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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM IN THE
AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ISLAMIC
CONFERENCE

Letter dated 1 August 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Islamic Conference".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum is attached to this letter.

(Signed) Shamshad AHMAD
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of
Pakistan to the United Nations

* Reissued for technical reasons.

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. In drawing up the Charter of the Islamic Conference, the sovereigns and Heads of State and Government of the Islamic countries reaffirmed their support for the Charter of the United Nations and for fundamental human rights, the purposes and principles underlying which constitute the basis of fruitful co-operation between all peoples.
2. The first Islamic Summit Conference, held at Rabat from 22 to 25 September 1969 (9 to 12 Rajab 1389), declared its intention of preserving the spiritual, moral and socio-economic values of Islam which continue to be a determining factor in the progress made by mankind.
3. The headquarters of the Conference are at Jiddah (Saudi Arabia) and it has 42 member States.
4. It holds a regular annual session, at the level of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is represented at the annual sessions of the Islamic Conference by a Special Representative with the rank of Under-Secretary-General. The message from the Secretary-General, read out at the eleventh Islamic Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held at Islamabad in Pakistan from 17 to 21 May 1980 (2 to 6 Rajab 1400) by his Special Representative, stresses his appreciation of the excellent ties of co-operation established between the United Nations and the Islamic Conference. Like other third world countries, the member States of the Islamic Conference are committed to the historic struggle for the achievement of their just and legitimate aspirations, both in the political field and in economic areas. The peaceful pursuit of this struggle is in full accord with the objectives of the world Organization. The message concludes with the statement that the Islamic Conference is called upon to play a key role in the attainment of a goal that has to do with the institution of a stable world order and the establishment of better conditions for all mankind.
5. The resolutions of the eleventh Islamic Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs advocate Islamic solutions for political, economic and social problems which, if not solved in the near future, could pose a serious threat to international peace and security. These include the questions of the Middle East and Palestine, disarmament questions, questions relating to the law of the sea, decolonization questions and the questions of apartheid, questions relating to a new international economic order, refugee questions and cultural, education and health questions, etc.
6. The Islamic Conference is already co-operating in these various areas with specialized agencies of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the Office of

the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, etc.

7. Furthermore, every year a great many delegations representing Governments in various parts of the world, specialized agencies of the United Nations, and international organizations such as the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity and others, attend the regular sessions of the Conference as observers, reflecting the world-wide scope of its activities.

8. In its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, the General Assembly granted observer status to the Islamic Conference, inviting the Conference to participate in the capacity of observer in the regular and special sessions of the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, and in the meetings of the Security Council on matters of common interest.

9. With a view to further promoting co-operation between the United Nations and the Islamic Conference it could be appropriate and highly desirable to authorize the Secretary-General to continue his contacts and to discuss with the Islamic Conference the modalities for fruitful and extremely close co-operation in the various fields of common interest and to report and make recommendations to the General Assembly so that it can take specific measures to strengthen this co-operation further.
