

Mauritania's Prime Minister receives IIFA Secretary General in Nouakchott

As part of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy's (IIFA) active efforts to strengthen the relations of cooperation and strategic partnership with the scientific, religious and research institutions within the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the eagerness of the Secretariat General of the Academy to update the OIC Member states on the Academy's activities, programs, and projects, especially its current strategic plan, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, the Secretary General of the Academy, visited the Mauritanian Prime Minister Mohamed Ould Bilal Massoud, on Thursday 09 of Rajab 1443, corresponding to 10 February 2022, at the Prime Minister's office in Nouakchott. H.E. the Prime Minister welcomed his guest and companion, thanked him for the visit, and for his participation in the Second African Conference to promote peace held in Nouakchott, praising the esteemed efforts of the Academy to promote moderation, and the culture of tolerance and coexistence. His Excellency then praised the role of the Academy in fighting extremism, radicalization, intolerance and terrorism, noting in this regard the aspiration of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the support of the Academy to the efforts of the organizers of the Second African Conference to promote peace currently taking place in Nouakchott, as the objectives of that conference are included in the important objectives of the Academy, which requires the integration of efforts and coordination between them. His Excellency concluded by emphasizing his government's continued support and care required for the Secretariat General of the Academy to enable it to carry out its activities and programs,

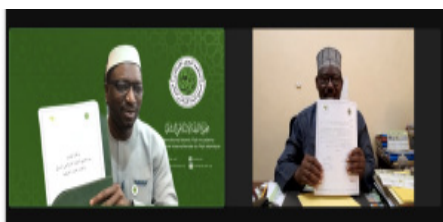


and to strengthen the permanent partnership between the Academy and all Mauritanian scientific and religious institutions. For his part, the Secretary General of the Academy expressed his great thanks and appreciation to H.E. the Prime Minister for the excellent reception and welcome. He conveyed to him the greetings of the President of the Academy, Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, and the greetings of the members and experts of the Academy. He also expressed the thanks and appreciation of the Secretariat General of the Academy to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the continued support and permanent care it gives to the Academy, praising the excellent standing the Academy's resolutions and recommendations enjoy among Mauritanian scholars and religious authorities within the country. He noted that the signing of a cooperation agreement between the Academy and the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Original Education earlier was proof of this. His Excellency then took the opportunity to provide an overview of the Academy including its vision, mission, objectives, programs, and projects. In the meantime, the Secretary General

expressed the Academy's full readiness to strengthen cooperation and communication with all religious and scientific authorities in Mauritania in various fields to coordinate efforts and organize programs, conferences and activities aimed at promoting peace and stability and combating extremist ideology, all forms of violence, extremism, intolerance and terrorism, as well as the Academy's willingness to cooperate with the local authorities in order to highlight Mauritania's successful model of strong integration between security and intellectual approaches in the fight against extremism and terrorism. The Secretary General of the Academy concluded by praying for the permanent security, stability and prosperity of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, its leadership, and people. He then gifted the Prime Minister the fourth edition of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations, and the five-year strategic plan. The meeting was attended by the Director of the Office of the Prime Minister, Ms. Aish Fal Fergas, Advisor in charge of Islamic Affairs of the First Ministry, Mr. Ahmed Salem Ould Miabah, and Mr. Amjad al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division at the Academy.



IIFA and Union of African Scholars sign a Memorandum of Cooperation



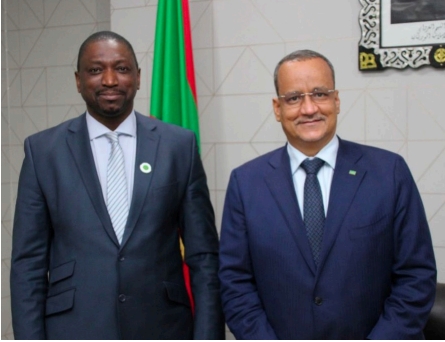
H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, signed with Sheikh Dr. Saeed Mohamed Baba Silla, Secretary General of the Union of African Scholars, a cooperation agreement between the two institutions on Wednesday, 01 Rajab 1443, corresponding to 02 February 2022, via videoconferencing. This agreement aims to build a strategic partnership in fields of mutual benefit from the two institutions' scientific and research capabilities and capacities, and the joint study of calamities and contemporary issues to direct and rationalize them. The agreement also aims to jointly organize conferences and symposia, hold workshops and training, exchange publications, and represent the

