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Thirtieth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM IN THE AGENDA
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION

OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 15 August 1975 from the representatives of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, the Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On the instructions from our respective Governments, we have the honour to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "Observer status for the Islamic Conference at the United Nations".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, an explanatory memorandum concerning this request is enclosed.

(Signed) Abdul Wahab SIDDIQ (Afghanistan)	(Signed) Joseph AMINA (Niger)
F. K. BOUAYAD AGHA (Algeria)	Kamal M. HAGRAS (Oman)
S. M. AL SAFFAR (Bahrain)	Iqbal AKHUND (Pakistan)
S. A. KARIM (Bangladesh)	Jasim Yousif JAMAL (Qatar)
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M. Samir AHMED (Egypt)	Abdirizak Haji HUSSEIN (Somalia)
Jean-Baptiste MBATCHI (Gabon)	Omer Y. BIRIDO (Sudan)
Jeanne Martin CISSE (Guinea)	Haissam KELANI (Syrian Arab Republic)
Fereydoun HOVEYDA (Iran)	Osman OLCAY (Turkey)
Abdul Karim AL-SHAIKHLY (Iraq)	Ali HUMAIDAN (United Arab Emirates)
Sami I. GAMMOH (Jordan)	Mohamed A. SALLAM (Yemen)
Abdalla Yaccoub BISHARA (Kuwait)	
Daw Ali SWEDAN (Libyan Arab Republic)	
Ajit SINGH (Malaysia)	

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. Since its inception, the United Nations has sought to promote international co-operation at all levels for the attainment of its objectives of peace, justice and progress. The Islamic Conference, which was established in 1970 with headquarters at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to enhance co-operation and unity among the Muslim nations, is also dedicated to these very goals and objectives of the United Nations. The Charter of the Islamic Conference enjoins respect for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on its member States.
2. The membership of the Islamic Conference now consists of the following 41 nations: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Chad, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Upper Volta, Yemen and Palestine Liberation Organization. The Islamic Foreign Ministers meet annually and, if circumstances warrant, summit conferences are convened.
3. Since the time of its establishment, more than five years ago, the Islamic Conference has emerged as a viable instrument not only for greater co-operation among its member States but also for promoting solutions to the issues of world peace and progress. The Islamic Conference is seized of a large number of important international issues in the political, economic, social and humanitarian fields which are relevant to the work of the United Nations. Problems such as the Middle East situation, Palestine, Jerusalem, colonialism and racial discrimination in southern Africa, the dangers of nuclear proliferation and the establishment of a new world economic order are some of the important issues under continuing consideration of the Conference and its secretariat.
4. The Islamic Conference has proved to be an effective instrument for promoting world peace and resolving disputes and differences among States. The Conference played an unprecedented mediatory role in bringing about reconciliation between Pakistan and Bangladesh; in other instances as well it has played a constructive part in adjusting situations of potential conflict.
5. Similarly, the Islamic Conference is making an ever-increasing contribution towards economic development in Asia and Africa and in strengthening the trend towards a more equitable structure of world economic relations. An Islamic Development Bank has been established with a capital of 1,000 million SDRs to foster economic development and social progress in member countries. An Islamic Solidarity Fund, created to alleviate the consequences of crises and natural calamities, and to promote scientific, technical and educational institutions, is expected to disburse \$50 million this year in assistance to member countries.

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A Committee of Economic Representatives and Experts is continuously engaged in examining ways and means to resolve the economic problems of member States. Institutions in the fields of information and broadcasting have been established, and others in the areas of science and technology, trade, shipping, insurance etc. are under consideration.

6. The members of the Islamic Conference believe that closer co-operation between their organization and the United Nations will advance and strengthen the endeavours of both in all areas of their activity. Consequently, the Sixth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Jeddah from 12 to 15 July 1975, adopted a decision to seek observer status for the Islamic Conference in the General Assembly and in the specialized agencies of the United Nations, and, for this purpose, to request the inclusion in the agenda of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "Observer status for the Islamic Conference at the United Nations".

7. The States members of the Islamic Conference are confident that their desire to institutionalize the co-operation between their organization and the United Nations will be welcomed by the membership of the United Nations.
