



Islamic Organization for Food Security  
l'Organisation Islamique pour la Sécurité Alimentaire  
المنظمة الإسلامية للأمن الغذائي

**Statement of  
H.E. Mr. Yerlan Baidaulet, Director General, of the  
Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)**

**at**

**48<sup>th</sup> Session of Council of Foreign Ministers  
“Building Partnerships for Unity, Justice, and  
Development”**

Islamabad, 22 March 2022

**Your Excellency Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan**  
**Your Excellency Ambassador Hissein Ibrahim Taha, OIC Secretary General**

**Excellencies,  
Distinguished Participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

**Assalamu alaikum warahmatu Allah wabarakatuh,**

Allow at the outset to address words of thanks and appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for hosting this important gathering and the Pakistani Government and its people for the warmest welcome accorded to me and the accompanying delegation since our arrival in this beautiful city of Islamabad.

We also send a welcoming word to His Excellency Ambassador Hissein Ibrahim Taha, OIC Secretary General, for being with us at his first-ever Regular Council of Foreign Ministers since he has taken office back in November 2021, and we wish that deliberations at this important and solemn gathering would go a long way in responding the aspirations and expectations of all of us present here, our countries, and of all citizens living within the OIC geography.

**Excellencies,  
Distinguished Participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

The wise decision to theme the 48<sup>th</sup> CFM as a session for “Building Partnerships for Unity, Justice, and Development” is in line with challenges that most of OIC Member States are facing in the domain of socio-economic development that could perhaps addressed with a strong partnership and unity of them all based on the lofty objectives of the values and principles of the Islamic Solidarity that the OIC takes pride from.

In fact, one of the biggest challenges that is of concern of not only the OIC but the world at the large is the bleak humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, which even was the subject of an Extraordinary CFM that most of us had the pleasure to follow at this very venue last December.

The Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) under one of its strategic pillars as Food Crises Response welcomes the important task given to Member States at the aforesaid Extraordinary CFM to set up the Afghanistan Food Security Program (AFSP) as the Humanitarian Food Relief initiative to that Member State in distress, we started working towards defining as an immediate response stage, the following three (03) Projects:

- a. Supply of Wheat Flour to Afghanistan (which includes an IOFS-Kazakhstan Initiative);
- b. IOFS-ICIC Partnership for Afghanistan Emergency Food Support; and
- c. Model Case for Cereals Cultivation and Flour Production.

In this vein, various contacts were established with a number of esteemed Members States, namely Pakistan, Kazakhstan, UAE, Qatar, Morocco, Oman and OIC General Secretariat, through His Excellency Ambassador Tarig Bakheet, OIC Special Envoy on Afghanistan, OIC relevant Institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) through submission of the aforementioned projects for kind consideration in including IOFS as beneficiary of the *Humanitarian Trust Fund* to serve as a vehicle to timely channel humanitarian food assistance to Afghanistan. Our contacts also were with UNAMA and World Food Program with which the IOFS is to sign a MoU with the Afghanistan arm of that UN Agency to ensure that both Parties coordinate their humanitarian food assistance in Afghanistan, we have also started consultations with the European Union Geo-Coordinator for Afghanistan where we also expect to explore the support of the World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists.

It is worth mentioning that in January 2021, we signed a MoU with the International Committee of Islamic Crescent (ICIC) to, inter alia, jointly implement the AFSP without delay. In the mid-term, we are to launch new aid program that should set a target audience of

- a. 595,000 people, corresponding 35% total internal displaced people having limited or no access to aid after August 2021.
- b. 750,000 people, corresponding 25% of all unemployed.
- c. 1.2 million children under the age of 5 whom are at risk of dying due acute malnutrition.
- d. 2 million of widows, orphans, and elderly having limited or no access to aid.

In this particular Project, ICIC-IOFS proposes to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to the targeted population of 300,000 people, equal to 50.000 families. In fact, on 16 February 2022, the advance Team visited Afghanistan until 03 March 2022 to assess the real conditions on the ground, as well as to activate the IOFS-ICIC Humanitarian Partnership Center (HUMPAC) in Kabul to implement the initiative.

In fact, the IOFS is planning during the Ramadan inshAllah to visit Kabul and some provinces to purchase and install several drinking water cleaning sets which will be equipped with renewable solar power and maintained by special mobile application.

IOFS has also facilitated its strong relations with private sector-related sister organizations such as ICCIA, ICIEC, ITFC, and National Chambers of Commerce including Afghani one towards better coordination of joint support of AFSP initiative.

### **Distinguished Participants,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

The IOFS as a socially responsible and action-orientated OIC specialized institution is not short of ideas or initiatives to implement in Afghanistan or elsewhere. It would however be successful with the kind and generous support of all Member States and relevant Institutions. Please extend your help hand to us so we would be able to deliver on our fixed promises to be ensure food security and food assistance to those in need, particularly in Afghanistan.

The IOFS would also welcome the support of all Member States and relevant Institutions in partnering for the successful implementation of all planned initiatives within the celebration of 2022 as “IOFS Year of Africa”, which, for instance, on 16-17 May 2022 in Niamey, Republic of Niger, the IOFS is joining hands with the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to train 300 farmers (200 of which, women) on water management in agriculture, and, in principle, the OIC Women Development Organization (WDO) is to also be part of this important exercise. Our plan includes more than 20 different activities in Africa where we would welcome all concerned Member States and interested institutions.

**Excellencies,**

**Dear Distinguished Guests,**

We are hopeful that deliberations and decisions of this important 48<sup>th</sup> Session of CFM will be pivotal in ensuring the strengthening of OIC’s role as a key actor in “Building Partnerships for Unity, Justice, and Development”.

I take this opportunity once again to thank the organizers for inviting me, and I pray for Allah’s grace and blessings for a productive and successful meeting.

I thank you for your kind attention,

Wassalam alaekun warahmatullahi wabarakatuhu.

22 March 2022