two sides in the work of conferences and symposia that are held by each in the field of common interest between them. Following the signing of the agreement, H.E. the Secretary General expressed his pride in this cooperation and hoped that this memorandum would usher the beginning of a new phase in the strong and sustainable cooperation relations between the Academy and the Union of African Scholars in order to coordinate efforts and provide effective solutions to the problems of contemporary life, and to all issues of concern to Muslims all over the world. He also affirmed that the Union of African Scholars will find all support and encouragement from the Academy to assist it issue the legal rulings on issues and problems of concern to Muslims throughout Africa. For his part, the Secretary General of the Union expressed his great pleasure in concluding this agreement, which will allow the Union to benefit from the enormous capabilities and expertise of the Academy, which will directly benefit the scientific and research outputs of the Union and its ability to perform its role

optimally. He added that he looks forward to the Academy's Fiqh and scientific support of African Scholars by holding joint specialized symposia with the Academy revolving around the issues and concerns of African countries, in addition to providing intensive training courses throughout the year to develop and raise the level of the Union's scientists. In implementation of the terms of the memorandum, the two parties agreed to form a specialized committee to determine aspects of cooperation between them, and ways and mechanisms of implementation according to the conception contained in the memorandum itself, and it has the authority to seek the assistance of whomever it deems appropriate to implement all the terms of the agreement. The signing ceremony was attended by Dr. Omar Bamba, Executive Director of the Union of African Scholars.



Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs receives IIFA Secretary General



H.E. Mr. Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Mauritians Abroad received H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), on Thursday, 09 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 10 February 2022, in his office at the Ministry's headquarters in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania. His Excellency the Minister welcomed his guest and congratulated him for his outstanding pioneering and leadership role through his outstanding performance in managing the Academy, then expressed to him his full commitment and that of the Mauritanian government to strengthening relations with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and all its organs, especially the Academy, headed for the first time in

its history by a citizen of the African Group. He also expressed his Ministry's readiness to the Academy's various projects and programs to promote peace, tolerance, and love in the world. During the meeting, the two sides also discussed the outcomes and recommendations of the Second African Conference for the Promotion of Peace held in Nouakchott, and the critical and sensitive issues it raised that serve to enhance security, peace, and the spirit of tolerance among human beings. For his part, the Secretary General thanked His Excellency the Minister for the warm reception, noting the respect that he has with His Excellency for years, and expressing his great gratitude and supreme appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the leadership and people, for their continuous support of the Academy and all the OIC's organs in order to enhance the spirit of joint Islamic work and fraternal and constructive cooperation between OIC Member states. His Excellency also expressed his congratulations to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Abu Dhabi Peace Forum on the success of the Second African Conference for the Promotion of Peace, and the importance of the recommendations issued by the conference, noting that holding this conference in Nouakchott confirms the blessed success of the Mauritanian model in confronting extremism,

fanaticism and terrorism through sobering and adequate security and intellectual approaches, that have paid off, and deserve to be praised and followed in many regions around the world. His Excellency concluded his speech by expressing his aspiration to establish strategic partnerships between the Academy and the scientific, diplomatic, and religious institutions in Mauritania, especially on issues and questions related to strengthening religious diplomacy by providing workers in the diplomatic sector with all the knowledge and tools related to how to correct the stereotype that is attached to Islam from time to time. The meeting was attended by Ambassador Sheikh Sayed Ahmed Ould Mohamed Al-Salik, Director of the League of Arab Nations and the OIC in the General Directorate of Multilateral Cooperation at the Ministry, and Mr. Amjad Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division at the Academy.



IIFA Secretary General participates in the International Day of Human Fraternity in Abu Dhabi

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, participated on Friday 03 Rajab 1443H, corresponding to 04 February 2022G, in the virtual intellectual symposium organized by the Zayed Center for Studies and Research of the Emirates Heritage Club under the title "Abu Dhabi Document: A Model of Eternal Human Heritage" on the occasion of the international Day of Human Fraternity, to commemorate the day of the launch of the Document on Human Fraternity in Abu Dhabi. In his intervention, he expressed his sincere thanks to the Emirates Heritage Club for inviting him to participate in this important symposium on one of the most important topics that must be given the place for research and study. He also stressed that the document on human brotherhood is one of the most important documents known to humanity, at a time when the whole world urgently needs an initiative to remind peoples and societies of the importance of human fraternity and represented its principles and values. He added that the document came at a time when the fires of war and conflicts were burning in many places, which necessitated the need to remind humanity that the human brotherhood at its origin is a divine favor on which relations are based between human beings everywhere and at all times. He then concluded by saying: "It is an complete and fully fledged document



