General and the President of the Academy, the Secretariat General of the Academy expresses its sincere thanks and deep appreciation to their Excellencies and Eminences for their participation in the Forum, asking Allah the Almighty to assist everyone to what is in the good of our religion and our world, and that we shall all enjoy good health and well-being, and asking the Almighty to accelerate the end of the pandemic, for He is the Guardian and the All-Capable.

May the blessings and peace of Allah be upon our master Muhammad, his family and his companions.

HE The Secretary General holds a Meeting With the International Shariah Research Academy For Islamic Finance (ISRA)

The Secretary-General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, held via videoconference on Tuesday 20 Jamada Al Akhira 1442, corresponding to 02 February 2021, a meeting with officials from the International Shariah Research Academy for Islamic Finance in Malaysia (ISRA) to discuss the strengthening of cooperation and communication between the two institutions, in particular concerning the possibility for the Academy Waqf Fund to collect the donations to its Waqf Fund by using the services of the ISRA platform which is based on block chain technology.

His Excellency opened the meeting by expressing his sincere thanks and appreciation to ISRA for agreeing to hold this meeting, and its full readiness to provide all forms of technical and IT support to the Academy so it can benefit from the services of its platform.

His Excellency then presented a brief overview of the Academy's vision, mission, objectives and new strategic plan, emphasizing the importance of diversifying its financial resources to implement its multiple activities and various programs.



During the meeting, His Excellency spoke of the importance of the recently established Academy Waqf Fund, which was established to collect donations from states, organizations and individuals to support the Academy's budget. Therefore, this Waqf Fund looks forward to benefit from the ISRA platform to collect the largest possible number of donations to enable the Academy to finance its activities and programs. On his side, H.E. Prof. Akram Lal Al-Din, Executive Director of ISRA, expressed his thanks and pride in the Secretariat General of the Academy for its trust in ISRA, stressing –

in this regard – that ISRA will do its utmost to provide the necessary technical support to the Academy Waqf Fund in order to strengthen the partnership and cooperation relations with the Academy at all levels.

The participants then discussed ways and means to benefit from the platform from a technical and IT perspective. The meeting was concluded with the assignment of specialized staff from both sides to prepare a draft cooperation agreement and a memorandum of understanding as soon as possible which shall include the terms of the agreement and costs of operational services of the platform.

Participants at the meeting included H. E. Dr. Said Bahrawa and H.E. Dr. Al Moataz from ISRA. As for the Academy, the meeting was attended by H. E. Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the Academy, Dr. Ayman Mohamed Abdel Karim, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media and Finance, Mr. Al-Moez Al-Riahi, Director of Finance, Investments and Projects, and Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussain, Public Relations Supervisor at the Academy.

HE Prof. Koutoub SANO Receives the Permanent Representative of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the OIC: The Academy's Secretary-General commends the strong cooperation ties between Saudi's Representation at the OIC and the IIFA.

H.E. Amb. Saleh bin Hamad Al-Suhailani, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the OIC, paid an official visit to the headquarters of the Academy in Jeddah, on Tuesday 20 Jamada al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 02 February 2021, wherein His Excellency and his accompanying delegation were received by H.E. Prof. Koutoub Sano, Secretary-General of the Academy.



and changes in the Academy's workflow, including the approval of the first strategic plan of the Academy by the Committee of the Bureau at its last meeting. The Strategic Plan includes adjusting the vision of the Academy, specifying its mission, detailing its objectives, and means in addition to a clear formulation of the most important activities and programs to be organized over the next five years.

Furthermore, His Excellency confirmed the eagerness of the Secretariat General of the Academy to strengthen cooperation and communication ties between the Academy and the major scientific institutions in KSA, including the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, the Council of Senior Scholars, the Ifta Committee, as well as prestigious universities and scientific centers.

His Excellency concluded by commending the generous hospitality he has received from all segments of Saudi society since assuming office at the Secretariat General of the Academy, which enabled him and his team to carry out many outstanding programs and activities during the past months.

