

President of the Republic of Guinea receives Secretary General of the Academy



His Excellency the President of the Republic of Guinea, Head of State, Chief of the Armed Forces, Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya, received His Excellency Professor Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Wednesday, 11 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to December 15, 2021 in his office at the Mohammed V Palace, in

Conakry, Republic of Guinea. His Excellency, Mr. President, welcomed Professor Sano and thanked him for his visit. He also wished him every success in his duties. Finally, He reiterated the full support of the Republic to the Academy in particular and to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in general. For his part, His Excellency, the Secretary General, expressed his warm thanks and his deep gratitude to His Excellency, Colonel President, for granting him this audience despite his very busy schedule. He also congratulated him on assuming the nation's destiny just a few months ago. To this end, he wished him every success in his duties. May the Lord, the Almighty, grant him His care, protect him, and help him to realize the immense hopes of his people, in particular to unite the nation and to maintain security, peace and stability. His Excellency assured the President of the Academy's full readiness to support all reconciliation efforts, combat extremist ideology and terrorism, and spread the values of moderation, tolerance, and coexistence. His Excellency concluded his speech by conveying the Academy's thanks

and gratitude to the Republic of Guinea on his own behalf and on behalf of the Presidency, the General Secretariat and the entire Staff of the Academy for its continuous support of the various activities and programs of the Academy. At the end of the meeting, the Secretary General presented to the President the fourth edition of the Book of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Academy along issues of the monthly newsletter.



IIFA and Guinea's Secretariat General of Religious Affairs sign Memorandum of Cooperation

Based on the shared objectives of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the General Secretariat of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Guinea, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed on Saturday 21 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to December 25 2021G. This protocol aims to strengthen the links of coordination, communication, and partnership in order to lead together a relentless fight against sectarianism, fundamentalism, fanaticism, and exclusivism through the promotion of tolerance, moderation and accepting differences. It also aims to contribute to the creation of a tolerant society and to the formation of a balanced personality, able to contribute constructively to the building of human civilization, peace, and stability. This personality should be able to respond effectively and intelligently to contemporary challenges in life. The strategic Memorandum of Cooperation was signed by His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Mustapha Sano the Secretary General of the Academy, representing the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, and by His Excellency the Minister Secretary General of Religious Affairs of Guinea Elhadj Karamo DIAWARA, representing the General Secretariat of Religious Affairs. This memorandum aims, among others, to strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest particularly with regards to dissemination of knowledge, Islamic culture, and preservation of Islamic heritage by outlining the main ideological, social, economic, and intellectual challenges in order



to develop the appropriate solutions based on the provisions and guidelines of Shariah. The Memorandum also aims at fostering cooperation and continuous communication in all areas of common interest, as well as promoting cooperation between the two parties in areas of conferences, symposia, workshops, and training. The Memorandum also includes exchange of publications and representation of both parties in conferences and symposia. Following the signing of the memorandum, His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his great satisfaction with the efficiency and promptness which now characterize the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs, particularly the enlightened leadership and the foresight of His Excellency the Minister Secretary General. He also expressed his great pleasure for the conclusion

of this memorandum which is the first between the Academy and a member country of the African Group of the OIC and demonstrates the high regard that member states of the OIC have for the Academy. He also expressed his profound gratitude for the commendable efforts of the Republic of Guinea in promoting moderation and strengthening the culture of tolerance and peaceful co-existence. Finally, he expressed his gratitude to the Government of Guinea for its continuous support for the Academy. His Excellency the Secretary General noted that the Memorandum will be a beginning for a new chapter in relations between the Academy and the Republic of Guinea on the one hand and between Guinea and the African countries on the other hand. The Academy will provide all the necessary scientific support that the General Secretariat of Religious Affairs needs to enable it to effectively implement its programs and activities in the Republic of Guinea. For the implementation of the articles of the memorandum, the two parties agreed to form a specialized committee in order to specify an implementation framework according to the directives of the Protocol.



Prime Minister of Guinea receives IIFA Secretary General in Conakry

His Excellency the Prime Minister of Guinea Mr Mohamed Beavogui received in his office in Conakry, the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, the Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Friday 13 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H correspondent to 17 December 2021. The Prime Minister thanked His Excellency the Secretary General for the visit noting the laudable efforts of the Academy and the great role it is playing on the global stage to promote moderation and values of tolerance and peaceful coexistence between different faiths and religious groups. His Excellency the Prime Minister also lauded the important role of the Academy in combating extremism and terrorism. In this light, the Prime Minister emphasized the fact that the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Guinea has been at the forefront of promoting moderation and combating extremism for decades. He invited the Academy to coordinate and collaborate closely with the Ministry of Religious Affairs in promoting these values. He concluded his speech by expressing his pride and gratitude for the confidence that member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have in appointing one of the sons of the Republic of Guinea at the helm of the General Secretariat of the Academy. In this way, His Excellency has become the first African and non-native speaker of Arabic to assume such a privileged position. He called upon His