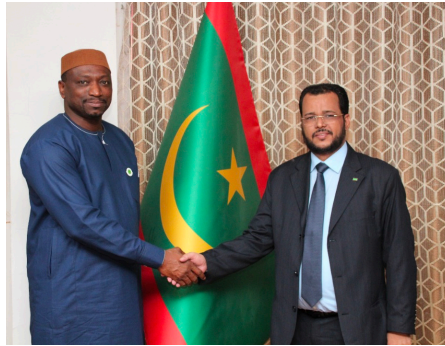
that answers all the questions being raised in the present era and that will be raised in the coming times. Therefore, as we celebrate this World Day of Human Fraternity, we should all live this brotherhood in our behavior, morals, faith and dealings, and that fraternity be present in everything we do in our daily lives. This must be reflected in our actions and on our relationship with those around us who are our brethren in religion or our counterparts in humanity. I call on the world's educational institutions to register and include World Human Brotherhood Day in the curriculum in order to become known to all, and to promote tolerance, love and peace for the entire universe." It should be noted that the Document on Human Fraternity was signed by The Grand Imam, Prof. Ahmed al-Tayeb, Sheikh Al-Azhar Al Sharif, and Pope Francis, Pope of the Catholic Church, in Abu Dhabi in 2019, a great historical and human achievement based

on faith that has given a human dimension in terms of foundations, rules, principles and objectives. It is a message to all humanity regardless of background, religion, or race. Many religious figures, scholars, intellectuals, and academics belonging to the three Abrahamic faiths participated in the symposium for two days and many representatives of different ethnicities, religions, and races living in security and peace in the UAE for decades. Among the most prominent participants are Sheikh Ahmed Abdul Aziz al-Haddad, Senior Mufti and Director of the Fatwa Department of the Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities in Dubai, Father Nabil Haddad, CEO of the Center for Religious Coexistence in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Pastor Bishoy Fakhri Amin, Patron of the Anba Antonios Cathedral for Orthodox Copts in Abu Dhabi, and others. Dr. Mohammed Fatih Zaghl, a Zayed Center for Studies and Research researcher, moderated the Friday session.



IIFA and Mauritanian Ministry of Islamic Affairs sign an MoC

Based on the Academy's objective to foster collective Ijtihad in contemporary life issues and problems with the aim of providing solutions stemming from Islamic Shariah, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, signed with His Excellency Mr. Dah Ould Amar Taleb, Minister of Islamic Affairs and Original Education of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, a strategic cooperation agreement between the two parties on Wednesday, 08 Rajab 1443, corresponding to 09 February 2022, at the ministry's headquarters in the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott. This agreement aims to build a strategic partnership in the field of mutual benefit from the two institutions' scientific and research capabilities and capacities, and collaborative research on calamities and contemporary issues to direct and rationalize them. The agreement also aims to co-organize conferences, symposia, workshops and training courses, exchange publications, and represent the two sides in conferences and symposia that are held with the knowledge of each in the field of common interest between them. Following the signing of the agreement, H.E. the Secretary General expressed his delight at visiting the Ministry's headquarters and his great pleasure in concluding this agreement, which demonstrates the great respect that the OIC Member states have for the Academy. He also expressed his great appreciation for the commendable efforts of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in spreading moderation and the promotion of a



culture of balance, tolerance and peaceful coexistence between religions and peoples, and praised Mauritania's continued support for the Academy in various regional and international meetings and forums. He also expressed his hope that this memorandum would be the beginning of a new phase in the solid cooperative relations between the Academy and Mauritania, especially with regard to coordinating efforts and enhancing communication in order to provide effective solutions to the problems of contemporary life, and to all issues of concern to Muslims in Africa. He affirmed the Academy's readiness to provide Fiqh and scientific support that the ministry needs in order to enable it to implement its programs and activities within the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. For his part, the Minister expressed his great pleasure in concluding this agreement, which will allow his Ministry to benefit from the vast scientific capabilities and expertise of the Academy, and which will directly benefit the scientific, research and

training outputs of the Ministry and its ability to perform its national and regional role to the fullest. His Excellency added that he looks forward to the Fiqh and scientific support of the Academy to Mauritanian scholars and the various entities of the Ministry by holding specialized joint seminars with the Academy revolving around the issues and concerns of Mauritania and the region of West Africa in general, in addition to providing intensive training courses throughout the year to develop and raise the level of Mauritania's religious workers. In implementation of the terms of the memorandum, the two parties agreed to form a specialized committee to determine aspects of cooperation between them, and ways and mechanisms of implementation according to the conception contained in the memorandum itself. The committee has the authority to seek the assistance of whomever it deems appropriate to implement all the agreement terms. The signing ceremony was attended by Dr. Beyte Allah Ahmed Leswed, Secretary General of the Ministry, and Mr. Amjad Al-Mansi, Head of the Protocol Division at the Academy.



