

H.E. Ambassador Abdul Moiz Bokhari Adviser to the SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)

to be delivered at
UN Summit for the adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

General Assembly Hall,
United Nations Headquarters — New York
27 September , 2015

Mr. President,

I bring to you greetings from the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and its Secretary General H.E. Mr. Iyad Amin Madani. The OIC extends its best wishes as the United Nations embarks on the historic task of transforming the lives of billions of people by investing in sustainable development for the next fifteen years.

This is a defining moment for all of us. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development puts the people and their needs at the center. It is rightly named as the "Agenda of the people, by the people and for the people". The OIC stands ready to work with the United Nations to ensure that our journey on the road to 2030 is successful and its gains irreversible.

The goals and objectives of the organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) are not different from those of the United Nations. The OIC being the second largest intergovernmental organization after the United Nations with 57 Member States spanning four continents, makes almost a third of the UN membership. The two organizations are devoted to the cause of international peace, security and development and share diverse challenges in all domains of human endeavour.

Mr. President,

Completing over four decades of its existence, the role and scope of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has expanded from a predominantly political domain to include many areas of immediate concern relating to human development, quality of life and the well being of the people. The OIC of today deals with issues that include, education, science, technology and innovation, food security, disease and epidemics, energy, water and sanitation, human rights, good governance, combatting extremism and terrorism, humanitarian relief operations, infrastructure development, to name a few. Our

vision puts the people first and aims to develop human capital and achieve inclusive growth. The OIC, therefore, fully recognizes the significance of the 2030 Agenda and shares the promise that it holds for all people.

Conflicts, instability and absence of peace and security are among the major developmental constraints. People are always the first victim of each security threat and conflict situation. The multiplicity of such situations in and around our Member States necessitates a proactive role by the OIC in fostering peace and security at all levels, directly or indirectly, independently or collectively in partnership with other stakeholders. The OIC, therefore, envisions its role as an effective agent for peace and development in the Muslim world and beyond.

Mr President,

The Organisation is currently engaged in elaborating a successor programme to the Tenyear Programme of Action (TYPOA) which concludes in December 2015. This was the first major attempt to pursue a multi-dimensional agenda addressing challenges faced by its Member States in the intellectual, cultural, political ,information, economic and developmental fields. The Programme of Action for the next decade (2016-2025) titled, 'the OIC-2025' is anchored in the provisions of the OIC Charter and the directions emanating from the OIC fora provide the conceptual framework to its development paradigm. It focus on 17 priority areas which include: Peace and Security, Palestine and Al-Quds, Poverty Alleviation, Trade, Investment and Finance, Employment, Infrastructure and Industrialization, Science, Technology and Innovation, Climate Change and Sustainability, Moderation, Culture and Inter-faith Harmony, Advancement and Empowerment of Women, Human Rights, Good Governance and Accountability, ICT, Digital Infrastructure and alike.

The OIC-2025 is in general harmony with the broad UN approaches and strategies. However, the issues that are of particular interest to the OIC Member States, form the core of the OIC-2025. It is a comprehensive agenda for cooperation and partnership which recognizes the centrality of the Joint Islamic Action, political ownership by the national governments and active partnership with all stakeholders.

Mr.President,

The OIC is recognized as its strategic partner by the United Nations and an elaborate OIC-UN cooperation mechanism is in place between the two organizations. The OIC is in a happy situation where it enjoys relationships with all major international, intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies in the world, including important non-OIC countries. The OIC-2025 and the 2030 Agenda reflect a great degree of complementarity in the goals and actions set forth by the two organizations. With an impressive record of active partnership between the two organizations, the OIC is in a unique position to play an important role in promoting global partnership and intensive global engagement, bringing together all stakeholders for the success of our collective journey.

Mr President,

The OIC-2025 is our agenda for the next decade. It will chart a course for the work of the Organization and can complement the global efforts for the successful realization of the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. Both the organizations have a lot to offer to the people – a hope to people under foreign occupation, to people in distress, to people facing deprivation, discrimination, injustice, poverty, disease and hunger.

Together we shall work to ensure that the goals and actions that we seek to pursue succeed in bringing about the much needed change in the lives of our people. Every success, no matter how small, will add to the credibility of our efforts.

I thank you.