Excellency the Secretary General to redouble efforts in promoting the Academy, while expressing the willingness of his Government in rendering the necessary support for the Academy and to host the different programmes and activities of the Academy in Guinea. On his part, His Excellency the Secretary General expressed his thanks and appreciation to his Excellency the Prime Minister for the hospitality and warm welcome accorded to him, despite his busy schedule. He conveyed the warm greetings of the President of the Academy, as well as its members and experts to his Excellency and the authorities of the Republic of Guinea. He also expressed the gratitude of the Academy to the authorities of Guinea for their continuous and generous support. His Excellency the Secretary General

of the Academy also noted the particular attention the religious institutions of Guinea pay to the resolutions and recommendations of the Academy. He expressed the readiness and willingness of the Academy to work collaboratively with the religious and scientific institutions in Guinea in order to coordinate efforts and organize programmes that aim at combating extremist ideologies and all forms of violence, terrorism, and aggression. Notwithstanding, these collaborative efforts can nurture values of tolerance and peaceful existence between followers of different religions in the Guinean society. Finally, the Secretary General presented to His Excellency the Prime Minister the Strategic Plan of the Academy and a set of newsletters of the Academy in French.



Secretary General delivers keynote speech at International Conference of World Zakat Forum in Indonesia

On Sunday, 01 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 05 December 2021G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), delivered a keynote speech at the International Conference of the 10th World Zakat Forum held in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia. In his speech, His Excellency expressed his pleasure to participate in this important conference aimed at discussing ways to improve zakat institutions and Awqaf to address the dire effects of the Corona pandemic on all aspects of life, noting in this regard the good efforts made by religious and scientific institutions and centers in the Republic of Indonesia to raise awareness among Muslims with the details of their religion, and clarifying the provisions of Shariah regarding developments related to Muslim's daily life. His Excellency also thanked the organizers, the "World Zakat Forum" and the "National Zakat Agency in Indonesia" (Baznas), looking forward to cooperation and coordination between them and the Academy in the future in such scientific events. In addition, His Excellency spoke about the status of zakat in terms of faith, as it is the third pillar of Islam, and in terms of its role in combating poverty in societies, stressing the importance of improving the performance of zakat institutions by developing their organs, modernizing their means, and digitizing their activities and programs to perform the role expected of them. To achieve this,



His Excellency called for more care and attention to this institution on two levels in terms of development and keeping pace with new trends, namely the level of levying and collecting zakat from people who meet the conditions of the obligation of zakat, and the level of distributing it to its eight known beneficiaries. His Excellency pointed out that: Intellectual, administrative and organizational efforts should unite in order to advance zakat institutions inside and outside the Muslim world in terms of performance, effectiveness, modernization and keeping pace with developments, so that the objectives are achieved, especially the objective of social justice in redistributing wealth in society, the objective of money circulation among the largest number of people in society, and the objective of solidarity and welfare through which well-being and happiness for all are

achieved. His Excellency also touched on the issue of social Islamic finance, of which Zakat is the most important institution, which requires promoting awareness of this aspect of comprehensive Islamic finance. In his speech, His Excellency pointed out the importance of scholars playing an active role in educating people about the status of zakat and the need to simplify its provisions and issues for the public to be able to understand and absorb them, as well as the need to make maximum use of modern and emerging technologies, especially new digital means, and technology of the financial industry, in order to find innovative solutions for zakat collection and distribution efforts. His Excellency also emphasized the position and status of the Republic of Indonesia in the Muslim world, which qualifies it to be a center for promoting awareness of Islamic social finance with its institutions and activities. It should be noted that this conference was inaugurated by the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ma'ruf Amin, and a large group of eminent international personalities in the field of Zakat and Islamic finance participated in it.



H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan Al-Qassimi, Sovereign Ruler of Sharjah, receives IIFA Secretary General