IIFA and HCR hold talks on organizing an international event on Islamic charities



In order to enhance joint cooperation between the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, a joint coordination meeting was held between the two parties on Tuesday 14 Rajab 1443, corresponding to 15 February 2022 remotely via video communication. This meeting aims to organize an event on Islamic charitable work in cooperation with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in order to highlight the increasing global importance of Islamic charitable work, and the role of charities, international organizations, and

partnerships in strategic and transparent guidance for the disbursement of zakat, alms, Waqfs and others as effective financing tools of Islamic financing. The good management of these tools leads to achieving the most significant possible impact on the lives of the most vulnerable groups in the region and the world, especially refugees and internally displaced communities. The Academy was represented in the meeting by Mr. Mohammed Walid Al-Idrissi, Director of Media and Public Relations Department, Ms. Sarah Badewi, Director of Family and Women's Affairs Department,



and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Media and Public Relations Advisor to the Secretary General. It should be noted that the two parties agreed to hold the symposium in Jeddah at the end of March 2022, in the presence of many jurisprudential and religious institutions in the Islamic world, as well as Islamic institutions, funds and banks active in the field of zakat and humanitarian charitable work from all over the world, and a group of prominent scholars, thinkers, media professionals and activists in the field of charitable work.

SG of World Assembly of Muslim Youth visits the Academy in Jeddah

H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Suleiman al-Wohaibi, Secretary General of the World Assembly of the Muslim Youth (WAMY), visited on Thursday 02 of Rajab 1443H, corresponding to 03 February 2022G, the headquarters of the Secretariat General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) in Jeddah. H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, welcomed his respectable guest and his delegation, thanking him for his visit, and praising the outstanding efforts of WAMY at all levels, and the high consideration of the Academy's resolutions and recommendations by WAMY, especially those issued by the Academy regarding Awqaf and donations. He concluded by hoping that this visit marks the beginning of a new phase of close cooperation, promising partnership, and permanent coordination between the Academy and WAMY in research and organizing seminars, conferences and workshops on various issues related to Muslim youth. For his part, the Secretary General of WAMY expressed his great pleasure and gratitude to IIFA Secretary General for his warm welcome and good reception, praising the leadership role of the Academy in the field of guidance on major issues of concern to all Muslims within and outside



the Muslim world. His Excellency also stressed WAMY's desire to benefit from the resolutions of the Academy and its recommendations on the subject of Waqf and donations of all kinds, believing that they are well thought, and right resolutions as issued by top caliber scholars and jurists of the Ummah and enjoy unanimous approval. Given the rapid developments and changes taking place in the world today in the economic and social spheres, there is a great need to keep pace with the jurisprudence of these developments and changes in order to guide through research on the topic of types of Waqf and its recent issues, especially cash Waqf and temporary Waqf extensively and exhaustively. Accordingly, the Secretary General of WAMY proposed organizing a specialized scientific symposium in the coming months to study this subject and come up

with new recommendations to be put to the Council of the Academy for adoption during its next 25th Session. It is worth-mentioning that His Excellency the Secretary General of the Academy was one of the students of the Secretary General of WAMY, and studied under him advanced Arabic language sciences thirty-five years ago while he was a student at King Saud University in Riyadh. The meeting was attended by H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Ibrahim Babair, Assistant Secretary General for Executive Affairs, Mr. Mohamed Al-Mondher Chouk, Director of the Department of Cabinet Affairs and Protocols at the Academy, Dr. Abdel Fattah Abnauf, Director of the Department of Planning and International Cooperation at the Academy, Mr. Mohammed Walid Al-Idrissi, Director of the Department of Media, Public Relations, Information Technology and Communication at the Academy, and Mr. Mourad TLiLi, Advisor to the Secretary General for Media and Public Relations at the Academy.



IIFA's Director of Family and Women's Affairs receives US State Department's Special Envoy in Jeddah



Within strengthening relations of cooperation and partnership between the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and the authorities in charge of maintaining religious affairs and supervising the issues of Muslims outside the Islamic world, a delegation from the State Department of the United States of America headed by the Special Envoy for Afghan Women, Girls, and Human Rights, Mrs. Rina Amiri accompanied by her advisor Ms Roushani Mansoor, Control Officer Ms Laura Marsalisi, and Political and Economic Section Chief at the Consulate General of the United States of America in Jeddah Mr Allen Krause, visited the Academy on Thursday 16 Rajab 1443H corresponding to 17 February 2022. On its arrival, the delegation was greeted

by Mrs. Sarah Amjad Hussein, Director of Family and Women's Affairs at the Academy, who welcomed them and expressed, on behalf of the Secretary General of the Academy, the Academy's gratitude to the delegation for the visit. She also expressed her appreciation to the Consulate General for facilitating the visit. For her part, the Special Envoy expressed her pleasure for visiting the Academy, and her great appreciation for its commendable efforts in correcting practices under which many of the legitimate rights granted by Shariah to women are yet violated, whether in the fields of thought, society, economy, culture, and politics. She also expressed her appreciation for the important role of the Academy in promoting awareness of the necessity of empowering women to

participate in the efforts of construction, progress, and development in the Muslim world, praising the Academy's successful resolutions related to women's education, female circumcision (FGM), underage marriage, women's work, and other issues. She then concluded her speech by expressing her aspiration for the Academy's success in its efforts to convince the new authorities in Afghanistan to enable Afghan women to study and work. The two sides discussed aspects and areas of cooperation between the Academy and the Special Envoy for Women's Affairs office on various issues of common interest. At the end of the visit, the Director of Family and Women's Affairs presented a copy of the Academy's book of Resolutions and Recommendations in English to her guest and the accompanying delegation.