At the end of the visit, the two sides exchanged commemorative souvenirs. H.E. Secretary-General presented the Ambassador with a copy of the new edition of the Academy's book of resolutions and recommendations, which includes all the resolutions, recommendations and declarations of the Academy since its inception up to the present day.

H.E. the Ambassador also appreciated the role played by H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, advisor to the Saudi Royal Court, member of the Council of Senior Scholars, Imam Khatib at the Great Mosque of Makkah, and the President of the Academy, in his patronage of the Secretary-General of the Academy. H.E. the Ambassador concluded his speech by reiterating the willingness of the wise Saudi leadership to provide the Academy with all the logistics means and moral support necessary for its success. On his side, the Secretary-General of the Academy expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to H.E. Dr. Al-Suhailani and his accompanying delegation for this honorable visit and for the fine statements confirming the generous support that the Academy continues to receive from the headquarters state, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as a government and people, since the creation of the Academy four decades ago.

His Excellency also took this opportunity to inform H.E. the Ambassador of the most important transformations



The Secretary General Meets The Amb Mominah The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Branch in Makkah Province



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Mustapha SANO paid an official visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Branch in Makkah Province, located in Jeddah, on Wednesday morning 14 Jamada al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 27 January 2021. H.E. Amb. Hani Abdullah Mominah, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs branch in Makkah Province, received His Excellency and the accompanying delegation.

His Excellency started his meeting by expressing his sincere thanks and deep appreciation for the warm welcome and congratulated H.E. Amb. Hani Moumina on his appointment as Director General of the Makkah Branch of the Foreign Ministry. His Excellency then reviewed the most important scientific activities and programs of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy as a global scientific Shariah body established by the Muslim world's heads of state under the umbrella of the OIC, in order to study issues, calamities and developments of concern to Muslims, by clarifying the Shariah rulings towards them and providing effective solutions to contemporary life problems.

His Excellency also commended the generous support and help the Academy received from the KSA government since its creation to date, emphasizing – in this regard – the eagerness of the Secretariat General of the Academy to strengthen

cooperation relations with Makkah province branch of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For his part, H.E. Amb. Hani Abdullah Moumina expressed his pleasure with this important visit and thanked the Secretary-General for the additional information he provided on the activities and programs of the Academy. He also expressed the readiness of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Makkah Province to provide the necessary support, as well as the help and logistical services needed by the Academy and the OIC at large, following the directives of the wise leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and as per the instructions of HRH. the Saudi Foreign Minister.

At the end of the visit, the Secretary-General presented His Excellency with a copy of the fourth edition of the recently published book of resolutions of the Academy. It includes all the resolutions, recommendations and declarations issued by the International Islamic Fiqh Academy since its inception four decades ago.

During the visit, His Excellency was accompanied by Mr. Mohamed Mondher Chouk, Director of the Cabinet and Protocols Department, Mr. Amjad Mustafa, Head of Protocols Division, and Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Public Relations Supervisor at the Academy.

5th Meeting of Divisions Heads

The Secretary-General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO, chaired the fifth periodic meeting of the heads of the Academy's Divisions on Thursday 23 Jumada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 07 January 2021. His Excellency thanked the Heads of Divisions for their efforts in promoting the Academy at all levels. His Excellency noted that the Academy's strategic plan should be printed in the three OIC official languages, (Arabic, English and French) and distributed to all departments at the Academy and the OIC by the end of January.

His Excellency affirmed that the implementation of the articles of the strategic plan shall begin in February. Accordingly, the departments and divisions should take the necessary measures to comply with the activities and programs relevant to them. His Excellency also stressed the necessity for the department of Finance, Investment and Projects Affairs in cooperation with the department of Administrative and Financial affairs to update the budget items to comply with the strategic plan requirements and to seek co-financiers for the different activities and programs.

His Excellency stressed that the secret of success in each action, lies in cooperation and complementarity, and self-awareness of the responsibility towards the success of the project. He also stressed the need for tolerance, openness, and to rise above pettiness for the good of the Academy.