His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of the Emirate of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates received His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Wednesday, 04 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 08 December 2021G in the residence of Dr. Sultan Al Qasimi in Sharjah. At the beginning of his speech, His Highness expressed his thanks to His Excellency the Secretary General for the visit, and he also expressed his happiness to meet His Excellency, for whom he has all the love, appreciation, and good memories, praising the importance of concerted efforts to spread moderation, a culture of peace, tolerance, noble values, and

correct concepts about Islam. His Highness also noted the importance of working to spread useful knowledge, preserve the Ummah's heritage, train youth to be proud of belonging to their religion and their countries, and preserve the values and virtues in society. Finally, His Highness concluded his speech by expressing his readiness to provide all support and assistance to the Academy to enable it to perform its duties as required. For his part, His Excellency the Secretary General expressed to His Highness his great thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome, praying to God to protect and bless him. He also expressed the Academy's abundant thanks and great gratitude from presidency, general secretariat, to members, and experts of the Academy, for the United Arab Emirates in general and for the Emirate of Sharjah in particular for the continuous support and permanent sponsorship of the activities and programs of the Academy, noting that the Emirate of Sharjah hosted one of the twenty-four sessions of the Academy, confirming the status of the Academy in the Emirate. Furthermore, His Excellency presented to His Highness a brief summary of the Academy and its strategic plan, which includes a formulation of the most important activities and programs that the Academy intends to accomplish during the next five years, noting in this regard the Academy's commitment to moderation and peace in its resolutions and

recommendations. His Excellency concluded his speech by thanking His Highness for the care, attention and concern he attaches to science, scholars, thought and thinkers, asking the Almighty Allah to protect and bless him, and reward him in the best manner. At the end of the meeting, His Highness presented to His Excellency a copy of the book "The Historical Dictionary of the Arabic Language". His Excellency in turn presented to His Highness a copy of the fourth edition of the Book of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Academy, and a copy of the Book of Encyclopedia of Hajj and Umrah, in addition to copies of the Academy's newsletter and the strategic plan. During the visit, His Excellency took an introductory tour of a collection of rare historical documents, maps, books, and photos.



Secretary General participates in 8th Meeting of Abu Dhabi Peace Forum



On Sunday, 01 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 05 December 2021G, the Eighth International Meeting of the Forum for the Promotion of Peace was launched in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. This year, the Forum chose the theme of "Comprehensive Citizenship from Common Existence to Shared Consciousness" as the title of the forum, and was inaugurated by His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence in the United Arab Emirates, in the presence of scholars and thinkers from all over the world. His Eminence Sheikh Abdullah Bin Bayyah, Chairman of the

Forum and Chairman of the Emirates Council for Sharia Fatwa, gave the forum's opening speech in which he stated: "We gather this time to think together, and to contemplate together a basic concept of peace, a concept that has its profound philosophical depths, and its current realistic horizons, the concept of inclusive citizenship." His Eminence also indicated that the forum sought, after a series of workshops held previously culminating in issuing the Meeting's "Abu Dhabi Declaration of Inclusive Citizenship." On Monday, 02 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 06 December 2021G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the session entitled "Inclusive Citizenship on the Path of Peace between the Absoluteness of the Principle and the Relativity of Application". He opened the session by expressing his great thanks and appreciation to the leadership and people of the United Arab Emirates for the warm reception and hospitality. He also expressed his great gratitude to His Eminence Sheikh Abdullah Bin Bayyah for the invitation, praising the great achievements of the Forum since its establishment to this day, and praising in particular the innovations of the Forum in the field of selecting important themes and distinct and relevant titles that express the challenges and issues of peace in the current era. His Excellency also stressed

that the issue of comprehensive citizenship is today one of the most important current topics, whose major issues and various questions should be addressed through editing, authentication, investigation, and application, because "promoting the concept of comprehensive citizenship would reduce conflict prevailing in many societies, and this value would be more effective if discussed in light of its application on the ground". Over the course of an hour, the participants presented summaries and findings of their research papers on the topic of the session. It is worth noting that the name "Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies" was established in 2014 and will be changed from now on to "Abu Dhabi Peace Forum."



IIFA President participates in 8th Meeting of Islamic Advisory Group in Cairo



The Islamic Advisory Group held its eighth ordinary meeting on Wednesday 04 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 08 December 2021G, in the Sheikhdom of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif in Cairo, Egypt. The meeting was attended by the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), His Excellency Mr. Hussein Ibrahim Taha, and the head of the co-group, His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, President of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), Advisor at the Royal Court, Member of the Council of Senior Scholars, imam and khatib of the Grand Mosque, and Undersecretary of Al-Azhar His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Al-Dhawini, representing the Grand Imam, Sheikh of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, the co-chair of the co-group, and the Director General of the Eastern Mediterranean Office of the World Health Organization (WHO), His Excellency Dr.