His Eminence Dr. Mohammad Mustafa Shuaib represents IIFA in the Islamic Investment Funds Symposium



H.Em. Dr. Mohammad Mustafa Shuaib, Supervisor of the Observatory of Fatwas and Reviews at the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), representing the Secretary General, participated in the symposium held by the General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (CIBAFI) in Bahrain, under the title “Islamic Investment Funds: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities” on Wednesday 23 Jumada al-Akhirah 1443, corresponding to 26 January 2022, via videoconferencing. The symposium dealt with the participation of Islamic financial institutions in the global Islamic investment fund market and what is related to those participations, their size,

effects, and the positive and negative factors. The symposium also dealt with the importance of raising awareness about Islamic investment funds and understanding the circumstances they are going through, which helps in providing innovative products for managing these funds. During the symposium, the Council’s special report on “Islamic investment funds: trends, challenges and opportunities” was also launched, which is a report that provides a comprehensive analysis of the new horizons, challenges and obstacles faced by Islamic financial institutions in the way of the growth and prosperity of these funds at the regional and global levels.

16th Monthly Staff Meeting

On Monday, 6 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 07 February 2022, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 16th monthly meeting of the Academy’s staff online from Nouakchott. His Excellency greeted the staff, thanked them for their presence, and stressed that these regular meetings are very important because they allow all employees to give observations and suggestions and to express opinions that would contribute to improving the working environment and performance quality. His Excellency then talked further about his visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to participate in the Second African Conference on the Promotion of Peace in Societies, organized by the Abu Dhabi Peace Forum for over three days on 8-10 February. On the sidelines of the visit, His Excellency said that he will be holding a series of high-level



meetings, starting with the meeting with Mauritania’s Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Islamic Affairs and Traditional Education. With the latter, he will sign a partnership and cooperation agreement between the Ministry and the Academy. As is customary in such meetings, he opened the floor for all personnel to express their opinions and observations about the Academy’s work progress, in addition

to listening to their suggestions that would foster the Academy and promote employees’ performance. His Excellency listened with interest and focus to the remarks, suggestions, and inquiries of employees, calling on everyone to continue to show a spirit of cooperation, synergy and fraternity while making utmost efforts to achieve the Academy’s activities and programs. The meeting took several decisions, notably:

- Instructing the Administrative and Financial Affairs Department to provide all departments with paper shredders to ensure the confidentiality of the Academy’s documents.
- Expediting the payment of the financial dues to the French reviewer and the Malaysian designer who worked on the French version of the resolutions.
- Collecting the scientific material necessary to produce a book on the Academy’s scholars.

31st Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads



On Thursday, 16 Rajab 1443, corresponding to 17 February 2022, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 31st periodic meeting of divisions’ heads via videoconferencing from Guinea’s capital Conakry. His Excellency greeted the attendees and thanked them for their presence in periodic meetings as a way of communication,

sharing information and following up the Academy’s activities and programs. His Excellency stressed the need for discipline and adherence to the bylaws and procedures of the OIC’s staff and to give these meetings their due attention and respect while thriving to implement their provisions and directives. He also spoke about his recent trip to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for participating in the 2nd African Forum on Promoting Peace in the African Continent. On the sidelines of the summit, His Excellency held important meetings with Mauritania’s Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, as well as the Minister of Islamic Affairs and Traditional Education, the latter with whom he signed a strategic partnership and cooperation agreement between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Academy. He also congratulated

the attendees for the publication of the last issue of the Academy’s newsletter within the specified deadlines, thanks to the concerted efforts of the committees in charge, especially the designer, Mr Saad Al-Samar, who ensured that the newsletter’s design was completed in the three official languages in a record time. Several decisions were taken during the meeting, notably:

- To prepare and publish the biographies of the Academy’s living members in the upcoming newsletter issues. Each issue should include twelve (12) biographies.
- To contact researchers of the stunning poultry symposium to expedite sending their research for the symposium to be held on schedule.
- Reviewing the official website’s content periodically and enter the necessary modifications regularly.