His Excellency quoted a hadith of the Prophet (PBUH) "The strong man is not the one who wrestles, but the strong man is, in fact, the one who controls himself in a fit of rage" and the hadith "The scoundrel shall not enter Paradise.", stressing that this fully applies to all those who seek among colleagues.

His Excellency said that the intention behind reviewing these noble ahadith is to clear the air between the staff and rally all the efforts in order to implement the Academy's strategic plan in the best and most effective way. At the end of the meeting, His Excellency thanked the heads of Divisions for sending their reviews on the strategic plan's articles.

The publication of the book of the fourth edition for the decisions and recommendations of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy

With the grace of the Almighty, the General Secretariat of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, received on Wednesday, 8 of Jumada al-Akhira 1442 AH corresponding to January 21, 2021, the newly published book of the fourth edition of the decisions and recommendations of the Academy. This publication came, after an interruption for almost eleven years. This is due to the fact the date of the last publication goes back to the year 2009. Indeed, this fourth edition is distinguished by its inclusion of all the decisions, recommendations and statements issued by the Academy from its establishment nearly four decades ago to nowadays. It consists of two hundred and thirty-eight (238) decisions, recommendations and statements about various issues and the problems of contemporary life.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the General Secretariat of the Academy has completed - by the grace of God - the translation of this fourth edition into the English and French languages, and these translations will be available to researchers and readers very soon.

Again it is the pleasure of the General Secretariat of the Academy to announce that it has begun



translating this edition into a number of languages prevailing in the countries of the world Islamic, namely Malay, Persian, Urdu, Turkish, Russian, Hausa, Mandingo and Swahili languages.

The General Secretariat of the Academy would like to take this opportunity to express its sincere thanks and deep appreciation to His Excellency Dr. Yusuf bin Ahmed Al-Othaimin, Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, for his continuous support to the Academy. Also the General Secretariat of the Academy expresses its great gratitude for the guidance and support of His Eminence Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Hamid. The advisor at the royal court, a member of the Council of Senior Scholars, the imam and preacher of the Grand Mosque, and the president of the Academy.

Finally, His Excellency the General Secretary of the Academy, Prof. Dr. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, takes this happy occasion to express his special thanks and appreciation to all the employees of the Academy, especially the Direction of Research, Studies, Fatwas and Encyclopedias, for this remarkable achievement in a record period of his assumption of his duties as Secretary General of the Academy.

May God give everyone the best rewards, and make this publication something that stays on the earth and beneficial for the mankind.

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13th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

The Secretary-General of the Academy opened the 13th weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday 21 Jamada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 04 January 2021, by welcoming the participants.

His Excellency spoke about the visit of H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, President of the Academy, to the headquarters of the Secretariat General, during which he inspected the developments and reforms taking place in the Academy. His Excellency expressed his gratitude for this visit and his thanks to H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid for his continued support to the Academy, particularly his commendable effort that led to the final approval of the amended Statute of the Academy.

The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- Getting the research papers of the last five Sessions ready for printing.
- Contacting Member states that do not have representative members to nominate suitable candidates to represent them in the Academy.
- Printing the Waqf Fund's Statute and the Academy's Statute.



- Translating the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy into the most common languages within the OIC member states and the Muslim Communities worldwide, notably (Swahili, NKO, Hausa, Malay, Farsi, Turkish, Urdu, Russian and Spanish), for the benefit of all Muslims.

- Identifying the topics of the 25th Session after approval by the Bureau.
- Fixing 26 January 2021 as the date of the scientific Forum to be held between the Academy and the Shariah Councils members of GCCbased Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions.

14th Weekly Meeting of the Departments Directors

Under the chairmanship of Secretary-General of the Academy, the fourteenth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments was held via videoconference on Monday 27 Jamada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 11 January 2021.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and expressed his thanks to Mr. Muhammad Al-Idrisi, Director of the Media and Public Relations Department, and Mr. Hasan Kumait, Head of the ICT Division for publishing trilingual brochures and the first booklet of the statutes of the Waqf Fund of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy.

