

OIC Executive Committee Meeting on the Situation in Syria

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Date: 01/12/2011

OIC General Secretariat, Jeddah, KSA. 30 November 2011 Final Communiqué Para 1

The OIC Executive Committee held a meeting at the Ministerial level to discuss the situation in Syria under the Chairmanship of H. E. Mr. Yerzhan Kazykhanov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Chair of the 38th Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Minister (CFM) on 30 November 2011 at the OIC General Secretariat in Jeddah. The open ended meeting was also attended by Ministers and their representatives from other OIC Member States. Para 2 The opening of the meeting was addressed by H. E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC. In his statement, Prof. Ihsanoglu urged the members of the Executive Committee and other Member States to examine the current situation in Syria and come up with recommendations and suggestions to stop the bloodshedding of the Syrian people and guarantee Syria's security and unity and spare Syria foreign intervention. Para 3 The Executive Committee expressed its grave concern at the deteriorating situation in Syria and expressed profound regret at the loss of human lives and properties. In this connection, it urged the Syrian authorities to immediately end the use of excessive force against Syrian nationals and to fully respect human rights and to comply with their obligations under the OIC Charter and Ten Year Programme of Action (TYPOA) in a bid to spare the country from the risk of having the crisis internationalized with all the grave consequences that might threaten the security and stability of Syria. Para 4 The Committee also urged the Syrian Government to fulfill its commitments to reform and to respond to the legitimate aspirations and demands of Syrian people. The meeting called

on all Syrian stakeholders to shun the path of violence and resort to the peaceful means of dialogue and negotiations to settle the crisis. Para 5 The meeting welcomed the efforts deployed by the League of Arab States in a bid to resolve the Syrian crisis peacefully. It called upon Syria to respond positively to the resolutions of the League of Arab States, and encouraged the Syrian Government to sign the Protocol presented by the League of Arab States, and to put an end to the bloodshed and release the detainees. Para 6 The Executive Committee reaffirmed its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Syria and prevention of any foreign intervention. Para 7 The Executive Committee meeting called on the Syrian authorities to put an end to the human rights violations and to allow access to the Islamic and International Humanitarian Agencies. Para 8 The meeting requested the Secretary General of the OIC to follow up the situation in Syria, including through cooperation with the League of Arab States. Para 9 The Committee condemned the attacks targeting the premises of foreign embassies and diplomatic missions in Syria. It urged the Syrian authorities to duly carry out their responsibilities for the protection of foreign diplomatic missions in compliance with the international law. Participants (Executive Committee Member States): Djibouti, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Tajikistan and the General Secretariat. Participants (Other Member States): Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Chad, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

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