32nd Periodic Meeting of Divisions Heads

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy (IIFA), chaired on Thursday 30 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 03 March 2022 the thirty-second periodic meeting of divisions heads virtually from Abu Dhabi. He welcomed the heads of divisions and thanked them for attending these periodic meetings because which are concerned about the details of major policies and plans set by the departments and implement them meticulously and professionally paving the way for the overall realization of the goals of the Academy and the success of all its endeavors. He also thanked all employees for their valuable efforts to foster the Academy's performance, noting the spirit of cooperation in accomplishing the activities, events, and programs of the Academy and to raise its name and reputation among the nations. In the same context, he called on everyone to cooperate with the rest of the

departments in order to implement all the programs and activities of the Academy. Then he congratulated everyone on the occasion of the completion of the printing of the second edition of the Book of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Academy in French, after an interruption of nearly two decades (22 years). Then, he informed the attendees about the content of a letter addressed to him by HRH Prince Khaled Al-Faisal, Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Governor of Makkah Al-Mukarramah Region, in which His Highness expressed his thanks and appreciation to the delegation of the Academy that visited him about a month ago. The meeting took a number of decisions regarding them, the most important of which are:

- Forming a specialized committee from different departments in charge of collecting, drafting, and editing the biographies of all the prominent figures



of the Academy, both living and deceased, and issuing them in a unified book.

- Uploading the opening and closing remarks of the recorded old sessions and seminars on the Academy's website in order to spread the benefit from them, and to preserve an important part of the Academy's history.
- Continuing to review the Academy's website periodically in the three languages to upgrade it in form and content.

65th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



In order to ensure the continuity of activities and programs on schedule, H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 65th weekly meeting of directors of departments on Wednesday 8

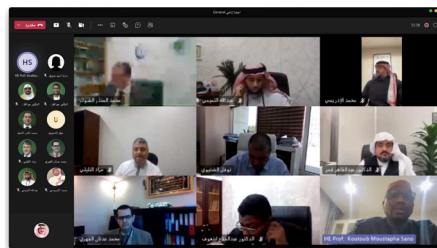
Rajab 1443 corresponding to 9 February 2022 via videoconferencing from his residence in Nouakchott, capital of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their commitment to participate in the weekly meetings, re-emphasizing the importance of these meetings. Then His Excellency spoke about the importance of adhering to the ten values of the Academy, and to stay away from behavior that violates public morals and administrative decency. To emphasize the importance of discipline, His Excellency called on all employees of the Academy to respect the official working hours and commit to attending meetings and following them to their end, regardless of whether it is a virtual meeting or an actual face-to-face meeting. In the meantime, he made it clear that

there will be no compromise for anyone who violates the rules and leaves the meetings before they end without prior permission. Several decisions were issued by the meeting, notably:

- Submitting a letter to the Indonesian Minister of Finance reminding them to set a schedule for one of the Academy's upcoming sessions.
- Preparing a detailed report on the possibility of holding a specialized regional symposium in Afghanistan on women's education and inclusion in the workplace.
- Distributing the Academy's employees with a hard copy of the statute of the OIC's staff and its subsidiary bodies and uploading its e-version on the website.
- Reviewing the offers submitted by printing houses regarding printing the twentieth issue of the Academy's Journal.

66th weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy, chaired the sixty-sixth weekly meeting of directors of departments, on Monday 13 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 14 February 2022, via video call from his residence in the Guinean capital Conakry, Republic of Guinea. At the beginning of the meeting, he welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their keenness to participate in the weekly meetings, re-emphasizing the importance of these meetings. Then he spoke about his recent visit to Mauritania, where he participated in the Second African Conference to Promote Peace in Africa, which was attended by more than 250 political, religious, and intellectual personalities and representatives of civil society and youth organizations in the continent. He also spoke about his meeting with His Excellency, the Mauritanian Prime Minister, Mr. Bilal Massoud, where he expressed to His Excellency the Academy's aspiration to strengthen cooperation and communication with all religious and scientific authorities in Mauritania in various fields with the aim of coordinating efforts and organizing programs,



conferences and activities aimed at promoting peace and stability and combating extremism and terrorism in the African continent. Then he spoke about his meeting with the Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, in which they discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the scientific and religious institutions and centers of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Academy in all fields, especially in developing religious diplomacy in the service of Islam and correcting its image outside the Muslim world. Finally, he shed light on his meeting with H.E. Mr. Dah Ould Amar Taleb, Minister of Islamic Affairs and Original Education, where he discussed with

him areas of cooperation, communication, coordination, and strategic partnership, and signed with His Excellency the first memorandum of cooperation between the two institutions in order to build a strategic partnership in the field of mutual benefit from the potentials of the scientific and research capabilities of the two institutions. Several decisions were issued by the meeting, the most important of which are:

- Inviting everyone to fully abide by the organizational and behavioral regulations that regulate the work of all the Staff of the OIC.
- Contracting an agency specialized in e-marketing to sell the English version of the Book of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Academy.
- Requesting additional offers from different publishing houses to publish the twentieth issue of the Academy's Journal.
- Directing the Procurement Committee to study the possibility of selling the old cars of the Academy and replacing them with new ones.