Ahmed Salem Al-Mandhari. The Director of the Research, Studies and Fatwas Department of the Academy, Dr. Abdel Qaher Mohammad Qamar, representing the Secretary General of the Academy, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, a member of the group's executive committee, also participated in the meeting. In his speech, His Excellency the President of the Academy indicated that the idea of the advisory team arose when some in a number of our Islamic countries refrained from allowing their children to take polio vaccines based on fabricated rumors about those vaccines, stressing in this regard that history is repeating itself today with the Corona pandemic, where some refrain from taking vaccinations due to the spread of the same rumors about the contents of the vaccines, their feasibility and their efficiency. Hence the role of religious institutions and the Islamic Advisory Group in educating communities about what is beneficial to them and preserving their health. His Excellency seized this occasion by expressing his heartfelt thanks to all doctors, nurses, and health practitioners, in appreciation of the sacrifices they made in the face of the emerging Corona pandemic, and for their commendable efforts in treating, preventing from it. His Excellency also said: "Following the shariah rulings in our Muslim countries and communities, they have played a major role in the consolidation of community health awareness, and in the

commitment of community members to health precautionary measures and their positive acceptance of vaccinations and immunizations without objections, which was positively reflected in the decrease in the number of infections and overcoming the critical stages of this pandemic". The meeting issued a final statement that included the most important recommendations and directives issued by the Group. It should be noted that the Islamic Advisory Group is an Islamic federation, established in 2013 between Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Islamic Development Bank Group, and it includes religious scholars and technical experts. The Group is keen to continue supporting global initiatives seeking to protect human health and promote awareness of priority public health issues in local communities, by aligning technical and religious perspectives, and benefiting from religious scholars, imams, and community influential leaders.



OIC Secretary General meets IIFA Secretary General

The new Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Hussain Ibrahim Taha, received the Secretary General of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, and his accompanying delegation on Tuesday 24 Jumada al Ula 1443 correspondent to 28 December 2021, at the headquarters of the OIC in Jeddah. He thanked the Secretary General for the visit, and expressed his strong desire to give all the support that the Academy needs as one of the important affiliates of the OIC that is given the task of issuing fatwas on new issues and challenges faced by Muslims around the world. He also expressed his full confidence in the ability of the Secretary General of Academy to uplift the Academy to higher heights by further enhancing its performance and diversifying its activities and programmes. He called upon the Secretary General of the Academy to strengthen cooperation and collaboration with academic, educational, and religious institutions inside and outside the Muslim world in order to organise programmes and activities aimed at presenting the true image of Shariah and combatting extremism, violence, and terrorism. On his part, the Secretary General of the Academy thanked the Secretary General of OIC for his hospitality and warm welcome congratulating him once again on his assumption of the General Secretariat of OIC wishing him all success. He hoped



that, through the Secretary General of OIC, the Academy would receive more financial and moral support so that it could achieve its vision and implement its mission and goals through the organisation of programmes that are aimed at cross-fertilisation of ideas and integration of knowledge between the jurists of different Islamic schools of jurisprudence on one hand and the scholars and experts of the Ummah in natural and human sciences on another. Thus, the Academy would be able to reach tangible solutions and answers to challenges and questions of the contemporary world that concern Muslims everywhere. Also, he highlighted that the aim of such activities and programmes is the eagerness of the Academy for the collaboration between the jurists and experts of the Ummah in promoting moderation and strengthening the culture of tolerance and peaceful coexistence

between communities and nations. He concluded his speech by giving an overview of the Academy, its inception, mission, and administrative structure, as well as its latest Strategic Plan. He called upon HE to kindly invite the member countries and organisations inside and outside the Muslim world to give their generous support to the Academy in order to finance and implement its Five-Year Strategic Plan and to the Academy Waqf Fund. The Academy hopes that the Waqf Fund would soon be the permanent source of funding for its activities. Finally, he presented a souvenir and a number of the Academy's publications to the Secretary General of OIC. The meeting was attended by Dr. Mohamed Kalbo, Director General of the Office of the Secretary General of the OIC, Mr Mohamed Al-Mondher El-Chok, Director of the Cabinet of the Secretary General of the Academy, and Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs at the Academy.



OIC Secretary General chairs 2nd Meeting of IIFA Bureau



H.E. Mr. Hussein Ibrahim Taha, the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Chairman of the Bureau of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired on Thursday 26 Jumada al Ula 1443 correspondent to 30 December 2021, the second Meeting of the Bureau of the Academy for the year 2021, via virtual communication technology. The Meeting was attended by H.E. Sheikh Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Hamid, President of the Academy, Deputy Chairman of the Bureau, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, and Secretary of the Bureau, as well as the distinguished members of the Bureau, Sheikh Dr. Abu Bakr al-Doukouri, and Sheikh Prof. Ajeel Al-Nashmi. The Secretary General of the OIC opened the meeting by expressing his great thanks and appreciation to the members for their participation, and their continued support for the Academy, praising the great role played by the Academy in spreading the culture of moderation and tolerance, combating extremism, terrorism, violence and exclusivism, as well as the great and esteemed efforts of the Academy

