



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/41/93  
20 January 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

Forty-first session

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Letter dated 14 January 1986 from the Permanent Representative of  
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the resolution on the plight of the Turkish-Muslim minority in Bulgaria, adopted at the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, from 6 to 10 January 1986.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its enclosure to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the items entitled "Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and "Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance".

(Signed) İltis TÜRKMEN  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Resolution of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign  
Ministers on the plight of the Turkish-Muslim minority  
in Bulgaria

The Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held At Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, from Rabiul Thani 25-29 1406 H (6-10 January 1986),

Having considered the item entitled "Plight of the Turkish-Muslim minority in Bulgaria",

Taking also into consideration the recommendation of the Permanent Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs at its latest session, held at Dakar from 31 October to 2 November 1985,

Considering the right of religious minorities in non-Muslim countries to enjoy their own culture, to profess and exercise their own religion, to speak and teach their own language, to keep their own traditions and customs and to preserve their religious and cultural identity,

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the resolutions adopted by the OIC regarding the situation of the Muslim minorities living in non-Muslim countries, as well as those of the Charter of the United Nations and other international agreements and conventions which guarantee these rights,

Deeply concerned by alarming reports that the Muslim minority in Bulgaria is subjected to a coercive assimilation campaign in violation of their minority rights and status guaranteed by international and bilateral treaties,

1. Expresses its solidarity with the Muslim minority of Bulgaria;
2. Strongly urges member countries of the OIC to seek the necessary political solutions, with a view to:
  - (a) Ensuring that the religious and cultural rights of the Muslim minority and the rightful names of the members of the said minority are fully restored;
  - (b) Obtaining permission for the international and Islamic press to have access to the areas where the incidents have taken place;
  - (c) Helping to preserve the religious identity and cultural heritage of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria;
  - (d) Supporting these demands in their bilateral and multilateral contacts with the People's Republic of Bulgaria;

3. Entrusts the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference with the task of appointing a three-member contact group composed of eminent personalities to examine the conditions of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria, to make whatever contacts it deems necessary for this purpose and to make recommendations with a view to facilitating a political solution to this tragic problem within the provisions prescribed in the previous paragraph and in the context of relevant international conventions and treaties, in particular the International Convention on Human Rights;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to follow the plight of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria and to present a comprehensive report to the next meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC;

5. Expresses the hope that, in the light of its relations with the Islamic world, the Government of Bulgaria may provide the best possible opportunity to the OIC to examine this matter;

6. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

-----