His Excellency then spoke of his official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco, which is his first official visit since assuming office at the IIFA three months ago. His Excellency indicated that this visit is part of the Academy's commitment to strengthening cooperation and communication ties with Member states and establishing more strategic partnerships with leading scientific institutions within the Member states and Muslim communities in order to enable the Academy to accomplish its mission and achieve its goals.

His Excellency said that during his visit, he will be meeting with H.E. the Prime Minister, H.E. the Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs, and H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco. He will



also be visiting prominent scientific institutions such as the Supreme Scientific Council, the Mohammadian League of Scholars, and others.

The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- Requesting the gifts committee to develop a plan for the second phase of distribution of the Academy's publications.
- Contact Dr. Omar Zuhair Hafez, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the

Academy, to discuss the topics of the 25th Session of the Academy.

- Publish and distribute the Academy Waqf Fund's Statute to the Bureau and the Supervisory Board members.

- Print the Secretariat General of the Academy's annual strategic plan and implement it from early February.

- Proofread and review the Academy's executive and internal regulations to conform to the approved Statute of the Academy.

15th Periodic Meeting of the Departments Directors, held via videoconferencing,

Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the Academy, the fifteenth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments was held on Monday 06 Jamada Al-Oula 1442, corresponding to 19 January 2021.

His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and then reviewed the latest developments including his official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco, which aims at restoring the distinguished relationships that have existed between the Academy and some Member states since its foundation, and at urging the authorities in the Kingdom of Morocco to settle its arrears, as per the financial incentives approved by the OIC Ministerial Council at the Niamey Conference.

His Excellency spoke of his meeting with H.E. Dr. Saad Eddine El Othmani, Prime Minister and Head of Government of Morocco, who warmly welcomed this special visit, and expressed the full readiness of the Kingdom of Morocco to strengthen cooperation and partnership relations between the Academy and the major scientific institutions of Morocco through the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs.

His Excellency also discussed his meeting with H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Tawfiq, Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco, who also welcomed his distinguished guest and reiterated the readiness of the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs to welcome, through its various organs and departments, all efforts that would enhance cooperation and communication with the Academy at all levels, noting in this regard the readiness of the Ministry to host one of the forthcoming Sessions of the Academy through the Supreme Scientific Council.

Then, H.E. the Secretary-General expressed his thanks to Mr. Mohamed Adnan Al-Fihri, director of Administrative and Financial affairs at the Academy, for his esteemed efforts in facilitating the official meetings during the visit. His Excellency stated that all the objectives of the visit were successfully achieved. Therefore, the Kingdom of Morocco, graciously, agreed to host one of the forthcoming Sessions of the Academy and settled all its arrears and expressed its readiness to sign a memorandum of understanding between the Academy and the Supreme



Scientific Council in the coming days.

During the meeting, His Excellency expressed his thanks and congratulations to the Research Department for the arrival of the fourth edition of the book of resolutions at the Academy's headquarters, and also expressed his special thanks to Dr. Abdulqahir Qamar, director of the Research Department and his team for achieving this in a record time, notably Dr. Muhammad Mustapha Shuaib, Dr. Ismail Cebeci, and Mr. Khaled Hussein Jibrin.

His Excellency also thanked the Director of the Conferences and Seminars department Mr. Abdallah Al Tamimi for the follow-up and communication with the participants, which resulted in increasing the number of participants in the forum titled: Towards a Scientific Partnership between the Academy and the Shariah Boards in the Banking Sector in the GCC countries. His Excellency also thanked Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein – Public relations supervisor, for her appreciated efforts, continued follow-up, and communication with guests. He also thanked Mr. Walid Al-Hadrami for the follow-up and communication with the participants to ensure the forum's success.

His Excellency congratulated the Director of the Media and Public Relations Department, Mr. Muhammad Walid Al-Idrisi, for the publication of the third issue of the monthly bulletin, and to Dr. Ayman Abdul-Karim for his efforts that led to the timely publication of this issue. He also thanked the revision committees in the three languages for providing a comprehensive revision to the monthly newsletter.