67th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors

H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 67th weekly meeting of the directors of departments, on Monday, 20 Rajab 1443, corresponding to 21 February 2022, via video call from his residence in the capital of the republic, Republic of Guinea. At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their keenness to participate in the weekly meetings, reiterating the importance of these meetings during which they discuss and work together in order to take decisions and discuss various issues and topics related to the Secretariat General of the Academy. His Excellency called for expediting the convening of a meeting dedicated to reviewing the items of the strategic plan in the light of performance indicators with the aim of evaluation and development by knowing what activities and programs have been implemented, and what have not

been implemented, with an explanation of the reasons for non-implementation, and providing appropriate solutions for that. His Excellency also expressed his thanks to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Mauritania, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Minister of Islamic Affairs and Original Education and His Excellency Sheikh Abdullah bin Bayah, for their kind invitation to attend and participate in the Second African Conference to Promote Peace that was held in Nouakchot, Islamic Republic of Mauritania. As part of the follow-up, His Excellency directed to start reviewing the terms of all agreements concluded with a number of authorities and to ensure that the Academy implements all its obligations contained in those agreements. The meeting resulted in several decisions, the most important of which are:

- Holding an urgent meeting with the Permanent Representative of



Afghanistan to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to coordinate and discuss with him on the topic of holding a specialized regional symposium in Afghanistan. Reviewing all the statements and recommendations that emerged from the scientific forums that were held last year, and what has been done by the Academy in implementing them.

- Ensure that letters related to countries' contributions are sent and received, by communicating by phone with delegates and consulates.
- Preparing a report on how to sell the English version of the book of Resolutions through electronic stores.

68th Weekly Meeting of Departments Directors



H.E. Prof. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA), chaired the 68th weekly meeting of directors of departments, on Monday 27 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 28 February 2022, via video communication from his residence in Conakry, capital of the Republic of Guinea. At the beginning of the meeting, His Excellency welcomed the attendees, and thanked them for their keenness to participate in the weekly meetings, reiterating the importance of these meetings during which discussions are held on various issues of the Academy in order to take collective decisions that all departments participate in and are responsible for, and agreed upon, calling on everyone to

implement them. He also indicated that these meetings are an opportunity to get acquainted with the course of the Academy's news, events, activities, and topics that are emerging, and ways to implement and follow up on its activities and programs. Then, His Excellency spoke about the letter addressed by His Royal Highness Prince Khaled Al-Faisal, Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Governor of Makkah Al-Mukarramah Region, in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation for the recent visit of the Academy's delegation to the Emirate headquarters. His Excellency also spoke about the importance ongoing discussions to hold the next Academy session in Jeddah in the event that it was not possible to host it outside the headquarters country due to the conditions and effects of the pandemic, and on this occasion, he directed the departments of financial affairs and conferences to start preparing for this proposal during the coming months. The

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

- Present a detailed report on the content of the statements and recommendations of the scientific forums that were held last year in order to ascertain the implementation of those recommendations.
- Seeking to obtain media clearance from the Ministry of Information regarding the Academy's book of resolutions in both Arabic and English by communicating with one of the publishing houses, for the purpose of marketing the book inside and outside headquarters country.
- Updating the list of the new strategic partners on the Academy's website.
- Starting the procedures for establishing the Supreme Coordinating Council for the Islamic Financial Industry and implementing the concept that was presented.

General Supervisor

PROF. DR. KOUTOUB MOUSTAPHA SANO

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Final Statement of the 2nd African Conference for the Promotion of Peace in Nouakchott



His Eminence Sheikh Abdullah bin Al-Mahfouz bin Bayah, President of the Abu Dhabi Peace Forum and Chairman of the Emirates Sharia Ifta Council invited H.E. Koutoub Moustapha Sano, Secretary General of the Academy (IIFA) to participate in the 2nd African Conference for the Promotion of Peace, during the period 6-8 Rajab 1443 corresponding to 08-10 February 2022, in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The conference was held under the patronage of H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh Al Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, and in partnership between the Mauritanian government and the African Conference for the Promotion of Peace, which is one of the initiatives of the Abu Dhabi Peace Forum (UAE). The 2nd African conference chose the slogan "Peace for the World" as a title in line with the Nouakchott Declaration in 2020, which called for providing solutions inspired by the objectives of Sharia in preserving the five faculties, as well as by the gems of African heritage in achieving reconciliations and preventing civil conflicts. The conference's sessions addressed different themes, the most important of which are: Africa: the current situation and approaches, dismantling extremist discourses and correcting Sharia concepts, dialogue and reconciliation and promoting communal peace, religion as a catalyst for citizenship, African heritage as a source of peace, and Africa - the continent of the future. Workshops were also held on the conference's sidelines regarding the positive roles of education, media and youth in peacemaking and countering extremism. H.E. Prof Sano, the Secretary General of the Academy, addressed the importance for Africa's youth to feel responsible for the continent's advancement and actively participate in building its future, progress, and development. He noted the importance of assimilation by young Africans of the five smart goals contained in the word "SMART", which means to be specific in defining projects to be accomplished (S=Specific), ensuring that the project is measurable (M=Measurable), achievable (A=Achievable), relevant (R=Relevant) as well as a time bound (T=Time bound) for its achievement. He concluded his dialogue with the youth