in promoting cooperation and coordination between fatwa councils and Shariah bodies among member states of OIC. On this occasion, he expressed his pleasure and pride at the outstanding achievements made by the Academy in the recent period since H.E. Prof. Sano took over the General Secretariat of the Academy. On his part, H.E. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid expressed his great thanks and appreciation to the Secretary General of the OIC for the continued support for the Academy, and expressed his gratitude to the members of the Bureau for their presence and participation in support of the efforts of the Academy, and then praised the commendable achievements made by the Academy under the leadership of its Secretary General and his assistants, pointing out that what was stated in the report of the General Secretariat of the Academy for the meeting is the clearest testimony to this. The Meeting then discussed the items on the agenda presented by H.E. the Secretary General of the Academy, beginning with the warmest congratulations to the Secretary General of the OIC on the occasion of his assumption of the leadership of the Secretariat, wishing him success in his endeavours, and stressing the readiness of the Academy to provide all the necessary support and cooperation to his success. He also thanked H.E. Dr. Yousuf bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, former Secretary General of the OIC, for his great support and care for the Academy throughout his tenure, wishing him well in his new engagements. On behalf of the Academy, the Presidency and Secretariat, members, experts and employees, he expressed his great thanks and gratitude

to the host State of the headquarters of the Academy, its leadership, and people, for their great support, great care, and facilities to enable the Academy to implement easily all its activities, programmes, and projects. He then presented the items of the meeting, which included the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Bureau. The members of the Board were informed of the recommendations and conclusions of the specialized scientific symposia and seminars organized by the General Secretariat of the Academy, as well as cooperation agreements and memorandums of understanding signed by the General Secretariat of the Academy with several ministries, councils, and scientific institutions. The items also included a discussion of nominations by member States of new members to the Council of the Academy. At the end of the meeting, the Chairman of the Bureau and members of the Bureau recorded their great satisfaction and deep appreciation for the achievements made by the General Secretariat of the Academy at all levels despite the circumstances of the Covid-19, which affected all walks of life. They all expressed their great appreciation to the Secretary General and commended greatly the stable financial situation of the Academy over the past year as a result of its successful efforts and continues to be made by the General Secretariat of the Academy in collecting arrears and contributions from member States, which enabled the Academy to complete many outstanding activities and programmes and achieve a surplus in its budget for this year.

CEO of Saudi Food and Drug Authority visits IIFA Headquarters

His Excellency Dr. Hisham bin Saad Al-Jadhey, CEO of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority, visited the Headquarters of the Academy in Jeddah on Monday, 30 Jumada Al-Ula 1443, corresponding to 03 January 2022. H.E. the Secretary General of the Academy welcomed his esteemed guest, the CEO of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority thanking him for accepting the invitation of the Academy, and praising the outstanding efforts made by the Authority at all levels. He also highly commended the fact that the decisions and recommendations made by the Academy are well received by the Authority, especially those decisions with regards to slaughter and halal issues of food, beverages, and drugs. This shows the keenness of the Authority's officials to coordinate and communicate with the Academy as the highest Fiqh juristic reference point for the member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in scientific matters guiding the activities of companies and businesses working in the field of food and drugs in order to conform to the teachings of Islamic law. He then concluded his speech by considering the visit to be the beginning of a new page of close cooperative relations, promising partnership, and continuous coordination between the Academy and the Authority in the field of collaborative research, studies and organizing seminars, conferences, and workshops on



various issues particularly related to food and drugs. For his part, H.E. the CEO of the Authority expressed his great thanks and gratitude to the Secretary General for his warm welcome and hospitality, praising the leading role played by the Academy in the field of guidance for companies and institutions working in the field of food and drugs inside and outside the Muslim world in order to enable them to abide by the teachings and provisions of Shariah concerning these two areas. He also stressed the Authority's keenness to abide by the decisions of the Academy and its recommendations in the area of slaughter and halal issues, believing that they are trustworthy and effective decisions as issued by scholars and jurists of the Ummah. Given the new developments and rapid changes in the field of food and drugs, the CEO of the Authority observes that there is a need for the Fiqh to keep pace

with those developments, trends, and changes in order to direct and guide. Accordingly, the two sides agreed to organize a specialized scientific seminar in February to study many of the latest methods, equipment and devices that are used in the field of halal slaughter of poultry. At the end of the meeting, He reiterated his thanks to his Excellency the Secretary General, promising to send technicians to coordinate with the General Secretariat of the Academy on the details and modalities of organizing the proposed symposium. The meeting was attended by: Dr. Abdul Qahir Mohammed Qamar, Director of Research and Fatwas Department, Adnan Al-Fehri, Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs Department, Mr. Abdullah Omar Al-Tamimi, Director of Conferences and Seminars Department, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media and Public Relations.



