

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ISLAMIC LEADERS FOR RECONCILIATION IN IRAQ BOGOR DECLARATION

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,
In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent and the Most Merciful,

Alhamdulillahirabbil 'alamin.....
Praise and Glory be to Almighty and May His Peace and Blessings be Upon His Prophet
Mohamed and all his Kin and Companions

We, the participants of the International Conference of Islamic Leaders for Reconciliation in Iraq, having met at the Presidential Palace, Bogor, Indonesia from 3 – 4 April 2007, are determined to realize total reconciliation among the Iraqi Muslim nation by promoting Islam as Rahmatan lil Alamin.

Bearing in mind the noble values and principles of Islam which stems from the noble Qur'an and the prophetic Sunnah bequeath a clear conduct of a way of life in all its aspects;

Believing that the Islamic norms and teachings oblige all the Ummah to deem peace (silm or salam), justice and equality ('adalah and musawah), freedom (hurriyah), tolerance (tasamuh), balance (tawazun), and consultation (shura) as fundamental principles of Islam as Rahmatan lil Alamin;

Acknowledging that diversity is a blessing (rahmah) for the Ummah to bear conscience to respect each other's beliefs and sanctities for the benefit of the Ummah's unity;

Acknowledging also the urgent need to strengthen the Ummah's unity (ukhuwah Islamiyah) to adopt caution and vigilance against all attempts to sow division among them, break their ranks, or incite sedition, strife, and hate to corrupt their divine spiritual bonds with each other;

Noting with concern the festering conflict in Iraq that goes unabated where bloodshed is widespread, and aggression on assets and property is a daily occurrence;

Expressing regret that these violence emanate from provocation of sensitivities or sectarian, ethnic, geographical or linguistic, therefore undertaking the urgent need for all Muslims to adopt caution and vigilance against all attempts to sow division among them, break their ranks, or incite sedition, strife, and hate to corrupt their divine spiritual bonds with each other;

Believing that the Iraqi conflict cannot be solved by military means, and in this regard underlining the urgent need to find a framework of political solution that includes

national reconciliation, withdrawal of occupying forces, and reconstruction and rehabilitation;

Recalling efforts to promote respect of each other's beliefs and sanctities, the importance of peace conflict resolution, intra and inter faith dialogue, the role of religious leaders in peace-building, conflict transformation and peace education through the convening of the following meetings; the International Conference of Islamic Scholars in Jakarta, 23 -25 February 2004; the International Dialogue on Interfaith Cooperation held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 6-7 December 2004; the International Islamic Conference in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on 4 – 6 July 2005; East Asia Religious Leaders Forum (EARLF), Jakarta, 11-13 February 2006;; the World Peace Forum (WPF), Jakarta, 14-16 August 2006; the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration adopted on 19 October 2006; and the Doha Conference for Dialogue of Islamic Schools of Thought in February 2007; Commending the President, Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia, the Central Board of Nahdlatul Ulama, and Muhammadiyah for hosting the International Conference of Islamic Leaders for Reconciliation in Iraq;

We hereby declare as follows:

1. Urge all Muslims, who profess their faith by bearing witness that there is no God but Allah and that Mohammad is His Prophet, to uphold these fundamental principles, which applies equally to the Shiites and Sunnis as a common ground that any difference of faith are merely differences of opinion and interpretation and are not essential differences of faith or on the substance of the Pillars of Islam;
2. Reaffirm the independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Iraq and in realizing and consecrating the free will of the Iraqi people in contributing to their military, economic, and political capabilities are rights that cannot be deprived of;
3. Call on religious Leaders and all parties in Iraq as a matter of urgency an immediate meeting to put in place plans and programmes on a comprehensive reconciliation in Iraq, and agree on concrete actions for the successful implementation of the reconciliation;
4. Call on all Arab and Moslem countries, particularly neighboring countries of Iraq to provide support, as appropriate, for the success of the reconciliation;
5. Agree to exert means to expedite the withdrawal of foreign occupying forces from Iraq to be gradually replaced by Arab and Moslem forces under the supervision of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Conference after a comprehensive plan have been formulated;
6. Request the Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Conference to immediately implement those proposals with relevant parties of the international community;

7. Condemn all killings, violence and terrors that emanate from any parties in Iraq and reaffirm that those acts are a clear violation of the Islamic principles and oblige the strict sanctions for the perpetrators;

8. Call on the Government of Iraq to play an effective role to ensure the provision of security and peace for all the Iraqi people and that each peace-loving parties render necessary support to the Government of Iraq;

9. Reaffirm the commitment of all Ulama and Islamic leaders toward the implementation of a genuine complete and comprehensive national reconciliation in Iraq as a reflection of the noble principle of Islam as Rahmatan lil 'Alamiin.

10. Urge all factions in Iraq to immediately stop violence that perpetuates bloodsheds among Iraqis;

11. Call on all media not to disseminate any disinformation that would result in instability, ethnic rivalries and border conflicts in Iraq;

12. Encourage constructive dialogue to promote understanding and mutual respect between religions;

13. Encourage dialogue and understanding among Islamic schools of thought, to protect and maintain the unity of Islam;

14. Urge the international community to play an active role in reconstruction and rehabilitation of Iraq after its wider destruction;

15. Call upon OIC to initiate its efforts, including efforts for the provision of humanitarian and development assistance in Iraq;

16. Suggest the League of Arab States to continue its effort to bring peace to reality in Iraq;

17. Call upon in particular the United Nations, OIC, and the League of Arab States to implement efforts for capacity building in economic and social development, and democratic and judicial institution in Iraq;

18. Request the Government of Indonesia, Central Board of Nahdlatul Ulama, and Muhammadiyah to disseminate the Bogor Declaration of the International Conference of Islamic Leaders for Reconciliation in Iraq to relevant countries, dialogue partners, international and regional organisations, such as the United Nations, OIC and League of Arab States;

19. Agree to actively disseminate the result of the International Conference of Islamic Leaders for Reconciliation in Iraq to all members of the Arab society and elsewhere as

appropriate, by sending a fact finding missions comprising of Islamic leaders from Indonesia and other countries.

Bogor, 4 April 2007