The meeting resulted in several decisions, notably:

- Drafting a memorandum of cooperation between the Academy and the Supreme Scientific Council of Morocco, and forward it to the Secretariat General of the Supreme Council through the Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco.

- Prepare the web link for the scientific forum between the Academy and the Shariah boards of Islamic banks and financial institutions in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to avoid any technical problems during the meeting scheduled on Tuesday 13 Jamada Al-Akhira 1442 corresponding to 26 January 2021.

- Request from countries that do not have representative members to the Academy to appoint representatives to the Council of the Academy before the next Session.

- Rehabilitation of the Academy's warehouse cleaning and sterilizing it, and starting to gift the publications stored in it to the members, experts and scientific institutions in the headquarters country and member states of the Academy, provided that priority shall be given to those who have confirmed their reception of the initial publications and expressed their thanks and appreciation thereto.

- Distributing copies of the fourth edition of the book of resolutions to the members and experts of the Academy, and reserving copies for the OIC Secretariat General to be gifted to VIPs.

- Expedite the printing the strategic plan and the amended Statute in addition to the internal and executive regulations and the divisional work regulations.

- Expedite the translation of the strategic plan into English and French, and printing them for distribution to non-Arabic speakers.w

6th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



The Secretary-General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub SANO, chaired via videoconference from his residence in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on Thursday 8 Jamada al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 21 January 2021, the sixth periodic meeting of the Heads of the Academy's Divisions.

His Excellency went through the most important results of his official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco including his meetings with senior Moroccan officials, under the leadership of H.E. Dr. Saad Eddin El Othmani, Head of Government, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Tawfiq, Minister of Habous and Islamic Affairs, H.E. the Secretary-General of the Supreme Scientific Council and its honorable members.

His Excellency announced the resumption of cooperation and communication relations between the Acad-

emy and Morocco's leading scientific institutions, particularly the Supreme Scientific Council. His Excellency also affirmed that Morocco's government settled all its arrears and its regular contribution to the Academy's budget for the current year. He reiterated the Moroccan authorities' readiness to host one of the forthcoming Sessions of the Academy.

His Excellency then expressed his pleasure with the publication of the fourth edition book of the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy after an eleven-year interruption, which includes all the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy. On this occasion, His Excellency expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Research and Studies Department for this achievement, and to the Media and Public Relations Department for publishing the third issue of the

monthly newsletter, and expressed his appreciation of the role played by the language review committees in producing an outstanding version.

His Excellency also said that the regular publication of the monthly newsletter represents a qualitative leap in the Academy's work since its inception four decades ago, due to its crucial importance in promoting the Academy and its activities.

His Excellency concluded the meeting by checking on the latest preparations for the Scientific Forum to be held on Tuesday 26 January 2021 between the Academy and the Shariah boards and committees of Islamic institutions and banks in the GCC States. About seventy members of Shariah boards and committees are expected to participate in this Forum.

16th Weekly Meeting of the Departments Directors



Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, the sixteenth weekly meeting of the Directors of the Academy's Departments was held on Wednesday 14 Jumada Al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 27 January 2021. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and expressed his thanks to Mr. Mohamed Mondher Chouk, Director of the Cabinet and Protocol Affairs Department, for serving as acting Secretary General during His Excellency's official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco. His Excellency also thanked Mr. Abdullah Al-Tamimi, Director of the Department of Conferences and Seminars, and his assistant Mr. Waleed Al Hadhrami for their efforts

that led to the virtual scientific forum's success between the Academy and the Shariah Boards & Councils of the Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions in the GCC States. His Excellency also thanked Mr. Abdulqahir Qamar, Director of the Department of Research and Research, for drafting the keynote speech and the closing statement of the Forum. His Excellency also thanked the rest of the staff members for their cooperation and contributions to the success of the forum. He particularly thanked Ms. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Public Relations Supervisor, for her efforts, follow-up, and communication with the participants, which ensured a larger number of participants. The Forum was enormously appreciated by the partici-

pants, notably Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid, the President of the Academy. His Excellency then spoke about his meeting with the OIC Secretary General who congratulated the Academy for the outstanding achievement of publishing the fourth edition of the resolutions and recommendations book in a record time. The OIC Secretary General graciously promised to send copies of the new edition to the OIC Member states. The meeting resulted in several resolutions, notably:
-Sending (100) copies of the resolutions book to the OIC Secretary-Generals' office for distribution to the OIC Member States' foreign ministers.
-Sending (100) copies of the resolutions book to the office of H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Humaid,