Mr. Mohammed El-Chok represents IIFA at Russia-Muslim World Conference

On behalf of His Excellency the Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), Mr. Mondher El-Chok, Director of Cabinet, Protocol and Legal Affairs at the Academy, participated on Wednesday, 19 Rabi' Al-Thani 1443H corresponding to 24 November 2021G, in the Strategic Vision Group conference themed: (Russia – Islamic World: Prospects for Dialogue and Cooperation) in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The conference was held under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz, President of the 14th Islamic Summit, and in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Khaled Al-Faisal, Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Governor of Makkah Al-Mukarramah Region, and His Excellency President Rustam Minnikhanov, President of



Tatarstan, and Chair of the Strategic Vision Group. The conference was convened to discuss the common issues between the two sides and debate ways to enhance cooperation and communication in facing challenges at all levels. This conference falls within the framework of Russia's efforts to strengthen

its relations with the Muslim world in light of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's initiative for dialogue between followers of religions and cultures. A large number of eminent personalities from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Russian Federation, and member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), as well as senior officials of the OIC's General Secretariat and subsidiary and specialized organs, participated in the conference. It should be noted that the Strategic Vision Group was established in 2006, after the Russian Federation joined the OIC as an observer. The Group currently focuses on developing measures to strengthen cooperation between Russia and the Islamic countries, and the practical implementation of the strategic partnership between the Russian Federation and the Muslim world.

Dr. Mohammed Mustafa Shuaib represents IIFA at CIBAFI's Accreditation Board Meeting



His Eminence Dr. Mohammed Mustafa Shuaib, Head of Studies and Fatwas Division at the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), representing His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy, participated in the seventeenth meeting of the Accreditation Board of the General Council of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions on Wednesday 04 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 08 December 2021G via Zoom technology. The meeting began with the adoption of the agenda for discussion and deliberation, and the approval of the minutes of the previous sixteenth meeting, then the Secretary General submitted a report on the activity of the General Council during the last period. Following deliberations and discussions,

the attendees stressed the need to follow up on the decisions and recommendations of the members of the Accreditation Board, and to approve the Shariah audit portfolios (first and second levels), with a commitment to applying and fully implementing the observations received on them. The meeting was attended by Dr. Abdelilah Belatik, Secretary General of CIBAFI, Dr. Faisal Al-Atbani from the Islamic Economics Institute affiliated with King Abdulaziz University, Dr. Akram Laal El-Din, from the International Shari'ah Research Academy in Malaysia (ISRA), and Dr. Riyadh Al-Hindawi from the Institute of Banking Studies in Jordan, and Dr. Muhammad Boris, among others.

14th Monthly Staff Meeting of IIFA

On Sunday, 15 Jumada Al Ula 1443H corresponding to December 19, 2021G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the fourteenth monthly general meeting of the Academy's employees, through Zoom technology, from his residence in the Guinean capital Conakry. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, enquiring about the progress of work at the Academy during the period of His Excellency's stay abroad, praising in this context the commendable efforts made by everyone in order to perform their duties in the best possible way. His Excellency also commended all the departments and divisions that have made great efforts during the past year to implement the Academy's programs and projects in accordance with the strategic plan, calling on everyone to exert more effort



to enable the Academy to play its pioneering and missionary role. As usual during this type of meeting, His Excellency opened the way for all employees to express their opinions and observations about the work progress in the Academy, in addition to any suggestions they have that could contribute to improving the quality and effectiveness of the outputs and productivity. His Excellency welcomed

the new employees who joined the Academy recently and called on everyone to cooperate with them to ensure their integration into the Academy's family. The meeting took several decisions, the most important of which are:

- Assigning the Department of Planning and International Cooperation to communicate with the Union of African Scholars in Bamako, Republic of Mali, in order to enhance cooperation and coordination with them.
- Assigning the Department of Media, Public Relations, and Information Technology to prepare a creative design that includes the Academy's achievements during the past year to be used as a marketing tool to further introduce the Academy.
- Appointing a joint committee to undertake the design, production, and preparation of a list of branded gifts, in order to provide a broader marketing of the Academy.

27th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired on Thursday 12th of Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to December 16, 2021G the twenty-seventh periodic meeting of divisions heads, via Zoom technology, from his residence in the Guinean capital Conakry. His Excellency began the meeting by welcoming the attendees, thanking everyone for their regular attendance at these important periodic meetings, and their keenness to

implement all the decisions and directives issued by them with honesty, accuracy, and professionalism. In the same context, His Excellency the Secretary General welcomed the new employees who attended their first meeting, and inquired about their working conditions at the Academy, wishing them success. Then His Excellency spoke about his program during his stay in the Republic of Guinea, where he had the honor of meeting His Excellency the President of the Republic, Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya, who confirmed to His Excellency the keenness of the Republic of Guinea to continue supporting the efforts of the Academy and strengthening the bonds of partnership, cooperation and coordination between the Academy and the religious institutions in Guinea. His Excellency also met with His Excellency the Prime Minister and the Head of Government, Mr. Mohamed Beavogui, who, for his part, affirmed