by calling them up to summon these goals in all their initiatives, to be intellectual, social, economic, political, or otherwise. Furthermore, the conference delivered a profound final statement that includes a faithful summary of the conference's most important outcomes, such as emphasizing the priority to search for the values of solidarity; a reminder of the Islamic duty to spread peace to the whole world, including mankind, the animal kingdom and the ecosystem, by keeping hand away from evil, tongue from spreading temptation, and heart from hatred; emphasizing on the importance of intellect and thought in dealing with the crises that beset Africa; calling to lay down arms and not to rebel against the united community; preventing sedition and protection against fighting and killing; emphasizing on the need to correct concepts by rooting them firmly, such as the concept of enjoining good and forbidding evil, jihad and obedience to those in authority, as concepts that were initially intended to promote peace, for preserving life; the call to relaunch the effectiveness of dialogue and reconciliation, based on the firm belief that security solutions alone are not enough, and that it is time to revive the gems of the African heritage regarding tolerance and problem solving through dialogue and reconciliation with wisdom under baobab trees and fruitful palms; stressing that authentic jihad has been allowed for peace and mercy, which means that extremism and violence are transgressions and corruption on earth; stressing that Allah's path is that salvation and not loss, and of life and not death and making all efforts possible to make religious affiliation an incentive for good citizenship and cohabitation under the nation state. The conference's recommendations included sound proposals, notably:

- Emphasizing the need to find a new convincing discourse and a renewed approach that opens horizons and offers solutions away from despair and despondency that believers have been warned about: (And despair not of the Spirit of Allah) Quran 12:87.
- Establishing a committee for dialogue, reconciliation and development, consisting of elders, dignitaries and scholars from each country, to mediate and resolve conflicts of various forms, whether caused by historical

grudges or ethnic and tribal bigotry, or by extremist ideologies and terrorism. This committee's tasks may include training and education in the field of dialogue, its methods, its principles, and challenges.

- Creating and launching peace convoys composed of imams and dignitaries of different ethnicities and tribes in regions suffering from civil wars and bloody conflicts. These peace convoys aim to complete influential fieldwork in spreading the values of tolerance and brotherhood and to become ambassadors of brotherhood that mitigate differences and strengthen the bonds of love and compassion within societies.
- These intellectual efforts should be accompanied by development programs aimed at helping those affected, employing the jobless, strengthening the role of the national state and increasing its involvement.
- The participants praised UAE's model of promoting peace and reconciliation efforts in all countries of the world, especially in Africa and the Sahel region, based on its unwavering vision of the importance of coexistence, reconciliation, and tolerance.
- Creating the "African Peacebuilding Award" to encourage and recognize those who have made outstanding contributions in the field of peacemaking and reconciliation, including scholars, thinkers, youth, and decision-makers on the African continent.
- Creating an interactive e-platform to follow up the conference's recommendations and suggestions, develop and invest its common ideas.
- Establishing in Nouakchott the headquarters of the African Forum for the Promotion of Peace, in charge of promoting peace and disseminating the values of tolerance and coexistence in Africa and the countries of the Sahel, in order to become the launching center for the Forum's activities in various countries of the continent.
- Encouraging and intensifying the gathering of religious leaders to emphasize that religion bridges cultures and can be a force for inner peace and reconciliation.
- Establishing educational committees to prepare educational programs to combat extremist ideas and bigotry.
- Concluding partnerships between the African Conference for the Promotion of Peace, and religious and academic institutions, public or private, regional or international, to foster and monitor the implementation of the outcomes of the Nouakchott Declaration, issued in 2020.
- Disseminating this conference's outcomes and directives through social networks and media in various African countries and in the diverse African languages so that its message and ideas could reach all segments of society.

At the end of the conference, the participants expressed their sincere thanks to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania's government for facilitating the convening of this conference and to H.E. President Mohamed Ould Cheikh Al-Azwani for his generous patronage. The participants also thanked the UAE for its support of the conference and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger, for honoring the conference with his participation.