

# BAKU DECLARATION

We, as the youth of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member states, came together on 9-12 May 2017 at the Executive Model OIC Summit 2017, under the theme of ‘‘Solidarity in Action’’.

Reaffirming our commitment to the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the OIC, particularly to strengthening the bonds of unity and solidarity amongst youth and member states,

Conscious of the diversity of cultures and traditions among our nations and underlining the need to enhance genuine dialogue and culture of peace, both at domestic and international levels,

Acknowledging that good governance and the rule of law are essential for sustainable development, including inclusive economic growth, cultural and social development, prevention of the violation of human rights, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty, hunger and extremism,

Aiming at comprehensive development of our youth of our countries as it is a key to the overall development of Ummah,

Denying all sectarian policies and discrimination as well as forms of extremist and taqfiri ideologies that cannot comply with the noble principles of Islam, the religion of moderation and peaceful coexistence,

Expressing its concern at the unbearable sufferings of discriminated Muslims all over the world, who face human rights violations and as a result have to flee their homes and look for the right to live in other places,

Calls for solidarity with youth of Muslim minorities who still experience discrimination and whose rights are disregarded in education life and professional occupation in many of the non-OIC countries,

1. Expresses its determination to strengthen brotherly and sisterly relations and enhance unity and solidarity amongst the youth of the OIC Member States;
2. Recognizes the vital role of the youth in the sustainable economic, political and social development of the Member States;
3. Stresses the importance of the implementation of comprehensive youth policies on local, national and regional level for upbringing young generations of the Member States to conquer the challenges of the globalizing world;
4. Adopted principals of the OIC to lay the ground for the national policies and for the exchange of best practices amongst the Member States in developing enhancive national youth policies;

5. Condemns any act of racism and suggests the increase of global pressure on such activities to ensure the psychological safety of the victims of Islamophobia, and stress out that the Islamic tradition is not eh way they presume it to be;
6. Further condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations regardless of motive and wherever and by whomever committed, and regards terrorism as a destructive threat to Member States as well as a significant obstructive evilness for the Muslim youth to fully reach their outstanding potential;
7. Emphasizes the significance of the Islamic Solidarity Games in the role of increasing awareness and solidarity amongst OIC members and in this regard, appreciates the outstanding efforts and generous patronage of H.E. Mihriban Aliyeva, the first Vice President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Head of the Organizing Committee of the games,
8. Agrees with the decision of ICYF-DC board to welcome proposal by youth representatives to celebrate every 3rd of September as the OIC Youth Day in all OIC member states,
9. Stresses the role and potential of ethno sports and engaging the Muslim youth in a culturally sensitive manner, including as a tool to fighting Islamophobia; and in this context suggest that the ethno sports games taking place currently in Turkey, to be also extended to other OIC Member States as periodical events or, even, be incorporated into the Islamic Solidarity Games,
10. Stresses that the OIC condemns the aggression of Armenia and further stresses that the OIC is always with Azerbaijan in this matter.
11. Expresses its appreciation to the ICYF-DC, the professionals of Baku and brothers and sisters of Azerbaijan for their efforts towards making the Executive Model OIC Summit 2017 happen and for being committed to providing extent political, technical and financial support towards the ICYF-DC work in the implementation of the decisions adopted.