



**Rules for Granting OIC Consultative
Status to Humanitarian Non-
Governmental Organizations**

CHAPTER I SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Article (1)

The present document sets out the conditions, standards and criteria for granting OIC Consultative Status to humanitarian NGOs.

Article (2)

In these Rules, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them:

Charter: The Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Organization: The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Council: The Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM).

General Secretariat: The General Secretariat of the OIC.

Secretary General: The Secretary General of the OIC.

Applications: Applications from humanitarian NGOs to obtain OIC Consultative Status.

NGOs: Humanitarian Non-governmental Organizations headquartered in an OIC Member State, registered officially and accredited to work therein in the activity specified in the application for consultative status, as well as Muslim minorities and communities humanitarian relief Organizations accredited in the States where these minorities and communities exist and operate in their favor.

Consultative Status: A status given to the qualified humanitarian NGOs by the OIC to enable them to participate in the meetings referred to in these rules and to provide consultations and advice in the humanitarian field to promote the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter.

CHAPTER II

TERMS AND PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING OIC CONSULTATIVE STATUS TO HUMANITARIAN NGOs

Article (3)

In addition to the approval of the Government of its headquarters State, an applicant Humanitarian NGO must meet the following conditions:

1. To have a legal personality and an independent administrative and financial entity and to have clear and transparent accountability and auditing systems at both the administrative and financial levels.
2. To be headquartered in an OIC Member State and registered officially and licensed to work in the activity submitted in the application for consultative status, or to be affiliated to Muslim minorities and communities, work in the field of humanitarian relief and be accredited in the States where these minorities and communities exist and operate in their favor.
3. To have already conducted missions or activities in one or more OIC Member States, or in favor of a Muslim Minority and Community.
4. The requested consultative status must be for the parent NGO, not for one of its branches.
5. The NGO's objectives must not conflict with the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter.
6. If the field of activity of the NGO is directly related to a Member State other than its headquarters State, the approval of the Member State concerned by the said activity must be obtained.

Article (4)

Applications from NGOs for OIC Consultative Status are submitted to the General Secretariat using the relevant application form.

Article (5)

1. The General Secretariat collects applications, reviews them and verifies their conformity with the conditions and procedures included in the present rules.
2. The Secretary General issues his recommendations as to the granting of the consultative status to the NGOs which meet all the conditions and circulates the valid applications to the Member States at least ninety (90) days before the following session of the Council.

3. The Secretary General presents a report to the Council containing full data on the NGOs he recommends for obtaining the OIC consultative status.
4. The Council decides on the submitted applications based on the Secretary General's report. The consultative status is granted by a consensual decision from the Council upon a recommendation from the Senior Officials Meeting.
5. The NGO should inform the Secretariat of any change in the type of its activity registered with the Organization after obtaining the consultative status or of any new activities added to its field of work for the OIC consultative status granted to be reconsidered pursuant to the provisions of Article Six.

CHAPTER III

CONSULTATIVE STATUS SUSPENSION OR WITHDRAWAL

Article (6)

The Council may, by consensus, suspend or withdraw an NGO's consultative status in the following cases:

1. If it is established that the NGO has deviated from its objectives or violated the laws or regulations applicable to it.
2. Upon the termination of its license at its headquarters State.
3. If the terms and conditions stipulated under these rules are no longer fulfilled in whole or in part by the NGO in question or if the NGO changes its activity according to which it was granted the OIC consultative status.
4. Suspension of the consultative status shall be for one (1) year. In case the NGO continues its violation of the rules in force, the Council may extend the suspension for another year or decide to withdraw the status. In all cases, the decision of the Council shall be effective as of the date of its issuance.

CHAPTER IV ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND MEETINGS

Article (7)

1. NGOs enjoying OIC Consultative Status shall collectively set up an appropriate mechanism to facilitate the coordination and consultation with the Organization. The establishment of this mechanism and its operations shall not entail any financial burden on the OIC.
2. NGOs may hold a periodic meeting shortly before the ordinary sessions of the Islamic Summit or Council.
3. The Department of the Humanitarian Affairs shall coordinate relations with the NGOs.

CHAPTER V PARTICIPATION AND PRIVILEGES

Article (8)

1. The Secretary General shall, after coordination with the host State of the meeting, invite one or many NGOs, whose work and participation may help promote the objectives of the Charter, the Council or the meetings, to attend the plenary sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers, sectoral ministerial meetings, and the meetings of the four Standing Committees.
2. The Secretary General shall, within a period of sixty (60) days prior to the meeting, circulate to the Member States for consideration, the list of NGOs which may be invited to attend the meetings of the Organization. If the General Secretariat does not receive any objection from any Member State within a period of thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, the Secretary General may, after the approval of the host State, invite those NGOs.
3. NGOs are not entitled to present any proposals or draft resolutions, or support or vote on any draft resolution.
4. NGOs may present to the OIC General Secretariat for circulation to Member States one week before the dates of meetings, written activity oriented statements about their activities, not exceeding two thousand words (2000), for distribution in plenary sessions of the meetings they are allowed to attend. The General Secretariat may make the observations it deems appropriate on these statements. Member States shall decide whatever they see fit thereon. NGOs may also speak and

deliver brief and consolidated written statements on the contents of these written contributions.

CHAPTER VI AMENDMENTS AND ENTRY IN TO FORCE

Article (9)

1. The present rules shall become effective as of the date of their adoption by the Council.
2. The Council may introduce full or partial amendments consistent with the legal procedures applicable in the Organization. These amendments shall be effective from the date of their adoption by the Council.