Guinea's commitment to strengthening relations of close cooperation with the Academy, and supporting its intellectual efforts aimed at spreading the true values of Islam, enlightened thought, tolerance and coexistence among peoples and nations. The meeting discussed a number of issues and took decisions, the most important of which are:

- Urging everyone to attend the periodic meetings, and not to miss them except for mitigating circumstances.
- Directing the Administrative and Financial Affairs Department to pay the overtime allowance to employees within the current December salary.
- Providing new employees with new computers and changing all the Academy's computer devices that are more than five years old as stipulated by the regulations.

28th Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads

On Thursday 26 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 30 December 2021G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the twenty-eighth periodic meeting of the heads of divisions at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Academy in Jeddah. At the outset of the meeting, His Excellency the Secretary General welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their valuable and sincere efforts to advance the work of the Academy during his absence. He also expressed his great satisfaction with the commitment and passion of the Academy's staff to advance it and achieve its goals, programs and projects as stated in the five-year strategic plan. In this context, he assured the attendees that the year 2022 is the actual launch of the Academy's programs and projects in order to implement all the elements of the strategic plan, wishing

that the new Corona pandemic would hopefully end and life would soon return to normal. Then His Excellency spoke about the meetings and engagements he held during his recent visit to the United Arab Emirates. He also talked about his visit to the Republic of Guinea, where he met with His Excellency the President, His Excellency the Prime Minister, and a number of ministers and senior officials, and gave them all an introductory overview of the Academy, its objectives, and activities. The visit culminated in the signing of a cooperation agreement between the Academy and the Guinean Ministry of Religious Affairs, the first of its kind with one of the African group countries of the organization. Several decisions were taken at the meeting, the most important of which are:

- Holding a general assessment and evaluation meeting in order to ensure the completion of the contents of the plan,

and to discuss various issues related to it.

- Starting to activate the activities and programs of the Family and Women's Affairs Department at the beginning of the new year.
- Urging the Gifting Committee to distribute the Academy's newsletter on the widest possible scale because of its positive impact and effective role in introducing and promoting the Academy and its various activities.



55th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

On Monday 24 Rabi' al-Thani 1443H, corresponding to 29 November 2021G, His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the fifty-fifth weekly meeting of department directors, via Zoom technology, from his residence in the United Arab Emirates. His Excellency opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, recalling the importance of periodic meetings as a means of following up on activities and programs, ensuring their implementation, strengthening the links of communication and cooperation between departments, and taking decisions after discussing them. Therefore, everyone should make sure to attend them regularly. His Excellency then talked about his program during his stay in the United Arab Emirates, as he will participate in the periodic meeting of the Council of Muslim Elders in Abu Dhabi to be held on Tuesday



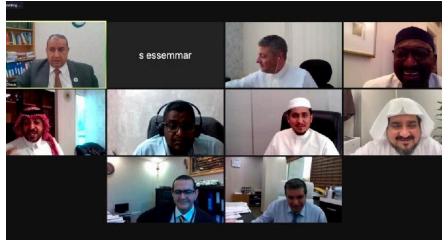
30 November 2021. His Excellency will also participate in the eighth conference of the Forum for the Promotion of Peace on 05 December 2021. His Excellency also informed the meeting that the Muslim Communities Conference, which was scheduled to be held next week, will be postponed due to the new strain of Corona. Then the meeting discussed the items of decisions issued by

the previous meeting, and several decisions were issued, the most important of which are:

- Expediting the preparation of the pieces research of the symposium on digital cryptocurrencies for printing after they were revised in a book distributed as part of the Academy's publications.
- Starting to contact the presenters for the next session's research, in order to ensure impartiality and integrity, provided that the presentations include a full summary of the research, draft resolutions and recommendations.
- Presenting an integrated concept for a specialized scientific symposium on Wills as a means of combating poverty, in partnership with the Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities in Dubai.
- Follow-up communication with the Republic of Indonesia regarding setting the date for the next session of the Academy.