President of the Academy.
-The publications and distribution committee should start sending the fourth edition of the resolutions and recommendations book to the Assistant Secretaries General, Directors of OIC Departments and OIC subsidiary and specialized organs, allocating ten copies to the departments of the Academy, and to scholars who previously received gift books, as well as to fatwah authorities, universities and so forth.
-To formulate a conception on setting up an electronic version to the resolutions book for its marketing.
- To translate the Strategic Plan to English French as soon as possible.

The Academy's Departments Directors



Abdullah Omar Al-Tamimi
Courses of Conferences Sessions
& seminars



Muhammad Walid Al-Idrisi
Director of Public Relations,
Media, Information Technology &
Communication



Dr. Abdul Qahir Qamar
Director of Research, Fatwas,
Encyclopedias and Printing
Department



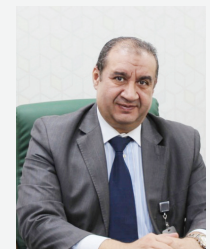
Moez Riahi
Head of Financial Affairs &
Accounting -Acting Director of
Finance, Investment & Projects
Affairs



Dr. Abdulfatah Mahmoud
Abnauf Ahmed
Director of Planning
& international cooperation



Mohammed Adnan Al-Fihri
Director of Administrative &
Financial Affairs



Muhammad Mundher Ridha
Shouk
Director of Cabinet & Protocols

17th Periodic Meeting of the Departments Directors



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha SANO, Secretary General of the Academy, held on Sunday 19 Jamada al-Akhira 1442, corresponding to 01 February 2021, the 17th periodic meeting of the Directors of the Academy's Departments. His Excellency opened the meeting by thanking the publications and distribution committee members for their esteemed efforts in inventorying and arranging the contents of the main warehouse located at Quraysh Street in Jeddah and for meeting the deadlines of this task.

Furthermore, His Excellency requested from the Conferences and Seminars Department to prepare a letter of thanks and appreciation to the honorable Islamic jurists and

experts who participated in the first scientific forum held recently on the strengthening of partnership and cooperation relations between the Academy and the heads, secretaries, and members of Shariah councils and committees of Islamic banks and financial institutions in the GCC states. His Excellency also requested from the publications and distribution committee to forward to the forum participants a copy of the fourth edition of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations book together with a draft of the final declaration and recommendations of the forum before its approval and publication.

The meeting resulted in the following decisions:

- Expedite the rehabilitation

of the Academy's main warehouse located on Quraysh street by installing the necessary lighting and maintenance.

- To carry on contacting the members and experts of the Academy regarding the nomination of institutions or individuals capable of translating the fourth edition of the book of resolutions and recommendations of the Academy into the most important regional languages prevailing in the OIC Member states such as Hausa, Mandigo, Malay, Farsi, Urdu, and Russian.

- To develop an integrated conceptualization of the calendar of the scientific forums to be held between the Academy and the Shariah councils and committees in East and Southeast Asia, North, South

and West Africa, in addition to the Central Banks of the OIC Member states. The next scientific forum will be held between the Academy and the Shariah councils and committees of the Central Banks within the OIC Member States during March 2021.

- To continuously monitor the Academy's website by updating its content and presenting it in an interesting and fine way.

- The necessity to complete the printing of the Five Year Strategic Plan, as well as the translation and printing of the Academy's Statute, Internal and Executive Regulations by the mid of this month. Implementing the the strategic plan shall start March 2021.