56th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

His Excellency Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the fifty-sixth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday, 02 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H corresponding to 06 December 2021G, via Zoom technology from his residence in the United Arab Emirates. His Excellency began the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking them for their efforts in accomplishing their tasks and implementing the activities and programs, as well as everyone's keenness to advance the Academy. His Excellency then spoke about his participation as a keynote speaker at the Tenth International Conference of the World Zakat Forum, which aims to discuss ways to improve Zakat institutions and Awqaf. His Excellency also informed the meeting about the fifteenth regular meeting of the Council of Muslim Elders, where he discussed, on the sidelines of the meeting, with His Eminence the Grand Imam, Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Al-Tayeb, Sheikh of Al-Azhar,



Chairman of the Council, and His Excellency Counselor Mohamed Abdel Salam, Secretary General of the Higher Committee for Human Fraternity, possible aspects of cooperation between the Council and the Academy, and ways to strengthen it through the exchange of expertise and helping the council prepare a strategic plan similar to the one of the Academy. His Excellency also asked the participants in the meeting to start preparing well for the 25th session of the Academy to ensure that it is held on time and to ensure its success at all levels. Then His Excellency instructed the concerned departments to expedite preparations for organizing a

symposium on Takfir "the phenomenon of Ex-communication" and another on "Wills." He also instructed to organize a consultative symposium between the Academy and the fatwa authorities in Muslim communities in partnership with the World Muslim Communities Council in order to discuss ways to rehabilitate and train Muftis in Muslim communities. Then the meeting discussed the items of decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several decisions were issued, the most important of which are:

- Communicating and coordinating with Mohammed bin Zayed University for Humanities to prepare the final version for signing the memorandum of cooperation with the Academy.
- Final handover of the new Academy site from the developing company and training the concerned employees to use it.
- Communicating with the World Muslim Communities Council to obtain the list of muftis in Muslim communities in order to invite them to attend the consultative symposium.

57th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

As part of the series of weekly meetings of the directors of departments of the Academy, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, the Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the fifty-seventh weekly meeting of the directors of the departments on Monday 09 Jumada Al-Ula 1443 corresponding to December 13, 2021, via Zoom technology from his residence in the Guinean capital, Conakry. He opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, thanking them for their keenness to attend these weekly meetings. Then he spoke about the thirteenth issue newsletter, which is the first issue of the second year since its publication and thanked everyone who contributed to editing and drafting the newsletter in Arabic. He also extended his thanks and congratulations to the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs for its success in passing the task of the annual financial report of the

Accounting Department with competence and professionalism, and for obtaining praise and acclaim from the aforementioned department. Again he welcomed the new employees who joined the Academy recently, wishing them success and called on the Academy's staff to welcome them and provide them with assistance, care, and guidance necessary for quick and smooth integration. Then the meeting discussed the items of decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several decisions were issued, the most important of which are:

- Sending draft recommendations of the cryptocurrency symposium to the participants.
- Inviting researchers who have not yet applied to participate at the 25th session of the Academy, of the twenty-fifth session of the Academy, in order to ensure impartiality and integrity, provided that the proposals include a summary of research, draft



resolutions and draft recommendations.

- Submitting a comprehensive report on the number of participants invited to the twenty-fifth session of the Academy and their classification as researchers, members, or experts.
- Following up on the project of indexing the book of resolutions, stressing the need to finish it before the next Session.

58th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy presided the fifty-eighth weekly meeting of the directors of the Academy's departments on Monday, 16 Jumada Al-Ula 1443H, corresponding to 20 December 2021G, via Zoom technology from his residence in the Guinean capital Conakry. He opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees, thanking them for their keenness to attend these weekly meetings. Then he spoke

about the periodic meetings, and the keenness of the departments to review the decisions issued by these meetings, indicating that successful administrative work is the work that is based on follow-up and organization of administrative and scientific work. Moreover, the assignments and decisions issued by these meetings serve as a reference for following up on the activities and programs that the Academy intends to carry out, discussing new issues, eliminating rumors, and the negative centralization that may harm the functioning of the Academy. Then he touched on the cooperation agreement with the Guinean Ministry of Religious Affairs, which will be signed in the coming days. In this regard, he thanked Dr. Abdel Fattah Abnauf for his efforts in preparing

the draft of the agreement, which was widely accepted and appreciated. Then the meeting discussed the items of decisions issued by the previous meeting, and several decisions were issued the most important of which are:

- Call for papers to be sent to the Academy members who haven't been approached before on the topics that are not sufficiently covered. Also contacting the organizations with whom the Academy has signed agreements in order for them to nominate some participants.
- Follow up with "Dar Mufakkirun" for publishing regarding the issuance of the magazine's issues (20-21) before the next session of the Academy.
- Revising the current edition of the Book of Resolutions in preparation for reprinting it before the next session of the Academy.

General Supervisor

PROF. DR. KOUTOUB MOUSTAPHA SANO

Editorial

MOURAD TLILI

JAWZI LARDJANE

PHOTOGRAPHER

AMJAD MANSI

DESIGN

SAAD SAMAR

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES YOU MAY KINDLY CONTACT

US THROUGH THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, P.O. BOX 13719, JEDDAH 21414

PHONE: (+96612) 6900347 / 6980518 / 2575662 / 6900346

FAX: (+96612) 2575661

